



100 Most Positively Inspiring African Youths

2017

www.positiveyouthsafrica.org





INTRODUCTION

Mindful of the fact that positive change and development can only come when everyone and youths in particular develop a positive and progressive attitude towards life, we (a group of positive youths in Cameroon and Nigeria) created Positive Youth's Africa (PYA) in 2016.

In a bid to achieve its objective of inspiring youths of African descent to strive positively for the development of humanity by being the change they wish to see, Positive Youth's Africa (PYA) has given birth to this lofty scheme under the Positive Youths Awards (PYA) program, 100 most positively inspiring African youths (100MPIAY) whose first edition would happen this year, 2017.

We have all been inspired to aspire to achieve desire in our lives! This desire may have been positive or negative and it may have been inspired by a written or spoken word, an action by someone, our inner voice or any other source. All said and done, we all need inspiration and motivation in our lives, especially if we aspire to achieve our purpose. Therefore, the 100MPIAY program sets to fish out 100 of those slay kings and queens who shone their light through all the darkness around them to sow positive seeds that grew in the minds of many others.

CONTEXT

We live in a continent where the victim mentality is rife. True! We have several reasons to complain...slavery, colonialism, neo-colonialism, bad governance, just to name a few. Although it is important to spot the vices plaguing our society, it is unproductive to remain at criticizing. Positive change can only come when we challenge the negative status-quo holding us down and rise above the fold into positive heights. Development can only come when we get off the couch and out of our comfort zones to explore the world in order to create opportunities for ourselves and other young people to come. The greener pasture we seek from outside can only come when we, the youths stop blaming and take responsibility for the development of our communities, making every part of the world an ever-green pasture to live in.

We live in a world where success is celebrated in terms of material gain and not positive impact. Yet, while we acknowledge that material gain may result from positive, selfless service to our community, we want to encourage our youths (be they influential or not) to set out to solve problems and serve selflessly and not just to make money. While we continue to tap inspiration from the ever flowing and ennobling rivers of trailblazers and positive pace-setters like late Nelson Mandela, Wangari Mathai, Laymah Gbowee amongst others, we must admit that generations differ not only in time but also in mentality and the desire for service. And of the ways through which we can re-ignite a strong spirit of service in young Africans today is by showing glaring examples of youths thriving at creating positive change.

To achieve this aim, it is important for us to give as much or even more recognition to the youths who have rocked the boat positively through selfless service versus those who succeeded by achieving their personal interest.



These youths may or may not be influential or rich and their input may or may not be large. It could be a book, a song, a poem, a deed, words, a video they got trending on social media or actions they have done over time which have contributed to reminding youths of the spark of light within them that is longing to glow and the eagle which is yearning to soar. If a strike of match can light a forest, we know for sure that even a minor act of kindness can inspire thousands of youths into positivity. Through this initiative, Positive Youths Africa (PYA) seeks to inspire young Africans on the power of positive thinking and the need for the renewal of our mindsets for a better future generation.

PROJECT GOAL

To identify, recognize and celebrate the works of 100 youths (aged 15 to 40) which have positively inspired many other people to think, talk and act positively, take responsibility and be the change they wish to see.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this program include;

- 1) To celebrate the efforts of African youths who have inspired many others to think, talk or act positively.
- 2) To inspire young people to dream and be the change they want to see in their community.
- 3) To increase the participation of young people in the development of their continent and the world.
- 4) To encourage youths to understand the importance of finding and pursuing their purpose in life, social responsibility and selfless service to mankind.
- 5) By achieving the aforementioned point, we hope to stamp out the blame game or victim mentality plaguing the African youth landscape and encourage youths to dare to dream and achieve big by showing 100 examples of youths who braved the odds to inspire positivity.
- 6) To create a hub for positive purpose-driven and upward striving youths to strive to be the change they wish to see.

CRITERIA/ POINTS TO NOTE WHEN NOMINATING

Youths must be male or female aged between 15 to 40 years old

- Youths must be of African descent living in Africa or in the Diaspora



- Youths must have said or done something (big or small) which has inspired many other people to think, talk and act positively, take responsibility, dare to dream and be the positive change they wish to see. It could be a statement in an interview, an act of kindness, a stand against injustice, a video, a song, a novel or any work which has triggered many people into positivity.
- The positively inspiring word or action must have been done this year
- The youth may or may not be super influential or widely known during the time of nomination.
- Self nominations are not allowed.

