

Rockefeller Foundation boosts fine art

By Peterson Tumwebaze

The Rockefeller Foundation has since 2001 supported the Makerere University school of Fine Art to build the capacity community-based craftsmen. The project codenamed “The Appreciation, Production and Improvement of Arts/ culture’ was worth US\$15000 dollars (UGX30 million) and through it, many arts and craftsmen have been able to start income generating activities and sustain themselves economically.



To promote reading and literacy among primary school going children, Rockefeller Foundation through Makerere University’s Margaret Trowell School of Industrial and Fine Art supported the production of hundreds of illustrated story books to be distributed to primary schools countrywide. Rose Namubiru Kirumira the project coordinator explains that the project brought together the Margaret Trowell School of Industrial and Fine Arts, the Department of Literature and the Institute of Languages. Apart from availing primary school pupils with illustrated storybooks, the project enabled Makerere University fine art students to get hands-on experience in book illustrations.

There are many other funded research projects at the school of Industrial Fine Art Makerere university including The Appropriate Design Education for Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development (2001-2004), worth 36million shillings funded by Department for International Development Fund; Knowledge transfer in Design Education for creative Entrepreneurship in EAST Africa worth UGX180 million funded by the British council; and The Nokia planet Program 2008 worth 9000 Euros funded by Nokia Finland.