

KAGENO
A PLACE OF HOPE

VIRTUAL HARAMBEE 2020



Celebrate Unity

Welcome to the first ever Virtual Harambee!

Thank you for your continued support and for joining us for our virtual gala!

By now, you have either received the ingredients or the list of ingredients for the great cook off with Chefs Marc Forgione and Todd English. For your convenience, you can also find the recipes and instructions in this journal on the following pages. To make sure you have a seamless experience during the event, please get a head start by registering for the event website, bookmarking the event zoom link below and get your ingredients and table set and ready.

Connecting to the event via Zoom

The Harambee will be run on the Zoom platform. For those that are new to Zoom, please check out the tutorial below. For those that have become zoom experts over the last few months, you'll find the direct link. All you have to do is click on this link and you're in!

Join Zoom Meeting Direct Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2024782020?pwd=ajQ4Mm9WU3dDVHo4UjYwaDFrbU52dz09>

Meeting ID: 202 478 2020

Passcode: kageno2020

ZOOM's Tutorial on how to Join --> <https://www.youtube.com/embed/hlkCmbvAHQQ?rel=0&autoplay=1&showinfo=0>

If at any point in the night you have trouble connecting or locating something, please email info@kageno.org or text or call 917-593-3229.

Register for the Harambee Website

You can register by [clicking here](#) or texting "kageno" to 76278.

Once you register, you will be directed to our Harambee website (<https://Kageno.givesmart.com>). This is where you will find items you can bid on, items you can buy and items you can donate towards. All of which can be found by clicking on the "Items" tab at the top of the [Harambee website](#) page.

Throughout the night you will hear various speakers refer to the Silent Auction, Marketplace, Giving Tree and Child Sponsorship, it is through the link above that you will access all of these items. For the silent auction items you will see a "bid banner", for the Marketplace you will see "buy" banner and for the Giving Tree and Child Sponsorship you will see a "donate" banner all under the "Items" tab.

When you check out at the end of the night, it is important to note, you will not be charged automatically for anything. At the end of the night, we ask that you visit this website and click on the pay tab at the top of the page to initiate payment.

We hope you enjoy the evening and thank you so much for your participation and your unwavering support to transform impoverished villages into places of opportunity and hope.

Kageno Harambee 2020 - Recipe and Ingredients

Marc Forgione's Caesar Salad, Old Bread Croutons, Parmigiano-Reggiano with Homemade Dressing

Ingredients for the dressing:

- 1 egg yolk
- 2 cups vegetable oil
- 1 tbl water
- 1 tbl lemon juice
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- 2 tbl grated parmigiano-reggiano cheese
- Pinch of garlic powder
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- Salt
- pepper

Instructions:

1. Mix mustard with egg yolk in a medium bowl.
2. Add a little bit of the water and mix to combine.
3. Slowly drizzle in the oil while mixing with a whisk to emulsify.
4. Fold in the minced garlic, garlic powder, cheese, and lemon juice.
5. Season to taste with salt and pepper

Ingredients for the croutons:

- Extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 cup day old bread (preferably sourdough), cut into 1" cubes
- Salt
- Pepper
- 1 tbl grated parm
- 1 tbl finely chopped parsley

Instructions:

1. Heat up a little olive oil in a medium sauté pan over medium heat.
2. Add the bread cubes, toss, and cook until nice and toasted.
3. Season with salt and pepper.
4. Throw the cheese into the hot pan and continue to stir in the pan.
5. Toss in chopped parsley and lay out bread onto a paper towel.

To finish:

Place a little dressing onto the bottom of plate. Top with romaine wedges. Spoon on a little more dressing. Squeeze some fresh lemon juice all over. Drizzle with olive oil and grate cheese over. Season with salt and pepper.

