

INTWASA

ARTS FESTIVAL KOBULAWAYO



We welcome
aboard **Pro helvetia**

The **Clicktivity** Workshop

INTWASA



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CONTENTS

2	Editorial
3	Last Call For Artists
3	Support Schools and Colleges activities at Intwasa
4	The Clicktivity Workshop
5	Book Fair lights up City of Bulawayo
6	Harnessing Cultural Festivals as Sustainable Tourism products
7	We welcome aboard Pro helvetia
8	The schools skills sharing Workshops
9	Call for Submissions
10	Call to Artists
10	Intwasa Trivia
10	Quote of the Month

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

April in Bulawayo is synonymous with the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF). For many people going to the Trade Fair has always been one of the highlights of the year. This is the time when the city of Bulawayo gets to host business people from other African countries and beyond. It is also one of the very few times the city wakes up from its deep slumber. Through various products on display at the Fair many people get to interface with different cultures of the world. And this, perhaps, is one of the reasons why this year we are, as a festival, pitching ourselves as the 'best thing to happen in Bulawayo after the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair.' Not a bad pitch if you think about it.

Our attempt to associate with the biggest event in Bulawayo is not without serious thought. We actually have thought deeply about it and believe there are many common areas between the Trade Fair and the Festival. Common areas that make our pitch reasonable and believable. Here are some the common areas:

1. Both events host international participants from the region and beyond.
2. Both events try to market Bulawayo and Zimbabwe as hubs of economic and cultural activity.
3. Both the festival and the Trade Fair are six day events
4. Both events are curated with the public in mind, consequently making them public events.
5. Both events are platforms for showcasing, empowering, doing business and inspiring others.

Our pitch is not one of those useless outbursts but, rather, a testimony of our ambitions. We are a very ambitious lot. Big dreamers that honestly believe the festival is "the best event in Bulawayo after the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair." And if this is not true then you dear reader and supporter of Intwasa Arts Festival koBulawayo are going to help us realise our dream!

27 March saw the world celebrate World Theatre Day as and Intwasa we publish photos of When Angels weep which we hosted twice last year before the play went on to win the coveted NAMA award. Elsewhere, we also publish our last call for artists to apply for inclusion in the festival program. The applications have been trickling in and by the look of things we are headed for another blast. If you haven't diarised the festival this is the time to do so. Don't say you were not warned!

Raisedon Baya
FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

LAST CALL FOR ARTISTS

This is our last open call for new, fresh and cutting edge work for presentation at the 9th edition of the festival. The festival is looking for theatre, music, dance, storytelling, poetry and comedy from Zimbabwe, the region and beyond. Artists with new work that fit the bill can visit the festival website for application forms

Deadline for applications is 30 April 2013.
For more information write to info@intwasa.org
or check our website www.intwasa.org

**Don't be
left behind!**



SUPPORT THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES ACTIVITIES AT INTWASA

Intwasa is a growing festival, a growing cultural brand that is deeply rooted in community development and participation. The festival seeks to celebrate the arts in their various forms, encouraging creative entrepreneurship and skills sharing and the promotion of Bulawayo in particular and Zimbabwe in general as a tourist destination.

Intwasa offers children and young people – students from primary school up to university – opportunities to participate in the making, management and appreciation of the arts. Schools and community events during the festival do not need much. The budget for all our school related activities is very small.

It is also important to note that half the festival activities and performances are free to the general public. This is a deliberate move to ensure the majority of communities within and those surrounding the city of Bulawayo have access to the festival and consequently to cultural participation. It is our belief that we can do more with your support. Support the Schools, Colleges and Universities activities at Intwasa. Any contribution is most welcome.

For contributions please contact us at Info@intwasa.org



THE CLICKITIVITY SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP

During the month of March Intwasa was privileged to be part of the three day Social Media Symposium dubbed The Clickitivity: Arts, Culture and New Media Symposium

Held at the Troutbeck Resort in Inyanga and was hosted by Hivos and the Norwegian Embassy. The symposium -cum-learning event brought together young Zimbabweans from different organisations and initiatives to discuss and share ideas on how to use social media better in arts, culture and development as a tool for marketing, advertising, dissemination of information, addressing issues, socially or otherwise. Some of the organisations represented were Rooftop Promotions, Patsime Edutainment, Radio Dialogue, Culture Fund of Zimbabwe Trust, Magamba Network, Pamberi Trust, Nhimbe Trust, Zimbojam, Nafuna TV, Mixlt Zimbabwe, Expressive Arts, All4One, Her Zimbabwe, DALA (Durban S. A.), Basilizwi, Zimbabwe German Society, Savanna Trust, National Gallery in Zimbabwe, Ushahidi Platform (Kenya) and Chipawo.

