

2024/14/07

UGANDA

International
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HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH STORYTELLING

THROUGH MY LENS

Presented by
**MARIE
PATRICIA
NATAKWA**

SPEAKERS :



**MIRIAM
NAMASABA**

Teacher at the school (M.M College, Wairaka)
She sensitized the students on Freedom of Expression and Right to Education which were the underlying rights of the project



**MARIE
PATRICIA
NATAKWA**

Law graduate
Specialities : humanitarian work, quest for knowledge and advocacy.
Main advocacy interests : sensitize people with regard to disability rights and climate change and related rights.

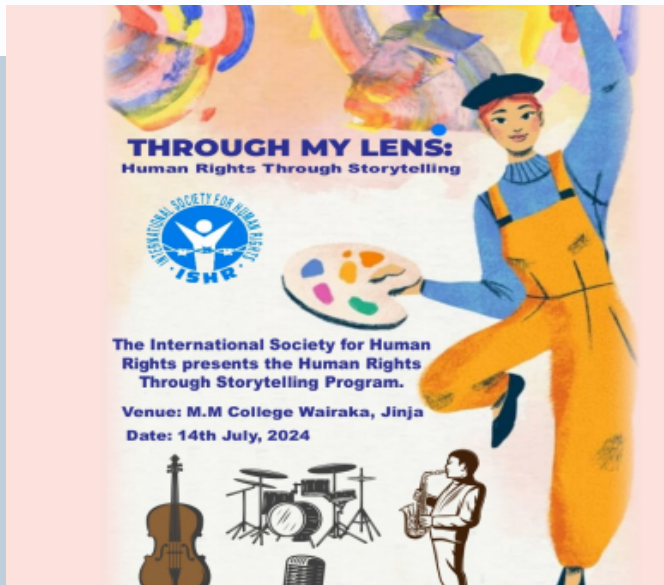
[ISHR.ORG](https://ishr.org/)

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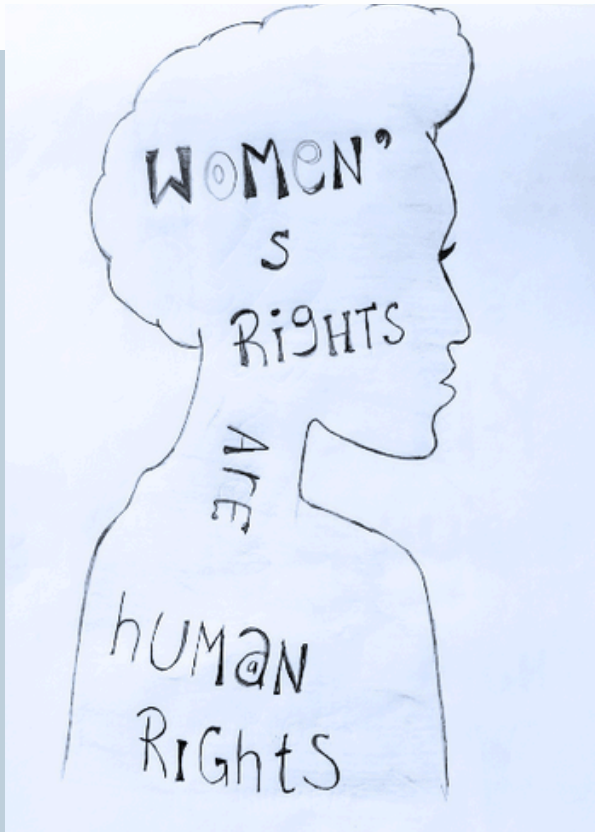
ABOUT THE PROJECT

The "Through My Lens: Human Rights through Storytelling" Program was held on the 14th day of July, 2024 at M.M College, Wairaka in the district of Jinja in Uganda, courtesy of the International Society for Human Rights (ISHR). The Goal / Objective of the project was to leverage the use of storytelling through music, dance, drama, poetry and art as a means of creating awareness about human rights. There were 30 participants in the program presenting in various arts, with 20 people in attendance.

The project was intended to foster understanding of human rights through other people's perspective by use to the various arts. The reason behind this project is embedded in the UN Rapporteur Report 2018, that cultural and artistic expression increases social interactions where persons reflect on their society, confront and modify their perceptions, express their grievances and fears in a non violent manner creating mutual understanding and trust which are essential in human rights awareness.

OVERVIEW

The project was successfully carried out as participants brilliantly expressed their ideas and opinions. These were presented through 2 plays, 1 poem, 2 songs, a dance, 8 drawings and 2 paintings. The Speaker and Judges (2) also made the day colorful as the students remained engaged throughout the event.



ACTIVITIES

Numerous activities have been organised to represent human rights through art: poetry, theatre, song, dance and pictorial art are the means of expression celebrated during this project.

DRAWINGS

The drawings were done by 8 students each representing one's thoughts on different human rights such as freedom and justice (1), freedom and inherence of human rights (2), Women's rights (3), Education (4), Equality (5), Clean environment (6), Protection of the environment to enable it thrive (7), The need to recycle to support the environment(8).

OUTCOMES

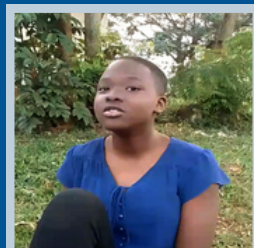
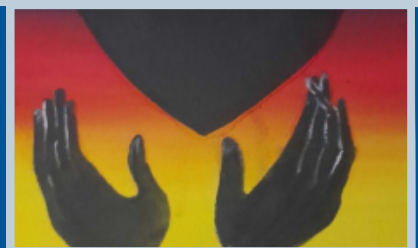
Feedback obtained in a circle form of discussion during and after the Art pieces session. The students were excited to participate in a human rights related program and expressed gaining confidence in sharing their stories. Additionally, majority inquired when such an event will happen again. 20% (6 out of 30) of the students were surprised that environment rights exist, and were glad to have gained knowledge on the same.

83% (25 out of 30) of the students reported improved understanding of human rights as they used practical experiences in their learning process.

WAY FORWARD

I intend to collaborate with individuals and organizations to incorporate storytelling in their humanitarian work and awareness campaigns. I aim at extending similar projects to vulnerable communities such as persons living with disabilities, women and girls. In carrying out similar projects, I believe next time I need to also select a specific right so as to understand the various perspectives on the select right.

“ Human Rights + Knowledge = Empowerment
Human Rights - Knowledge = Abuse “



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