

VIAFRICA WARDS REPORT

The following is the report on Viawards held 12th March, 2010 at Blue Springs Hotel. Plans for the event had been going on for quite some time and the day was highly anticipated by both the Viafrica staff and the participating schools.



Schools Present

The following schools participated in the event ;

Name of School	No. of Students Present	No. of Teachers	Participants
Maris Stella School	2	1	2
Nairobi School	10	1	5
Danons High School	5	2	5
Alliance High School	15	1	6
Maria Immaculata Education Centre	5	1	5
Nginda Girls' School	10	1	5
Falling Waters Secondary School	2	1	none

This is in addition to 4 members of the Jury, and 10 Viafrica Staff (including Erwin from Moshi Office).

There was also 2 sound operators.

Besides Falling Waters Sec which did not participate in either of the categories all the other schools participated in both award-able categories except for Maria Immaculata Ed. Center which only participated in the examination.

The Event's programme

The first school, Maris Stella, arrived at around 9.10 am. After that the rest of the schools followed in closely within minutes of the other's arrival. By around.

After all besides, Falling Waters had arrived, the students taking part in the exam were transported to the office using the office van. As the number was more than the van could hold, Alliance school offered their van to be used to ferry the remaining students. Viafrica paid for the extra fuel to the school.



At the office Benson assisted by Erwin invigilated the exam while the rest of the team engaged the students at Blue Spring with and ICT related activity. This was after introduction of Viafrica by Peter.

The first task for the jury was to come up with an activity to engage the students while we waited for the examinees to arrive. They formulated the activity where students were to mingle up form different schools and come up with oral presentations. The winning group of eight were awarded USB sticks. This proved to be of great excitement and learning experience for the students.

Later on lunch was served and in the afternoon began the presentations.



Staff Roles

The whole team displayed an outstanding performance in carrying out their tasks. Every request made by Davie (the organiser), Peter or even amongst us was done to the best of one's ability. This included arising tasks which were not necessarily included in the schedule that had been circulated earlier.

Latest 7.50 am, the whole team was already at Blue Springs though fully aware that the hall been arranged earlier the previous night.

By the time of the guest arrival, everything was in place.

The Jury

The jury conducted themselves in a professional manner and displayed full competence till the closure of the event. They arrived well in time except for Esther who got held up in her college by what she termed as 'unavoidable circumstances'. All in all the participants displayed confidence in them which is important. At no time did any complains arise due to wrong judgement. They also gave short reasons as to the criteria they based their judgements on and went ahead to collectively comment on each and every presentation. This to proved to be an eye opener for the students come the next Viafrica Awards.

The jury members were as follows;

- Wilson Masaka - Trainer, NairoBits (Kenya) and ZanziBits (Zanzibar)
- Easter Wanjiru – Director, Diligent College'
- Richard Omondi – Director, Fairbiz Ltd
- Xsaviour Muteshi - 4th Year Comp. Science Student & Vice Chair of Students Union, Africa Nazarene



University

Each member of the jury evaluated the each presentation separately awarding points on the basis of

- Presentations skills (preparedness)
- Relevance (of the presentation to the theme)
- (confirming the 3rd)

Later, they added up each of the points awarded on the 3 areas and then added up the total points from each member to find the eventual winner.

Before announcing each jury member explained what they awarded to each group for the 3 mentioned fields and later the total of their points. So immediately after the last member announced his points, the participants could already add up and you could hear them reacting if they had surpassed the previous group. This created a very anxious moment as all attention was on the jury. It was done after all presentations had been made.

Presentations

The presentations were generally good and most of them were evidence of good early preparations. Depending on the school, there were 2 or three students doing the presentations from the front (in turns) and one of them was doing the slide transition from the control computer attached with the beamer. Nairobi School and Alliance Girls' presentations generally stood out from the rest and the battle was more or less reduced to the two. The rest of the schools followed in closely.

The following were the titles of the presentations

Name of School	Title of Presentation
Danons High School	Using Powerpoint in Teaching Business Education
Alliance Girls'	Digiclass Evaluation
Nginda Girls'	Science Laboratories Software
Maris Stella	Education and Research
Maria Immaculata	(Didn't hand in the title)

The presentations were very relevant in relation to ICT and educations and I think they were well understood by the audience.

Examinations

The examination was generally challenging as shared by those who took it.

The Results

The examinations results were as follows;

Total possible marks were;

75 for each student

150 for the school (thats the total for both students)

They occurred as follows;

- 1st Position – Nairobi School with 63 / 150
- 2nd Position - Alliance Girls with 59 / 150
- 3rd Position - Danons High School with 22 / 150

Best students were;

- 1st Position – Irene Naitore (Alliance Girls') with 37 / 75
- 2nd Position – Gibson Mulonga (Nairobi School) with 33 / 75
- 3rd Position – Melvin Ngonbi (Nairobi School) with 30 / 75

The results for the Presentations (Best use of ICT in Education) were;

- 1st Position – Alliance Girls' with 82 Points



- 2nd Position – Nairobi School with 69 Points
- 3rd Position – Maris Stella with 67 Points



Prizes

After the presentations, some few minutes were allowed to the jury to compile their results and then the announcement of the winners was done. This was a tense moment for the participants followed by loud cheers by the eventual winners. All the prizing was done in accordance to the Viawards Info sheet details. Certificates were however not issued and the schools will get their respective certifications / vouchers via poster.



Publicity

This was one of the main important areas that the event failed to capitalize on as no media persons showed up at the event. However, Alliance Girls' School which won some prizes are working on the possibility of Viafrica Presenting the computers to the school on 20th March, 2010 which is a prize giving day for the school. Being a top performer nationally, they have invited the education minister where normally ministers are always followed by the press. Ken will follow up on this matter.



