



Episode 7 – Malagasy Ladies Involved in Nofy i Androy

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Karen: Hello, welcome to the Friends of Madagascar Mission podcast. My name is Karen and joining us today are Kwasnie, Rodine, and Felisté. These young ladies live in Madagascar, and they are involved in a program called Nofy i Androy. Ladies, we are so pleased that you can join us today. Please say hello to our listeners and introduce yourselves.

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Kwasnie: Hello, my name is Kwasnie. I am 24 years old. I'm from Tsihombe, Androy and I'm a Tsihombe, Androy student. I'm on my 4th year at the University of Majunga studying to become a medical doctor.

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Rodine: Hello everybody. My full name is Valesoa Sailambo Rodine. Everyone calls me Rodine. I am 27 years old. I'm from Ambovombe Androy. I am finishing up my fifth year of studying at Tulia University to become physics and chemistry teacher in high school.

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Felisté: Hello, my name is Felisté. I'm a Nofy i Androy student, I am 24 years old, and I'm from Amboasary in the southern part of Madagascar. I go to Majunga University. I'm in a master program in grad school. My major is science of life and environment.

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Karen: Kwasnie, let's start with you. Could you please tell our listeners what Nofy is and then comment on how long you have been with Nofy i Androy and also how Nofy helps you?

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Kwasnie: This is Kwasnie and I got involved in Nofy i Androy because my parents have no possibility to send me to the university to pay my fees. When I got my high school diploma, I stopped. I took a break for a year because of that and I thought to look for a job. Even the wage is not enough for my diploma to pay my fees. But there is Nofy i Androy. So, I applied for the Nofy i Androy scholarship and I got it and since then Nofy i Androy has helped me.

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Karen: Rodine, your turn. How many years have you been involved with Nofy and how does Nofy support you?

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Rodine: I've been with Nofy i Androy for 12 years since I was in 9th grade. I was one of the first girls of Nofy i Androy in 2012. Nofy i Androy serves my lives and helps my mom. Nofy i Androy pays my school supplies and tuition. I'm studying physics and chemistry at the Toliara University. I'm in my fifth year. I will be graduating this year to become high school teacher. Nofy i Androy pays my school supplies and tuition.

I got involved with Nofy i Androy because I wanted to be a strong women and a great leader. I wanted to be unified with Nofy i Androy. I felt so hard by their love and support. I couldn't do it myself without Nofy i Androy.

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Karen: Felisté, how about you? Please tell us how long you have been involved with Nofy and how Nofy ministers to you.

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Felisté: I've been with Nofy i Androy for a year and a half. Nofy i Androy helps me with my studies, like paying my school fees, school supplies and also my sunglasses and my prescribed glasses and also sends me to eye doctor for check-ups.

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Karen: My last questions to each of you are about your futures. Please comment on the following questions. What are your dreams? Where do you see yourselves in five years? And how is Nofy helping you to achieve your dreams? Rodine, let's start with you.

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Rodine: Let's just say, me personally, I see myself in five years very happy. If I accomplish my dreams, I am lucky Nofy i Androy is there to encourage me. I need Nofy i Androy in my life so I focus on sharing the dreams. In five years, I see myself teaching physics and chemistry to lots of young women so that they can be like me.

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Karen: Felisté, what are your dreams? And where do you see yourself in five years? And how is Nofy helping you?

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Felisté: As the Nofy i Androy motto says, “studying for success and progress.” As for me, I want to become a doctor and I want to get my PhD in my major. That way I will get a good job. I will help my family, especially my parents. And also, I would like to give back to Nofy i Androy for the girls because Nofy i Androy helped me with everything. Supporting me to keep my chin up when I'm in trouble. So, I would like to help them when I work.

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Karen: And Kwasnie, your turn. Where do you see yourself in five years and how is Nofy helping you achieve your dreams?

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Kwasnie: As I said earlier, my dream is to become a medical doctor in five years, I will get a job. Not only I like to take care of people, but also, I will take care of my elderly parents, my family, my communities. And I promise to be here for Nofy i Androy to support young girls. Not only Nofy i Androy supports my study, but also, they give me courage to face up my difficulty. So, I would like to pass that along.

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Karen: Ladies, I cannot thank you enough for taking the time to talk with us today. Most people in the US very rarely get the opportunity to visit with or even to listen to people from Madagascar, especially outstanding students like yourselves.

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Kwasnie: Thank you, Friends of Madagascar Mission. And thank you for this podcast. Bye-bye.

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Karen: For those of you listening, if you would like to learn more about Nofy i Androy, and the other programs supported by Friends of Madagascar Mission, we invite you to visit our website at madagascarmission.org. Thank you.

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Kwasnie & Felisté: Thank you, Friends of Madagascar Mission to invite us and for this podcast. Bye-bye.