



**JAKU KONBIT: BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER** **ISSUE 33 –November 2017**

**WORDS FROM THE PREZ**

Greetings Everyone,

The holiday season is just around the corner, which means that it's time to start thinking about giving and sharing, spending time with friends, family, and love ones. Ancient African wisdom says that humans “were divinely chosen and created to bring good into the world”. We have a duty to do good by helping each other achieve success. When one person does well, we all benefit in some way. The word “Konbit” means working together for mutual benefit and success. Thus, we are working earnestly to put into practice this great wisdom through our programs and events.

**JK & The Ottawa Public Library**



Jaku Konbit is connecting with the Ottawa Public Library to host a series of workshops for racialized children around African-centered themes. The first of such workshops will be on Wednesday November 22<sup>nd</sup> at the OPL Rideau branch. The workshop will be an interactive and engaging activity for the participants. The participants will not only learn about these beautiful symbols and their meaning but also learn to draw, colour and cut out their own symbols to take home.

In addition, we’ll have a 3D printer on hand to print out hard copies of these symbols. The key message of this workshop will be the power of symbols to promote cultural pride, foster self-esteem, teamwork, and well-being.

**Youth Pre-Employment Workshop**



For the past several Saturdays, a number of youths have been meeting to plan and organize the Ujima Job Fair for January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at City Hall. As a prelude to the job fair, several pre-employment workshops are planned to help job seekers better prepare to take full advantage of the opportunities that will be available at the event.


The first information session is scheduled for Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup> at the Bronson Centre. There will be two guest speakers at the workshop from Youth Futures and Youth Services Bureau. The central message for these workshops leading up to the Ujima job Fair is that “We are our future Success.”

**JK at the Urban Music festival**



On Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>, two members of Jaku Konbit attended the “Building Immigrant Bridges in Our Rural Communities” bus trip to Smith Falls. The trip was organized by World Folks Music Ottawa. About 40 + immigrants from various backgrounds attended the trip. What a great delight it was to have a tour guide that explain the history and opportunities available for new immigrants in small towns of Smith Falls. Following the tour, the group was entertained with a community cultural show with music and local performers. Next trip will be to Almonte on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

**JK Highlights Going Strong**



Our Saturday Drop-in Basketball program is growing with more youth participation. Every Saturday afternoon at the York Street Public School, young folks between the ages of 12-20 hang out and play b-ball, socialize, listen to music while also having a good workout. Literacy on the importance of exercise and fitness is one of the goals of the program. From time to time community guest speakers drop by to give an inspirational pep talk on various topics ranging from entrepreneurship to how to make your dreams a reality. These motivational talks encourage the youths to expand their horizon and step outside their comfort zones.

**SAVE THE DATE**



**SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 30, 2017  
4PM-6PM**

**211 BRONSON CENTRE**  
For more information  
Please contact us at  
**613-567-0600**  
[www.jakukonbit.com](http://www.jakukonbit.com)

Tickets are: \$25 adults and \$15 youth  
Space is limited.  
So, get your tickets now!

**KWANZAA**  
**Celebrate US**  
**Family, Community, and Culture**