

Universe Africa™

The Best of African Textiles

Universe Africa is a vehicle to introduce the World to the magnificent cultural traditions and contributions of Africa and her peoples to world development and history.

The Universe Africa initiative will thus contribute the preservation of African culture, promote rural economic development and promote African culture on a global scale.

For Info.

Contact:

T. Kofi Hadjor
Founder/ Research
Director

Tel: 647- 439- 3081

Email:

universeafrica@rogers.com



249 Queen's Quay West. Toronto, Ont. M5J 2N5 South West Corner of Radisson Admiral Hotel

Universe Africa Participates in World Class Textile Symposium to Promote Ghana's Kente Cloth to Textile Professionals in Toronto

The Tenth Biennial Symposium (entitled Textile Narratives and Conversations) took place in the Harbourfront Centre overlooking Lake Ontario in Toronto from October 11 to 14, 2006. The Biennial Symposium of Textile Society of America is biggest gathering of Textile Professionals in the world.

The Tenth Biennial Symposium was hosted jointly by Textile Museum of Canada and Textile Society of America, this gathering was an opportunity for Universe Africa to showcase Ghana's Kente to over 250 Textile Professionals from around the world including Museum Curators, Professors, Historians, Artists, Students, Dealers, and Collectors. Professionals came from the United States, Canada, Europe, Asia, Middle East, Australia and South America.

The sole African participant, an Award winner from Nigeria, Margaret Olugbemisola Areo, a Doctoral Student at the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology in Nigeria could not get a visa to attend.

Universe Africa, a Canadian based company specializing in promoting African cultural products in Canada was in attendance, represented by Founder and Research Director, Tetteh Kofi Hadjor.

One of the highlights of the Symposium was a presentation of Kente Clothes to the Winners of 2006 Textile Society of America Student/Young Professional Scholarship Awards. Of the Kente Awards, a Director of TSA wrote to Mr. Hadjor:

"Presenting our Award winners with Kente Cloth was a wonderful way to acknowledge their achievement. It made plain to all (TSA) members who the Award winners were and made it easier for all of us to recognize and congratulate them.The Award winners felt

very honored...you could tell the pride they felt in wearing such beautiful cloth."

As a result of being the sole African participant in this global event in Textiles, Universe Africa is well positioned to promote trade in hand woven Afri-

can Textiles with North American Textile Museums.

This will result in increased exports of hand woven African Textiles to North America and thus contribute to economic well being of Textile Weavers in rural areas of Africa.



Kente Prizes Given to Award Winners at World Class Textile Symposium

T. Kofi Hadjor of Universe Africa presented scholarship recipients with Kente cloths. From L - R: Jeanine Henderson, Penney Burton, Kofi Hadjor, Vita Plume, Emily Zilber, Cristin McKnight. Photo by Julia Burke, Head of Textile Conservation at the National Gallery of Art.