

YOUNG & CHILDREN'S CORNER

Jasmin Juma



Jasmin is in class six at Mianzini Primary School. She is 13 years old. She likes drawing. She says art is very essential to her since it has enabled her to acquire various skills which she thinks will make a positive impact in her future life. As an artiste, she has been able to perform acrobatic shows and other activities. She said she has developed respect and art has influenced her herself well. Being an artiste she thinks she stands a good chance of famous and thus meet her future goals. She said teachers at school do not bother in teaching different arts, as it seems they don't have interest in them. She says however, that it is the teachers' duty to motivate and encourage the students to love arts.

She is aged 11 years and attends at class five at Kisutu Primary School. She likes drawing. She said she loves art very much since she is talented and she wishes to develop that talent. She wants to become the most powerful artist when she grows and earn a lot of money through performing the arts. She said a student should not only focus on studying regular subjects, but she or he has to take up other activities which will, in future, earn her an income. With growing unemployment, she says, young people can employ themselves through performing arts. She is advising her fellow pupils to build in positive altitude of loving art because it has wider opportunities in future.

Teressia Michael



He is in class six at Mianzini Primary School. He is 12 years old. He likes theatre arts. He said performing acrobats is very important to him as he earns a little money, but also is a way of keeping himself healthy. He said art does not only entertains people, but it also educates them—depending on the theme of the performance. He says some people criticize him for taking that path. He said art makes him think critically and analyze things in a proper order. He said he is dreaming of achieving higher goals in future so that he can live a better life. He is determining to become a powerful artiste and assist his family. He is advising parents to encourage their children to join Babawatoto Centre or any other centers where they can learn different artistic skills.

Ali Juma



He is in class 5 aged 14. He likes playing football and performing acrobats. He said art to him will not only enable him maintain good health, but also important in shaping his future. He said many elites are wandering about in the streets after completion of studies, they have no work. Performing arts has room for those who feel they have the talent and there is room for them to become professional artistes—especially if they join in groups. He said it is good for him to develop his talents and dreams to become a teacher. He thinks in this way, he would be able to influence and attract many young people to love arts.

Jumanne Juma



Art and theater arts useful skills for young people.

By Jamila Shemni

Art is very essential to students and youth as it paves the way to better achievements, as well as attaining good future. Art skills taught in schools, are not enough to enable students become good artistes and so students should be determined to develop their own talents.

Sometimes students have high determination to involve themselves in arts as a way to develop their talents, but no motivation to enable them achieve their goals. Both parents and teachers need to motivate and encourage the students to love art and utilize their talents.

Art will not only make the young people achieve fame, both locally and internationally, but also shape them and attain good future through selling their works. Art will also help students acquire life skills, by specializing in specific art disciplines. Art draws range of skills and abilities that encourages the development of study, social and personal skills in addition to specific art techniques.

The ability to generate ideas and communicate them effectively, is essential in workplaces and this ability can be cultivated through involvement in the arts. There are many centers and institutions which encourage young people to join them so that they get to appreciate art and such centers are ready to empower and promote their works.

There are so many children wandering about in the streets whose parents lack money to take them to school, but if given the opportunity to involve themselves in art, the children can settle down and get empowered by acquiring different art skills.

Pupils from different schools in Dar es Salaam comment on the importance of art to them.

Ali Rashid



He is 14 years old in class five. He likes performing acrobats. He said arts provide students with a multitude of options for expressing and communicating their ideas, students learn to think about problems from a broad perspectives. He said these kinds of communication and problem solving abilities, are essential to all work in different environments, regardless of the field. He said art will not only assist the youth to secure employment, but also develop capacity building skills which they can use them to attain their goals. He said this is because one can have a lot of money, but be useless to society because s/he is not focused. He is advising the teachers to encourage pupils to join various hobbies, including theatre arts to diversify their life skills.