![BlueCrest Liberia logo — Education for Life]

BlueCrest TIMES

QUARTER 3,JUL - SEP 2022

NEWSLETTER

BlueCrest
Liberia

Education for Life

BLUECREST GOT TALENT

A PLATFORM FOR THE STUDENTS OF OUR UNIVERSITY

Presents

"BLUECREST TIMES"

A NEWS LETTER TO SHOWCASE OUR STUDENT'S TALENT

Newsletter Editor-In-Chief

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LMLG
Let's Make Liberia Great

LET'S MAKE LIBERIA GREAT

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From the Editor's Desk

Dear Readers,

We are back with yet another Quarter. Though, the events of high importance kept us all busy but we are never too far away from expanding ourselves. This quarter has a lot of interesting and new Campus news which will tell you how our quiet looking campus is always abuzz with activity underneath.

It is the efficiency of our students and staff that so many activities of different flavours keep taking place and yet the schedules and daily activities don't get disturbed. In fact on surface it is all so calm while a strong current of activity flows underneath.

I take this opportunity for appreciating our students, for participating and making BlueCrest proud in different aspects like sports, seminars, IT activities etc . We are all proud of you dear students! We are also proud of our staff who put efforts to show their Talents and contribution to BlueCrest Times. I hope you enjoy going through the newsletter and also let us your opinions and suggestions to improve it further.

Best Regards,

Veena Nair
Editor-in-Chief
BlueCrest Times

WELCOME TO BLUECREST

Mission

To incorporate in a self-sustainable approach, the use of new-age technology, learning processes, global alliances and an exemplary governance culture to enhance the delivery of value to student community, industry and other stakeholders.

Vision

To be a preferred centre of excellence in education, talent development and innovation responsive to the individual, institutional and social development needs of the people of Republic of Liberia in particular and West Africa in general.

July, 2022

National commission on Higher Education visited BlueCrest
Liberia for the inspection of MSC IT
Members of National commission on Higher Education members with the
President of BlueCrest - Dr. Umesh Neelakantan
and other BlueCrest functional heads attending the meeting.

ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Dr. Asadi Srinivasulu - Head Research - BlueCrest
conducted a one day international workshop on
Business Data Analytics Using ML and DL Techniques
at the DC School of Management and Technology Vegamon, India
where 120 people participated including students and Faculty members.

July 12, 2022

Campus placement Internship

BlueCrest Liberia always in support to Make Liberia Great
The APM Terminals conducted a campus placement an internship
seminar on July 12,2022 at the BlueCrest Liberia Seminar Hall
Approximately 20 people participated

Proud Moment for BlueCrest Liberia

Former Student of BSC IT – Mr. Charles G.Kpan Jr.
(Managing Director of CYGEC IT) represented team one and presented on the impact of META on the future of Internet in Liberia at Monrovia Tech Summit hosted by META & West African Action Network held at Mamba Point Hotel

July 30, 2022

BlueCrest Liberia Going Beyond Higher Education

July 30, 2022 BlueCrest Liberia Going Beyond H igher Education BlueCrest, Liberia officially launched LMLG Football Tournament on July 30th 2022. LMLG Football Tournament is the first edition of an annual Inter School Football competition where High Schools from Different counties in Liberia will be participating

