

**School of Education
Community Engagement**

..... Presents

**CREATIVE NETWORK
MAGAZINE**

About This Volume

**Students and Staff from ALL universities and members of the general public were invited to:
'Write about their current experiences in a creative way - a story, lyrics, poem, drawing etc...
including how learning can take place during this time'.**

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Change
by
Seshen Brijmohun- M.Ed Candidate
(University of KwaZulu-Natal)

In life, we have to take chances, make choices and go through changes.

Reflection - 02/11/20

This morning we all went through change. We got up, had a bath and "changed" into our respective uniforms.



However, today I am going to be talking about a change in my life that is way bigger than just changing clothes. I'm going to tell you about a change that has become the 'new normal'.

On the 26th of March 2020 I went to bed... and when I woke up the following day - I woke up to a new changed world. A world where I'm not allowed to hug my friends, where I can't even play a game of soccer with them. I woke up to a life-change where I cannot leave my home without a mask, nor just rub my itchy eye. I have to be careful, not just for myself, but for everyone around me too.

Our smiles used to light up a room, now the room will set you alight if that smile is visible - wear your mask! Smile from within.

A so-called '21-day' lockdown has reached day 'two hundred and twenty one!'. Life has changed a lot. It's like Disney has lost its magic and Paris lost its love. We were not even free for Freedom day, nor could we even go egg hunting for Easter. Until a vaccine is discovered and my life changes again. I shall embrace this current change by being wise to sanitize and by loving my friends and family from a distance.

I conclude by reminding you about the 3 C's - In life we have to make a Choice, to take a Chance, to see a Change. But for now - don't forget to take your Vitamin-C. Plot twist - 2020 is actually a blessing in disguise. We've overcome challenge after challenge, change after change and are doing so victoriously!

We shall conquer. ✨

**INTERESTED IN SUBMITTING
A CREATIVE PIECE**

Submit your piece to any team member by e-mail or WhatsApp by Wednesday of every week.

SUBMIT - PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO THE EDITORS TO PUBLISH MY CREATIVE WORK IN THE MAGAZINE.

A Life redefined
by

Angela Stewart

(ATS Global Projects)

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I have chosen life
I have forgotten the strife.
No Past enthalls me,
A Christ-centred future is all I see.
Principalities it has no power,
As the heavens open and grace starts to shower.
An undivided new heart
Remaining in the vine is where I will start.
You've seen the tears I've cried
That's why you died,
To take my aching sorrow
To ensure a God-favoured tomorrow.
A holy spirit infilling
For this you need to be willing,
Make me your instrument and work through me.
May the sound be sweet as you intended it to be.
Allow God to direct your movement
Submission to God allows overwhelming improvement,

Reaching a spiritual level
That will totally confuse the devil.

Lord, You know my heart
You've always been there from the start,
Gratitude's echoes need to be clear
Intimacy with you I hold so dear.

You, My Father truly inspire.
You have become my heart's desire.
In awe of you God I will never tire,
For you only - may I always be on fire!

KEEP THAT GOLD SHINING

by

Thabang Ngwenya

(COO & CO - Founder of Keep That Gold Shining and Bachelor of Engineering Student, University of Pretoria)

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Keep That Gold Shining (KTG) is a non-profit organisation established in 2014 by students in South Africa. In 2015, Keep That Gold shining decided to start a project called the Mathematics competition. The primary objective of this program was not for the learners to compete with each other, but to get motivation through the concept of competition.

One of the objectives of this program is to change the perspective of the township and rural learners to their studies. Most of the learners lack the motivation to work hard, and some do not believe in themselves or their ability to do well, in certain subjects like Mathematics. University students who performed very well in their high school and who can motivate the learners to do well in their studies, are invited to become part of the program. Students who made it from the same townships and rural areas give learners motivation and hope.



