



INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS OF UGANDA

ACCOUNTANCY SERVICE AWARDS (ASA) 2025

FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2025

ABOUT THE ASA AWARDS

The Accountancy Service Awards (ASA) are premium annual awards of excellence aimed at recognising individuals or institutions that have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the accountancy profession in Uganda and beyond.

The Awards are categorised into:

1. ICPAU Gold Service
2. CPA of the Year
3. Young Accountant of the Year
4. Woman Accountant of the Year
5. Accounting Firm of the Year
6. Finance Team of the Year

This year, 2025, three (3) Special Award Categories were recognised and awarded:

7. Institutional Partner of the Year
8. Unique Humanitarian Service
9. Media Personality of the Year

CITATIONS FOR AWARD WINNERS

1. Media Personality of the Year Award

The Award recognizes and celebrates journalists who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to promoting the accountancy profession through accurate, consistent, and impactful reporting. The award acknowledges the vital role the media plays in shaping public awareness, enhancing transparency, and supporting the visibility of the profession. Honoring excellence in journalism strengthens collaboration between the accountancy profession and the media, while advancing professionalism, integrity, and public trust.

There were three (3) nominations for this award.

The reporter:

- Began his career as a teacher of Literature in English at Kigezi College Butobere (1989-1990) before transitioning into journalism.
- Rose through the ranks to become News Editor - English Desk and Reporter, and continued to give consistent coverage to the Institute's activities, programmes, and initiatives.
- Despite not having fully recovered from a life-threatening accident, the reporter covered and extensively reported on all the activities of the Institute from April 2024.
- Has, over the years, demonstrated exceptional flexibility in reporting, breaking down complex accountancy-related topics with accuracy and clarity.
- Beyond reporting, has mentored and trained the next generation of journalists, equipping them with the skills to cover technical and complex financial and accountancy-related issues.
- The ICPAU media personality of the year 2025, started covering the activities of the Institute at the 1ST ANNUAL SEMINAR held in Mbarara in 1996, while serving as an Information Officer at UNA and Reporter at UTV.

Through dedication, professionalism, and unwavering support, this reporter has significantly contributed to enhancing public awareness and appreciation of the accountancy profession in Uganda.

*For the outstanding contribution to the growth and development of the accountancy profession,
the Award goes to MR. DEOGRATIUS HABIMANA, UBC TV*

2. Institutional Partner of the Year Award

The Award recognizes partner institutions that have made outstanding contributions to the success of the accountancy profession in Uganda.

There were three (3) nominations for this Award.

The Institution:

- a) Has participated in initiatives to support ICPAU's mandate, as a tuition provider, training the Future Accountants and producing quality professionals with well-trained and experienced tutors.
- b) Offered practical experience training to CPA students and graduates through a combination of theoretical and practical learning, access to a well-equipped computer lab, and engagement with experienced and supportive tutors.
- c) Encourages and sponsors its staff to pursue professional courses, while offering opportunities for growth in line with the accountancy profession. Training in accounting courses is one of the benefits awarded to staff.
- d) Is currently running a Leadership Academy, a one-year transformative programme offered in partnership with the Institute, which is elevating accountants into leadership positions.

With this Institution, ICPAU foresees synergies resulting from continued collaborations in elevating the leadership role of accountants in the country.

For the outstanding contribution to the growth and development of the accountancy profession, the Award goes to MAT ABACUS Business School

3. Unique Humanitarian Service Award

The Award recognizes individuals who have impacted their communities through humanitarian or other socio-developmental causes. The ICPAU Humanitarian Award for 2025 goes to an individual whose humanitarian and leadership skills have had a lasting impact on the lives of those in need.

There were three (3) nominations for this Award

The individual;

- a) Leads a purpose-driven life, championing mental health advocacy and drug abuse prevention.
- b) Started in 2017, as a community organization focused on Education and Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse and the Promotion of Mental Health Awareness.
- c) The Initiative has since grown to become a nationwide effort.
- d) Through these efforts, the organisation has:
 - Created education, awareness, and prevention on drug and substance abuse, mental health, addiction & depression through interventions like schools and community outreach, peer mentorship, support and counselling services, skilling & mentorship, rehabilitation & referral services, as well as advocacy and policy engagement.
 - Provided a platform for young learners to voice their concerns and share experiences.
 - Fostered collaborations with players in rehabilitation centres, schools/institutions of higher learning, government, media, creative industry, and development partners to educate, inspire, mentor, and empower young people against drug abuse and promote mental health.

For the passion and willingness to serve others above self, welcome with me, Drug Abuse /Mental Health advocate, promoter of Drugs Hapana (“Say No to Drugs”) initiative and Radio personality, Ms. Ann Ssebunya

4. Finance Team of The Year Award

The Award honours the contribution of finance teams to the overall success of their organizations. The award recognizes the fact that a CFO alone cannot drive the organization, thus the need to recognize the efforts as a team.

