

TSOZHANG BATJHA!

Announcements

- Short Story workshop – 4 May 2019
- Short Story entry deadline –
- Poetry Workshop - And 4 May 2019
- TB Library – Every Wednesday & Saturdays
- Jazz Music Class – Every Friday
- JBF will run workshops in schools, dates to be confirmed.
- JBF schools programme 29 Aug – 30 Aug 2019
- Annual Jozi Book Fair Festival – 29 August – 1 September 2019
- Annual Jozi Book Fair Festival – 29 August – 1 September 2019- ONLY registered schools can participate, R70 for pack, which includes, Tshirt, food & books.

Welcome to Tsohang Batjha

Welcome to the first edition of the Tsohang Batjha Newsletter for 2019. This year we have a number of exciting activities. If you are passionate about Poetry, this year the JBF will run poetry competitions in our schools, so if you want to take your poetry to a new level, this is a space for you. Other competitions to look out for this year is Short Stories and the Spelling BEE. This year the JBF Festival takes place from 29 Aug – 1 September 2019 in Newtown. Packs for the schools programme are R70 and ONLY registered schools can participate. JBF will distribute readings so that your book club can be ready to meet and converse with authors at the Book Fair. This year the theme of the Fair is Literature and Newspapers and looks at the role newspapers play in promoting reading and literature. We wish you well and hope you enjoy this edition.



Poetry Workshop

On the 13 April 2019 Jozi Book Fair had a workshop with 42 learners from different schools at Khanya College. The workshop aimed to teach learners about slam poetry. The session was facilitated by Masai Dabula where he taught them about different kinds of poetry, its purpose and how poetry can form part of their everyday lives. The workshop was to teach them the basics of poetry, however it was clear from the workshop that some learners are very passionate about poetry. Learners were also given tips of how to keep their poems short and sweet. Learners also got a chance to perform their poetry, got the facilitator to look at their written work and give them comments, everyone was happy.

By Avhasei Budeli

Poetry Competition in schools

Call for all learners who are love about poetry to participate in the Poetry Competition in the schools, OVCs and the Annual JBF Festival. Last year, JBF hosted poetry competitions with out of school youth, however in the schools programme open mic it was clear that there is a lot of talent out there and learners are interested in poetry, JBF listened and this year we will host a number of poetry competition & auditions in the schools. Winners will compete in the JBF schools programme and will stand a chance to get their poems published for your peers to read.



Short Story Competition & Workshop

This year JBF will once again host the 4th annual short story competition. In preparation for this, learners are encouraged to attend the short story workshop which will take place on 4 May 2019. This workshop will give you guidelines about how to write short stories. Winning stories will be published. Writers should use their own words, and stories written in English. There are great prizes to be won!



Join the Tsohang Batjha Book Club

If you live in the Inner City and interested in sharing your ideas, making friends, reading and other fun activities, then TB Library is just for you. Inner City youth come together every Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays to read, do homework, computer skills, art, jazz music, share ideas, debate issues. This will help with reading, will improve your school marks and removes learners from the streets.



OPINIONS FROM TSOHANG BATJHA

Shut down ANC

South Africa used to be better with a balanced economy and jobs when Thabo Mbeki was still in charge. When Jacob Zuma came to power, he did not just lie to us but he destroys the economy and the country as a whole. He further brought more corruption to the ANC, now every ANC candidate is proved to be corrupt, and we cannot put the country in the hands of corrupt people. We see now the streets are dirty, robots do not work, metro police are being bribed. If we do not shut down ANC, many people will suffer.

By Welcome Ndlovu, New Model

Democracy did not spoil us

Parents turn to blame the government for their children's unruly behavior since the abolishment of corporal punishment. I totally disagree with that because children usually do what they see their parents do. Some parents fail to raise their children well. A child behaves unruly if they were not raised right and parents do not engage with their children and their school activities. Parents need to be more active in their children's lives and stop using the government as scapegoats, children take their parents as role models and parents need to play that role.

By Thato Mosala, Illinge High School

Bring together Children

In most cases, we see discrimination of the LGBTQI community in schools. It is always about boys and girls, even in our Life Orientation subject they exclude that topic. It is not right for learners to leave the school because they feel discriminated, learners should always be encouraged. Teachers need to build them instead of destroying them. We have serious issues to deal with like bullying, lets teach ourselves to be tolerant and accept each other, after all that is what diversity it.

