



LUTHULI MUSEUM



LET THE SPIRIT OF
LUTHULI SPEAK TO ALL

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PRESS RELEASE

Attention: News Editors
For Immediate Use

20 October, 2011

Huge turnout at Luthuli Museum 15th Poetry Africa event

Words of inspiration and anger were expressed in different forms of poetry at one of the largest turnout of learners at the 15th Poetry Africa event held on Tuesday October 18 at the Luthuli Museum in Groutville.

The 15th Poetry Africa, International Poetry Festival featured 20 participants from 12 different countries and involved a host of different activities like workshop, seminars, open mic opportunities and Slam Jam competitions. It is hosted and organized by the Centre for Creative Arts at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

On Tuesday five participants Didier Awadi accompanied by Tibass Kangu from Senegal, Fernando Rendon from Colombia, Niyi Osundare from Nigeria and David wa Maahlamela from the Limpopo province of South African presented their work to the learners.

Each one gave a brief description of the thoughts and research that went into their poems. For Colombian-born poet Fernando Rendon – his had to be translated from Spanish to English. For many learners it was the first time they had heard a foreign language.

But it was the performance by Didier Awadi and Tibass Kangu from Senegal that really got everyone excited. The pair performed a hip-hop version of poetry that most of the learners could relate to – even though it was presented in half French and half English.

At question-time learners had an opportunity to probe the workings of a poet and to listen to each individual's journey from humble beginnings to this prestigious platform.

Caption: From left Fernando Rendon, David wa Maahlamela, translator Sonia Fernandez Carralero, Tibass Kangu, Niyi Osundare, Didier Awadi and Luthuli Museum Heritage Officer Thulani Thusi.

For further information contact Luthuli Museum Education Officer Clinton Taylor on (032) 559 6822.

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