

Dear reader,

I am asking you to please read about Young Stars Movie Production (YSMP). Founded June second 2017.

Young Stars Movie Production in The Gambia is a young movie production organisation founded by Modoulamin Sowe commonly known as ML Sowe. The initiative was formed as a way to educate, and empower young Gambians by making movies. Thus its main aim is to empower, and educate their people through acting and comedy.

After the establishment of YSMP, to help the production stand firmly, ML Sowe and the production manager, Adama Minteh, conducted home study classes and the money they generated from these classes was used in funding the production. After producing the first movie 'The Shadow Of Our Culture', the production survived by finding funds from the following:

1. Members going door to door asking for donations.
2. Members doing hard labour work like weeding, making bricks.

So far, financial problems are the main drawback faced by the production.

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

Within the first two years of existence YSMP was able to achieve the following:

1. The production of a Ramadan series featuring 36 episodes.
2. 'The Tobaski Special'. A 35 minute movie in celebration of the Sacrificial Feast.
3. 'Li chi Kerr Gi'. this is a 35 minute movie, featured in a particular compound, that discourages youngsters to migrate illegally by selling family properties for travel expenses.
4. 'The Twist'. This trilogy shows the effect of drug in our society.
5. 'The Shadow of our culture'. This trilogy aims at bringing back the lost African culture by using the new media.
6. 'Who to blame?', our current movie project.

The production is currently embarking on an African movie project which is slated to commence 2019. Please support Young Stars Movie Production in the Gambia to support others and continue to educate, empower and entertain through acting and comedy using the new media.

However, in a country like the Gambia where lots of people struggle to feed their families, producing a movie or even act in one are looked upon as stupid dreams. A waste of time. This is why it's very hard for us, as the first movie production organisation in the Gambia, to find funding. The government won't answer our pleads for assistance and the people can not afford to invest in us. Having dreams to do something with your creativity and taking risks doing so is not taken very seriously here. That is why we are now turning to you for any kind of help. We want to motivate all of the Gambia, but we can't do it without your help. Materials, funding, advice, spreading the word. All of it would be very welcome.

For more info e-mail us: [younstarsmp@gmail.com](mailto:younstarsmp@gmail.com)

Or text/ WhatsApp ML Sowe: [+220] 3648077 or [+220] 7410538.

Follow us on **Instagram**: Youngstarsmp

**Youtube**, or **Facebook**: Young Stars Movie Production

## BOARD

These people work on voluntary basis, so they are not really employees.

*Modoulamin Sowe* - CEO/ director

*Mutarr Sowe* - Assistant director

*Adama Minteh* - Production manager

*Kaddy Badgie* - Assistant production manager

*Lamin B. Barra* - Public relation officer

*Salimatou Bah* - Assistant Public relations officer

*Ousman Jallow* - Financial secretary

*Amie Jammeh* - Assistant financial secretary

*Ndey Amie Cham* - Registrar/ administrator

*Menge Faal* - Assistant registrar/ administrator

*Ebrima S. Jammeh* - SG

*Amie Cham* - Assistent SG

Since we want to encourage the youngsters in the Gambia everybody that works on a project with us will be heard. We are also very proud of the transparency of our team.

## SIDESTORY

ML Sowe and Adama Minteh teach at a school and also volunteer as a tutor to students that are having difficulties. After school lessons take place in a spare room on Sowe's compound. The two don't have enough resources there, but they work their magic regardless. Many students have flown from under their wings and graduated with excellent marks. Some are now nurses, teachers or studying abroad. The movie production and classes are intertwined with each other. Students that follow the extracurricular classes mostly are also involved in the making of the movies. Sowe and his crew hope this inspires the youth to work hard, study and still be brave enough to follow your dreams.

Because some of the students live so far away from school, they spend time travelling that they actual need to study right before exams. ML Sowe and his family have opened their house, which is much closer to the school, to these students and Sowe and Minteh teach them everyday until their finals.

The room on Sowe's compound meant for tutoring and the classroom at school (bottom left).



## PICTURES

Working to fund the movie:



Behind the scenes:



Costumes:



