Dear Friends,

2016 has been an exciting year for Art and Global Health Center Africa.

We supported more Students with Dreams, with Dreamers from Malawi College of Health Sciences joining their peers at Chancellor College and Domasi College of Education to realise their dreams for social change in Malawi. 31 Dreamers from 3 colleges implemented 11 projects - from educating youth about sexual and reproductive health, to supporting children with visual and hearing impairments in school, to using arts to educate communities about the rights of people with albinism. We were delighted that 2015 Dreamer (and 2016 Mentor) Madalo Banda received the Queens’ Young Leaders Award. Madalo joined outstanding young people from across the Commonwealth in an intensive week long leadership programme, culminating in the presentation of awards by Her Majesty the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

We built on the success of the Umunthu documentary film by developing and implementing in-depth workshops to tackle stigma and discrimination, particularly towards LGBTI people. Implemented in University of Malawi’s campuses and surrounding communities, workshops used par-
participatory arts-based approaches to address underlying attitudes and behaviours that undermine the health, welfare and rights of marginalised people. We were encouraged by the endline evaluation, which revealed participants’ thoughtful engagement and shifting attitudes. We appreciated the opportunity to share the Umunthu programme’s methodology at the International Facilitation Conference in Nairobi. Throughout the year, we also continued to expand the Umunthu film’s reach, with screenings at a number of international events, including Delhi International Queer Theatre and Film Festival and G-fest, a festival of LGBTI arts in London.

**Make Art/ Stop AIDS** rolled out 10 film screenings in rural and peri-urban communities in Zomba district. Screenings were followed by lively community-wide discussions facilitated by the film's actors; the following day community stakeholders came together to create strategic plans to tackle HIV and AIDS in their communities. The programme evaluation - led by partner NGO Dignitas International - found that the project met its objectives and received very positive feedback from participants. We were particularly pleased that high numbers of men tested for HIV through this project, as engaging men in HIV testing is a major barrier to tackling the HIV pandemic in Malawi.

We were delighted to collaborate with the **World Food Programme** and its partners to use Theatre for Development to engage communities in responding to issues affecting long-term food security, including dietary diversification, water, sanitation, hygiene and gender protection. AGHCA facilitators worked with local drama groups to develop participatory plays that engaged surrounding communities in developing their own local solutions to pressing issues.

We would like to sincerely thank you for your support and we look forward to continued collaboration next year and beyond!

**Helen Todd, Executive Director & Chancy Mauluka, Board Chairperson**
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http://www.aghcafrica.org
MISSION

The Art and Global Health Center Africa fosters creative leadership and implements innovative arts-based, health oriented programmes that inspire and mobilise.

VISION

Our vision is to serve as an “incubator” for arts-based approaches to actionable social change, creating replicable models that challenge barriers to healthy living.

WE VALUE

*The Arts:* we believe in the transformative power of the arts to facilitate experiential learning, encourage cross-cultural understanding and the open exchange of ideas, foster empathy, and strengthen community.

*Human Rights:* we believe that health care is a human right and that every human being is entitled to a healthy life.

*Creativity & Innovation:* we believe that society develops through the creativity of its members and that encouraging and supporting innovation and critical thinking across disciplines and fields is vital to solving problems.

*Collaboration & Ownership:* we believe that working in partnerships is key to sustainability. We therefore work in support of the efforts and goals of local and regional leadership, the government of Malawi and international organisations, across different social sectors: urban and rural, educated and non-educated, minorities and mainstream, men and women, young and old.
Since its launch in 2011, MASA, as part of the international Make Art/Stop AIDS movement, has used the arts to break social, cultural and structural barriers to HIV testing, treatment and care.

The programme’s most recent iteration, the MASA Film Project, is a collaboration between the AGHCA and Dignitas International (DI); it was piloted in 2014 and expanded November 2015 - October 2016. Through participatory film screenings, the project mobilises communities, local leaders and healthcare centres to work together to address stigma, discrimination and fear around HIV and to make HIV services more accessible.

