

Nigeria, Nigerians & Excellence

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PositiveNaija Series 2017: Convocation of Green Eagles

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Scripture quotations are from the King James Version of the Bible.



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For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him.

- Colossians 1:16

DEDICATION

To all Nigerians!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work is a synergistic product of many great minds. I am forever grateful to the inspiration, wisdom and dedication of the many first-rate men and women who, through their commitment to the passion for supporting and releasing the greatness and potentials of Nigeria and Nigerians, have left a legacy to motivate me and my generation.

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1. 5 Nigerian Women Honoured With 2017 TechWomen Exchange Program

Five (5) Nigerian women; *Carolyn Seaman, Damilola Anwo-Adehave, Olamide Ayeni-Babjide, Ijeoma Vincent-Akpu, and Petra Nnamani* have been selected to participate in the 2017 TechWomen Exchange Program.

Carolyn Seaman is using technology to empower girls through her *Girls Voices Initiative*, while Damilola Anwo-Ade is mentoring the next generation of coders, including young women, through her initiative *CodeIT*.

TechWomen is a USA initiative empowering and connecting the next generation of women leaders in STEM from Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

2. Redeemer's University Develop 10-Minute Ebola & Lassa Test Kits

Scientists at the African Centre of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Diseases of Redeemer's University (RUN), Ede, Osun State, have developed and patented two rapid diagnosis test kits for the Ebola Virus Disease and Lassa Virus.

According to the University, the kits are able to detect the *virus* in human body fluids in 10 minutes. The University has also signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on infectious disease surveillance and control between the ACEGID and the Lagos State Government. Following the role of RUN in the 2014 diagnosis and confirmation of the first index case of the EVD, the University had established a network of pathogens hunters in Nigeria and Africa in general by training scientists in the field of genomics.

According to the Vice Chancellor of the University, Professor Debo Adeyewa:

"Redeemer's University ACEGID researchers discovered two novel Rhabdoviruses (EKV-1 and EKV-2). The centre also developed and patented two rapid diagnostic test kits for diagnosis of Lassa fever virus or Ebola virus in biological fluids. The World Health Organisation and the United States Food and Drug Agency have approved the Ebola virus RDT for use during epidemics."

3. NCDMB Designates FUTA As Centre Of Excellence In Geology & Geophysical Studies

The Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA), has been designated Centre of Excellence in Geology and Geophysical studies through its School of Earth and Mineral Sciences by the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB).

According to the Head, Research and Development of the Board, Professor Leo Osuji:

"The Research and Development Centres of Excellence being promoted by the NCDMB are to undertake specific research works aimed at resolving technical challenges faced by international oil companies, national oil companies and other operators."

4. FUTA Launches NigeriaEdusat-1 Into Space

The Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA), has launched a CubeSat, with the code name NigeriaEdusat-1, into space from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, United States of America.

The Nigerian Cubesat is a component of the Birds 1 satellites, comprising of four other CubeSats belonging to Japan, Ghana, Mongolia and Bangladesh. They were launched from the SpaceX Falcong Rocket.

Mr. Ibukun Adebolu of FUTA's Department of Mechanical Engineering is the representative of Nigeria on the project. It is the first ever university satellite to be launched in Nigeria.

5. ABS Ilorin FC Gets PUMA 5-Year Epic Sponsorship Deal

PUMA through its official franchisee in Nigeria, Persianas Retail Limited has signed a five-year first of its kind partnership deal with Nigeria Professional Football League (NPFL) club side, ABS Ilorin FC, which involves the provision of kit and sponsorship of the activities of the NPFL club side till year 2022.

6. Oyeleye Lateefah Abiola

Oyeleye Lateefah Abiola, has emerged the best overall student in her graduating class (Medicine) for 2017 – topping the class (a total of 564 students) with a percentage score of 95.6% at the National University of Kharkiv, Ukraine. Oyeleye Lateefah Abiola was one of the 87 students sponsored by the Osun state government.

