

SEPTEMBER 2024 ISSUE

PUBLISH'D AFRIKA

LITERARY MAGAZINE

**PUBLISH'D AFRIKA
Adopt-An-Author
Program
- 22 Scribes Get
Opportunity To
Publish**

**WEeping BECOMES
A RIVER
- SIPHOKAZI JONAS**

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SUPERCool:
Empowering
Young Minds
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**SHATTERED
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**MPONDO LITERARY
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**Celebration of
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Weeping Becomes A River – Siphokazi Jonas



On the eve of the multi-award-winning writer, performer and poet Siphokazi Jonas' forthcoming debut, Penguin Random House poetry collection, *Weeping Becomes a River*, released in September 2024, the latter part of 2024, into 2025 looks to be an eventful and confirmatory career trajectory for the firebrand.

Siphokazi Jonas is a weaver of seemingly discordant worlds; growing up in an Afrikaans dorpie, attending an English boarding school, and going on annual holidays to a village, *emaXhoseni*, during the transition years of South

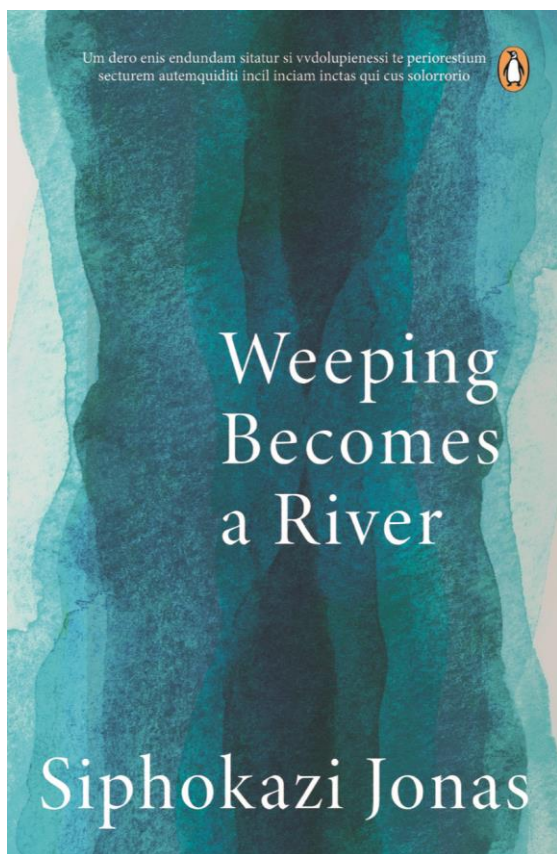
Africa's democracy made this a necessity.

In *Weeping Becomes a River*, she confronts the linguistic and cultural alienation experienced as a black learner in former Model C schools in the 1990s and early 2000s. Then, she fashions the fragments to reclaim and rewrite her place within a lineage of storytellers.

Migrating between forms, poetry and *intsomi*, she navigates the waters of tradition, religion, intergenerational experiences of rural and urban spaces, and how family dynamics affect the body. She is not only a referee of the

raging tensions within her but also pieces together a language for pathways of leaving and returning.

Her poems grapple with the past, the present, and possible futures without forgetting that “the body is marked territory from birth, and the scent of it never leaves”. Endorsements as to her talent and ongoing contribution to the literary arts are multiform. Still, one of the most significant is that written by the esteemed film score composer ([Trevor Jones](#)) in the foreword to *Weeping Becomes a River*.



“Her writing has an underlying political relevance, not only as a commentary on the politics of South Africa and her ethnicity but also as an eagerness to address and redress the gender balance. In this work, she juxtaposes a

mythic story with poems, creating an intriguing world through this unusual narrative form, conjuring up new experiences and realities and triggering ideas that resonate in the reader’s mind.

“I would encourage those curious to allow themselves to journey with her into a world where she conjures up unfamiliar experiences and creates captivating realities imbued with fascination and intrigue. In her word paintings of a world with all its attendant emotions, she crafts languages to convey tangible and intangible ideas. The unfamiliar becomes familiar as her choice of words and their relevance creates a unique form of poetry redolent with meaning, atmosphere and depth of emotion.”

The months ahead are alive with the opportunity to engage with *Weeping Becomes a River* and the author as she embarks on a book tour that will take her across South Africa and around the world. For starters, come September, [The Open Book Festival](#) looks forward to welcoming Siphokazi back to host as part of their annual literature celebration. Between the 6th and 8th of September, poetry lovers and those curious to embrace original creative writing that speaks to a South African reality and a global audience keen to understand the power of prose better come together at this imperative *imbizo*.

After the success of [#WeAreDyingHere](#), and as her first official engagement in celebration of only the second poetry book to be published by Penguin Random House in South Africa, patrons will get the opportunity to hear from the

author herself and enjoy a selection of works that make up this gripping collection.

To secure your limited pre-order and autographed copies of *Weeping Becomes a*

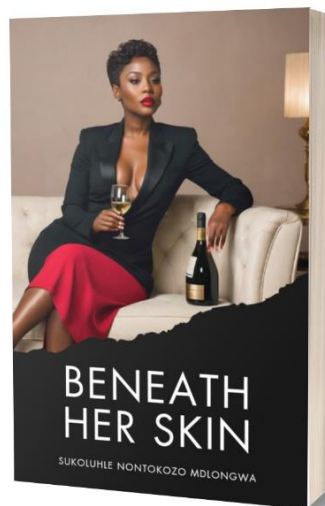
River, go to <https://siphokazijonas.com/>.

For more information, please contact Martin Myers – martmyers@gmail.com or 083 448 4475.

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At 40, Nonkululeko Ngubeni has worked hard to climb the corporate ladder and now has it all – a good job as a sought-after Chartered Accountant, the house, her dream car, a healthy bank balance – and a controlling mother who bleeds her dry every chance she gets. She doesn't mind the black tax; other than her mother, she has five siblings who depend on her, four of them already

at college. After all, it is her mother, Rebecca, who bent over backwards to ensure that she reaches this pinnacle in her life. Only if she would stop reminding her of that fact every time her purse starts to weigh a little lighter.

Nonkululeko's life takes a dramatic turn when a new junior employee, Mandla Masuku, shows a romantic interest in her. She has just come out of a tumultuous relationship with a colleague, whose wondering eye led him to date her best friend. Now, the prospect of dating a man almost half her age seems like a rebound that would raise eyebrows, and possibly put paid to a career she has worked hard for all her life. As if that is not enough, a revelation about how her father died over three and a half decades ago, threatens to tear the already thin fabric holding the relationship she has with her mother.

Beneath Her Skin, from the quill of Sukoluhle Nontokozo Mdlongwa, shines the spotlight on the often strained mother-daughter relationships, black tax, romance between an older woman and a younger man, and how family dynamics can drive a caring breadwinner to depression.

Fertility: The Measure Of A Woman's Worth



Where a woman's worth is measured by her fertility, childbearing abilities are the passport to praise and approval.

This is the logline of BARE, a documentary by Monica Bila, which won the Women Behind Film Award, at

the Mpumalanga International Film Festival.

Written and directed by Monica Bila, and produced by Burgundy Lights Media and Production House, **BARE** seeks to give a voice to women who are unable to have children biologically. The awards were held at the iLanga Mall Cinema in Mbombela on August 10th, 2024.