Created by independent filmmaker Tom Gibb, the MASA film tells the story of a family’s struggle with HIV in a village in Malawi. It was based on a performance developed through the MASA Rural Programme, a multi-week intervention in which the AGHCA collaborated with members of a rural community to write, direct and stage a play focused on life with HIV/AIDS. In the film, interviews with the actors are interwoven with footage of the performance. These same actors emerge during each community screening to facilitate community-wide discussions.

Each screening includes free on-site moonlight HIV testing and counselling. Screenings culminate in the creation and execution of

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10,000+ people attended 13 participatory interventions in rural and peri-urban communities in Zomba.

1,321 people tested for HIV

37% tested for first time

57% tested were men
Community Action Plans, encouraging community leaders to propose and implement locally and contextually appropriate solutions.

Impact

A comprehensive evaluation of the MASA Film Project shows that it clearly met all of its objectives, which included: triggering a community-led dialogue on HIV-related issues; encouraging the development of local solutions to address barriers to testing, treatment and care; and educating community members on local HIV-related health and support services, as well as strengthening connections to services.

The evaluation report determined that the project: ‘has contributed to more people going for HIV testing, more people know where to receive medication and there have been significantly less cases of discrimination in the communities. Healthcare workers reported an increased demand for condoms and increased couples testing. HIV positive people who were receiving treatment at distant health care centres reportedly transferred to their closest health facility. It was also reported that more HIV positive people are disclosing their status.’
Screening the MASA Documentary Across Africa

Filmmaker Tom Gibb created a short and powerful documentary telling the story of the MASA Project. This summer, AGHCA and DI screened the documentary at the International AIDS Conference Global Village in Durban, South Africa. The conference is a biennial gathering for those working in the field of HIV, including policy makers, people living with HIV and other individuals committed to ending the epidemic.

The screening was followed by a Q&A discussion with Theatre for Development Specialist and AGHCA Co-founder Sharifa Abdullah and DI's Malawi Country Director Megh Jagriti.

Later in the year, the documentary was also screened and discussed at Drama for Life at the University of Witswatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, and at the National AIDS Commission Dissemination Conference in Lilongwe, Malawi.

We invite you to watch the MASA documentary on our website: http://www.aghcafrica.org/masa/
The MASA Film Saved My Life

My name is Paul and I am HIV positive. My wife and I have 4 children; 3 are HIV negative and the 4th is a month old and is receiving medication before we arrange to get him tested. I am happy to tell my story because the MASA film saved my life.

~Paul, Chinangwa Village, Zomba

Paul, a security officer in Chinangwa Village, had never been tested for HIV because he was afraid. In Malawi, as in other parts of the world, many people living with HIV face stigma, discrimination, rejection and even violence. This environment discourages people from getting tested, sharing their status and complying with treatment.

At a MASA Film screening in 2016, watching the real-life stories of people living with HIV, Paul worked up the courage to make a life changing decision. ‘In the film,’ he explained, ‘I watched a scene where a young man accused his grandparents of bewitching him because he did not want to face the truth. I realised then that I had been hiding behind different excuses to run away from finding out my status. A day after the screening, I decided to get tested.’

With the knowledge of his HIV status, Paul broke yet another barrier by telling his wife. It turned out that she had been tested years before, when she was pregnant with her second child, and was secretly taking antiretroviral (ARV) drugs. ‘When my wife got pregnant, she did not tell me she was HIV positive and had started on the antenatal treatment that would protect our unborn child. She had known all along, but had been afraid to tell me from fear of me accusing her of being unfaithful.’

Today, both Paul and his wife know their status and the status of their four children. They live openly, as evidenced by Paul’s testimony, and are receiving care.
Voices

It has been so long since we watched cinema, so when we heard that we had to come here to watch a film, we passed the message in all our village and I believe almost everyone came.

