



Association Kaay Fecc is a Senegalese not for profit organization, created in 2001, and ruled by law n° 66-70 of 13 July, 1966, modified by law n° 68-08 of 26 March, 1968 ; and by decree-law 97-347 of 2 April, 1997.

Its mission is to:

- Develop dancers' and choreographers' artistic and technical skills and increase professional practice among artists,
- Increase the access of choreographic works to international distribution settings,
- Equally distribute development programs across the Senegalese territory and ensure better participation in international cultural exchange markets,
- Foster exchanges and collaborations between African dancers and choreographers, as well as international cultural exchanges,
- Reinforce and Increase cultural entrepreneurs management savoir faire,
- Set up a sustainable cultural development policy serving both the interests of the Senegalese dancing community and the African continent at large.

Activities

- The **Kaay Fecc Festival**, an international dance festival taking place every two years since 2001:

With the ambition to serve the interests of the African continent, the festival constitutes an essential tool of diffusion, promotion and networking of African choreographic expression, both traditional and contemporary. The festival intends to present and lay audiences alike with the various global artistic trends, thereby helping strengthen a society committed to cultural diversity, freedom of expression, human rights, cross-cultural dialogue as well as the genuine understanding and recognition of the other.

This festival also forms part of a policy of sustainable development implemented by the Association. Priorities for action include on-going training, the professionalisation of the Senegalese arts, raising the awareness of the political authorities and investing in the building of infrastructure.

Since its first edition, the festival has welcome international dance companies and artists from Burkina Faso, Benin, Cameroon, Guadeloupe, Cape Verde, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Togo, Madagascar, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Israel, Belgium, Austria, France, USA, Canada, Germany, Korea, as well as it featured over forty Senegalese dance companies.

Various performances of over 400 artists were offered to diverse Senegalese audiences in traditional, contemporary and urban genres. Audience attended in numbers with an average of 1800 spectators per performance night during the festival week period.

Various humanities events, such as showcases, workshops, conferences, debates, film showings, photo exhibitions, were also organized during the past four festival editions.

Two 26-minutes documentaries were realized (2001).

- **International Dance Day:**

In 1982 the International Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute (ITI/UNESCO) founded International Dance Day to be celebrated every year on the 29th of April. The date commemorates the birthday of Jean-Georges Noverre, who was born in 1727 and was a great reformer of dance. Every year a message from a well-known dance personality is circulated throughout the world. The intention of International Dance Day and the Message is to bring all dance together on this day, to celebrate this art form and revel in its universality, to cross all political, cultural and ethnic barriers and bring people together in peace and friendship with a common language - Dance.

Association Kaay Fecc launched the celebration of the International Dance Day in Dakar, in 2002. The event is now officially registered in the Ministry of Culture annual agenda and is celebrated on a national level.

- **A Battle national -Danse Hip Hop:**

An annual event launched in 2005, giving a platform to breakdancing and to the bboy community. Open to crews across Senegal, about 20 crews from Dakar areas and suburbs have been participating each time so far.

- **Kaay Fecc_Xalé**, an international children dance festival:

Launched in 2006, the first edition featured 17 children dance companies originating from Ivory Coast, Mauritius Island and Senegal.

- **Performances and companies distribution** across Senegal:

Various national dance events were organized in Dakar and the regions (Saint-Louis, Thiès, Louga), including the celebration of the International Dance Day (ITI/UNESCO event)

- **An on-going professional training programme** for intermediate level performers wishing to become professionals / Workshops, dance classes and master classes / 'Dance in School' programmes / A collaborative programme with physically disabled performers with impaired mobility / Dance classes for foreign dancers:

Since 2002, Association Kaay Fecc has been implementing training programs for Senegalese dancers and choreographers with interveners originating from Senegal, Congo, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Belgium, France, and Spain.

- **The development of cultural exchange** with foreign dance companies:

Collaborations were made with choreographers Reggie Wilson (RW Fist and Heels Performing Group / USA).

- **A partnership with a local cultural centre** for the building of an international standards performing stage and the implementation of dance activities:

A partnership, initiated in 2001, is taking place with the Blaise Senghor Cultural Center (Ministry of Culture department), based in Dakar in the Colobane area.

Perspectives:

- A two-year professional training program for dancers.
- A cultural TV program featuring stories about dance on national television.

Besides these activities, the Kaay Fecc Association acts as an advisor and a facilitator, and is a resource for local cultural centers, organizations, and dance companies.

Over the years, the Association Kaay Fecc activities have been supported by various partners and sponsors, among which: Presidency of the Republic of Senegal, Ministry of Culture, City of Dakar, UNESCO, Africalia, OIF (Francophony), Culturesfrance, Prince Claus Foundation, Doen Foundation, Hivos Foundation, Korean Arts & Culture Foundation, local foundations and institutes, local embassies, local sponsors, international and local press & media.