

# Arts & education



Addressing  
tomorrow



AVEC LE SOUTIEN DE



# ARTS & EDUCATION PROGRAM

Addressing tomorrow

Helping young people build their future, strengthen their skills, and then bring their voices together through a series of poetic initiatives with a strong social impact.

## ♦ 12 poetic initiatives

GIVING LIFE TO THE CREATION OF A HUNDRED POEMS AND ENGAGING TEXTS

## ♦ 7,000 people affected

INCLUDING 5,000 YOUNG PEOPLE

## ♦ The publication of a “poetry & commitment” anthology

BRINGING TOGETHER THE VOICES OF YOUNG PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD

## ♦ A poetic performance

DURING THE YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES IN DAKAR, IN NOVEMBER 2026





**This program will  
be guided by poet Marc  
Alexandre Oho Bambe,  
known as Captain Alexandre.**

Both inspiration and compass, his words and actions, infused with experience and humanity, will accompany each poet and all young participants on a collective journey: a journey to challenge tomorrow, together.



## YOUNG PEOPLE FACE MANY CHALLENGES...

Today, 21% of the world’s population, or 1.2 billion people, are aged 10 to 24. Young people around the world today face a wide range of challenges: access to education, the effects of climate change, unemployment, poverty, gender inequality, conflict, and migration.

This generation of young people, the largest the world has ever known, is already thinking about the world of tomorrow. Their diverse voices and aspirations need to be heard and listened to in order to develop political and technical responses that are fair, effective, and commensurate with the challenges at hand.

POTENTIAL PROJECT

# MADAGASCAR

## OPEN YOUR WORDS

Context

**32%**

of the population is aged 10 to 24.

**28%**

of Malagasy people are illiterate.

Partners

Since 2010, the Ministry of Youth and Leisure, UNICEF, and UNFPA have been rolling out Youth-Friendly Health Centers (CSAJ), which offer prevention, awareness-raising, care, and support services related to sexual and reproductive health.

# ...AND POETRY PRESENTS ITSELF AS AN ANSWER

In this context, our need for poetry becomes urgent. Poetry, because it allows us to re-enchant words and realities, to give voice to and value emotions, to connect with others, and to offer a fresh perspective on things, is an essential lever for responding to these challenges, strengthening the education and confidence of young people, and nurturing individual and collective emancipation.

“Poetry is rooted in the feeling of yes.”<sup>1</sup> It allows us to think, feel, and say yes—yes to the future, a yes that commits and inspires dreams, a yes that hopes and creates new horizons.

**This yes allows every young person to empower themselves to be an actor and leader of tomorrow.**

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1. Jean Pierre Siméon, *La poésie sauvera le Monde*.

“Poetry must not perish. For then, where would the hope of the world be?”

LÉOPOLD SEDAR SENGHOR

## Initiative

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While studies in Madagascar highlight the link between low literacy levels and vulnerabilities in sexual and reproductive health, this project brings together a Youth-Friendly Health Center (YFHC) in the Analanjirifo region and author and slam poet **Na Hassi** to offer writing workshops for adolescents supported by these facilities.

Through poetry, these workshops transform health centers into spaces for learning and creativity, where young people can put into words their relationship with their bodies, health, and the future. These exchanges will give rise to texts written by the young people, as well as a poem by Na Hassi inspired by their voices.



## BASED ON THIS OBSERVATION, OUR PROGRAM AIMS TO MAKE **A LOCAL IMPACT**

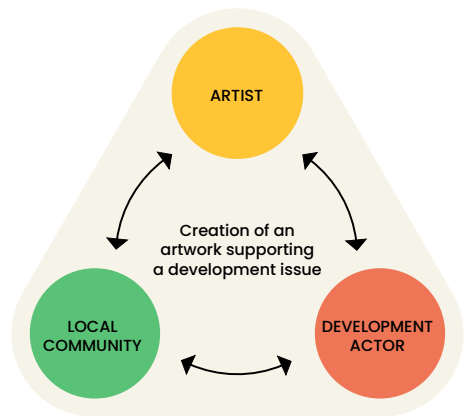
### TWELVE POETRY, EDUCATION & COMMITMENT INITIATIVES

These initiatives, rooted in local communities, bring together a poet, a group of young citizens, and a technical actor working on public policies for young people (NGO, school, hospital, public authority, company, etc.) in twelve regions. Over several weeks, the young people, accompanied by the poet, will be invited to share their dreams, concerns, and aspirations during writing workshops. They will challenge the world of tomorrow, addressing it not as a question mark, but as a certainty. Each initiative will also give rise to the creation of a text, written by the poet, and inspired by the exchanges and voices of the young participants.

### TWELVE *EXPOÉSIES*

In each country, these poems will be presented at a poetry exhibition, allowing all participants and their communities to enjoy a collective poetic experience.

As the program progresses, these sharing sessions, known as *expoésies*, will enable dialogue between initiatives already carried out in other regions. Little by little, voices come together to form a unique final creation.





## TARGETED IMPACTS

- ◆ **Promote engagement, confidence, and empowerment** among young people through contact with professional artists via the practice of poetry and the discovery of new artistic languages.
- ◆ **Create collective spaces for expression and action**, encounters, and intercultural dialogue within schools and local communities.
- ◆ **Strengthen education stakeholders** by using poetry as a sensitive learning tool.
- ◆ **Strengthen community life** and a sense of belonging to a region by highlighting the diversity of voices and imaginations.

