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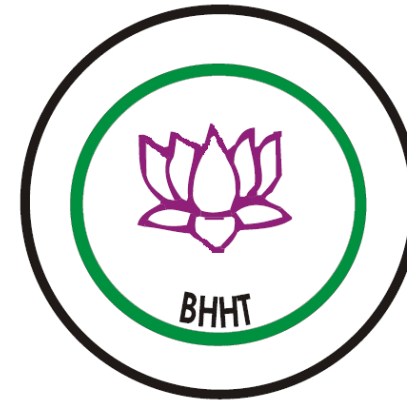
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BESSIE HEAD LITERATURE AWARDS CEREMONY

LITTLE THEATRE,
NATIONAL MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY
SUNDAY
19 JULY 2009
14:30 TO 17:00

PROGRAMME

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14:30 Opening by the Master of Ceremonies

Mr. Goodwill Tlokwe, Bessie Head Heritage Trustee

14:35 Welcome from the Chair of the Bessie Head Heritage Trust

Dr. Leloba Molema

14:40 Announcement of Prizes

Hon. Unity Dow, Honorary Trustee

15:00 Readings from the winners and runners-up

NOVEL

winner: Ms. Cheryl Selase Ntumy, *Crossing*

second position: Ms. Kagiso Madibana, *The Way It Goes...*

third position: Mr. Monametsi Paul, *The Reunion*

SHORT STORY

winner: Ms. Gothataone Moeng, "Putting on Faces"

second position: Ms. Wanja Njuguna, "Forbidden Love"

third position: Mr. Galefele Maokeng, "The Easter Trail"

POETRY

winner: Ms. Luda Sekga, "He was my Oppressor"

second position: Mr. Goabilwe Mogapi, "Memoirs of a Child Soldier"

third position: Ms. Masego Morima, "The Man Who Walks"

15:45 Reading from Bessie Head

Hon. Unity Dow

15:50 Open Mike

five-minute readings from the audience

16:20 Bessie Head Slide Show

Mr. Tom Holzinger, Trustee

16:30 Statement of Thanks

Mr. Goodwill Tlokwe

16:35 Closing

Mr. Goodwill Tlokwe

16:40 Refreshments

The Bessie Head writing competition is offered annually by the BESSIE HEAD HERITAGE TRUST in association with PENTAGON PUBLISHERS. Each year's winning entries, and other entries of superior quality, are published by Pentagon in its BESSIE HEAD series. This series is devoted to new creative writing in English by Botswana authors.

The BESSIE HEAD HERITAGE TRUST believes that the creative writer must never fear to write. We remind Batswana of Bessie Head's words in 1985, shortly before her death, when she answered the question **Why Do I Write?** She stated,

"I write because I have authority from life to do so... I have built up a kind of people religion that is rooted in the African soil. My world opposes the world of politicians. They plan for and dictate to the people. In my world people plan for themselves and dictate their requirements to me. It is a world full of love, tenderness, happiness and laughter... I am building a stairway to the stars. I have the authority to take the whole of mankind up there with me. That is why I write."