BARE is a story about giving a voice to women who are unable to have children biologically, by sharing 38-year-old community development practitioner, Yvonne Masondo's story, and shining the spotlight on both societal double standards around it as well as exploring the causes for it (medically and spiritually).

Mrs Yvonne Masondo is a married professional career woman from Middelburg, in Mpumalanga, who has challenges in her attempts to conceive, due to medical and possibly spiritual reasons. She grew up in a big family in the small town of Dundonald "Dondon" in Mpumalanga. She is her parent's only daughter, out of seven boys, which inspired her deep desire for a big family.

At 22, Yvonne fell pregnant from her then relationship and had her daughter out of wedlock. After her relationship with her daughter's father ended, she decided to move back to Middelburg to pursue a career in community development and politics.

In 2015, Yvonne met and fell in love with her husband through a social

media platform, and they decided to start a family. After trying to conceive on their own unsuccessfully for a year, Yvonne and her husband decided to seek medical help. Even after the doctors tested them and did procedures on Yvonne, the couple still couldn't conceive, so they sought the help of preachers, herbalists, prophets and so forth, in a bid to fall pregnant. Yet, it was all in vain.

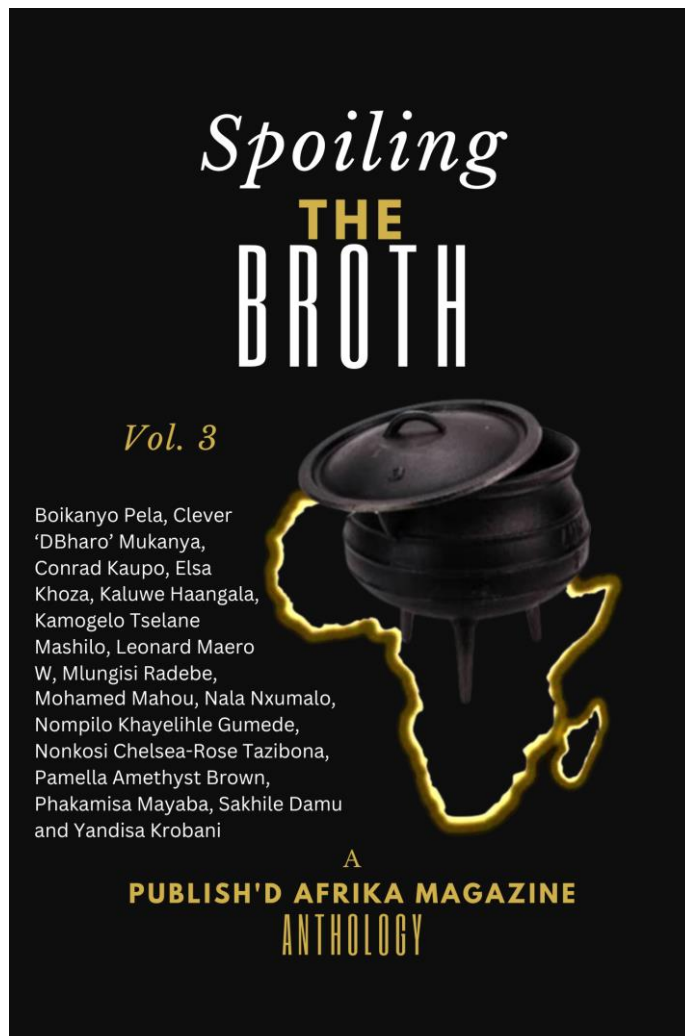
Years later, the couple still have not been able to hear the cry of their own child. Meanwhile, the pressure of the biological clock weighed heavily on Yvonne's shoulders, but she refuses to give up.

This story may seem like an isolated event, however Mrs Yvonne Masondo represents so many women and men in the world who are unable to bring their dream of having one or more children to fruition. The subject or topic of infertility is introduced in depth as well as the causes according to the professionals – gynecology specialist Dr. K.T Maoto and Family Physician Dr. S.D Mogano.

Some people believe in the spirituality and/or religious aspects of life, and this part is covered by traditional healer, Mr. P. Zitha, Pastor F.D Mabhena as well as Apostle E.S Nkosi. The professionals (Traditional and Western) share their opinions and personal experiences on infertility, how they believe it can be treated or cured (where possible) and Yvonne shows off her resilience as a woman of faith.

PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Adopt-An-Author Program

22 Scribes Get Opportunity To Publish



A total of 22 aspiring writers will get an opportunity to get published, thanks to **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Magazine's Adopt-An-Author Program**.

Of the 22, a total of 16 writers will form part of **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Magazine's** Spoiling The Broth Volume 3, while six scribes will publish individual, complete bodies of work.

Each year, **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Online Literary Magazine** sponsors the editing, proofreading, manuscript development and ultimately publication of aspiring authors' works, at no cost to them. These are aspiring authors that we identify independently, whose works in our opinion stand out and show promise. The authors also have to be willing to be mentored further on the craft.

The **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA's Adopt-An-Author Program** was established in 2021, with the publication of, amongst others, Zeripah Amoni Phiri's book, *I Am Also A Woman*. The project was wholly funded by Mr Success Moripa, of Moripe Group of Companies. The project gained momentum with the publication of Matumelo Mafoko's book, *Through The Silent Tsunami*. Matumelo's project was funded by **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA**.

Anathi Kom's poetry anthology, *A Tree of Life*, soon followed. This was a collaboration between **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA** and the University of Fort Hare. Anathi has gone on to

make a name for herself, also becoming a contributor to **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Magazine's** Spoiling The Broth anthology Vol1.

Below are six of the authors who have been selected to be part of the **2024 PUBLISH'D AFRIKA's Adopt-An-Author Program:**

Ndinisa Asiphe, a 19-year-old second-year University of Fort Hare student pursuing studies in the LLB stream. She was born in Butterworth and bred in Fort Malan, a rural area in kuGatyana called Ntshatshongo.



Ndinisa started writing at a very young age. Her first published work about bullying was published in the YAKHA Magazine in 2021, when she was in Grade 11. This year, she entered a competition called Cape Argus Youth Competition, of which the results are yet to be published. She also entered a GBV and Consent Competition sponsored by the University of Fort Hare.

Her book, *I Rise Like A Phoenix*, clinched her the **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Adopt-An-Author** accolade.

"I am grateful for the opportunity that **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA** is giving us as upcoming authors," she said. "May the hands that keep blessing us receive everlasting joy and encouragement to do so, and may they be rewarded for their splendid work."

Sanelisiwe Ndlovu is a 34-year-old fiction author born in Gwanda, Zimbabwe, but currently based in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga. She mostly specialises in romance, fantasy and young adult.