7. PTCIJ Launches *pressattackng* To Monitor Attacks On Nigerian Journalists

The Premium Times Centre for Investigative Journalism (PTCIJ), has launched a press attack tracker named *pressattackng* as part of its strategic vision of ensuring freedom of expression and its fight against press suppression.

pressattackng seeks to document and track threats and attacks on journalists nationwide. This tracker establishes a comprehensive method of documenting the oppression many human rights activists face with a tracking method that has never been done in Nigeria. The press attack tracker can be accessed on Press Attack NG and can work with any type of smartphone.

8. 'Oil Wealth and Insurgency in Nigeria'

Omolade Adunbi's book 'Oil Wealth and Insurgency in Nigeria' (published by Indiana University Press) wins The Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland's Amaury Talbot Prize for African Anthropology.

9. AGCPN-Clinical Trial Africa & NAFDAC Honour Health Experts

Foremost Nigerian vaccinologist and virologist, Dr. Simon Agwale; Professor Folakemi Odedina and Professor Uche Amazigo have been honored with innovative awards in recognition of their innovations in health and economic development of Nigeria.

Dr. Agwale, who is the Founder/CEO of Innovative Biotech Ltd; Innovative Biotech, USA Inc; Minerals for Life Ltd; and Innovative Vaccines Ltd is being honoured with the Living Legend Award. Other recipients include Professor Folakemi Odedina, and Prof. Uche Amazigo, professor of medical parasitology and public health specialist.

10. Dika Odum Emerge GCU Alumnus Of The Year 2017

Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) awards Dika Odum, who graduated with an M.Sc. in Energy and Environmental Management in 2015 as the Alumnus of the Year 2017 for the significant career achievements and charitable work he has undertaken since graduating.

Dika Odum is currently Managing Director of Kherithdum Limited, a company based in Nigeria offering management consultancy and corporate training services in the areas of environmental management, energy efficiency, human resource management, finance, business administration, project management, health and safety.

Dika was involved in organising Anambra state's participation in 2016, for the first time in World Environment Day - established by the United Nations in 1972. He also initiated a project to encourage children in Nigeria to get involved in contributing to environmental sustainability at an early age.

11. Nigerian Army Wins 2017 National Open Kick-Boxing Championship

The Nigerian Army Kick-Boxing Team emerge winners of the 2017 National Open Kick-Boxing Championship held at the Rowe Park Indoor Sports Hall, Yaba, Lagos, which was organised by the Kick-Boxing Federation of Nigeria.

The Nigerian Army Team emerged winners with 9 gold, 8 silver and 4 bronze medals ahead of the Nigeria Police Force Team, which came second with 4 gold medals and Oyo State came third with 2 gold medals.

The championship featured male and female teams from various States of the Federation, Armed Forces of Nigeria, Nigeria Police, Para-Military Agencies and kickboxing clubs across Nigeria.

12. Dr. Adebola Olubamiji

Dr. Adebola Olubamiji becomes the first black person at the University of Saskatchewan, Canada to obtain a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Biomedical Engineering.

Dr. Adebola Olubamiji attended public primary and secondary school in Ibadan, graduated with a second class upper division in Physics at Olabisi Onabanjo University (OOU) and a master's degree in Biomedical Engineering (Finland).

13. 'Africa's Best Premium Microsoft Products & Services Company Of The Year 2017'

Information Technology Company and Microsoft Cloud solutions provider, IPI Solutions Nigeria Limited has won 'Africa's Best Premium Microsoft Products & Services Company of the Year 2017' award at the 2017 Brand Leadership Merit Awards.

IPI Solutions was singled out for the award because of its strides and innovations, which contributed in building a brand that identify with international best practices.

IPI Solutions Limited has evolved over the years to become preferred Microsoft cloud solutions provider and systems integrator with several awards and recognitions in its

trove. Some of its notable awards include: Africa's Most Reliable Business Technology Solution Provider 2016, Microsoft Partner of the Year Competency Award 2016 and Top 100 Most Promising Microsoft Solution Provider 2016 among others.

