



Nokwe Creative Development Foundation
012-786 NPO



Amajika Youth/Children Arts-African Artists Action-Women of Africa

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To Whom It May Concern:

Request to start the OLPC project in KwaZulu Natal and Gauteng, South Africa

The Amajika Youth and Children's Art Project wishes to support the deployment of 100 laptops to 100 children in our community by Team Access of Carnegie Mellon University.

We are an NGO that was founded in 1976 by a group of performing artists. In the wake of the traumatic Soweto uprisings, the Nokwe family saw the need to boost the self-esteem of young people and counteract the mental and emotional abuse that was endemic to the apartheid system. 33 years later, we remain committed to enhancing education and improving students' self-esteem through the performing arts. More information about our history and our programmes can be found here:

<http://www.tunokwe.com/Amajika.htm>, for video clips and extra information: www.youtube.com/tunokwe, www.amajika-arts.com, www.ayandamusic.com, www.tunokwe.com

We currently serve two community populations. Although our facility is located in an urban area, many of the students we serve come from rural neighbourhoods. Approximately 250 children and young people come to us every Saturday for a variety of workshops. This project will target sixty-five 6-12 year old Amajika students and another 35 from surrounding communities.

We are so excited by this project! Our children deal daily with issues such as HIV/AIDS, low self-esteem, crime etc. But we believe that the answer to these problems must come from the youth themselves. We can only begin to imagine what could happen if they were given the gift of technology!

For a long time we've wanted to incorporate technology into our curriculum as a means to empower the youth as citizens of a global community.

We fully support the project of Team Access and as such will provide the following:

- Use of our facility
- Transport for the children to and from the facility during the three-week project.
- 10 Additional staff and volunteers.
- Storage for the equipment at the school opposite our facility. This school has good security and will receive and store the laptops for us.

We will sustain the project after Team Access leaves. This project fits so easily into our curriculum we will continue to use technology to further our work. We also hope to set-up a computer learning lab where those with XO's can train those who do not have.

Our government has recently launched a new website for children (ages between 6 & 13) hosted by the Presidency. This is aimed at educating the children about their country but more than anything, to encourage children to use technology as a new global language of the 21st century. Our plan is to approach our Government to come on board to support this program so that we can carry on with ease once our US partners leave and the children can continue to learn and share positive information with other children around the world, and we believe this will shape powerful future leaders.

As a registered non-profit organisation, we will comply with the required processes for the customs requirements when the package arrives. Our building has high walls, surrounded by schools and churches and is situated in a secure neighbourhood. The environment is quiet, full of trees, open, child friendly and always conducive for community development activities.

Our current internet access is the Telkom ADSL and MWeb and it is fast enough for our needs. We will upgrade it accordingly to the speed that will be appropriate during the period of the project.

We think this is a wonderful project and we hope to see it grow. We are very eager to participate and we want to do our part to support this educational project.

Sincerely,

Ms. NM Nokwe

Visionary & Founder member