



Media Release

Poetry brings our worlds together

Today we focus on Imagination, innovation and children's poetry which brings our nations together. While our borders may be in lock down, the Ducere Foundation African Children's Story program is not.

On Tuesday 2 June at 2.00pm (MUR time) the Hon. Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun, Minister for Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology and Vice Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius will Launch the Slam Poetry Collection of African Children's Stories at an Online Virtual Ceremony Via: <https://ducere.zoom.us/j/586852616>

The Rhythm and Soul of Ideas

The Launch will include 22 SLAM Poems which were written as part of a competition across schools in Mauritius with the Ducere Foundation. As the Hon. Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun said in her introduction to the book, "While SLAM poetry cannot be defined with a single meaning, it is a modern idiom where language becomes song, and words run free with the body moving in sync with the rhythm and soul of ideas." The twenty-two poems within this publication reflect deep thought, passionate commitment, identified concerns, joy in learning and hope for the future.

50th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Australia and Mauritius

The Virtual Launch has many dimensions especially as this year marks the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and Mauritius. The relationship between the two countries is founded on shared values and common interests as partners in the Indian Ocean. This education based African Children's Literacy project is just one of numerous collaborations between Australia and Mauritius reflecting our long history.

Powerful voices

Her Excellency Jenny Dee, High Commissioner of Australia stated, "This special Ducere Foundation *Sixtieth Collection of African Children's Stories: Mauritian Slam Poetry* showcases the creative collaborations between Australian and Mauritian partners through the powerful voice of young Mauritian poets who aspire to be the leaders of tomorrow.

As the Executive Director of the Ducere Foundation I am thrilled about this Virtual Launch where each author will be celebrated and their poems shared across the globe inspiring their peers to write, create, imagine and pass on their literacy and cultural legacy.

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