

# THE ESSENCE OF A DREAM 2015



## A CHAPBOOK OF INSPIRATIONAL POETRY

Compiled and Revised by  
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## FOREWORD

Old saws muttered by grannies stay in general use because ... they are generally useful. This chapbook reminds me of one of my granny's maxims: "Good things come in small packages." How true!

Each of these little poems holds the potential to change the world. Citizens from 21 African nations came to Wagner College to learn, to grow, to nurture their dreams and plant a seed from their faraway homes, leaving something of themselves behind.

Thank you for taking the time to teach us as much as we have tried to teach you.

~CKR, July 2015



Adolescents smile  
Crescendos tend to pile more  
Presence is now



~Irvine Mangawa

All born to life's race  
Lots of questions to ask fate  
Yet I'll keep my faith



~Olusola Owonikoko

Sport is a passion  
With learning at the root  
Future is brighter



~**Christopher Vuba**

Change is duty  
Equality key for it  
Comes by unity



~**Gueye Papaly**



Ratings don't last, journalism does  
A mirror of real society  
That never dies



~**Divine Dube**

Equality is a right  
Not for just you, but everyone  
Fight for it as one



~**Bizimana Fabrice**

All but pain I see  
Against it we rise  
Then hope shows up



~ **Amenuveve E. A. Kudzu**

To lead is ours  
Because it is great task  
We will serve as a king



~ **Saleh Ali Hussein**

No one was left behind  
Equality and happiness  
Led them to the goal



~**Aissatou Diallo**

Good servant education  
Friend of diversity  
Let's change Africa



~**Youfeina Stéphane**

No woman rich or poor  
Black or white, deserves to die  
Bringing another life



~**Ibe Chinomnso Traffina**

Donned in cruddy clothes  
A child wears looks of despair  
A hand... so priceless



~**Emmanuel Y. Siaway Jr.**

Power and opportunity  
Light the future and present  
Youth empowerment



~**Marta Tsehay**

Speak your own tongue,  
And the language of others,  
Doesn't change your true self



~**Neema Beatrix Fivawo**

Allow her to inspire  
Change her reculant reality  
GWAVA's here for her



**~Tadala Thembakako**

Women brought the light  
Protect and help carry it  
And shine it bright in you



**~Christian Tomarielson Espérant**

Let's invest in health,  
For a better and wealthy you  
A call to us all



~Joyce L. Kilikpo

Believe and strive  
You rise higher and higher—  
Faith pays off as sunshine



~Joel Tchombosi

Give her a pen  
She'll learn to write  
And rewrite history



~**Georgine Auma**

Giving each person  
The opportunity to  
Work improves the world



~**Sibiri Sanou**



My pitch is so high  
Yet they still ignore my voice  
Cry of a woman



~**Brian Bwembya**

There must be more  
Expression, possibility  
Touch them as you move



~**Elzaan de Wee**

In Africa, too,  
Cancer and heart disease kill  
But nobody sees



~**Ruqayya Nasir Sani**

Her rights, his rights  
Their rights, our rights  
Together as one



~**Naswty Faysal**