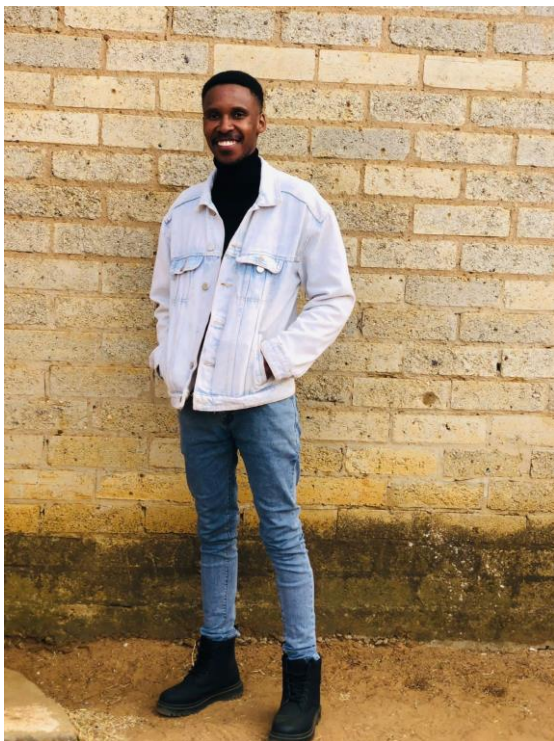


With a passion of storytelling and a knack for humour, she has penned three books on Visionary Writings that inspire

and delight readers, namely *The Scorned Woman*, *The Appeasement*, and *Broken Mirror*. She also runs a Facebook page 'Stories by Sane Ndlovu' that was established in February 2024 and has now garnered more than five thousand followers. This is where she shares engaging stories and fosters a community of like-minded readers.

Through her writing, Sanelisiwe aims to transport readers to new dimensions and spark meaningful conversations. She also aims to delight and entertain readers of all ages through her unique voice and perspective.

Vuyo Walter Mayo is a 26-year-old from Kanana, near the city of Klerksdorp, in the North West province.



After matric, Vuyo enrolled at Boston City Campus, but unfortunately couldn't carry on through to the second semester

due to financial difficulties. With no clue of what to do next, he took the decision to take his gift of literature seriously.

"I had an awareness since primary school that I had a way with words, and could possibly try to earn a living doing that," he said. "I wrote my first adult fiction book, but unfortunately never was able to get it published. I later on decided to use my gift of words in other areas to expand my horizons, and tried my hand in music, in the genre of Hip-Hop. I followed through on that decision and actually became good at it, so good that I got the opportunity to work with a well-known artist named Maglera Doe Boy in 2023. I have since then been doing music."

Vuyo's book, titled *How I Got Over My Trauma Of Being Cheated On*, is inspired by spirituality and self-healing. His ability to heal himself from certain experiences through meditation inspired him to write this book so he could be of service to other individuals who find themselves dealing with the same hurt and trauma.

Katlego Remelda Leboho is a romance author known for her heartwarming stories that explore the complexities of human relationships and the power of love to transform lives.

Born and raised in the Limpopo province (Blouberg), Katlego grew up with a love for books and a passion for storytelling. She began writing her first novel in high school and never looked back. Her writing is characterised by its lyrical prose, relatable characters, and a

poignant exploration of themes such as grief, loss and redemption.



Her books have been praised for their emotional depth, authentic characters, and engaging storylines that keep readers hooked until the very end. She has won the 2023 Best Adult author for Book Behind Awards, Best poetry took 2022 (Mia Academy) and has been a featured author on Alkebulan Authors platform magazine (Malawi).

Lazarus Kgageng is a South African Queer author, from Limpopo Province. His passion for writing stems from his high school years. It afforded him an opportunity to be trained as a screenwriter by Ayanda Halimana and Mmabatho Kau in 2019.

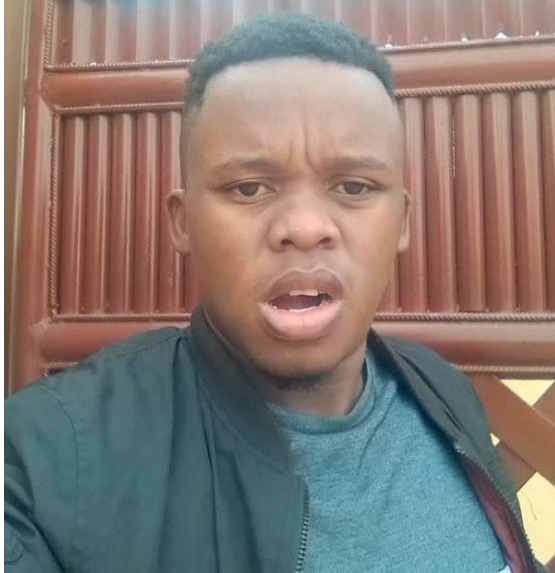


Lazarus debuted as an author when his first queer short story titled *Moving Sands* was published in an anthology titled *Something in The Water* in 2022. His second publication was titled *Fallen Leaves* featured in The Muse Journal Issue 50 in 2023.

Lazarus obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political and International Studies as well as Legal Theory in 2022. At the end of 2023, Lazarus obtained his Bachelor of Arts Degree with Honours in Political and International Studies. Both degrees were obtained from Rhodes University, in South Africa.

Lazarus Kgageng is also the founding director of a youth and community development organisation known as Thola Lesedi, which he founded in 2016. From his projects, he was announced as a finalist for the 2021 Top 200 Mail and Guardian Young South Africans under the category of Education and has been awarded several awards for student leadership from Rhodes University.

Alfred Morudu is an aspiring author, a visual artist and speaker.



He has done a number of self-help courses, where he learned about

personalities and setting goals. Through that phase of learning, he realised that sometimes we need to be intentional about the change we need.

“My aspiration is to be the agent of change to the community around me,” he said. “My vision is to help people psychologically to be free from any destructive mind, to help them achieve formed mind. My goal is to write more self-help books that can transform our society from the matrix and be the inspiration that they can look up to.”

The **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Magazine's Spoiling The Broth Volume 3** boosts of the talents of 16 scribes from South Africa, Mozambique, Kenya, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

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info@publishdafrika.com

Being Fully Present



How do we celebrate Women's Month in a country where gender-based violence is so prevalent? What role can poetry play in that celebration?

To explore these burning questions, the AVBOB Poetry Project sat down with Qhali, a poet, editor and social justice activist whose debut poetry collection, "Crying in My Mother's Tongue" (Ukulila) was published by Akashic Records and the African Poetry Book Fund this year.

"As a child, whenever I was hurt, I imagined my mother was the safest place on earth," she explains. "When I

experienced violation of my body, I literally wanted to return into her body. Later, when my first child was born, I felt immense joy and the need to keep her safe inside that joy. But she had to leave my belly to experience what she came here for – joy and sorrow.

"The isiXhosa phrase in the title reflects another way in which I want to cry inside my mother, which is to cry in her tongue, in her language, in the first rhythms I heard."

Qhali's raw, honest exploration of gender-based violence has led to the

creation of an extraordinary, multilingual project.

“Loss-i-Lahleko – A National Choreopoem is a multilingual anthology and survival guide that has been translated into 11 books in all official [written] South African languages, as well as an audiobook. It is currently out at some Exclusive Books stores, and I hope it will become more widely accessible. Everyone should have the right to mourn, relate and heal in their own language.”

One of her most moving poems, ‘Return to Tsolobeng’, explores the need for self-care in order to nurture others. It features a mother who takes a long journey into the mountains, temporarily entrusting her two young children into her own mother’s care for the sake of her mental well-being:

“Sometimes a mother needs to return home to be a mother

Because sometimes this place can make you forget

How to be a human,

How to feed a child and be nowhere else...”

Qhali remembers, “I had lost my mind. That is how this poem came about. I had just left a well-paying job for poetry, hoping it would save me. I was lying in bed in my mother’s house with my two children in my arms. I didn’t know what

to do next. Then a text message from a former supervisor came through, encouraging me to enter a poem for a competition. And so I wrote it, without putting my pen down. Afterwards, I read it and knew exactly what I was going to do with my life. I no longer cared about the competition. I had just found my plan to keep me here. So this is what I would like readers to bear in mind: You can save yourself, rebirth yourself, over and over, just as your mother did once.”

