



YALI

Young African Leadership Initiative

Washington Fellowship for
Young African Leaders
Summer 2014



NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY





About YALI

Northwestern University has been selected as a host institution for President Obama's Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, the flagship program of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI). The Washington Fellowship will empower young African leaders through academic coursework, leadership training, mentoring, networking, professional opportunities, and support for activities in their communities.

Participants in the Washington Fellowship are young leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa who have a proven record of accomplishment in promoting innovation and positive change in their organizations, institutions, or communities. President Obama announced the Washington Fellowship in South Africa in 2013 and emphasized the importance of Africa's youth. "We need young Africans who are standing up and making things happen not only in their own countries but around the world... Africa's future belongs to its young people." In July 2014, President Obama will host a summit for the Fellows in Washington D.C.

At Northwestern, we are hosting twenty-five of these leaders for a Business and Entrepreneurship Institute. This Institute is a collaborative project of the Program of African Studies, the Farley Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, and the Center for Leadership, marking the first time these three programs have worked together. A joint effort with the Department of State, USAID, and the Peace Corps, we have designed a program that will allow burgeoning African entrepreneurs the opportunity to learn from Northwestern's accredited scholars and professionals as well as participate in various site visits featuring Chicago-based non-profits, startups, and other organizations. After this Institute, fellows will have the practical knowledge as well as hands-on experience to begin/continue positively impacting their respective communities and countries.

For additional information:

<http://youngafricanleaders.state.gov/washington-fellows/>

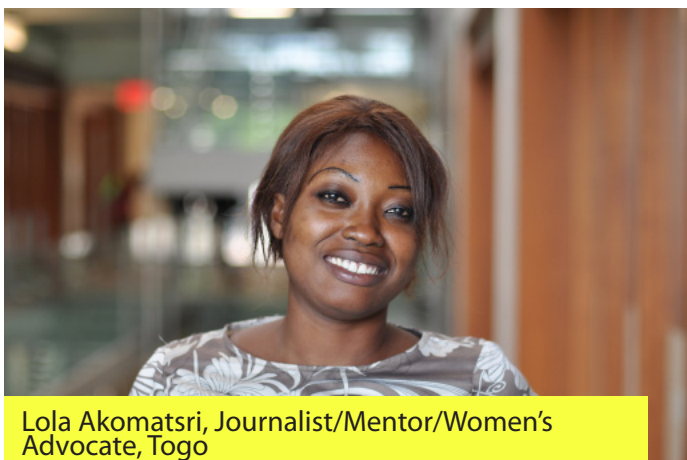


Meet the Washington Fellows



Lawrence Afere, Social Entrepreneur, Nigeria

Alaba works in the youth and enterprise development sector with a focus on jobs and wealth creation for the unemployed and marginalized youth in Ondo State, Nigeria. In 2012, after receiving entrepreneurship training at the Kanthari International Institute, India, he converted his farm into an entrepreneurship school named Springboard Entrepreneurship Development Initiative. He is also the Nigeria Chapter Coordinator for Africa Unbound, USA and holds a BSc. in Business Administration from Covenant University, Nigeria and also a trained Social Entrepreneur at the International Institute for Global Leadership, Ashville, USA. Interests: youth development/unemployment; economic development; agriculture; capacity building