CATEGORIES FOR NOMINATION

Nominees would come from different spheres of life. They could be Africa's biggest names or people we probably do not know but who have struck thousands to strife for positive change. Nominees would be positive and upward striving youths from different works of life; students, medical doctors, entrepreneurs, creative writers, motivational speakers, teachers/researchers, government officials, legal practitioners, journalist, engineers or the community developer next door who took an action that inspired many into positivity. For this first edition in the year 2017, awardees would fall under two main categories;

The younger youths category (youths from 15 to 25 years old)

The older youths category (youths from 26 to 40 years old)

NOMINATION PROCESS

Organizations or persons nominating a candidate would follow the 2 steps below.

Check the criteria or points to note when nominating either from PYA's project documents or from our website, www.positiveyouthsafrica.org.

Organizations and persons nominating should fill out the form in the link <http://www.positiveyouthsafrica.org/nominate/> or send an email to pya@positiveyouthsafrica.org or positiveyouthsafrica@gmail.com.

The email should contain the following;

- The name, nationality, gender, age, email, organization and profession of the nominee.
- A short biography (200 words) of the nominee specifying any previous award or accomplishment of the nominee.
- A short description of the work of the nominee for which he or she is being nominated and how it positively inspired people in Africa and abroad.
- Websites and social media pages from which we can verify the information given about the candidate.



SELECTION COMMITTEE

For this first edition, the selection committee of the 100 MPIAY would constitute members of the following organizations;



Posittive Youths Africa(PYA)



Junior Chambers International(JCI)



Pan African Ambassadors(PAA)



Afropolitanis Afropolitanis



Réseau International pou la Promotion de L'Art Oratoire en Afrique,dans les Caraïbes et le Pacifique



Air Global

PHASES OF THE 100MPIAY

The 100MPIAY is a scheme which is primarily run by Positive Youth's Africa (PYA) but which would involve regional or global organizations aiming to inspire positive change. The award scheme would hold in three different phases;

- *The awareness phase:* This phase would hold from the 1st of October to the 5th of November, 2017. It would involve raising awareness to partners, potential partners and the public about the importance of this award scheme and publishing calls for nominations online.
- *The nomination phase:* In this phase which would run from the 10th of November, 2017 to the 15th of December, 2017, organizations and people would nominate youths who have had a positive impact on their environment or Africa this year. It is worth noting that nominations from PYA and partners would account for 50% of the selectees while nominations by the public would account for 50%.
- *The selection phase:* From the 16th of December to the 31st of December,2017,PYA and partners would select and finalize the list of 100 most positively inspiring African youths of the year



- *The publication phase:* In the first week of January, 2018, the list of 100 most positively inspiring African Youths for the year 2017 would be published on PYA's website and the websites of partners. Nominee would be notified by email.

EXPECTED OUTCOME OF 100MPIAY

- The works of youths of African descent who took steps to ennoble their environment through positive words and deeds would be recognized and celebrated.
- Youths of African descent would find in these selectees glaring examples to follow and would be further inspired to take responsibility to strife for positive change.
- Youths would be encouraged to stop the blame game and the number of young people with a positive mindset participating in the development of their continent and the world would increase.

EVALUATION

Following the publication of the list of 100MPIAY, evaluation forms will be given out to youths to evaluate the efficiency of the project and propose recommendations for a better running of the next edition. Comments posted on the webpage of the published list would also serve as a guide for us.

SUCCESS INDICATORS

- ✓ A fair representation of African youth nominees in terms age, sex and nationality.
- ✓ Individual appreciations from nominees and selectees.
- ✓ Appreciations from youths who nominated
- ✓ Appreciation from the PYA team
- ✓ Appreciation from partners
- ✓ Number of people reached during and after the awareness phase
- ✓ Number of people who nominated
- ✓ Number of people who later on got inspired by this project

BENEFITS OF CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP

- ❖ By being a partner of our organization and the 100 MPIAY in particular, your organization benefits from the following:
- ❖ Your organization will contribute to celebrate the works of positive change drivers who would inspire generations to come.



- ❖ Your organization will be contributing to redress the blame game syndrome among youths of African descent who blame their problems on government, former colonial masters, etc.
- ❖ Your organization will be contributing to inspire and motivate youths to take up the challenge of creating positive changes beginning from themselves and their immediate communities being their establishments/institutions, cities and place of work.
- ❖ Your organization will be contributing to stimulate positive thinking and end hatred for violence amongst youths.
- ❖ Your organization will be contributing to equip young dynamic youths with the necessary knowledge on service to mankind.
- ❖ Your organization will be promoting community development and social responsibility.
- ❖ Your organization will benefit from the media hype during the execution of the project and a naming right of “Collaborated with” on all documentation, equipment, website and awards used for the project.

CONCLUSION

The 100 MPIAY scheme would be of utmost significance. It would celebrate the efforts of African youths who have inspired many others to think, talk or act positively. This would in turn encourage all other African youths to strive to be the positive change they wish to see.