~Audience Member, Chipini

What was in the film is exactly what happens in this area, it had real life experiences.

~Health Surveillance Assistant, Bimbi

As village headman I would say this was very important. What people didn’t know they have seen and understood in the film. You know, as people, we may hear things, but seeing them with your own two eyes is different, it stays for long. I believe that this film has left a mark in people’s hearts and minds, we have all learned from it.

~Chief, Southern Malawi

I will now tell my family to go for testing and, even if they may be found HIV positive, they should know that they are not yet dead and that there is still life after that only if we adhere to what we have been advised from the hospital.

~Audience member, Bimbi

If I see a friend who is sick, or has been sick for a while, I will tell him ‘let’s go to the hospital so that we can both get tested.’ I would say that so they don’t feel offended so I would go get tested with them just for support.

~Audience member, Bimbi
What’s Next for MASA?

The Film Project's success in meeting its objectives, as well as the exceptionally positive response the programme elicited from communities, suggests potential for expansion. A comprehensive evaluation concluded that a participatory film screening, followed by testing, counselling, community discussion and action planning, is an effective approach to narrowing the gap between the numbers of individuals living with HIV/AIDS and testing and treatment rates at health centres in rural and peri-urban communities. This aligns closely with 90/90/90 targets, specifically: ‘90% of people with HIV know[ing] their status.’ DI is committed to continuing its collaboration with AGHCA to roll the project out to additional communities and there is also growing interest from new potential implementing partners. AGHCA is actively seeking funding to scale up the MASA Film Project.

The MASA Film Project’s evaluation also pointed to an urgent need for an intervention focused on youth. As one participant explained, *You can’t talk about the future without involving the youth in HIV/AIDS activities*. In response, AGHCA is developing MASA Youth, a new project that will train college students as near-peer mentors to engage secondary school students on sexual and reproductive health using participatory, arts-based approaches. MASA Youth is inspired by AMP!, a programme that has been extensively evaluated and iterated in the 6 years that it has been run by our sister organisation at the University of California, Los Angeles. We will pilot MASA Youth in collaboration with DI in 2017.
Our Programmes:

Students with Dreams (SWD)

Students with Dreams inspires college students to become agents of change. With training, mentorship and seed funding, young leaders develop creative and innovative projects that address pressing social issues.

Through a rigorous selection process, we find college students who have the vision, ambition and drive to realise their dreams for a better Malawi. Working in teams of 2-4, Dreamers identify a pressing social issue and design a project to address it. Each team receives a small seed grant to implement their project.

Dreamers participate in an intensive two-day orientation, followed by collaborative and participatory trainings throughout the project period that focus on project design and implementation, financial management, communication and monitoring and evaluation. They meet weekly to brainstorm, share challenges and successes, offer feedback and support one another. Two Dreamers from the previous year serve as Mentors for each college cohort, facilitating weekly meetings and overseeing progress, thereby further developing their own skills.
In 2016, SWD expanded to Malawi College of Health Sciences and renewed partnerships with Chancellor College and Domasi College of Education. This year’s projects focused primarily on health and education, including: sexual and reproductive health education; HIV testing and treatment; reducing school drop-out rates; workshops on literacy, creative writing, and public speaking in secondary schools; and testing and treatment for children with visual and hearing impairments.

AGHCA held its first ever SWD Graduation Conference to celebrate our Dreamers, brainstorm strategies for developing an alumni network and plan for the future. The event brought together Dreamers, Mentors, alumni, representatives from each college and members of regional and national youth leadership organisations.