There were seven (7) nominations for this Award

The Finance Team:

- Provides accurate and timely financial information to Management to support decision-making that drives the organization's overall strategy.
- Has contributed to consistent year-on-year profitability growth. Notably, this financial performance has translated into increased shareholder value, with the Company's share price on the Uganda Securities Exchange rising from UGX 50 in 2023 to UGX 118 within three years.
- Has embraced technology and the use of AI tools to increase the speed of task execution, which tools have assisted in analyzing large volumes of data to inform strategic financial planning.
- Provides sponsored training opportunities to staff that enhance both technical expertise and leadership capabilities, reinforcing a culture of continuous learning and ensuring that finance professionals remain current with ethical standards, industry regulations, and emerging risks.
- Aligns succession planning with organizational goals to ensure continuity in key roles. This includes identifying understudies for critical positions, fostering mentorship, and preparing future leaders from within the finance team.
- Demonstrates a strong commitment to upholding ethical standards amongst all finance staff. A key element is the mandatory **conflict of interest declarations**, which ensure transparency and integrity in all financial dealings and enforce established disciplinary procedures as supported by the HR manual, which outlines consequences for unethical behaviour and serves as a deterrent against misconduct.
- Is not afraid of public scrutiny and is an ardent participant in the annual Financial Reporting (FiRe) Awards.

This finance team's commitment to transparency, continuous development, and ethical governance reflects a deep sense of responsibility and excellence.

Ladies and gentlemen, the award goes to the Finance Team at Quality Chemical Industries Limited (Qcil)

5. Accounting Firm of The Year Award

This Award recognizes an upcoming local accounting firm. A firm that has enjoyed an exceptional year and demonstrated outstanding achievements, including career opportunities for accountancy professionals.

There were six (6) nominations for this Award

The Accounting Firm:

- Has demonstrated a strong commitment and willingness to continuously improve by implementing the recommendations from the ICPAU Quality Assurance Review team.
- Has made great improvements in its quality management systems by automating its International Standard on Quality Management implementation process using 'Inflo', a digital quality management solution that helps implement, monitor, and provide feedback on its quality management system.
- Has established an In-house quality & compliance department with a focus on quality.
- Has embraced automation in its documentation of key processes and uses an audit package for documentation
- Has grown its service offerings from traditional audit & assurance, accounting, and tax, and expanded into business consulting and software setup - approved Tally Accounting Software provider, among others.
- Prepares and shares newsletters with potential clients and conducts ad hoc training to existing clients.
- Has established partnerships with Universities - Makerere University Business School, Islamic University in Uganda, and Kyambogo University for Graduate Recruitment programs
- Supports the professional development of its staff through periodical training and has an arrangement with an outsourced trainer - ProBeta Training
- Recommends staff to enrol for the CPA course and pays registration and subscription fees, but also rewards staff who excel in exams by sponsoring a paper
- Is registered and participates in the ICPAU pro bono initiative

Ladies and Gentlemen, the award for the accounting firm of the year 2025 goes to ABDUL & ASSOCIATES.

6. Young Accountant of The Year Award

The Award recognizes a young accountant who has embraced and promoted the tenets of the profession in a way that reflects a truly professional accountant. The young accountant must be 35 years and below.

There were ten (10) nominations for this Award

The accountant:

- a. Is below the age of 35 years, and has been an active full member of the Institute for 5 years.
- b. Has contributed to the growth of the organization in which they serve. Through their service, they have attained noteworthy accomplishments that exhibit ICPAU-promoted professional conduct and technical proficiency, including;
 - i. the development of internal audit manuals for clients;
 - ii. departmental procedures to enhance audit documentation and risk assessment within their organisation; and
 - iii. facilitating at the practical skills training for university graduates and professional accountancy students, who in turn secured job placements in various organisations.
- c. Mentored an associate member to full membership of ICPAU and continues to mentor 3 associate members with a view of them attaining full membership of ICPAU.
- d. Markets the Institute's Courses and teaches auditing and taxation papers for the CPA Course.
- e. Serves on the Internal Audit Panel of the Professional Standards Committee.

Ladies and gentlemen, the award of Young Accountant for the year 2025 goes to CPA STEPHEN MUCHELULE, Assistant Manager, Business Risk Services, Grant Thornton Uganda

7. Woman Accountant of the Year Award

This award recognises a female accountant who embraces and promotes the tenets of the profession in a way that reflects a truly professional accountant.

