

Art Through Education at Africanarra Storytelling festival

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On 23 May 2026, Khanya College staff attended the *Africanarra* storytelling event at Mimosa School, an event that explored education through art and was presented by children aged 6-12. We experienced the power of storytelling through shared reading, plays, and monologues.

The event was solely based on showcasing the art that children can do through different media. Each child gave their best, seeing them present themselves effortlessly, portrayed an image of my younger self, my inner child. Mimosa School had various activities for the children; the activities were engaging, and they all included the parents. There were stalls for fast food, vegan food, drinks, etc. Attending this event was eye-opening since we work with Poetry Buddies and Tsohang Batjha, we got to see how different schools engage with children and how they make education fun.

According to the internet, art through education is the” transformation of passive learning into active exploration. It cultivates critical thinking, emotional intelligence, and problem-solving skills across all subjects. By using creative mediums to understand complex concepts, students build the confidence and empathy needed to navigate an ever-changing world.” The children told stories through acting, each portraying a character from the book, and they did well. Based on their programme, different programmes included paired reading, storytelling, and ‘movies on loop’.

Art provides a medium for students to experience through emotions and helps them develop emotional intelligence, which will significantly enhance their ways of thinking and cognitive abilities. This teaches children to engage with other people and not keep themselves isolated from other people. Art has many diverse functions that can be implemented in real-life situations, especially with children, and these include personal expression and finding one's true identity as an individual. Art through education should be implemented in all schools, from kindergarten, primary schools, and high schools too.

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