When asked what practices and rituals most deeply nourish her writing, Qhali shares, “I employ a few practices and rituals before I write, even if I feel the poem is ready to be written. I walk barefoot outdoors for some time, place my body in water (a bath or the ocean), or speak to my ancestors before sitting in silence with them. Often, I bring gifts with me, including water and light. In order to write, I need to be completely alone and yet somehow feel held by them.”

In the next few weeks, use the rituals that work best for you and write a poem describing an inner journey of self-discovery you have undertaken.

The AVBOB Poetry Competition is open for submissions until midnight on 30 November 2024. Visit www.avbobpoetry.co.za today and familiarise yourself with the competition rules.

“Shattered Dreams” Doccie Wins Big!



"*Shattered Dreams*", a poignant documentary film detailing the struggles of artists who have been left to fend for themselves in a world determined to stifle their creativity, has emerged as one of the winners in the Best Documentary category, at the Mpumalanga International Film Festival.

Written and directed by Given Boleu, and produced by the Middelburg-based production company 1050 STATE (PTY)

LTD, *Shattered Dreams* shared the award with *Rhino Man* and *Freedom Flyer* in the Best Documentary category. The awards were held at the iLanga Mall Cinema in Mbombela on August 10th, 2024.

Shattered Dreams tells a tale as old as time - talented individuals with big dreams, left to wither away due to a lack of support. It sheds light on the heartbreaking reality faced by many in the arts – poets, musicians, singers,

actors, and creatives of all kinds, whose God-given talents were never given the chance to flourish.



The doccie details how such dreams never take off or materialise due to the lack of moral support from family and the government's inability to come up with structured programs for art and culture, sports and recreation, to make sure young people live off their talents.

Given told **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA:** "The documentary is about talented musicians, rappers, poets, and just about anyone practising the arts. In the film, local artists in different disciplines introduce themselves and share their stories about the struggles of the arts specifically in Middelburg, the experience of being artists in a town surrounded by plenty of mines, and where art is less favoured and

appreciated but needed. Instead of talent being uplifted, it seems like a curse because a lot of artists end up wasting talent by being trapped in things that they are not passionate about, due to pressure to provide for themselves and their families just for survival. While they have talent, they are trapped behind the tills at retail stores, petrol stations and mines."

The documentary also exposes how little the government is doing to make sure that art is encouraged, supported and appreciated just like mathematics and science, so that kids that want to pursue and practise the arts can do so.

The film takes a raw and unflinching look at the struggles of these artists. But "Shattered Dreams" is more than just a lament - it's a call to action. For a permanent art platform for local artists to live off their talents, to make a living from their passion. The film is a testament to the human spirit, which continues to create, even in the face of adversity.

And it was this powerful message that resonated with the judges at the Mpumalanga International Film Festival. It was a moment of triumph, not just for the filmmakers, but for the talented individuals who shared their stories, their struggles, and their shattered dreams.

Reading Is Super Cool: Empowering Young Minds Through Literacy



In a world where technology dominates our everyday lives, fostering a love for reading in young children has never been more crucial.

Reading Is Super Cool, a literacy initiative founded by Sindi Zulu in 2019, is designed to ignite the imaginations of children aged three to 12 and set them on a lifelong journey of learning and discovery.

The Vision of Sindi Zulu

Sindi Zulu, the visionary behind *Reading Is Super Cool*, recognised the importance of early childhood literacy and the impact it has on a child's overall development. Her passion for education and her belief in the transformative power of reading led her to create a program that not only teaches children to read, but also fosters a deep, lifelong love for books. Through *Reading Is Super Cool*, Zulu aims to ensure that every

child, regardless of background, has the opportunity to discover the joy of reading.



The Mission Behind Reading Is Super Cool

The primary goal of *Reading Is Super Cool* is to create a fun, engaging, and educational environment where young minds can develop essential literacy skills. The program recognises that the early years of a child's life are critical for cognitive development, and reading plays a vital role in shaping a child's language, social, and emotional skills. By making reading enjoyable and accessible, *Reading Is Super Cool* aims to inspire children to become lifelong learners who view books as gateways to new worlds and ideas.

Why Literacy Matters

Studies have consistently shown that early exposure to books and reading can significantly impact a child's academic success and overall development. Children who read regularly are more likely to develop strong language skills, perform better in school, and exhibit greater empathy and emotional intelligence. With this understanding, *Reading Is Super Cool* seeks to bridge the literacy gap by providing resources, tools, and activities that make reading a central part of a child's daily routine.

Program Features

Reading Is Super Cool offers a range of activities and resources tailored to different age groups within the three to 12-year-old range:

- *Storytime Sessions: Interactive storytime sessions where children can listen to stories read aloud by engaging storytellers. These sessions are designed to captivate young audiences and foster a love for narrative.

- *Interactive read-aloud sessions that make books come alive for young listeners.

- *Phonics and Early Reading Workshops: Activities focused on phonemic awareness, letter recognition, and early reading strategies.

- *Parent and Caregiver Workshops: Guidance and resources to support children's literacy development at home.

- *Book Lending Library: Access to a diverse selection of age-appropriate books for children to borrow and enjoy.

*Literacy Events: Special events such as book fairs, author visits, and literacy-themed playdates.



Building a Community of Readers

Beyond just reading, *Reading Is Super Cool* aims to build a community of young readers and their families who support and encourage each other. Through social media groups, local events, and partnerships with schools and libraries, the program creates a network of support that celebrates the joys of reading.

How You Can Get Involved

Whether you are a parent, teacher, or community member, there are numerous ways to get involved with *Reading Is Super Cool*. You can volunteer at local events, donate books or resources, or simply encourage the young children in your life to pick up a book and discover the magic of reading.

Conclusion

In today's fast-paced world, the simple act of reading can often be overlooked. However, with programs like *Reading Is Super Cool*, we can ensure that the next generation grows up with the tools they need to succeed, both academically and personally. By making reading fun and accessible, *Reading Is Super Cool* is not just teaching kids to read; it is empowering them to explore, imagine, and dream big.

Reading isn't just cool—it's super cool!

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Siyafunda Sonke



Think of a reading party like a sleepover without sleep. Blankets, floor pillows, sleeping bags, all things soft and comfortable. Maybe even some sheets, in case anyone wants to bring back the blanket. If you have them, use air mattress to create little reading nooks. Rearrange furniture to create a party room that invites conversation but gives space for guests to read by themselves.

The main purpose of Siyafunda Sonke is to create a community of readers who share their love for books. It's a platform for discussing literature, exchanging ideas, and enjoying the company of fellow book lovers. They encourage reading, deepen understanding of various subjects, and offer a space for

social interaction and intellectual discussion.

Siyafunda Sonke

Reading Sessions

07 Sept 2024

**UKZN, Centre
For Creative Arts**

RSVP: +27 79 080 6112

14h00 - 16h00

1 Hr Reading

30min Reviews

30min Hangout

In short, at "Siyafunda Sonke" readers will gather, usually in a home, bar, or a restaurant to read together. Unlike a book club, Siyafunda Sonke encourage

participants to read different books, in companionable quiet. The first hour will be silent reading, and the next 30 minutes we talk about what we have read, then the next 30 minutes hang out with our guest, drink and have more bookish conversations.