Todd English's Pumpkin Risotto

Ingredients:

- 6 cups vegetable stock
- 1 cup pumpkin puree
- ¼ cup maple syrup
- 1 ¾ cup arborio rice
- 8 tbsp butter
- 2 tsp kosher salt
- ½ ground nutmeg
- ½ white onion (small diced)
- ¼ cup olive oil

Instructions:

1. In a saucepot combine vegetable stock, pumpkin puree, salt and ground nutmeg. Bring mixture to a boil while whisking then turn heat too low.
2. Cook onions over medium heat while stirring until onions become translucent and very fragrant.
3. Add arborio rice to pot and cook over medium heat while stirring until the outer edges of the rice become translucent.
4. Add ½ cup of vegetable stock mixture at a time to arborio rice while stirring and letting stock get absorbed into rice in between each addition.
5. When rice is al dente, stir in maple syrup and butter.

Cashew Butter

Ingredients:

- 2 cups raw unsalted cashews

Instructions:

1. Add raw unsalted cashews into the bowl of a food processor and attach lid.
2. Process cashews to a soft, creamy, whipped butter consistency (about 10 – 15 minutes) stopping every 3 minutes to scrape down sides.
3. Store refrigerated in an airtight container.

Dear Kageno Friends,

Thank you for joining our Virtual UNITY Harambee! Once again, we've come together to celebrate another year of accomplishments in education, health care, income generating programs, and our conservation work. As we all wondered how to cope with lockdowns, masks and social distancing and worried about our collective health, our work at Kageno Worldwide continued and adapted to these difficult and unique challenges.

While the COVID-19 global pandemic spread, Kageno carried on its operations in the communities we serve. Kageno in-country directors and staff worked very hard to find ways to continue running our programs and to overcome these obstacles so that the important services and activities we provide would not be curtailed. I can say that I have never been so proud of the way Kageno has responded, all the while focusing on the safety of our team and communities. Let me briefly highlight several of these challenges and our creative responses.

One of our biggest challenges was to continue the feeding program that we run with the help of one of our wonderful partner organizations, Table For Two. For those of you who are not familiar with this important program, Table for Two (TFT) is a non-profit organization that has created an innovative meal sharing program designed to tackle world-wide obesity and malnutrition at the same time. With funds provided by TFT, Kageno operates a feeding program that prepares and delivers a nutritious meal to 5,000 school children in the villages we serve in Kenya and Rwanda on every school day. For some it is their only meal of the day. In normal times, this feeding program also encourages kids to attend school. However, school closings and lockdowns this year made it impossible to deliver meals to schools. Rather than shut down this important program, the teams in Banda Village, Rusinga and Mfangano Islands managed to keep the program going with hard work and perseverance. We found creative ways to work with local officials and the Ministry of Health to keep our feeding programs open and deliver the food to these children even with the schools closed.

COVID-19 related lockdowns also made it difficult for some people in the villages to make a living and income generation was impacted. At the same time, facemasks were very difficult to come by. In response, Kageno's Income Generating program was expanded to empower the community to create essential reusable face masks from locally sourced materials. These facemasks can be used in Banda Village and can be sold outside the Village to raise funds.

Some of us have felt helpless in the face of this new COVID-19 health threat. But many have learned how important our community connections are – even when they are virtual, like tonight. We can check in with friends and family, look out for our older neighbors, and contribute to all of our global community family that face an even more frightening scenario than we do. While we here in the United States may have experienced a scarcity of some of our basic household items, we are still far more fortunate than those who live in the communities Kageno serves in Africa, who lack electricity and in-door running water, and rely on the well-being of all in the community to care for the gardens that feed them. At the same time, we all can learn from their resilience and communal spirit. We are all stronger when we are united in developing new ways to cope and move forward.

Kageno is re-evaluating what has worked and what has not worked over our years of service in the communities we serve. We are planning to emerge from these trying times stronger and better than before. We rely on your generosity to keep us moving forward in our mission. Thank you for your support and your donations that are truly saving lives now more than ever.

Now, please go wash your hands and get ready to cook!

Frank C. Andolino



Thank You

Kageno Worldwide

for bringing hope and opportunities
to impoverished communities.

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A young girl with dark skin is shown in profile, drinking from a rusty, weathered water tap. She is holding her hands under the running water. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting foliage. The image has a semi-transparent dark overlay on the left side where the text is placed.

