

KENYA NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE

NEWSLETTER

3rd Quarter Newsletter (January-March 2024)

Issue No: 011



Ambassador Francis Muthaura's Visit: A Presentation of "A Moving Horizon"

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KNLS and Book Aid International Enhance Literacy in Murang'a County

In a remarkable initiative aimed at strengthening literacy and educational opportunities, the Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) has joined forces with Book Aid International to provide Murang'a County with a diverse assortment of books. This collaborative endeavour marks a significant step forward in our commitment to actively engage with counties following the devolution process, thereby fostering a widespread culture of reading and knowledge acquisition throughout the nation.

The donation of books to Murang'a County underscores the profound dedication of KNLS and Book Aid International to promoting literacy and education in Kenya. By pooling resources and expertise, we are not only delivering books but also facilitating access to information that is crucial for personal and communal development.

This concerted effort reflects our shared belief in the transformative power of education and the written word. The donated collection covers a wide array of subjects, catering to the diverse interests and needs of Murang'a County residents. From literature to science, history to technology, the books provide valuable resources that empower individuals to expand their horizons and pursue their passions. Whether it's fostering a love for reading among children or supporting lifelong learning among adults, these books serve as catalysts for intellectual growth and exploration.

Furthermore, this partnership between KNLS and Book Aid International exemplifies the spirit of collaboration and cooperation that is essential for driving positive change in our society. By working together, we are able to leverage our respective strengths and resources to make a meaningful impact on the communities we serve. Through initiatives like this, we demonstrate our collective commitment to advancing literacy and education as cornerstones of national development.



Maktaba Kuu's Parent-Child Book Club: A Memorable Reading Adventure

On January 20th, Maktaba Kuu hosted a delightful Parent-Child Book Club event that proved to be a captivating voyage through the world of literature and familial bonding. The occasion provided families with an enchanting opportunity to partake in stimulating book discussions, engaging interactive reading sessions, and enjoyable learning activities.

During the event, families eagerly delved into lively discussions about various books, exchanging thoughts and insights that enriched their understanding of the stories and themes. Through these discussions, both parents and children alike were able to explore new perspectives and deepen their appreciation for the written word.

The interactive reading sessions offered an immersive experience, allowing participants to dive into the narratives and characters of the selected books. Through animated storytelling and shared readings, families were transported to imaginary worlds and embarked on exciting adventures together.

In addition to book discussions and reading sessions, the event featured a range of fun learning activities designed to spark curiosity and creativity. From arts and crafts projects to educational games, families were able to enjoy quality time together while also nurturing important skills and interests.

The Parent-Child Book Club at Maktaba Kuu served as a platform for strengthening familial bonds and fostering a love for books within the community. By coming together to share in the joy of reading, families not only created cherished memories but also cultivated a lifelong appreciation for literature and learning.



Ambassador Francis Muthaura's Visit: A Presentation of "A Moving Horizon"



On January 22nd, Ambassador Francis Muthaura paid a respectful visit to the CEO, Dr. Charles Nzivo, where he graciously presented his book, "A Moving Horizon."

"A Moving Horizon" chronicles the remarkable life journey of Ambassador Dr. Muthaura, tracing his origins from the foothills of Mt. Kenya to his eventual retirement from public service. The narrative unfolds as Ambassador Dr. Muthaura ascends through various career milestones, embarking on diplomatic missions across European capitals and the United Nations, before assuming a pivotal role in revitalizing the East African Community.

The book offers profound insights into Ambassador Dr. Muthaura's tenure within the Kenya Civil Service, culminating in his appointment as Head of the Civil Service and Secretary to the Cabinet. However, it also candidly recounts the challenging moment when he faced indictment for alleged crimes against humanity at the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Ambassador Dr. Muthaura's journey epitomizes qualities of focus, loyalty, resilience, commitment, and patriotism, serving as a beacon of inspiration for both aspiring and current civil servants alike. Through his experiences, readers are encouraged to reflect on the values and virtues necessary for effective public service leadership.