Lola Akomatsri, Journalist/Mentor/Women's Advocate, Togo

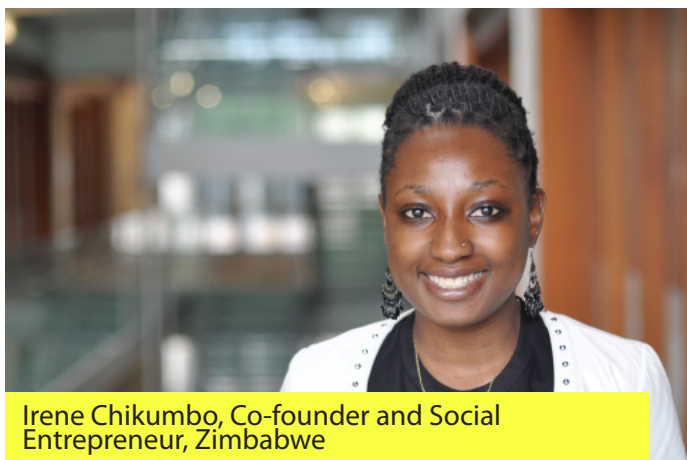
Ayaovi is a journalist with more than eight years' experience in print and broadcast journalism. Currently, she is the Editor-in-Chief of a Togolese newspaper and a correspondent for the South African Broadcasting Corporation and is working to promote a free media environment in Togo through mentorship and coaching of young journalists. Additionally, Ms. Akomatsri started a leadership mentoring program for young girls in rural areas. Interests: journalism; print media; freedom of press; youth development; girl's empowerment



Khanyisile Magubane, Filmmaker and Journalist, South Africa

Currently Magubane works full time as a documentary filmmaker, having written and produced 6 films which were part of a series, “Why Are We So Angry?” that examined the social consciousness of South Africans and the anger that many still harbour post-1994. Magubane is currently producing a hard-hitting four-part documentary series on economic inequalities in South Africa entitled, “Making Cents.” After receiving a BA (Hons) Journalism degree and a BA (Communications) Degree, both from RAU (now known as University of Johannesburg), she started her career as a hard-news journalist in 2000, working for radio stations such as Talk Radio 702, YFM and SAfm.

Interests: journalism; broadcast media; socio-political development; youth development; women’s empowerment



Irene Chikumbo, Co-founder and Social Entrepreneur, Zimbabwe

Irene Chikumbo is a co-founder and community manager of Hypercube Technology Hub. She is working mainly on developing digital capacity to drive youth entrepreneurship, community/stakeholder engagement and contributing to the tech ecosystem by helping ignite a digital startup culture in Zimbabwe. Irene’s skills include event management, social media and designing and implementing programmes that engage youth in Technology based Entrepreneurship. She hopes to drive the use of technology and entrepreneurship amongst youth to contribute to social and economic development. Her Masters degree from the Blekinge Institute of Technology in Sweden was grounded in the areas of innovation, sustainability and entrepreneurship.

Interests: digital startups, technology, women’s empowerment, sustainability, youth development, capacity building, community development



Yannick Malessandji, Architect, Vincentian, & Entrepreneur, Central African Republic

Yannick has over 13 years' experience working in the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of Central African Republic. Yannick takes care of the poor, the needy, and the disadvantaged by focusing on their empowerment through small income-generating activities designed to support themselves. Additionally, Yannick is the co-founder and CEO of the company Architects and Partners Consulting Sarl, an office of architectural planning and engineering studies that strives to fight against youth unemployment. He is also a temporary professor at the University of Bangui. In 2010, Malessandji graduated as the valedictorian of the African Craft School of Architecture and Urbanism (EAMAU) in Lomé, Togo.

Interests: Vincentianism; youth development; socioeconomic development; architecture; urban planning; manufacturing; capacity building



David Chakombera, Consultant/Mentor/Entrepreneur, Zimbabwe

David Chakombera is a Senior Advisor at Ernst & Young. He has over six years' experience and works across multiple sectors advising senior management and CEO's on their most pressing strategic business needs. David is also the co-founder of an organisation called Africa Lead, which is an incubator for gifted entrepreneurs. Africa Lead also provides mentorship and business coaching to the growing informal sector in Zimbabwe. In addition, Africa Lead hosts the annual Africa Business Leadership Summit.

He also sits on the board of Lead Us Today, a non-profit that empowers young people to work together and lead community development efforts.

Interests: youth development; community development; non-profits; mentoring; financial advising; business strategy



Anne Kakurugusi Kabahuma, Social Entrupanuer, Uganda

Anne has worked over ten years with communities in both urban and peri urban areas focusing on women's empowerment and girls' education. As an Operations Manager for Rwenzori Sustainable Trade Center, she has set up a trade center in Fort Portal to support and coordinate marketing of local handcrafts made by women in the rural communities of the Rwenzori region in western Uganda so that they can take their children to school. Anne also holds a Masters degree of Business Administration (Management) from Mountains of the Moon University and a Bachelors degree in Environment Managements from Makerere University, Kampala.

