



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

KFC at Cannes Film Festival, 2014

County Edition Film Production
Workshop goes to Kericho County

2014 Kalasha Film and TV Awards
Nominees unveiled

Afriwood Rising! At the 2014 National
Film Conference



Moreover, Kenyan film makers will now get an opportunity to train at the prestigious Media Business School in Spain once fellowship agreement is signed. Students will also benefit from a mentorship program by Creative Minds, an institution based in Europe that deals on matters film and creative industry.

Going forward, CNC France (Le Centre National Du Cinema et De L'imageanime'e) and KFC will be collaborating to facilitate digital film archiving in Kenya.

KFC at Cannes Film Festival, 2014

The KFC pavilion at the just concluded Cannes International Film Festival was the ultimate meeting point for Kenyan film makers who held numerous meetings and networked with the international market from 12th to 27th May 2014 in Cannes, France. A number of project proposals handed to the commission by film makers who could not be in attendance were also presented for consideration. Zebra Productions, Riverwood Ensemble, Dream-Catcher production and Complete Africa Ltd were among production houses that submitted their profiles, projects and proposals for presentation to prospective film partners.

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"From our participation at Cannes, it's obvious that Kenya has a lot to achieve and we re-affirm our commitment to see that the available opportunities within the industry are exploited. As a catalyst to see the growth of our local industry, the commission is putting together a paper on film incentives and a stimulus package that will be adopted to make Kenya a more competitive center of excellence in film production", observes KFC BOD Chairman, Chris Foot. Among those in attendance from Kenya at the annual event were; the Department of Film Services, Pont Productions, Soysambu Conservancy, Independent film makers – Wanjiru Njendu and The Film Pearl based in the UK.

County Edition Film Production Workshop goes to Kericho County

Kericho County was the place to be for all budding film makers as the Commission facilitated a workshop to training 25 participants in the various fields of film making spanning cinematography, screen-script writing, directing and editing.

Apart from informing and educating the participants on the latest trends in the local film industry, the workshop that ran from the 4th to 7th May 2014 with an objective to enable participants develop further Film Production skills in Directing and Production, Screen-script writing, Acting, Editing and Cinematography provided an opportunity for participants to network with fellow film professionals from the larger film industry.

“It is our hope that these trainings widen the skills pool within the local film industry more so at county level, to support the local creative industry and give participants the opportunity to gain practical experience in any of the five aspects of film production”, notes Lizzie Chongoti, KFC CEO.

The commission has already devolved these workshops in several counties spanning, Athi, Lamu, Nyeri, Kisii and Kisumu since the establishment of the training. Trainees were guided through by the lead facilitator Mr. Sylvester Mutua a communication expert and consultant from United States International University - USIU assisted by Mr. Richard Kasika a Media content developer who has been involved in many local and international film productions shot in Kenya.

“A film location was scouted and we embarked on shooting a five minute Kericho Youth Centre production for the entire day”
Robert Kimei

Diary of Upcoming Events

17th to 27th July, 2014

Durban Film Festival

19th July 2014

Animation Workshop

19th July 2014

Kalasha Film and TV Awards

September 2014

Coast Film Festival

3rd to 4th October, 2014

Locations Africa, South Africa

5th to 7th October, 2014

DISCOP

3rd to 4th October, 2014

American Film Market

5

4

The 2014 Kalasha Film and TV Awards Nominees Unveiled



The 2014 Kalasha Film and TV Awards nominees were unveiled at the IMAX Cinema by the 2014 Nomination Academy. The Kalasha Awards are in their 5th Edition this year.

The nomination academy comprised of Mr. EstonMunyi of Kenya National Film Association (KNFA) who was also the Chairman of the Academy, Simon Mwaura of Riverwood Ensemble, Patrick Serro of Actors Guild, Dr. Simon Peter Otieno of Association of Film Producing Education Institutions of Kenya (AFPEIK), Ms. Fauziah Hussein of the Kenya Film Classification Board (KFCB), Edward Irura of the Kenya Film and Television Professionals Association (KFTPA) and Victoria Goro of the Department of Film

Services (DFS). This year's Kalasha Awards attracted 713 entries, a whopping 516 entries over and above the 197 received for last year's Kalasha Awards. This year's awards have 33 categories with new entries in Best Mobile Film and Best High School Feature. The call for entries for the 2014 edition was officially announced in March and continued up to April 24th 2014 giving filmmakers two months to enter their films.

