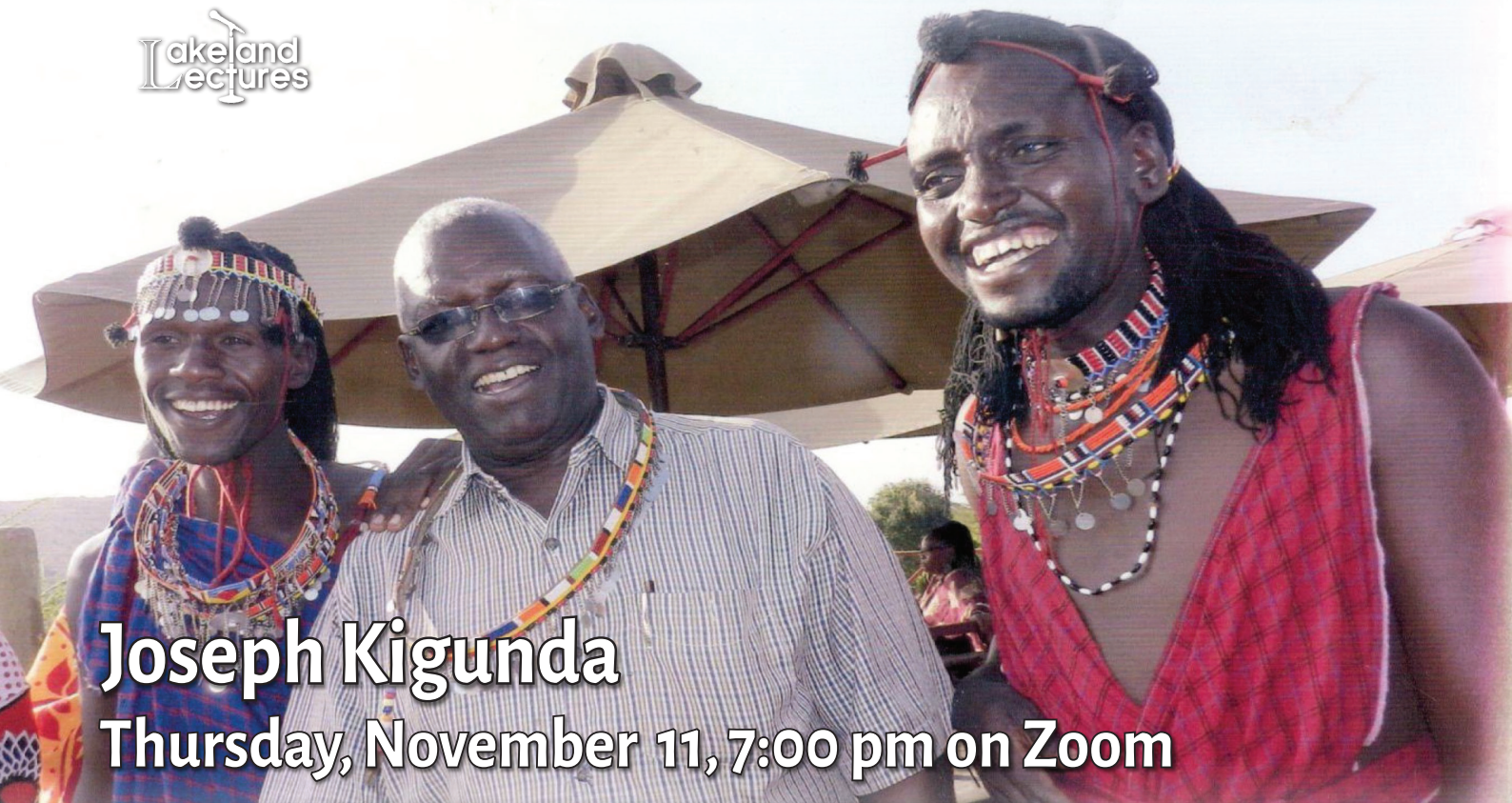


# A Vision in the Desert

SERVING THE HEARING-IMPAIRED IN KENYA

Lakeland  
Lectures



**Joseph Kigunda**

**Thursday, November 11, 7:00 pm on Zoom**

**F**rom many African perspectives, a child born with disability is considered a bad omen and a curse from the spirit of the departed family members. Such children have been thrown away in the forest or river banks or abandoned in remote areas, left to the wild animals. Joseph Kigunda has dedicated his long career to fighting back against such attitudes through his extensive work with the hearing-impaired in Kenya, where he has had a hand in developing several agencies and institutes serving the hearing impaired, and even developed Kenyan sign language. Join us as Mr. Kigunda talks about his long journey, which “began from nowhere, without a direction and among the hungry wolves.”

Joseph Kigunda earned a Diploma in Special Needs Education from Siriba Teachers College (Kenya) and an MS in Education from the University of Rochester (USA). He worked in the Kenyan Ministry of Education as Inspector of Schools for the Deaf and later established The Karen Technical Training Institute for the Deaf, where he served as principal until his retirement. He has remained active in retirement, apprising special needs persons of their constitutional rights as well as conducting seminars for teachers, parents and caregivers for children with disabilities.

Lakeland University Japan website at [luj.lakeland.edu](http://luj.lakeland.edu); Tel: 03-3225-0425

The Lakeland Lectures are a forum for researchers, students and members of the public to discuss contemporary issues affecting Japan. Lakeland University has offered a U.S.-accredited liberal arts program in Tokyo since 1991. Lakeland's main campus is in Wisconsin, USA and was founded in 1862.