

# Ethiopian Community Mutual Assistance Association

## ECMAA

### Monthly Newsletter

#### FEATURED EVENT

##### **Petros at the Hour**

*Written by Laureate Tsegaye Gebremedhin*

**Sunday, February 16, 2020, 2pm  
National Black Theater Inc.**

Join us for a special production of *Petros at the Hour* by the Tayitu Cultural and Educational Center. The play tells the story of the Ethiopian bishop Abune Petros who accompanied the Ethiopian troops in their struggle to resist the Italian fascist occupation in 1935. Co-sponsored with Global Alliance for Justice.

##### **Small Business Development**

Do you own a small business? Do you know someone who's looking to start one? ECMAA is launching an initiative to support small businesses. Send us an email if you're interested in participating.

#### OTHER EVENTS

##### **Enchained (Quragaye)**

*Written and directed by Moges Tafesse*

**Sunday December 15, 2019, 4pm  
Columbia Teachers College for NY  
African Diaspora International Film Festival**

Enchained is an Ethiopian historical and fictional film that explores the traditional justice system and its effects. Tells a story of a "kolo temari" (wandering student) Gobeze, who gets caught red-handed and in bed with Aleme, the wife of the temperamental landlord Gonite.

#### ECMAA Board Update

We wasted no time in capitalizing on the energy and enthusiasm that you all expressed at our general meeting, which was held on October 27th. On November 16th, the board held its quarterly in person meeting to finalize programs and events for 2020. We set up various committees that will be responsible for planning and carrying out different events. The committees will be led by the board members and assisted by a team of 2-3 of our dedicated volun-



teers that have signed up to help ECMAA.

The meeting ended with a great feast! After the board concluded its regular meetings, our volunteers joined us for a working dinner. Our volunteers cooked up a storm! We had Doro Wat, Rice Pilaf, Lentil Stews, Samosas you name it. Each one brought a scrumptious dish. Their gesture warmed our hearts. The desire they showed to roll up their sleeves and help out to make ECMAA great was amazing. Their attitude and dedication humbled us all. We are blessed to have them as part of our ECMAA Team. We are off to a great start and are driven by the single mission of doing our best to make sure we have yet another successful year that aligns with the goals we have outlined and our strategic plan.

## Africans Count!

**Monday December 9th, at 5:30**  
**Hosted by The Africa Center and Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President's office**

The program will discuss the important of the 2020 Census for New York City's African Communities. After the program attendees are welcome to stay and apply for 2020 Census jobs. See flyer for more info.

## Comedy Night with King of Comedy Kebede's Geda

**Saturday January 11, 2020, 5-11pm.**  
**The Prestigious Mayfair Farm**  
**481 Eagle Rock Ave, West Orange, NJ 07052.**

Enjoy an evening of comedy and help us raise money for Debre Ghenet Amanuel E.O.T.C. The fundraising is to help build space for children to teach Amharic, bible and cultural lessons. See attached flyer for more detail.

## GETTING INVOLVED

### Become a Member

You can complete the form at <http://www.ecmaany.org/membership/>. The suggested contribution of \$30 can be sent by check (sent to POBox 1349, NY, NY 10027) or through venmo to ECMAA NY

### Share Resources

Many of you have been making suggestions and offering your assistance, please let us know your special skills and talents and we'll help connect you with a way to share your talents.

### Follow Us

- Like us on Facebook (ECMAA)
- Follow us on Instagram @ecmaany
- Share our material with your friends

We are looking forward to 2020! We will be having monthly activities and include cultural activities, networking events, soccer and running, fundraising gala for ECMAA Crisis Fund, Yelugnta-to open the communication in our community to discuss ways to maintain our emotional well-being and support those that need our help, and teen empowerment workshops for our youth. Be on the lookout for our calendar of events and subscribe to our monthly newsletter.

### Meeting at the Ethiopian Mission on Current Events

ECMAA attended the meeting that was organized by the Ethiopian Mission to discuss current events in Ethiopia. Representatives from various organizations and faith-based groups were also in attendance. Mr. Taye discussed the meeting with Mr. Trump on the Renaissance Dam, and the security situation in Ethiopia. ECMAA recommended that the mission organize a bigger meeting so that the larger Ethiopian community can participate. The mission also asked participants for suggestions and job creation was discussed extensively. We expect that additional meeting will be organized by the mission, and will keep you informed as we hear about them.

### Quarterly Soccer Game

Our Youth and Experience Teams held their quarterly soccer match on a beautiful November day. Our Experience team carried the day. We'll include a separate game for kids at our next one in March. Not into soccer? We're planning to form a running group, some meditation and Eskista. Let us know if you would be interested.

