

MUSIC

Name of Speaker: Dr. Hannabiell Sanders & Yilis Suriel
Company (representative of): Harambee Pasadia CIC
Website: www.harambeepasadia.com

**Harambee
Pasadia**

The Business/Company: Dr. Hannabiell Sanders & Yilis Suriel

Hannabiell is an award-winning musician who uses music to break down personal and cultural barriers. She is an accomplished bass trombonist, African hand percussionist, composer and progressive music teacher who strives to nurture and hone her pupils' talent. An African American Jamaican, originally from New Jersey-USA, she is currently living in Newcastle upon Tyne. She received a PhD (2016) in Music Performance and a Masters in Music (2010) from Newcastle University, and BFA (2007) in Music Education from Mason Gross School for the Art, Rutgers University. Hannabiell's talent was formally recognized in 2012 when she was awarded 'Performing Artist of the Year' (2012) by the Journal Culture Awards, which celebrates the achievements of those involved in the arts and heritage in the North East of England.

Yilis became interested in arts and social change after working as an artist in residence for the AMAR D&V in NJ, USA, and became passionate about music after meeting Hannabiell who taught her percussion. Originally from the Dominican Republic, her family moved to the United States when she was 9 years old. She received her Bachelor's of Fine Arts (2005) at Mason Gross School for the Arts: Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA, and received the Masters of Fine Arts (2011) degree from Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK. During her time at Rutgers university as a student and then Program Coordinator at the Office of the Vice President for Arts and Humanities she became dedicated to promoting arts as a mean for social change and civic engagement.

Hannabiell and Yilis's presentation will concentrate on:

Dr. Hannabiell Sanders & Yilis Suriel are the co-founders and organizers of Harambee Pasadia Festival, the first Afro Fusion Music, Dance & Camping festival, based in the North East of England. Harambee in Swahili means 'let's get together' and Pasadia in Spanish means 'to spend the day.' The festival is a 4-day family camping extravaganza which hosts world-renowned performers, practitioners, and foods of fusions found in the African diaspora.

This talk will engage people in the journey of Hannabiell (Musician, Director, Educator) and Yilis (visual artist, musician, educator) how they went from performers to now Directors of Harambee Pasadia CIC. The mission for Harambee Pasadia CIC is to build a society that values, supports and empower artists, whilst making arts accessible to as many people as possible and our focus lies in the diversity found within the African Diaspora (Harambee is Swahili for 'let's get together' and Pasadia in Spanish means 'to spend the day').

"As artists our strength lie in being creative, innovative, connecting people, and using music, knowledge, and events in service to social justice." Hannabiell Sanders

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