

UBAANA NEWS



News and updates from the members and friends of the University of Benin Alumni Association of North America

Midwest Chapter to Host 2022 Reunion

Message from UBAANA Midwest Chapter

Greeaatest UNIBEN!!! Welcome to 2022, a year brimming with infinite possibilities and blessings. We give thanks to Almighty God for his mercies during this COVID-19 pandemic, and for ensuring no fatalities have been recorded in this wonderful UBAANA family.

As you are already aware, the Midwest Chapter is hosting the 16th Annual UBAANA Reunion at the Sheraton Suites Chicago O'Hare, in Chicago, America's 3rd largest city, from July 29th to the 31st, 2022. We are leaving no stone unturned to ensure we showcase a reunion filled with important deliberations and fun activities, including great African and American cuisines, architectural tours, boat rides, parties, raffles, etc. Our pledge is to set a new benchmark for all future UBAANA reunions. We've done it before; we'll do it again.

Make your reservations at the Sheraton Suites today at the discounted room rates. UBAANA allocated suites are filling up fast and higher room rates will apply to late registrants.

Book today by calling (847)699-6300 with code UBAUBAC or at:

<https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1632330600360&key=GRP>

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UBAANA
2022 Reunion
BUSINESS . BALL . BOOZE
Host City: Chicago, IL
Date: July 29th - 31st, 2022
Venue: Sheraton Suites Chicago O'Hare
King Suite \$129 / Double Suite \$139
(Breakfast included with all suites)

847.699.6300 <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1632330600360&key=GRP&app=resvink>

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From the President's Corner



UBAANA NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Alums,

As the year 2021 curtain draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to express our thanks to everyone as we reflect on a year that was filled with many uncertainties but also many successes. With the unraveling of COVID-19 in 2020 and nose diving into 2021, the world has been faced with the challenges of the new unknown which has metamorphosed into a somewhat new normal. With the coronavirus pandemic, we were able to realize the degree of tenacity and resilience we all possess individually and collectively.

UBAANA Executive changed baton at the virtual 2021 reunion held in Philadelphia from July 30th - August 1st, 2021. A progressive brainstorming general assembly was held with the Vice Chancellor, Prof Lilian Salami attending via Zoom. An outpouring of generosity was displayed by several members of this great association.

The UBAANA website was also reactivated during the year. For effective and seamless communication, we agreed to implement the general WhatsApp group as a one stop hub for members. A business group is also in place for corporate information dissemination among members.

We were privileged to celebrate with several of our members who were honored with deserving awards and recognition. It is significant to mention that two of our UBAANA past presidents were honored as heroes at the 50th anniversary celebration of our great alma mater in the ancient city of Benin.

We are proud to announce that even with the pandemic, we have increased our membership strength and will continue to progress in numbers and might. There were no losses and that is particularly worth acknowledging and thanking the almighty God for. UBAANA was able to support some members who were bereaved or needed some form of assistance during the year 2021.

We have put the UBAANA 2022 reunion machinery in place for effective planning and implementation. Chicago will be hosting and they are working judiciously to ensure a successful reunion come 2022.

We are very proud of the relative peace enjoyed amongst members of this great association and we hope such solidarity continues in the new year.

As we prepare to round up 2021 and gallantly walk into 2022, UBAANA executive committee would like to use this opportunity to appreciate members for their commitment and devotion to abide by the UBAANA Constitution at all times. We acknowledge your daily contributions and engagements as we navigate difficult terrains aided with the knowledge that we stand together as one.

Once again, thank you and welcome to an amazing 2022.

Great Uniben!

Alex Imuetinyan Eronmwon, FIMC, CMC
President
UBAANA

president@ubaana.org
718-844-0771

UBAANA 2021 Reunion in Philadelphia



Swearing in of the New Executive Committee members at the 2021 Reunion



Photos from the 2021 Reunion

Seasons Greetings from UBAANA Midwest Chapter

Can you imagine, its December and we have come to the end of another year and boy have we already been through so much in the past couple of years.

