Harambe is an African word which means “working together.” It is also the foundation’s slogan and name of one of Mrs. Rita Marley’s most popular tunes. Available through our website quarterly, this newsletter will be a vital vehicle to inform you of our foundation’s endeavors, events and accomplishments; importantly, we eagerly anticipate “working together” with you, through your contributions and feedback. So with One Love we could nurture Harambe into a constructive newsletter.

Africa Unite—Smile Jamaica Youth Symposium 2010
Theme: Crime Don’t Pay—Unity Brings Prosperity
— Niann Morris (Trinidad delegate)

Greetings to all,

I must say that I am truly honoured to have been a part of this symposium. The knowledge and experience gained was far beyond my expectations. I was exposed to a wealth of information on the concept of Africa Unite, the effects of popular music on youth and how crime affects us as young people. The motivational speakers and the group discussions were well planned and executed.

Youth Symposium participants

(continued on page 2, see “Africa Unite”)

You can’t blame the youth / You can’t fool the youth / You can’t blame the youth of today
— Peter Tosh
Africa Unite (continued from previous page)

I valued the opportunity to sit with my peers from different walks of life and discuss how crime affects our lives and our communities. We were able to come together and put forward ideas of what we can do in our own way, to curb the prevalence of violence and crime. I hold dearly to my heart the young persons from the Boys Town Development Programme. Their life experiences have had a great impact on me. They are young talented individuals and given the guidance and the opportunities, they can achieve great things.

As a result of this symposium I have a greater appreciation for my history as a young woman of African descent. It has sparked a curiosity to learn more about where I came from so that I can better understand my present way of life. Being the founder of a UNESCO youth group “Pioneers for Peace”, I intend to use this as a medium to raise the awareness of Africa Unite as it pertains to my country Trinidad and Tobago.

As a result of this symposium I have a greater appreciation for my history as a young woman of African descent. It has sparked a curiosity to learn more about where I came from so that I can better understand my present way of life. Being the founder of a UNESCO youth group “Pioneers for Peace”, I intend to use this as a medium to raise the awareness of Africa Unite as it pertains to my country Trinidad and Tobago.

I would like to express gratitude to the Bob Marley foundation, the Rita Marley Foundation and UNESCO for hosting this Symposium. Special thanks to Rosemary Duncan, Dr. Eleanor Wint and the Presenters for their hard work and inspiration. I would also like to thank the delegates from the Caribbean, Jamaica and Canada for sharing this experience with me. I look forward to a continuous relationship and I pray that African Unification does not remain as a concept in my mind but can resonate from my mouth and can be seen throughout my existence. God bless you all.

Yours Respectfully,
— Niann Morris (Trinidad delegate)

Report on the Sixth International Africa Unite Symposium

— Mr. Rayon Watson, UNESCO Delegate (Jamaica)

Greetings everyone,

The Africa Unite Symposium was very interesting in all aspects, mainly because I have gained a wealth of knowledge in such a short space of time. The other thing that amazes me is that all of the participants that were at the event got the chance to express themselves, how they feel and not influenced by any other means. This was done through singing and having drama within the mix. This conference has shown that young people are being affected by a lot in society. It has been manifested that young people want better; however, they can’t because some do not have a choice. Once we can unite as young people and as a nation, we can achieve greatness and build a better future for others coming up.

(continued on next page)
(continued from previous page)

Education is the key and fundamental component to solve what we are facing at this point in time. The fact of the matter is that we are not being taken seriously as young people. It is said that the “Children are our future” but yet still we are not investing enough in our young people. The Ministry of Information, Culture, Youth & Sports should make this a top priority in every country, especially Jamaica. It is left up to young people to rise above, overcome, educate ourselves and know our history for us to start making change. Change begins with “SELF.”

We as black people don’t know our own history and culture which resulted in the use of bleaching creams and other chemicals in order to change our appearances. It’s also surprising that whenever the foreigners come to Jamaica and you ask them (foreigners) a question on any of our national heroes or any other Jamaican icon that fought for black independence, they give detailed information about the person. This has given me an appetite to know about my history, and this will definitely aid in the process to go forward.

I find that this conference was essential for young people to achieve self-actualization. Since we learnt about our past, it will establish and bring forth certain values such as, self esteem, self-confidence, self-reliance and self worth. This will let us realize that youth can achieve greatness.

The presenters were very enlightening and interesting because we could actually relate to the information. The tour of the museums and the studios were excellent as well. We learnt how music records are manufactured and distributed, and it gave a clear image about what is being displayed.

I can admit that in the past I wasn’t that enthusiastic about knowing my history; but I can tell you now, that through this youth symposium I have developed the urge to know my history and to empower others who can become agents of change. I will definitely be doing work within my community and through other advocacy organizations to continue to spread the message for Africa to Unite.
Feedback from Delegates
Sixth Annual Africa Unite Youth Symposium
— Orlando Hamilton, Youth Peace Facilitator at Dispute Resolution Foundation, Jamaica

Hi Sisters and Brothers,

As generations come and go, those assuming responsibility for their period must not cease to try to improve on that which was done by those before. We have taken up the responsibility to embark on a path that will someday see all Africans from all walks of life uniting for the benefit of ourselves as black people and Africa at large.