The Durban date is out now! Literature enthusiasts will gather at the University

of KwaZulu-Natal Centre for Creative Arts. You can bring your own book to read, yes that book you've been contemplating to read. Snacks and Refreshments will be provided. No Cellphones will be allowed, only books! Visit the @SiyafundaSonke page on Facebook to be part of this initiative.



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44 Creatives to take part in the 3rd Funda Mpondo Literary Festival

A Vibrant Celebration of Storytelling, Literature, and Community Building



The third edition of the Funda Mpondo Literary Festival will start on the 4th of September 2024, at the Lusikisiki Health Resource Centre, in the Eastern Cape.

Curated by Kwazithina Publishers, which was founded by Nomawele Njongo, the festival will build on the success of the inaugural edition in 2022 and a fantastic second edition in 2023. Both festivals were held on the International Literacy

Day, a day that commemorates and was declared by UNESCO to raise awareness about the importance of literacy, promote literacy programs and initiatives, and recognise the progress made in literacy rates and address remaining literacy challenges.

This festival will take place from the 4th to the 5th of September, and promises to be bigger, bolder and better than before. It will feature an exciting line-up of international and national authors, publishers, and a policy expert. The

international line-up includes Lynkie Kangethe, Chenoa Daniels, Tobias Nauruki, Chikumbutso Ndaferankhande, Keamogetsi Joseph Molapong, McDonald Pagiwe, Winnie Winani Mpala, Dr. Ditshupo Mosoboloko,

Themby Titsha, Matauli Mokete and Palesa. South African authors include Stan Montsho, Lethu Nkwanyana, Nhlanhla Dube, Chantal Willie-Petersen, Panargie Govender, Slindile Maphumulo, Given Mukwevho, Philani Nongogo PhD, Dr. Thembinkosi Twalo, Kabelo Maduna, Nonkuluko Khumalo, Bulelani Sportsman Matshoba, Mzoli Mavimbela, Xolo Songca, Mzoli Mavimbela, Yamkela Ntwalana and Yondela Mpondokazi Ngqokelela.

Founder of Kwazithina Publishers, Nomawele Njongo, is a global leader in literacy and sustainable development goals advocate. She is also a festival director, and award-winning author, and a renowned international leader. She mentors African teens across the African continent and diaspora, empowering them in creative writing, personal development, and leadership under the banner of the Africa Teen Authors Book Initiative. Additionally, she is the founder of the Esigela SA Learners Book Initiative.

“I am currently a part of the Guinean Scientific Team representing Guinea at the Science Summit at United Nation General Assembly 79,” she says. “I am also one of the finalists of the She Big 4 Awards in the category of the Social Founder over 30 category and Forty under 40 South Africa Awards in the category of Community Development.”

Nomawele is one of the 261 SDG Nugget Hour SDG Speakers from all of the world who are in SDGNH Honours List. She is regarded as an SDG

Multiple Speaker. They will be recognised between September and October for being changemakers and for driving impact towards a sustainable future.



Empowering Communities through Storytelling

Under the theme "Brewing stories, Building Community", the festival aims to harness the transformative power of storytelling to:

Celebrate storytelling and literature

Build community and culture

Create a platform for underrepresented voices

Promote diversity and inclusivity

Empower emerging writers and marginalized publishers

Foster international exchange and cultural understanding

Cultivate a culture of reading among youth

Develop creative tourism and rural development

This Festival will feature creative writing and personal development workshops, book reviews, learners' word-of-mouth performances, and a Magwa Tea Tasting Session flavoured with storytelling session featuring Yondela Ngqokelela. A total of 11 international participants are from Kenya, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Botswana, Lesotho, America, and Canada.

The festival also boosts a total of 10 moderators such as Dr Ncebakazi Galada, Nhlanhla Dube, Dr Mncedisi P. Diniso, Dr Bonginkosi Mditshane, Zowie Diamond Madolo, Khanyisa Fihlani, Pula Luzuko, Themby Titsha, Asonele Melapi and Nzaliseko Manqina.

Books that will be launched during the festival include "Mirage" by Dr. Thembinkosi Twalo, "The Caucasian Fallacy" by Xolo Songca, "Akwaba Ndandingambonanga" by Bulelani

Matshoba, "Iziquhuza Zamaqhula ZamaMpondo" by Mzoli Mavimbela, Sinathi Mpukwana, and Bonginkosi Tatemntwini (known as Mntwanomgquba), a book written in IsiMpondo.

Also in attendance will be Chief Mkwedini, OR Tambo District Municipality Executive Mayor and Speaker, Port St Johns Local Municipality Speaker and Magwa Tea Team. After the festival, guests will be treated to a Funda Mpondo Tails and Trails, a unique initiative connecting literary arts with tourism. The guests will be treated to sights of the breathtaking Magwa Tea Plantation, visit the majestic Magwa Falls, and experience the natural beauty of Ntontela Falls and Msikaba, on the 6th of September 2024.

On September 6, the festival will culminate in the KTP Lit Gala, a glamorous evening of literature, music, and celebration. It was previously held at Radisson Blu Hotel, Sandton in partnership with an American company. Attended by 25 Global Literacy Advocates from American, Diplomat from the U. S. Embassy, CEO of Brand South Africa, Dr Gcina Mhlophe and literacy advocates from various African countries.

The Matebeleland Creative Conundrum: Support or Sympathy?

By Mthulisi Ndlovu



MATEBELELAND, ZIMBABWE - For decades, the creative community in Matebeleland has been crying out for support and solidarity, but their pleas seem to be falling on deaf ears.

Despite being home to legendary creatives like Lovemore Majaivana, Ilanga, Jonah Moyo, Vusa Mkhaya, Bongo Mafin, Sandra Ndebele amongst others, the region's artists continue to struggle for recognition and success beyond their local borders.

However, there are a number of trailblazers who are breaking boundaries and limitations internationally. To mention but a few, Artists like Nitefreak, Vuyo Brown, Mzoe 7, Awakhiwe (AWA), Philani A. Nyoni (PAN), Tsitsi Nomsa Ngwenya, Njabulo Moyo, Jonah Nyoni, Prosperity Mpofu, Sonkomose, Obert Dube, Black Umfolosi, Nobuntu band, Mokoomba band, Msiz' Kay, and Ma 9

are making waves globally with their unique talent and dedication.

These artists are proof that Matebeleland has the potential to produce world-class talent, but they need support and

recognition to reach their full potential. The question remains: Why is it so hard for Matebeleland artists to break through nationally and internationally? Is the lack of support a genuine issue, or is it an excuse for not putting in enough effort?

The answer lies in a combination of factors. Firstly, there is a need for a unified front among Matebeleland creatives to promote their work and support one another. Secondly, there needs to be a paradigm shift in how the creative industry is perceived and supported in Zimbabwe. The government and private sector must invest in initiatives that promote and develop the creative industry, particularly in marginalised regions like Matebeleland.

Again, Matebeleland creatives must take ownership of their success and not rely solely on sympathy and support. They must be proactive in seeking opportunities, collaborating with other artists, and using digital platforms to reach a wider audience. The time has come for the Matebeleland creative community to rise up and demand recognition and support. It is time to break down the barriers that have held them back for so long and unleash their full potential on the world.

