

CHILDREN'S CENTRE



A PROJECT OF THE
UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION

**University of Nigeria,
Nsukka, Nigeria.**

*By reading we learn,
By knowledge we serve*

NEWSLETTER

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In This Issue

Children's Day Celebration 2009

This special issue of the Newsletter focuses on the memorable celebration of Children's Day in May 2009. The Children's Centre celebrated this year's Children's Day in grand fashion on Saturday, May 30th in an event that brought together a multitude of children from 13 primary schools and friends and well-wishers from the community and beyond. The whole Children's Centre field was enlivened by colorful canopies and decorations. The theme of the celebration--The Nigerian Child in the Next Ten Years—was explained by Dr. Grace Anyanwu in a lively address. Schoolchildren from the various schools competed in a quiz organized by the student organization AIESEC. They also presented cultural dances, drama, miming, essays, poems and creative arts to the enthusiastic assembly. Prizes were awarded for the best entries in each category. Another highlight was the appearance of Mickey Mouse to dance with the children. The celebration ended with refreshments and presentation of gifts.

The event was organized under the leadership of Grace Anyanwu and Ngozi Osadebe, assisted by Amaka Ejikeme, Fidelia Asiegbu, Ezinne Njoku and Stella Nwadinobi. The ever able Mr. Gozie Arazu acted as master of ceremonies for the occasion. We thank all those who contributed in cash or in kind to the success of the event. These include: Engr. T. N. Osadebe, Director of Works Services; Dr. Sam Chukwu (Samsee); Sir & Lady Idoko; AIESEC students; all staff of Children's Centre, and the following generous donors:

Cash donations

Bonez Nig.Ltd.	N50,000	Jives Pure Water	N10,000	Chioma Bakeries	N5,000
UNN MFB	N40,000	Hilson Nig.Ltd.	N10,000	Prof. A.C.Anyanwu	N5,000
John Holt Nig.	N20,000	Albertina	N10,000	Prof. Uche Agwagah	N3,000
Jendicks Nig.Ltd.	N10,000	Lolo Okwor	N5,000	Ferdinand Asogwa	N2,000
Emyap Nig.Ltd.	N10,000	Igwe&Lolo Mamah	N5,000	Prof. Nwadike	<u>N1,000</u>
					N186,000

Non-cash donations

University of Nigeria General Enterprises	50 pieces of meat pie
University of Nigeria water resources laboratories	20 bags pure water + 1 carton bot. water
Coca Cola Bottling Company	3 crates mineral
Anthony Obetta	3 crates mineral

Dr. (Mrs.) Ifeoma Echezona	2 cartons Beloxi cream cracker biscuits
Ecaison Pure Water	10 bags of pure water
Chitis Bakeries	500 kg chin chin
Mr. and Mrs. Umeano	100 chairs
M. C. Pure Water	20 bags pure water + 4 cartons bot. water
UBA Plc UNN branch	5 dozen 40 leaves exercise books
Prof. A. C. Anyanwu	2 cartons Beloxi cream cracker biscuits

2009 Long Vacation Program

The 2009 program, held from August 17-31, 2009, was organized by a sub-committee made up of Margaret Ngwuchukwu, Ngozi Osadebe, Ezinne Njoku and Amaka Ejikeme. One hundred and five (155) children registered for activities organized by age for 1-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-15 years. The activities went very well as each age range had a resource person every day teaching of the different programmes marshaled out for them. For instance, children ages 1-3 years played with toys and enjoyed puppet and game shows, while the age range 4-6 had computer training, colour mixing, making of toy cars, spelling bee and excursions.

The excursions took place in the pharmaceutical laboratory and the fire service. The head of pharmaceutical department and his team took the children round the laboratories, explaining the equipment, what it was used for and even how drugs were made. With this many of the children may be inspired to become pharmacists in the future. The visit to the fire service was also an eye opener for children as they were taught the causes of fire disaster and the dangers of playing with matches or electricity. The children were also shown how fire is put out, the equipment used and their functions. To crown it all, they were given the fire service number to give to their parents to call the fire service in case of any fire disaster.

A wonderful talk show on HIV/AIDS was given by the students of AIESEC while Prof. Ebele Maduewesi gave one on human development for older children. Talks were given to age range 7-9 on morning duties and personal hygiene. The children had a debate on whether handsets use should be encouraged among children. They had a play and miming which was showcased at the closing ceremony. Their crafts, such as babies' dresses sewn by children, hair bands, hats, and toy cars were also displayed at the closing ceremony.

AIESEC African Young Entrepreneurs Project Africa YES!

The international students' organization AIESEC has continued to be a good partner, taking part in all major Children's Centre activities. They also initiated and executed the Africa YES program, a free, four-week training on entrepreneurship at the Children's Centre beginning on July 15, 2009. Trainers included Prof. P. U. Nwangwu, Dr. M. O. Okeannyibe, Mr. Victor Iwuala, Dr. Goodhead Uchendu, and two AIESEC interns, business students from Hong Kong. Sixty participants were selected from the over 200 people attending the opening.

Prof. Judith D. C. Osuala Collection on Women and Development

The Children's Centre recently opened a memorial collection on Women and Development in honour of our late member, Prof. Judith D. C. Osuala. Judy suggested the idea of the collection and offered her materials as a beginning shortly before her death in 2006. A professor of adult education and community development, Judy had an extensive collection of journals, reports and conference papers on women's studies, education, health, and sustainable development that is now available to library users.



*CHILDRENS' DAY
May 2009*

