



Press Release / Communiqué

June 9<sup>th</sup>/2009

Zerf Productions, will be hosting The Mrembo Dance, an evening of music, dance and fashion in support of African children infected with HIV and AIDS. Zerf invited the "Voices of Africa" (children from Tanzania) to celebrate their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and promote awareness of the pandemic in Africa, June 20<sup>th</sup> at Le Manior 5319 Notre Dame de Grace @ 8 pm to 1 am.

Zerf Productions, created in 1988 as a non-profit charitable organization combines the creative and the needy, serving communities at home and abroad, improving health care, eradicating malnutrition and poverty, and encouraging community development and education. .

By combining creative arts and humanitarian missions, Zerf has brought over \$2 million worth of medicine, hospital equipment, books and computers to Africa over 20 years. In the last decade alone, the organization has helped more than 20,000 children in several African nations. Proceeds from The Mrembo Dance will be used to do more testing and to drill for water for the orphans at Kikuhe in Kilimanjaro, Tanzania.

The Mrembo Dance, which means 'the beautiful dance' in Swahili, is so named for the magnificently coloured costumes and graceful movements of the Masai dancers performing that night. Emceed by Pastor Samuel King-Kabu, of St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church, the event will celebrate Zerf Productions' twentieth anniversary and will feature very special guests.

Eighteen Voices of Africa, children aged 7 to 14, will perform under the guidance of Simon Wachira. "These children wrote their own songs and made their own CD. It will be the first time that African children will participate in Zerf's local fundraising events. The children will sing, dance and model at the Mrembo dance. They will be hosted by the local community, St. Ansgars Lutheran Church and local businesses.

For the fashion show, Verdun retailer Modes le L'Afrique will provide an array of clothing and accessories made by men and women in Kenya. Storeowner Jane Nyoike, originally from Kenya, started a project four years ago to help children orphaned by AIDS. Nyoike purchases items made by the orphans' caregivers and sells them in her boutique

Admission: \$25, seniors and students \$ 15      Cash Bar.

For more information, call Zerf Productions at 514-486-0924 or visit [www.zerfchallenge2020.com](http://www.zerfchallenge2020.com).

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