Furthermore, the success of Matebeleland artists can have a ripple effect on the local economy, creating jobs and stimulating growth in the preservation of our culture and heritage. It is therefore crucial that stakeholders

come together to create an enabling environment for creatives to thrive.

In conclusion, the Matebeleland creative community deserves more than just sympathy; they deserve tangible support and recognition. By working together, we can unlock the full potential of Matebeleland's creatives and showcase their talent to the world.

On behalf of the the Matebeleland creative community I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the following individuals and organisations that have been instrumental in elevating and marketing emerging and established Matebeleland creatives:

- BANO TV, Skyz Metro FM, Khulumani FM 95.0, Star FM, ZiFM Stereo, Breezefm, Radio Mthwakazi fm,
- Umthwakazi Funerals Pvt Ltd, Ezra Tshisa Sibanda, Plot Mhako, Kudakwashe Takundwa, Rhumba News Zw, earGROUND AFRICA, Bruce Ncube, Mthabisi RasMthire Tshuma, Madlela Skhobokhobo, Mitney Mitch, Asakhane Live, and Podcast Yabantu.

Your unwavering support and dedication to showcasing Matebeleland talent have not gone unnoticed. Through your platforms, you have provided a voice for the voiceless, a stage for the hidden, and a spotlight for the deserving. Your contributions have been invaluable in promoting the rich cultural heritage and creative expression of Matebeleland.

Thank you for believing in the potential of Matebeleland creatives and for working tirelessly to amplify their voices.

Your efforts have made a significant impact on the lives of many, and we are forever grateful.

About the writer:

Mthulisi Ndlovu, also known as KingKG or KhuluGatsheni, is a writer,

poet, philanthropist and publisher. He is the co-author of Izinkondlo ezinhlobonhlobo an Ordinary Level ZIMSEC set book 2019-2023, Ubuntu (The Raw Truth Unravelling), Politicking (Lockdown Memoirs From Within), Ubuntu Nqaba Ngqo amongst others.

BOOKS BY SUKOLUHLE NONTOKOZO MDLONGWA

Sukoluhle isn't just an author, but is also the co-founder of PUBLISH'D AFRIKA, a self-publishing agency based in Middelburg, Mpumalanga, in South Africa. She is also the co-founder of PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Online Literary Magazine, which she runs with her life partner, Thokozani Magagula, who is also an author, journalist and editor.



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Spoken Word Poetry Plug

15 Agents, Organisations Looking For Talent

By Dr N Shah

Spoken word creatives know the struggle of not only getting their works published by a reputable publishing house, but also that of finding a market for their work. Below is a list of 15 talent agents and organisations that might help in showcasing your work on a global stage, and maybe even assist you to make a living out of your work.

West Africa:

1. Aké Arts and Book Festival (Nigeria) - showcases spoken word talent.
2. WordSlam Ghana (Ghana) - promotes spoken word poetry.
3. Poetry Foundation Ghana (Ghana) - supports poets and spoken word artists.
4. Lagos International Poetry Festival (Nigeria) - features spoken word performances.

South Africa:

1. WordNSound (South Africa) - a spoken word poetry organization.
2. Poetry Africa (South Africa) - an annual festival featuring spoken word.
3. Soweto Theatre (South Africa) - hosts spoken word events.
4. Cape Town Poetry Festival (South Africa) - showcases local and international poets.

Talent Agents:

1. African Writers' Trust (West Africa) - represents writers and poets.
2. Pan African Writers Association (West Africa) - supports African writers.
3. Jacana Literary Agency (South Africa) - represents authors and poets.
4. Uhuru Productions (South Africa) - manages artists, including spoken word poets.

Networking platforms:

1. African Poetry Theatre (online)
2. Spoken Word Africa (online)
3. Poetry Potion (online)

Creatives are encouraged to also attend festivals, events and workshops to connect with talent agents, organisers, and fellow poets. Build relationships, and opportunities will arise. Remember to research each organisation's focus, submission guidelines, and representation policies before reaching out.

Opportunity for Literature Writers

Shuter & Shuter Publishers would like to invite manuscript submissions from African languages literature authors. The submitted manuscripts should not be either published or under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Submit on: ilmanuscripts@shuter.co.za

Deadline for submission: 31 October 2024

For enquiries please contact: +27(0)33 8468 700

Correspondence will be limited to short-listed candidates. Late applications will not be considered.

Mbokodo Publishers Siswati and IsiNdebele Literary Awards

Join Mbokodo Publishers for an evening of literary excellence at the Mbokodo Publishers Siswati and IsiNdebele Literary Awards, where we celebrate the remarkable contributions to Siswati and IsiNdebele literature.

Event Details:

- Date: November 23, 2024

- Time: 4:00 PM
- Venue: To be announced

Event Highlights:

- Celebrating Excellence in Siswati and IsiNdebele Literature
- Recognition of Outstanding Authors and Works
- Inspiring Speeches and Presentations
- Networking Opportunities with Literary Figures
- Awards Ceremony: A formal event with keynote speakers, performances, and the awards presentation.
- A parallel event featuring book exhibitions, author talks, workshops, and accessible writing training for visually impaired writers/authors in Siswati and IsiNdebele, plus panel discussions.

Nominate Yourself Or Someone Deserving In The Following Categories:

1. Reader's Choice (public vote)
2. Best Book in Siswati and Best Book in IsiNdebele (fiction, non-fiction, and poetry)
3. Siswati Academic Book of the Year and IsiNdebele Academic Book of the Year
4. Institution of the Year (schools, universities, or organizations promoting Siswati and isiNdebele literature)
5. Librarian of the Year (recognizing librarians who actively promote Siswati and isiNdebele books and literacy)
6. Best Media Personality/Presenter Promoting Siswati/IsiNdebele Literature Books (recognizing individuals who use their platforms to promote books written in Siswati and IsiNdebele)
7. Lifetime Achievement Award (honouring individuals who have made significant contributions to Siswati and isiNdebele literature and language preservation)

Use this link to nominate yourself for the awards:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdET_MZQCOvtKcQ-k1xDFBS04fb1oSR0suSHt1Z8ZdASa2rKg/viewform?usp=pp_url

Registration closing date: 20 September 2024 at 4 PM

Contact: 0760633473

This prestigious event will showcase the best of Siswati and IsiNdebele's literary talent, honouring those who have contributed significantly to these rich literary traditions. From captivating storytelling to thought-provoking poetry, the Mbokodo Publishers Siswati and IsiNdebele Literary Awards promise an evening of cultural enrichment and inspiration.

Don't miss this opportunity to immerse yourself in Siswati and IsiNdebele literature and connect with fellow enthusiasts.

Join in as on the brilliance of Siswati and IsiNdebele writers and celebrate the power of storytelling.

Tickets to the event are now on sale at Computickets and Shoprite (KIDS: R50, GEN: R100, VIP: R150).

Or buy online at <https://computicket-boxoffice.com/e/mbokodo-publishers-siswati-isindebele-literary-awards-fyLycQ>

Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2024

The 2025 Commonwealth Short Story Prize will open for entries from 1 September 2024 to 1 November 2024.

The prize is free to enter and open to any citizen of a Commonwealth country aged 18 and over. It is awarded for the best piece of unpublished short fiction (2,000–5,000 words).

Submissions should be made via the online entry form which will be available on this page from 1 September.

An international judging panel of writers will select a shortlist of around twenty stories, from which five regional winners are chosen. One of the regional winners is then selected as the overall winner, who receives £5,000. The regional winners will receive £2,500. All five regional winning stories will be published on Granta.