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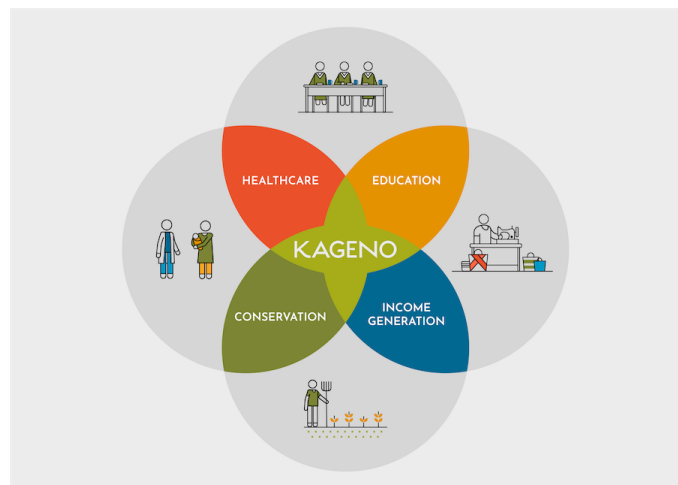
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What Kageno Does

Kageno literally means “a place of hope”. As our mission statement avows, Kageno transforms communities in need into places of hope and opportunity.

Our model is rooted in partnership. We work with the community members and local authorities in the villages we serve by providing infrastructure, resources (including funds) and knowledge as needed. We listen to the local community and our staff in the villages which enables us to address the individualized needs of each village over a broad range of issues that impact the entire community.



Through this partnership, we build and run health centers and pharmacies, schools, sanitation and clean water facilities, and introduce projects that will protect and improve fragile environments. We build village libraries and community centers with books and internet access where people attend English classes and training programs. Kageno programs also provide people in the communities we serve with the ability to develop skills and start new businesses, create jobs, invest in their environment, control the spread of disease and, therefore, live healthy productive lives.

We go into our initiatives with the goal of local sustainability. From the beginning of each project or program, there is significant input from the local communities and our local staff in planning and implementation. After Kageno's initial investment, the projects and programs are nurtured until they reach the point when the communities can run things on their own with little input from Kageno. However, we are very patient and realize that in order to assure meaningful progress in helping to transform communities, we must be prepared to invest time and money over a significant period of time. This is why we have remained in each of our supported communities for more than a decade. Kageno has been in it for the long haul!

Where Kageno Works

Rwanda

Kageno's Rwanda location in Banda Village was founded in 2007. It's located on the buffer zone of the Nyungwe National Park in Southwest Rwanda. Banda is an isolated location in an area rich in natural beauty, with countless species of primates, birds and orchids; and strong people.

Kageno is the largest employer in Banda Village. We have a flourishing nursery school that educates and feeds 300 young children annually. The health care, pharmacy and maternity centers we have built as described below are open daily for treatment, vaccinations, family planning, medication, and birthing babies.



The agriculture and conservation work we do provide food, jobs, and environmental preservation. Our economic ventures program trains local women and men to operate their own businesses – like the face mask and apron fabrication we introduce tonight!

Kenya

Our first foray into improving impoverished communities began in 2003 in Kenya on Rusinga Island in Lake Victoria. At the time, Rusinga was decimated by AIDS, overfishing in the lake, and a landscape almost bare of trees that had been harvested for firewood to heat and cook. Local women often were forced by hunger to trade sex for fish, which compounded the spread of AIDS.

In response, we started a health care service, nursery school, income generating programs (particularly for the women in order to offer an alternative to the sex for fish trade), and an extensive reforestation project.

With our success in Rusinga, we turned our eye to neighboring Mfangano Island. There we set up a pre-school and agricultural and feeding program facilities. While most of these operations are managed on their own now, Kageno still maintains the nursery schools, feeding programs, and a micro-loan system to help people start their own businesses.

Specific Projects and Programs

Following is a brief look at some of the specific projects and programs we have established within our communities.

Health

Our general aim is to address and combat grave health issues common in the communities we serve. To further these goals, we focus on improving the overall health care and wellness in a community – including health services, education, voluntary counseling and testing, child feeding programs, and vulnerable child assistance. In Banda Village we recently expanded our healthcare facilities to include a new maternity center to help reduce infant and maternal mortality. . This gives the community members the ability to have much of their healthcare needs met in the village instead of having to trek long distances to the nearest hospital.



