

SA teacher to light up China stage

Itumeleng Sebola

THE Eskom Expo for Young Scientists (EEYS) is a non-profit organisation established with the aim to improve the scientific, technical, research and problem-solving skills of learners in the areas of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and innovation (Stem) fields through engaging them in project-based learning. It provides a platform for

learners to display their research skills at science fairs where they are rewarded for their efforts.

Learners who take part in these competitions are required to

create new innovations with these competitions starting from school level. Schools are encouraged to host their own science expos and thereafter learners participate in district and regional expos.

Matjati Dankuru, a mother of three and mathematics and science educator at Mapudithomo Primary School as well as a convener for the Eskom Expo for Young Scientists in Limpopo, travelled to Beijing, China on Friday, 23 March with one of the EEYS learners who will represent South Africa in the science fair competition in Beijing.

Dankuru has been doing science fairs for 13 years and she introduced

EEYS to Mapudithomo Primary School when she joined them in 2006. "I first became the circuit coordinator and then got selected to be a circuit judge. I later became a national judge and now I am a convener," she said.

"I am happy that the EEYS saw the potential in me and believed in me to represent South Africa at the science fair in Beijing."

Mapudithomo Primary School recently held a send-off celebration for her where the principal expressed his pride at her achievements and said Dankuru is a lifelong learner who is not afraid of challenges and trying new things. capvoice@nmgroup.co.za



Ida Dankuru and the Eskom Expo for Young Scientist participants from Mapudithomo Primary School.

NPO gives rural learners aspirations

Neville Maakana

THE future of thousands of learners from Mafarana, Bonn, Sedan and Mulati villages outside Tzaneen is brighter after a local non-profit organisation (NPO) was launched recently to provide them with mentorship, career guidance and positive role models.

The Chairperson of Vutivi INdzhaka, Jacques Rikhotso, said the organisation was formed in the spirit of giving back to the community and is a response to President Cyril Ramaphosa's national call to 'lend a hand'.

"Our aim is to motivate our learners to do well at school, choose careers that will contribute to the economic development of our country and to provide them with positive role models. One of our objectives is to establish a resource centre in the

As part of the NPO's year plan, a joint career day and awards ceremony will be held on 28 April and representatives of the Department of Education, local municipality and the traditional authority have been invited.

"We plan to host such a big event that we have written a letter to the municipality asking the institution to assist us with traffic control, medical emergency and waste management services. The first part of the event will be a career day during which motivational speakers will talk to the learners.

"Learners will be provided with application forms from different tertiary institutions and assisted to complete them.

"In the evening, we will host a gala dinner which will include an award giving ceremony for the best performing learners from all our schools. The aim is

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