

Babawatoto forms parents committee

BY JAMILASHEMNI

THE Fit For Life project under Babawatoto centre is currently initiating various programs aiming at promoting theatrical performances in Tanzania as well as securing market for emerging young artists.

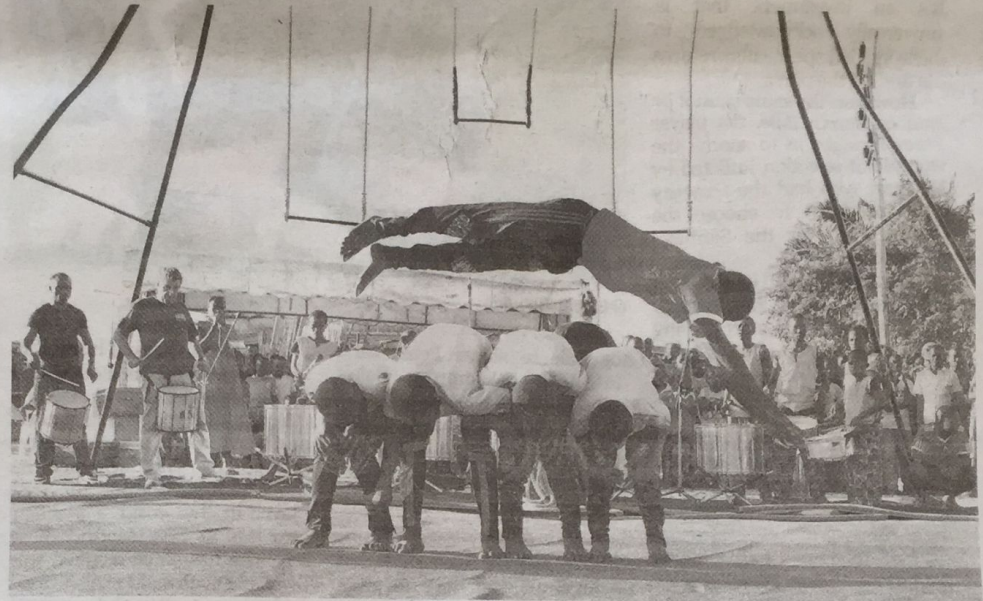
As the project is coming to an end in February next year, the young artists need to use the acquired skills in developing their talents as well as seeking out markets for their works.

With this move, during the Advocacy Forum which was conducted last week, parents together with Babawatoto officials and project implementers have agreed upon to collaborate together to ensure the skills acquired from the project are extended even after the completion of the project.

Together with other initiatives put forward, a new committee to include Babawatoto officials and parents was formed.

Speaking during the forum, Mburahati local government chairman Idd Bilali said it is high time that the central government need to support the centres which are promoting theatrical performances in Tanzania so that the artists in Tanzania can be empowered.

"It is our responsibility, we as the representative from government officials to ensure we appreciate and promote the work done by our children. It is impressive to see how



Children from Babawatoto Centre performs acrobatics in Mburahati, Dar es Salaam. File Picture

children are performing these acrobatics. We need to support them," he said.

Bilali said he is aware with the challenges the centre is facing and that he will be responsible to ensure they are well resolved.

On her part, Project Manager Habiba Issa urged parents to support the centre in ensuring the skills and work done by the young emerging artists are well promoted.

She said they are happy with the achievements young artists have attained, but the main challenge is how to seek out markets and attract more

audiences through the daily theatrical performances.

"Am happy that with this forum, some of the parents have declared interest in assisting our artists in promotion of markets," said Habiba.

Through the project, she said they are not only encouraging youth to join with acrobatics and get experience, but also has to do more on improving the status of the emerging artists.

One of the parents who is also a member of the committee Subira Said, urged fellow parents to follow up on the progress of their children at

the centre so that the intended goals can be achieved.

She said the parents are blamed for not supporting their children, something which hinder further progress and development at the centre.

"As a newly elected member of the committee, I will work with my fellow members to ensure we completely empower our kids for the future of our young artists," said Subira.

She urged parents to trust the Babawatoto centre and other centres which aim at empowering youth to become better artists and stop thinking negatively about the centre.

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