Representing the Mayor of Zomba, Councillor James Mlekere voiced his support: “I must say that I am extremely delighted to have learned that our people are coming up with such great projects to find solutions to the many challenges facing the nation... This is indeed a very commendable occasion that serves as a call of duty for the young to serve their motherland.”
Impact

A 2016 programme survey found that:

- 100% of Dreamers would recommend the programme to other students
- 100% of Dreamers felt they improved in their ability to collaborate with others, incorporate feedback, mobilize a team, and manage finances
- 93% of Dreamers felt they improved in their ability to design and implement a project
- 79% of Dreamers felt they improved in their ability to resolve conflict

Youth Redefined

Through music, dance and dialogue, Youth Redefined set out to educate young people in a village in Zomba District about their sexual and reproductive health and rights. Dreamers Alinafe and Stewart mobilized over 20 volunteers and reached over 70 students and community members. When assault cases surfaced, they involved local health services and an international child services NGO. Youth Redefined was featured in the national newspaper and Alinafe and Stewart were invited to participate in a youth group forum by Zomba's District Health Officer. They are exploring partnership opportunities with UNICEF and YONECO, Malawi's leading youth media organisation.

Duwa la Mawa

Project Duwa la Mawa was shortlisted for Building Bridges: Road to Nairobi 2016, a bus traveling across 8 African countries to foster youth employment by connecting young changemakers and showcasing their work. Dreamers Norah and Thelma created Duwa la Mawa to reduce school dropout rates by teaching marginalised girls handcrafting and financial skills to help them raise school fees.
Chanco: Project Rejuvenation

Isabel launched Chanco: Project Rejuvenation to mobilize college students and alumni to renovate educational facilities in Zomba. Since its launch in 2012, the project has continued to expand and grow, culminating in the 2016 renovation of a legendary performance space, the Open Theatre at Chancellor College. After graduating, Isabel was awarded an international Global Health Corps (GHC) fellowship. She is now working as Malawi Programs and Operations Associate at GHC, while pursuing an MBA at Africa Leadership University and serving as the President Elect of the Rotaract Club.

LoudInk

Dreamer Madalo received the Queen’s Young Leaders Award for LoudInk. Co-founded with Lekodi, LoudInk runs literature and creative writing workshops at a secondary school in Zomba, giving students a platform to engage with social justice through storytelling. To further develop their own leadership skills, Madalo and Lekodi both served as Mentors for the next cohort of Dreamers. Today, Madalo is completing a law degree and Lekodi is completing a political science degree at Chancellor College. They continue their engagement with LoudInk, creating a blog to feature students’ stories and planning to publish a story collection.
Voices

Students with Dreams is one of the things that made me realize just how important I am to Malawi, how we all are. It opens your mind to all the possibilities that you could make for your country.

~2016 Dreamer at Chancellor College

For us people who stay in the urban areas, we feel that we have everything, and sometimes we don’t think about others in remote and resource deprived areas, what they go through. But this programme has helped me to go into those areas, hear their challenges and problems, their needs and discuss ways of how we can sort out those problems together.

~2016 Dreamer at Domasi College of Education

I realized that there are so many things we could learn… skills like leadership, team work, project management and all that stuff that school doesn’t teach you.

~2016 Dreamer at Chancellor College

It took me time to realize that it is a great task to be a mentor… you could talk to them without feeling judged, they never looked down at you nor your project… I feel like the connection with friends, with fellow project leaders, the connection with the mentors, these guys carry the power of your project.

~2016 Dreamer at Chancellor College

The dynamic of being a Mentor and a Dreamer is different. As a dreamer, you are learning to become a leader. As a mentor, you are not just training to become a leader, you are training other people to become leaders.

~2016 Mentor, 2015 Dreamer
What’s Next for SWD?

2016 was a year of growth and change for SWD. The programme expanded to a third college and welcomed more students. We also invested considerable time and energy into developing a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and revising existing research tools.

In 2017, AGHCA will focus on using our new M&E Framework and tools to assess the programme, consolidating and deepening our partnership with all three partnering universities. We intend to further develop Dreamers in Residence, which offers the most promising projects a second year of mentorship and training with the goal of achieving self-sustainability. We will also strengthen the connections among our alumni through resources and events.