August 19, 2022

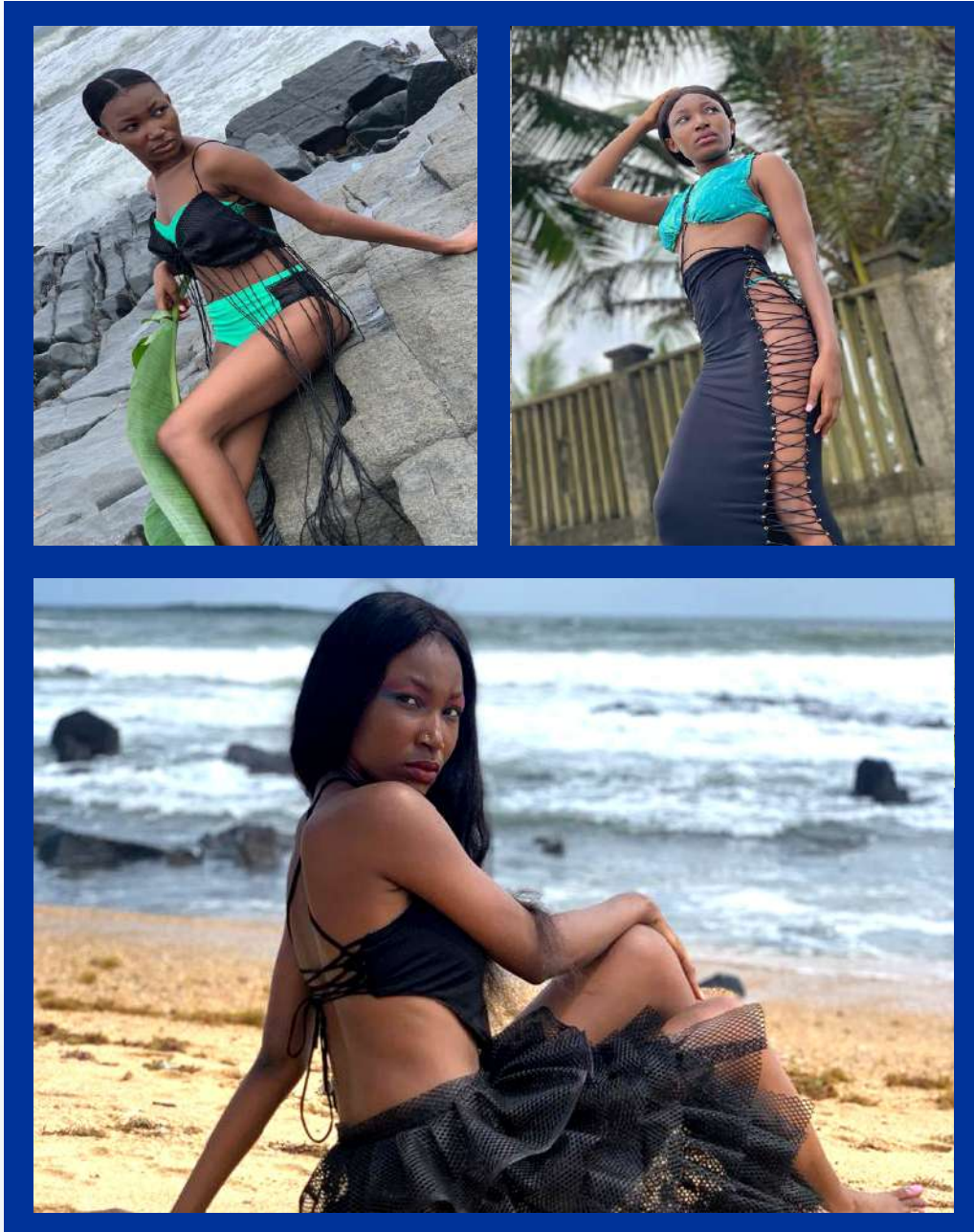## BlueCrest Liberia always there for the future of Liberia

A Career Counseling Seminar was organized by BlueCrest Liberia for high school students and Interested crowd. The Seminar was free of cost where career in different sector was introduces to the people and the areas of Job opportunity for the respective programs.

Aug 11, 2022

Project submission for School of Fashion and Design, BlueCrest, Liberia

Semester 1 students of School of Fashion Design - For the part project submission and presentation, the entire class was divided into a group of 2. The 1st member roleplayed as a client and the other member as a designer. The effort of BlueCrest – School of Fashion and design to make our students confident enough and ready for the outside world. The submission was done on 11th Aug 2022.

August 30, 2022

Fashion photo shoot for branding, advertising and promoting students work was instrumentalized by School of Fashion Design. This was also a part of the final collection of senior semester student "Margaret N Beyan"

August 31, 2022

New beginnings for School of Graduate Studies

Orientation for the New Fall session in BlueCrest Liberia School of Graduate Studies was conducted on August 31, 2022 at the Seminar Hall in BlueCrest, Liberia.

Article by one of Alumnus of School of Graduate Studies

Factors impeding the realization of digital rights and inclusion in Africa
[Computers & Technology](#)

- **Author Charles G. Kpan, Jr.**

- **Published July 26, 2022**

- **Word count982**

Societal and Cultural norms have always impeded the realization of digital rights and inclusion even up to the 21 Century. There are still many societal factors that affect the bridging of the digital divide in Africa. This essay will shine some light on some of those factors and recommend ways the problems can be resolved. Digital rights and inclusion are essential in promoting Natural Human Rights to equal opportunities involving all forms of societal biases including, gender, status, etc. It's only right that Leaders start to develop and implement strategies to neutralize the existing inequalities and ensure that national and international human rights treaties at upheld.

Digital rights are those basic human and legal rights that enable individuals to access, use, create, and publish digital media or to access and use computers, other electronic devices, and telecommunications networks. The concept is particularly related to the protection of rights already in existence, such as the right to privacy and free speech, in the context of digital technologies, particularly the Internet.

These rights have been inapplicable to a large extent in Africa, leading to a Digital Divide.

The Digital Divide is the space between those who have affordable access, skills, and support to effectively engage online and those who do not. As technology constantly revolutionizes, the digital divide prevents equal participation and opportunity in all areas of life, divergently affecting people of color, Indigenous peoples, households with low incomes, people with

disabilities, people in rural areas, and older adults.

According to Dudu Mkhwanazi of Project Isizwe, a social enterprise that aims to provide low-income communities with affordable access to Wi-Fi, 7.5 million low-income South Africans are paying 80 times more than middle- and upper-income citizens for access to the internet, exacerbating inequality in South Africa.