For any inquiries regarding the prize, please email:

creatives@commonwealthfoundation.com

Who is eligible to submit?

The prize is open to all Commonwealth citizens aged 18 and over.

What do the winning writers receive?

The regional winners receive £2,500 and the overall winner receives a total of £5,000. The winning stories are published online by Granta and in a special print collection by Paper + Ink. The shortlisted stories are published in adda, the online literary magazine of the Commonwealth Foundation.

If the winning short story is a translation into English, the translator will receive an additional prize of £750.

What is the word limit?

The story must be between 2,000 and 5,000 words.

Is there any required theme or genre?

The prize is only open to short fiction, but it can be in any fiction genre—science fiction, speculative fiction, historical fiction, crime, romance, literary fiction—and you may write about any subject you wish.

In what languages do you accept entries?

We accept stories written in Bengali, Chinese, Creole, English, French, Greek, Malay, Maltese, Portuguese, Samoan, Swahili, Tamil, and Turkish. Stories that have been translated into English from any language are also accepted and the translator of any winning story receives additional prize money.

Can I enter a story I have previously submitted?

You cannot enter a story you have submitted in previous years.

Can the story be published?

Your submission must be unpublished in any print or online publication, with the exception of personal websites.

How is the prize judged?

Entries are initially assessed by a team of readers and a longlist of 200 entries is put before the international judging panel, comprising a chair and five judges, one from each

of the Commonwealth regions – Africa, Asia, Canada and Europe, the Caribbean, and the Pacific. All judges read entries from all regions.

Entries in other languages are assessed by relevant language readers and the best submissions are selected for translation into English to be considered for inclusion on the longlist.

The judging panel select a shortlist of around twenty stories, from which five regional winners are chosen, one of which is chosen as the overall winner.

When do submissions open and close?

Entries open from 1 September 2024 – 1 November 2024.

The other key dates for the prize are as follows:

April 2025: Shortlist revealed

May 2025: Regional winners announced

June 2025: Award ceremony and overall winner announced

Do you provide feedback on entries?

Please note that we are unable to provide feedback on submissions. We appreciate your understanding.

Where should questions about submissions be directed to?

If you have any questions about your submission, please email them to creatives@commonwealthfoundation.com. Be sure to include your entry submission number to ensure we can assist you promptly.

What's In A Story?

About The Scholarship

OPEN WINDOW has a maximum of 4 x 50% scholarships to award, which will cover 50% of the course fees per year for the full three-year degree.

First year: 50% discount on first-year tuition fee (excl. Registration fee)

Second year: 50% discount on 2nd-year tuition fee (excl. Registration fee)

Third year: 50% discount on 3rd-year tuition fee (excl. Registration fee)

There is a maximum of one scholarship awarded for each of the four specialisation streams at Open Window:

Animation Arts

Creative Technologies

Film Arts

Visual Communication

*Ts & Cs apply

ABOUT THE COMPETITION THEME

The Open Window is looking for a creative young leader in Visual Storytelling. Visual Storytelling is a skill that all four schools at The Open Window emphasise – and we want the creative leader to demonstrate their visual storytelling skills by responding to the theme: “What’s in a story?”

You are encouraged to share a glimpse into what you imagine is most intriguing about a story / short narrative. You could develop a story, and outline the elements in a submission. You could harness your imagination and reveal the true potential of storytelling through the power of imagination and creativity. In other words, we want you to reveal the true power of storytelling through your submission.

Some tips to keep in mind:

Use your creative strengths to your advantage (What is your ‘creative superpower’? What format are you most comfortable using? What will give you a unique edge in your submission?)

Go beyond single medium use, if you can (take photos, make short films, draw comics, etc. – but utilise the story / short narrative theme to your advantage in showcasing a full range of skills).

Show your ability to be experimental and playful in your response.

Rules to continue on the scholarship programme for the second and third years:

Students must complete 120 credits per year.

Going into 2nd and 3rd year: students must achieve a minimum of 65% average across all subjects to maintain the scholarship package.

Please note that OW reserves the right to reduce the number of scholarships should the quality of the entries not be up to standard. All entrants are subject to the rules of the competition. Admission to OW programmes will be based on our standard admission requirements per programme. The scholarship will only be viable for candidates who meet Degree admission requirements.

WHAT TO ENTER

We want you to create a series of 4 images or frames inspired by the theme: 'What's in a story?'

You can use any format, any approach, or any visual medium – as long as you can submit a story of your own in response to 'What's in a story?'

Think of stop motion*, comics, photographs, typography, sound*, animation*, 3D objects, digital designs/illustrations, textiles, ceramics, film, etc. (But you are not limited to these approaches.)

*Please note that time-based entries should not exceed 30 seconds. Films or animations do not need to have 4 scene changes, but rather 4 events/moments that are linked by cause and effect.

The following needs to be submitted in order to be considered for the scholarship:

Main Project (a series of 4 images/frames inspired by the theme)

Project title (must be relevant to the theme)

Rationale (200 words maximum, indicating how the project responds to the theme "What's in a story?")

Project planning document (We are curious to see how you arrived at your final outcome, therefore you are required to submit your planning and revision process notes, which may include thumbnail sketches, layout considerations, behind-the-scenes images/videos, venue scouting images, or anything else that documents the planning and revision process)

All applicants need to indicate their first and second choice in specialisation (selected from the 14 areas of specialisation OW has on offer) – these choices will be used to align you to the Streams at OW, of which only one scholarship can be awarded per stream)

SUBMISSION FORMATS ACCEPTED: MOV, MP4, JPG, PNG, PDF)

Kindly ensure that your file size for entry does not exceed 200 MB

* Please note: Open files or links to external videos (Youtube/Vimeo) will not be considered.

All artworks submitted must be the entrant's own original work and must have been created in 2024, specifically for this competition and in direct response to the provided brief).

Existing projects or school portfolios will not be considered.

HOW TO ENTER

Step 1: Schedule an appointment with one of our Student Advisors to receive provisional acceptance for studying at Open Window, to verify if you meet the admission requirements for the 2025 intake.

Step 2: Familiarise yourself with the Competition Brief and Rules

Step 3: Only candidates who have received provisional acceptance to study at Open Window are eligible to enter the Scholarship competition at the button below.

JUDGING THE COMPETITION

All entries are subject to a selection process. Works will be judged based on the following 6 criteria:

Concept (does the overall concept convey a response to the theme 'What's in a story?')

Story (does the narrative convey a sequential progression?)

Creative use of medium (Is there evidence of ingenuity and/or innovative use of material?)

Quality of craftsmanship (Does the entry convey technique, demonstrate skills, illustrate basic software knowledge, etc.?)

Effort (Does the effort of the project match the reward? Was there effort in the execution? Was the project specifically developed for this brief, or was it a high school project submitted for this purpose?)

Presentation (Does the entry convey care for the final presentation, is there a professionalism to the finish?)

