



Rwanda Organizations and Links, Su18



1. Government and Civil Organizations

Kigali Ministry of Youth (www.miniyouth.gov.rw)

The **Ministry of Youth** has the mission to act as catalyst and facilitator for youth socio-economic empowerment while nurturing ethical values.

Contact:

Seraphine Mukeshimana, Coordination Officer
smukeshimana@miniyouth.gov.rw

Kigali Employment and Service Centre (www.kigalicity.gov.rw / www.kesc.kigalicity.gov.rw)

The **Kigali Employment and Service Centre** provides multiple free services to Kigali youth, such as professional training, computer and media literacy, and placement and partnerships with employers.

Contacts:

Alex Bucyana, Placement and Partnership Officer
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Geoffrey Kyatuka, Placement and Partnership Officer
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Ayebazibwe Pulicano, Labour Market Information Officer
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2. Community-Building and Youth Empowerment through the Performing Arts

Rwandan Acrobats (www.facebook.com/pg/rwacrobats)

Rwandan Acrobats is a team of professional acrobats that performs both in Rwanda and internationally. They run several very successful projects for vulnerable children in the area. They also provide training in circus arts and acrobatics



to anyone who wishes to learn. Their vision is “to build ourselves through our talent, and then to help others facing difficult situations, and to give everyone hope for their future.”

Contact:

rwacrobats@gmail.com

Facebook: Rwandan Acrobats (www.facebook.com/pg/rwacrobats)

Instagram: @Rwacrobats

Twitter: @Rwacrobats

Videos: https://www.facebook.com/pg/rwacrobats/videos/?ref=page_internal

Team Afro KASA (www.facebook.com/pages/biz/Team-Afro-KASA-735586239901625)

Team Afro KASA is a team of Kigali Afro House and Street African dancers They are dedicated to sharing the art, skill, and joy of dance with anyone wishing to learn, regardless of experience. They have won several awards in dance competitions, and are committed to sharing the dance culture of Rwanda with the world.

Contact:

afrokarwanda@gmail.com

Facebook: Team Afro KASA (www.facebook.com/pages/biz/Team-Afro-KASA-735586239901625)

Photos: https://www.facebook.com/pg/Team-Afro-KASA-735586239901625/photos/?ref=page_internal

MindLeaps (www.mindleaps.org)

MindLeaps (formerly Rebecca Davis Dance Company) is a 501(c)3 organization based in the United States and working in post-conflict and developing countries to permanently decrease the number of street children. MindLeaps runs a unique three-phase model that helps out-of-school youth undergo behavioral transformation, catch up on basic cognitive development, and learn work-ready skills. Since 2010, the organization has worked extensively in Rwanda, Guinea, and Bosnia-Herzegovina. In each country, the programs are run by local staff of managers and teachers, and supplemented by training from international visitors year-round. MindLeaps uses dance to develop the cognitive skills and social-emotional learning of at-risk youth to ensure they can succeed in school, enter the workplace, and leap forward into life.

Contact:

Pacifique Kwizera Irumva, Acting Country Director, MindLeaps Rwanda

pacifique@mindleaps.org

3. Community-Building and Youth Empowerment through the Visual Arts

Inema Art Center (<http://inemaartcenter.com>)

Inema Arts Center has the mission to cultivate a passion for art, love for people, pride in Rwandan culture, and a shared creativity, education, healing, and cultural enlightenment. The Center is home to several programs geared toward expanding and publicizing creative arts from Rwanda. Through workshops, trainings, and hands-on-classes, the Inema Arts Center provides a space to fuel creative expression.

Contact:

inemaart@gmail.com

Ikirunga Art Centre (<https://ikirungaartcentre.wordpress.com>)

Ikirunga Art Centre is an organization that strives to promote talented young artists from disadvantaged backgrounds. The target groups of Ikirunga Art are Rwandan young people from the Musanze region, ages 12-20, who were orphaned,



neglected, or otherwise experienced hardship. Our organization helps them to find their voice through art, and to become independent and successful by turning their creative ideas into reality.

Contact:

Kibe Namwandala

kibe.namwandala@gmail.com / ikirunga@gmail.com

4. Health Enhancement through Community-based Nutrition Programs

Gardens for Health International (gardensforhealth.org)

Gardens for Health International works at the intersection of health and agriculture to reduce rates of chronic childhood malnutrition in Rwanda. Their model works to empower smallholder farmers with the combination of knowledge, seeds, and support needed to break the cycle of malnutrition in their homes and communities.

