

**THE SUSTAINABLE PEACE EDUCATION,
EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT CONCERT**

**SPEED
CONCERT**



Blessing Tangban
on Asa's Fire on the Mountain cover



Kilokeys Featured By Brainbox In "drumbeats Of War"



Ayoola Emmanuel performing
"One Day"



D.J.A.

Simnom Emmanuel



Deji Ige Performing Revolution



Rachel Charles



Kilokeys performing Solo



Funboi Performing Let's Make Peace

THE SUSTAINABLE PEACE EDUCATION, EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT CONCERT

The SPEED concert – as one fruit of EESF's sustained peace building actions and an extension of the Masterpeace Global Peace Concert – is a potential catalyst for peace education towards a more sustainable world. This, to us, augments resilience building as well as community cohesion through a culture of peace in the theory of social change.

Our Approach

Harnessing the creative energies of young, socially conscious voices gifted in performance art like spoken word and music has been our central efforts for the SPEED Concert. It's also an approach substantiated with dialogue (a panel session) where the core essence of peace education in the philosophy of people living in violence-prone and even former conflict areas is illuminated. And our subtle aim is to inspire a community of Nelsons right from the grassroots, ambassadors who will embrace their purpose and the knack for expression as peace building elements in their respective communities.



**Art
is the bridge
to dialogue**

- Brainbox
Spoken word artist



MUSIC GALORE



PANEL SESSION

Performance Arts And Dialogue are the key components of the SPEED CONCERT.

SPEED DEBUT



“

Art is so powerful that it elicits very strong emotional responses that ignite deep conversations about an issue. It is the bridge to dialogue and this forms the basis for the SPEED Concert, bringing together a community of youth peace 'artists' and facilitating incisive thoughts to creating new insights for a culture of peace in vulnerable communities.

- SPEED CONCERT

On 25th June, 2016, we held the debut SPEED concert in partnership with Masterpeace Nigeria. Here Ebere Ujam, EESF's Executive Director who also doubles as Country Rep for Masterpeace welcomes the audience comprising of performance activists 'artists', community youths and University student leaders, volunteers, journalists, entrepreneurs and human right lawyers.

SPEED CONCERT ARTIVISTS

With the creative energies of young, socially conscious voices gifted in performance art like spoken word and music harnessed at the SPEED Concert, we inspire a community of Nelsons right from the grassroots and ambassadors who will embrace their purpose and the knack for expression as peace building elements in their respective



The amazing lineup of 9 performance activists comprising 5 spoken word artists (Brainbox, Ayoola Emmanuel, Simnom Emmanuel, Deji Ige and Rachel Charles), 3 singers (Funboi Ogunnaike, Blessing Tangban and Kilokeys Ezudiunno) and a rapper (D.I.A Didam Iliya) who gave mesmerizing renditions advocating for peace in Nigerian vulnerable communities. The passionate and exceptionally talented young performers at the debut show poured out their hearts through powerful lyrics of hope and for social justice.

PEACE LYRICS

““
It is a responsibility on all sides to put those
drum sticks aside
And seek the peace that resides within us
So the love that comes between us
Will seal the fault-lines between us
- Drumbeats of War

BRAINBOX
(SPOKEN WORD ARTIST/ACTIVIST)

““
I wake up in the morning
Tell you what I see on my TV screen
I see the blood of an innocent child
And everybody's watching
- Asa cover of Fire on the Mountain

BLESSING TANGBAN
(GUITARIST/MUSICIAN)

SPEED



NELSONS

Southern Kaduna in Northern Nigeria has witnessed extreme degrees of violence but SIMNOM and D.I.A are not deterred from pursuing their purpose as meaningful youths. Their touching performances at the peace gathering demonstrated resilience and the right response in the wake of violence, inspiring youths from major conflict areas in the world (who might be looking to take up arms) to learn that they too can serve as vessels for the expression of peace in their communities.



MAKING YOUNG NELSONS:

The Masterpeace effect on **SPEED** Concert is derived from the concept that “more nelsons automatically mean less armed conflict and also less lives, houses and economies destroyed by violence”.

Thoughts from the panel session



For HEAL, the times have changed. Using his secondary school as example where there used to be a lot of promise with young boys expressing beautiful dreams for the future, he thinks violence is infiltrating minds and this is due to the volatile nature of today's communities in which the executive functioning skills of young people are affected.

COACH HEAL

(The “Psychological Factor”, Community Function and Mentorship Tablet)

I CAN'T STOP A BOMB IN ADAMAWA, OR MILITANTS FROM BLOWING UP PIPELINES IN THE NIGER DELTA BECAUSE I'M NOT IN A VISIBLE POSITION OF POWER OR AUTHORITY BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN I AM POWERLESS. NOT BEING IN POSITION OF POWER DOESN'T MAKE YOU POWERLESS AND THAT'S THE ESSENCE OF MENTORSHIP BECAUSE FOR EVERY DISASTER, THERE ARE SURVIVORS WHOSE RESILIENCE CAN HELP CUSHION THE DEEP PSYCHOLOGICAL AFTEREFFECTS ON OTHERS AND ENABLE THEM RESPOND POSITIVELY. THEN, THE COMMUNITY HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE BEING THAT YOUNG PEOPLE ALWAYS NEED TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES OR POTENTIALS, SO A COMMUNITY CAN PROVIDE A MEDIUM INSTEAD OF LEAVING A VOID. THE COMMUNITY CAN CHOOSE INNOVATIVE, DEEP-ROOTED AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES WHERE YOUTHS CAN CHANNEL THEIR ENERGIES, NO MATTER HOW THEY FEEL IN ANY SITUATION PARTICULARLY IN CONFLICT.

