

Completion of  
Mate Masie

Each participant will receive a certificate upon completion of the Mate Masie Rites of Passage Program and will be presented to the community wearing authentic African attire.

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How Can You Take Part?

Mate Masie Rites of Passage sessions are offered at various times throughout the year.

Those who are interested in taking part should contact Imani Edu-Tainers African Dance Company staff at:

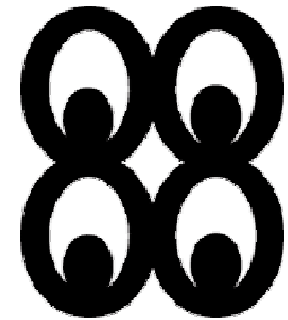
717-808-0203.

**Imani Edu-Tainers  
African Dance Company**

Contact Us:  
Mulberry Art Studios  
21 North Mulberry Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
Phone: 717-808-0203  
[www.imaniafricandance.org](http://www.imaniafricandance.org)

**MateMasie**

"What I hear, I keep."



Rites of Passage  
Training Program

**Imani Edu-Tainers  
African Dance Company**

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Designed for girls ages 11-18

# Rites of Passage

The importance of Rites of Passage rituals for marking the successful passage from one position in a social structure to another has been documented by anthropologists.

A Rite of Passage is a permission to move from one level in society to a higher level of human social and educational development.

This permission is granted by the community and marks the successful completion of a developmental process and the earning of the respect of the community.

The primary goal of this program is to combine traditional rites of passage practices and interventions strategies proven effective in adolescent pregnancy prevention, to assist adolescents with the transition into young adulthood.



## MateMasie

“MateMasie”, named after an Adinkra symbol of wisdom, knowledge and prudence, which translates to say, “What I hear, I keep” is a traditional rite of passage training program designed to reduce teen pregnancy rates among girls ages 11-18 years old in Lancaster



## Components of Traditional

### Rites of Passage:

- Separation
- Preparation
- Transition
- Rebirth

In order to achieve the goal of the Rites of Passage program students are secluded from society for a brief period. An adult is present at all times and participants take part in workshops that involve visual art, ancestral and family history research, and dance and drumming techniques. The following topical areas are covered throughout the process.

- Self Identity
- Ancestral & Family History
- Healthy Weight Management
- Decision-making
- Sexuality Education
- Goal Setting
- Reducing Sexual Risk
- African Dance and Rhythms