For 2018, we are actively seeking funding opportunities to expand to additional colleges in the neighbouring district of Blantyre.
Our Programmes:

Umunthu

The Umunthu Programme uses the arts to catalyse reflection and discussion, providing a platform to address issues of stigma and discrimination through the lens of 'Umunthu.' A Pan-African philosophical concept that celebrates the interconnectedness and interdependence of humanity, Umunthu is often defined in the phrase: 'I am because we are.'

In 2016, AGHCA launched the Umunthu Higher Education Project in partnership with the University of Malawi (UNIMA) and two Malawian NGOs – the Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation (CHRR) and the Centre for Development of People (CEDEP). The project aimed to: improve attitudes of students, faculty and administration at UNIMA towards LGBTI and other minority students; increase capacity of select community leaders to address LGBTI issues in their communities using the Umunthu approach; and advocate for a fair and accommodative environment for LGBTI students at UNIMA.
AGHCA partnered with UNIMA to run workshops on 5 campuses: Chancellor College, Polytechnic, College of Medicine, Domasi College of Education and College of Nursing. Participants included: students, academic staff, Deans of Students, Deans of Faculties, senior administration, student union members and community leaders.

Workshops were designed to address the underlying attitudes and behaviours that undermine the health, welfare and rights of marginalised people. To develop the methodology and curriculum, AGHCA staff collaborated with members of the LGBTI community, student leadership representatives, and experts in law, medicine, and Theatre for Development.

In many African societies, homosexuality is commonly portrayed as 'un-African,' and anti-gay campaigns are often framed as acts of resistance to the imposition of European or American values. Umunthu workshops consciously and actively reframe the discussion around concepts and values embedded in Malawian culture. Through Process Theatre, story telling and role-play, participants critically explore the concept of Umunthu, reflect on their own experiences with discrimination and discuss which groups face discrimination in society. They then collaborate to create Action Plans that outline strategies to create a more inclusive environment in their community.

**Impact**

A comprehensive endline evaluation found:

- 27% increase in proportion of respondents who agree or strongly agree that they would be **comfortable with a homosexual neighbour** (27% pre-workshop - 46% post-workshop - 54% at follow-up)
- 14% increase in proportion of respondents who agree or strongly agree that they would be **comfortable becoming friends with an LGBTI person** (37% pre-workshop - 43% post-workshop - 51% at follow-up)
- 18% increase in proportion of respondents who agree or strongly agree that they would **sign their name to a petition asking the government to protect the employment rights of LGBTI people** (26% pre-workshop - 36% post-workshop - 44% at follow-up)
- 21% increase in proportion of respondents who agree or strongly agree that **universities should not discriminate against LGBTI people** (36% pre-workshop 48% post-workshop - 57% at follow-up)
Presenting Umunthu in Nairobi

In November 2016, AGHCA Programme Officer Rodger Phiri traveled to Kenya to present our participatory, arts-based approach at the International Association of Facilitators Conference. This year’s theme was ‘How will we create opportunities for participatory growth in Africa and beyond?’ The conference attracted over 60 participants from 16 countries and 4 continents.

In his session, *Participatory Growth through Umunthu*, Rodger explored how the Pan-African concept of Umunthu can serve as an effective way to frame discussions around the rights of marginalised communities. The session included sample activities from the Umunthu Workshops. Participants sketched their perception of Umunthu, which sparked a discussion around the concept’s meaning for individuals and across cultures. Rodger then led participants through a series of interactive games and activities, some that can be used to energize participants during workshops and others that bring to light key questions and ideas around stigma and discrimination. Balloon stomp was a favorite – a balloon is tied to each participant’s ankle and the objective is to pop another person’s balloon while simultaneously protecting your own. Tremendous good fun, the activity reveals just how difficult it is to take care of one’s own when one is too fixated on trying to burst someone else’s bubble!