Coach Heal, a graduate of law from University of Abuja is a peace-making expert with a multi-disciplinary background in project design, partnership development and psychology. He specialises in positioning service organisations, knowledge firms, social enterprises and NGOs for peace. He is a value ambassador and leader of a new generation of peace-making lawyers.

Thoughts from the panel session



Her masters in Criminology research from the Southern University of New Orleans centered on 'poverty and its relation to Insurgence. But she believe unrest in Nigeria was deeper than poverty as other factors such as religion, tribalism and the "YOU" factor play deeper roles.

BLESSING TANGBAN (The "YOU" Factor)

UNREST STARTS FROM WITHIN AN INDIVIDUAL THEN OUT BEFORE SPREADING ACROSS SOCIETY. SO, IF "YOU" AT NOT AT REST, THE SOCIETY CANNOT BE AT REST BECAUSE IT FEEDS FROM THE ENERGY YOUR MIND GIVES. BUT IN THE END, PEOPLE HAVE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR CHOICES. THEY HAVE TO BE MADE TO REALIZE THAT THE POWER OF ONE AFFECT OTHERS.

Blessing Tangban is a Nigerian Afro-Folk singer, song writer and guitarist. She holds an Associate Degree in Substance Abuse Counseling, a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a Masters Degree in Criminology from Southern University at New Orleans. At the Age of 15, Blessing began her professional career in music. Her style is quite organic and geared towards expressing music in its most natural and honest form. To her credit, she's released a five song EP which featured the hit song "Pennsylvania" and "Excuses from her upcoming debut Album. Today, Blessing is working tirelessly to integrate social justice in her soulful songs. She has a beautiful voice and plays at visual art events promoting peace.

Thoughts from the panel session



Brainbox narrates a touching story of how not being educated can make someone a thug. He put himself in the picture believing that education saved him and that it is indeed a veritable tool for peace.

BRAINBOX (The “INJUSTICE” Factor)

MANY YOUNG PEOPLE ARE NOT HAPPY BECAUSE THERE'S A SENSE OF DEPRIVATION, A FEELING THEY HAVE BEEN CHEATED AND THAT THEIR FUTURE IS NOT SECURED WITH THE DISABLING ENVIRONMENT THEY LIVE IN. THIS BREEDS ANGER AND MAKES THEM WILLING TOOLS FOR EVIL MACHINATIONS. SO THE INJUSTICE HAS TO BE ADDRESSED. BEYOND THAT, EDUCATION HUMANIZES THE WAY THE MIND WORKS AND CAN PLAY A GREAT ROLE IN CREATING PEACE, IF PEOPLE READ MORE AND ALSO TRAVEL TO OTHER PLACES. ALSO, THE KIND OF INFORMATION PROLIFERATED ONLINE SHOULD FOLLOW COMMON ETHICS AS SOME CAN FOSTER VIOLENCE WITH A LOT OF NEGATIVE ENERGY EMANATING FROM MISINFORMATION.

Born Valentine Onyeka Ogunaka, BRAINBOX is a livewire act in the Nigerian spoken word scene, a leading voice for a generation of socially-conscious youth 'artists' and creative entrepreneur.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in Information Science from ABU, Zaria and has kept an impressive resume with traces of impact as a speaker, facilitator, panelist and performer at the National Youth Summit, Social Media Conference and Nigerian Teens Choice Award among several other platforms. A huge icon of inspiration for young people, Brainbox is shifting paradigms with his “I AM NOT A FAILED DREAM” lifetime project. His mission is direct: to inform and inspire for impact with a unique, scintillating, intellectually engaging and refreshing style. He won the HAGI Spoken Word Contest in 2016 for his piece, “I WILL SPEAK FOR HER”.

Thoughts from the panel session



Ayoola beams light on the reward and value system. He thinks violence has become lucrative business for some youths who take up arms against their societies for the injustices meted out to them so they can be heard and thus be rewarded handsomely. This reflects tacitly on the idea of Amnesty given to Niger Delta militants during the late President Yar'adua's reign – if it effectively solved the main issues of environmental degradation and insecurity in their communities or should peace be transient?

AYOOLA EMMANUEL (The “Government and Reward System”)

EVERYONE HAS A VOICE. EVERYONE HAS A FORM OF EXPRESSION AND WILL FIND A WAY TO LET IT OUT. FOR THE NIGERIAN YOUTHS WHO FEEL SNUBBED AND DEPRIVED, FRUSTRATION CAN TAKE HOLD IN THE CENTRE OF THEIR HEARTS, PROVOKING ANGER AND DESTRUCTION. IN THIS SITUATION, GOVERNMENT MUST KNOW THAT ENGAGING YOUTHS IN A DIALOGUE TO “SETTLE” OR APPEASE THEM WITH SOME INDUCEMENT MIGHT ONLY SOLVE THE PROBLEM TEMPORARY AND THEN TRANSIENT PEACE IS NOT SUSTAINABLE. IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT THAT EVERYONE SEES THEMSELVES AS GOVERNMENT AND WORK IN VARIOUS CAPABILITIES TO BE RESPONSIBLE.

Ayoola Emmanuel is a Legal Practitioner, Speaker, Social Activist and a Creative Writer. His social activism in relation to world peace and justice has made him a favourite of Radio and TV stations. He has also featured in several dailies and magazines. He has taken his peace and justice crusade to various summits, some of which are, The Ambassadors Summit, The Social Media Conference, The Young CEOs Conference, The Nigerian Teens Choice Awards. Recently, he was a Speaker and Facilitator at the National Youth Summit 2016 which had an audience of over three thousand from all-over Africa.



**MASTERPEACE NIGERIA AMBASSADORS
INSPIRED TO PROPAGATE THE IDEALS OF
PEACE EDUCATION**