



Word from the CEO's desk

KFC PROMOTING LOCAL CONTENT

BY BEFLY BISEM-NJERU

The Kenya Film Commission is excited to engage with you, update you on what's happening in the Industry and get your valued feedback. To get a better sense and appreciation of the Industry, the Commission has decided to pay a courtesy visit to one film producer every week on the site of their productions. So far we have visited Protel Studios, which was such a great learning experience. Clearly great content is being created. We have also visited the set of Auntie Boss by Moonbeam Productions and enjoyed spending time with that energetic and vivacious team. We have also been on set with the Get in the Kitchen team this week with Mwaniki Mageria and are inspired by all the creativity and innovativeness in our filmmakers. Please contact our office and we shall definitely come and pay you a visit!

The Commission is pleased to let the Industry know that this year's 2017 Kalasha International Film & TV Market and Festival will be held between the 16th and 22nd of October 2017. We plan to make it the biggest and best yet. We intend to showcase all of Kenya's best content, invite international buyers, have a very interactive and world-class workshop and crowning the week, will be a glitzy, ritzy, glamorous Kalasha Awards. Please save the date! We shall have the Call of entries soon so please be checking on our website and social media platforms.

Lastly, the Commission is still working on the Film Bill with the Focus group. We are at the tail end of the process and are looking at incentives, grants, training institutions and certification. We welcome you to be part of this process and give your valuable insights through your associations.

More great things are in the pipeline and we shall be updating you in the next edition. Keep watching this space!



Industry News

KFC PROMOTING LOCAL CONTENT

INDUSTRY NEWS: KFC/KECOBO/WIPO AUDIO VISUAL TRAINING

The Kenya Film Commission in partnership with Kenya Copyright board (KECOBO) and World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) held a two day audiovisual training that was held at Silver Spring hotel in Nairobi. The successful two day event saw a turn up of over hundred creative players in both the music, advertising, publishing, TV and film industry who held engaging and insightful discussions from a panel of experts that were drawn from all sectors.

The Chairperson Ms. Millicent Ogutu opened the seminar with remarkable speech and she spoke on a range of issues that pertains on copyright development, financing, and regulations with the copyright industry. Also in attendance at the opening ceremony was Ms. Carole Croella, a senior counselor at WIPO who spoke on the need of having a collective management tool in Kenya in order to strength the audio visual industry through intellectual property management. Other key speakers who were in attendance at this event included: Dr. Marisela Ouma (IP expert), Mr. Edward Sigei (CEO, KECOBO), Mr. Alex Mulwa (DOM, Kenya Film Commission), Mr. Mwaniki Mageria (TV & Film Distributor), Ms. Uloma Unoma (Head of Legal & Distribution Iroko TV) and Mr. Gerry Gitonga (IP, advocate) amongst others.

Through-out the day, there were different discussions ranging from the need of public policy options to increase production of national audio visual works, collective management in the audio visual sector and digital licensing of rights and co-production opportunities available with other countries. One of the key highlight that came out is that there has been some progress in addressing key intellectual property rights issues in Kenyan because in the last five years KECOBO has conducted numerous enforcement activities and prosecuted copyright infringement cases and it has also run awareness campaigns for rights holders and users of copyrights protected works. At the end of the two day workshop, it was clear that all stakeholders together with the sponsors of the event were here to celebrate the milestones and reflect on the many challenges ahead on matters intellectual property rights.



Courtesy call by KFC team

COUNTY MASTER CLASSES FOR FILM MAKERS

On March of 2017, 40 upcoming filmmakers in Eldoret were taken through a training programme for a week that will enable them to compete successfully in the local, regional and international film environments and consequently, they can provide quality and affordable local content for TV broadcasting. The Commission in collaboration with Communications Authority of Kenya has been at the fore front in pursuing the expansion of local content in the country while at the same time, seeing to it that the film industry is recognized as a main contributor to the economic growth of the country.

Film financing, distribution and marketing of content were marked as some of the essential skills required by film makers to reach the target of attaining quality and affordable local content that will enhance production, and post production initiatives all geared towards facilitating the uptake of 60% local content quota by free to air TV broadcasters by the year 2018.

The trainees were taken through the pre-production, production and post production process in film making. Representatives from government agencies that include Kenya Copyright Board, Kenya Film Classification Board were on the ground to support the commission and Communications Authority tackle questions/concerns on matters licensing, classification and intellectual property /copyright issues.