The foundation has been laid by many legends before us. We all have grasped something positive from the Honorable Robert Nesta Marley. Bob Marley’s life and works were shared with us at the Africa Unite Youth Symposium 2010. I strongly believe that all of us should now be in a better position to begin the re-education and the awareness of our peers and every youth that’s in our sphere; those whom we interact with directly or indirectly should be empowered to be a part of this journey. I am more than happy to be a part of this journey and with my responsibility as Regional Coordinator, I am even more humbled to be of any assistance to you all. The unification of all Africans was a vision that Bob Marley shared with the world and today this vision is slowly being realized by the Rita Marley Foundation and the Bob Marley Foundation. We are an essential part of the journey that will see the full exodus as the hands Africa embraces all that belongs to her.

— Africa Unite!

Dr. Leahcim Semaj addressing youth

When every Christmas comes around / You buy the youth a fancy toy / When every Christmas comes around / You buy the youth a fancy toy, so
— Peter Tosh
Report on the Sixth Annual Youth Symposium, 2010

—Andreana French, UNESCO Delegate (St. Kitts & Nevis)

I was fortunate enough to have been chosen as the delegate to represent St. Kitts and Nevis at the youth symposium. This year’s youth symposium was quite interesting and gave me a look into reality. Even though it was just for a short time I was able to acquire not only knowledge but a few friends and memorable moments. The symposium gave us, the youth, a chance to share our ideas and thoughts on the theme which governed this event ‘Crime don’t pay—Unity brings prosperity’. It was revealed that crime is a devastating problem on the rise in Jamaica, and it gave the young Jamaicans some sort of comfort to know that crime happens outside of Jamaica and that they are not alone.

We can do whatever we put our minds to, and most youth are not satisfied with the lives they are living, and want to do what is right. We have choices in life; however, sometimes most young people feel they have no choice but to live the life they are living. Education is the key. Education was portrayed as an essential element to get out of poverty. We found that with African Unification the crime rate can fall as we need to work together as one.

We explored the history of two honorable icons of Jamaica, Robert Nesta Marley ‘Bob Marley’ and Marcus Garvey. Both men shared the same vision of African Unification. They both believed that Africans should unite to put an end to the bloodshed of our brothers and sisters. We were in an atmosphere of our history where most of us did not know anything about our history and how we came about. However, this symposium should have opened our minds to be eager to know our historical past and the struggles of what our ancestors went through.

The discussions among the youth and the speakers were enlightening and gave information to which myself and others can relate to and understand. We came to conclusions on the causes of crime and solutions to solve this problem. Memorable moments were created at the few tours given. We got a chance to explore the house of Robert Nesta Marley which is now a museum dedicated in his honor and also the Marcus Garvey Museum.

The symposium was very important as problems caused by crime were explored. This served as an outlet for guidance for us to know that we have choices in life and we are the ones who determine our future. Symposia such as this one should be organized by the government and community leaders to help educate the youth. Hopefully we will see changes in the crime rate in our societies.
Kellon and Kelson Ogiste, UNESCO Delegates (Grenada)

The annual Africa Unite Youth Symposium organized by the Bob Marley and Rita Marley Foundations in collaboration with UNESCO was held on February 4th to 6th in Kingston Jamaica. The symposium exposed and sensitized us on many topics that are facing our young people today. It highlighted the effects of music in Jamaica and the youth opinions on the different types of music. It gave an insight on which was the most popular type of music and artist which influenced the youth. The symposium also focused on the different choices that we as youth make. These choices affect our lives. It educated us on the lifestyle and practices of Bob Marley and Marcus Garvey, two very influential and historical Jamaican icons. It also focused on African unity and emphasized that we as African descendants should unite.

Music among young People and Crime:
This topic highlighted that music was very influential on young people; it influenced our minds, our trend of talk and to a large extent how we think and function in everyday life. To an extent music can lead to gang wars and division among young people. It may not directly tell young people to execute a crime, but our minds are fragile; some can easily be motivated to do such because of the lyrical content of the music they listen to. Typical examples of this were the recent lyrical war between Vybz Kartel and Movado and in past history the lyrical Rap War between Notorious BIG and Tupac Shakur. These lyrical wars have led to violence among youth and sometimes had detrimental consequences. While these artists may be unaware of the practical damage of their lyrical wars, young people have died, violated and caused harm to their opposing peers. For this reason, young people need to be taught to recognize these lyrical wars for what they truly are—simply a lyrical war.

Our Ideas for the next youth symposium:
- More Governmental figures should get involved in spreading African unity and empowerment among the young people in their country.
- Educating Caribbean minds and African descendants about their history and other influential figures to enhance our people's knowledge.

