



# NCC NEWSLETTER

## November Edition

**National Commission on Culture**  
under the auspices of the Ministry of Tourism Arts and Culture

presents

**THEME**  
REVIVING PATRIOTISM, PEACE AND UNITY  
THROUGH CULTURAL DIVERSITY FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

**13th - 19th December 2022** | **Venue: Cape Coast, Central Region**

**H.E Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo**  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA

Nana Ama Mamboury  
Minister of Tourism, Arts & Culture

Nana Kwame Agyepong  
Executive Director  
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Nana Kwame Agyemang  
Director of Ghana Traditional Arts  
National House of Chiefs

Nana Kwame Agyemang  
President, Central Regional  
House of Chiefs

Partnership with:



National Festival of Arts and Culture (NAFAC)

# INTRODUCTION

*The National Commission on Culture is mandated to manage from a holistic perspective the Cultural life of Ghana. The Commission has 16 Regional Centres for National Culture with offices in all district and Municipal Assemblies. The introduction of this newsletter is to continue to inform and educate the masses on our mandate, programmes and activities of both the Centres and the Commission.*

**This newsletter is designed by the PR unit of the Commission, headed by Mrs Ama Amponsah Painstil**

# SURINAMESE AMBASSADOR ADVOCATES FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE WITH GHANA

**The Suriname's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Ghana, Her Excellency Mrs. Fedelia Graand-Galon, has urged Ghanaians to collaborate with Surinamese to strengthen their bilateral cultural ties.**



The Ambassador made the call when the Executive Director of the National Commission on Culture Madam Janet Edna Nyame paid a courtesy visit to her to deliberate on possible ways the two countries could collaborate in cultural exchange programs. Suriname is a continent in South America with Dutch as its official language. The country is made up of a multi-ethnic group of people with a population of a little over half a million with "Sranantogo" as the common language which is widely spoken among all the ethnic groups in the country.

The Ambassador in the meeting with the Executive Director stated that, Ghana is important to Suriname

because the Transatlantic Slave Trade caused some people of Ghanaian descendants to be shipped to Suriname.

She expressed her admiration and love for Ghana and further reiterated that, Surinamese have resemblance to Ghanaians, with regards to the lifestyle of the Akans in terms of naming ceremony, puberty rites and chieftaincy.

"I wish to have cultural programmes rolled out to, inform people about the similarities between the two countries (Ghana and Suriname) when it comes to culture. As African descendants, especially the Maroons, kept some of the cultures their ancestors used to practice; like naming ceremonies, puberty rites and the six tribal communities with paramount chiefs and chiefs in the hinterland of Suriname" the Ambassador added.

Mrs. Galon revealed to the Executive Director that, though the Suriname is situated in South America, they are not really known; instead the focus is on the Netherlands, European country whose culture is totally different compared to the Surinamese.

According to the Ambassador, this is problematic to Surinam's and she looks forward to organise food fairs and artistic cultural activities where Surinamese and Ghanaian artists can perform together to exchange ideas on how both countries can share their culture with each other.

She used the occasion to invite the Executive Director to lead some delegates from Ghana to attend the Surinamese upcoming Mamo Festival slated on the November 15, 2022.



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CULTURE PAYS A COURTESY CALL ON THE CHIEF OF NEW JUABEN TRADITIONAL AREA

**The Executive Director of the National Commission on Culture, Madam Janet Edna Nyame and some management members of the Commission and CNC Eastern Region have paid a courtesy visit to the chief and elders of the New Juaben Traditional Area Daasebre Nana Kwaku Boateng III.**



The visit which occurred at the Chief's palace was intended to congratulate and show appreciation to the chiefs and elders for assisting the Centre for National Culture during the just ended Regional Festival of Arts and Culture (REFAC).

REFAC is a biennial cultural and arts event organized by the National Commission on Culture under the auspices of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture as a prelude to the National Festival of Arts and Culture which aims at capitalizing on the rich cultures of Ghana to help promote national development.

