

# AFRICAN SCIENCE ACADEMY



**AFRICAN  
SCIENCE  
ACADEMY**

Founded by African Gifted Foundation



**AFRICAN  
GIFTED  
FOUNDATION**

**CLASS OF  
2022  
SIRIUS**





# *Acknowledgements*

No one who achieves success does so without the help of others. We would like to express special thanks to

- Dr Tom Ilube (CBE)
- Rosalind Kainyah (MBE)
- Barbara Greene
- Yasameen Al-jboury
- Gifty Ghansah

Board Members, Sponsors, and the Entire ASA Staff

ASA has opened the new age of academic excellence to us and welcomed us into a world where dreams are nurtured and not marginalized, banging the doors of uncertainty behind us.

We couldn't have come this far without your consistent support.

We are very grateful.



## Message from HeadTeacher

Ms Gifty Ghansah

### Congratulations Class of 2022- SIRIUS

**A**n incredible group of students with the most admirable levels of resilience, boundless curiosity and positivity I have ever encountered on my career pathway in education.

You are a very special group of students and I deem it a great honour and privilege to have been given the opportunity to serve you in my first year as Headteacher. I believe we have had a very exciting, engaging and fast paced academic year, not without its challenges relating to covid. BUT WE MADE IT.

You have described your experiences and time here at the African Science Academy as transformational, for others it's been epic, eye-opening, puzzling, defining, among other keywords and I hope that as this chapter closes and next opens for you, you will continue to be the best versions of yourself wherever you are, not forgetting that there is no elevator to success, you have to take the stairs. OPORTUNITIES ARE NOW HERE FOR YOU.

Keep focused SIRIUS as you go forth to break the barriers in your chosen fields and enjoy the experiences university life will bring your way. Surround yourself with like-minded people who will support and challenge you. Your pathway is how you shape it, and recognise that not everyone will be supportive of you but still feel free to have a different view point and see even more from a different perspective. DON'T BE AFRAID TO STAND OUT.

I look forward hearing your amazing ground breaking success stories in the world of STEM and also welcoming you as Alumnae when you return to give back and impact your communities

I wish you the very Best of Success and Gods Guidance.



## Messages from Staff

Graduation is a very proud moment for you. You are moving on to a new and exciting chapter in your life. Your efforts and passion are essential to pursuing your sky-reaching dreams. I wish you all the best in this pursuit. Congratulations, Class of 2022 Sirius!

***...From Ms Hannah***

Dear students, as this academic year comes to an end, I would like to say congratulations to you all for enduring the tough journey. I wish to emphasize that I have enjoyed having each and every one of you as a student this year in our fun-filled physics class. I would like to commend you all for the spirit of teamwork demonstrated during your stay as seen in the various contributions that you all have made to the wellbeing of your classmates, individually and as a group. Finally, always remember success timelines are not the same, as long as you are willing to put in the hard work, you will surely arrive at your desired destination in life. All the best in your future endeavours.

***...From Sir Michael***

It was a great honor to share your stories with universities all over the world. You have accomplished so much that handpicking a few to fit the word limits for my testimonies was a huge task. Sometimes, I wished a simple random sample would do the job, but this never worked. Our journey was a cycle of learning and unlearning. I enjoyed every minute of it and always looked forward to my next lesson. You paid attention, but that's not the most interesting part. Your intellectual capabilities were amazing and I was always happy to take your minds and imaginations to levels higher than what your Cambridge curriculum stipulates. I knew this phase would come to an end, but I didn't know it would be this quickly. I would describe the class of SIRIUS as: Sacrosanct: You are special, untouchable and I'm unwilling to see you criticized. Intrepid: You are fearless and adventurous. This is seen in how well you took on the challenge of doing your A-level within one academic year and giving your best in all you had to do. Resourceful: You have the ability to find clever and quick ways to overcome difficulties; effective and imaginative. Incisive: You are intelligently concise and analytical in your dealings. Unconventional: You are out of the ordinary and I know you'd stand out wherever you find yourselves. Shrewd: You're keen, sharp, and knowledgeable. I look forward to hearing your success stories.

