



NIGERIA BECOMES THE FIRST COUNTRY IN WEST AFRICA TO ESTABLISH THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A NIGERIA)

Established in 2007, registered and incorporated as an Educational Services Organization by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) – Uni- 3A Nigeria Concept – University of the Third Age (U3A Nigeria) is a loose term used in the establishment of U3As globally. U3A Nigeria is recognized globally and was formally admitted as a Member of the World U3As family of Organizations in 2008.

The university of the Third Age emerged in Toulouse, France in 1973 at the University of Social Sciences by Professor Pierre Vellas to offer Third Agers a programme of activities commensurate with the conditions, needs and aspirations of this group.

This first example was not long before being copied, and several Universities of the Third Age in their turn set up programmes for older people – after Belgium it was Spain, Switzerland, Poland, Canada, Sweden, Italy, the USA, England, Germany then South America, Africa and Asia.

It is first of its kind to be established in West Africa and second in Africa after South Africa. The U3A movement in developing World is limited, hence Nigeria, the giant of Africa, is taking the lead in West Africa for other Countries to copy, and set its Headquarters in Ibadan, the largest city in West Africa (The Pace Setter.)

As a self motivated Educational Services Organization, it is concerned with the prospect of Ageing and Intergenerational Programmes and Solidarity, advancing Gerontology as a field of study in Institutions of Higher Learning, and promoting Careers on Ageing both at the Government and Private Sectors in Nigeria.

There are no Academic Requirements for Membership. As a worldwide self help body, it promotes learning for personal enjoyment and satisfaction and liberate the mind and spirit of its Members: who share their know-how instead of taking advantage of them. This is U3A Nigeria's brand

As a learning Co-operative of both Older Adults and Youths, Members share many educational, creative and leisure activities. They share their Knowledge, Skills and Experiences and learn from each other and promote Intergenerational Programmes and Solidarity. (The Older Persons and the youth learning together for productive purposes)

At U3A Nigeria, we pursue an amazing range of topics. Some are purely academic, while others are recreational. We offer opportunities to study, create, socialize and in general, develop a titter mind and body.

Our curriculum include such subjects as Computer Programming, Business and Managerial Studies, Dramatic Art, Spoken Languages, Handicrafts in Textiles, Metal work, Book-Binding, Printing, Salesmanship, Dancing/Singing, Painting Sculpture, Music and Wellness studies.

At U3A Nigeria, we give every encouragement to seminars, reading and singing, sites of scientific archaeological or historical interest, e.g. Museum, Art collections, Houses etc. We also encourage interchange with Universities of the Third Age around the World to exchange teaching with them, to collaborate on Research, to unite with them in the furtherance of intellectual interest of the elderly and set up Professional Research activities in the process of Ageing especially as a social phenomenon.

We try as much as possible to make use of new technologies as they become available, as our Members regard themselves as both Learners and Teachers. We collaborate with Institutions such as Museum, Galleries, Universities, Libraries, Research Centers, e.t.c in learning partnerships in which we and these

Institutions themselves may benefit through research, advancement of knowledge and Mutual Respect for capabilities.

We also engage with Local and National Government Departments and other Agencies that formulate Lifelong Learning (LLL) policies, practices in order to influence those that relate particularly to learning in later life.

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT U3A NIGERIA

1. U3A Nigeria helps to contribute in various ways to reduce the intergeneration gap and bring the experiences of Elders to help the Society.
2. U3A Nigeria fills a very important need in our Third Age. Keeping us alive mentally and saving us from social isolation.
3. At U3A Nigeria, we stay fit and think young; for Healthy/Active Ageing and making friends which is the foundation of the Organization.
4. U3A Nigeria, is a wonderful idea. We find ways to publicize it in all our Communities throughout the Country as we liberate the Mind and Spirit of Members of the Society and help to build the infrastructure and Culture for our Third Age Population to live meaningfully and well.
5. Despite all odds, we at U3A Nigeria, NEVER leave the cause of Ageing which is so compelling and important.

At a time when our Senior Citizens need Care, Education, Inclusion, Recreation, Active and Healthy Ageing, Re-engagement and other actions, standards are needed as NEVER before from both the Government, Corporate Bodies and individuals in our crumbling Society.

Despite the Old Age of our Members, we are putting into vital action the call to be salt and light in the Society.

For these reasons, we need all the support from within and outside Nigeria.

The meaning of U3A Nigeria is LEARNING, SHARING and MAKING FRIENDS. While Active/Healthy Ageing and making friends is the Foundation of the U3A Nigeria.

Join us to succeed together.

For Membership and further details,
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