



BESSIE HEAD HERITAGE TRUST

Registered as a trust in the Deeds Office of Botswana under no. MA 277/2007

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16 June 2011

Press Release

The BESSIE HEAD HERITAGE TRUST, together with PENTAGON PUBLISHERS, is pleased to announce the winners of the 2011 Bessie Head Literature Awards:

Novel

1st prize	P2,500	Ms Tlotlo Pearl Tsamaase	<i>Unlettered Skies of the Sublime</i>
2nd place	1,200	Mr Service Motsamai Monyamane	<i>Mma-Shirley's Children</i>
3rd place	800	Mr Moreetsi Pius Gabang	<i>Cryout</i>

Short Story

1st prize	P1,500	Mr Boikhutso Robert	"The Zambezi Crocodiles"
2nd place	900	Ms Rebaone Kenanao Motsumi	"Incestous Scandal ... saving Grace"
3rd place	600	Ms Jocasta Tshomarelo Bobeng	"The War of Animals and Plants"

Poetry

1st prize	P1,250	Mr John Hutcheson	"The Massacre of Innocents" "The Man" and "Curse"
2nd place	800	Ms Lisa Reed	"Buffalo Sunrise" "Campfire", "The Joy of Africa"
3rd place	500	Ms Bernice Tiny Letlhare	"Wisdom" "Allegory of a Strong Being" "What is Life" "People in the Street"

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On 24 July 2011, Ms **Penelope Moanakwena**, President of the Botswana Reading Association, will award the above prizes in the National Museum in Gaborone, in a ceremony beginning at 2:30 p.m. at the National Museum in Gaborone. The event will include readings by the winners and runners-up, a launch of the works of the 2010 winners in book form, and an open mike session. **Pentagon Publishers** will promote the titles of their BESSIE HEAD SERIES of writing in English from Botswana.

Date	24 July 2011
Time	2:30 pm
Venue	National Museum, Gaborone
All Welcome	Free Admission

The BESSIE HEAD LITERATURE AWARDS are sponsored by Pentagon Publishers and administered by the BESSIE HEAD HERITAGE TRUST. The Trust was established in June 2007 to promote the life and work of Bessie Head both here and abroad. We believe this competition is important for two reasons: (a) to help preserve Bessie Head's legacy in Botswana, since she is our country's most famous writer who has gained broad recognition overseas; and (b) to encourage the development of local literature in various genres in English.

Bessie Head herself was generous with her time when students asked her for assistance and advice, and we believe that this generosity is best reflected in a vigorous effort to promote literature and reading in Botswana. It is through literature, music, and all other forms of cultural imagination that both personal spirit and national identity are nurtured and strengthened.

For further information, please contact Dr. **Leloba Molema**, secretary of the Bessie Head Heritage Trust (phone 3913417), or Mr. **Tiro Sebina**, a member of the Trust (cell 71602279).

This PRESS RELEASE may also be found in full at <http://www.bessiehead.org/awards/winners-2011.htm>.

The web page for the TRUST may be found at <http://www.bessiehead.org/owners/owners.htm>.