Contact:

Anysie Ishimwe, Partnerships Coordinator

anysie@gardensforhealth.org

Women's Bakery (womensbakery.com)

The **Women's Bakery** teaches women how to make and sell nutritious, affordable breads and manage profitable bakeries in their communities. Our five-step model is scalable and adaptable, so that we can cater our work to fit the needs of each community we're in.

Contact:

Rachel Carroll, MPH, Nutrition Coordinator, Global Health Corps Fellow

rachel@womensbakery.com

Partnership inquiries: <http://www.womensbakery.com/partner>

5. Rwandan National Cycling Team and affiliates

Team Rwanda Cycling, Inc. (www.TeamAfricaRising.org, www.TeamRwandaCycling.org)

Founded in 2006, the **Rwandan National Cycling Team** has literally “risen from the ashes” to become a serious competitor in the world of professional cycling. Their mission is not just to excel athletically, but to expand their holistic approach to cycling into other countries with histories of conflict. Today the team fields over 25 cyclists at all levels and in all disciplines. These young men and women are role models and ambassadors for their country. The team works in collaboration with the Rwandan Cycling Federation (FERWACY) and the Ministry of Sport and Culture (MINISPOC).

Contacts:

Obed Ruvogera, Masseur/Guide

obedruvogera@gmail.com

#teamisteam

Abraham Ruhumuriza, Assistant Coach/Guide

Abrahamruhumuriza001@gmail.com

Documentary: www.risingfromashesthemovie.com

This inspiring true story, narrated by Forest Whitaker and winner of 16 festival awards, tells how the Rwandan National Cycling Team became global competitors while inspiring their entire country with hope for a future.



Affiliates: Africa Rising Women's Cycling (teamafricarising.org) / #thisgirlrides

5. Genocide Museums and Memorials

Kigali Genocide Memorial: Remembrance and Learning (<http://www.kgm.rw>)

The **Kigali Genocide Memorial**, which includes an education centre, gardens, and the Genocide Archive of Rwanda, provides a meaningful tribute to those who perished, along with a powerful educational experience for visitors.

Contact:

team@kgm.rw

Nyamata Genocide Memorial Church

(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Nyamata_Memorial_Site)

The **Nyamata Genocide Memorial Church** is one Rwanda's several memorials to the 1994 genocide. This church houses the remains of over 50,000 people who were killed within or outside the church during the genocide, and has been preserved essentially as-is since the massacre.

For more information:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Nyamata_Memorial_Site

6. Cultural Immersion and Service-learning Experiences

Nyamirambo Women's Center (www.nwc-umutima.org)

The **Nyamirambo Women's Center (NWC)** provides community-based tours that introduce visitors to local communities in Kigali, while also empowering women to create better lives and a stronger community. Your visit genuinely helps your host by providing income for NWC and helping to maintain and improve the Center's activities for education and the empowerment of women.

Contact:

nwcoffice.kigali@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Nyamirambo-womens-center

Beyond the Gorillas Experience (www.beyondgorillasexperience.com)

Beyond the Gorillas Experience, located near the heart of Rwanda's mountain gorilla territory, introduces visitors to daily life in rural Rwanda, while also celebrating local arts and crafts. Working with expert local guides, guests participate in service-learning, house-building, basket-weaving, banana-beer-brewing (!), bird-watching, and more.

Contact:

Theodore Nzambonimpa, Founder and CEO

beyondgorillasexperience@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BeyondtheGorillasExperience1>

Azizi Life Experiences (www.azizilife.com)

Azizi Life Experiences partners with over 20 independent artisan groups in Rwanda to provide community-based cultural experiences. This partnership helps these artisans to employ their neighbors, buy raw materials locally, support their community markets, and provide their children with increased access to nutrition, health, and education. In turn, visitors to Azizi Life experience the rigor and richness of rural Rwandan life by participating in artisanal crafts, mud-brick house construction, drumming and dancing, hiking, traditional cooking, and more.



Contact:

experiences@azizilife.com / info@azizilife.com

7. Education

Gashora Girls Academy of Science and Technology (<https://www.ggast.org>)

The **Gashora Girls Academy of Science and Technology (GGAST)** is an upper-secondary boarding school for 270 girls, located one hour south of Kigali. The educational emphasis is STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and the Arts). It is part of the Rwanda Girls Initiative (RGI), which was founded with the vision of helping children for whom education is not easily accessible. The mission is for students to graduate as inspired young leaders, filled with confidence, a love of learning, and a sense of economic empowerment, in order to strengthen their communities and foster Rwanda's growth. Gashora graduates have an impressive record of acceptance into colleges and universities around the world.

Contact:

info@gashoragirlsacademy.org