The presentation of "A Moving Horizon" during Ambassador Francis Muthaura's visit signifies not only a sharing of personal history but also a testament to the enduring spirit of service and dedication to nation-building. It is a narrative that illuminates the complexities and triumphs inherent in a life devoted to public service, leaving a lasting impression on all who engage with its pages.

Ambassador Francis Muthaura's Visit: A Presentation of "A Moving Horizon"

In a purposeful literary journey, KNLS, in collaboration with Book Aid International, has generously donated books to enrich the collections of the Gilgil Sub-county Library and Naivasha Library, operating under the Nakuru County Government's jurisdiction. This heartening partnership reflects our unwavering commitment to nurturing a thriving reading culture accessible to all members of society.

The initiative marks a significant stride toward our mission of promoting literacy and knowledge dissemination. Through the donation of a diverse array of books, we aim to invigorate the shelves of these libraries, providing readers in Gilgil and Naivasha with a rich tapestry of literary resources to explore and enjoy.

The collaboration with Book Aid International underscores our shared dedication to advancing literacy initiatives worldwide. Together, we celebrate the power of books to inspire, educate, and empower individuals, regardless of their background or circumstances. As we embark on this literary endeavour, we recognize the transformative potential of fostering a love for reading within communities. By enhancing the resources available at the Gilgil and Naivasha County Libraries, we strive to illuminate minds and ignite imaginations, paving the way for a brighter and more literate future.

This initiative stands as a testament to our collective efforts to champion the cause of literacy and learning. Together with Book Aid International, KNLS remains committed to expanding access to books and promoting a culture of reading for individuals of all ages and walks of life.

We invite everyone to join us on this journey as we work together to cultivate a more informed, engaged, and empowered society through the power of literature. Together, let's embark on this literary adventure and pave the way for a future where every individual has the opportunity to explore the boundless worlds that books offer.



KNLS Collaborates with “What’s on Your Shelf Podcast” for Literary Delights



Prepare for a literary extravaganza! We're thrilled to announce the launch of the “What’s on Your Shelf Podcast” in partnership with Blackboy Media, right here at #KNLS. Dive into enriching discussions with authors, avid readers, and publishers, exploring the fascinating world of literature.

Our inaugural episode, filmed at knls Buruburu, showcases the remarkable Faith Nzama, a Coffee Enthusiast who has devoured over 800 books! Join us as we delve into her literary journey and uncover her insights into the world of reading.

Don't miss out on the magic! Tune in now to witness captivating conversations that celebrate the joy of reading and the power of storytelling. Visit our YouTube channel to embark on this literary adventure with “What’s on Your Shelf Podcast.”

Link to watch: <https://www.youtube.com/@WhatsOnYourShelf/videos>. Stay tuned for more captivating episodes as we continue to explore the diverse landscape of literature and share inspiring stories from the world of books. Join us as we celebrate the wonders of reading and ignite a passion for storytelling!

Kenya National Library Service (Maktaba Kuu) holds a Reading Extravaganza



The Kenya National Library Service (Maktaba Kuu) hosted a vibrant reading extravaganza on February 16th, 2024, at its borrowing and lending department located on the mezzanine floor, specifically in the Multi Media section. The event, aimed at promoting reading and literacy, was marked by engaging activities and insightful discussions.

Attendees were welcomed by the librarian who provided an overview of the significance of reading and literacy, highlighting the upcoming National Reading Day and a forthcoming national reading competition, with teachers promised further notification.



A highlight of the event was the presence of Wangari Grace, a notable author of children's books, who delivered an inspiring talk on children's authorship. Emphasizing the importance of reading as a foundation for writing, she encouraged children to utilize the library regularly, stressing its role in vocabulary enhancement and word mastery.

Interactive story sessions, accompanied by percussion instruments, singing, and dancing, added to the excitement, with participants enthusiastically mimicking animal sounds from the tales. These stories, drawn directly from the library's collection, underscored the intimate link between reading and storytelling. Additionally, Statehouse Primary School presented a poem emphasizing the significance of reading.



