



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Schools clinch top awards at Baswa Le Meetse Competition

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Five schools are top of the food chain after walking away with the top honors in the Department of Water and Sanitation's National Baswa Le Meetse Competition, which took place at the Benoni Lakes Conference Centre on 11-12 July 2017.

Baswa Le Meetse Competition was initiated by the Department's Minister as one of the action projects of 2020 Vision for Water Education Programmes. The initiative aims to recognise the role of the youth in education and awareness campaigns on integrated water management, sanitation, impact of invasive alien plants and to promote health and hygiene.

The schools that participated in the competition started with auditions at district level, going through to the provincial and finally to the national competition. The competition took place under five different art forms including drama, music poetry, praise poetry and posters to convey water management messages.

Speaking before the announcement of the results, one of the adjudicators, Sibongile Mabizela, said the level of the competition was impressive and showed that the schools took the competition seriously by coming prepared.

"It shows that the schools have put so much effort in their presentations. This shows teachers have done a good job in teaching their learners and that a good research has gone into what they have presented to us," Mabizela said.

Mabizela said there was room for improvement, urging both teachers and learners to do more in making sure that the messages were common on all performances, as there seemed to be conflicting messages.

She said the calibre of learners who performed was something to be proud about, making a special mention of the poetry and praise poetry recitation as one of the most exciting of performance.

Announcing the results, programme director Hundzukani Richard Mkhabele, said there was a perceptible improvement in the standard of the competition since he took part in the competition three years ago.

He said: "The performance given by the youth in the various categories is a testimony that the competition is indeed growing. The messages they conveyed are definitely encouraging and show that in every way they are the ambassadors of our collective effort on water use efficiency water conservation and water resource protection."

Gauteng provincial coordinator, Shoky Malepe whose three schools scooped prizes in the poetry, praise poetry and music categories, could not contain her excitement at snatching the coveted prizes, saying their efforts have paid off.

"We have done our preparations very well and aware of the fact that other provinces have worked hard too to make sure that they give us a run for our money. We had to be sure that our messages that we convey are messages that resonate with the spirit of the competition.



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Our learners and educators, including our mentor Oscar Bungeni have therefore worked extra hard to make sure that they deliver impeccable performances,” said the proud Malepe.

The winners from positions one to three in the different categories are:

Poster

1. Khobonqaba Primary School: Eastern Cape, Adelaide
2. Open Gate Intermediate: KwaZulu-Natal School, Pietermaritzburg, Mgungundlovu District
3. Northern Cape, Ikhaya Senior Primary School, Richmond, Pixley Ka Seme District

Poetry

1. Lesedi Primary School: Gauteng, Tshwane West District
2. Limpopo, Phamarula Primary School, Blouberg, Capricorn District
3. Panorama Primary School: KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, Mgungundlovu District

Praise Poetry

1. Poguti Maribolla: Limpopo, Polokwane, Capricorn District
2. Mpendulo Primary School: Gauteng, Mamelodi, Tshwane District
3. Noxolo Primary School: Eastern Cape, Zwelitsha,

Drama

1. Copesville Primary School, KwaZulu:-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, Mgungundlovu District
2. Cefane Junior Secondary School, eNgcobo Eastern Cape
3. Limpopo, Kgamanyane Primary School, Mokopane, Waterburg District

Music

1. Luyolo Primary School: Gauteng, Soweto, Johannesburg Central District
2. Nobanda Primary: KwaZulu-Natal Pietmaritzburg, Mgungundlovu District
3. Benjamin Primary School: Mpumalanga, Matsulu, Ehlanzeni District

Hosia Sithole