Education

Kageno advances early childhood education, which gives pre-school age kids a head-start in life. Aside from teaching nursery school basics, we provide health care and sanitary instruction, some English language basics, and a nutritious meal every school day. Our school operation also has the added benefit of essentially providing childcare services, which allows the mothers, who are often the family bread winner, to earn an income. We operate three nursery schools serving over 700 children as well as providing adult education classes.



Environment

We focus our conservation programs on curbing environmental damage and the sustainability and improvement of the local surroundings. The projects we promote help communities produce more food, preserve natural resources, develop sustainable farming, improve sanitation and access to clean water. We have introduced animal husbandry, community gardens, clean water and sanitation facilities, reforestation programs, briquette making for fuel, and retrained poachers to be habitat preservationists. Our planned launching of a new Ecolodge project this year was sidelined by the pandemic, but we look forward to a new start sometime in 2021. It will be on land adjacent to the ecologically important Nyungwe National Park.



Ventures

Income generating opportunities in the communities we serve are vital to improving lives. First, the salaries we pay our local Kageno staff, particularly in Banda where we are the largest employer, brings much needed cash to the villages which bolsters the local economy. We are also proud to work with local entrepreneurs who want to start businesses to support their families. Micro-loans have helped start home livestock and produce businesses that allow the sale of excess goods. Others include motor bike repair, craft production using local products, fish drying and sales, sewing services – including the new fabrication of face masks and aprons. The Ecolodge mentioned above will be designed as an important economic venture, providing jobs and income producing opportunities as well as offering alternative employment to local poachers.



Note that many of our projects and programs are designed to address multiple issues and provide multiple opportunities at the same time. Kageno is able to do this due to our deep understanding of the communities, which we have developed over long periods of service in concert with our local staff.

It's been almost 15 years since we first visited Mfangano!

Congrats and our sincere thanks to Frank and the Kageno team for their leadership and incredible support of the nursery school on Mfangano Island.

Thank you for making a difference in so many lives, and for creating a place of hope!

Asante! Todd Gambill and Timothy Watkins



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Kageno Harambee Honored Guests

Meryl Streep

For over 40 years, Meryl Streep continues to bring a varied and vivid array of characters to life in a career that has cut its own unique path from the theatre through film and television.

Educated in the New Jersey public school system through high school, Ms. Streep graduated cum laude from Vassar College and received her MFA with Honors from Yale University. She began her professional life on the New York stage, where she quickly established her signature versatility and verve as an actor. Within three years of graduation, she made her Broadway debut, won an Emmy for "Holocaust" and received her first Oscar nomination for "The Deer Hunter." She has won three Academy Awards, and in 2018, in a record that is unsurpassed, she earned her 21st Academy Award nomination for her role as Katharine Graham in "The Post."



Photo credit © Brigitte Lacombe

She was most recently seen in HBO's second season of "Big Little Lies," Steven Soderbergh's "The Laundromat" and Greta Gerwig's Oscar-nominated "Little Women." Her upcoming projects include Steven Soderbergh's "Let Them All Talk" for HBO Max and Ryan Murphy's film adaptation of the hit Broadway musical "The Prom" for Netflix.

Ms. Streep has pursued her interest in the environment through her work with Mothers and Others, a consumer advocacy group that she co-founded in 1989. M&O worked for ten years to promote sustainable agriculture, establish new pesticide regulations, and ensure the availability of organic and sustainably grown local foods. Ms. Streep also lends her efforts to Women for Women International, the Committee to Protect Journalists, Donor Direct Action, Women in the World Foundation, and Partners in Health.

She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and has been accorded a Commandeur de L'Ordre des Arts et Lettres by the French government. She received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the AMERICAN Film Institute, the same honor in 2008 from the Film Society of Lincoln Center, and the 2010 National Medal of Arts from President Obama. In 2011, Ms Streep received a Kennedy Center Honor, and in 2014 the Presidential Medal of Freedom. She holds honorary degrees from 10 colleges and universities.