A report on recommendations as observed by the nomination academy will be presented to the commission during the 2014 Gala event and thereafter will be available at the KFC offices for public viewing. Going forward, as is per the norm, 30 per cent of the awards nomination went through public voting and the following categories are were open for the same; Best Feature Film, Best Short Film, Best Documentary, Best Actor in a Film, Best Actress in a Film, Best TV show, Best host in a TV show, Best TV drama, Best TV comedy, Best Actor in a TV drama and, Best Actress in a TV drama. These were screened between 10th June and 11th July 2014 giving people a month of voting. To this end, the commission made sure that the 2014 films for public voting were screened up-to county level recapping its commitment to devolve film services; public screenings kicked off in Nakuru, Mombasa and Nyeri.



Two Weeks of hard Work for the Nomination Process

It was two weeks of hard work for the 2014 Kalasha Film and Television Awards nomination academy that comprised of seven members seconded from Kenya National Film Association (KNFA), Department of Film Services (DFS), Association of Film Producing Education Institutions of Kenya (AFPEIK), Actors Guild, Riverwood Ensemble, Kenya Film Classification Board and Kenya Film and Television Professionals Association (KFTPA).

“The Kalasha film academy had an enormous task, to screen the films and finally pass 145 nominees for the public viewing and voting process. The screening times were from 8.00am to 12.30am every day, from 12th to 23rd May 2014. We were able to analyse, discuss and evaluate what we thought was fit for the voting process. I wish to congratulate this capable film fraternity and thank them for their availability, interest and commitment to the growth of the film industry”, observed EstonMunyi, the Chairman of the Academy.

This year’s process started with a call for entries on 10th April to 24th April 2014 which was the deadline for submission of which a total of 713 entries were received breaking all the previous records of entries since the Awards inception 5 years ago. The academy assembled at Lake Nakuru Lodge for two weeks between 11th and 24th April 2014. The nomination process involved screening of the submitted films frame by frame.

The process involved watching each film as entered frame by frame and took the nomination academy two weeks to complete. This season, Kalasha had captivating thematic areas which had eye catching innovative ways in storytelling, worthy noting were

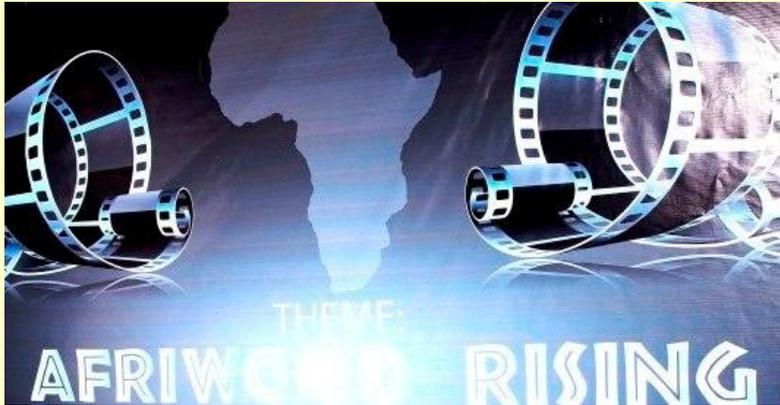
film entries that were shot using mobile phones. Another interesting area that thrilled the academy was the entries from high schools. In the previous editions, films from high schools were not part of Kalasha film and television awards.

The academy noted that scriptwriting and directing remained extremely weak, and deliberate concerted effort should be taken by the film training institutions to strengthen these areas. The cinematographic creative aspects, sound reproduction and lighting additionally require scrutiny for our programmes to be competitive enough locally and internationally. It was also noted that animation and experimental films are yet to make the expected impact on the Kalasha platform.

Of concern also was the obvious absence of film programmes from universities and film training institutions. KFC wish to seek the indulgence of these institutions to create and enter interesting and intellectually conceived films that will strengthen local content viewership and also spearhead the growth of the film industry in the country.