Interests: women's empowerment; gender equality; commerce; community development; youth development; capacity building



Andrew Akelo, Filmmaker, Journalist, & Entrepreneur, Kenya

Andrew is a filmmaker and journalist. He helped create Olives Media, a new company pursuing projects to empower young people and young writers. He also got involved with ENACTUS and helped USIU clinch the 2012 national entrepreneurial championship, representing Kenya in the World Cup in Washington DC. Andrew is a final year student at United States International University, pursuing a degree in Journalism and a minor in Integrated Studies and has embarked on producing IMPACT KENYA, a radio and TV youth program and his first major film, The Diplomat, with the help of the government and global film distribution giant Entertainment One.

Interests: filmmaking; journalism; entrepreneurship; photography; youth empowerment



Paul Victor Oloo, Entrepreneur & Cinematographer, Kenya

Paul is a budding entrepreneur, cinematographer, and the Founder of Chromatic Pictures Africa Limited. He has over three years' experience in Film and TV production, having started out as a camera assistant for various school projects before graduating to Director of Photography at Ujamaa Africa, an NGO working on empowering women against sexual violence in Kenyan slums. He has also shot four commercials, as well as four short films, four documentaries and a pilot episode of the TV series "Keeping It Together." He currently serves as the MD&CEO of Chromatic Pictures Africa Limited: a company founded with a friend where he manages four employees and supervises several other contracted workers on various other projects.

Interests: cinematography; women's empowerment; entrepreneurship; broadcasting



Ntsane Reginald Lepholisa, Media and Business Professional, Lesotho

Ntsane is a media and business professional with 6 years' experience and currently serves as Director of Shield Media in Maseru, Lesotho. He also serves as the Limkikwing Student Business Council founder and president, where he works on behalf of over 400 current students and alumni. Long term, he aims to apply his knowledge and skills to increase the number of brands and products from Lesotho.

Interests: business; media; leadership; economic development



**Vandana Premila Boolell, Business Development/
Women's Advocate, Mauritius**

Vandana is a Business Development Executive at Temple Group, a group of six companies providing legal and financial services in Mauritius. Vandana has led affiliation of the Group 1) to Interlaw, an international legal network of independent law firms and 2) to an internationally acclaimed training partner of Temple Professionals Ltd., the training limb of the Group. Vandana has a strong professional network, is active in a number of professional organisations including Epsilon (an organization focused on finance for young professionals) and WIN (Women in Networking), and holds a degree in Social Policy from the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom. Interests: women's empowerment; gender equality; finance; legal services; international relations



Tatiana Alves Pereira, Entrepreneur ,Mozambique

Tatiana is co-founder and partner of IdeiaLab, a consultancy company focused on the development of start-ups and the promotion of entrepreneurship and innovation. Apart from IdeiaLab, Tatiana has also recently created Lokal2896 GuestHouse and seats on the board of Zizile, an institute for early childhood development. Tatiana has 10 years of experience, having worked in Business Management, Human Resources Management and Organizational Development, and holds a MBA from Australia's Curtin University and a Honors Degree in Human Resources Management from ISCTE in Portugal. Interests: entrepreneurship, innovation, start-ups, sme development, capacity building, business development



Patricia Tahindray, Credit Analyst & Advocate for Women and Girls , Madagascar

For over 8 years, Patricia has worked as a Credit Analyst Manager in a commercial bank in Antananarivo. She is also the International Commissioner and in charge of projects and partnerships for Fanilon'I Madagasikara (Catholic Girl Scouting of Madagascar) where she strives to improve the situation of girls and women through capacity building, strengthening youth leadership, improving girl's education, research funding, and management of projects. Patricia holds a Master's degree in management, specializing in Finance

