

2018 Community Leader Media Award



Karibu News



Karibu News, from the Swahili word for “welcome”, is a multilingual, immigrant and refugee focused newspaper founded by Rubens Mukunzi in 2015. Karibu’s objective is to inform the Immigrant and Refugee communities within Buffalo as well as to educate the larger community about the cultural and religious backgrounds and lifestyles of the many ethnic groups living in WNY.

Rubens is a Rwandan refugee who was a journalist and well known radio host in his native land. After the Rwandan Genocide, he was active in working to rebuild his country, and he used the power of the media as a vehicle for social change. Unfortunately, those efforts put him in personal danger, and in 2013, Rubens was forced to flee the country after being intimidated and harassed by government officials.

After arriving in Buffalo and serving as an interpreter for the International Institute, he realized the need for a multilingual news source for Immigrants and Refugees living in the area. In July 2015, the first edition of Karibu News was published. Today, it is printed biweekly, with 10,000 copies distributed throughout Buffalo. Recently Karibu News was the winner of 43North's THE PITCH business competition supporting its plan for expansion.

For its advocacy work and its efforts to foster freedom of speech and inclusion in the community, the NFJC is proud to present Karibu News with the 2018 Community Leader Award in Media. Accepting this award is founder and publisher, Rubens Mukunzi.



"...a just community begins with me!"

360 Delaware Avenue Suite 106
Buffalo, NY 14202
716.853.9596
www.nfjcwny.org