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*I wish to congratulate this
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 them for their availability, interest
 and commitment to the growth of
 the film industry”*
 Eston Munyi, Chairman of the Academy

Afriwood Rising! It was all rave at the 2014 National Film Conference



Afriwood Rising, was the theme at the 2014 Broadcast, Film and Music Africa Conference

The annual Broadcast, Film & Music Africa conference took place in Nairobi from 26th to 27th May 2014 with over 2,000 delegates and 90 speakers from around Africa.

The national film conference aimed at facilitating the Film Industry Investment Forum that brought together an international and regional audience of film industry investors, investment advisors, film-makers and production companies to deliberate on the investment opportunities within the film industry.

The sponsorship also covered the provision of facilities at the event to Kenyan animators, application developers and filmmakers through the Kenya Film-Makers Pavilion and Animators Pavilion. 23 film makers showcased their best at the event held in at Kenyatta International Conference Centre.

With the theme 'Afriwood Rising', the 2014 event sought to challenge the industry to think and act regionally, work on cross-continent co-productions and work towards establishing an Afriwood brand that offers a wide range of opportunities to stakeholders in broadcast film, music and media as well as content developers to network, dialogue and generate the much needed input to advance the broadcast film and music industry not only in Kenya but also in Africa as a whole.

Now in its sixth year, BFMA is a pan-African forum that brings together stakeholders in broadcast, film and music. Current stars, aspiring artistes and scriptwriters as well as content developers, meet, deliberate and explore ideas and strategies to leverage and enhance their creative talents on the world stage through the rapidly changing digital media. "We are excited that the Kenya Film Commission has partnered with AITEC to execute the National Film conference. Its continued support has been key to the success of this event, and has shown their commitment to the development of the film industry in Kenya," said Sean Moroney, Chairman of AITEC Africa, the BFMA organizers.

Topics of the 3 days conference included but were not limited to;

- Looking beyond Africa's stars: How to build a world- beating industry
- How can the region's media owners accelerate Afriwood's rising?
- Script-writing: Finding the authentic African story
- New channels in the digital age
- More and better local TV content
- Is there a place in film and TV for social empowerment messages?

The commission also invited film executives from counties at the Film Conference who graced the various workshops held within BFMA. The conference was organized by AITEC.

Fun and Sunshine at Impala Club

Staff from KFC stepped out with unparalleled energy on 23rd May 2014 to plant 40 tree seedlings within the Impala club compound as part of their ongoing corporate social responsibility. The staff members shared with the Impala club members the technical know-how on tree planting as they socialized with fellow colleagues.

Some of the surviving trees to date in Impala club compound were planted by the Kenya Film Commission back in 2013. Elgon tree, Gravellia and Nandi flame are among the species that were planted at the compound. Great way to conserve the environment, kudos KFC fraternity! When we plant trees, we plant seeds of hope and peace."

Sio Riziki Premieres

Coastal Films Productions had a collaboration film with their Tanzania counterparts and shot a short Movie by the name 'SIO RIZIKI' in the month of June. The movie which was shot mainly in Kilifi County included top Tanzania Actors like Mzee Majuto, Tino Muya, Dude and Sabby Angel. Leo Domnick, Harry Wahome, Lavinah Wanjiku and Penelope Immaculate graced the crew from Kenya.

The movie is directed by Hassan Faisal of Coastal Films Kenya and Timothy Conrad of Timamu Productions. 'Sio Riziki' is scheduled to be premiered here in Kenya on a red carpet event that will take place in September 2014 with attendees drawn from corporate entities in Mombasa and Nairobi. Sponsors for this shooting span, Coastal Films Productions, Limitless Reloaded, Boko Boko restaurant, Sea and Sun Resort, Oasis Medical, Landline Productions and East Coast Crew.

The Slum Film Festival 2014 Coming Up

The 4th Edition of the Slum Film Festival (SFF) kicks off on the 29th September to 11th October 2014.

In the last 3 Editions, Slum Film Festival has become an important annual event for the promotion of cinema and filmmaking in Kibera and Mathare, Nairobi's biggest informal settlements, where two of its partners Slum TV and Hot Sun Foundation work. This year, the festival is reaching out to Kawangware slums and adding two more partners – Mwelu Foundation and media 234.