There were eight (8) nominations for this Award

The accountant:

- a. By her merits and accomplishments, she represents a model of what ICPAU espouses in terms of professional conduct and technical proficiency.
- b. Has maintained a professional career for over 14 years.
- c. Mentored youth at her church and helped her church in preparations for celebration of 25 years of existence, despite having had a busy work schedule.
- d. Has supported her church and Rotary club in enhancing governance and financial management practices. Was elected president of her Rotary Club.
- e. Has professionalised the finance department of the Institution where she currently serves.
- f. Mentored 7 professional accountancy students in her department.
- g. Provided information and insights to management which enabled the entity refocus on its core business and improve performance and efficiency, in bid to recove from the after effects of COVID-19.
- h. Championed the transformation of a microfinance institution into a bank status, as the chairperson of the transformation committee. Kept management and the Board updated about the transformation process and achieved the bank status a month before target date. Thereafter, ensured that the entity meets Bank of Uganda financial reporting deadlines and internal budgeting deadlines.

For her commitment to the accounting profession and transformational leadership

*Ladies and gentlemen, the award of Woman Accountant for the year 2025 goes to Head of Finance,
Pride Bank and President Rotary Club of Najjera, CPA IRENE MWOYOGWONA,*

CPA of The Year Award

The Award recognizes and honours a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) who has made an outstanding contribution to the accountancy profession in Uganda and beyond.

There were four (4) nominations for this Award

The accountant:

- By the merits and accomplishments represent a model of what ICPAU espouses in terms of professional conduct and technical proficiency.
- Has maintained a professional career for over 17 years, with work experience in Accounting, Auditing, Business Analysis, and Supply Chain Management.
- Serves on the Governing Boards of several institutions, including Britam Insurance Uganda, Budei Education Centre and Uganda Christian University. Budei Education Centre takes care of children with special needs and orphans. The CPA pays school fees for 10 children on top of serving on the Centre's Board.
- Previously served as a Board member for the Institute of Internal Auditors Uganda, Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) Kampala Chapter, and the Institute of Procurement Professionals of Uganda.
- Serves under the good Samaritan ministry of their church as well as chief warden. As chief warden, the CPA has transformed the financial management processes and systems of their church, and deployed an accounting package for the church.
- Trained clergy under Namirembe Diocese in investment and financial management. The trainees went on to invest in securities.
- Conducted training for women and girls on career advancement and business on a voluntary basis. On learning about it, Hiinga Uganda, deployed the CPA to conduct similar training to the youth in the communities they support, free of charge.

- Organised supplier forums to educate them on how they can benefit from government supply chain opportunities.
- Actively attended and participated in the Institute's activities as a member.
- Is rated as a good resource person, who openly shares knowledge, and has delivered various CPD presentations at ICPAU events, and continues to share content through publications.
- Trained aspiring accountants, published study materials and mentored CPA graduates, thus being instrumental in growing the number and quality accountants for the country.
- Served on the Council of ICPAU, chaired the Disciplinary, Projects Management, Women in Accountancy, and Finance, Planning & Administration Committees of ICPAU, and also served on the Education Committee.
- Led the team which kick-started the redevelopment of the Institute's property on Plot 42 Bukoto Street.
- Is a true reflection of what a Certified Public Accountant must be in way of life.

For the all-round exemplary performance and inspirational endeavors, Ladies and gentlemen, the award for CPA of the Year 2025 goes to CPA GLORIA TUHAISE WAKOوبا, Director, Procurement and Disposal Department at Bank of Uganda.

8. ICPAU Gold Service Award

The Award is the highest award for accountancy services. It recognizes and honours individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the accountancy profession in Uganda and beyond.

- The recipient of this Award is an accountant who has been instrumental in the development of the profession over the years.
- Has been an ICPAU member in good standing for over 28 years.
- Has trained, mentored, and inspired many CPAs to excel, and continues to be a reference point in professional growth.
- In 2010, provided practical opportunities by facilitating the internship placement of 10 CPA graduates at the Bank of Uganda. 7 of these CPAs are still serving at the Bank. This highlights his vision of nurturing talent and creating opportunities for future accountants.
- Helped in professionalising the finance and audit functions of Watoto Church and the Uganda Golf Club.
- Was recalled from retirement to help set up the Petroleum Investment Fund.
- Chairs the boards of Gaff Consulting Engineers, Eagle Air and Deposit Protection Fund (DPF). Has seen the DPF total assets grow from Billions to Trillions.
- Where-ever the CPA serves a board or committee of an entity, he ensures that finance and audit functions are professionalised and filled with qualified accountants and trainee accountants.
- Was instrumental in establishing transformative policies that strengthened ICPAU's governance and administrative systems. He played a key role in the development of the Council Charter, which enhanced governance structures. Supported the transformation of the Institute's examination processes and systems, ensuring their credibility and integrity.
- Chaired the Finance, Planning & Administration Committee, Public Accountants Examinations Board and Quality Assurance Board of ICPAU.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have the singular honour to present the ICPAU Gold Service Award to the Chairman of the Deposit Protection Fund and the 6th President of ICPAU, CPA BEN PATRICK KAGORO.