Her husband, artist Don Gummer, and she are the parents of a son and three daughters.

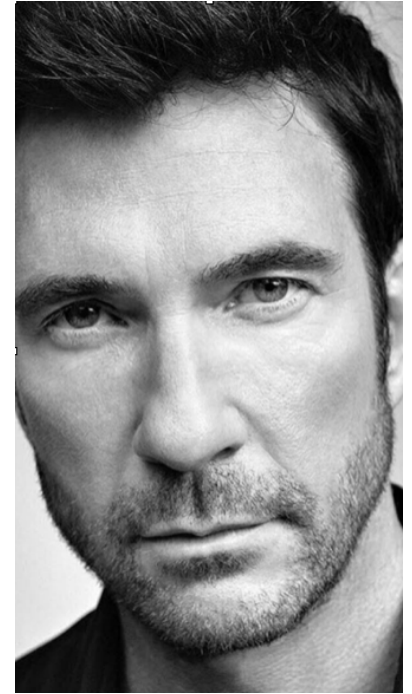
Kageno keep up the great work!

Edith & Hank McBean

Dylan McDermott

Dylan McDermott (born Mark Anthony McDermott; October 26, 1961) is an American actor. He is best known for his role as lawyer and law firm head Bobby Donnell on the legal drama series *The Practice*, which earned him a Golden Globe Award for Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series – Drama and a nomination for the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series.

McDermott is also known for his roles in the first two seasons of FX horror anthology series *American Horror Story*, entitled *American Horror Story: Murder House* and *American Horror Story: Asylum*, portraying Ben Harmon and Johnny Morgan, respectively. He reprised his role as Ben Harmon in *American Horror Story: Apocalypse*, the eighth season of the series. He appeared as Bruce in *American Horror Story: 1984*, the ninth season of the series. He also starred as Lt. Carter Shaw on the TNT series *Dark Blue* and starred in two short-lived CBS dramas, *Hostages* and *Stalker*.



Samira Nasr



Samira Nasr was named editor-in-chief of Harper's BAZAAR in July 2020, overseeing content strategy and development across the brand's print and digital platforms. Prior to BAZAAR, Nasr was the executive fashion director at Vanity Fair, where she managed and directed the magazine's fashion department and all fashion content, including styling iconic covers such as the 25th annual Hollywood issue, the spring style issue featuring cover star Lupita Nyong'o, the May 2019 issue with Nicole Kidman and more.

This role serves as a homecoming to Hearst Magazines as she was the fashion director at ELLE from January 2013 to May 2018, and before that served as style director for InStyle. In addition to working with top fashion magazines in publishing, she has also styled campaigns for fashion and beauty brands, including Laura Mercier, Tiffany & Co., Tory Burch, Estée Lauder, L'Oréal, Clarins and more. Nasr began her career in fashion working as an assistant to Grace Coddington, former creative director of Vogue, after earning a graduate degree in Journalism at New York University.

She is currently a member of CFDA's Black advisory board, which is responsible for all of the organization's efforts on inclusivity, diversity and equality.

Born in Montreal, Canada, Nasr currently resides in Brooklyn, New York, with her son.

Social Media Handles: Instagram: @samiranasr

Chef Todd English

One of the most decorated, respected, and charismatic chefs in the world, Todd English has enjoyed a staggering number of accolades during his remarkable career. He has been recognized by several of the food industry's most prestigious publications, established one of the best-known restaurant brands in the nation, published critically acclaimed cookbooks, and produced his own TV show for PBS.

English has created an astonishing list of successful restaurant concepts. Following the success of Olives, English created Figs, a more casual sister restaurant concept that serves traditional and eclectic pizzas and handmade pastas, and for which English was awarded the "Hot Concept" award from Nation's Restaurant News. English has also gone on to establish himself as a successful television producer and host. In 2007, his international travel and cooking series, Food Trip with Todd English, which features Todd exploring the globe in search of new local flavors and techniques, debuted on PBS. The series has garnered him two James Beard Awards as well as an Emmy nomination.