As we move forward into this ***New Year***, we have the opportunity to wipe the slate clean with a fresh start loaded with new opportunities to better ourselves, enjoy the company of family, give back to our community...and of course head to Chicago in July!!

The Midwest Chapter is revved up and ready to kick the reunion planning into high gear. Early in the new year we will be hard at work planning the 16th Annual Reunion with the goal of making it the very best yet!! You all are critical partners to making this happen and we look forward to welcoming you to The Windy City.

We are wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Welcome 2022, We are very excited to finally see you on the horizon!.

May the good Lord Bless you all and make this coming year a great year for our UBAANA family.

Cheers,

Joy Ebhomielen

Midwest Chapter Chair



End of Year Greetings from Philadelphia

Philadelphia UBAANA Chapter was the host of the virtual 15th reunion. The highlights of the events included a keynote address by Dr. Ogechika Alozie, MD. COVID-19, issues arising, economic and social impacts of the prolonged pandemic.

Prof. Lilian Salami VC University of Benin, in her address, discussed UNIBEN as of today during her tenure, and expressed her gratitude to UBAANA for her continued support.

The former President, Dr. Kingsley Momodu, in his farewell address, gave elaborate details of his two-term undisputed achievements and thanked his Exco members and members of UBAANA for their support.

New ExcOs were sworn in as follows; Alex Eronmwon - President, Osasere Osifo - VP, Anita Oghagbon - Treasurer, Henrietta Orumwense - Secretary General and Omonigho Olumese - Assistant Secretary General.

Various members of UBAANA were given well deserved awards.

UBAANA Philadelphia Chapter wishes all members of UBAANA and their families a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Dr. Ben Imoobe
Chair, Philadelphia Chapter



Message of Goodwill from North Carolina

Great UBAANITES,

As 2021 ends UBAANITES in the Carolinas look forward with optimism to a new year of fresh opportunities.

The year 2021 was a turbulent year, but we're grateful that all our members are alive and well. For our members that lost relations or friends we extend our sympathy.

In 2021 we had very few activities and had to conduct a couple of teleconferences. We are grateful to our great UBAANITES that gave presentations on our "Life Principles" series, during the conference. Special thanks to Mr. Ralph Ereyi.

Also during the year, two of our distinguished alumnus, and past UBAANA presidents, Dr Phillip Igbinalolor and Dr Kingsley Momodu received awards as Uniben Heroes from our great Alma mater, the University of Benin.

In the coming year, we look forward to having more interactions, and organizing more activities. We are hoping that the Covid pandemic will subside, enabling us to have more events.

We would like to use this opportunity to wish all UBAANITES in America and all over the world a happy New Year.

Kingsley Cadmus, PharmD, MBA
Chairman, UBAANA Carolinas



End of Year Greetings from Dallas Chapter

Wishing you a joyous, colorful, and love-filled Christmas. May this Christmas bring happiness and peace to you. All my best wishes to you this Christmas. Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Efosa Uzamere
Chair, UBAANA Dallas Chapter.



End of Year Message from New York/ New Jersey Chapter

Hello UBAANA NY/NJ Chapter,

It's been an awesome 2021. I'd like to use this opportunity to thank every member of this group for all your support. You have stood by me throughout this tenure and I believe we will have a wonderful and better 2022 together.

I would like to highlight some of the wonderful events in 2021.

The summer picnic was our first major event for the year 2021. Despite the rise of Covid, we were able to safely assemble a good number of members for the event. Although the weather was not very favorable, we were still able to have a great time. We hope for a better 2022 summer picnic.

Also, on December 5th 2021, we held our Holiday party, which had a great turnout. Thanks to the committee that made the holiday party a huge success. I sincerely appreciate everyone for coming out for that event.

I want to use this medium to encourage our members who still don't participate yet in the group to please come out in 2022 and participate in the association's different events planned. For members who have been consistently supportive, please continue to participate. UBAANA needs you. We also ask that ideas that can help the association grow be sent to any of the Exco members.

