



## *Cheza! The Art of Storytelling: Lost and Found*



Sunday January 4 at 3 pm

\$10 General/ \$5 for Members

Tickets: Call 202-462-7833 or email [info@dcartcenter.org](mailto:info@dcartcenter.org)

CHEZA! The Art of Storytelling is a performing arts organization based in Washington, DC that utilizes singing, acting and dancing to tell stories through the eyes of young people and from an African and African-American perspective. The mission of CHEZA! is to give youth a platform to continually express messages and stories from their individual infused experiences. CHEZA! fulfills its mission through commissioning, performing, and presenting various genres of performances, and collaborating with, mentoring and encouraging other young artists.

Second year college students Kelanji Mushala, founder of CHEZA! with Christa Mushala, co-founder, wanted to create a space where their peers can come together to creatively express their love of dance, music, performing, and writing. Together they hope to encourage youth to feel proud and comfortable with who they are and where they come from while unapologetically sharing their talents with audiences. Every CHEZA production ultimately aims to create a universal connection between artists and audiences by encouraging youth to embrace their talents and offer the performing arts world a different taste of performing that embodies the African and African-American spirit and identity.

Through passionate messages from their own unique, historical and cultural perspectives, Christa and Kelanji work to provide understanding, belief and ultimately motivation through performances whether fictional or autobiographical.

The long term goal for CHEZA! is to create the Mushala Scholarship Fund to support youth in the US and Tanzania who are interested in pursuing a career in the performing arts. The aim of the scholarship fund is to encourage future artists and entertainers to embrace their talents and to perfect how to deliver a story effectively combined with knowing the right story to tell in order to powerfully influence and communicate messages.