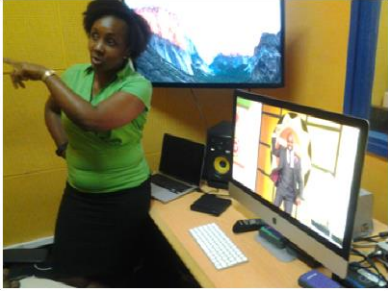
PRODUCTIONS NEWS

So, we made an all-round studio tour meeting the Content Producers; a bunch of creative ladies willing to share what it entails to produce a TV show and/or Film.



County government outreach activities

AT PROTEL STUDIO



PRODUCTION NEWS: TRAIL BLAZERS IN TV AND FILM PRODUCTION by carole

From Classic TV adverts to current hit TV shows Protel Studios based at the All African Conference of Churches, along Waiyaki Way is the home that produces much of what we see on our small and large screens in Kenya. The studio is open to tours for fans who want to see what happens backstage at a working film and Television studio in Nairobi. The tour gives you a chance to meet your favorite TV show hosts.

This month the Commission team was fortunate to be part of the VIP Tour at the Protel Studios. Upon our arrival at the offices we were met by the ever charming Managing Director Ms. Sarah Migwi whose appearance might seem very simple but in essence this amazing lady is not just charming when she stands to speak but is also a trail blazer in the Kenyan TV and Film Industry; as she has been part of a team that has pioneered very informative and engaging Television and Radio shows. Without wasting much time, Ms. Sarah was quick to take us around the studio tour where we started off at the "Hapa Kule" Television set; she also mentioned to the Commission team that another engaging live recording of the "Pambazuka Show" was taking place that afternoon. During the tour, it was in the "HapaKule" set, the Commission team got to see aspects of Production such as costumes and props that were used during their recent productions. Unfortunately, at that particular time, we couldn't meet the host of the show.

So, we made an all-round studio tour meeting the Content Producers; a bunch of creative ladies willing to share what it entails to produce a TV show and/or Film. We then went behind the set to both the audio and visual editing suites, and the site was beholding. You see Protel Studios, aren't just made of story worlds, it's also a story world itself. The team encompasses engaging creative movers and shakers that are most iconic. Everyone we meet would offer a firm handshake and a warm smile despite their rush to meet several deadlines. The entire studio look was fresh, clean and had an open approachable look, ensuring that every guest felt comfortable with their entire cast. I guess, that's the magic of any

creative team, and so true to say that the environment was content.

When we looked at our watches, we couldn't believe that 2 hours had already gone by so fast, to our utter disappointment, as we had gained more practical understanding of what it mean to produce a TV show. As we exited the main door to the studios, Ms. Sarah asked, "so guys how much time do you still have on your hands?", the Commission team looking all surprised was informed by Sarah that we had one more stop over to make which required us taking to drive there.

Severally minutes later, we were standing at the entrance of the "Pambazuka live show" I guess Sarah did read our curiosity and yes! Our prayers were answered and we were in time to meet the co-hosts of the shows. Thoughts ran through our minds, "Could this be a sign that a member of the Commission team would win the most acclaimed money on this lottery show?" with excitement, we took a quick tour round the set. Well, as one may ask "So did any one win the money?" the answer is "No" though the team's renewed understanding of TV Production was a greater reward than any. After interacting with crew members who had phenomenal ideas on the growth of the local industry; talent, content and business, the voice from the director "crew be on stand-by on set!" meant that we had to leave.

It is paramount to note that there may be dozens of women producing films in the Country and Ms. Sarah Migwi is one amongst the many. Her style, taste and genres vary but together as Protel Studio's she represents the breadth and depth of TV and Film making talent we have in Kenya today. The iconic tour was a start to the many other tours the Commission will be making to the local production houses. Want to be part of it, feel free to contact our team so that we may "Meet our great, write to us on info@filmingkenya.com. Share your thoughts, comments, suggestions and even ideas on who is in production so that we may visit your Production House and on- location shoots.

PRODUCTION NEWS: "MEET OUR GREAT"

by carole

This week our courtesy bus team was around Waiyaki way and guess where our next stop over was ... the leafy suburbs of Loresho. "I wonder what we will learn today, who we will see" I said to myself...

"Check the map!, are we in the right place, this looks like a residential area?" , one of the team members uttered, we were at Pine Grove Street, off Waiyaki Way I smiled, as we approached . At the main check point. As we yielded at the gate we met a very polite lady security guard, who inquired from us what our business there. No sooner did we tell her, she quickly turned to her talkie and came out "Alfa tango Pine Grove visit 4, number 3 all visiting". As we were eagerly waiting, one of my colleagues whispered to me, "Are we there yet?", I replied " Lights, Camera, Action ". "Alfa Tango Let them in" " and suddenly the gate was opened and to our dismay it seemed as though we had just entered a real TV and movie Production, a Well-kept landscaping s and well maintained roads, with the ambiance of a serene park we were in the " Auntie Boss" Production set that was on-going.