Interests: women and girl's empowerment; finance; capacity building; youth leadership; education



Tafadzwa Nyamuzihwa, Motivational Speaker, Zimbabwe

After becoming blind in 2009, Tafadzwa met a selection criterion under Connect Zimbabwe, a non-governmental humanitarian organization, and undertook systematic counseling. Since then, he has naturally embarked on motivational public speaking to rouse fellow blind people out of self-pity and perhaps reorient ordinary sighted people into picking themselves up in the wake of economic and political stagnation. In 2012 he was selected to represent the youth of Zimbabwe and people with disabilities at the UN Youth African Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, on the post-2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Interests: disability advocacy; economic development; philanthropy; technology; sociopolitical issues



Lynette Ntuli, Entrepreneur & CEO , South Africa

Lynette Ntuli is the founding director and chief executive of the property, asset and infrastructure development and solutions firm; Innate Investment Solutions. Lynette is a Founding Director and Chairman of IgniteSA.com – a digital and mobile media platform that aims to mobilise young and established leadership within South Africa towards active citizenry through education, employment and entrepreneurial activity. A recipient of several South African press and industry awards and an executive member of several sector related organisations, Lynette is a World Economic Forum Global Shaper, a 2014 St Gallen Symposium Top 200 Leader of Tomorrow. Lynette is a nationally and internationally recognised professional speaker and delivers a wide variety of business, economic and socio economic presentations at national and international forums and events.



Combey Djidjole Combetey, Journalist/Peace Advocate, Togo

Combey Djidjole C, Journalist/ Peace advocate, Togo Combey has more than eight years' experience in print and broadcast journalism. He holds a Diploma in Journalism and Media Studies, in Accra, Ghana. Combey is the Founder and Managing Director of AF-RICA RENDEZ-VOUS (www.africardv.com<<http://www.africardv.com>>) and also the founder and president of African network of journalists on peace and human security (RAJOSEP) whose aim is to expose fellow journalists and the public to issues related to peace and human security, human rights, small arms and light weapons, the role of media in conflict prevention, transformation, and peacekeeping operation on the continent. He volunteers in a project called ICT for visually impaired. Interests: Journalism; peace making/conflict resolution; Pan-Africanism; community development



Alpha Yaya Souare, Entrepreneur, Guinea

Yaya spent 3 years with Pricewaterhouse Coopers auditing majors businesses all across the country and abroad. This helped familiarize him with various industries such as banking, mining, the public sector, and manufacturing. These skills in management as well as an aversion for creativity have led him to create his own business in the poultry industry. With a population of 20,000 layers, the business is becoming one of the major farms in the country and the impacts on the local community are becoming more obvious. Graduating from business school, Alpha Yaya Souare holds a bachelors degree in Accounting and Finance.

Interests: entrepreneurship; agriculture; accounting; finance; commerce



Paul Galatis, E-Commerce Entrepreneur, South Africa

Paul is Director of an e-commerce store named Yuppiechef that sells cooking tools and ingredients. His business has been recognised as the Best E-Commerce store in South Africa for four consecutive years at the South African e-commerce awards. Paul is in the process of starting another business and also volunteers as a mentor in his community. Long term, he hopes to develop and strengthen South Africa's economy through starting good businesses and making a generally positive contribution to society.

Interests: cooking; capacity building; community development; economic development; social change



Amina Oshiokpekhai, Entrepreneur & Baker, Nigeria

Amina is an Entrepreneur in the confectionery business and a woman with a strong passion to create a synergy between women's empowerment and youth education. Through her commitment to giving back to her society, she founded The Abuja Bakers Society and engages in pastoral initiatives which focuses on mentoring and imparting basic confectionary skills to her female kinfolks. In 2007 under her capacity as a local government chairperson, recognizing the need to sensitize women and youth, she actively campaigned to women and youth, informing them of the need to acquire any form of education. She currently studies law part time at the University of London International and she holds a Higher National Diploma in Secretarial Studies.

