

aegis

Aegis-Mashirika Tour 2008



The Pears Foundation UK

Aegis-Mashirika 2008

“When you come back, we need you for two to three days because the potential is amazing. I would like more schools to experience that type of work – the way it was led, the way it was organised, the real sensitivity of all the dancers. It makes us proud to be in education. We would like you to come back quickly.” Harkireet Sohel, Deputy Head of Manning School for Girls, Nottingham and Lead Practitioner, December 2006

Aegis-Mashirika Tour 2008

Following the highly successful tour of the Mashirika group in 2006, a second tour has been arranged for September – November 2008. The Mashirika group will be available to visit schools and professional groups to perform, conduct workshops and interact with those they meet.

Description:

Mashirika Creative and Performing Arts is a Rwandan youth theatre group consisting of survivors from the Rwandan genocide. The performance, entitled “Rwanda: My Hope”, was developed in collaboration with the Aegis Trust and tells the story of the Rwandan genocide, its aftermath and Rwanda’s road towards a hopeful future. The Aegis-Mashirika Tour 2008 will involve the Mashirika Cast and members of the Education Staff of Aegis Trust. Mashirika teaching staff demonstrates and encourages drama skills, both through their performances and workshops, and a detailed understanding of how to convey sensitive issues in a theatre environment.

The performances and workshops at schools provide:

- Opportunity to integrate Internationalism and Community Cohesion into your school curriculum
- Inspiring theatrical performances and engaging workshops
- Support to the curriculum through Media, RE, Citizenship, History, Politics, Arts and Drama

The performances and workshops enable schools to follow up learning activities after the visit and through discussion with Aegis Trust staff can (as the curriculum may allow) to lay preparatory foundations before the visit.

Tour Dates:

15th September 2008 – 14th November 2008

Requirements

Mashirika will visit schools through the country

Programmes

Schools are invited to take one of three programmes. During the 2006 tour each of the programmes was taken up by one or more schools therefore feedback specific to each programme is available.

The programmes have some flexibility within them to cater for specific school requirements and detail can be discussed prior to Mashirika visiting. Some schools prefer an emphasis on a particular area and the workshop(s) and Aegis Trust seminars are flexible in that respect.

One Day Programme. A programme of performances and workshops by Mashirika with Aegis Trust support to seminars and lectures on genocide. (see Annex A)

Two Day Programme. Allows wider engagement with the schools; performances on each day and greater interaction with Theatre and Drama groups. Aegis Trust provides seminar and lecture support on each day. (see Annex B)

Three Day Programme. This is the ideal programme for schools with a Theatre or Drama group. The programme provides the same as the two day programme following which the theatre studies group work with the Mashirika group and on day three put on a public performance with the Mashirika dancers and the theatre group working together. (see Annex C)

Aegis Trust Contact Details

Contact with the Aegis Trust on matters relating to Mashirika should be made through:

Email: Mashirika@aegistrust.org

Telephone: Mashirika Project Coordinator – 01623 836627

One-Day Programme

Time:

0900-1700 (8 hours) or
1300-2100 (8 hours)

Main Components

A full performance of “Rwanda – Our Hope” by the Mashirika group. This includes and introductory talk by the group leader and a question and answer session at the end. (120 minutes)

And

(Choose 1 option)

- a. A workshop session with the Mashirika group lasting up to four hours for a group of 30 students (recommended)

or

- b. A further performance by the Mashirika group lasting 1 hour.

Aegis education staff will be able to conduct several class sessions to introduce the topic of Holocaust and Genocide on the same day Mashirika is in your school.

Notes: The ideal one day programme would be a full performance by Mashirika and a 4 hour workshop. However some schools may prefer a second performance, which would be shorter than the full performance as it is physically and emotionally draining for the Mashirika group.

Cost:

£1,900 (plus VAT)
London £2,100 (plus VAT)

If a school wishes to engage Mashirika for a performance only the cost is £1,495 plus VAT (London £1,695 plus VAT) however priority bookings will be given to schools wanting a full day.

Two Day Programme

Annex B

Time:

Day One

0900-1700 (8 hours) or
1300-2100 (8 hours)

Day Two

0900-1700 (8 hours) or
1300-2100 (8 hours)

Main Components

The two day programme can involve in addition to the full performance, a workshop leading to a performance to the school involving Mashirika and school children

Day One

A full performance of “Rwanda – Our Hope” by the Mashirika group. This includes and introductory talk by the group leader and a question and answer session at the end. (120 minutes)

And

(Choose 1 option)

- a. A workshop session with the Mashirika group lasting up to 12 hours for a group of 30 students over the two days to enable school children to perform **to the school** with Mashirika (recommended)

or

- b. A workshop session with the Mashirika group lasting up to four hours for a group of 30 students.

Day Two

- a. Continuation of the 12 hour workshop session started in day one followed by a performance that involves school children performing **to the school** with Mashirika.

or

- b. 2 x short performances by Mashirika, each lasting one hour.

Aegis education staff will be able to conduct several class sessions to introduce the topic of Holocaust and Genocide on both days Mashirika is in your school.