Quick perusal around the grounds and set, we locked eyes with the guest star for the day " Size 8", and the amazing Executive Producer, Ms. Eve D'Souza whose name is so familiar to you and I as she is, a former radio presenter, Production Manager and Acts as "Varshita (the overly dramatic Indian Model dating Donovan played by Captial FM's Maqbul)" in " Auntie Boss" that is produced by Moonbeam Productions.

As Ms. Eve approached us the first thing I notice is her lovely shoes, and If I remember correctly she has been quoted before for saying " I love shoes. A good pair of heels is just so sexy on a woman. And it gives me added confidence. " not wasting anytime as shooting of the show was going on, we were introduced to the entire crew and cast for the day, then we settled down to watch the recording of part of the show. That was a major wake up call for me and my team members, that the industry is growing and building itself at exponential speed.

As soon as recording took a break, Ms. Eve and some of the crew members engaged the team on various matters to do with the growth and creative collaboration in the industry to create and to establish better local talent and content. Mid way our interactions, Ms. Eve reminded us that the happiest moments in filming "Auntie Boss" was when the President of Kenya His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta mentioned the show in his state of the Nation Speech, " it was so surreal. I was filming a Don and Varshita airport scene when director Likarion Wainaina casually got into the car I was in and said....."I hear the President mentioned Auntie Boss in his speech. A large gulp went down my throat, I was amazed, I was.....ecstatic.....humbled....all emotions you may think of.....I vehemently said, Likarion, the show must go on and it did". Having gone through a series of pertinent questions to the Line Producer Ms. Lucy Mwangi a soft spoken and charming lady, with a lot of insight into the TV and filming Production business, gave the ultimate answer to how they started the show concept. Ms. Lucy remarked "after sharing the funniest stories about our experience growing up with house helps, the idea had to come alive on TV hence Auntie Boss",

Several minutes into our conversation with Ms. Lucy, we realized we were taking too much of their shooting and studio time, it was time to let Lucy go. Ms.Eve and her team went back to recording, as the team took " moment of fame" photos with the cast members present, did our handshakes and it was time to leave this team beautiful happy creative industry show runners to continue producing more magic on our local TV and Film Screens. .

Want to be part of the iconic tours that the Commission will be taking to our local production houses; Feel free to contact our team on info@filmingkenya.com so as to be part of the next stop over visit of the " Meet the Great" Courtesy Bus.

AROUND TOWN



Crew in action



Best foot forward



UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVALS

Clear your schedule and save the date for the Kalasha International Film Festival & Market coming up on October 16th to 22nd in Nairobi Kenya. The event brings together both international and local film, TV and creative players all under one roof for a Film Festival, a Film & TV Awards and a Film & TV Market.

The Kalasha Film & TV Trade Show will showcase Kenyan, East African and Pan African companies under pavilions, while the international TV & Film players will attend as participants.

The Kalasha International Film Festival is scheduled for a week in various venues throughout Kenya: Eligible entries will be from the entire continent. Screenings will be organized in various theaters and venues.

2015 Kalasha Film & TV Awards ceremony – 22nd October 2017. The Awards ceremony will close the event and has a range of categories for various genres for both short and feature films. A call for submission will be communicated soon; watch out for updates via the website www.kalashainternational.com and KFC mass media pages.

CAM INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL (CIF)

The 10th CAM International Festival for Short Films organized by the Egyptian Arab Society for Culture, Media and Arts (CAM) is scheduled to take place from 8th to 13th October 2017 in Cairo Egypt. CAM Festival organizers invite filmmakers to submit short film entries under three categories namely; Short Feature Films, Documentary Short Films, and Animated Short Films. Terms and Conditions of the festival.

For how to submit, go here www.camfestival.net

MIP CHINA HANGZHOU

This is a trade event scheduled between 23 to 25th May 2017 in China that brings together international and Chinese companies to develop new programming across all genres. The most direct and easy way to find the right co-production or co-development partners. There will also be a training conference for Chinese media professionals looking to develop content into international markets. For more information and to apply log on to <http://www.mip-china.com/>

For a calendar of more industry events at the international level go to <http://www.kenyafilmcommission.com/index.php/downloads/press-release/2-events-calendar>

TRAPPED IN MOMBASA PREMIERS

Returning to Kenya film maker Paul Njihia, a producer and Director who shuttles between England and Kenya premiered his first movie in the year 2017 on April 8th in Nairobi to a packed hall at the Zetech University College. The Film is about real people and based on a true story.