Special thanks to my A-plus Exco. Dr. Margaret Adubor, Yvonne Belo Osagie, Western Iyamu and Clement Okegbe. You have made this tenure easy. Please let us do it again in 2022. My special thanks also go to all the 2021 Picnic committee members, you all rock!

We look forward to a wonderful 2022 and we hope more people come out to join in the events. We plan to have more professional and health talks on Zoom. Hopefully Covid restrictions will allow us have the in person events planned for the Summer and Winter 2022.

I wish everyone a prosperous New Year in good health.

Racheal Oghagbon Osagie
Chair, UBAANA NY/ NJ Chapter.

New York/ New Jersey Chapter Picnic



UBAANA NY/ NJ Chapter Members



Celebrating our Children!



Our Former Chairs



Our Current Chair and Vice Chair

New York/ New Jersey Chapter Holiday Party



End of Year Greetings from Houston Chapter

May abundant joy and everlasting happiness fill your hearts and homes this Christmas season and in the New Year.

MERRY CHRISTMAS 🎄 AND HAPPY NEW YEAR ❄️ FROM ALL OF US AT UBAANA-HOUSTON CHAPTER.

Olaniyi Oyedele
Chair, UBAANA Houston Chapter



End of Year Greetings from Georgia Chapter

May the peace and joy the season brings be yours now and always. Wishing you Happy Holidays and a Healthy/rewarding new year. From all of us @ UBAANA-Georgia Chapter.

Usang Ekpe.
Chair, UBAANA Georgia Chapter.



End of Year Greetings from Southern California Chapter

Greatest Uniben,

On behalf of the Southern California Chapter of UBAANA, I would like to take a moment to wish everyone compliments of the season, happy and festive holidays. Amongst other things, End of the year is typically a time to reflect on the events and activities of the year. The year 2021 was replete with challenges especially as these pertain to the search for innovative and creative ways of working around the “new “normal” brought about by the pandemic. In this regard, I have been very fortunate to work with a team that absolutely refused to give less than 110% in order to ensure that we meet with the mission and goals of UBAANA. Even in the darkest days of the pandemic, SoCal UBAANA team collaborated and rallied beside each other in order to advance the interests of our association, and Alma Mata. They provided very useful and innovative insights, helped to find impossible answers and provide clarity when little else made sense. My eternal gratitude to all for selflessly putting their schedules and individual priorities aside over and over again to be there for UBAANA. We remain united in the common purpose of striving to make our mother institution - the University of Benin, Benin-City, Nigeria - a better place than ever. I appreciate how UBAANA has stepped up to continue working for our students’ success and the viability of our university.

SoCal UBAANA met virtually the last Sunday of every month to exchange ideas and plan towards supporting our mother institution and the National Chapter of UBAANA. There was great and effective representation at the Summer 2021 reunion activities of UBAANA. We also met at the end of the year for a face-to-face meeting. Members were very supportive of each other and made conscious efforts to attend events put forward by individual members. Please see pictures of SoCal UBAANA ladies, SoCal members, and face to face event

We also remain grateful for the support of the executive of the National chapter of UBAANA. Your drive, commitment and dedication were truly exceptional. You are the reason we show up every day. You are the reason we do what we do. You inspire us, encourage us and give us purpose. Thank you for your faith in us as we walk these uncertain paths as partners together.

Let’s charge forward in the year 2022 with the hope of better days to come. Let’s also not lose sight of the many, many blessings we’ve been given. Keep the faith and hold tight to that bold and unshakeable resilience. That’s how we’ll create a better future. While these are challenging times, I sincerely believe that the unity of purpose geared towards advancing the interests of the University of Benin presents unique opportunities for us all to continue to strive to advance the interests of our Alma Mata.

Greatest Uniben!

Timothy U. Mozia, Ph.D.

Chair, Southern California UBAANA Chapter



Greetings from the DMV Chapter

On behalf of the DMV Chapter, we send UBAANA members our best wishes for a prosperous New Year 2022. Last year was very memorable for the DMV Chapter members; a get-together at the Suya Spot, Owings Mills, MD, birthday parties, wedding ceremonies, and many more. The year ended with DMV Chapter's donation to the Stepping Stones Shelter in Rockville, MD.

