

A testament to the generosity of Uganda's businesses.

WTatching the children spell was an awesome sight to behold and a testament to the generosity of Ugandan businesses. Allow me to take you back a few steps. A few months ago, CivSource Africa, along with other prominent corporations such as NTV Uganda, Roofings Limited, Plascon Limited, Victoria Hospital, and more, gathered for a spirited Corporate Spelling Bee event. To participate in this spelling bee, businesses were required to pay a registration fee. This fee contributed to the organization and facilitation of the Enjuba Children's National Spelling Bee. As I sat there in the audience, watching these young talents, microphone in hand, eyes on the judges, and minds focused on each word, it was a truly enriching experience.

Enjuba is an education social enterprise geared towards improving literacy and executive function for Ugandan
 children through spelling bees, publishing locally relevant children's books, and early childhood programs. The National Spelling Bee, which is hosted annually by Enjuba was designed to ignite children's curiosity to read and develop 21st-century skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, and communication. The highlight of every year is children participating in the annual national spelling bee.

The Enjuba Team, who believe in seeing the world differently hosted the 11th edition of the National Spelling Bee at Kampala Serena Hotel where a multitude of pupils, education and speech enthusiasts, and well-wishers converged to witness this program.

The Chief Guest, Owek. David Kyewalabye Male, The Minister for Culture, Tourism and Palaces commended the organizers of the spelling bee and remarked, "the champions represent the brightest minds our nation has to offer."


Aaron Kirunda, the Founder of Enjuba launched the Enjuba Fellows, a fellowship program that will take on the top 15 spellers from the National Spelling Bee. The top spellers were from Mt St Mary's Namagunga and Greenhill Academy respectively.

Important to note that in the past 9 years, the spelling bee has impacted more than 1.5 million pupils, by enabling them to learn to read, and improving their literacy, confidence, and preparation skills. 90\% of spelling bee participants have completed primary school and joined secondary school, contributing to a $10 \%$ reduction in the national dropout rate, a problem that is still ailing Uganda. Programs like the National Spelling Bee are a catalyst for children's transition into responsible citizens who in turn will also positively impact the society.


