



Imbuto Foundation Newsletter

April 2012

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Spotlight:

Bwiza Princess Conscience

Best Performing Girl 2012

I was rewarded by Imbuto Foundation for being a Best Performing Girl in 2006 while I was in Primary 6, then again in Senior 3. After these rewards, I started feeling inside of me that I am truly an Inkubito y'icyeza (*best performing girl*).

This initiative by Imbuto Foundation to reward best performing girls is one that impacts the girls in a big way. I was raised by a single mother, but the rewards I received from being a BPG motivated me to always seek excellence and to take pride in my high performance. Being an Inkubito y'icyeza kept me focused and dynamic.

After being rewarded I felt empowered by listening to inspirational speakers- young women who talk to us about their journey with their tragedies and triumphs. They talked to us about the many challenges they faced, the goals they attained and sometimes their shortcomings but the most important thing that changed my life is the valuable lessons they taught us while telling their story. Another thing that I liked is the fact that being rewarded brought about friendly competition amongst us girls, everyone is even more determined to do even better!

"I'm grateful to Imbuto Foundation and Madame Jeannette Kagame because she thought of us girls, having someone believe in us makes us believe in ourselves even more!"

-Princess Conscience Bwiza



Launch of Adolescent Girls Initiative (AGI)



On April 2nd, 2012 the Imbuto Foundation participated in the launch of the 'Economic Empowerment of Adolescent Girls and Young Women (EEAG&YW)', a project under the World Bank's Adolescent Girls Initiative.

The launch, organized by the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPF) in partnership with the World Bank, marked the official opening of the project and shared vital information with stakeholders. Participants included the Ministry of Youth, MINALOC, SIDA, international and local NGOs (Plan Rwanda, Save the Children, World Vision, FAWE, NWC, and NCC), partnering districts and sectors, and adolescent girls and young

women who are Imbuto Foundation scholarship recipients. This initiative is also being implemented in: Afghanistan, Jordan, Lao PDR, Liberia, Nepal, and South Sudan.



Issue Focus: Promotion of Girls' Education Campaign 2012

Through its Education program, the Imbuto Foundation annually rewards young girls in Primary (P6) and Secondary (S6) School for excelling on their national exams. This annual rewarding initiative is known as the 'Promotion of Girls Education Campaign: *Best Performing Girls*'. The objective of this initiative is to empower and encourage high academic performance in school girls. The campaign aims to achieve this through the combined efforts of the community, parents, teachers and local leaders. Investing in girls' education is not only valuable to the girls but for the nation general.

With the guidance of the First Lady, Mrs. Jeannette Kagame, Imbuto Foundation rewards girls at the sector, district, and provincial level in Rwanda. Approximately 2584 girls have been rewarded since the project began; the largest number of girls rewarded is at primary school level. This year the campaign was launched in Kayonza on International Women's Day on March 8, 2012. Guests included UN Women and Women for Women.

The Best Performing P6 girls in were rewarded with school bags which contained dictionaries, pens, and watches. Best Performing S6 girls received laptops and will receive computer literacy training from the Tumba College of Technology.

Now Open: Kacyiru Community Knowledge Center

In 2010, the Imbuto Foundation partnered with Kacyiru Primary School and the Women’s Community Group of Rwinzovu Cell to build a community knowledge center that would equip the Kacyiru community with computer literacy and access to the internet and books. The other key objective of the center is to train women and youth in incoming – generating activities. Construction of the center was completed in 2011. The center is located on the grounds of Kacyiru Primary school and is equipped with a computer lab, an office, and space for a library, playroom, and meeting room. Cisco Systems, the worldwide leader in networking, partnered with Inveneo to donate 25 computers to the community knowledge center. ICT Experts from the Inveneo traveled to Rwanda to set up the computer lab.

Currently, the center provides computer literacy to P6 students at the Kacyiru Primary School and soon to teachers who are not computer literate. By the end of 2012, the center will be open to all members of the Kacyiru community. We are also in the process of securing books for the community based library. After the official opening of the center, the center will be handed over to the women’s group to use the facility for incoming-generating activities.



What’s been happening at Imbuto?



Photo 1: ASRH&R- Parents & Teachers workshop
Photo 2: ASRH&R- Youth and Parents Workshop
Photo 3: AGI (Adolescent Girls Initiative) launch
Photo 4: Imali Project: mushrooms growing in Musanze

Photo 5: Week for True Love at IWAWA Island (World AIDS day)
Photo 6: Malayika Murinzi Awardees of Nyamasheke District with their certificates
Photo 7: Imali Project: tomatoes growing in Rubavu



Reading Day 2012

First Lady, Jeannette Kagame, has challenged parents and teachers to inculcate a reading culture among children as an investment in the young generation and tool for development. Imbuto Foundation hosted its annual Reading Day on April 25, 2012 in Rubavu at Vision Jeunesse Nouvelle, with the theme “*Today a Reader-Tomorrow a Leader*”. The initiative is aimed at encouraging

parents and teachers on the importance of reading and how to help students develop better learning skills and cultivate an interest in reading.

The event took place during the action week of Early Childhood Development Policy which aims at ensuring that children achieve their potential, are healthy, well-nourished and safe, and parents and communities become nurturing caregivers by receiving integrated early childhood development services.

Early Childhood Development Stakeholders Meeting

The First Lady, Mrs. Jeannette Kagame, took part in a Stakeholders Meeting held on April 19, 2012 at Serena Kigali Hotel. The Stakeholders Meeting brought together policy makers from several concerned Ministries as well as District official and other stakeholders involved in Early Childhood Development. In her speech the First Lady mentioned that “Early Childhood Development interventions are among the most cost-effective investments a country can make in the human development and capital formation of its people and its impact in economically disadvantaged communities can be transformational.”



The ECD Stakeholders Meeting also marked the beginning of ECD Development Action Week Campaign, which comprised several media and awareness raising events, which lasted up to April 28, 2012. For these events, Government, UNICEF and Civil Society organizations have come together to jointly implement several initiatives.

Mark Your Calendar!
Imbuto Foundation's Upcoming Events

June 17th, 2012: Prayer Breakfast

June 23rd, 2012: Youth Forum Series

July 12th, 2012: Rwanda Reads

Thank You!
For your continued support
of the Imbuto Foundation.