According to the Executive Director, it was imperative that the chiefs and elders of the New Juaben

Traditional Area were actively involved in the RAFAC as it offers various cultural groups the opportunity to be selected to represent their respective regions at the national edition (NAFAC) expected come December.

The Executive Director added that, arts and culture are two wonderful ways by which societies can use to preserve or strengthen a strong societal sense of place, forging a personal identity and showing one's creativity.

She reiterated that, arts and culture boast of multiple opportunities for learning, entertainment, leisure and improve communication with others.

Madam Janet Edna Nyame used the opportunity to invite the Chief to lead the paramountcy of the Eastern Region to the National Festival of Arts and Culture to be held in Central Region, Cape Coast to be precise in December.



# VOLTA REGION- CENTRE FOR NATIONAL CULTURE OBSERVES REFAC 2022

**The Centre for National Culture in the Volta Region has celebrated its version of the Regional Festival of Arts and Culture (REFAC).**



The event which happened at the Agogoe-Lume Community Park in the Ho Municipality, served as a preliminary celebration towards the National Festival of Arts and Culture (NAFAC), which aims at honoring and acknowledging the different cultures that exist in the various Regions of Ghana.

REFAC, which is a biennial event additionally, gives opportunity to all Centres for National Culture to select representatives to represent their region at NAFAC.

The former Director of Culture at the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture who doubled as the chairperson in a speech outlined the relevance and the need to promote and preserve our cultural heritage.

According to him, Cultural heritage is central to protecting our sense of who we are. It gives us an irrefutable connection to the past – to certain social values, beliefs, customs and traditions that allows us to identify ourselves with others and deepen our sense of unity, belonging and national pride.

The Municipal Chief Executive Honorable Richard Bosson also delivered a speech in regard to cultural resources and potential sites within the region and urged his fellow District Chief Executives to work collectively with cultural officers and centre, to promote cultural heritage.



Chairman of the Occasion, Dr. Prosper Yao Dzamefe

Additionally, The Director of Programs, Madam Rosemond Amuzu who represented the Executive Director of National Commission on Culture through a speech appealed to the chiefs and individuals gathered to give their full support



# VOLTA REGION- CENTRE FOR NATIONAL CULTURE OBSERVES REFAC 2022

towards the NAFAC 2022 which will take place in Cape Coast in December.



Mrs. Rosemond Amuzu, Director at National Commission on Culture (Guest)

Again, the Regional Director of Tourism, Mr. Alexander Nketia, he showed gratitude to the people for sustaining green vegetation around the Lume community and advocated to the chiefs and people to keep up with its maintenance.



Togbe Agbenyedzo VI, Acting Paramount Chief of Lume Traditional Area

The REFAC festival featured other dignitaries including; Togbe Agbenyedzo VI, Togbe Adzanku-Honoa IV, Togbe Hadzi III, Honorable Ememlia Adzima, Honorable Juliana Kpedekpo, Honorable Kudzoh Atta, Mr, Daniel Sarpong, Madam Bernice Agbemavor and Mrs. Comfort Dzandu.

# BONO REGION: CENTRE FOR NATIONAL CULTURE CREATES AWARENESS ON GALAMSEY MANACE

**The Centre for National Cultural; Bono Region, has staged a performance to create awareness on the devastating effect of illegal mining popularly known as 'galamsey' to individual's health and the development of Ghana.**



It is of no doubt that Illegal mining activities have caused a great harm to our environment because most of minerals are found in rivers, which as a result, miners often resort to the blasting of rivers and their surroundings to enable them access to the targeted minerals.

This is done without caring about the effects and dangers that such acts may have on the environment and the individuals in the various mining communities.

To this end, the Bono Regional Centre for National Culture staged a performance illegal mining activities in Ghana to create awareness on the alarming and the devastating effects and dangers on the galamsey menace.

The performance brought to reality the magnitude of the menace as well as the seriousness and urgency with which we all need to attach in order to address it.

The Bono Acting Regional Director for Centre for National Culture, Mr. Seidu Iddrisu Yeboah in an interview with the media at the programme underscored the importance of Culture and Arts in championing the course of National Development.

