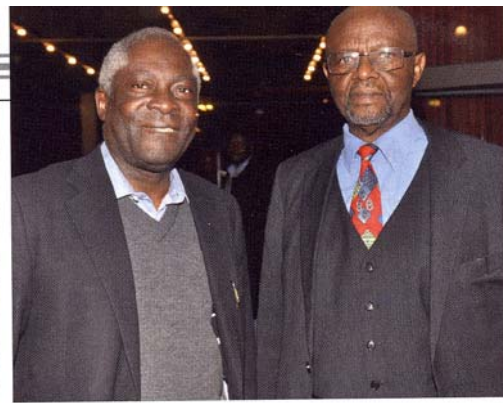




Prof. Rose Baaba Folson and Henriette Bruce-Annan displaying their awards



Professor Charles Yankah and Dr John Owusu Afram



Dr Victoria Manu (2nd from right), Henriette Bruce-Annan (far left) and other guests at the event



Party time!

African Women Awards 2013

The annual African women achievement event Nana Yaa Asantewaa Awards (NYA Awards) took place recently in Hamburg. About 250 guests, including dignitaries from politics, media, business and culture, converged on the merchant city to honour successful women of African origin.

The event, also called the African Women Awards, was organised by the African German Network Association (AGNA), a Hamburg-based NGO, to recognise, celebrate and reward the contributions of women to the socio-cultural and economic development of Germany and Africa.

While last year the theme of the celebrations was the legacy of Nana Yaa Asantewaa (1840-1921), the quintessential Ghanaian freedom fighter, AGNA spotlighted the achievements of Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti of Nigeria (1900-1978) this time around.

Adetoun Küppers-Adebisi, chief executive of AFROTAK TV who received last year's NYA award for Social Media, spoke at length on the women activist and politician and mother of the late Fela Anikulapo-Kuti. She fought for the rights of Nigerian women and against British colonialism. Ransome-Kuti was the first Nigerian woman to drive a car.

The prize in the category of Social Engagement went to Harri-

et Dansowaa Bruce-Annan from Ghana. The chief executive of African Angel, who is also a holder of Germany's *Bundesverdienstkreuz* (Federal Cross of Merit), runs an orphanage in Ghana that has offered 77 children a place to sleep and receive education since July 2002. Today three of her charges are in different universities in Ukraine.

Professor Dr Rose Baaba Folson, a director at Minerva Research & Consulting (Germany), received the award for Research and Development, while Beryl Magoko, a Kenyan film producer who made *The Cut* about the problems associated with female circumcision, and Branwen Okpako, a Nigerian-Welsh film-maker behind the inspirational documentary *Auma Obama*, were the winners in the Media category.

Present at the event, which also featured various cultural shows, were dignitaries such as Professor Charles Yankah, an internationally renowned heart surgeon and the president of Africa Cultural Institute Berlin; Ade Ogunyena, a member of the Bremen Council for Integration; Nana Kwame Poku, the president of Ghana National House of Chiefs, Germany; and Anane Kaakyire, the president of Ghana Union Hamburg, among others.

FELIX DAPPAH