***...From Sir Maxwell***

Congratulations on your success, overcoming 15 tremendously challenging months! This is a huge step toward your future, and I can't wait to see what becomes of it. I hope you'll all come back and tell us, visit campus, and share your news and hard-won wisdom with the students yet to start here. Look out for one another in the future, and best of luck!

***...From Ms Jennifer***

My Lovely Ladies, finally, the hour has come, and I want to say how proud I am of your determination, hardwork and commitment to your holistic development in this past year. I know it's been a tough year for you. I enjoyed every minute we spent together during lessons, robotics club times, career guidance sessions, tutor times and one-on-one RAG Sessions. My most memorable moments with you were the times we brainstormed together on real world problems we could creatively solve using Robotics and A.I. They were moments I saw talents, creativity, innovation, smartness and team work best displayed. Robot Anti-Rona and WiPux were the amazing outcomes. As you progress on your path of innovation, striving to do better and to make a difference. As you flap your wings, may it cause the butterfly effect in Africa bringing about the wind of change. Remember, anything is possible if you believe. I wish you all the best in life. I wish you all the best in life. I pray that the as you go out, the Good God will order your steps so that all you have learnt in ASA will serve as guiding principles for you. I believe in you and know I will hear wonderful stories about your progress in life. More Love from

***...Mrs Teye***

Congratulations to all graduands on this amazing feat. From your application to admission through to your arrival on campus during a pandemic you have not only proven your academic prowess but we have seen young girls who are resilient. The beauty of this journey is watching you through it and emerging as victors at every stage: from your SATs, COVID outbreak, monthly assessments, CAIE etc. Your dedication, hard work, results, and resilience is evident; it's now time to seize the future and change the world! Congratulations to our scientists!!

***...From Ms Lynda***

I am extremely proud of your amazing and impressive accomplishments, looking back, all the efforts and pain was worth it and I admire the way you handled and comported your selves during prep hours Warmest congratulations on your graduation and best wishes for your next adventure. BRAVO!!!!

***From Ms Doris***

# Class of 2022

## *Sirius*

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# Student Profile

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## Ines Noella Twishime

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### Rwanda

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“So stick to the fight when you’re hardest hit - It’s when things go wrong that you must not quit” by John Greenleaf.

My year at ASA has been transformational, I have had countless opportunities that have allowed me to step out of my comfort zone, challenge myself, make mistakes over and over again, and most importantly never quit.

It is through all these experiences that I truly found my passion of being creative. I aspire to become an optimistic engineer because I have experienced the power that comes with having a positive attitude and working in a team.

I hope to give back to my community one day through the use of renewable energy sources.

## Bless Charles Oppong

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### Ghana

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**O**n my canvas, I softly stroke my pencil. My brain cuts through the transparent past and taps nostalgic memories to awaken an established mood and inspire my artwork with music playing in the background. Nothing, in particular, comes to mind other than the memories embedded in my mind, the passion in my heart, and the determination in my eyes to complete a flawless work of art.

Staying true to myself and creating an original piece exemplifies my most cherished ideals of honesty and integrity. I demonstrate how analytical and perfectionist I am by meticulously and neatly stroking my pencil or a paintbrush on my canvas with smooth lines and molding each portion into perfection.

My dreams for today were tall, like skyscraper heights of roughly 96 floors, but with the opportunity I now have from ASA, it appears that I am almost at the 56th floor, with many improvements and lessons I am ready to learn to achieve my ambition of establishing my own foundation for people with disabilities.



# Kimberly Taj Mashanga

## Zimbabwe

I am a proud Zimbabwean. My passions include STEM, art, and poetry. I am a proud feminist. Being in ASA has been the most transformative experience of my life.

In the last year I have been surrounded by like minded women from all over Africa. I have gained critical thinking and intellectual abilities that will serve me well throughout my life.

Being around such a diverse group of people has taught me to value other people's perspectives, to refrain from passing judgement, and to be open-minded as there is always something to learn. I am eternally grateful for the lessons I learned during my stay at ASA.



# Irene Akawin Agigiba

## Ghana

Just as everyone has their own story, everyone equally has their own journey, and through my journey I've met a lot of beauty along the way that were either blessings or lessons.