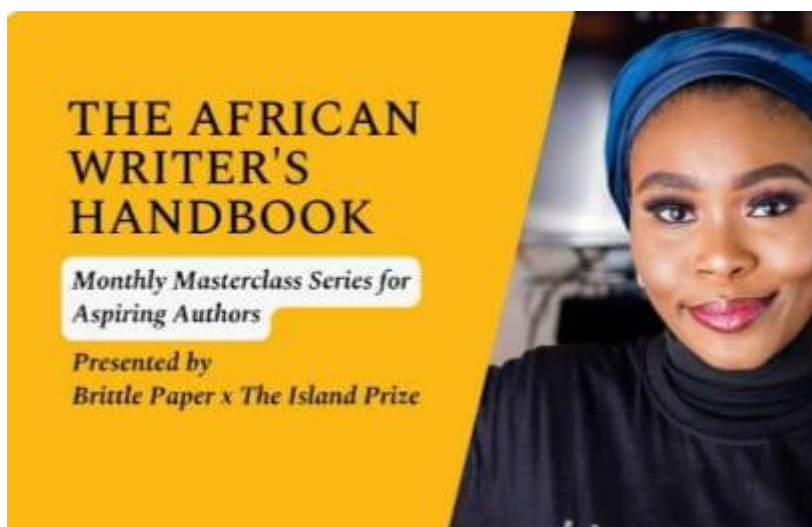
Scholarships will be granted to individuals who meet our admission criteria and demonstrate exceptional artistic talent, creative thinking, and potential.

The OW Academic Committee will form the judging panel. OW is not obligated to award all bursaries.

The OW Academic Committee and the institution will not engage in providing feedback on entries submitted or scholarships awarded/not awarded.

For more information, visit: www.openwindow.co.za

The African Writer's Handbook: A Monthly Masterclass Series for Aspiring Authors



Brittle Paper's Writing Room and The Island Prize are excited to announce The African Writer's Handbook: A Monthly Masterclass Series for Aspiring Authors. The events are free. Registration ([here](#)) is required.

This series of talks will provide aspiring authors with advice on various aspects of the writing life. Topics will include the writing process, self-editing, handling rejection, understanding what agents are looking for, approaching publishers, and navigating contracts. The classes are designed to address the challenges that African authors face in their journey from drafting a manuscript to landing a publication deal.

The series will kick off with a session Booker Prize longlisted author Karen Jennings, who will discuss the importance of refining your manuscript beyond the first draft. Jennings will emphasize that writing is not a "one and done" process; it requires time and multiple drafts to produce a manuscript that is focused, polished, and ready for submission. [Register here](#).

The series will be accessible via Zoom and open to aspiring writers across the African continent. It provides a unique opportunity to learn directly from some of the most respected figures in the industry.

Event Schedule:

Thursday, August 29, 11:00 AM (Chicago time): Karen Jennings on Writing, Focus, and Self-Editing (register here)

Thursday, September 26, 11:00 AM (Chicago time): CA Davids on the Writing Process

Thursday, October 31, 11:00 AM (Chicago time): Bieke van Aggelen on Submitting to an Agent and What to Expect

Thursday, November 28, 11:00 AM (Chicago time): Robert Peett on Submitting to Publishers and What to Expect

Brittle Paper has long been committed to supporting writers early in their careers, recognizing that any form of guidance or training can significantly enhance a writer's skills and increase their chances of long-term success. The Island Prize emerged to fill a critical gap in the industry, offering a manuscript prize that not only recognizes talent but also provides winners with valuable mentorship and publishing opportunities. Through initiatives like this series, both organizations continue to uphold their mission of support emerging voices in African writing.

<https://brittlepaper.com/2024/08/the-african-writers-handbook-a-monthly-masterclass-series-for-aspiring-authors/>

Open Call For Literary Works

Co-Creating A Regenerative African Initiative

Guidelines For The Submission Of Literary Work

- Literary works include articles, poems, short stories and essays.
- Target Writers include young people, adults, academics, grassroots groups and others who are interested or impacted by any of the related topics below.

- **CONTENTS OF LITERARY WORKS**

- (a) Articles, essays and short stories should be between 2,000 and 6,000 words.
- (b) Poems should be between 12 – 20 lines.
- (c) Submissions must be original works that are not being considered for publication nor published elsewhere.

- (d) Articles must be in English or French.
- (e) The contents of all literary works must pertain to Africa.

(f) **AREAS OF LITERARY WORKS**

The literary works will be based on or related to the following areas:

- (a) One, two, or all three crises that are our primary areas of focus: biodiversity loss, climate change, A Just Transition,
- (b) United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 6, 13, 14 and 15,
- (c) Environmental protection,
- (d) Whole-system transformation behaviours, practices, and styles,
- (e) Human mindset and heartset transformation
- (f) Sustainability or regenerative fields including biodiversity conservation, regenerative Indigenous practices, solar energy, green business, sustainable mining),
- (g) And related issues.

• **BENEFITS TO WRITERS**

- o Free conference ticket + AI-Powered Networking. For people who submit an abstract or their literary work by the deadline of Wednesday, August 28, 4 PM GMT / 5 PM WAT / 6 PM CAT.
- o Regenerative Africa Library. The abstract or literary work gets uploaded onto our Regenerative Africa Library website.
- o Digital Anthology. The works of finalists get published in a digital anthology.
- o Print Publication.

Articles will also be published in one or more international OD journals.

Contributors are entitled to a free copy of the published work that includes the contributor's work.

- o Social Media recognition. We provide a few months of social media shoutouts.

- DEADLINE TO SUBMIT LITERARY WORKS

Key Activities Deadline

Submission of summary of your article or Essay Not later than August 28, 2024

Submission of poems or short stories Not later than August 28, 2024

All articles should be sent to call4articles.oldn24@gmail.com

2024/2025 BOTSWANA LITERATURE AWARDS CATEGORIES



1. Best Religious or faith based book
2. Best Setswana Poetry book
3. Best English Poetry Book
4. Best Children's book
5. Best Children's book authored by children (12 years and below)
6. Best Multi-lingual writer (other languages besides English and Setswana)
7. Best Collaboration Book
8. Best cook book
9. Best English Novel
10. Best Setswana Novel
11. Best Motivational book/ inspirational book
12. Best Young Author (between age of 7 to 13)
13. Best indigenous work (Covering Botswana Heritage and cultures)
14. Best theory/research or academic based book
15. Best Short Fiction Collection English
16. Best Short Fiction collection Setswana

17. Bessie Head Prize (Most innovative work in English Language)
18. Best outstanding Published work (across all categories and languages)
19. SADC Award (Open to all international authors based in SADC-Submitted in English-translations allowed if it is not written in English)
20. PLWD Writers Award

NOT ADJUDICATED BUT PICKED FROM THE SUBMISSIONS

22. Best overall female author
23. Best overall male author
24. Best upcoming author
25. Best young author

NON ADJUDICATION CATEGORIES

26. Best online writer (voted for by readers via social media)
27. Best media writer (honor award)
28. Long Serving Honorary award

NOTE THAT SUBMISSION ARE NOT YET OPEN! KINDLY TAKE NOTE OF THE SUBMISSION DATES ON THE FLYER

MORE DETAILS ABOUT SUBMISSIONS WILL FOLLOW SOON. Eligible books should have been published between 2019 till September 2024. Happy prepping ink-smiths.

CASTING CALL

We are thrilled to announce that RuPI has proudly showcased the incredible talents of rural performers on national and international stages for three amazing years!

Through RuPI, we've expanded our reach and brought the rich cultural narratives of our rural communities to the forefront. This journey has been a testament to the power of art in transforming lives and bridging cultures.

Join us as we continue to empower rural performers and share their extraordinary stories with the world.

Apply here: bit.ly/rupi2025