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CHAMWINO
ARTS CENTER
Kituo Cha Sanaa Chamwino

Annual Report 2023 (Published April, 2024)



Please consider a last-minute donation to help Chamwino Connect support this summer's Cigogo Music Festival - donate here! Go directly to Donately by clicking on the **DONATE NOW!** link at [Chamwino Connect](#)

From 2024, Onward!

Chamwino Connect (CC) is a 501c3 NGO, and functions as the fund-raising arm of Chamwino Arts Centre (CAC), a staff of local Chamwino villagers who work daily for the sustainability of Wagogo-Cigogo music, all the arts, and the education of children, youth and adults in their local cultural heritage.

2023 Chamwino Connect was able to send \$25,325 to support the 2023 Cigogo Music Festival, thanks to support from individual donors. Funds raised in 2022 plus

\$16,071 raised in 2023 enabled us to make this contribution.

Donations made to CC in 2023 included \$12,781 through Donately (via the CC website), \$1,200 through Benevity, and \$2,090 in checks received (totaling \$16,071).

These donations went to projects involving musicians, dancers, and storytellers in the schools and across the community.

Looking to the past (2023), much was accomplished in Chamwino, thanks to the contributions of generous donors, frequently referred to as “Friends of Chamwino.” The 2023 Wagogo-Cigogo Festival was highly successful, and attention was also given in the last year to the documentation of traditional Wagogo instruments, capacity-building of artists for their work across the community, and the start-up of a collection of traditional Wagogo folk tales, recorded and now undergoing transcription.

Forward to the future (2024), The festival and projects will happen through the funds that can be raised. There are grant proposals now in the pipeline, and good hope for donations from Friends of Chamwino.. No donation is too small (\$5, or \$50, or \$500), one time or monthly, and all are invited to donate what may be equivalent to the cost of a coffee, or a lunch out in a local restaurant, or a subscription to an internet service. All of our donations add up, and help the villagers to sustain their Gogo heritage and culture.



Former Professor of Music at the University of Dar es Salaam, now Executive Secretary of the National Arts Council of Tanzania.

From Kedmon Mapana, founder-director of Chamwino Art Center-Chamwino Connect.

I started the Cigogo Music Festival in the village where I was born and raised, Chamwino Ikulu, in Dodoma region of central Tanzania. Today, the festival brings together thousands of people (including hundreds of village performers) to where the music of the Gogo people, called ngoma, is practiced and performed. Ngoma is music, dance, and pageantry, all rolled together into one entity, a celebration of Gogo life, culture, and heritage. Chamwino Connect (CC), in the U.S., is a great partner to Chamwino Arts Center (CAC), in Tanzania, as it supports the ngoma practices which were about to be vanished (due to the influx of other influences from across the world that had suddenly come to the villagers about 15 years ago onto their newly acquired cellphones and screens). The festival and various other education and community projects of the CAC-CC partnership helps to sustain Gogo heritage music.



Patricia Campbell

photo credit: Cynthia Strong

From Patricia Shehan Campbell, Chair of Chamwino Connect (a 501c3 NGO)

As ever, I'm of the belief that what's happening in the central Tanzanian village of Chamwino is important to the local villagers, and to Tanzania, and to those of us in the world who believe that cultural sustainability is a noble and necessary goal. Ideally, people should be supported in their quest to hold on to their cultural identity.

Chamwino Connect is committed to channeling support to the people of Chamwino village for ways to sustain their heritage in the face of modernization and Western colonialism.

It's the villagers themselves who want to see the continuation of Wagogo-Cigogo values, and they are doing so through music, arts, and education. Chamwino Connect ensures that they will have sufficient support to enable them to meet their goal. I'll be heading over to Chamwino, Tanzania, for the 15th Cigogo Festival this July (and my 9th visit there). I'm honored to be representing us—Chamwino Connect and all the Friends of Chamwino—in celebration of the will of the villagers to preserve

their brilliant traditions. (Would you care to join me? Please be in touch, and see details of traveling there at Chamwino Connect

Thank you for thinking of the Gogo people of Chamwino and the efforts they are making to sustain their cultural identities, both through the annual festival as well as the year-round projects in education and community-based events.



Lazaro Maswaga - Zeze player

photo credit: Cynthia Strong

Chamwino's Needs for Music, Arts, and Education Projects

Please help the sustainability of Gogo music, arts, and culture through education in schools and out in the community.

- **\$6** for the breakfast-lunch-dinner of one Gogo festival participant
- **\$26** pays for the Chamino Arts Center's monthly electricity bill

- **\$86** for the bus transportation of participants from the remote village of Kawawa to the Cigogo Festival this coming July
- **\$98** for the fabric to make Gogo traditional dancing outfits for 14 children.
- **\$400** for the PA/sound system for the Cigogo Festival
- **\$660** for the rental of chairs for performers and their audiences at the annual Cigogo Festival

Won't you please help?

DONATE NOW!



We are committed to preserving the spirit and culture of Tanzania. Part of that work includes fundraising. Please join us.

**DONATE
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