## ...THEN TO MAKE A GLOBAL IMPACT

### THANKS TO SEVERAL CROSS-DISCIPLINARY PRODUCTIONS

#### ◆ **A *Tout-Monde Anthology***

Under the artistic direction of Marc-Alexandre Oho Bambe, a book will be published, bringing together the texts of the young participants and the twelve guest poets. With photos, stories, and illustrations, this anthology will connect all these voices.

#### ◆ **An audio and musical composition – *The Voices of Youth***

This creation will bring together the recorded words of the participants, each speaking in their own language. We will hear the aspirations and dreams of a diverse youth.

#### ◆ **A sensitive and poetic video**

Each initiative will be filmed by a local videographer. A final edit will allow us to share the experience of the program.

### AN ARTISTIC PERFORMANCE AT THE YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES IN DAKAR

On the occasion of the Youth Olympic Games in November 2026, a poetic event will be held, bringing together poets from the program.

This “Expoésie” will bring together a wide audience, including international actors who work on youth related topics.

**This powerful collective moment will be an opportunity to advocate for the arts as a means of improving the living conditions of young people.**



### TARGETED IMPACTS

- ◆ **To promote and amplify the voices and hopes of young people** and imagine a desirable and shared future.
- ◆ **To advocate for Arts & Education** among public and financial policy makers and defend the role of the arts as a lever for improving the living conditions of young people.



**FOCUS ON...**  
**What we contribute to**

**Building skills**  
**Living together**

Freedom of expression

**Lasting emotional impact**

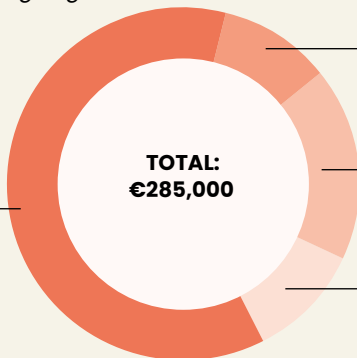
**Teamwork**  
 Diversity of narratives

**Eco-citizenship**

**BUDGET**

*The program will be on going in 2026 and 2027*

12 POETRY & EDUCATION INITIATIVES  
**€175,000**



CROSS-DISCIPLINARY ARTISTIC PRODUCTIONS  
**€30,000**

EVENT AT THE YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES  
**€50,000**

MANAGEMENT, COMMUNICATION  
**€30,000**

# Marc Alexandre Oho Bambe, also known as *Capitaine Alexandre*



**Marc Alexandre Oho Bambe, known as *Capitaine Alexandre*, is a Slam poet and novelist. He scatters notes and words of resistance and peace, of memory and hope.**

Writing from the heart, he inscribes his poems and his footsteps in those of his essential guides, his mentors and teachers of hope: his poetry sings of possibilities, of giving others, of love and rebellion, of the quest for humanity, “nothing but the human” and the resolute unwillingness to live “with arms crossed in the sterile attitude of a spectator.”

He is a founder member of the Collectif *On A Slamé Sur La Lune*, as well as the co-founder of the newspaper *Prose Combat*. Winner of the Paul Verlaine Prize from the Académie Française in 2015, Marc Alexandre Oho Bambe was made a Knight of the National Order of Merit by presidential decree on May 2, 2017.

*Capitaine Alexandre* slams his texts.



# Manifesto for the world's youth

## **Connecting our voices around the world.**

*Speaking as one, intense and free, alive  
and vibrant, bringing light.*

## **Connecting our voices around the world.**

*In sharing what grounds us in deep  
and just humanity, and dignity and beauty.*

## **Connecting our voices around the world.**

*In celebrating life, once again, always life,  
and the future, which should be common  
causes, above all other known causes.*

## **Connecting our voices around the world.**

*In order to face together the shock  
of the violence of our times, together  
to seek, together to find, the path  
of the heart always at work to lift up,  
to raise the spirit and keep the soul  
above the fray.*

## **Connecting our voices around the world.**

*And thus always acting, with a presence  
in the world. Acting in our own places,  
thinking with the world.*

*Connecting the youth of the world,  
offering a sublime sounding board  
for their concerns and hopes, their  
struggles and civic initiatives, their dreams  
and rebellions, their utopias at work.*

## **Connecting our voices around the world.**

*And believing in it again, believing  
in it always, because another world  
is possible.*

*Together.*

## **Connecting our voices around the world.**

*Inventing or reinventing our futures,  
fearlessly forging a path through life,  
towards the future, that unknown light,  
creating, yes creating, never ceasing  
to create, that is what it is all about.*

*Creating poetic-civic alternatives, creating  
spaces for encounters of thoughts, ideas,  
genres, and people, creating incessantly,  
moments of tenderness for life,  
for the future, this lamp...*

## **Connecting our voices around the world.**

*Holding hands, through words.  
To mend wounded days,  
imagining together.*

*Our world.*

*Starting again, planting seeds,  
speaking out.*

*Addressing tomorrow.*

**Marc Alexandre Oho Bambe**



“Art is not a mirror held up  
to reality but a hammer with  
which to shape it.”

BERTOLT BRECHT

**SUPPORT CREATIVITY. BACK THE SDGS.  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH THE FRIENDS  
OF METIS.**

Whether you are an organization, a collective, or an individual passionate about the arts as a force for sustainable change, Friends of Metis offers you the opportunity to back one or several initiatives close to your heart.

By supporting Metis, you become a vital part of a movement turning creativity into meaningful action for people, nature, and culture – a true catalyst for change.

If you would like to fully support one or more initiatives, please contact our team to explore giving opportunities and learn about the benefits available in return.

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*Unrestricted donations to Friends of Metis are fully tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.*

