BornTroWay lifts youths in Port Harcourt

By Evelyn Osagie 21/09/2011 00:00:00

The creative arts initiative, tagged: BornTroWay, that seeks to inspire youths, made a stop-over in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, where it held a week-long workshop.

The workshop is the second that Music Matters would be organising in collaboration with the Nigerian-German musician, Ade Bantu. The first was held in Lagos early this year.

According to its Creative Producer, Ilaria Chessa, the project aims at empowering talented young people. "Our aim is to impart knowledge in the youths for better self-expression by honing their artistic skills. We want to motivate them, and educate them that they can channel their talents constructively," he said.

Just as its Lagos edition, youths between 15 and 25, who were interested in the arts, participated in the training during which they learned, and honed their skills in music, dance, theatre and speech.

The workshop facilitators were Aj Dagga Tolar (speech); Ropo Ewenla (acting); Ade Bantu (music); Segun Adefila (dance). The workshop was held to empower talented young people between the ages of 15-25 who were interested in the Arts.

The 45-participant were selected from an audition held before the workshop. Twenty-two-year-old Tina King-Harry was one of them.

The workshop, she said, was an inspiring experience. "The workshop has taught me confidence and patience. The best part of it was getting to train my mind and being exposed to a whole new experience."

During the workshop, which was held at the Model Girls Secondary School, Rumueme, the participants were made to write songs; initiate drama sketches and do dance routines.

The songs, drama, and dance routines were eventually fused into one performance by the instructors and this performance was showcased at the Civic Centre, Port Harcourt penultimate Friday. It featured a 30-minute performance by the participants. It was a fusion of drama and music highlighting the lives of wasted dreams.

The theme was reflected by the regrets of some who had not followed their dreams, who were still wondering if it was too late to do so. Some recurring themes were rejection; utilising talents; changing society; and valuing the environment, among others.

There also solo performances by some participants. The Christ Ambassadors, a four-man dance group, two of whom were participants, also did a dance.

MTrill and Mr Robinson, who gave a joint performance, also performed along with True O'Zee the song, Agidigba.

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The event was anchored by the Television presenter/producer, Yvonne Ekwere.

The Head, Greater Port Harcourt Authority, Mrs Cookey-Gam, praised the organisers for the project, saying she was impressed with what the participants had been able to achieve in a short time.

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