White T-shirt: *Mr Hasane Sambo teaching learners*

The program started in 2015, in the township of Soshanguve. Learners from Grade 10 and 11 are assisted with Mathematics and Physical Science. Recently, the program partnered with the Gauteng Department of Education, in the Tshwane North District and Mpumalanga province. The program was rolled out to five schools, namely Soshanguve Secondary School, Botse Botse secondary school, Makhosini Combined Secondary School (in Soshanguve) and Makgetse High School in Hammanskraal (Gauteng province) and Mayflower Secondary School (Mpumalanga province).

Each year more than 50 students enrolled in the compulsory undergraduate module, Community-based Project Module (JCP) of the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology (EBIT), assist in this program. Most of the students who opt for the Mathematics and Physical Science tutoring projects are those who are passionate about the subjects. These students possess unique skills ranging from great self-study methods, inspirations and University general exposure.



From left standing (White T-shirts): *Mr Derick Ncube, Mr Zamakuhle Mahlaba, Miss Monica Lamula, Mr Steven Sithole & Mr Ayanda Sithole*
Kneeling down: *Mr Papa Mphahlele*

The organisation is currently running mentorship programs at one of the residences of the University of Pretoria, called Tuks Naledi. Keep That Gold Shining also serves as a marketing voice in rural secondary schools for the EBIT weeks. KTG also serves as a recruitment structure for Junior Tukkies where it identifies students with 70% averages to join the society. The program also partnered with one of the leading radio stations in South Africa, where it hosted winter and summer school, for Grade 7 learners.



Colours are the smiles of nature

by

Nicolene Butler

(University of Free State)

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Smile, because you are beautiful,
Your eyes speak the language of love,
Your lips speak the language of kindness,
Your heart speaks the language of peace and happiness,
Look around you and observe the colours of nature,
These colours are the smiles of nature that keeps us
United and victorious.

Sometimes you feel good about yourself,
And sometimes you feel not so good about yourself,
Don't beat yourself up about things that went insanely bad,
All that you have to do is to carry on,
Do your best each day,
It is not going to be easy,
But carry on in any case,
Because sometimes the wrong things turn out right.
And that is all that matters.

Freedom park visit

by

Faith Nkosi

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Veterinary Professional Life 200 is part of a broad module taking place over 5 years, in the Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree. In the second year, the curriculum covers societal roles and responsibilities of veterinarians, cultural diversity and group skills, and stress management. The second-year students visited Freedom Park for the cultural diversity component.



Freedom Park is a place that is rich with South African history, culture, heritage, indigenous knowledge, and spirituality. It is divided into two parts, the //hapo – Freedom Park Museum which showcases earth, ancestors, peopling, resistance and colonisations, industrialisation and urbanisation, nationalism and struggle, and national building and continent building) and the Garden of Remembrance (S'khumbuto and Isivivane).

The students toured the place and then had a discussion on cultural diversity, privilege, power and how South Africa has transformed. They had an open discussion about their personal experiences, how they feel and what changes they would like to see going forward in the democratic South Africa. These discussions are a crucial eye opener to the students and helped raise awareness of the surroundings the students find themselves in, and is a small step to equip these students, for challenges they may face in the outside world.

AND WROTE MY STORY ANYWAY

by

BARBARA BOSWELL

Reviewed by Dr. Betty Govinden

(University of KwaZulu-Natal)

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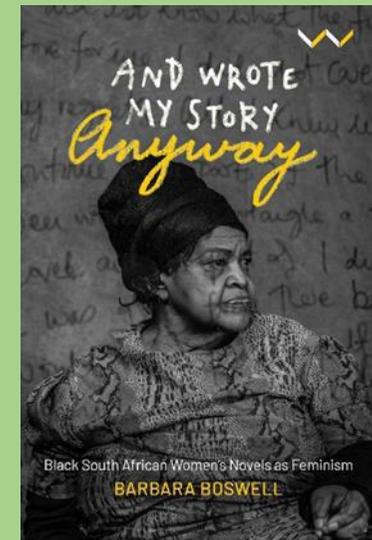
South Africa has a rich heritage of Black women's writings, which engages critically with issues of nationalism, race and gender during the apartheid era and the transition to democracy.