Some of the schools represented included Statehouse Primary School with 7 teachers and 31 pupils, Kenya Icon with 3 teachers and 13 pupils, Mbagathi Primary School with 5 teachers and 23 pupils, Pleasant Hope Academy with 4 teachers and 78 pupils, and Chantilly Academy with 5 teachers and 23 pupils. In total, the event drew in 24 teachers and 168 pupils, totalling 192 participants, showcasing Maktaba Kuu's dedication to instilling a passion for reading and nurturing young minds.

KNLS trains youth in Basic ICT skills

Reflecting on a significant milestone, the Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) recently celebrated the successful completion of its fifth cohort for Basic ICT skills training. The culmination of this program marked a pivotal moment in the journey towards empowering youth with essential digital competencies.

Over the course of the training program, participants immersed themselves in a comprehensive curriculum designed to impart fundamental ICT knowledge and practical skills. Under the guidance of experienced instructors, they delved into various aspects of computing, mastering basic operations, software applications, and digital literacy essentials.

Through a series of engaging sessions that combined theory with hands-on practice, participants developed a deep understanding of ICT concepts and honed their proficiency in using technology effectively. From navigating computer systems to utilizing internet resources responsibly, each session was a step towards building a solid foundation in digital fluency.

The success of Cohort 5 is a testament to the dedication and commitment of both the participants and the KNLS team. Despite the challenges posed by the digital divide, each individual demonstrated resilience and determination in their pursuit of knowledge and skill development.

As the program drew to a close, participants expressed gratitude for the invaluable learning experience provided by KNLS. Many highlighted the newfound confidence and capabilities they had acquired, emphasizing the transformative impact of the training on their personal and professional lives.

Looking ahead, KNLS remains steadfast in its mission to empower youth and bridge the digital gap within the community. With each cohort, the organization continues to sow the seeds of opportunity and growth, nurturing a generation of digitally literate individuals poised to thrive in the digital age.

The successful completion of Cohort 5 stands as a testament to the power of education and the potential for positive change. As KNLS looks towards the future, it remains committed to fostering a culture of lifelong learning and equipping youth with the skills they need to succeed in an increasingly digital world.



KNLS partners with Ajira Digital to empower youth with graphic design skills

In an exciting partnership, the Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) has teamed up with Ajira Digital to offer graphic design skills training to youth. Through the Ajira Digital Program, participants were provided with a unique opportunity to enhance their expertise in graphic design.

The training program commenced with three days of intensive in-person training sessions held at the Kenya National Library from the 21st to 23rd of February. Following this initial phase, participants engaged in five weeks of virtual mentorship, facilitated by industry experts.

Beyond skill development, this collaboration also served as a platform to promote the virtual library, providing a valuable marketing space for its offerings.

This initiative underscores KNLS's commitment to empowering youth with practical skills and creating opportunities for growth and development in the digital landscape. Through partnerships like these, KNLS continues to play a pivotal role in equipping the youth with the tools they need to succeed in today's competitive job market.



KNLS successfully handovers the Kibera County Library to Nairobi County Government

The Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) successfully completed the transfer of ownership of Kibera Library assets to the Nairobi City County. The event, which took place on 9th February, was attended by esteemed guests, including the IGRTC Chairman and CEO, KNLS Chairman and CEO, County Secretary, and senior officers from both levels of Government.

Nairobi City County pledged its commitment to ensuring the continued welfare of the library, promising enhanced benefits for the local community. KNLS, in turn, has reaffirmed its dedication to supporting this County Government in maintaining smooth operations at the library and expanding library facilities for the benefit of all.

During the event, the IGRTC Chairman underscored the importance of collaboration between different levels of Government for mutual growth and development. He emphasized that a strong County Government serves to complement a robust National Government, highlighting the necessity of working together for the betterment of the entire nation.

This successful handover not only secures the future of the Kibera County Library but also represents a shining example of effective collaboration between governmental entities. It is a testament to the power of unity and collective effort in advancing community welfare and national development.

As KNLS, we remain committed to our mission of promoting access to information and knowledge for all. We look forward to continued collaboration with Nairobi City County and other stakeholders to further enrich the lives of our communities through library services and resources.





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