



**2023**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

Agape National  
Academy of Music  
(ANAM)

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and students, I am pleased to provide a report on the 2023 Agape National Academy of Music (ANAM) activities. ANAM remains grateful to all our partners for their generous support of our mission. The year 2023 was challenging but rewarding. Thanks to our partners, we made good progress.

In 2023, we continued our focus on changing lives through music by providing a safe space for vulnerable children and youth to learn and grow in a Christian-based environment and be off the streets. We provided structured extracurricular activities around music, enhancing educational performance and training young adults to become qualified musicians and leaders. We fostered creativity and learning by providing eighty-eight students with free and low-cost music lessons, improving their behavior, knowledge, and skills. From your generous donations to our scholarship funds, we supported thirty talented, vulnerable children and youth who would not have those opportunities anywhere else. We fostered livelihood opportunities: some graduates obtained employment or volunteered as musicians and leaders in local churches, schools, and community organizations. We developed one new church mission partnership and two monthly individual financial partnerships. We tackled a key challenge at ANAM, the need for PreK–5 curricular information for ANAM teachers, through a two-week training workshop conducted at ANAM by Dr. Martina Vasil, Associate Professor of Music Education at the University of Kentucky School of Music.

Even though much was accomplished, we encountered some challenges: we did not present any benefit concerts due to the impact of COVID in the last two years. We lost support from three church mission partners due to the reality of post-pandemic, low attendance and giving at churches, and the split in the United Methodist Church. We need your help. Please consider contributing to the vital work of ANAM. Please share our information with your families, friends, and church members.

As we continue our journey in 2024, we are excited about what God has in store for ANAM and are honored by your continued partnership, friendship, and support. Please find attached a detailed report and our 2024 budget.

With gratitude,

Samson Samuel Tarpeh

Executive Director

# IMPACTS AND ACTIVITIES

## STUDENT'S ENROLLMENT TERM 1 & 2

NO.	Programs	No. of Students Enrolled	No. of Female	No. of Male
1	Certificate in Music Education	18	4	14
2	Playing Instruments by Ear	21	1	20
3	Worship Art Leadership	12	8	4
4	Music for Children & Teens	29	21	8
5	Private Lessons	8	5	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>88</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>49</b>

## STUDENT'S IN CLASS SESSIONS





## TEACHER'S TRAINING WORKSHOP IN LIBERIA

In August, a two-week teacher training was conducted by Dr. Martina Vasil, Associate Professor of Music Education at the University of Kentucky School of Music. The workshop tackled a key problem/issue at ANAM; the need for PreK–5 curricular information for ANAM teachers. During the workshop, Dr. Vasil taught teachers various approaches to teaching music, taught them music activities to do with their students, provided them with curricular materials and guidance, and helped them develop curricula and materials. The knowledge gained from the workshop will enable ANAM teachers to continue to bring education in music to children throughout Liberia. Teachers who participated in the training can continue to educate other teachers who come to ANAM.

### Photos from Sessions:



## **US EMBASSY PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE VISIT AT ANAM**

It was a pleasure to welcome to ANAM the US Embassy Public Affairs Officer, Mr. Sean Boda, and his office staff, Ms. Ruth Ojo. Mr. Boda and Ms. Ojo visited ANAM to observe the teacher training sessions, check on Dr. Vasil, and discuss the project briefly. Our discussion was fruitful and productive. I also gave Mr. Boda and Ms. Ojo a tour of ANAM's classrooms and office space.

**Photo of Mr. Boda, Ms. Ojo, and Samson.**



**Photo of Mr. Boda, Dr. Vasil, and Samson.**



## **CONFERENCE WITH THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH BISHOP OF LIBERIA**

I had the privilege of meeting with the Rt. Rev. Father James B. Sellee, Bishop of the Episcopal Church of Liberia. The goal of the meeting was to establish a partnership between ANAM and the Episcopal Church of Liberia, where ANAM can train members of the Episcopal Church of Liberia to become musicians and the Episcopal Church can support ANAM. I also shared about the mission and vision of ANAM with the Bishop.

**Photo of Samson and Rt. Rev. Fth. Sellee.**



Our discussion was productive; the bishop was impressed with our mission and commitment to training young men and women to lead local churches' music and worship programs in Liberia. The bishop commended us for working hard to keep ANAM operational for many years. He endorsed the idea of partnerships between the Episcopal church and ANAM. He believes this can benefit both organizations in Liberia. He committed to discussing the proposal with the Episcopal church council. I will follow up with the bishop and keep you all informed on the partnership's progress.