According to the Director, it is high time we employ arts forms as a complimentary mechanism for fighting the menace since the security agencies alone cannot win the fight.

The Director used the occasion to call for support from all stakeholders both at the Regional and National level to enable the Centre implement the initiative and many other policies and programmes that promotes culture and national development.

# EASTERN REGIONAL CENTRE FOR NATIONAL CULTURE ORGANISES REGIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND CULTURE (REFAC)

**The Eastern Regional Centre for National Culture has organized the 2022 Regional Festival of Arts and Culture in a grand style.**



The festival which was organized at the Jubilee Park in Koforidua was in preparation towards the 60 years celebration of the National Festival of Arts and Culture to be held in the Central Region.

The Eastern Regional Minister, Hon. Seth Kwame Acheampong who served as the host Minister for the festival in a welcome address expressed his excitement and congratulated the Centre and the Commission on Culture, as the biannual event brought together people from the entire Region under one umbrella to celebrate the cultural diversity and legacy while promoting our traditional values.

The Minister used the occasion to appeal to the Centre to always liaise with the traditional authorities to identify and organize the artistic resources in

their localities and develop them into viable ventures to help propel the wheels of development in these communities.

The Paramount Chief of New Juaben Traditional Area, Daasebre Nana Kwaku Boateng III in a speech said, the significance of culture must not be downplayed as it defines our evolutionary identity, helps us understand our ancestral values, gives us the very meaning of life and makes us unique from other parts of the world.



"Throughout the world, there are varieties of cultures which have been maintained from time immemorial and have been handed down from one generation to another. These cultural practices have aided people connect with each other and build communities, within the same cultural backgrounds" the Daasebre added.

The Paramount Chief pledged his continued support to the Centre to ensure that cultural values,



# EASTERN REGIONAL CENTRE FOR NATIONAL CULTURE ORGANISES REGIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND CULTURE (REFAC)

relevance and practices are promoted in the region and the country to instill in the youth the accepted societal values and to promote development.

The Director of Community Education and Youth Development (CEYD) Dr. Akosua Abdallah, who represented the Executive Director, as the Guest Speaker expressed her excitement to be part of the Eastern Regional Festival of Arts and Culture.

In her speech, she said the theme; "Reviving Patriotism, Peace and Unity through Cultural Diversity for Sustainable Development", was appropriate especially during these worrisome times.

She added that, the National Commission on Culture believes in the strategies that will see to promote and sustain the interest of Ghanaians especially the youth since globalization has affected us in every aspect of our national life and culture.



# ADANSI ASOKWA CENTRE FOR NATIONAL CULTURE ORGANISE CULTURAL DIALOGUE

**The Adansi Asokwa District Cultural Office and the Centre for National Culture has organised a cultural discussion on the topic "cultural conversation, a tool to patriotism".**



As it is said, a community's ability to evolve morally has always been anchored by its culture, whilst Promoting national heritage and instilling a sense of patriotism in people are accomplished.

This constructive conversation was necessary in the effort to instill a sense of patriotism among Ghanaian citizens.

The programme nonetheless was intended to give participants equal chance to converse, exchange ideas, make suggestions and ask questions for the betterment of the Districts.

The Deputy Director of Performing Arts at the Centre for National Culture, Kumasi Mr. Mustapha Issah who doubled as the programme's guest speaker in a speech

emphasized the need for various departments including National Commission on Civic Education (NCCE), Fire Service, NADMO, GES, and Social Welfare Department to collaborate with the office in the course of their daily responsibilities and contribute to information dissemination through our cultural practices.



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# ADANSI ASOKWA CENTRE FOR NATIONAL CULTURE ORGANISE CULTURAL DIALOGUE

He added that, culture is more than just drumming and dancing as most people understand, and we must work hard to discard such backward notion to imbibe in the youth the societal values and customs to preserve our identity as people.

“Any department that acts like an island will remain that way if it continues to act that way”, the Deputy Director cautioned.

He recommended that, a cultural development plan for the District, Regional, and National Cultural Offices should exist and should be incorporated into the GES curriculum.



