Thank you Deb!
We love you!
2014 Uganda

Uganda
January 2014
Participants collaborated with professional dancers, educators, and students from the Royal Ballet Academy and Makerere University. Students took classes in traditional Ugandan dance, East African drumming and teaching methodology with faculty from NYU Steinhardt and Makerere University. Participants then put theory into practice by developing and implementing lesson plans with children from local community-based organizations. This program offers unique access to education and performing arts institutions in Kampala and provides a new global perspective on dance, education and community development. *NYU website

The distinguished faculty includes:
Jill Pribyl (UG) and Deborah Damast (NYU): Artistic Directors and Founders, Sarah Pencheff: assistant to the director (NYU), Grace Flavia Ibanda: Master Teacher and assistant to the director (UG), Judith Lubega-Tusiime: Master Teacher and director of research, Brian Magoba: Master Teacher and director of music and technology, Herman Bagonza: Master Teacher and director of vocal performance and special events, Herbert Mukungu: Master Teacher and director of choreography and staging, Jjemba Eric Lutaaya: Master Teacher and director of community engagement, Michael Nsibambi: Master Teacher and director of student organization, Alfdanlils Mabingo: Guest Teacher, lecturer, NYU/UG special liaison

NYU Participants:
Alana Lopez, Ashley Jordan, Dana Butler, Gaspare DiBlasi, Kelly Sloan, Kim Frias, Krissy Rybicki, Kunal Jathal, Mariana Ranz, Michelle Cole, Priscilla Rodgers, Tacia Williams, Victoria Huish
Kampala, Uganda

"I'm not from Africa. Africa is a continent... I am from Uganda."

~Grace
January 1-2nd
JFK, NYC -> Entebbe, Uganda
Friday January 3rd

“Life is good”
Saturday January 4th

"The only woman who knows where her man is 24/7 is a widow."
~Grace
Sunday January 5th
Monday January 6th

"Americans are always worrying. Ugandans are very hopeful people; they don't worry. They even look at rain as a blessing. Life is good" - Grace
Tuesday January 7
"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."
~Michael Sweikar
Wednesday January 8

"The way we live our life is how we create our dance." ~Grace
“I don’t need to install batteries in my mouth to beatbox”
-Abramz
Thursday Jan 9

"Keep it simple sweetheart." ~ Deb
Friday January 10

"I'm not a politician so I'm not going to use politics. I'm not a soldier so I'm not going to hold a gun. I'm a B-boy."

~Abranz
Saturday January 11th

“You are most welcome”
Sunday January 12th

“Dance is more than entertainment. You’ll have a more fulfilled life with dance.”

-Jjemba
Monday January 13th

“Muzungu! Muzungu!”
Tuesday
January 14th
"Close your eyes and spread your wings. Make a wish and dream good dreams. Don’t every say, you’ll never tell. Cause life is short and very frail."
~Gaspare and Sylvia
“It is easier to catch a thief with a thief”

“When we go back to different slums with supplies, food and advice they listen because they can relate to us. We’ve been there.”

-Ronnie
Wednesday January 15th

"You learn so much about yourself when you dance." ~Grace
Thursday
January 16th

Happy Birthday
Deborah!
Friday January 17th

"OBULAMU BULUNGI"
Saturday
January 18th

"By the time we die, we should have completely exhausted ourselves for others."
~Michael Sweikar