The session was highlighted during the conference plenary as an example of effective and innovative facilitation and generated significant interest. Delighted, Rodger observed: ‘It was a great experience and an honor for me to facilitate a session to fellow internationally renown facilitators and receive positive feedback both publicly and privately from those who attended.’
Voices

Thank you for creating this environment that we could speak freely. I am a gender non-conformist, but I am not a lesbian. I feel stigmatized and I am often abused verbally... I wish more students on campus could be reached with this messaging.

~Student, Polytechnic

When I was coming here I didn't know what to expect...but after the morning session I couldn't leave. The activities and the information I have learned is profound and eye opening. We have been talking about homosexuals, but much was from ignorance. Thank you AGHCA for such a wonderful program, now we will try as much as possible to make sure that LGBTI people are no longer excluded and discriminated against.

~Student, The Polytechnic

Before attending the Umunthu Workshops, I did not want anything to do with LGBTI people, I just could not accept them, but after the workshops, my perception on such people has greatly changed. I can associate with them, accept them.

~Student, Domasi College of Education

This Umunthu workshop was the greatest workshop I ever attended. What made it stand out was the way it was conducted, because it was participatory. It was not the kind of a workshop where you’re brought information and just impart lecturing. It involved everyone and... [the participants] were the ones coming up with resolutions, and that was something else.

~Student, Kamuzu College of Nursing

Where there is no Umunthu, people’s actions are informed by the question, 'What’s in it for me,' as opposed to 'What’s in it for us?'

~Student, Polytechnic

What’s Next for Umunthu?

The AGHCA has secured a major grant to fund the Umunthu Health Worker Project over three years. We will be adapting the approach we used in the Higher Education Project – participatory, arts-based workshops that frame human rights through the lens of Umunthu – for professional health workers and health workers in training.
Droughts and floods caused by climate change have left nearly 2.86 million people in Malawi facing food insecurity in 2015-16. The UN World Food Programme (WFP) and its partners stepped up efforts to provide food and cash assistance.

WFP partnered with AGHCA to pilot innovative approaches to behaviour change communication to strengthen the ability of communities to respond to issues that affect food security in the longer term. AGHCA trained local drama groups in two districts - Phalombe and Chikwawa - in Theatre for Development (TfD). The drama groups developed participatory plays addressing issues connected to food security, including dietary diversification, water, sanitation and gender protection, which they performed for surrounding communities. Each performance combined the experiences of people in communities with factual information provided by WFP and culminated in the production of Community Action Plans, through which community members developed their own solutions to the issues raised in the plays.

AGHCA worked closely with WFP’s cooperating partners in both districts, ADRA and World Vision, to implement the project. We also provided training in participatory techniques to WFP’s cooperating partners across Malawi to make their work on social and behaviour change more active and engaging.
Impact

Research conducted by an independent evaluator found:

- Majority of audience members reported observing significant changes in their local drama groups’ approach, finding new performances more engaging, participatory, and educational
- Improved knowledge of food groups, with more people able to name different groups and mention at least one example of a food within each group
- Increased understanding of the importance of children eating a balanced diet
- Shift in the view that only rich people could afford a balanced diet
- Greater appreciation of locally available foods
- Village leaders and health workers noted changes in practice, including more community members visiting health centres, planting vegetable gardens, raising small livestock, washing hands and building toilets

43 people in 4 local drama groups were trained in TfD and supported in developing participatory performances

42,500+ people attended 41 community performances
Voices

I have watched at least four of their performances... I think the drama group might have received some kind of training of late. The flow of ideas in the plays has become so logical and easy to follow. The group has also started involving the audience in the course of the play... This was not the case some time back... This participation is helping the audience realise that the issue at hand concerns them... The biggest impact I have observed is that people are applying the messages they are getting from the drama group.