Thank You

The Bob Marley Foundation and Rita Marley Foundation extend special thanks to UNESCO for their continued support of the Africa Unite Youth Symposium. We also thank our other sponsors Mother's and Heart Institute of the Caribbean.

Thanks to all our presenters for giving freely of their time and talents:
Dr. Donna Hope, Dr. Leachim Semaj, Mr. Horrace Levy, Mr. Courtney Brown, Mr. Marlon Campbell and Mr. David "Ziggy" Marley.

The Foundations also thank the staff who assisted in making the event a success:
Dr. Eleanor Wint (RMF Director), management and staff of the Bob Marley Museum and Bob Marley Foundation, Mr. Tony Anderson (Webmaster), Mr. Fitzroy Gordon (driver), Legend Cafe’, Ms. Rosemary Duncan (Youth Symposium Coordinator) and most of all our Founder and President Mrs. Rita Marley OD for her continued vision and leadership.

May Jah continue to bless us all. Wherever we are Jah is present.
The Hon. Usain Bolt is a great admirer of The Hon. Robert Nesta Marley "Bob Marley."

He is thrilled that he is currently able to draw the attention of the world to Jamaica in a way that possibly only Bob Marley has done for so many years. On December 5, 2009 Hon. Usain Bolt hosted the 9.58 SuperParty at Richmond Estate in St Ann, Jamaica.

This event was held in celebration of his excellent achievements during the international athletics season and to raise funds for his charitable ventures. Hon. Bolt invited the Marley family to attend and participate in the event. There was an exchange of gifts between the Marley family, (represented by family matriach Mrs. Rita Marley OD, her daughter Stephanie and her kids) and Hon. Usain Bolt during the SuperParty. This exchange served to symbolically recognise the linkage between music and sports. Two of the greatest gifts that Jamaica has given the world.

---

You teacher used teach about Christopher Columbus / And you said he was a very great man / You teacher used teach about Marco Polo, so
— Peter Tosh
A Christmas Treat for Needy Kids

The Rita Marley Foundation held an Ethiopian Christmas treat for needy children in Nassau, Bahamas. The event was held on January 7, Christmas Day, on the Ethiopian Christian Orthodox calendar. After the priests from the Ethiopian Orthodox Church imparted blessings, the guests, who comprised twenty kids ages 5-12, partied the day away on the grounds of the Marley Resort & Spa.

They were served by Mrs. Rita Marley and staff of the Rita Marley Foundation. As African music filled the air, the little ones danced, laughed and sang along while dining on exotic Ethiopian meals of lamb, ingirah and vegetables. They also enjoyed delicious Caribbean cuisine including lots of pastries, cakes and ice cream. While in Nassau Mrs. Rita Marley made a donation of US$1000 to the victims of the earthquake that recently devastated Haiti.

Trip to Canada

In early February, Mrs. Marley also traveled to Ontario, Canada where she was guest of honour at a fund-raising concert to assist the people of Haiti. While there Mrs. Marley spent lots of time with her mother Mrs. Cynthia Jarrett. Mrs. Marley’s mom was born in Cuba and lives in Canada.

On February 6, 2010 the Mayor of Ontario, Canada, David Miller, declared that the Honourable Robert Nesta Marley’s "Bob Marley" birthday, February 6th, is to be officially recognized as Bob Marley Day in Ontario, Canada.

You can’t blame the youth / You can’t fool the youth / You can’t blame the youth of today

— Peter Tosh
URGE Health Fair in Saint Ann

— KINGSTON, JAMAICA

On April 16, 2010, Unlimited Resources Giving Enlightenment (URGE), the charitable organization funded by Ziggy Marley, held its biannual health fair at the Cedella Booker Basic School, Nine Mile, Saint Ann.

A 21-member team of physicians, nurses and support staff was spearheaded by Dr. Bruno Lewin, a physician and Director of Travel Advisory Service at Kaiser Permanente in Los Angeles, California. Assisted by Tuff Gong International employees, the dedicated volunteers administered free medical care to residents of Nine Mile and surrounding communities. Over the counter medication was also issued to patients.

There were representatives from the St. Ann’s Health Department on location, offering services such as immunization, nutrition information, mental health and physical therapy. Home visits were also conducted to the benefit of over twenty residents. The visiting physicians and nurses were led by Nurse Patty Anderson.

Other sponsorship was provided by Nine Mile Charitable Foundation, BM Nine Miles Tour Limited, Bob Marley Foundation and the Arthur Burrowes Centre.

A registration desk for membership to the Nine Miles United Districts Citizens Association was also on location. The districts that form the Association include Nine Mile, Stepney, Sterling, Alva, Calderwood, Down Lodge, Eight Mile, Higgins Land, Prickly Pole, Grants Mountain, Murray Mountain, Bambredo and Hessen Castle.

Ziggy Marley donates US$1 from each of his concert ticket sales toward the activities of URGE.

Contact: Lorna Wainwright
Tel: (876) 923-9380
Fax: (876) 923-4657

By U.R.G.E.