ASA has been one of the greatest blessings in my life and a place that has taught me a lot and given me so many opportunities, like meeting other intelligent ladies from all over Africa who are also maths lovers.

My name is Irene, known to some schoolmates as Agigiba, while to others, "Little Irene" because of my small stature. I love to listen to news updates to keep myself aware of my society.

I also love sports! Volley and badminton are my most preferred sports on any day. My favorite day in ASA is Thursday because I am always in a hurry to go for sports.



# Glorious Osho

## Nigeria

When I was in high school, my friends were very fond of me because of my playful and cheerful character. I love smiling, even at things undeserving of a smile. I am so fond of books; I love to read. I dislike unaccommodating people or people who snob or ignore me.

I love sports, especially table tennis and football, even though I am still in the process of learning. I am a very curious and assertive person. I love to learn new and inspiring things.

My stay in ASA has exposed me to the world, especially in the aspects of technology and mentorship programs. Facing challenges in my studies as an A-level student, I have become much stronger and more persistent. The pressure I face every day has made me into a better person. I always remember Mrs Teye's advice, 'It is doable';

'Keep Practicing' among others. I always tell my future self, "I am proud of you".



# Gracious Osho

## Nigeria

The sole purpose of life is to save humanity. Little girls with dreams become women with vision. Although every man is special in his own way, I try my best to be consistent, courageous, and ambitious; with this, I introduce myself.

For me, African Science Academy has been a life changing opportunity for me and an eye opener. It has also shaped my personality and has prepared me for the future. During my stay at ASA, I have made a lot of friends, gotten networking opportunities, and gained a lot of practical experience through clubs and activities, especially our weekly guest-speaker and robotics sessions.

I have also been able to experience diversity, improve my critical thinking skills and communication skills. I just want to say thank you to the ASA family!



## Elizabeth Demissie

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### Ethiopia

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I love traveling. Saying my final goodbyes to my parents and boarding a flight to take me from Ethiopia to Ghana was quite a reathtaking journey. It was exhilarating because this was my first foray into freedom, and I had no idea what to anticipate.

I love math, not just because of its many applications, but also because it is logical, objective, and ordered, and its sheer nature provides me serenity.

My passion for mathematics was the driving force behind my decision to come to ASA - and it was well worth it. I want to be a mechanical engineer that designs systems and devices with intricate motor skills for a variety of applications. After meeting with my 15 African sisters who share my excitement for STEM, I can't wait for the future of Africa.

## Mary Doh

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### Ghana

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I am the metaphor for the Universe. I find beauty in everything; as they're all a curiosity to me. I was exposed to books at an early age and got hooked.

When given the chance to tour the world, I'd start with the Himalayas; I love nature and color but I also like giving chances to the prejudiced. My very nature is the pivot of creativity. With the world as my canvas, I splatter different shades of love mixed with imagination, painting a wonderful picturesque image of empathy and an innovative blueprint.

I am the phoenix, unique in every way; leaving to impart and impact; burning my energies out only to rise from the ashes with renewed youth to live another cycle. I am the epitome of resilience. Just when you thought I'd shed my leaves, I blossom!

Experiencing ASA is one true memory I'd never blot out! ASA has taught me resilience and independence; the kind that is perpetual and priceless.



# Alice Samah-Akom

## Ghana

She was born in the Western region but has lived most of her life in the Central region of Ghana, specifically, Cape Coast. She is patient, humble, and thoughtful of others.

At a roar of the sea, a twinkle of the stars, and a psithurism of the trees, she dances to the tune of nature.

She loves to sing, read, listen to music, travel, hand out and have meaningful conversations with friends. The whole of her writes this today because of the transformational experience she had at the African Science Academy. ASA really gave her a wholesome education to take her places.

She no longer hides in her small comfort zone but is ready to take on opportunities and make the most out of them. She's become one who would break through the barricades to create a possible world of utopia. Humanity's healthcare lays on her heart and a part of her yearns for it badly.

She aspires to be a biomedical engineer and an activist for female education, especially in pursuing STEM courses, considering the domination of science and technology.