~Senior Health Surveillance Assistant, GVH Nambazo in Phalombe

The audience was as much part of the performance as the performers themselves, and I found that to be very interesting.

~Health worker, GVH Nyangu in Chikwawa

These drama performances attracted all manner of persons, adult and children alike, to hear and see for themselves. As they watched the plays, they also heard the messages. And this helped to the extent that messages not only about the importance of having pit latrines, but also having a hand washing facility, with soap or ash and proper use of these facilities is now everywhere... there has been a lot of change in this community because of these performances.

~Group Village Headman, Mwananjovu

When I watched the performance, I realized through the play that the message was not just for those that were beneficiaries [of relief food aid], but for me as well... I saw the family in the play, in the end when they started working together and the woman also doing business, they were healthy and they even bought a bicycle!

~Village Health Committee member, Chimombo

I could never eat leafy vegetables, and my wife and family know this... But after the performance, I understood I need them and now I eat them every day.

~Group Village Headman, Mlambe

What we lacked was expertise to do an effective drama performance to be able to reach the people... Now we have learnt that before we do any play, we have to do research. From that research, we are able to come up with a relevant performance.

~Drama group member Joseph Chimbalame, TA Ngowe in Chikwawa
Watch our Short Film!

Check out our short film about the Theatre for Healthy Living pilot project: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=By9YYpl9rUs.

Watch clips of the performances, learn more about Theatre for Development from the specialists involved in the project, and hear directly from community members, health workers and drama groups on the project’s impact. The film was made by Caleb Muchungu, a Kenyan journalist and filmmaker living and working in Malawi, and Mwizaliero Niyrenda, a former Dreamer whose film Umunthu was screened at national and international film festivals.

What’s Next for Theatre for Healthy Living?

In 2017, AGHCA will be expanding its partnership with WFP. In the existing districts of Phalombe and Chikwawa, we will run refresher trainings to roll out participatory performances in 8 new communities. We will also run Training-of-Trainees workshops, in which members of drama groups trained in TfD last season will train new drama groups in nearby communities. In two new districts, Zomba and Machinga, we will replicate our approach from last season, incorporating evaluation findings. Finally, AGHCA will run trainings in participatory arts-based approaches for WFP field staff, NGO partners and local stakeholders in all four districts.
AGHCA has extended its impact and built strong relationships with artists and their supporters through collaborations on creative initiatives across Malawi.

Highlights from 2016 include:

**TUMAINI ARTS FESTIVAL**

At Tumaini, a unique refugee-led festival in Dzaleka Refugee Camp, AGHCA facilitated a Hope Tree and ran an Umunthu workshop on inclusion.
TEDx

We hosted a livestream version of TEDxLilongwe at the University of Malawi’s Chancellor College, cheering on the AGHCA’s very own Rodney Likaku – former Programme Officer for Students with Dreams – as he delivered a talk on youth leadership. Up and coming artists from Chancellor College’s Fine and Performing arts department and Dreamers from SWD spiced up the event with live performances.

DAY OF IDEAS

Lake of Stars developed a new EU-funded participatory youth event as a curtain raiser to the main festival. AGHCA played a key role – delivering a session engaging young people to develop their social change ideas and facilitating an ‘ideas tree’ for youth to share ideas throughout the event. Madalo Banda shared her inspiring story as a Queen’s Young Leaders Award recipient and co-founder of LoudInk.

LAKE OF STARS

At Lake of Stars, Malawi’s premiere international arts festival, AGHCA and LoudInk delivered a creative writing workshop and participatory storytelling sessions.
OUR PEOPLE

Staff

In 2016, we welcomed many new faces in our office. Bosco Chinkonda, a recent graduate of Chancellor College and SWD alum, was recruited as Finance & Operations Officer. Programme Officer Rodney Likaku was selected for a prestigious academic fellowship in Sweden for Fall 2016. As of February 2017, AGHCA will welcome a new Programme Officer, Lekodi Magombo, a recent graduate of Chancellor College and formerly a Dreamer and Mentor through SWD. Nancy Barry and Thoko Kachimera completed their one-year Global Health Corps fellowships and we welcomed two new fellows, Viktorya Vilk and Veronica Chagunda, in July 2016.

