



this life
foundation



Annual Gala Dinner 2019

26th October 2019

6:30PM – 10PM

Location: The Marvel Stadium, 740 Bourke St, Docklands VIC 3008

The Dinner Program

Registration	
6:30PM to 7PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guests Arrival/Registration • Canapes • Entertainment • Purchases at This Life Store Table
Start of the Dinner	
7PM to 7:20PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guests take seats (5 minutes) • Indigenous Welcome to country (5 minutes) • Host Welcome, Housekeeping (5 minutes) • Entertainment: Ngum Yusupha featuring Joloff Vibes Band (5 mins)
7:15PM to 7:30PM	<p style="text-align: center;">This Life Foundation Story</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Mercy Akongo • Meal served • Entertainment: The Ugandan Acholi Cultural Dance by Acholi Women Group (5 mins)
7:30PM to 7:55PM	<p style="text-align: center;">Guest Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Francis Story: A Child Escape (5 minutes) • Entertainment: African Woman Performance by Michelle Mbendo (5 minutes) • Speech from Brigid Monagle, Deputy Secretary, Fairer Victoria / Department of Premier and Cabinet (10 minutes) • Mr. David Southwick MP, Member for Caulfield (Liberal Party), Shadow Minister for Police, Shadow Minister for Community Safety and Shadow Minister for Corrections (5 minutes)
7:55PM to 8:35PM	<p style="text-align: center;">Auctions and Competitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table competitions, rules apply (tasks to be advised by Host) • African Fashion Parades • Auctioning
8:35PM to 8:55PM	<p style="text-align: center;">Entertainment / Deserts served</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethiopian Cultural Dance by Sami Obama • Table Competition 2, rules apply (Task to be advised by Host) • Auctioning 2

Speeches and Raffle tickets

8:55PM to 9:20PM

- Speech from the Guest of Honour, The Minister for Multicultural Affairs (10)
- Raffles ticket winners picks by the Guest of Honour and Brigid Monagle, the Deputy Secretary, Fairer victoria (10)

9:20PM to 9:30PM

Closing Remarks

- Vote of thanks by Lilian Kikuvi and Alison Farajala
- Last Drinks and End of the Event

10:00PM to 10:30 PM

- Pack down
- Bump Out

Thank you!



The Guest of Honour



Hon Steve McGhie, Member for Melton

Representing Hon Richard Wynne, The Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Note: The Minister for Multicultural Affairs will be at another cultural event on the dinner night but will be represented at the Gala Dinner

The Host



Dorcas Maphakela, The Dinner Host

The Founder/Producer & Host of OZ AFRICAN TV.

The Program Manager at AIME Mentoring leading the African Australian Stream She is a Creative Producer/Coordinator for One Beat One Love Festival.

Dorcas is also a Fine Artist, Writer and Filmmaker.

The Main Speakers

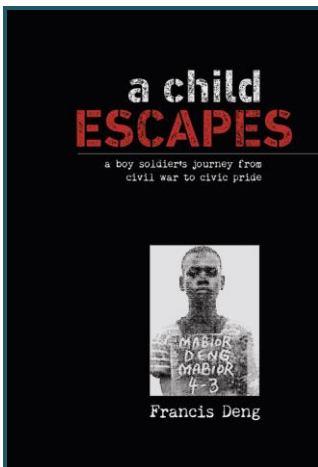


Brigid Monagle

Deputy Secretary, Fairer Victoria / Department of Premier and Cabinet

Brigid was appointed Deputy Secretary, Fairer Victoria Group (FVG), in 2019. This group oversees Equality, Veterans, Multicultural Affairs, Women and Youth.

Brigid has previously worked as Executive Director in the Department of Premier and Cabinet, leading advice in the areas of Aboriginal Affairs Policy, including Treaty and self-determination, healthy policy and reform and inter-governmental strategy.



Francis Deng

A former Sudanese Child Soldier and an Author

Francis, a former child soldier in the Sudanese civil war spent five years in a rebel-controlled camp and ten years in Kakuma refugee camp in north western Kenya. He was later settled in Australia on a government-sponsored humanitarian visa.

Francis has completed a bachelor's degree and now works for the National Australia Bank. He has recently published his memoir based on his past experiences in the Sudanese civil war. He now shares his story to inspire others



Hon. David Southwick MP

Member of the Victorian Parliament for Caulfield.

Mr David is the Shadow Minister for Police, community Safety; and corrections safety, and Corrections in the Victorian Parliament. Shadow Minister for Innovation, Shadow Minister for Energy and Resources, and Shadow Minister for Renewables December 2014 – December 2018. David was also;

- The Parliamentary Secretary for Police and Emergency Services 2013-2014
- Shadow Minister for Police, Shadow Minister for Community Safety and Shadow Minister for Corrections since 14 December 2018.



Mercy Akongo

Founder, This Life Foundation

Mercy is a Social Justice Activist, a strong voice for a fair and Just Society. She was a Member of the African Youth Parliament and an Action Partner of the Oxfam International Youth Partnership. she is also the Winner of the Nelson Mandela`s Innovation Award amidst others.

Before moving to Australia, Mercy spent years working with war victims in Internally Displaced Persons camps in Northern Uganda where she encountered traumatic events on a daily basis during her work. There, her heart was captured by vulnerable children who she started

supporting using 90% of her own monthly salary. By January 2009, she was directly supporting 18 children in school and providing them with the basic human needs. Mercy later founded This Life Foundation following her personal experiences to support children in Uganda and vulnerable young African Australians with little or no family support in Australia. She has worked with young people going through the justice system in the various prisons in Victoria and worked with the Department of Justice and Regulations (Youth Justice) on the diversion programs.

Currently, Mercy together with a group of her professional friends volunteer their free time through This Life Foundation to support young people at risk in Victoria to prevent them from getting in contact with the justice system through mentoring.





Talk to the Team

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