Activities for youth and young adults of African ancestry ages 12-30 around the world

April - “A Day in My Life” Videos
Deadline - April 15

We want to know about you! Join youth and young adults from Africa and of African heritage around the world and share about your everyday life. How do you spend your days? What’s your neighborhood like? What about your school, work and family? What do you do for fun? Are you involved in your community?
Create a short video, submit it to Bridge Kids and we’ll share it with the world!

May - “An Important Issue In My Community”
Deadline - May 15

What matters to you? What’s going on in your community? Bridge Kids International focuses on economic development, education, the environment, girls’ rights, and health. Pick one of these issues and tell us about something you’d like to change. These topics are broad so get creative. For example, did you know that violence is a health issue?
Tell us about your issue in any format – writing, music, art, video, etc. and we’ll share it!

June - “What I Can Do About It”
International Web Conference - June 16

You can do something! While challenges in our communities can be big and complicated, there’s always something we can do. Get creative! There’s power in numbers so get others involved and come up with a project young people can do to address the issue you chose. Keep it simple and inexpensive.
Submit your project idea. Then take part in the global DAC 2017 web conference to find out what other young people around the world are doing in their communities.
Guidelines for Participation

Who Can Participate?
Activities for Bridge Kids International’s 2017 Day of the African Child Celebration are designed for youth and young adults of African descent ages 12-30 anywhere in the world. We encourage you to participate in all activities, but doing only one or two is fine.

Let Us Know You are Interested
Sign up at www.bridge-kids.org and we will keep you updated on activities for The Day of the African Child. If you have questions along the way, just email us at DAC@bridge-kids.org.

Online Community
Submissions will be posted on the Bridge Kids International Facebook Page. “Like” us on Facebook so you can see what young people of Africa and the African Diaspora are doing. We’ll also communicate with each other on the Facebook page, discuss interesting topics, and get the latest updates on the Day of the African Child celebration.

“A Day in My Life” Videos
- Deadline for submission – April 15, 2017
- Record “A Day in My Life” video. What can you share about your neighborhood, city, family, friends, what you do in a typical day, what you eat, what you do for fun, etc.?
- You can create the video as an individual or as a group.
- Videos recorded on a cell phone are fine as long as the quality is good.
- Length - maximum 3 minutes
- Language – You may submit your video in any language. Since this is a global activity, participants will speak different languages. The best videos will show a day in your life so regardless of whether or not people understand the narration, they will understand what you are communicating.
- Introduction – Start your video with “Hi I’m/we’re ____________ from _______________ and here’s in day in my/our life.”
- Upload your video to Dropbox, Google Drive, YouTube, or Facebook and send us the link on the Day of the African Child webpage at www.bridge-kids.org
- We will notify you when your video will appear on the Bridge Kids Facebook Page!

“An Important Issue in My Community” Submissions
- Deadline for submission – May 15, 2017
- Select an issue that’s affecting your community. It should fit into one of the Bridge Kids International Focus Areas:
  - Economic development
  - Education
The Focus Areas are very broad, so be creative. If the issue you really want to work on doesn’t seem to fit into one of the 5 Focus Areas, contact us and we can discuss it.

- Do some research on your topic so you have background information on how your issue is impacting your community.
- You can create your submission individually or as a group. See the *Bridge Kids International Helping Hand Guide to Choosing Your Focus Area* for some tips.
- Create a video (max 3 minutes), article or poem (max 2 pages), song (max 2 minutes), or visual art piece (include short explanation) to share information about the issue and how it is affecting your community.
- Upload your submission on The Day of the African Child webpage at [www.bridge-kids.org](http://www.bridge-kids.org)
  - Videos – Upload to Dropbox, Google Drive, YouTube, or Facebook and send us the link on the Day of the African Child webpage at [www.bridge-kids.org](http://www.bridge-kids.org)
  - Written submission – Send as an email with your contact info and attach your piece to DAC@bridge-kids.org
  - Song – Send as email with your contact info with your song files attached to DAC@bridge-kids.org
  - Visual Art – take a high quality photo of your art piece. Attach it along with your contact info and a written description by email to DAC@bridge-kids.org
- We will notify you when your submission will appear on the Bridge Kids Facebook page!

### “What I Can Do About It” Project Designs

#### International Web Conference for The Day of the African Child

- Deadline for submission of project designs – June 5, 2017.
- Design a project to address your issue
- The project should be something young people can do with resources readily available to them and with just a little help. Project budgets should not exceed $1000.
- We recommend that you design your project in a group. See the *Bridge Kids International Helping Hand Guild to Planning Your Bridge Kids Project* for useful tips.
- Submit your project design in written form on The Day of the African Child webpage at [www.bridge-kids.org](http://www.bridge-kids.org)
- We will notify you when your project design will appear on the Bridge Kids Facebook page!
- A limited number of groups will be invited to present their project designs at the International Web Conference for The Day of the African Child on June 16, 2017. Bridge Kids will contact you if you will be invited to present.
- Watch the live International Web Conference for The Day of the African Child on June 16, 2017. You will be able to pose questions and comment during the live event. More information to come!
About The Day of the African Child

Historically observed on June 16th, The “Day of the African Child” began in 1991. The celebration was organized by the Organization of African Unity in memory of black South African school children who were massacred in Soweto on June 16, 1976. The 1976 bloodshed was touched off by student resentment over being taught in Afrikaans. Protesters soon began condemning all of apartheid’s injustices and rioting broke out nationwide. Hundreds of young people died across South Africa in the weeks that followed. In memory of the courage of those students, South Africa recognizes June 16th as South African Youth Day.

Since then, The Day of the African Child has played an important role in helping the world remember the slain students as well as in raising awareness about children of Africa and the African Diaspora, the obstacles that impede their development and their promise for the future.

Learn more about South African Youth Day and the Events of June 16, 1976


History of Bridge Kids International and The Day of the African Child

Each June from 1999 – 2005, young people from 3 continents participated in the International Videoconference for the Day of the African Child organized by the United States Committee for the Day of The African Child. The overall theme of the videoconferences was “What We Can Do: Self Determination for Youth of the African Diaspora.” Bridge Kids International was born out of that videoconference experience.

In an effort to sustain the mission of the videoconference beyond the day of the event, Bridge Kids International was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 2003. During the 2002 videoconference, the youth participants from Senegal, South Africa and the United States identified four major areas they could impact to positively change their lives – education, the environment, girls’ rights, and health. Bridge Kids adopted the same focus areas and in 2007 added economic development as the fifth.

Bridge Kids International is a global non-profit organization helping young people of Africa and the African Diaspora, aged 13-25, unleash their social entrepreneurial spirits to solve economic development, education, environmental, girls’ rights, and health challenges and build sustainable communities.

www.bridge-kids.org