

Afro-Irish Cultural Evening

PRESS RELEASE

Biso Afrika and Luton Irish Forum invite children, young people and adults from all cultural backgrounds to Luton's first Afro-Irish Cultural Evening, 'a fusion of music and dance'. This free Event will be held on Friday, 19th March 2010 from 6pm to 10.30pm at Hightown Community Sports and Arts Centre, Concorde Street, Luton LU2 0JD.

Those who attended Cultur'Afrika Day in January 2009 expressed their desire to have more opportunities to hold cultural events with communities within Luton and surrounding areas. Some months later, Biso Afrika took the lead in developing the African Box [a cultural resource for schools]. The Cultural Discovery Box Project was being led by Luton Irish Forum. The partnership was such a success, Biso Afrika approached the Forum to hold a joint event; to strengthen the representation of the African community, break down barriers and increase awareness between African and Irish cultures. Biso Afrika, with the support of Luton Irish Forum, successfully applied for funding from Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation.

The Evening which is the final event of Luton's 11th St Patrick's Festival will be hosted Lenny T (BBC Three Counties Radio). The vibrant mix of interactive and engaging music, dance and storytelling performances will featuring Kasai Massai Traditional African Band led by percussionist and dancer Nickens Nkoso, Banish Misfortune Ceilidh Band and special guests.

Junior Badila, Chair of Biso Afrika said 'There are certain similarities between Irish and African cultures, such as immigration, ethnic dresses, traditional dances, musical instruments and storytelling. Equally these communities share a history of exclusion. The Irish community has become a stronger and more representative community. We feel that the African community can learn from the Irish experience'.

Noelette Hanley, Chief Officer of Luton Irish Forum said 'It is anticipated that this unique Cultural Evening inspired Biso Afrika will reinforce the cohesion between the two communities, bringing our 11th St Patrick's Festival celebrations to an exciting close.

For further details, please contact Luton Irish Forum on 01582 720 447/
info@lutonirishforum.org or Biso Afrika on 07539 402 122/ 07539 405 491/
bisoafrika@yahoo.co.uk.

FREE

Afro Irish Cultural Evening

"A fusion of music and dance"

Friday, 19th March 2010

6pm to late

Hightown Community Sports and Arts Centre
Concorde Street, Luton LU2 0JD

For further details
please contact

Luton Irish Forum
01582 720 447
info@lutonirishforum.org

or

Biso Afrika
07539 402122/ 07539 405 491
bisoafrika@yahoo.co.uk

Event hosted by Lenny T
(BBC Three Counties Radio)

Featuring **Kasai Massai** Traditional
African band led by percussionist
and dancer Nickens Nkoso,
Banish Misfortune Ceilidh Band
and special guests.



Organised by Biso Afrika in
partnership with Luton Irish Forum.

Supported by Bedfordshire and Luton
Community Foundation.



Inform People To Help Themselves



Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation



