

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

You can help promote Ugandan healing and art by supporting our efforts to purchase costumes, equipment and instruments, along with raising funds for the continuing expenses of school fees, housing and medical care. We thank you in advance for considering this opportunity and willingness to support not only our work, but the work of Branco and Bitone through us. Through this exchange, we want to unite communities in East Africa and Albion with the hope of creating peace, the perpetuation of traditional forms of artistic expression and hope for a sustainable future for children who have seen too much of the world's violence.

Please send all donations to Sarah Heddon 4661 Kellogg Center, Albion College, Albion, MI 49224 and make checks payable to the Bitone Project.



Thank you for your support:

The Albion Community

Singers of United Lands

Dan McQuown, Albion College Chaplain

Albion College Student Volunteer Bureau

Lewis Chapel, Albion, MI

Howell Rotary Club, Howell, MI

BITONE PROJECT



“IN ART WE UNITE”

ALBION TO

EAST AFRICA

“ART AWAY FROM
PRACTICE IS DEAD”

BITONE PROJECT



What is The Bitone Children's Home/Troupe?

Formed in 2004, Bitone works to rehabilitate orphans and children who have been affected by the violence of a twenty-year civil war in Uganda. Using traditional music, theater and folklore, Bitone not only helps nurture children who have become the victims of a violent civil war, but empowers future musicians and artists to create a peaceful future for the next generation of Ugandans. Currently, managed by professional artists and musicians, the orphanage supports 25 children, providing them with food, clothes, an opportunity to go to school and be part of a very musical family.

How did we get involved?

We met Lawrence Branco Sekalegga, founder and director of Bitone, from Kampala, Uganda. Branco is living and working in the Albion community with Singers of United Lands (SOUL), a community-based group that brings musicians and performers from all over the world together. We immediately discovered a chance to do more than simply create awareness of the conflict, and to become part of the lives of the children that our friend knows and loves.

What does Bitone mean?

“‘Bitone’ means talents. We believe that every child is talented in some way—dance, music, drama, craftsmanship and leadership.”

What does Bitone Do?

Bitone trains children from various areas of violence, poverty and disease in traditional Ugandan music, dance, theater and art. While providing children with rehabilitation, healing and expression through art, their performances help build a future of job opportunities, self-sustainability and empowerment.. Bitone also promotes traditional Ugandan art and culture in local communities and internationally. Bitone seeks to establish cross-cultural education, awareness and relationships.



What does Bitone need?

Funds for housing, meals, medicine, school fees and performance costs represent a daily challenge. Bitone could become more self-sustaining with the purchase of its own costumes, sound equipment and instruments. The troupe also exists in a community of extreme need and Bitone seeks to expand its resources to support more children who have seen too much of the world's violence. Most of all, Bitone needs love and hope from all corners of the globe to help them become leaders in a country devastated by war.

What are our Mission and Goals:?

We desire to extend Bitone's passion and vision to our home communities. We seek to support the annual operation of Bitone in Kampala through long-term, cross-cultural relationships. We hope to design an annual trip that allows future students to experience the power of exchange through music and theater. We also hope to unite the Albion community with Kampala through youth empowerment and international education. As a temporary member of the Albion community, Branco has done much to begin and facilitate this relationship and we want to ensure that this continues.



BITONE PROJECT CONTACT

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