English has starred in the national public television series, Cooking Under Fire and The Food Network's Opening Soon, and is a frequent guest on such shows as Top Chef, Iron Chef, The Today Show, Martha Stewart Living, Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Live with Regis and Kelly, Extra, The Meredith Viera Show among others. In addition, Todd has authored the critically acclaimed cookbooks, and is a dedicated philanthropist. Todd is very involved with several local and national charities including Susan G. Komen, Big Brother, the Anthony Spinazzola Foundation, Community Servings, Share Our Strength, the Boys and Girls Clubs, Volunteers of America, Food Bank of NYC, Make a Wish, Autism Speaks, City Harvest, Keep Memory Alive, Family Reach, Men with Heart, Men Against Breast Cancer, Maureen's Haven Shelters, and Bakes for Breast Cancer where he is a honorary board member. Most recently, Todd formed The Wendy English Breast Cancer Research Foundation in honor of his sister.



Chef Marc Forgione

Chef Marc Forgione is the chef/owner of Restaurant Marc Forgione and Peasant and the co-owner/partner of Khe-Yo. He won season 3 of Food Network's "The Next Iron Chef" at just 31 years old, making him the youngest winner in the show's history. Among the many accolades, Restaurant Marc Forgione was recognized with a glowing two-star review in the New York Times and received a Michelin star.

Chef Forgione is also the author of "Marc Forgione: Recipes and Stories from the Acclaimed Chef and Restaurant." Chef Forgione will be opening a coastal Italian restaurant in the Meatpacking District with his father Larry Forgione in partnership with The Butter Group in 2020. In addition to supporting numerous charities, Chef Forgione is a Chef Ambassador for Family Reach Foundation, Chefs for Kids Cancer, City Harvest, and Feeding America.



Minnie Driver

Minnie Driver first came to the attention of audiences and critics alike in 1995 for her critically acclaimed performance in "Circle of Friends," in which she starred with Chris O'Donnell. She went on to earn Oscar and Screen Actors Guild nominations, both in the category of Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Supporting Role for Miramax's award-winning feature, "Good Will Hunting," directed by Gus Van Sant. In 1998 she was honored with ShoWest's prestigious Female Star of Tomorrow for her work.

Her film career is not only filled with characters from all over the world, but includes diverse choices in both the independent and major film worlds. Among her critically acclaimed performances are the films "Take," which premiered at the 2007 Tribeca Film Festival, the dark comedy, "Grosse Pointe Blank," "Return to Me" opposite David Duchovny, the feature of Oscar Wilde's, "An Ideal Husband;" provided the voice of "Jane" in Walt Disney's, "Tarzan;" "High Heels and Low Lifes;" "The Governess;" "Beautiful" (which she produced with her sister, Kate for their production company, Two Drivers); "Big Night;" "Ella Enchanted;" "Sleepers;" the only female alongside Robert DeNiro, Brad Pitt and Dustin Hoffman, directed by Barry Levinson; Marc Evans' British musical-comedy, "Hunky Dory" (opposite Aneurin Barnard); and the British ensemble comedy "I Give it a Year." Most recently Driver just finished "Cinderella" opposite Pierce Brosnan and with Camilla Cabello.

Driver, a singer before she became an actress, lent her vocals to the original title track, "Learn to be Lonely," written by Andrew Lloyd Weber, for the 2004 film version of his "Phantom of the Opera," directed by Joel Schumacher. Driver has recently set up her own production company, "Huge Fan" which has a very active production and development slate and she is also an activist and philanthropist for causes that involve environmental preservation and animal well-being.



Kevin Kollenda

Kevin Kollenda, along with partner Nicola Formichetti, is co-founder and CEO of new-media innovation lab Two Hustlers, a pioneering collective disrupting and challenging the fashion, music and fine art industries; clients include Lady Gaga, Uniqlo, Diesel, MAC and H&M. He is also co-founder of GenY/Z streetwear/lifestyle brand Nicopanda.

