

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Street Carnival...
November 23RD/24TH / 25TH...



Some of the Children at Fountain Of Hope Drop in Centre

In a nutshell...

Street Carnival, is an arts and performance project staged, rehearsed and presented by children on, or formerly on the streets of Lusaka. The project provides an opportunity for Children or young people who sleep and live around Manda Hill Bridge, Zambia Railways station, Fire station, or in any of the drop in centres to have an opportunity to have their voices heard, a channel to express themselves, showcase their talent and discuss topics or issues that they feel are important or specific to them.



WHATS HAPPENING?

I WORKSHOPS

Over the next few months work shoppers will visit popular areas where the young people hang around, and drop in centres to teach and rehearse in the following areas:

- ~ DRAMA, ACTING AND STREET THEATRE
- ~ ACROBATICS AND MODERN DANCING
- ~ DRUMMING, SINGING AND TRADITIONAL ZAMBIAN DANCING
- ~ LANTERN MAKING

We will work for three months to form the basis of a carnival procession. The procession will be dominated by light, in the form of lanterns of varying shapes and sizes, designed and made by the participants. **A lantern procession.**

II PROCESSION

Once the **lantern procession** is assembled at Manda Hill the children will begin their performances, including street theatre sketches, choral singing and cultural dancing. Then in a bold, bright and lively procession, the participants will process to the beat of drums, singing and dancing to the Lusaka playhouse where the next stage of the evening will commence.

III EXHIBITION

Once we reach the Lusaka Playhouse, **an exhibition** will fill the foyer comprising of individual pictures, stories and videos from the participants and other children on (or previously on) the street. The exhibition will highlight their experiences, their hopes and dreams, their needs and opinions and what they would envisage for the future.

IV PERFORMANCE

Once seated, **a performance** will begin, comprising of residents and regular visitors of *Fountain of Hope* drop in Centre and *Chisomo* Drop in Centre. The first half of the performance will be a vibrant spectacle of dance, acrobatics, singing and drama, offering the participants a chance to shine, giving an opportunity to showcase their skills and talents on any theme or issue which they feel is appropriate.

V THEATRICAL WORLD PREMIERE

The second half of the evening will see the premiere of a **brand new piece of theatre** devised and performed by the *Fountain Of Hope Drama Group*, participants from other centres and any other interested parties in collaboration with myself, Grainne and the rest of the team. The piece of theatre, will be created over the period three months, and will be informed by the continued workshops and discussions with all involved parties. Essentially the street children will be given a voice to present themselves and their lives on the stage.

VI TOURING

The piece will then be toured throughout the Copperbelt, and beyond, aiming to inspire and provoke thought and hope to Children in similar circumstances throughout the country. Linking with other centres throughout Zambia and **offering the script** as a basis for other groups to initiate similar programmes.

VII FOLLOW UP

Evaluation and workshops will continue after the initial performance, as more artists and contributors are brought in to ensure that the participants are getting a chance to improve their new skills. This will be a period where the original organisers will be handing over the reins to the workshop leaders organised and confirmed to continue in 2007.

VIII DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUATION

2007

Two workshop facilitators will be employed who will visit the drop in centres once a week at a certain time, to **set up drama groups**, continue the progress made from stage one, encourage artistic development with the performers, and to continue to provide a vehicle where the participants can find a voice. We are implementing foundations to make the festival an annual occurrence, giving the children a regular vehicle to express themselves and providing a goal to work towards.

The workshop facilitators will be assisted by a specifically designed drama handbook (*written by the coordinators*), to help the participants build on the skills gained in Stages 1 and 2. Links have been made with our partners to continue the projects after the initial phase finishes in 2008.



The concept is to give the children a voice and an opportunity to make noise, make themselves heard, and not to hide away or be ashamed to be whom or where they are. We will invite a prominent public figure and utilise the media to maximise exposure and communicate the message to the widest possible audience. All the work will be directly from the participants, the structure of the programme will be workshop led by the main contributors and organisers of the programme, passing on skills, new ideas or ways of working and the inspiration to continue the work in the subsequent stages of the project.



Fountain of Hope Drama Group performing. Chisomo Drop In Centre

To see more information about aims, objectives, follow up and partner organisations click here

To find out how to help us DONATE click here

THIS PROJECT IS NOT SPONSORED BY ANY INDIVIDUAL COMPANY, WE REALLY NEED EVERYONE POSSIBLE TO PLEDGE MONEY TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. THE MORE WE CAN RAISE, THE MORE IMPACT WE CAN GUARANTEE.

**STREET KIDS CARNIVAL
NOVEMBER 23RD / 24TH / 25TH 2006**