"Whilst the event does not aim at legitimizing the existence of informal human settlements, we wish to raise public attention and change people's perceptions about these urban spaces and the people who live in them. We strongly believe that the films and the arts represent one of the most powerful tools to achieve these goals while spreading values through culture", notes Josephat Keya, Festival Director, Slum Film Festival.

The event has this year transitioned into an independent organization, whose goal is to develop a network of partnerships with slum-based media production groups, organizing screenings and events across Africa's informal settlements, promoting and sharing slum stories, and becoming a key network for the distribution of films made by and about slum communities.

More than 25, 000 people have attended some of the SFF's activities and screenings in the event's first 3 editions between 2011 and 2013, and we are now satisfied to have created an international film festival dedicated to the promotion of stories from, by, and about people living in urban slums everywhere. Indeed in 2013, we expanded our festival's reach to represent stories from informal settlements from all over the African continent and even received entries from the Indian Sub-continent", says Pauline Kahura, Hotsun Foundation Program Manager.

Profile Watch



Martin Munyua is a Writer, Director, Producer & the Chief Executive Officer of Dream catcher Productions

His career commenced in 1991 as a freelance, cameraman, editor and assistant cameraman through to 2001 when he took up the role of Executive Producer & Managing Director of Cineafic Productions Ltd up-to 2005.

Martin is an award-winning director (SIGNIS Awards at the ZIFF Festival of the Dhow Countries 2006), and director of photography (KALASHA awards, 2011). He is also the creator of the on-going TV show 'Dads Can Cook', which is currently running on DSTV. Dad's Can Cook is also a winner at DISCOP FORMATS Competition in 2012 in Sandton

City, South Africa.

Martin is a graduate of Istituto Di Stato Per La Cinematografia e Per La Televisione - "R. Rossellini", and Pontifical Gregorian University, both in Rome in 1995 and 1997 with a Global Executive MBA in Business Administration from United States International University (USIU) in 2013.

Adapting skills acquired from top directors and cinematographers such as Bernardo Bertolucci (Last Tango in Paris), Anthony Minghela (The Talented Mr. Ripley) and Remi Adefarasin (Elizabeth) among others, Martin has over the years perfected his combination of lighting techniques as well as his unique approach to directing with several awards to his name, that is,

- DISCOP FORMATS Competition in South Africa for Dads Can Cook (2012)
- KALASHA Award for Director of Photography, for The Rugged Priest, (2011)

- Best Film in the Human Security Category at We The Peoples Film Festival, for The Team (2010)
- Best Advertising Campaign, MSK Awards for Pesa Pap! (Family Bank), 2010
- SIGNIS Award at the ZIFF Festival of the Dhow Countries, for Money and the Cross, (2006)

Martin's Key productions include:

- "Dads Can Cook" (season 1 & 2), TV show on KISS TV, Kenya
- "The Property Show" (season 1 & 2), TV show on NTV, Kenya
- "White Maasai" – Feature Film
- "Besieged, 2nd Unit" – Feature Film
- "To Walk With Lions" – Feature Film
- "I Dreamed of Africa, 2nd unit" – Feature film
- "Muzungu" – Feature film
- "Malooned" – Feature Film
- "Equator" (2nd Unit/Animal Team) - Feature Film, Kenya
- "Money and the Cross" – Feature Film
- "Project Daddy" – Feature Film
- "The Aftermath" – Short film
- "The Team" – 13 part TV series
- "African Tales" – (3 short dramas), Tanzania
- "Carcasses" - Drama Film, Kenya
- "Games We Play" - Feature Film
- "Love in 60 seconds" – TV reality show
- "Better Days" - TV Series
- "Pumzika" – TV Series
- "African Tales" – (3 short dramas), Tanzania
- Redykyulass – Political satire (TV) series, Kenya
- Various TV Commercials, Africa & Europe
- Various Documentaries, Africa, Europe & USA
- Various Music Videos, Kenya & Europe
- "Social Fund for Development" – Documentary, Kenya
- "Matatu Road Safety" – Documentary, Kenya
- "Ukweli" – Music Video, Kenya
- "The Coming Famine (HIV/AIDS & Food Security in Southern Africa)



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