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In lieu of their outstanding initiative, he praised the District Cultural Officers and added that he is open for potential future collaborations with the District Cultural Office for yet again another wonderful event.

The Ntomafura Resource Person, Mr. John Kofi Boame in demonstration presented a fun and educational pack which combines education and enjoyment to show how both male and female traditional clothing were worn in step-by-step fashion.

He further presented to the audience how to wear several types of clothing, including Dansinkran, Maka a Maka, Koola, Ntoma Kwaha, and Konfanko.

However, he cautioned that some, types which are taught were appropriate for wearing and not customarily recommended.



# EJURAHENE EULOGISES AMAMMERESO YOUTH CHOIR OF THE CENTRE FOR NATIONAL CULTURE

**The Ejurahene, Barima Osei Hwidi II has paid glowing tribute to the Amammereso Youth Choir of the Centre for National Culture, Kumasi for their enduring energy and melodious rendition of choral music.**



The Ejurahene paid the tribute when the youth choral group was specially invited by the Chief to entertain him and his elders at his residence at the just ended Sekyereni (Yam) festival celebrated annually by the people of Ejura in the Ashanti Region.

According to him, the enjoyably and exciting performance of the Amammereso Youth Choir reminded him of his youthful days as a chorister when the ever green Youth Choir at the usual elements gave a medley of one hour non-stop danceable and soothing choral songs.

This made the chief so moved that he joined the choral group to sing and dance the evening off where he charged the Centre to organize a night of choral music at the centre and pledged to Sponsor and grace the night with his chiefs and elders.



The Director of the Centre for National Culture, Mr. Emmanuel Ansu on his part, expressed his profound gratitude to the Ejurahene for the exceptional love he demonstrates to the course of the Centre.

“This is the kind of support the Centre needs from public spirited individuals, organisations and cooperate bodies, so we can impact positively”, the Director added.

# QUEEN MOTHERS OF SUNYANI TRADITIONAL COUNCIL ORGANIZE TRADITIONAL FOOD BAZAAR

**As part of efforts to promote traditional cuisine, Queen Mothers in the Sunyani traditional area in collaboration with the Centre for National Culture have organized a traditional food bazaar for the community.**



The programme which was held at the Nana Bosoma market brought together various stakeholders such as financial institutions, media houses, other public sector workers, market women and the general public.

Notable Ghanaian foods such as; apapransa, banku ne nkrama nkwan, apiti, nuhuu, bankye ampesie ne mako abomu, Fufuo ne abunabunu nkwan, Adibi-ankyenewom were prepared right in the market amidst the spectacular performance by the center's culture troupe.

The programme, which was propagated by the Sunyani Hema Nana Akosua Duah Asor Sika Brayie II intended to showcase,

sensitize and educate the public on the nutritional value and health benefits of traditional cuisine and to encourage the growing and consumption of local foods.

The queenmothers used the platform to appeal to mothers to teach their daughters how to prepare local meals rather than patronizing imported foods as they decried the inability of people to prepare local dishes especially the girl-child due to lack of knowledge and training from home.

They again underscore the role traditional food play in providing employment for the youth as well as improving household income since they are available and accessible.

The Director for Centre for National Culture in a statement commended the queen mothers for such initiative and appealed to them to make it an annual programme to be held in March as part of activities of the Ghana month.

# SAVANNAH REGION: CENTRE FOR NATIONAL CULTURE INAUGURATES GONJA CULTURE AND LITERACY TRAINING INSTITUTE

which have triggered off environmental pollution and sanitation problems which they are finding difficulty in resolving.



The Deputy CEO of Ghana Tourism Authority, Mr. Ekow Sampson who was at the event commended the people of Gonjaland for their love and support for tourism. He also used the occasion to extend his appreciation to the Savannah Regional House of Chiefs on behalf of the Centre for National culture for their immense support in promoting tourism, arts and culture.



