

WFWP Stuttgart, Germany: World Refugee Day - "Queen of Katwe" Film Viewing

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This was the first event held in the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) center in Stuttgart after the COVID-19 lock down. Five guests and Uwe and Monique Schneider from Rheinland-Pfalz joined four WFWP Stuttgart members on this occasion.

We had prepared the center well in accordance with all the regulations: hand disinfectant, the chairs set out at a distance of 1.5 m, and we all were equipped with facial protection. But we also took time to tastefully decorate the tables with fresh flowers and serviettes with a rose motif, and our guests were welcomed with coffee and snacks.



Gabriele Schickert opened the official program with a prayer, after which Uwe Schneider introduced the film which we were going to watch: a German translation of "Queen of Katwe." He told us about his work as a chess-trainer in Zambia and explained that chess offers excellent opportunities to learn logical thinking, develop strategies and to successfully deal with difficulties.

The film is the true story of a desperately poor girl from the slums of Kampala/Uganda, who is given the opportunity by a worker in the slum's mission center to learn chess. Although illiterate, in a short time she learnt to play the game so well that at the age of fifteen she became chess champion of Uganda.

We were all deeply moved by the girl's determination and success in fighting the poverty and other difficulties facing her. After the film followed an intensive discussion, and Uwe Schneider answered our many questions.

We were all so happy to be together again after the lock down, and our guests were reluctant to leave. Thank you

for this special meeting!

Reported by Ute Lemme
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