



Winners of ?My Spring? Drawing competition in Africa announced

Title

BirdLife International in collaboration with the Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa (MCFEA) is proud to announce the winners of the 2012 maiden edition of the Spring Alive drawing competition for children in Africa.

In all, nine (9) winners have been selected from a total of about 141 entries received after the close of a two and half months long competition on the 15th of November, 2012. The highly creative and impressive entries were received from school children aged 16 years and below in six African countries namely: Botswana, Sierra Leone, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The jury for the competition which was respectfully constituted by the Chairman of the Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa (MCFEA) and her team, were very pleased and highly elated to receive such a high number of creative and beautiful artistic paintings from school children in Africa.

According to Julie Rogers (Chairman of the MCFEA) *"The pictures are absolutely beautiful, and we're honoured to be able to judge this competition. It's so difficult to choose just one from each category! The effort and time put into drawing these wonderful pictures was inspiring"*. Evidently, to create a more fair and balanced platform for all entrants and as well increase the chances of winning, the entries were categorized into three different age brackets (6-9 years, 10-12year & 13-16years) and subsequently three winners (First, Second & Third) selected from each category by the competent jury.

The final outcome as determined by the jury is presented below:

Ages 6-9years

First: Olamide Ajayi

Nigeria Conservation Foundation

Second: Jennifer Tshukudu

Birdlife Botswana Third: Joshua Ajayi

Nigeria Conservation Foundation

Ages 10-12years

First: Okere Tochukwu

Nigeria Conservation Foundation

Second: Ahimbsibwe Mary

Nature Uganda Third:

Nyakeh Benson

Conservation Society of Sierra Leone

Ages 13-16years

First: Kadison Augustine Mada Duwai Conservation Society of Sierra Leone

Second: Chibueze Agube Nigeria Conservation Foundation

Third : Abdul Rahman Conservation Society of Sierra Leone

As announced earlier, the first place winners in each category will receive a high quality digital camera whilst the second and third place positions will receive some consolations prizes. However all participants in the 2012 Africa edition of the competition will also receive a Spring Alive branded stickers and bracelets from the BirdLife International Secretariat. **The Spring Alive Team congratulates the winners and thanks warmly all participants for their beautiful paintings!**

Below are the 1stplace winners in each of the age bracket categories:

Age 6-9 years

1st place: **Olamide Ajayi**

1st place: Olamide Ajayi

Age 10-12 years

1st place: Okere Tochukwu

Image not found

<http://www.birdlife.org/community/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/New-Picture-7.png>

1st place: Okere Tochukwu

Age 13-16 years

1st place: Kadison Augustine Mada Duwai

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<http://www.birdlife.org/community/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/New-Picture-10.png>

1st place: Kadison Augustine Mada Duwai

Story also available on www.springalive.net