# SEKYERE EAST DISTRICT CENTRE FOR NATIONAL CULTURE EMBARKS ON ART TALENT HUNT

**The Centre for National Culture in the Sekyere East District has embark on arts and talent hunt by using acrylic paints to discover the artistic abilities as efforts to promote paintings as virtual medium to express the arts and culture of the people.**



The project, which was superintended by the District Cultural Officer, Mrs. Grace Agyapong Fosu gave pupils from the selected schools the chance to learn about their diverse environmental settings, art occupations, fundamental drawings and painting, colour theory knowledge, and their capacity for creative thought.

Due to their close vicinity and desire to minimize additional expenses, Nsutam Presby Primary and Effiduase Demonstration DA3 (A and B) primary schools were

chosen with each school given some time after the introductions to reflect on how best to depict their familiar area in pictures on their papers.



A ream of A3 sheets, several colors of acrylic paint, and disposable bowls were purchased by the District Cultural Office for the project with assistance from the Regional Office.

Although the schools were required to supply their own brushes, it was noted that the pupils were quite enthusiastic to participate and were very pleased with the project's outcome made the organisers to produce additional papers for other pupils to practice their artistic talent.

As art is vital for the pupils and allow them study about themselves, their culture and their community, Centre hopes to continue the search for artistic potential in the next quarter by using various mediums to allow the expression of truth and beliefs.

# **Effects of Unrestrained Globalisation on Cultural Values - *Asheikh M. B. Ibn Hassan***

Thus, as globalisation is known to be driven by the convergence of cultural and economic systems which promotes, and in some cases necessitates, increased interaction among countries, it is imperative that as a country, Ghana takes a second look at its cultural policies to ensure that it adequately protects the country's cultural value systems.

# **Effects of Unrestrained Globalisation on Cultural Values - Asheikh M. B. Ibn Hassan**

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Increasingly, many societies across the globe particularly those in Africa, are gradually losing their cultures to modernity due to the unrestrained wind of globalisation that has been blowing fast across every nook and cranny of the world. Ubiquitous and powerful as the phenomenon is; many cultures around the world today are being rendered ineffective in their endeavour to preserve and protect their unique cultural value systems, making them susceptible to various forms of threats including possible extinction. Ghana is not spared from this global canker either, as the phenomenon can be evidently seen to have pervaded all aspects of its national life--social, cultural, religious, economic and political. This piece seeks to throw some light on how influential the phenomenon is and draw the attention of relevant stakeholders to, as a matter of urgency, take steps to safeguard Ghana's culture from becoming victim of cultural hegemony.

Inarguably, Ghana's cultural heritage has had its fair share of value erosion as a result of globalisation. Many have expressed concerns about the proliferation of several Western lifestyles in the Ghanaian society to the extent that sometimes people relegate their own cultural values to the background.

globalisation has a considerable influence on several areas of contemporary societies' ways of life. For this reason, many critics of the ideology argue that it is potentially harmful to cultural diversity asserting that, when a dominating country's culture is introduced into a receiving country through globalisation, it can become a threat to the diversity of local culture. Others even argue that globalisation may ultimately lead to Westernisation or Americanisation of culture believing that the dominating cultural concepts of economically and politically powerful Western countries could spread and cause harm to local cultures. Of course as globalisation entails the opening up of one's country to foreign trade, investments and cultural exchanges among others, it implies that the world is like a single unit. In fact in this era of the internet, it has even become more difficult for any country to grow or develop in seclusion from the rest of the world. In the world today, globalisation is considered as a necessary part of development process of every country. Mott, 2004; Panopio & Santico Rolda, 2006; and Ferraro, 2008 observe that "globalisation and technological advancements in the twentieth and twenty first centuries have brought radical transformations into people's cultures and traditions" and have "dictated a lopsided transfer of culture in favour of hegemonic global relationships that often promote Western culture against other ways of life" adding that "these transformations have often only satisfied contemporary hegemonic and consumerist lifestyles."



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Central Regional Minister



Dr. Ibrahim Mohammed Aued  
Minister of Tourism, Arts & Culture



Helian Janet Edna Nyame  
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Shakerima Kwesi Atta II  
Oponon of Opono Traditional Area



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