

# KENYA NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN

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n a remarkable collaboration with the U.S. Embassy, KNLS proudly hosted the 20th-anniversary celebrations of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), on 28th November, featuring H.E. Dr. William Ruto as the distinguished Chief Guest. The event, generously facilitated by the U.S. Embassy, promises to be a month-long spectacle at the KNLS Sanaa Centre, extending its activities until December. The overarching aim of this grand celebration is to spotlight the substantial strides made in destigmatizing HIV/AIDS, achieved through the commendable bipartisan support.

During his impactful speech, President Ruto articulated Kenya's resolute dedication to eradicating HIV/AIDS in children by 2027, aligning seamlessly with the overarching objectives of the Global Alliance. The President underscored the significance of the Universal Healthcare Coverage initiative, viewing it as a pivotal avenue to address the prevailing financing gap associated with the infection in our nation. This juncture is crucial, presenting a golden opportunity to recover lost ground and ensure the well-being of our children.





The notable gathering witnessed the presence of key figures such as US Ambassador Meg Whitman, Health Cabinet Secretary Susan Nakhumicha, Principal Secretary of the State Department for Culture, the Arts, and Heritage, Ummi Bashir, KNLS Chairman Bishop Robert Theuri, and CEO Dr. Charles Nzivo, among other distinguished guests. The event not only served as a platform for reflection on past accomplishments but also as a catalyst for renewed commitment towards a healthier future for the nation, particularly its younger generation.

In hosting this prestigious occasion, KNLS reaffirms its pivotal role in fostering partnerships that contribute significantly to national health agendas. As the celebrations unfold throughout the month, the KNLS Sanaa Centre stands as a symbol of collaboration, progress, and dedication to the cause of HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention.





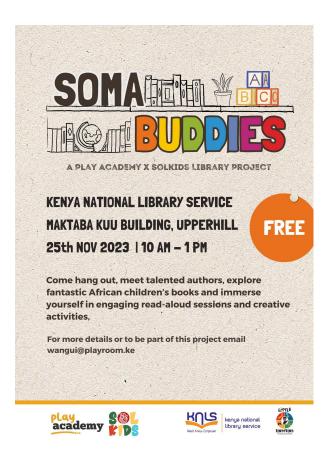


### KNLS Joins Forces with Sol Kids to Enchant Young Minds at the Kids Lit Festival

n a recent collaboration, KNLS and Sol Kids seamlessly orchestrated a captivating Kids Lit Festival on November 25th, immersing children and families in the enchanting realm of African children's books. The event, which unfolded with resounding success, featured talented authors, engaging read-aloud sessions, and imaginative crafting activities, fostering a love for literature among the young audience.

A noteworthy aspect of this collaboration was Sol Kids' generous contribution to the cause. As part of their commitment to the literary celebration, Sol Kids donated a selection of captivating titles, including "Bald Men Comic," "Lala Land," "Written In The Stars," "Pipo and the Poop Pile," "Funny Fisi," "Towering Twiga," and "The Wonderful HibiscOak Tree." The total value of this generous donation amounted to an impressive 12,250 units.

The donated books, constituting 16 titles in total, play a vital role in the Soma Buddies Project, enhancing the literary landscape at KNLS. Additionally, Sol Kids' contribution extends beyond books, encompassing essential items such as "Budubas the Colobus Monkey," children's shelves, carpets, and other materials currently in use at the children's section. This philanthropic initiative not only enriches the reading experience for young minds but also exemplifies the positive impact achievable through collaborative partnerships in promoting literacy and education.



The Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) actively participates in a tree-planting initiative at the Ngong plot, aligning with the government's emphasis on environmental conservation.

he Government declared Monday 13th November 2023 a public holiday for the citizens to take part in a national tree planting exercise. The President, Cabinet Secretaries and County Governors led the country in the tree planting exercise in line with the Government plan of growing 10 billion trees by 2032. Equally, KNLS organized a similar exercise as planned in the 2023/24 performance contract.

The Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) enthusiastically participated in a tree-planting initiative at the Ngong plot, aligning with the government's directive on environmental conservation. The designated area, where the future container library is set to be established, witnessed the fruitful collaboration of KNLS staff, led by Madam Philomena, Director of Technical Services, and the local community.

Under the stewardship of Madam Philomena, KNLS took a significant stride towards sustainability by planting a total of 200 trees. The diverse selection of indigenous species not only contributes to the aesthetic enhancement of the Ngong plot but also supports the broader environmental goals outlined by the government.

The event was marked by the active involvement of the community, with MCA Ngong playing a pivotal role in mobilizing local residents to partake in the tree-planting process. This collective effort not only fostered a sense of community ownership but also underscored the importance of collaborative environmental stewardship. As the saplings took root in the Ngong soil, the symbolic significance of the initiative resonated deeply. Beyond meeting the government's ecological directives, the tree-planting event served as a testament to KNLS's commitment to sustainable practices and community engagement.

The trees planted on this occasion symbolize a collective dedication to nurturing the environment for future generations. KNLS extends its gratitude to the MCA Ngong, and the entire community for their enthusiastic participation, marking a significant step towards a greener and more sustainable future.









## KNLS, in collaboration with Book Aid International, initiates the dispatch of books to Taita Taveta University



n a testament to their longstanding commitment to education and literacy, the Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) and Book Aid International have once again joined forces to fortify the intellectual landscape at Taita Taveta University. This enduring partnership, cultivated over the years, stands as a beacon of collaboration, demonstrating the sustained dedication of both organizations to advancing knowledge and fostering a culture of learning.

On the 9th of November 2023, rooted in a history of shared values and a mutual passion for education, KNLS and Book Aid International formalized their commitment to providing Taita Taveta University students with a diverse and comprehensive collection of books. This collaborative effort transcends a mere exchange of materials; it represents a profound investment in the intellectual growth and development of the university's student body.

As the carefully selected 2500 books make their way to Taita Taveta University, the partnership aims to build not only a robust academic resource but also a lasting legacy of literacy and intellectual curiosity. This initiative, a product of years of collaboration, is poised to leave an indelible mark on the educational landscape, empowering students to think critically and engage with a world of ideas beyond their immediate surroundings.

The enduring nature of this partnership underscores the shared vision of KNLS and Book Aid International—a vision where education knows no bounds, and access to information becomes a catalyst for positive change. As the books find a new home at Taita Taveta University, KNLS and Book Aid International celebrate not only the tangible impact of their collaboration but also the enduring spirit of cooperation that has fueled their joint mission over the years. This dispatch of 2500 books is not just a one-time event; it's a continuation of a legacy of partnership that remains steadfast in its commitment to transforming lives through knowledge.

## Data Entry and Transcription training, a joint effort with Ajira Digital, specifically tailored for women and girls.

n a transformative initiative held from the 13th to the 15th of November, the Maktaba Kuu building became the nexus of empowerment as 23 enthusiastic girls and women gathered for a specialized Data Entry and Transcription Training program. This joint effort, orchestrated by the Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) in collaboration with Ajira Digital, aimed to bridge the gender gap in the digital sphere by equipping participants with valuable skills.

The program's objective was clear: empower women and girls by imparting practical skills in data entry and transcription. Recognizing the pivotal role of digital literacy in today's world, the tailored training initiative sought to unlock new opportunities for participants in the online workspace.

Facilitated by experts in the field, the training sessions were not only theoretical but also highly practical. The program's design ensured that participants delved into the intricacies of data entry and transcription, gaining hands-on experience that would prove invaluable in real-world scenarios.

As the participants immersed themselves in the program, they not only acquired new skills but also built a heightened sense of confidence. The initiative showcased a commitment to gender inclusivity and empowerment, breaking down barriers and opening doors to a world of opportunities for women and girls in the digital age. This initiative stands as a beacon of progress, illustrating the transformative impact of targeted training in fostering inclusivity and unlocking potential in the evolving digital landscape. The collaboration between KNLS and Ajira Digital serves as a testament to the power of partnerships in driving positive change and creating avenues for growth and empowerment.

