



THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND GENERAL MEETING

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

The Editorial & Management Committee of Urhobo Historical Society cordially invites all Urhobo sons and daughters, as well as people interested in Urhobo history and culture, to participate in our 13th Annual Conference and General Membership Meeting, which will be held on July 26-27, 2024

VENUE: New York University, Stern School of Business Conference Hall, 44 West 4th Street, New York 10012

THEME: Aspects of Urhobo Culture: Folklore & Poetry, Music, Language, Cosmology, Religion.

CALL FOR PAPERS

We invite scholars interested in presenting a paper on any aspect of Urhobo culture at the conference to send a one -page abstract of your proposed paper with your completed registration form to any of the persons listed in the “Contacts” section below by April 30, 2024. If your abstract is accepted, you will be notified by May 31, 2024, and you will be required to submit the full paper by June 30, 2024 for inclusion in the e-version of Conference Proceedings/Papers

CALL FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN CONFERENCE BROCHURE

We plan to publish a Conference Brochures that will feature the events of the Conference, Goodwill messages and Advertisements. If you wish to place an advert, below are the rates:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1.) Full Page | ₦150,000.00 (or \$100) |
| 2.) Half Page | ₦75,000.00 (or \$50) |
| 3.) Back Cover | ₦300,000.00 (or \$200) |
| 4.) Inside (Front or Back Cover) | ₦225,000.00 (or \$150) |
| 5.) Centre Spread | ₦375,000.00 (or \$250) |

Please send copies of your advertisement and evidence of payment into UHS account to either Ms. Zita Onakpoberuo, uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com (Nigerian residents) or Mrs. Julie Riesa, Chair, julieriesa@yahoo.com (US and other residents of other countries) Payment in Naira (in Nigeria) should be made into UHS Account No. 2112113200 at Ecobank Plc while Payment in US dollars should be made into UHS Bank Account No. 9995450375 at Bethpage Federal Credit Union, New York).

AGENDA/PROGRAM OUTLINE

Friday July 26, 2024:

- 03:00pm: Registration & Welcome Reception**
05:00pm: General Meeting
07:00pm: Welcome Dinner

Saturday, July 27, 2024:

08:00am: Registration & Light Breakfast

09:00am – 10:30 am OPENING CEREMONY

- Welcome Address
- Goodwill Messages
- Keynote Address

10:30am: Coffee Break

11:00am – 1:00 pm: PLENARY SESSION (3 Plenary Papers)

1:00 – 2:30pm: LUNCH BREAK, URHOBO EXHIBITION, AND DANCE GROUP

2:30pm – 5:00 pm PAPER PRESENTATIONS (Two Concurrent Sessions, 5 papers per session)

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm CLOSING CEREMONY

- Gala Night – Dinner, Awards, Re-launch of Endowment Fund
- Closing Remarks & Vote of Thanks

Accommodation

Participants will be responsible for making their own hotel accommodation. However, we recommend that participants should book hotel accommodation close to the conference venue. There are several hotels close to the venue include the following:

Hotel Name	Address & Phone Numbers	Price
Washington Square Hotel	103 Waverly Place, New York, NY 10011 Tel: 212-777-9515, 1-888-222-0418 Website: https://washingtonsquarehotel.com/	\$244 per night excl taxes
The Jane Hotel	113 Jane St, New York, NY 10014 Tel: 212-924-6700 Website: https://www.thejanenyc.com/	\$199 per night
The Mariton Hotel	5 W 8th St, New York, NY 10011 +12123210100 http://www.marltonhotel.com/	\$329 per night

*Per night for July 26 & 27, 2024, standard room, at the hotel website, as of March 11, 2024. The price may be cheaper if booked at Priceline.com or other third-party sites. Price may change.

About the Urhobo Historical Society

Inaugurated on August 29, 1999, in New York City, USA, by a group of Urhobo scholars and professionals in the United States, the mission of the Urhobo Historical Society (UHS) is to serve and promote Urhobo history and culture. With a population of approximately 4 million people, Urhobo is arguably the largest ethnic nationality in Nigeria's Western Niger Delta region. Its history and culture are intertwined with those of its ethnic neighbors in this region. In serving Urhobo history and culture, therefore, UHS's efforts include studying and analyzing Urhobo's relationships with its neighbors, as well as the environmental problems of the Niger Delta region. In 2014, UHS moved its headquarters from the United States to Okpara Inland in Ethiope East LGA of Delta State in Nigeria to be closer to, and better serve its people.