# Diana Murungu

## Zimbabwe

As a child, I had the chance to travel with my mother around the beautiful country of Zimbabwe. Whether I was traveling to the chilly highlands of Inyangani or bearing the heat of Masvingo, I had the opportunity to observe and analyze how each location has its unique character, such as languages and social traditions.

My interest in learning more about and appreciating what the world has to offer grew as a result of my exposure to new things. While at ASA, for example, I realized that Shona and Kinyarwanda contain a few words in common, such as tambira, which means "dance" in both languages. My interest in robotics and artificial intelligence was ignited by the integration of software and hardware in automated machinery.

Being the Robotics Club president at ASA has helped learn the basics of the kinematics and dynamics of robots. With this knowledge, I plan to pursue creating an artificial ozone layer that will accelerate the regeneration of the ozone layer. Aside from robots, I enjoy nature, music, art, and photography.

Taking walks around my neighborhood's avenues, listening to music, and capturing aesthetic photographs of the tree canopies and sky are some of my favorite ways to unwind at home.

# Manuella Kwawu

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## Ghana

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Saying yes to ASA is, and will always be, one of my audacious and proud decisions. I vividly recall writing a letter to myself on my first week at ASA, as was required of my peers and me.

My letter was a manifestation of all the good things I hoped to see in myself upon graduating from ASA. The truth is that I am all of those things and more as a result of the opportunities and people I have met through ASA: the amazing and ambitious peers, dedicated staff, and ever supportive AGF trustees.

I know that every path I will take will be paved in some way by the doors that were opened for me here in ASA, through this family, and by the people who worked tirelessly to put the wind beneath my wings.



# Yvette Ahishakiye

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## Rwanda

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I am a proud Rwandese. My friends call me Yv. I am a blend of courageous and quiet, dedicated to my future but devoted to my family and friends, modest yet strong.

I don't claim to be the smartest person in the room, but I am quite brilliant. As a philomath, coming to ASA, an inductive environment, was such an exciting period of challenging my limits and exploring more of my potential as well as exposing my talents.

One of the lessons I learnt in ASA that has stuck with me is that commitment gets me started, consistency gets me somewhere, and persistence keeps me moving.



## Caroline Gyireh

### Ghana

Coming to ASA is one of the best opportunities I've ever had in my life. Meeting and hearing from great people out there, as well as those around me whom I hadn't had the opportunity to hear from or possibly meet before, attending tech camps, and gaining mentorship are just a few of the opportunities I had.

I enjoy exploring, meeting new people, and seeing new things, all of which ASA has provided me with and more. I want to work in a STEM field, promote it, and be a beacon of hope for other girls. My time at ASA was one of the most incredible and memorable experiences I've ever had. Overall, I have learned that; my wings already exist, all I have to do is fly. The gift of a new day energizes me, with my life philosophy mirroring a calculus limit that I may or may not reach.

But I keep doing my best because I can still get infinitely close, which is terrific. My experience in ASA is one great and unique opportunity I have had in my life, which I will always look back at and be grateful for.

## Rahinatu Lawal Mohammed

### Ghana

She has always been a sport, arts, and healthcare fanatic since she was a child. She thought she wanted to be a doctor since she watched so many people in lab coats on TV.

Until she found herself at the African Science Academy, where she was given a laptop, "amazing," but that wasn't all; as she sat for programming classes, "oh my God," she declared, "I want to be a computer engineer."

Her time at the African Science Academy has been an extraordinary adventure; she has not only learned about the Cambridge A-level syllabus, but she has also progressed from being shy to a confident young lady. She no longer views issues as obstacles to overcome, but rather as opportunities to grow.

Her long-term goal is to run a non-profit organization that will help young people develop their interest in technology.





## Ziyanda Nomcebo Mthethwa

### Kingdom of Eswathini

**G**rowing up, I was always a curious child. I wanted to know why certain things were the way they were and the logic behind those rational things. My curiosity led me to decide on a field in STEM because it provides the opportunity to provide a new perspective on situations and new approach on life.

