



ICDF Newsflash

September 2016



ICDF Foundation

When “High Tea” is mentioned on an invitation, the imagination rises to paint a picture of a scrumlicious spread of tempting culinary delights enjoyed in the presence of fine company... but when the ICDF Foundation invitations go out, higher purposes are definitely on the cards.

“West African” High Tea?

Interesting and exotic combination for 2016’s event, indeed!

Every year, the ICDF Foundation (ICDFF) sets its hopes and goals high when planning events to raise funds for recognition awards and sponsorship projects. This year, it had been decided that several ICDF Conference delegates who had applied for financial assistance to attend the July event in Ghana, West Africa, would be the recipients of funds raised. ICDF Flame Awards would also be presented as has been customary. Hence, the advertising featured **Flame Awards... Conference grants... dance... music... food...** to attract donors who, if they attended in person, would experience live artistic presentations, learn more about the world of dance connected through the work of ICDF, and also enjoy the tempting spread of luscious sweet and succulent savoury foods and assorted beverages.

Special guests included the Ghanaian Honorary Consul in Sydney and some Ghanaian families now living in Sydney and known to some local ICDF supporters. Mary Jones, ICDF Founder and Chairperson of the ICDFF, made some Accra Banana and Peanut Cake as a special treat for attendees of the High Tea to sample! Yum! Want to make some? See recipe on ... http://recipes.wikia.com/wiki/Accra_Banana_Peanut_Cake?oldid=716679

The ICDFF has gained a reputation for holding Silent Auctions at past events, with goods and services on offer to inspire the giving of further donations. This year’s High Tea was no exception. Participants in this particular fundraising activity, went home with such things as genuine Ghanaian woven fabric; a collection of soft drinks (soda) brewed in the country town of Bourke far off in the Outback of Western New South Wales, Australia; a weekend up in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney; a beautiful coffee table book about the history of The Australian Ballet; CaraMayan books/DVDs; and assorted other artistic items which were on offer.

For those unfamiliar with the concept of “Silent Auction”, bidding is done privately by writing one’s name and the amount offered for the item on a sheet of paper set up near the item on display (or description of it, if it’s an “experience” item). A person may bid on as many items as one wishes. Afterward, the written bids are examined and the person who bid the highest for each item claims and pays the pledged amount for that item.... Aside from the entry donation collected from attendees on arrival at the High Tea, the silent auction activity raises more money in support of our cause!

Robert Urquhart on keyboard and his daughter, Yasmine on Cello provided ambient music in the delightful living/entertainment spaces in the home of Jenny and Bruce Dennis (ICDF Board members), the latter two, being hospitable hosts and provocative conversationalists! (Jenny is also a celebrated cook, providing much on the refreshments buffet!).

Celine Urquhart, younger daughter of Robert and Corinne Urquhart, presented a touching contemporary ballet dance which had been choreographed for a local eisteddfod at which she had won first prize.

I was also thrilled to be asked to present an original performance poem from my growing repertoire, for the enjoyment of the High Tea’s attendees. So I quickly changed into my poetry persona, @new_uniVERSE, hoping to inspire all there gathered to higher aspirations in the arts for the love of God and the Kingdom’s sake as I recited and “danced” my way through Called to Create.

Please continue to pray for and support the work of the ICDF Foundation, the “dedicated crew of a motivated few” providing much-needed financial assistance, enabling ICDF to remain visible, available and relevant through recognising contributions of past pioneers, the efforts of practitioners in the present and the laying of foundations for the Christian dance artists of the future! Let’s look forward to many more such High Teas for higher purposes!

With heartfelt thanks to the ICDF, its Board members and supporters!

Lucy Jarasius

All photographs from the High Tea were taken by Alex (SungKwang) Chun



Lucy Jarasius, Andrew Park and Mary Jones



Dance by
Celine Urquhart



Guests included Ghanaians from a church
in Sydney

ICDF Foundation Conference Bursaries

The following recipients of ICDF Foundation bursaries to help them defray expenses involved with attending the Ghana Conference (co-hosted by CDFs Ghana and Ireland!) were extremely grateful for the financial assistance:

- Debbie Bright (Aotearoa New Zealand)
- Jacqlyne Tumusiime (Uganda)
- Lucy Jarasius (Australia)

On behalf of ICDF and the Conference Committees from Ghana and Ireland, we thank all those who took part in the fundraising project of the ICDF Foundation. Your contribution has made a difference in the lives of those who were able to join us in Ghana as a result of being awarded an ICDF Foundation Conference Bursary.

ICDF Foundation Flame Awards

The ICDF Foundation Flame Awards are a way of recognising excellence in Christian Dance/Movement ministry by acknowledging individuals who have dedicated their lives and gifts towards this ministry. The following received Flame Awards this year and these were presented at the ICDF Conference in Ghana:

Seth Asare Newman:

Seth Asare Newman, the National Coordinator of CDF Ghana, received a 2016 ICDF Foundation Flame Award for his decades of service to Christian dance ministry both in his local context and internationally. As a lecturer in dance at the University of Ghana in Accra, he has spent many years collecting native dances from the various regions in Ghana and “reinterpreting” them for proclamation of the Gospel message, a unique and pioneering ministry in Africa. The university where he teaches, and which was the host venue for the 2016 ICDF conference, is the only university in Africa, aside from in South Africa, which has a dedicated dance faculty where students come from far and wide to study native African dances. Seth is one of less than a handful of people who has attended every ICDF conference, including the first one held in Jerusalem in 1991, when he saw European Christians dancing in worship and Gospel proclamation for the first time ever! To see more of Seth and his ministry over the years visit ... <https://youtu.be/vFE2Wi0A3YQ>



Seth's award reads *“In recognition of your pioneering work in Ghana in the field of cultural dance as a Christian expression together with founding and leading the Christian Dance Fellowship from 1993”*.

Christine and Sodapop Jeanville:

Christine and Sodapop Jeanville, Country Representatives for ICDF France, also received a 2016 ICDF Foundation Flame Award. Christine and Sodapop founded Machol Dancer La Vie dance ministry in Paris in 2005. As well as teaching in France, they have taught workshops at ICDF events and travel extensively training dancers in styles including classical and contemporary ballet (Christine's specialities) and Bugaloo/dramatic interpretation (Sodapop's styles) as well as worship dance and intercessory prayer movement in countries around the world. At the High Tea, we were very interested to see a video message produced by Sodapop (another of his talents), and beautifully presented some of their travels and important facets of their work. To see this video presentation go to ... <https://youtu.be/jTq7gLVM3EU>



Their award reads *“In recognition of your artistic and Christian leadership in France and internationally in dance ministry”* and it was received in Ghana by Tove Liljedahl from Sweden on behalf of Christine and Sodapop where she delivered the following message from them:

“Une Flamme de cristal...A crystal Flame. Merci, thank you ICDF Foundation !

May we be like this burning passionate transparent flame / Brûlons de passion comme cette flamme pure. “

The ICDF Foundation was formed in 2009 to support Christian dance internationally. It does this by raising money during the year for scholarships for ICDF Diploma in Dance Ministry course fees and, in Conference years, bursary grants for conference attendance. It is run by a dedicated Board with legal and financial expertise and extensive experience in the work of ICDF. This Board is chaired by Mary Jones, the Founder of ICDF. You can read more about the Foundation on their website at <http://foundation.icdf.com> including how to become a Friend of the Foundation.