

UK–UG DIASPORA COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS AWARDS 2025

POST-EVENT REPORT

Event Type: Awards Ceremony

Date: 29 November 2025

Venue: Oasis Banqueting, 6–8 Thames Road, Barking, London IG11 0HG

1. Introduction

Team Papajasper CIC, in partnership with key organisations across the UK-Ugandan diaspora, successfully delivered the **Second Annual UK–Ugandan Diaspora Community Champions Awards (UK-UG DCCA)** on Saturday, 29 November 2025.

Following the inaugural ceremony held on 15 June 2024 at the Grand Sapphire Hotel in South London, this year's event moved to East London—home to one of the largest concentrations of Ugandans in the United Kingdom. The awards continue to grow in prestige, visibility, and community significance.

2. Background and Purpose

The UK–UG DCCA initiative is founded on the vision of **recognising and celebrating outstanding contributions** made by individuals, groups, and organisations within the UK-Ugandan community. It honours those who have demonstrated leadership, service, innovation, and dedication to uplifting the diaspora.

Core Purposes

Celebrate the achievements of community champions.

Strengthen unity across political, cultural, religious, and socio-economic divides.

Highlight the diaspora's growing engagement in the UK's social, economic, and political landscape.

Promote inclusivity by welcoming diverse minority diaspora groups into the nomination and celebration process.

The awards align with the broader mission of strengthening the Uganda–UK diaspora ecosystem and acknowledging its increasing influence. According to World Bank estimates (2021), the UK-based Ugandan community exceeds **202,000 individuals**, reflecting significant professional, cultural, and generational diversity.

3. Aims and Objectives

Aims

Promote unity, inclusivity, and community cohesion within the UK-Ugandan diaspora.

Strengthen community capacity and encourage philanthropy.

Objectives

Recognise exceptional contributions to diaspora development and integration.

Encourage collaborative initiatives that benefit both the UK and Uganda through empowering others to support charitable causes.

Support community-led projects and celebrate diaspora excellence across sectors.

4. Eligibility and Awards Process

Eligibility

Nominations were open to:

Individuals, groups, companies, and public agencies within the UK-Ugandan diaspora.

Private sector and civil society organisations that advance diaspora welfare or support public service delivery.

Nomination and Selection Process

Public nominations were gathered through social media, email, text messaging, partner internet radio, and the official website (www.ukugdccaawards.org).

A committee of respected community leaders (comprising four 4 members), professionals, and faith representatives reviewed submissions.

Due to a high volume of strong nominations, the committee resolved to send **all nominees to the public vote**.

After public voting, the top four candidates in each category were shortlisted, and the final winners were selected.

The process was transparent, inclusive, and widely embraced by the community.

5. Nature of the Awards

The UK-UG DCCA remains a **high-profile annual event**, integrating:

Ugandan heritage through **locally handcrafted trophies** made from traditional and organic materials.

A growing list of award categories that may expand in future editions with additional sponsorship support.

Potential future visions include monetary awards focused on charitable causes and community impact.

6. Event Highlights

Attendance

The event accommodated a planned 350 guests and attracted a distinguished audience, including:

Cllr Princess Bright, Mayor of the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (Chief Guest)

Mr Phillip Rukikaire, Deputy Ambassador of Uganda to the UK

Local councillors, community leaders, cultural heads, religious leaders, business owners, and diaspora professionals.

Programme and Atmosphere

Authentic traditional Ugandan cuisine was served.

The evening followed the theme:

“Recognising Excellence, Achievement, and Dedication to Community Service.”

Inspirational speeches highlighted leadership, unity, selfless service, and the importance of community-driven initiatives.

Awards Delivered

A total of 19 awards were presented:

1 Lifetime Honorary Award

2 Lifetime Achievement Awards

18 Category Awards, including:

The outstanding Volunteer of the Year

The outstanding Youth Achiever

The outstanding Gender Equality

Excellence in Service Delivery

The outstanding Cultural Leadership

The outstanding Community Leader

The outstanding Innovation & Quality Improvement

The best DJ

Best UK-UG Artist

The outstanding Promoter of the Year
The outstanding Friends of Uganda
The outstanding Asian Entrepreneurs
The outstanding/Best Professional Organisation
The outstanding Global Impact Award
People's Choice Award
Outstanding Sponsors Recognition
The outstanding Charity of the year

A total of 72 Certificates of Recognition were presented, ensuring every runner-up received acknowledgement.

All award presentations were supported with **high-quality visual displays**, ensuring clarity and a professional ceremony flow.

7. Community Impact

The awards have significantly boosted community morale, visibility, and unity. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. One message captured the spirit of the night:

"Greetings, Br Jean Gideon, Br Papa Jasper, Primrose Magala, and the whole team. Please accept my warmest congratulations on a great Diaspora Champion Awards celebration.

It was a successful event held in a relaxing atmosphere.

Thank you for inviting us and for the recognition certificates.

A lot of hard work goes on behind the scenes.

We value and appreciate what you have done for the Diaspora and Uganda.

Keep up the excellent work."

The event also spotlighted charitable initiatives such as:

Charlie Mugga Teenage Cancer Initiative

Nsambya Hospital Infrastructure Project, supported by the Uganda Nurses and Midwives Association UK (UNMA-UK) CIC

8. Budget and Logistics

Key expenditure areas included:

- Venue
- Catering

- Award design and certificates
- Entertainment and décor
- Logistics and equipment

All core team members volunteered their time, travelling from across the UK (London, Liverpool, Manchester, Northampton, Essex, Surrey, and Oxford). Limited transport facilitation was provided where necessary.

The ceremony was financially supported by a grant from the **Institute of Leadership** and sponsorship from outstanding partners, including:

Diaspora Insurance /Equity Bank Uganda /LEMFI / Salabed / T. Cribb Ltd / Rap & Sons Ltd /Matooke House / Tavistock Protect / Tenafix /Armstrong Building Services / Basiima Crafts Ltd / Mary Ingabire Events / Greater Manchester Funeral Directors ...and additional small vendors.

9. Appreciation

We extend heartfelt gratitude to:

Cllr Princess Bright, Mayor of Barking and Dagenham

Deputy Ambassador Phillip Rukikaire

All distinguished guests, nominees, performers, volunteers, and community leaders

All our sponsors and partners

The hard-working organising committee:

Chair: Mr Timothy Mugerwa (UNMA-UK & Oxford Community)

Mr Jasper Ntege Settenda (Executive Director, Team Papajasper CIC)

Mr Joseph Lutwama (UNMA-UK & Northampton Community)

Mr Solomon Mwebya (MC, Crawley Community)

Mr Jean Gideon K. Bugonzi (Treasurer, UNMA-UK; Basiima Crafts Ltd)

Madam Primrose Magala (UNMA-UK; Eye Health Africa)

Lady Pauline Najjuma (Rap & Sons Ltd)

Joy Kyakwita (Uganda UK Lawyers Association)

Agatha Luwugge

Asha Love (Asha Love Foundation)

Nancy Kitaka Mugga (Charlie Mugga Teenage Cancer Initiative, MC)

Marvin Kibuuka (BOSSA)

Dorcas Amoding (MC)

Madam Teddy Matovu (UNMA-UK)

Your collective effort made the night memorable and impactful.

10. Conclusion

The 2025 UK–UG Diaspora Community Champions Awards successfully celebrated excellence while strengthening unity and purpose within the diaspora. The initiative continues to inspire collaboration, leadership, and innovation across the community—building a strong foundation for future generations.

Financial Report: Available upon request.