My journey to ASA has been a rollercoaster from meeting a variety of guest speakers to the picnics, Christmas Dinner, Visiola Camp to the SATs and endless exams and test and the tremendous hours put, to me feeling like I don't want to but knowing the quit button was no where to be seen.

ASA has transformed me from 'I cant do it' to "Why am i not getting it" and to finally "I have got it " I have come to believe that two main factors determine success. The first is a person's determination and will to succeed. Are you ready to make sacrifices to achieve your goal?

Are you prepared to recover after failure and proceed to your goal again? Without strong internal motivation, it is nearly impossible to become successful.

## Fridossetou Gnon

### Togo

**S**alut! (Hello!) Straight from Togo is Fridossetou Gnon, a lively young lady. Fridosse is intelligent, ambitious, assertive, inquisitive, magnetic, fierce, imaginative, dependable, and level-headed. She can communicate in four languages: French, English, Bassar, and Ewe, and is learning Spanish as well.

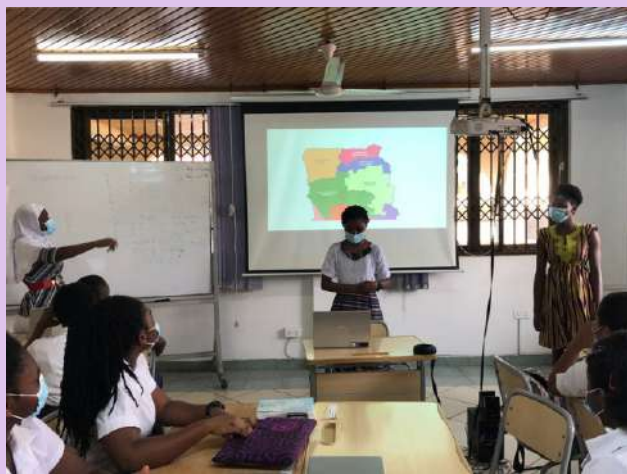
Coming to the African Science Academy for Fridosse was a venture with its apprehensions\_a particular one being the fact that she had never schooled in an English-speaking country. However, with the incredible support of the ASA community, she got over this challenge like a boss.

Fridosse has a wide range of interests, some 180 degrees out of phase. Prior to ASA, she'd nearly given up on her dreams due to her underserved background. ASA has allowed her to dream again and bigger than ever before. She plans to focus on software development, entrepreneurial leadership, and business in her higher education.

One of her biggest long-term goals is to revolutionize agribusiness globally by merging the engineering and business skills she will acquire. Her first ambition is to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Hunger.



# *International Day Celebrations*



# Robotics Club



Members of the robotics club assembling and programming their first LEGO driving base.



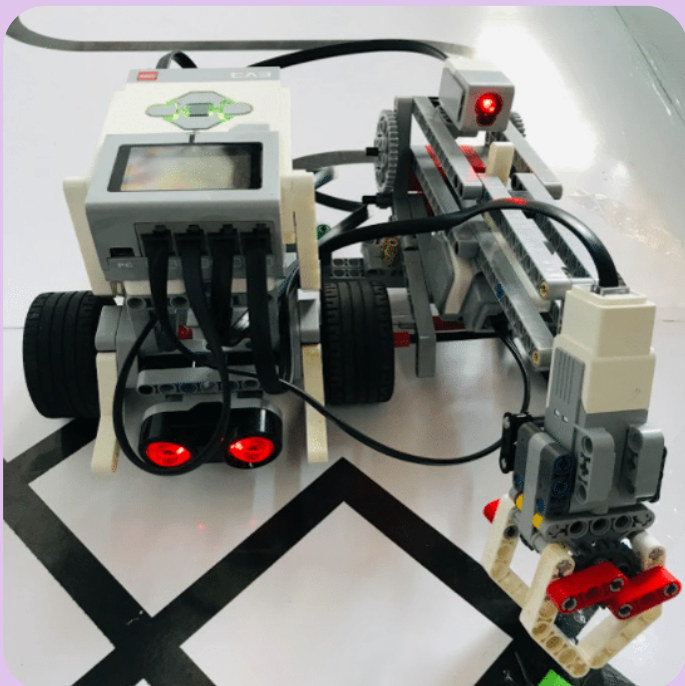
The robotics team presenting their Wildlife Protection Unit (WiPUx) to the British High Commissioner to Ghana.