On the first day participants were treated to a motivational session by success coach and motivational speaker, Jonah Mungoshi. Presentations throughout the symposium were done by Fungai Muchirori, Nigel "Sir Nige" Mugamu, Doung (Durban – S. A.),

"Social media is the vehicle, not the destination" – Aura.

Fungai Tichawangana, Nduko O' Matigere (Kenya), Victor Moyo and Aura Kwanzaruwa to name a few.

Visit the following platforms to learn more about their initiatives:

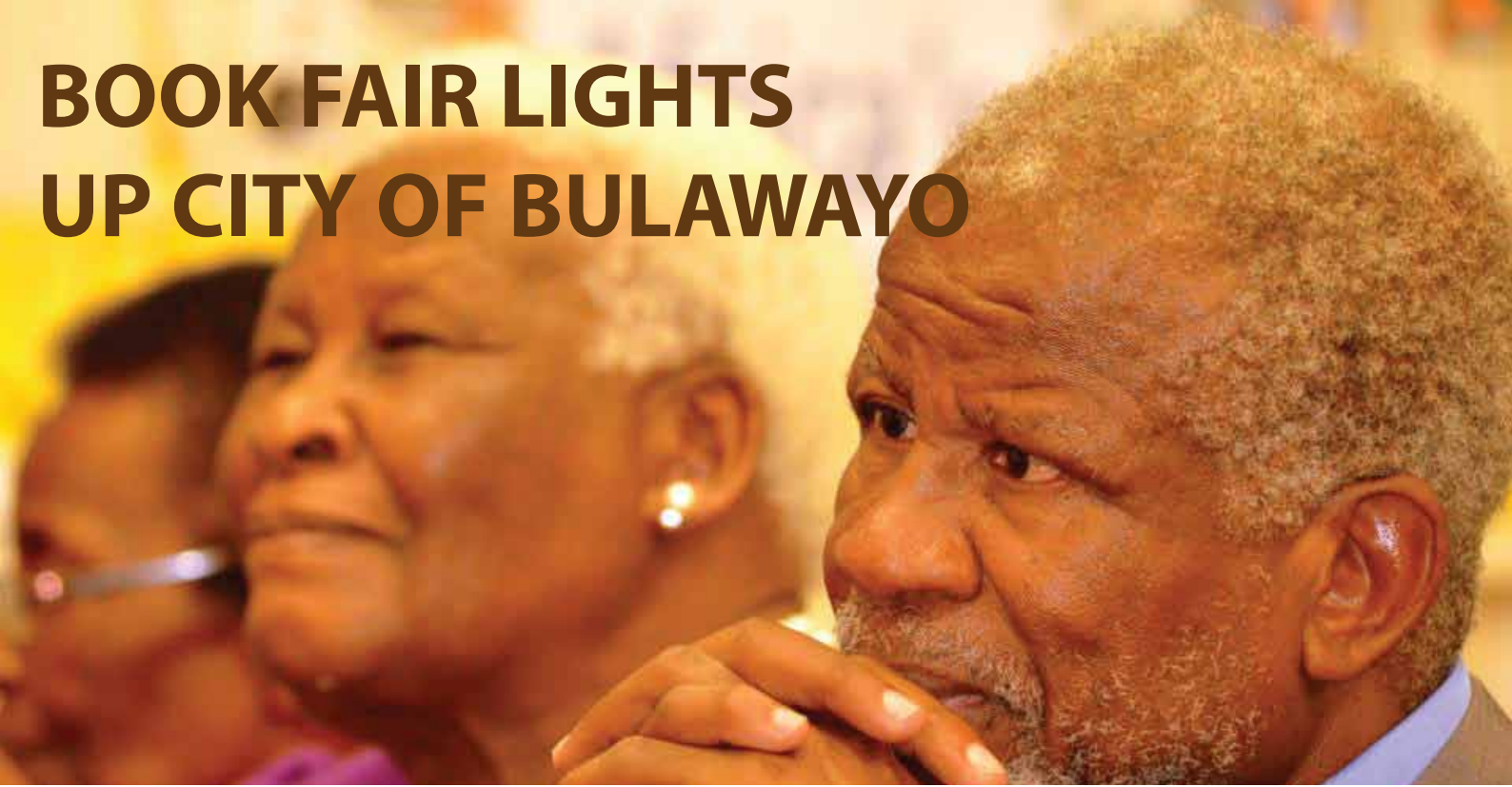
- Her Zimbabwe – www.herzimbabwe.co.zw
- #263 CHAT – @263 Chat (twitter)
- I paid a Bribe - www.ipaidabribe.org.zw
- Have You Seen My Africa – www.haveyouseenmyafrica.com
- Nafuna TV – www.nafuna.tv
- Ushahidi Platform (Kenya) – www.twaweza.org