Interests: baking; women's empowerment; youth education; mentoring; capacity building; educational empowerment



St Ngope, Financial Services Professional & Financial Literacy Advocate, Botswana

St is a financial services professional with five years' experience in asset management in Botswana. In addition to her position at the Botswana Insurance Fund Management, she works to educate the public on financial literacy through print and radio media and presentations in the community. Long term, she hopes to open her own financial consultancy and change Botswana's financial culture through policy change and public outreach.

Interests: finance; community development; capacity building; broadcasting; consulting



**Roland Yinyu Bongko, Social Entrepreneur,
Founder & CEO, Cameroon**

In 2009, Roland started Raven Green Finance, a microfinance lender that provides low interest rate capital loans to empower women selling their handcrafts in markets. He currently has 1125 customers. Roland also has over seven years working experience, a BSc. in Accountancy from the University of Buea, Cameroon, a Global Commerce License, and he is currently studying for ACCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountant) as a process of continuous career development.

Interests: finance; economic development; microfinance; women's empowerment; gender equality; environmental conservation; historic restoration



**Ulrichia Rabefitiavana, Social Entrepreneur &
Public Health Professional , Madagascar**

Ulrichia has over eight years professional experience including four years in the field of corporate social responsibility in Madagascar. As the Health Compliance Officer for Ambatovy, she is in charge of identifying potential impacts of the company in the community, implementing projects in the area, and coordinating efforts between 20 municipal governments. She is also Co-Founder of an NGO named UNIVERS. Ulrichia holds a master's degree in Management and is currently enrolled at the University of Quentin-en-Yvelines-France for a degree in sustainable development engineering.

Interests: sustainable development; public health promotion; socioeconomic development; youth advocacy; environmental protection



Denise Konin Adou, Entrepreneur, Côte d'Ivoire

Denise has 12 years of experience in sales. She's held various positions in companies such as Yara West Africa, Polyco and acquired significant experience in Hope Finance as Key Account Manager. Today, she assumes 2 functions jointly: General Manager of Fid'Technologies and Technical commercial of GIM -UEMOA. Her main tasks are to support local banks in terms of interbank payment systems and to boost the development of the issuance of credit cards and payments on POS (Point Of Sale terminal). In 2008 she created a beauty institute named Aurore Beauty Institute and in 2012, Fid'Technologies. She plans to create an awareness for college girls about women's leadership and ability to succeed in society. She is a graduate in Business Administration and holds a Senior Technician Certificate issued to the Practical School of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Côte d'Ivoire.

Interests: electronic banking; capacity building; sales; entrepreneurship; development



Yonas Getachew, Entrepreneur & Hospitality Consultant, Ethiopia

Yonas has worked in the hospitality industry for the last 12 years since his graduation from Addis Ababa University in Business Management in August 2001. After a career at Hilton Worldwide, Yonas founded a hospitality consultancy business that helps nascent hoteliers adhere to international hotel standards. In the future, he also hopes to create an accredited hospitality school that will meet the demand for skilled labor in the industry.

Interests: hospitality; consultancy; capacity building; international relations; business; construction



**Abdoul Kadri Hassane Kaneye (KAD),
Management & Consultant, Niger**

A Chartered Accountant from France, Kader Keneye (or KAD) is a Management Consultant who is currently Regional Executive Partner of HLB KMC West Africa, Managing Partner of KMC Niger, and Vice President of the Professional Chartered Accountants Board – ONECCA Niger. In 2010 at the age of 25, Kad was appointed CEO of KMC Niger in a midst of crisis and engaged in major operational changes in the firm, creating 3 new lines of services (Accounting, Tax & Law, Executive Training), attracting new clients (from 40 in 2010 to 200 in 2013), and federating a powerful team of high qualified consultants (from 7 in 2010 to 37 in 2013). Having a thorough experience with Donors and international & national NGOs in several countries, KAD demonstrates a strong commitment in helping local communities trough empowering the organizations that assist them.

Interests: accounting; finance; capacity building; intrapreneurship; international development; NGO's; community development