

School of Education
Community Engagement

..... Presents

CREATIVE NETWORK
MAGAZINE

About This Volume

Students and Staff from ALL universities and members of the general public were invited to:
'Write about their current experiences in a creative way - a story, lyrics, poem, drawing etc...
including how learning can take place during this time".

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This is your battle

by

Roxanne Andrews

(University of KwaZulu-Natal; Edgewood Campus)

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Someone wrote to me
something very special;
Kind words are health to the body
Pleasant to the soul.
To be positive is a choice
Thank you to those
That have encouraged me
helped me
Teachers, students.
Succumbed at times to voices of doubt
Many fears, Should I try again?
My enemy was me, Negative me.
The version of me that is doubtful,
Will I finish, Will I achieve,
Do I just throw in the towel and just give in?
I've learned something that this is a battle,
Life is a battlefield.
You are not allowed to quit.
Your competitor is not people but
previous you, negative you.



You are not allowed to quit.
This is Your battle.
You are destined to reign.
You are destined to win.

2



Don't let your guard down

by

Nicolene Butler

(University of Free State)

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We were glad about COVID's level 2 announcement.

We let our guard down...

Me mingled,

We partied,

We let our guard down...

We welcomed September,

Lest we knew that our loved ones will be called to their heavenly home.

We were sad and heartbroken...

We shed tears.

Don't let your guard down.

Take care,

Keep safe,

And stay blessed.

**INTERESTED IN
SUBMITTING A CREATIVE
PIECE**

Submit your piece to any
team member by e-mail or
WhatsApp by Wednesday of
every week.

**SUBMIT - PERMISSION IS
GRANTED TO THE EDITORS
TO PUBLISH MY CREATIVE
WORK IN THE MAGAZINE.**

Luyanda Khumalo
(University of KwaZulu-Natal; Edgewood Campus)

**The Best definition of
creativity is curiosity.**

DEEPER THAN THOUGHTS

3

4

World no more
by

Jennifer Sheokarah - PhD Student
(University of KwaZulu-Natal; Edgewood Campus)
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World no more

i remember
waking up in a world
so different
to people i could
no longer recognise.
Little did i know
that my face would be
the one to change
the most -
my mind even farther
my heart even quieter
my walk even slower
And
i knew there was no
turning back
for i had to
watch...
the same day
live and die
over and over again.



The Sun Still Shines

by

Azeeza Rawat- Master's Student
(University of KwaZulu-Natal; Howard College)
Azz_rawat@hotmail.com

Tossing and turning, this bed like quicksand.
Our whole world is sinking, it stands to my reason.
I don't recognise these summers and winters; I don't want to look around
We all feel it rising to our necks, deeper and deeper from season to season.

Yet if it's any consolation
Dark overcome, every new morning offers us congratulations.
I see it in the glistening bubbles that rainbow in my coffee,
Catch that ray of light that sparkles the air, a slice of heaven in which to breathe and see
That we were created to survive -look- the sun still shines.

Trapped in our little white boxes of endless familiarity
I haven't felt the salt in the sea breeze tickle my skin in some time.
Then delve deeper inside instead of outside to hold on to your sanity
Close my eyes and try, I'll feel that sand underfoot and know all will be just fine.

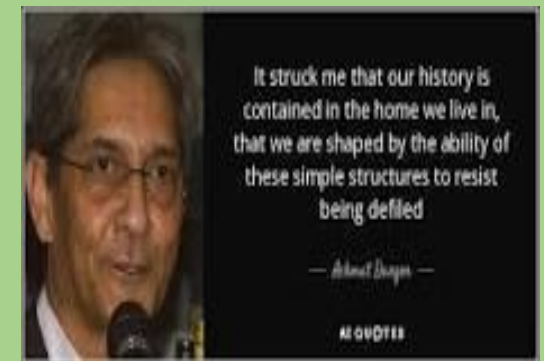
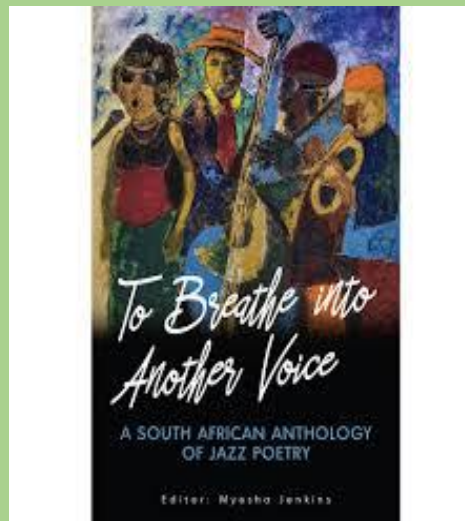
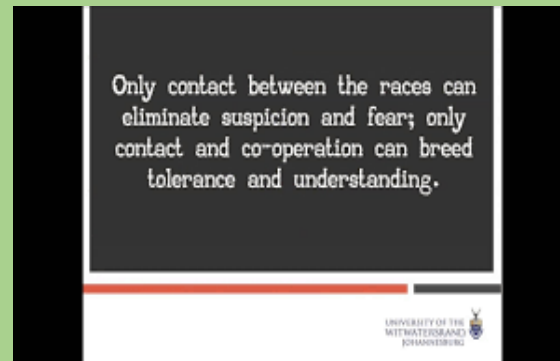
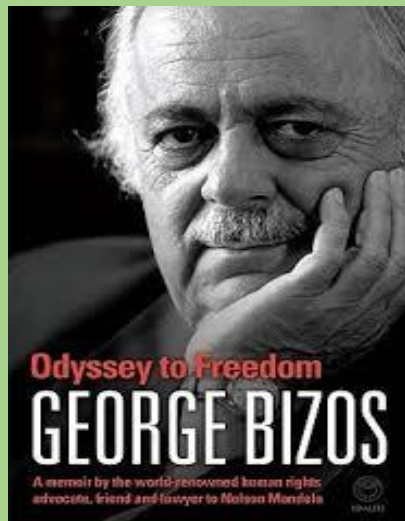
And if it's any compensation to even a few
We never had time to enjoy the garden, but in this afternoon light we do.
We write, we paint, we have our lives to decorate
But if we need time to just be, our souls to rejuvenate
That's okay, just look up - look at how our sun still shines.

