



Dear SchoolNet Uganda Family,

Greetings from SchoolNet Uganda.

We at SchoolNet Uganda Secretariat are excited to inform you that SchoolNet Uganda ([www.schoolnetuganda.sc.ug](http://www.schoolnetuganda.sc.ug)), iEARN – USA ([www.us.iearn.org](http://www.us.iearn.org)) and Adobe Foundation ([www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)) have partnered to implement a new project in Uganda, the **Adobe Youth Voices (AYV)**. iEARN- International Education and Resource Network ([www.iearn.org](http://www.iearn.org)) is the largest global network of over 20,000 teachers, 3 million students, 120 countries, 30 languages that empowers teachers and youth to collaborate through a global telecommunications network on academic, social and environmental action projects designed to make a difference in the world. SchoolNet Uganda is the iEARN implementing partner in Uganda.

Adobe Youth Voices (AYV) is a global philanthropy initiative that empowers youth worldwide to comment on their world using multimedia and digital tools to communicate and share their ideas, demonstrate their potential, and take action in their communities.

Adobe Youth Voices (AYV) initiative **engages** youth from communities worldwide in exploring and commenting on their world using video, multimedia, digital art, web, animation, and audio. AYV initiative **enhances** the skills and knowledge of educators to use the multimedia tools more effectively with youth, and widely **exhibits** the student work in community, broadcast and online forums.

Adobe Youth Voices (AYV) which has been implemented by schools in North America, UK and India for the past two years is now expanding to 12 other countries in 2008-2009 namely Argentina, Belarus, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, India, Pakistan, Russia, Turkey, Uganda, and USA.

In Uganda, Adobe Youth Voices (AYV) will be coordinated and implemented by SchoolNet Uganda and will involve 12 schools only in 2008-2009. The project will be evaluated at the end of the year and continued and expanded depending on the performance of the original 12 pilot schools (AYV sites).

One teacher from each of the 12 pilot schools will be selected (with the recommendation of the Head teacher) to undergo a very intensive training to spearhead the project at each of the pilot school (AYV site). The intensive training will consist of a 6 week online course and a 5 day face-to-face course.

**Criteria for selection of 12 teachers (one teacher) per school.**

1. The school must be a secondary school with youth of ages (11-18).
2. There must be support from the administration for the project.
3. The school must have reliable Internet connection.
4. The teacher or the school leaders should preferably have experience in collaborative online projects, through which classroom teaching and students' work have produced "products" that can be enhanced through Adobe tools.
5. The teacher should have ability to communicate online in English (or collaborate with a colleague to do so).
6. The teacher should be committed to engage in the project for a minimum of one year.
7. The teacher should have interest in helping building a student media program by sharing AYV methodology and results with professional colleagues in their communities and countries.
8. The teacher should be willing to work with under-served communities (in schools or after-school/community-based programs).
9. The teacher should agree to support one or more student-produced media projects that will include an "Adobe Youth Voices" logo and can be shared by the end of June 2009 with Adobe.

It is important for any school which wants to apply to participate as one of the 12 pilot schools to send a representative from the administration (Head teacher or Deputy or Director of Studies) to the upcoming ICT in Education Head teachers sensitization workshop to be held at Gayaza High School, (19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>) August 2008. There will be a session on the Adobe Youth Voices (AYV) at the workshop.

**Adobe Youth Voices (AYV) Professional Development Program Objectives:**

- Educators get a full overview of the philosophy of the AYV program and what's expected of them, their sites and their youth as part of the program.
- Educators gain an understanding of the value and methodologies of youth media making and the youth media tradition.
- Educators gain a clearer understanding of the various media forms and formats in which youth work can be created.
- Educators will learn about the steps and stages to facilitating effective youth media making practice.
- Educators will explore community connections and think about strategies for building and engaging audiences.
- Educators will be exposed to models of instructional practice as it relates to working with media and youth.

### **Through AYV Professional Development, teachers will:**

- Develop a work plan and timeline for an AYV project at their site.
- Think through how to collaborate with AYV staff and other local experts for support, coaching, and sharing of best practices during the program year.
- Gain a general familiarity with the donated Adobe software their youth will use to produce works.
- Understand how to report progress and communicate lessons learned with other educators in the network.
- Discover how to contribute youth media work at the conclusion of the year to be exhibited locally, online, and globally.
- Know about the AYV program evaluation process and expectations.

### **Professional Development Outline**

The professional Development will be a hybrid model of training for selected teachers, consisting of both online and face-to-face professional development to equip teachers with skills to enable students to produce AYV media.

### **The training will be a 3-phase process, consisting of:**

**Phase 1:** A six week online orientation to *Adobe Youth Voices* for 4 teachers, one from each of 4 of the 12 schools to be run between **early Oct/Nov 2008**. The 8 teachers from the remaining 8 schools will attend their orientation training in phase 3:

The four Uganda teachers will attend an online orientation course on how to integrate digital media student productions in their classroom project work. The online course will be attended by 48 teachers, four teachers from each of the countries of Argentina, Belarus, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, India, Pakistan, Russia, Turkey, Uganda, and USA.

The project will provide scholarships for the 4 teachers for the online course. The scholarships will cover the cost of tuition; the teachers will be expected to access Internet from their schools.

**Phase 2:** A 5 day face-to-face workshop in **Dec/Jan/Feb** for the 12 teachers, one from each of the 12 pilot schools on the national level in which “community” is furthered and technical issues are dealt with according to two tracks of web-based media exhibition interest.

The workshop will train the teachers to acquire digital production software skills and help with student media project work. The student media project work will involve video production and photographic and publishing media work.

The project will cover the workshop costs.

Participating teachers will receive licensed Adobe software (Adobe Photoshop and Premiere Elements) for their schools --for either video production or for photographic and publishing media work.

**Phase 3:** A six week online orientation to **Adobe Youth Voices** for 8 teachers, one from each of the remaining 8 pilot schools to be run in **late February/March 2009**.

The four Uganda teachers will attend an online orientation course on how to integrate digital media student productions in their classroom project work. The online course will be attended by 96 teachers, eight teachers from each of the countries of Argentina, Belarus, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, India, Pakistan, Russia, Turkey, Uganda, and USA.

The project will provide scholarships for the 8 teachers for the online course. The scholarships will cover the cost of tuition; the teachers will be expected to access Internet from their schools.

### **Other project activities**

**(i) Ongoing Interaction in AYV Collaboration Center**

(<http://www.adobeyouthvoices.org>) - Sharing topics, rough drafts of student work, discussing and providing feedback on works in progress, and final projects

**(ii) Participation in EDC Evaluation of the Adobe Youth Voices Program** (EDC will

be conducting ongoing evaluation of the program, via tools such as

[www.surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com) )

**(iii) Submission of Final Student Works (no later than June 30, 2009)** – More to come regarding the guidelines for submitting final works to Adobe.

More information about this new exciting project will be at the upcoming ICT in Education, Head teachers' Sensitization Workshop.

**Note: Teachers interested in participating in the project must get recommendations from their Head teachers. Schools interested in participating in the project must send somebody in administration position (Head teacher or Deputy or Director of Studies) to the upcoming Head teachers' workshop to be held at Gayaza High School (19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>) August.**

Yours truly,

Kakinda Daniel  
Adobe Youth Voices (AYV)  
Project Coordinator, SchoolNet Uganda