Finished work for a face mask detection and dispensing system (Robot Anti-Rona).



The robotics team presenting Robot Anti-Rona to Her Excellency Harriet Thompson.




Testing our autonomous driving LEGO robot.



# Entertainment & Wellbeing





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*Memorable  
Events*

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# *Do you remember...*



Our day at the beach  
with Ms. Barbara  
Greene.

When we received  
stationary from the Bank  
of America



Our guest speaker session  
with Dr. Fiona Bartels-  
Ellis

# *Do you remember...*



Miss Yasmeeen's visit with Elizabeth and Amy.

Her Excellency Harriet Thompson's visit with Mrs. Sheila Naah-Boamah.



Ms. Rosalind's visit

# *Student Engagement Weekend*



# *Her Excellency Harriet Thompson's Visit to ASA*



# *Day at the beach*

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# *School Trips*

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Our visit to International Maritime Hospital to learn about medical imaging techniques.



Understanding Ultrasound imaging



Building our final project in Visiola STEM camp.



Building projects using belt transmission system



Our trip to Accra to attend the Tech in Ghana conference



Basking in the sun



Getting ready for another trip.



Having fun by the ocean!



swinging by the ocean breeze



Volleyball on the ocean sand!

# Teacher's Quotes

*Words students cherish from their teachers...*

"If you want to work in NASA, you don't necessarily have to be an astronomer." ~Sir Maxwell.  
Cherished by Elisabeth.



"Is not where you find yourself but who you are"  
~Mrs. Teye.  
Cherished by Rahinatu.



"Not Planning is planning to fail"  
~Sir Michael.  
Cherished by Yvette.

"It is doable"  
~Mrs. Teye



Cherished by Irene.



"Study well."  
~Mrs. Teye  
Cherished by Ines.

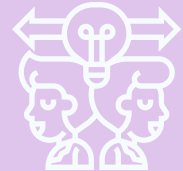


"Life happens" ~ Sir Maxwell  
Cherished by Manuella.



"Do not make important decisions when you are too happy or sad. Make them when you are neutral" ~ Mrs. Teye.  
Cherished by Alice.

"I got my eyes on you"  
~Mrs. Teye  
Cherished by Glorious.



"Ghost, you will make a great actress"  
~Mrs. Teye.  
Cherished by Kimberly.



"Did you eat banku ? The banku was powerful" ~ Sir Michael  
Cherished by Diana.



"If you study, you will know"  
~ Mrs. Teye  
Cherished by Caroline.



"Ziyanda why are you eyeing me?"  
~ Mrs. Teye  
Cherished by Ziyanda.



"I keep telling you ladies, don't study hard but study smart"  
~Mrs. Teye  
Cherished by Gracious.



# Cool Creatives



The "In charge" depository.



The Miss ASA crown.



Members of the club working on an art piece.



Cool Creatives Logo.



Motivational poster designed with calligraphy.

# *French Club*

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Fridosse, leading the club through an exercise on Duolingo.



The French club watching a French tutorial on YouTube.



Fridosse guiding Alice through a tutorial on Duolingo.



Students jotting down new French words from their French class.

# OurShot



Panelists sharing their insights and opinions in one of our talk shows dubbed "What comes to mind."



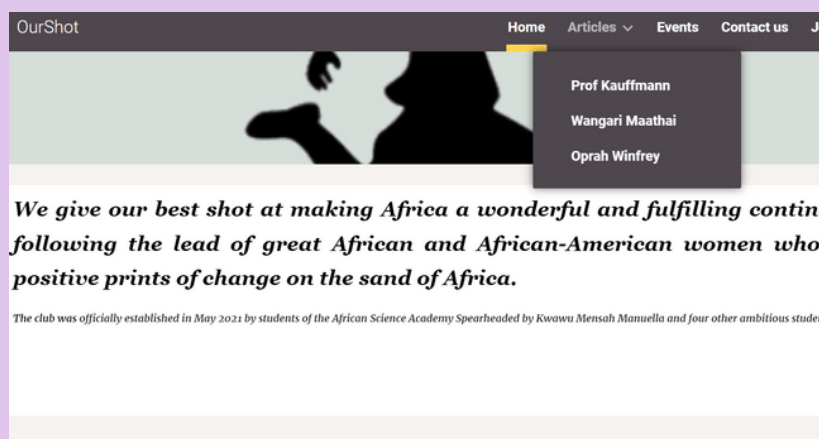
OurShot meeting with Ms. Jennifer to plan future events.