We look forward to a productive and fun-filled year.

Dr. Paulinus Chigbu

Chair, UBAANA DMV Chapter



Get-together by DMV members at Suya Spot, Owings Mills, MD



Ebes 50th Birthday Celebration



Dr. Hilda Dunkwu & Ms. Anita Oghagbon deliver items from DMV Chapter to Stepping Stones Shelter in Rockville, MD

UNIBEN CELEBRATES GOLDEN JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY 1970-2020

UBAANA CONGRATULATES THE VICE CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR LILIAN IMUETINYAN SALAMI, ON THE GOLDEN JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BENIN



The President, Executive Committee and members of the University of Benin Alumni Association North America (UBAANA) heartily rejoice with the Vice Chancellor, Professor Lilian I. Salami, staff, students and alumni of the University of Benin on the golden jubilee anniversary of our alma mater.

From 1970 till date, the University of Benin has continued to blaze the trail in academic excellence and human development in all areas of endeavour. As graduates of the university, we proudly attest to the high quality of learning and character formation that we received, which, no doubt formed the building blocks of our present status and achievements in life. Thank you, UNIBEN!

As we celebrate the golden jubilee anniversary of this great citadel of learning, we at UBAANA pledge to continue to contribute both in cash and in kind and to join hands with our amiable and proactive Vice Chancellor, Professor Lilian I. Salami, to move the university to greater heights.

Congratulations!

Alex Imuetinyan Eronmwon
President
University of Benin Alumni Association North America.

UBAANA EXECUTIVES



ALEX IMUETINYAN ERONMWON
PRESIDENT



OSASERE F. OSIFO
VICE PRESIDENT



HENRIETTA I. ORUMWENSE
SECRETARY GENERAL



ANITA A. OGHAGBON
TREASURER



OMONIGHO O. OLUMESE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL

UNIBEN HEROES AWARD

Warmest congratulations to Dr. Uyi Igbinadolor and Dr. Kingsley Momodu on their well-deserved award as UNIBEN Heroes by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Benin, Prof. Lilian I. Salami.

They have both meritoriously served our association and contributed positively to the growth and development of our Alma Mater. We are proud of them!

Once again congratulations on this accomplishment.





Mr. Henry Ogorchukwu Abanum, the overall best graduating student of the University of Benin (UNIBEN) at the just concluded 46th and 47th combined Convocation Ceremonies of the institution, has been honoured with the “Osasere Osifo Prize for Academic Excellence” award.



It is my great pleasure to announce that Chair Usang Ekpe of the Georgia Chapter has been chosen as this year’s recipient of the Black Engineer of the Year Award by Career Communications Group Inc.

The event will be held at the 36th Annual BEYA STEM Conference in Washington DC, scheduled for February 17-19, 2022. His company AT&T nominated him for the award on account of his outstanding performance over the years.

Congratulations on this awesome achievement. We are proud of your accomplishments.

ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

UBAANA membership dues are \$100/Year. They are due at the beginning of the calendar year. Members can pay their dues using any of the payment methods below.

1. Payment by Credit Card

Go to <http://ubaana.org>

Click on "Pay Dues" to be directed to the UBAANA Payment Portal

2. Payment by PayPal

One Year Membership dues payment link to PayPal -

<https://py.pl/6CKpiYrvkaq>

Two Years Membership dues payment link to PayPal -

<https://py.pl/1PdmNI>

3. Payment by Zelle

Send to treasurer@ubaana.org

4. Payment by Mail

Make your check payable to: **UBAANA**

Mail to:

UBAANA

c/o Anita Oghagbon

P.O. Box 1265

Haymarket, VA 20168

MEET YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS



ALEX IMUETINYAN ERONMWON – PRESIDENT



OSASERE F. OSIFO – VICE PRESIDENT



HENRIETTA I. ORUMWENSE – SECRETARY GENERAL



OMONIGHO O. OLUMESE – ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL



ANITA A. OGHAGBON – TREASURER