On that note, please take time to:

- Like our Facebook page
- Follow us on Twitter - @intwasa
- Visit our blog - www.intwasaartsfestivalkobulawayo.blogspot.com
- Check out our photos on Flickr

CLICKITIVITY

BOOK FAIR LIGHTS UP CITY OF BULAWAYO



The Zimbabwe International Book Fair, celebrating its 30th anniversary, made its annual stopover in the city of Kings on the 22nd and 23rd of March. The two day event was held at the National Art Gallery in Bulawayo. Prominent writers, publishers, booksellers, aspiring writers and school children thronged to the event to witness book exhibitions and public readings. Pioneer writer and former educationist Johana G Sibanda was honoured by the Zimbabwe Academic and Non-fiction Authors Association (ZANA) for her contribution to writing and education. On the first night audiences were treated to a literary evening that saw beautiful readings from veteran writers Barbara Nkala and Isaac Mpofu. Barbara Nkala read from NoViolet Bulawayo's short story published in the Ndebele anthology Thap'Uluju. NAMA award winner Sibongile Mkandla, Mzana Mthimkhulu, Mgcini Nyoni, Mihla Sitsha and others also read from their own body of works.

*Prominent writers, publishers,
booksellers, aspiring writers*

On the same evening the chairman of ZIBF Museyemura Zimunya also took time to congratulate fellow writers for raising the banner of creativity nationwide. Some of the writers that received special mention were Sibongile Mkandla, Albert Nyathi, and Philani Amadeus Nyoni. These were singled out for winning NAMA awards.



*"beautiful readings from
veteran writers"*



HARNESSING CULTURAL FESTIVALS AS SUSTAINABLE TOURISM PRODUCTS

In their Creative Economy Report of 2010, UNDP and UNCTAD stated: "Heritage sites are the main attractions in cultural tourism all over the world. For some countries, these sites are major sources of revenue, albeit usually not reported as cultural services of the creative economy...Heritage is also embedded in the traditional cultural expressions of human creativity, manifested in cultural celebrations, festivals, and folklore....Traditional cultural festivals are culturally important creative activities for developing countries, particularly when associated with tourism even if data on these festivals are usually not collected worldwide....The carnival in Brazil is a good illustration of the economic importance of traditional celebrations."

Any strategy aiming at growing a viable cultural tourism must start with a national appreciation and acknowledgement of the nation's tangible and intangible cultural heritage which constitute tangible and intangible goods and services. Equally essential a strategy is the appreciation of the fact that ensuring that all the people have access to "cultural life" and are able to actively share in it through active participation is the most effective way of growing cultural tourism.

Zimbabwe's capacity to use cultural festivals as a viable tourism product is presently very low. There are many reasons for this state of affairs. One critical reason has been the failure by tourism enterprises to access reliable information about the cultural festivals that can be incorporated in the tourism menu on offer to tourists by tour operators and tourism services agents. This has been caused by poor appreciation by the local tourism sector of the large diversity of cultural events that can lengthen the stay of tourists in the country. Cultural festivals which are spread throughout the year and in different parts of the country can effectively broaden the period of tourist stay in the country as well as increase their access to a wide diversity of heritage goods and services the country is able to offer.

Another reason why Zimbabwe's capacity to use cultural festivals as a viable cultural tourism product is very low is the poor relationship between those in the creative /cultural industries and those in the tourism industry. This state of affairs has mainly been due to the lack of appreciation of the mutual benefits that arise from close collaboration and partnerships.

This is an extract from a paper by Stephen J.Chifunyise, renowned playwright and cultural expert.



"Regional poets attending
A Gathering of poets
2012"

WE WELCOME ABOARD PRO HELVETIA

We take great pleasure in welcoming aboard the Intwasa ship our new partners Pro Helvetia and Swiss Development Corporation (SDC).

We take great pleasure in welcoming aboard the Intwasa ship our new partners Pro Helvetia and Swiss Development Corporation (SDC). Through their Ant Fund, Pro Helvetia and SDC will be supporting two regional theatre productions as part of Intwasa's 2013 programme. We are excited about the new partnership and the resultant regional integration and linkages the partnership seeks to promote.

The partnership sees the acclaimed one man play *Itsoseng* by Omphile Molusi and Botswana's Ghetto Waves' production of *The Stronger Woman* being performed to new audiences in Bulawayo. *Itsoseng* written and performed by the highly acclaimed Omphile Molusi is a story about a township that was burned to ashes and is still hoping to rise again and become part of the Rainbow nation. *The Stronger Woman* is a surprise package from Botswana. The objectives are to create new markets for Southern African art products and to strengthen regional integration and corporation.