Helen Todd, Executive Director
Rodger Kumalire Phiri, Programme Officer
Lekodi Magombo, Programme Officer
Bosco Chinkonda, Finance and Operations Officer
Veronica Anganile Chagunda, Communications and Programmes Coordinator I Global Health Corps Fellow
Viktorya Vilk, Organisational Strategy and Development Coordinator I Global Health Corps Fellow

Volunteers and Interns

The AGHCA was fortunate enough to benefit from the hard work, enthusiasm and experience of phenomenal volunteers and interns in 2016. Tom Wallace, an experienced chartered accountant from England, offered his services pro-bono over 6 weeks. In 2016, we also launched our internship programme and recruited college students or recent college graduates to assist us with finance & administration, fundraising & development, communications, and programmes.

Accountants For International Development (AfID) Volunteer: Tom Wallace

Board of Directors

This year, we said goodbye to Sadie O’Mahoney - we thank her for all her support and advice over the years! In 2017, we will welcome a new Board Member and Treasurer, Phyles Kachingwe, General Manager of Finance for United General Insurance Company.

Chairperson: Chancy Mauluka, MA
SSDI-Communication, John Hopkins’ Bloomberg School of Public Health, Center for Communication Programs

Chikosa Banda, LLM
Faculty of Law, Chancellor College, University of Malawi

Sadie O’Mahoney, MA, LLB
Faculty of Law, Chancellor College, University of Malawi

Chiwoza Bandawe, PhD
Dept. of Mental Health, College of Medicine

David Gere, PhD
Professor, UCLA Department of World Arts & Cultures/Dance Director, UCLA Art & Global Health Center

Lusizi Mhoni Kambalame, MA
Lecturer, Theatre and Development Communication, Chancellor College, University of Malawi

William Mlotha, MPH, BSc (HSE), Dip. Clinical Medicine
Ministry of Health

Advisory Board

We welcomed a new advisory board member, Katy Young, an experienced Accountant with a background working in Malawi.

Dr. Galia Boneh
AGHCA Co-founder, Mandel School for Educational Leadership

Tali Shmulovich
Leadership and Peak Performance Coaching

Nadia Bashar
US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Marian Taylor Brown
Executive Director, Arts Connect International

Katy Young
There was a closing balance from 2015 of $32,282.59, largely from grants for projects spanning 2015 to 2016, which was carried over to 2016.

This is unaudited information - the annual audit is currently underway and information is preliminary and subject to modifications.
OUR SUPPORTERS

We would like to thank everyone who supported and partnered with the AGHCA in 2016, we could not do our work without you!

$25,000 - $50,000
  UN World Food Programme
  Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa
  Open Society Foundation

$15,000 or more
  Segal Family Foundation

$2000 or more
  Global Giving

Up to $200
  Alice Stroh
  Alison Tinsdale
  Andrew Zaharia
  Caspar Landweer
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We need your support to make our programmes happen and keep our office running. Your donations will go towards using creative and participatory approaches to training Malawi’s young aspiring leaders, engaging communities to address issues of HIV and AIDS and promoting human rights. You can make a tax-deductible donation securely through our online funding partner, GlobalGiving, at this link: https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/students-with-dreams-2015/. Or visit our website, www.aghcafrica.org, and click the donate button on the home page.

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There are so many ways to get involved with the AGHCA. You can help us remotely with special projects through Catchafire (www.catchafire.org). If you would like to experience Malawi and work with us in person, please look into Omprakash (www.omprakash.org) or contact info@aghcafrica.org. And if you are a professional accountant, we’d love to welcome you through Accounts for International Development (www.afid.org.uk).