The African Brand Leadership Merit Awards is an annual fiesta that celebrates brand excellence in Africa. The Brand award celebrates leadership, innovation and creativity in Africa. It also showcases the brilliant minds and institutions that deliver positive change and shape Africa's future.

The award is organised by the Institute of Brand Management of Nigeria (IBMN), in collaboration with the African Institute of Brand Management (AIBM).

14. Colonel Kazir Is Awarded USAWC Distinguished Graduate

Colonel Kazir graduates with Distinction out of 138 graduating fellows of The United States Army War College (USAWC), from 71 countries and was awarded distinguished graduate (the best graduate prize).

15. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie Honoured With Mary McCarthy Award

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie on invitation to Bard College, has been presented with the *Mary McCarthy Award* for her brilliantly written novels and her captivating public persona.

The McCarthy award, which is named after famous novelist Mary McCarthy who taught at Bard for a year, is given in acknowledgement of engagement in the public sphere by an intellectual, artist, or writer.

The award statement signed by the Trustee Sponsor (James H. Ottaway Jr.) and the Faculty Sponsor (Dinaw Mengestu) read as follows:

"We honor you, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, in the name and spirit of Mary McCarthy, one of Bard's greatest faculty members, for your astonishing novels, your formative nonfiction, and your charismatic public presence. The piercing insights, uncommon eloquence, and fearless commitment you share with us as witness to the human condition have altered our perception and understanding of the central issues of our time."

16. Akinwumi Adesina Honored With 2017 Gene White Lifetime Achievement Award

The President of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB), Akinwumi Adesina, has been honored with the 2017 Gene White Lifetime Achievement Award by the Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF) in Washington, DC.

The 2017 Gene White Lifetime Achievement Award is in recognition of Adesina's life-long work towards advancing agricultural development, which has contributed significantly to food security, particularly in Africa.

The Award for Child Nutrition was created in 2004 to honor individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the worldwide dream of ending childhood hunger. The award is given in the name of Gene White, who has dedicated her life to the nutrition and well-being of children.

SEPTEMBER 2017

"In this country where it is not possible to choose or change your own tribe, education creates a brand-new tribe, one that can be freely chosen by anyone regardless of their background. And what tribe is this? The tribe of those who value knowledge, who respect empirical data, who defer to superior argument, who are lifelong admirers of reason."

- Dike Chukwumerije

"Don't just celebrate the destination of people, celebrate the road they took there."