This poem is about mental health, it is a metaphor for hidden/internal emotions and feelings!

RIP
MYESHA JENKINS... +... ACHMAT DANGOR... +... GEORGE BIZOS

by
Dr Betty Govinden
(University of KwaZulu-Natal)
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During the past week we bade farewell to a few South Africa stalwarts. Among them were Myesha Jenkins, Achmat Dangor and George Bizos – poet, author, and advocate respectively. They gave their lives for justice and freedom, and our world is better for their having lived amongst us.



Letter to my daughter
by
Anonymous

7

My sweet baby girl, where do I start . . .
I look at you and every part of me melts.
You are so beautiful and shiny bright.
You bring joy to me AndiSani!
Your happiness radiates and fills me up,
Can't help it but laugh out loud!
You are at the perfect age between new-born and toddler,
Your learning to talk, walk, eat makes me proud of you.
I can tell when you are asking something in,
You focus so deep so you can imitate it,
And charm us with one of your magnificent talents!!

You remind me that every day is full of blessings.
You don't notice when things get chaotic or tense or messy . . .
You just smile because it's all good for you!
You inspire me to find the good in everything,
To try for a moment to see the world through your eyes . . .
Full of wonder and beauty and good.
I love you that you rely on me for most of the things...
It's so nice to be needed that way.

But I love that you are starting to spread your wings . . .
I know soon you will be off with the big kids,
I will be left to watch you grow and become your own.
You are thoroughly loved, deep to the recesses of my heart.
I will always be here, now and forever,
Whenever you need someone who will be there no matter what.
You will always be my baby girl.
I love you princess!!!

Love daddy

Locked Inside-Out

by

Dr Stanley Arumugam

(Liminal Leadership)

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8

Locked inside-Out

We
 Are
 Locked
 Remote
 Restless
 Removed
 Restricted
 Remembering
 Rediscovering
 Familiar places
 Neglected rooms
 Abandoned altars
 Forgotten pictures
 Dusty recipe books
 Unspoken memories
 Avoided conversations
 Finding rusty hidden keys
 Creaking doors opened
 Safe spaces reclaimed
 Family games played
 Lingering laughter
 Tender touching
 Deep listening
 Belonging
 Loving
 Being
 Free
 You
 Me

Stanley Arumugam



9

Lost at sea, but still seen
by
Azeeza Rawat- Master's Student
(University of KwaZulu-Natal; Howard College)
Azz_rawat@hotmail.com

I am lost at sea, but still seen
When dark chilling waters expand around me; an anchored ship is what they believe
Though with the pulse of the ocean, I am dragged back and forth
Looking before me, I see none of the direction that I sought
I am lost at sea, but still seen to be
Gliding under the blue skies with direction in me
The salty breeze that once invigorated, now turns the peace of night restless
It rusts my soul and rusts my vessel
Near to land, an illusion of proximity, nay never moving away
Lost at sea, but still seen... they say.

This poem is about gender roles, the strength of women and our persevering spirit!

ADVERTISEMENTS



Dear Alumnus

Motivation Monday – Request for Inspirational Quotes.

UKZN Alumni Relations would very much like to feature inspirational quotes on our social media platforms and would be grateful if you could please submit either your own quote or a favourite quote from someone who inspires you. These could be quotes that have kept you going during this time of Covid-19 or that generally inspire you in your daily life. We would like to include your name and your photograph – if you are agreeable. We aim to start the Motivation Monday quotes by **28 September 2020**.

All quotes and photographs to be emailed to Alumni Relations at alumni@ukzn.ac.za.

With many thanks and best wishes,
The Alumni Relations Team.

Oxford University Press has made all of their **primary** and **secondary** textbooks **freely available for online reading till September 30, 2020!** Share with anyone who may benefit, including friends and family overseas:

<https://global.oup.com>

IMPORTANT NOTICES TO ALL AUTHORS

NOTICE 1

Dear Authors

Thank you so much to everyone who submitted their great creative piece(s) which were published in Volumes 1 - 24 and to those whose pieces are in the current publication, we are grateful for your amazing work.

Creative pieces in any language are welcome.

Kindly please note that we **ONLY** publish **8-10** "creative pieces" each week.

If your piece is not in the current publication, it will be published the following week.

Kind regards,
Creative Network Magazine Team

NOTICE 2

Dear Authors

Whenever you submit your creative piece to Dr. James, we kindly and warmly request you to please also send the following note with your submission:

I (Full name and Surname) hereby grant permission for the Creative Network Magazine to publish my submission (creative piece).