Our virtual session with Ms. Barbara Greene on self branding.



Mrs. Teye leading our first career guidance session.

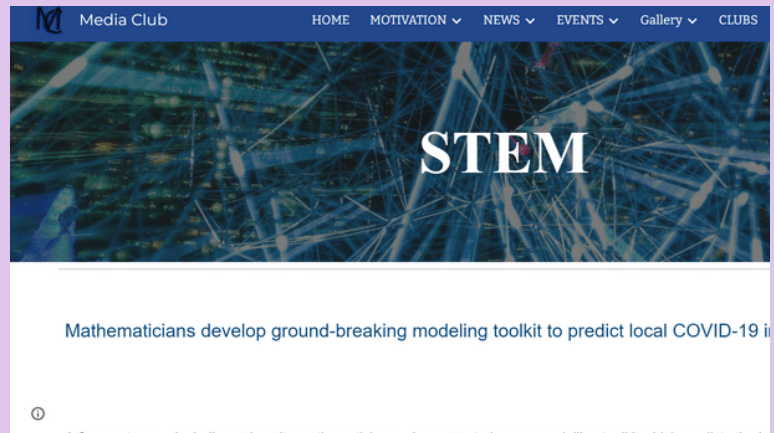


The Ourshot website which contains articles about great Black women of change.

# Media Club



Members working on their next big story.



The media Club has a website they developed themselves to update students on current affairs.



Executive members of the club.



The media club takes media coverage for all school events.



Members of the media club in one of their meetings.

# Meet the Yearbook Committee

Diana Murungu

Chief Editor



Manuella Kwawu

Co-Chief Editor

Kimberly Mashanga

Section Editor



Yvette Ahishakiye

Section Editors

Elizabeth Demissie

Photographer







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# CLASS OF

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"It doesn't cost to dream."  
~Elisabeth



"Was it worth it?"  
Yeah, I learnt that  
even the sun  
will die out.  
~Ines



"Infinity is just the  
beginning of what  
I can achieve"  
~Diana



" Everything depends on  
me, myself and I."  
~Rahinatu



"Happiness is a  
butterfly."  
~Kimberly



"Mathematics consists of  
proving the most obvious thing  
in the least obvious way." said  
Mathematical Induction.  
~Yvette



Sometimes I just have to whisper  
to my Wi-Fi Signal, "Please be  
strong for me."  
~Caroline



"We shall tower the ladder.  
Let something positive come  
out of your difficulties."  
~Alice

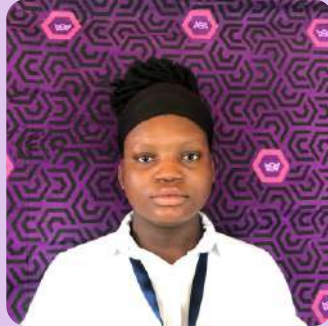
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# 2022

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"Stop daydreaming without actions  
,your daydream is someone  
else's day."  
~Gracious



"Be in charge"  
~Bless



"Stay hungry."  
~Mary



"Life is like an onion; you peel  
off one layer at a time and  
sometimes you weep."  
~Ziyanda



"My mantra? My why?"  
~Fridosse



" You know what.  
Something has to give!"  
~Manuella



"Do something now,  
your future  
will thank you later."  
~Glorious



When it rains look for the rainbows.  
When it's dark look for the stars.  
~Irene

# Notes

# AFRICAN SCIENCE ACADEMY CLASS OF 2022 SIRIUS



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📍 African Gifted Foundation