Mandlenkosi Ncube, New Model Private College



The DA is not better than ANC

DA is no better than ANC, when election comes, I would rather vote for ANC. Look at Jo'burg, its a mess, robots do not work, taxis are out of control and metro police are not visible enough. The street and pavement are a disgrace so when they say DA is weak, I agree. They have to keep the pavements clean, sweep the gutters out side. DA wake up!

By Thandie Moyo, New Model Private College

POEMS

Teenage Pregnancy

He said he loves me and I believed him
He said it wouldn't hurt, but it did
I have him my fruit and he used me
I was blinded by an illusionist
And fooled by a perfectionist

I believed he loved me but just wanted to use me
He knew how to play with words (typical)
I left school thinking I was COOL but I was just a FOOL
He left me all alone with his seed in my womb
He lied and I cried

I have fallen into a trap
With life time effects
I have lost so much in life
Confidence, self-respect, all has vanished because of him
I was fooled because I trusted too much!

By Nthabeleng Letsoalo, Mxolisi Nkomazana and Thabiso Sikhosana,



My Home

My home, My home
A place filled with water,
A place filled with life
Situations

A place with issues
How can we solve this issues?
A place with love and passion

Situations that come and go,
Situations that want to be treated
Good and bad sometimes

My home that begin with where I come from
A place filled with lots of love
A home, with people's future
My home, My home

*By Mbalenhle Mavumengwana
Africa House College*

Roots of a Tree

Roots, what are roots?
Roots hold up a tree and make it grow bigger
Just as a family creates a home
when I think of home, I think of laughter, love and my
grandma's precious stew aroma

A day without family is like a day without air
when I say air, I don't mean carbon dioxide or oxygen
Just like family we have different family members good
and bad

When I'm asked of home, I think of my Grandma's little
cottage, it may not be big and fancy but it has a lot of love
Love and home combine very well together
just like milk honey

An enormous tree is like a home full of love
home, home this is where I wanna be
there's no other place I'd rather be

by Buhlebenkosi Dlamini, New Model Private School

Home is where I long to be

Beautiful flowers, dying trees
Home is where I long to be
The loud music on Saturday nights
Drunk men, falling from different heights
The loud arguments, that keeps me wide awake
The blood stains dried on the ground

My home is special and different from the rest
the sense of belonging has vanished from air
broken bottles lying on the ground
The cry of flower hanging on to a dread life
grown me lying on ground knocked down
unconscious from unexpected fights
Family member crying for loved ones
Home is where I long to be

My home is fun but sometimes scary
but all the same
It's where I belong to be

By Chicalam Ehirim, Yeoville Community

BOOK CLUB PROFILE

Meet the Asteri Starts Book Club

The Jozi Book Fair team had a pleasure to meet the Asteri Stars Book Club during our site visits. These book club has 23 active members. They meet every day after school to discuss different books that they are reading. The book club has members who are also interested in book clubs. They also share book reviews with their members and everyone gets a chance to review their book and have a discussion on it. The book club has two library monitors Thabiso Sikhosana and Glory Masiala. The monitors make sure that the book club has books, the meetings happen regularly and that everyone is reading.

JBF is proud of you!!!



BOOK REVIEWS

Title: Two-faced-friends
Author: Dorothy Dyer
Publisher: Cover 2 cover books

I chose this story because I wanted to know what kind of friends are two-faced friends

This story took place in a township. Lelethu lived with her aunt and cousin Bontle in Cape Town. Lelethu's aunt used to wake Lelethu up early in the morning to prepare breakfast. When she told her aunt she was not a servant, she would get slapped. Then some group of bad girls influenced Lelethu, she began hanging out with them. She ignored her own best friend Pholisa for those bad girls. Later on, after all the mistakes she had made, she finally changed and stopped hanging out with the bad girls, even her aunt changed and became kind to Lelethu.

When I read the story I was excited but there was a time when I was emotional.

By Lela Ndlovu

KGAITSEDI

Dear KgaitseDI

I am in grade 10 and I'm always getting bullied by other learners, actually let me just say I'm being discriminated religiously. I go to the Zion Christian Church which is also known as the Z.C.C. The student and teachers tease me about my church. They will ask when will I go to jump at Moria and say that we drink tea that has no sugar. Sometimes I lose my temper. What must I do to stop the situation?

Yours faithfully
Makhado Makhumisani

Response

Dear Makhado Makhumisani, do not let other people change the way you are. The world is full of mean people who do not understand that we are different and diverse people. There is nothing wrong with being different or believing in different things, the fact that they bully you shows that they have low self esteem and they do not understand difference. I advice you speak to a teacher you are comfortable with, or your principal because discrimination is not acceptable, especially in schools.

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