Kollenda hails from southern California, received his Bachelor of Arts at the University of Southern California. He cut his teeth in the fashion, film and music industries in London and Paris during a multi-year stopover in Europe in which the 3 months at the Sorbonne University extended to a 17-year stay. He served as Creative Director at Epic Records in 2009 overseeing album launches for artists Shakira and Jennifer Lopez, the same year he and Nicola began their relationship with Lady Gaga. At the start of 2010, he took 6 months off to travel and volunteer in east Africa where he worked with Kageno in both their Rwanda and Kenya operations.

Kevin dedicates his spare time to teaching and facilitating groups in self enquiry and awareness, using meditation, breath and body work and plant medicines.



Anastacia



There are singers all round the globe that unleash a worthy listen, an enjoyable song and a memorable sound. There are very few singers in the universe who embed that utterly unique tone you instantly, undoubtedly recognize. That captivating, spine tingling, soulful, big voice that warrants a superstar status.

In 2000 Anastacia had her first hit with 'I'm Outta Love' which became the biggest selling single of the year from her first studio album 'Not That Kind'. She went on to thriving success with 6 studio albums that threw her into that very superstar status we talk of, having sold over 30 million records to date.

15 years after her breakout hit, Anastacia will released her 'Ultimate Collection' on November 6th. The 'Collection' sees the superstar return to her native label home of Sony Music, the label that were instrumental in catapulting Anastacia to global stardom, where she debuted and released her breakout smash hits

including 'I'm Outta Love', 'Left Outside Alone' and 'Paid My Dues'. The album also includes her new single 'Take This Chance'.

Following the album release, Anastacia made several TV appearances, events and announced the duet with Spanish band, Auryn, called "Who's Loving You" and an European Tour, named 'The Ultimate Collection Tour'.

Then in 2017, another album – another tour! After a successful two leg 'Ultimate Collection' tour in 2016 and 2017 Anastacia has also been on stage in 2018/19, touring throughout Europe, where she performed her new album 'Evolution'. At the end of 2019, Anastacia made her musical debut in the role of the Killer Queen in the legendary Queen musical 'We Will Rock You'.

Elie Musabyimana

Elie joined the Kageno team as the Rwandan Program Director in 2017. Born in 1978 in the village of Banda around Nyungwe Forest, he is married and father to three children. He grew up and went to school in a small village in South Western Rwanda and studied agricultural sciences at the University of Rwanda. He received a bachelor's degree and rural development and a masters degree in agribusiness.

Before devoting his time to Kageno, Elie worked as a sector agronomist and natural resources officer for two years, and then worked for the park services where he has worked in a variety of different roles for eleven years. He has been a tour guide in the home of mountain gorillas and then a Community-based Conservation Warden for 9 years in Nyungwe Forest National Park. His commitment to conservation and community development lead him to work with poachers helping to form them into conservationists that were grouped into ex-poachers cooperatives. These cooperatives have benefited from a tourism revenue sharing project that has allowed them to develop income generating activities as alternative to poaching in the forest.

Elie is working with Kageno in his native village, helping his community changing life through different programs including primary health care, environment conservation and sustainable agriculture, early childhood education and school feeding and lastly but not least, income generating initiatives.



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the opportunity to
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meaningful work!

*Sandra & Sheldon
Mallah*

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Kageno Harambee Apron designed by Ralph Rucci

"It is so important for me to show what the human hand can do."

After nearly four decades of devotion to the art of fashion, Ralph Rucci's career holds to these words. Eschewing mass production, outsourcing and trend watching, he works from his inner life. Each gown, coat or suit comes from within, animated by the touch of his hand.

Ralph Rucci has been the subject of many retrospectives, notably The Costume Institute of the Kent State University Museum (2005-2006), The Fashion Institute of Technology (2007), The Costume Institute of the Philadelphia Museum of Art (2007), and The Phoenix Art Museum (2008).