Barbara Boswell's new book, ***And Wrote My Story Anyway*** [published recently] looks at TEN writers

from this literary tradition – Miriam Tlali, Laretta Ngcobo, Farida Karodia, Agnes Sam, Sindiwe Magona, Zoe Wicomb, Rayda Jacobs, Yvette Christianse, Kagiso Lesego Molope and Zukiswa Warner.

Boswell's careful analysis - with its compelling intersection of personal biography, feminist literary history and historiography – “opens up new ways not only of seeing the South African nation, but also of reconceptualising knowledge, in order to re-centre those most oppressed, and the valuable knowledge they offer” [p.208].

Barbara Boswell is a feminist literary scholar and an Associate Professor of English at UCT. ***And Wrote my Story Anyway*** [2020] is published by Wits University Press.





Derailed

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I had a plan you know,
my lesson was well organised;

correctly structured according to
the proper principles we learnt so well at college,
specific outcomes reached by careful steps;

I am on a railway line towards my goal,
Every set sleeper a certain step in the
right direction.

But that boy in the corner,
the one with several centimetres of his shirt untucked
and a cheeky sparkle in his eye,
who asked me a question that didn't relate
to the test next week, or the exams,
he actually wanted to know something...

Thrown, derailed, tripped into a chaos of learning;
still falling.

- John Roff
johnroff1@gmail.com

RESEARCH BYTES

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In critical research, the researcher is positioned as learner in the research process and problematizes the tensions and dilemmas of participants as sites of learning (Lather, 1991).

Engaging in teaching practice that centers diversity and equity is a process of learning and unlearning. In this process, teachers start with a commitment to equity, move towards a deeper understanding of self through reflection, and support to become social and active agents in the pursuit of equitable and just schooling for all where they actively challenge power and the status quo. It is represented not as a linear process, but as a journey of ups and downs, acknowledging the complexities as teachers wrestle with their tensions, assumptions, and biases that they bring to diverse classrooms.
(Lopez, 2013, p. 8)

Research demonstrates that mentoring is associated with a wide range of favourable cognitive, conative and affective outcomes. However, although higher incidence of positive outcomes associated with mentoring is found, sufficient evidence suggests that the 'dark side' of mentoring does exist.
(Pillay, 2011, p. ix)



*Be the better person
by*

Nicolene Butler
(University of Free State)
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No matter how people treat you,
No matter how they make you feel,
Never allow them to change your character,
Stand firm,
And continue to do good,
Do what's right,
And if you can't join them,
BEAT them with humanity, kindness, love, respect and wisdom!

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“Our magazine is called Revista Futuro do Pretérito and we would like to invite you to write us a letter about your personal experience facing Covid-19 in South Africa. We can’t wait for your answer!”

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Revista
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CREATIVE WRITING ENSEMBLE

Students interested in creative writing ensemble are invited to be on a database for a group called Creative Writing Ensemble.

Send your name, cell number and the genre that you work with to Dr Bheki Mthembu: Mthembua@ukzn.ac.za and cc Dr Angela James: jamesa1@ukzn.ac.za

MANTRA FOR SUCCESS!

Radhakrishnan Moodley

L.S.E.D.; BSc (Chemistry); Hons B.Ed.; M.Ed. (Science Education)

International Yoga Alliance YTTC 200 Certificate, Rishikesh, INDIA

Championship Dance Sport Competitor Self-Leadership Educator : MINDFULNESS & WELLBEING

<https://you.be/TT0DOvnx00c>

IMPORTANT NOTICES TO ALL AUTHORS

NOTICE 1

Dear Authors

Thank you so much to everyone who submitted their great creative piece(s) which were published in Volumes 1 - 32 and to those whose pieces are in the current publication, we are grateful for your amazing work.

Creative pieces in any language are welcome.

Kindly please note that we **ONLY** publish **8-10** “creative pieces” each week.

If your piece is not in the current publication, it will be published the following week.

Kind regards,
Creative Network Magazine Team

NOTICE 2

Dear Authors

Whenever you submit your creative piece to Dr. James, we kindly and warmly request you to please also send the following note with your submission:

I (Full name and Surname) hereby grant permission for the Creative Network Magazine to publish my submission (creative piece).