It is our hope that this is the beginning of a long relationship between Pro Helvetia, SDC and Intwasa.



THE SCHOOLS SKILLS SHARING WORKSHOPS

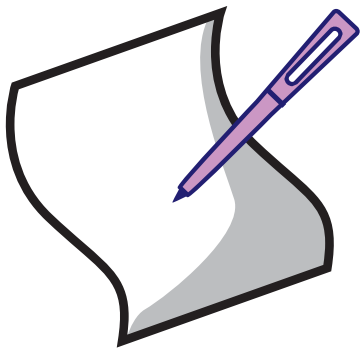
Last month the festival held two 2-day skills sharing workshops for secondary and high school students at Eveline Girls High and Mpopoma High Schools. Both workshops were officially opened by the Provincial Education Officer responsible for Arts and Culture Mr I. Ndlovu. The workshops saw about 160 students from over 30 schools attending and participating in the workshops. The students received training in the following areas:

1. Story Creation
2. Basic acting
3. Basic choreography
4. Music as a narrative element of the story
5. Child participation
6. Marriage laws and child rights related issues

The workshops were part of the preparatory work for the coming annual Plan High Schools Drama Competition whose theme this year is Too Young To Marry. Plan Zimbabwe staff and Intwasa facilitated the workshops and also took time to unpack the theme of the competition to schools. A new award for the best story told by and through the eyes of children/students was added to the competition.

*whose theme this year is
"Too Young To Marry"*

After the workshop schools were sent back to create short plays centred on the theme Too Young to Marry. The preliminaries will start as soon as second term begins.



INTWASA SHORT STORY COMPETITION CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Intwasa Short Story Competition enters its ninth year in 2013. The competition was inaugurated in the first year of the festival and is an annual literary event seeking to promote original creative writing talent in English. In 2011 the award for the winner was named the Yvonne Vera Award, after the late Dr. Yvonne Vera, a literary genius whose works include *Why Don't We Carve Other Animals*, *Nehanda*, *Without a Name*, *Stone Virgins*, and *Butterfly Burning*. The Yvonne Vera award carries a \$500 cash prize.

THE RULES OF THE COMPETITION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- There is no particular theme
- Entries must be written in English
- Entries should be previously unpublished
- Only one entry per person
- All work must be original
- Entries must be typed.
- Maximum 3000 words.
- The competition is open to all Zimbabwe citizens and residents
- Entries must be submitted by June 30, 2013
- Late entries will not be accepted.
- Only the short-listed candidates will be personally notified

The competition is one of the very few writing competitions in Zimbabwe and continues to encourage and promote the original Zimbabwean narrative. Last year the competition was won by Violette Kee-Tui with her story *Tattered Cloth*. The story explored interracial relationships and had the judges singing a lot of praises, especially about its use of language and imagery. Violette Kee-Tui is a former editor of the *Edgars Store's Club Magazine*.

Sipho Mpfu's *A Congenial Man* and Nixon Nembaware's *The Rain God of Nyatanga Hill* were among the top three stories of 2012. Each year the standard of writing continues to improve.

Writers can start submitting their stories now. Send to info@intwasa.org

Intwasa Arts Festival
403 LAPF HOUSE
Jason Moyo Street
8th Avenue
Bulawayo

Email: info.intwasa@gmail.com

OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS

Calling for new, fresh and cutting edge work for presentation at the 9th edition of Intwasa Arts Festival koBulawayo. Artists with work that fit the bill can visit the festival website for application forms.

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS
30 APRIL 2013.**

www.intwasa.org

INTWASA TRIVIA

1. The National Art Gallery in Bulawayo has been a festival venue since the first edition of Intwasa.
2. Pathisa Nyathi, the celebrated historian and writer, was once the board chairperson of the festival
3. Days Ahead, the American jazz group, performed at Intwasa in 2009.
4. South African maskanda musician Maqinga Radebe once performed alongside Albert Nyathi at Intwasa.
5. The festival logo attempts to capture the diverse art forms celebrated under Intwasa.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"A carnival is not a revolution. The greatest live performance does not luxuriate in a populist celebration of the collective, but, rather, it engages us in a profound, often deeply personal, experience of beauty and pain."

Howard Barker (1986)

"Art offers those who view it the chance to expand their life experience by having them experience, vicariously, the world from another person's point of view; travel in time and space and cross cultural, social and political boundaries."

Harold R. Oaks (2000)

"By buying a ticket, the spectator/ audience buys a promise. A promise of excitement, intellectual engagement, voyeurism."

Anonymous