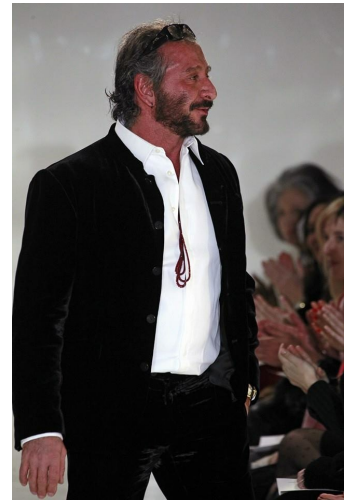
Prestigious awards have included The Star Award from the Fashion Group International of New York (2005), The Cooper Hewitt National Design Award (2008), The Couture Council of the Museum at FIT (2006), The Pratt Institute Icon Award (2009), The Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts Visionary Award for Fashion (2011), The SCAD Andre' Leon Talley Lifetime Achievement Award (2012), an Honorary Doctoral Degree from The Drexel University College of Art and Design (2015) and The Fashion Legend Award from the Fashion Group International of New York (2019).

Rucci's clothes are in the permanent collections of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Philadelphia Museum of Art, The Victoria and Albert Museum in London, The DeYoung Museum in San Francisco, The Phoenix Art Museum, The Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, The Texas Fashion Collection in Denton, Texas, among others.

In 2011, Rucci received the great honor of being inducted into the Fashion Group International Walk of Fame. Amid the spirits of 'Garmentos' that brought those westside streets to life, Rucci's plaque sits on the south east corner of 39th and Seventh Avenue, right before Halston and James Galanos, there for all time.

In the typical ebb and flow of a lifelong career, Ralph Rucci made the decision early on to experience his trajectory as a spiritual journey. It is how he survives, but ultimately it is how he thrives. The personal nature of his work has rendered him incomparable, inspiring his achievements while also acting as a protection. What he does cannot be copied.

In 2016 Rucci created a new label -- RR 331. Primarily a 'grass roots' private client business he is now free to create directly for his clients - independent of investors, walking the wire without a net as only a master can. He was recently honored again to be offered 'Guest Member' status in the now Federation de la Haute Couture et de le Mode of France. After an absence of 12 years he returned to show his Fall/Winter 2019/2020 Couture collection dedicated to Elsa Peretti at the Ritz Hotel on June 30th, 2019.



Dinner for 4 at the famous Rao's



Getting a seat at Rao's is like buying a time-share. Since 1896 the tiny Italian-American restaurant has been serving up family-style lemon chicken and seafood salad beneath strings of Christmas lights on a corner in East Harlem. But after New York Times food critic Mimi Sheraton gave it a three-star review in 1977, Rao's enacted a notoriously strict reservation system to preserve its devout community of regulars.

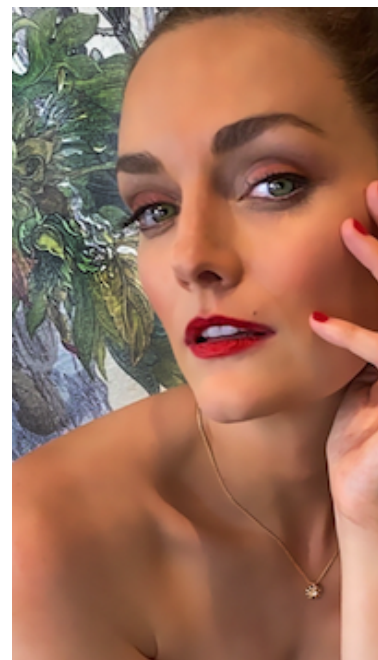
Sterling Silver Kageno Unity Bracelet, by Me & Ro



The UNITY Bracelet is a special edition bracelet designed specifically for Kageno. Gold-streaked rutilated quartz square beads are sewn between natural cotton cord and finished with a recycled sterling silver commemorative button. Available for purchase in the Kageno Marketplace in both men's and women's sizes.

David Yurman Starburst Pendant Necklace

18K Yellow Gold with Pavé Diamonds



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Steve Beninati

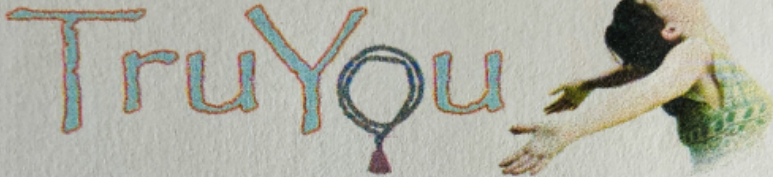
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