## **GRANT AWARDED TO ANAM FROM THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE CORPORATION IN LIBERIA (NASSCORP)**

Conversing with Hon. Dewitt von Ballmoos, Director General of NASSCORP was a pleasure. Dr. Martina Vasil was with me at the meeting. During our discussion, I shared about ANAM's mission, vision, and financial goals. I also shared how we were short on funds for the Monrovia teacher training workshop and needed some support from NASSCORP. Hon. Von Ballmoos was impressed with ANAM's important work in Liberia. NASSCORP awarded ANAM a grant for the project, which helped greatly in meeting our goals.

**Photo of Hon. von Ballmoos, Dr. Vasil, and Samson.**



## Concert at Royal Grand Hotel

A benefit concert for ANAM was held at the Royal Grand Hotel in Monrovia. The concert was presented by Ms. Kamila Arku, pianist and Director of Music for Liberia. A total of \$750 was raised at the concert for ANAM.

### Photos from the Concert:





## Concert at Mrs. Clavenda Bright Parker Residence

A house concert was held at the residence of Mrs. Clavenda Bright Parker in Mamba Point, Monrovia. Mrs. Parker is a long-standing supporter of ANAM and has been instrumental in planning and staging many benefit concerts for ANAM in Liberia. The concert's goal was to perform and celebrate with Mrs. Parker who could not attend the bigger concert at the Royal Grand Hotel due to illness and being unable to travel. The concert was presented by Samson Tarpeh, Executive Director of ANAM, Pianist Kamila Arku, and teachers of ANAM. The concert was attended by some honored guests, including Madam Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, Former president of Liberia and best friend of Mrs. Parker, Dr. Togba-Nah Tipoteh, Executive Board Member of ANAM, a veteran Liberian Politician and friend of Mrs. Parker, Ms. Claudette Grant, Deputy Director of U.S. Center for Disease Control in Liberia, and Mr. Philip Parker, son of Mrs. Parker.

### Photos from the House Concert:



# **FINANCIAL REPORT**

## **2023 Budget, Income and Expenditures**

Our total budget for 2023 was \$36,600. The total Revenue we received in 2023, including students' fees, individual contributions, church missions support, and other donations, amounted to \$24,642. The total expenses, including compensations, operations, educational resources, repairs, fundraising, and annual subscription fees, amounted to \$27,900. We were short on our 2023 budget and had to adjust and do additional fundraising to meet the school's needs.

## **Individual Contributors**

We would like to sincerely thank and appreciate our monthly, quarterly, and annual financial partners who supported us throughout the year. We are most grateful for your ongoing support and prayers. Your monthly support is the foundation from which the school is sustained. We would also like to thank all those who made one-time or multiple donations to ANAM in 2023. Thank you so much for your support.

## **Church Donations**

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our partnering churches for their longstanding support of ANAM. Because of their generous support, we can continue the program and pay our major bills, such as annual rent, scholarships for needy students, staff salaries, and general operations. We remain grateful for the generous ongoing support and prayers from these congregations. In 2023, we received a total financial contribution of \$7,450 from our partnering churches listed below.

Centenary United Methodist Church in Lexington, KY

New City Fellowship in Chattanooga, TN

Central Baptist Church in Johnson City, TN

More Grace Ministries, Louisville, KY

Light House International Ministries, Stockbridge, GA

## **Contributing Organizations and Churches**

We would like to thank *Music for Liberia* for its contributions to ANAM in 2023. ANAM received a grant of \$1000 from Music for Liberia to help pay one teacher salary.

## **2024 BUDGET/FINANCIAL GOALS**

Our total projected expenses for 2024 are \$32,000. This amount covers classroom rental space and utilities, staff and teachers' salaries, office expenses, fundraising, subscriptions, and educational materials. Please consider contributing to our 2024 budget to enable us to meet our financial goals. All donations are 100 percent tax deductible.

## **IMMEDIATE NEEDS**

### **Classroom Rental**

**We need \$1,362 to complete our annual rent and utilities for 2024.** We have paid for up to August 31, 2024. Please consider contributing.

### **FIRST SIX-MONTH SUPPORT**

**We need \$9,511 to cover salaries and operating expenses for the first six months in 2024 (January to June).** Please consider contributing to this need.

### **Scholarships for Needy Students**

Part of our efforts to make music education accessible to underprivileged children and youths in Liberia include providing them with music scholarships. Every year, we provide scholarships to about 40 students in our certificate programs and to 20 students in our Music for Children and Teens program. Many of these students are involved in their churches and schools. They are passionate about enhancing their musical skills and learning musical instruments but do not have the means of support. Please consider sponsoring one student. The total amount to sponsor a student for one year is \$100.

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