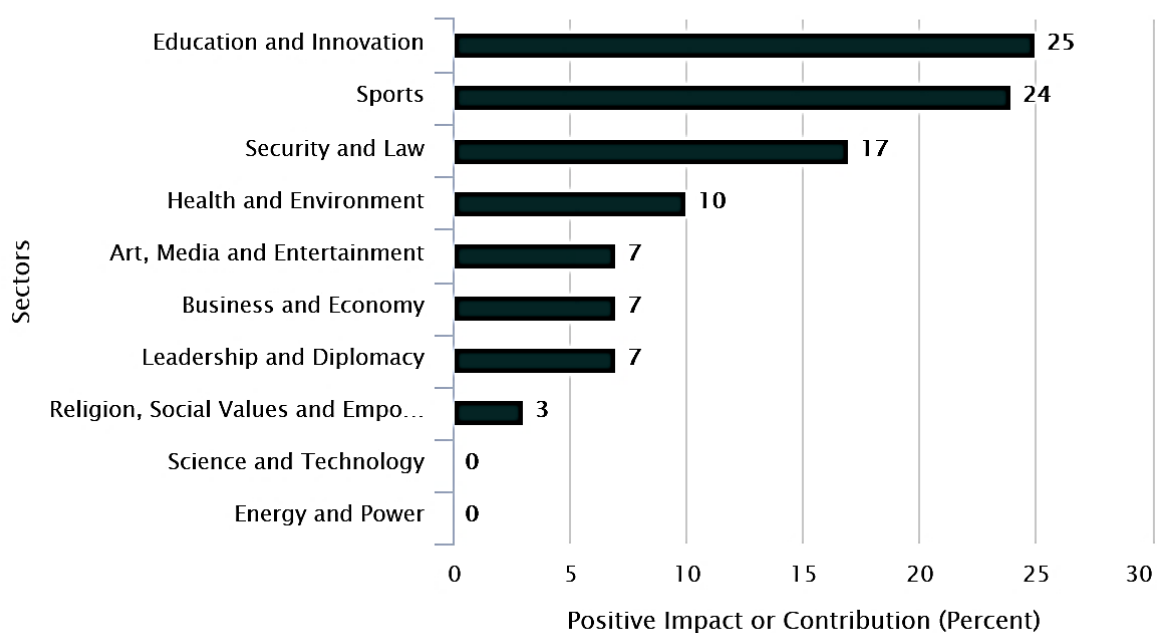
- Reverend Olusola Areogun

*Sleep
Mysterious, vital
Refreshing, unveiling, thrilling
Our portal for revelation
Death*

- Toju Micheal Ogbe

Nigeria's Monthly Positive Impact Ranking

September 2017



PositiveNaija.com

OCTOBER 2017

"My quarrel with the youth of this nation is that you do not appear to appreciate your capacity in the progress of this nation."

- Dr. Christopher Kolade

"Take personal responsibility for your generation."

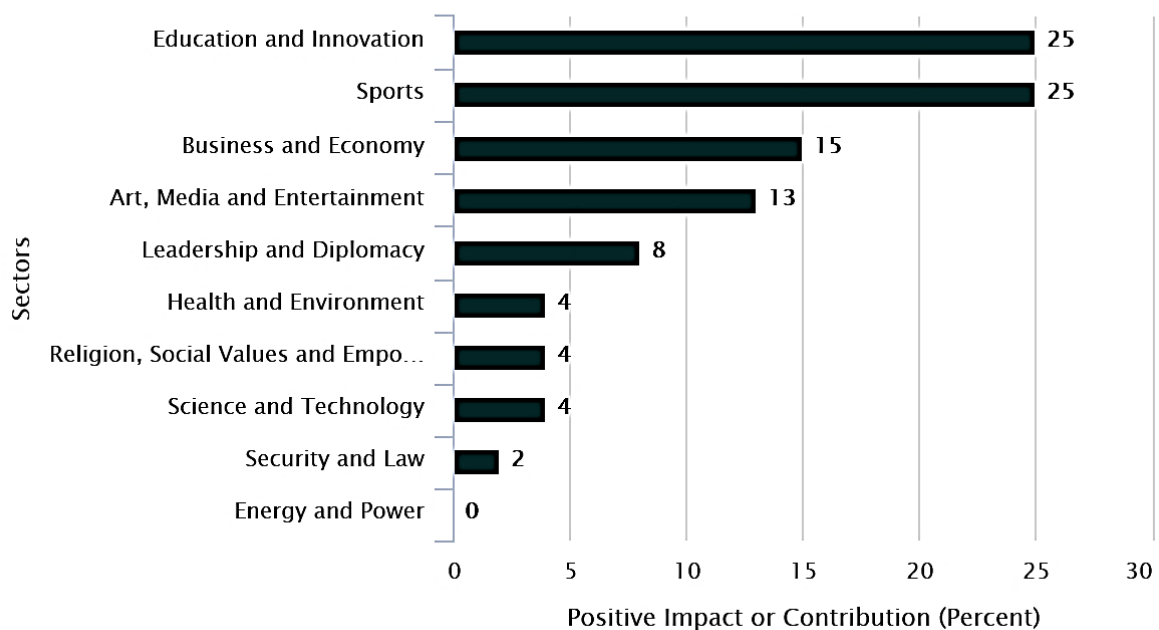
- Brother Gbile Akanni

*Stars
Sleepless, bright
Soothing, intriguing, observing
Hazy bulb for earth
Moon*

- Toju Micheal Ogbe

Nigeria's Monthly Positive Impact Ranking

October 2017



PositiveNaija.com

elders and it starts from greeting. Greeting is seen as a very important part of culture in Nigeria and a child is not seen as well trained or brought up if he does not honour elderly ones by greeting. For the ladies, going down on the knees is most prominent, although in some other culture, she can take a bow. For the men, lying down flat on the belly or a handshake presents him as one honourable to the society.