As of 2020, according to ALLIANCE FOR AFFORDABLE INTERNET, Internet penetration in Liberia currently stands at 19%. and the country does not meet the UN Broadband Commission's affordability threshold. While the highest 20% of income earners on average pay 8% of their monthly income for 1GB of data, it costs the lowest 20% of earners a staggering 47.56% to access the same — far above the 2% target. At the start of 2022, According to Data Reportal, Liberia's Internet Penetration rate stood at 22%

The above statistics show that there's a huge amount of disparity and inequality evidently existing in Africa and required measures need to be taken to ensure the reduction of the digital divide. For a frame of reference, these user figures show that 4.09 million people in Liberia did not use the internet in early 2022, which implies that 78.0 percent of the population remained offline at the beginning of the year.

Here are factors that contribute to the digital divide in Africa:

- Affordability. The cost of handsets, energy, and data is still too high for some populations. While low-cost solutions are improving for handsets for solar-energy kits and networks, further collaboration by all stakeholders and governments remains essential to lower barriers and facilitate access for all.

- Lack of digital skills and literacy. The top barrier to mobile internet use in low- and middle-income countries as well as a key issue in developed countries. The remaining unconnected population is disproportionately illiterate or has low levels of literacy. The digital transformation of our societies brings more opportunities for the connected but makes digital illiteracy the new frontier of inclusion.

- Lack of clearly defined regulation: Most African countries are more or less like toothless bulldogs that can only bark but not bite, particularly in the area of policy implementation in which the information sector is

inclusive. For instance,

- Lack of government commitment. The biggest hindrance to information development has been the attitude of the government toward information Technology (IT) and information infrastructures

  Lack of adequate power supply: stable electricity system is an indispensable infrastructure in the proper functioning of information infrastructure. In spite of this awareness; African countries have been characterized by the poor provision of electricity. Despite its importance, many African countries have struggled to ensure that at least 70% of their population has access to stable and affordable electricity. For instance, the acronym of the 'Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC)' has been satirically defined as 'Liberia Expecting Current' by aggrieved citizens due to the instability of Electricity in the country.

Governments of African countries have a greater task at hand to ensure that digital rights and inclusions are ensured to develop and implement strategic measures that address the prevailing challenges in a robust manner.

Below, are areas of societies that need to be strengthened:

- Renewable & Affordable Electricity — Electricity has proven to be a major driving factor of the digital revolution. Governments need to invest more into renewable energy ensuring that stable electricity is achieved in both urban and rural regions of the country.
- National Digital Literacy Programs — Nation-wide Digital Literacy awareness needs to be implemented to ensure that a large number of citizens are able to use information and communication technologies to find, evaluate, create, and communicate information.

This process should begin from the root; effective introductory computer courses should be taught in grade schools. Before leaving high school, a student should know how to safely use the internet, adequately use smart technologies, communicate safely over the internet and understand regulations and policies regarding internet usage.

- SMART Digital Rights and Inclusion Policies — This time, the policies should be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-sensitive. The internet of the users of the internet should be high on

the agenda. Multistakeholderism should be a key determining factor as every voice needs to be heard in the decision-making process. Regional and International Regulatory organizations should not just develop policies but develop ways to ensure that these policies are implemented on the local level.

Digital Rights and inclusion are essential in this modern era and there should be no societal or cultural norms that should impede the realization of the rights of individuals to access information.

By - Charles G. Kpan, Jr. holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Information Technology from Blue Crest University, Liberia majoring in System Infrastructure Management and Network Engineering.

Spreading BlueCrest in Liberia

COMING SOON
BlueCrest
Center of Learning
- IN KAKATA & ZORZOR -

NEW EMPLOYEES @BLUECREST

J. Melvin Harris
Marketing Officer

Diane Q. Koon
Corporate Business Assistant

Eunice S. Koffa
Janitor

Fatu Tuazama
Receptionist

Lawrence Dolo
Office Assistant

Patience Davies
Janitor

The one which revolves around your mind ,
To achieve that and making it your kind ,

Wishing for a long time ,
Without spending a dime ,

As pure as mother's love ,
And as clear as a white dove ,

Oh yes! That's my dream ,
With my family Team .

One day I will be showered ,
And will be empowered ,

Top on the up heaven , off the sky I will go,
When my dream turns ,to real existence

Nothing can shake me , break me or take me
Away far from my heart

I will one day summon up and fly with my Dream

**Summon up my dreams
..........Anonymous**

Cautiously I state my algorithms
Knowingly that each variables
Needs to be assign

With the anxiety to redefine
Future syntax errors to be found

I proceed diligently
Passingly coding
I set my functions in array

Initializing my Strings
For a better display
My mind races as my
Fingers increase pace

User friendly my top priority

AS I WRITE MY PROGRAM
By: Maximillian Keshen

STUDENT'S CORNER

POETS | **ARTS** | POEM | MAKE-UPS | FASHION

Designed
By: Jos Cephas

BlueCrest Liberia

Education for Life

LET'S MAKE
LIBERIA GREAT

LMLG
Let's Make Liberia Great

BlueCrest Monrovia

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