The Urhobo people have a distinct history, language, and culture which need to be studied, documented, and preserved. Relative to other larger ethnic nationalities in Nigeria, such as the Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo, and Fulani, Urhobo history and culture have not received the needed attention and support from the federal and state governments. The responsibility for studying, documenting, and preserving Urhobo history and culture rests on the efforts of individuals and groups like the UHS. The activities of UHS include but are not limited to the following:

1. Hosting of two websites (<https://www.waado.org/> and <https://urhobodigitalibrarymuseum.com/home/>) to promote Urhobo history and culture.
2. Organizing [Annual Conferences and General Meetings](#) for presentation and discussion of papers and research work on Urhobo history and culture, and review of UHS activities and policy issues affecting the Urhobo people. The conferences bring together intellectuals and scholars, both Urhobos and non-Urhobos, who are interested in advancing the study of Urhobo history and culture. So far, twelve annual conferences and general meetings have been as follows:

Conference	Dates	Venue/Location
First	November 3-5, 2000	Niagara Falls, Canada
Second	November 2-4, 2001	Parsippany, New Jersey, USA
Third	November 1-3, 2002	Goldsmith College of London University, London, England
Fourth	October 31 – Nov 2, 2003	Goldsmith College of London University, London, England
Fifth	October 29-31, 2004	PTI Effurun & Agharha-Otor, Delta State, Nigeria
Sixth	October 20-23, 2025	PTI Effurun & Sapele, Delta State, Nigeria
Seventh	November 3-5, 2006	PTI Effurun & Agbarho, Delta State, Nigeria
Eight	November 26-29, 2009	PTI Effurun & Ovu, Delta State, Nigeria
Ninth	November 12-16, 2014	PTI Effurun & Olomu, Delta State
Tenth	November 20-22, 2015	PTI Effurun & Ewreni Delta State, Nigeria
Eleventh	May 18-20, 2018	PTI Effurun, Orogun, Agbarha, Ughele & Ogor, Delta State Nigeria
Twelfth	November 26-28, 2021	Urhobo Cultural Centre, Uvwiamughe, Otor-Udu & Otughievwen, Delta State, Nigeria

Now, in 2024, the Urhobo Historical Society returns to New York City, where the unfolding journey of the Society and its remarkable contributions to the Urhobo Nation, began.

3. Providing and disseminating information on Urhobo history and culture as well as other issues and developments in Urhoboland through its publications. Some of the books that have been published by the UHS include:

- Warri City and British Colonial Rule in the Western Niger Delta. UHS Monograph #1, Edited by P. Ekeh, (2004)
- Studies in Urhobo Culture. UHS Monograph #2, Edited by P. Ekeh (2005)
- History of the Urhobo People of the Niger Delta. UHS Monograph #3 Edited by P. Ekeh (2006)
- T.E.A. Salubi: Witness to British Colonial Rule in Urhoboland and Nigeria. UHS Monograph #4 Edited by P. Ekeh (2008)
- Olomu and Development of Urhoboland and the Western Niger Delta. UHS Monograph #5, Edited by P. Ekeh, O. Edevbie and P. Ishiaka (2012)
- The Urhobo People of Udu and Ughievwen, UHS Monograph #6, Edited by O. Edevbie (2022)

4. Issuing position papers and offering advice on policies and critical issues affecting the Urhobo people. Examples include *Towards Formulating an Urhobo Agenda* (2005) and *“Why Urhobo Historical Society is Opposed to Delta State Government’s Attempt to Control Urhobo Culture and Create “Kingdoms” in Urhoboland.* (2008).

5. Publishing an electronic [Quarterly Newsletter/Magazine](#) with recent and upcoming events and activities of UHS and other recent events/activities affecting the Urhobo people. UHS also hosts the UHS OPEN FORUM WhatsApp Platform for information sharing and discussions by members.

6. Holding seminars and training sessions at UHS Headquarters at Okpara Inland, Delta State, Nigeria.

7. Assist in managing private Scholarship Funds/Programs established by its members, such as the Chief Mukoro Mowoe Research Fellowship and the Olorogun James Amudiaga & Mrs. Rhoda Mowoe Scholarship Funds, the Peter Ekeh Memorial Scholarship program, and Jormom Egi Scholarship fund.

UHS’s current operations are funded through contributions by members of its Editorial and Management Committee (EMC) and Board of Trustees of its Endowment Fund, membership dues, sale of its publications and donations and sponsorship by friends of UHS.

CONTACTS: for more information contact:

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2024 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

To register for the 2024 Conference, please complete the following form and submit it to uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com no later than May 31, 2024.

First Name: _____
Middle Name _____
Last Name (Surname) _____
Title: _____
Organizational Affiliation _____
Home Address _____

Phone Number _____
Email Address _____
Do You Wish to Present a Paper? YES NO
If YES, state the Title of your Paper _____

and submit a one-page abstract of your proposed paper with your completed registration form by April 30, 2024. If your abstract is accepted, you will be notified by May 31, 2024, to submit your full paper by June 30, 2024 for inclusion in the e-book of Conference Proceedings/Papers

Do you need a letter of invitation to process your visa? YES NO.

If YES, we will send you a letter within two weeks of receipt of your completed registration form. You can also contact Ms. Zita Onakpobero, UHS Headquarters, Okpara Inland, Delta State, Nigeria uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com, Tel: +234(0)7060647530 to send you a letter.

As a non-profit organization with 501(c) designation with the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS), we are accepting donations to support the conference or other UHS activities. We are also accepting advertisements. Please make your donations or payments for advertisements in Nigerian Naira into UHS Nigerian Account No. 2112113200 at Ecobank Nigeria Plc or in US dollars into UHS Bank Account No. 9995450375 at Bethpage Federal Credit Union, New York.