

PRESS RELEASE

REB to launch 'Andika Rwanda,' National Story Writing Competition

The Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) through the Rwanda Education Board (REB) will be launching 'Andika Rwanda,' a national competition for writing stories and poems for children, on Thursday, February 20. The event will take place at Rugarama Primary School in Ruhuha sector, Bugesera district and is in partnership with the USAID-funded Literacy, Language, and Learning (L3) Initiative, implemented by Education Development Center (EDC), and Drakkar Ltd.

Through the production of locally-authored materials, the competition aims to promote a culture of reading and writing and help children access recreational reading materials.

Literacy is at the heart of quality education. This initiative aims to support children's literacy skills through providing them with interesting, original, and locally-authored stories and poems.

All Rwandan primary students, secondary students, and adults are eligible to participate by writing stories or poems in English or Kinyarwanda for primary school children to read. Teachers will provide primary and secondary students with information and will collect their submissions, while sector, cell, and umudugudu officials will be tasked with informing adults in the community. Adults will submit their stories and poems to their sector office.

Four national winners from each group—primary students, secondary students, and adults—will receive tablet computers and a trip to Kigali for an awards ceremony and writing symposium. Their stories and poems will also be professionally edited, illustrated, and published, and REB will distribute the final volume to all public primary schools in the country.

The competition is about utilizing the talents of Rwandans to solve our problem of the lack of reading materials available in schools and communities, and all Rwandans from P1 are urged to participate in the competition.

Dr. John RUTAYISIRE
Director General