Culture has given a visa to access hearts imprisoned by egocentricity and prejudice. There is definitely no place like home. There is definitely no place like Nigeria. Even in the hustle, smiling faces are still conveyed from a loving heart. No matter how far a man travels, home is still home and family is still family. The oneness is culture. The oneness is Nigeria. The oneness is you and me. How great is Nigeria! So great, that in the midst of the challenges, culture defines it.

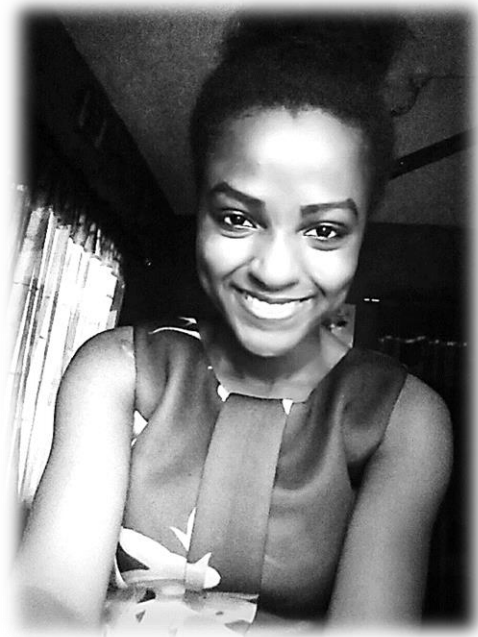
- Onowori Fego Eunice

9th Place Winner of the 2017 PositiveNaija Essay Competition [How Great Is Nigeria!]

I am currently a student of the University of Lagos, studying Marine Science.

I have a deep passion for writing and I believe words are images that forever capture the soul. I am also involved in an upcoming initiative targeted to assist young children and make them an effective youth.

I have an interest for singing as well as teaching too.



“How Great Is Nigeria”

A statement notably expressed as either a fact (!) or a question (?).

But which really defines the statement?

POSITIVENAIJA SERIES 2017: CONVOCATION OF GREEN EAGLES

PositiveNaija Series 2017: Convocation of Green Eagles is a historic and educational resource, which reliably informs the world of the positive excellence of Nigeria and Nigerians globally for the year 2017.

Within the current context of our society, this publication champions a redefinition of the standards of Nigeria's values-based system with core emphasis on the virtues of love, truth, justice, peace and wisdom – a testament of our conviction in the manifestation of Nigeria's greatness.

Aptly, it also serves as a creative and resourceful guide for best practices on planning, information management and communication for publishers, bloggers, writers, webmasters, digital marketers, etc.

PositiveNaija Series 2017: Convocation of Green Eagles will therefore inspire you towards a refreshing and valuable sense of Nigerian patriotism, nation building and impactful scholarship.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Toju Micheal Ogbe is a Nigerian author, strategist, anthropologist, journalist, historian, researcher, diplomat and poet. He is passionate about a Nigeria that is genuinely united by love and with a common vision towards peace and sustainable progress.

He is the founder and editor-in-chief of both *PositiveNaija* & *The Nigerian Diplomat*.

His academic qualifications include a Bachelor of Art (BA) in International Studies & Diplomacy [First Class] from Benson Idahosa University, Nigeria and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Oil & Gas Management [Merit] from Coventry University, United Kingdom (UK).

Toju Micheal Ogbe has provided and maintained relevant contributions to the field of sustainable energy development in Nigeria particularly on renewable energy, energy efficiency, rural electrification and capacity training/development in the international development sector as well as Nigerian public and private sectors.

He is a consultant with expertise in monitoring and evaluation; energy management; capacity development; publishing; data, information and knowledge management; communication and human resource management.