Notes: The ideal two day programme would be a full performance by Mashirika and a 12 hour workshop. This is particularly beneficial for schools with an active theatre and drama group. However some schools may prefer to have two performances on day two to enable more students to see Mashirika perform.

Cost:

£3,500 (plus VAT)

London £3,700 (plus VAT)

Three Day Programme

Annex C

Time:

Day One

0900-1700 (8 hours) or
1300-2100 (8 hours)

Day Two

0900-1700 (8 hours) or
1300-2100 (8 hours)

Day Three

0900-1700 (8 hours) or
1300-2100 (8 hours)

Main Components

The three day programme provides a combination of performances and workshops that lead on day three to a **public performance** involving Mashirika and school children.

The three day components include:

Two full performances of “Rwanda – Our Hope” by the Mashirika group. This includes an introductory talk by the group leader and a question and answer session at the end. (120 minutes). One performance on each of the first two days.

and

- a. A workshop session with the Mashirika group lasting up to 16 hours for a group of 30 students over the three days to enable school children to perform with Mashirika in a **public** performance on day three.

or

- b. Workshop sessions with the Mashirika group and different groups of school children each lasting 4 hours each for groups of 30 students. One workshop would be held each day.

or

- c. Short performances by the Mashirika group in lieu of the workshops to last one hour each.

Aegis education staff will be able each day to conduct several class sessions to introduce the topic of Holocaust and Genocide in your school.

Notes: The three day programme provides two full performances by Mashirika and a series of workshops or shorter performances. This programme is ideal for schools with a vibrant theatre group which has the capability of putting on a public performance with Mashirika. Revenue raised from the public performance goes to the school, which helps to offset costs.

Cost:

£4,975 (plus VAT)
London £5,275 (plus VAT)

BOOKING FORM: AEGIS – MASHIRIKA TOUR 2008

Please complete this form and return to: Project Coordinator, Aegis Mashirika Tour 08, Aegis Trust, Laxton, Notts, NG22 0PA

BOOKING DETAILS

**Booking for Aegis-Mashirika 08 Tour (15th September – 14th November 2008)
Please indicate the programme you wish to book:**

Which Programme (One Day / Two Days / Three Days)

Dates Required:

1st preference: _____

2nd preference: _____

3rd preference: _____

Please fill in the attached form, with a deposit of 5% of total cost plus VAT

Second staged payment must be made before 1st May 2008

Final payment must be made by 5th September 2008

Please fax through to 01623 836 647 a purchase order signed by your Head Teacher or Finance Officer, and this booking form to confirm booking.

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Name & Address of School: _____

Name of Head Teacher: _____

School Telephone & Fax Number: _____

Main Contact Person: _____

Email contact: _____ Telephone extension: _____

Mobile Telephone: _____

Second Contact Person:

Email contact: _____ Telephone extension: _____

Mobile Telephone: _____

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

This information is required both to help Mashirika with their preparation and planning and to assist with applications for grant support to subsidise the tour.

Total number of students in your school _____

Which year group(s) will Mashirika will be working with: _____

Total number of students directly benefiting from the Mashirika experience:

Type of School: Independent/ Grammar/ Comprehensive/ Specialist Status/ Special Needs / Other

Please describe the needs of your school: (Why you want Mashirika to work with your students or perform in your school?)

What do you hope to achieve with Mashirika?

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What do the workshops consist of?

There is a choice of “Music” or “Image Theatre” workshop. Most schools have gone for the Image Theatre Workshop as it helps students develop empathy and understanding of the implications and consequences of genocide, disrespect and hatred. This is a powerful 3-hour workshop which uses drama and rhythm.

However schools with Drama and Music Departments have also chosen the Music Workshop option. This workshop will develop creativity, in a way which would change the way young people perceive music and rhythm, and how they could incorporate that into their repertoire. This is recommended if the focus of the visit centres on music students.

2. What does “Rwanda My Hope” production convey?

The first half of the production speaks of the genocide, and the second part is about Hope for the future.

3. What facilities do we need to be able to host Mashirika?

A stage of 10 meters in length by 6 meters in width. Good sound and lights facilities. Please ensure stage surface is clean and heated.

4. Is “Rwanda My Hope” suitable for younger children?

For a younger audience, only a small part of the production will be played, and the rest of the performance will be interaction with the audience.

5. How many people are in the Aegis-Mashirika Cast?

The total number will be 13. 6 males and 7 females. (Numbers may vary)

6. Do you have suggestions as to how we can raise sufficient funds to cover the cost of hosting?

One of the ways to effectively raise funds is through sales of tickets. If your performance is open to parents or members of the public, you can charge a significant amount to cover the cost. You may choose to donate proceeds to Aegis Trust for the work of genocide prevention or supporting orphans and survivors.

As this is a cross curricular event, this can be an after school project, involving the community, funding can be drawn from different departments.

7. Can I speak to schools or teachers who have hosted Mashirika and who can help me answer some of the questions I may have?

Yes. If there are questions that the Aegis Trust cannot answer we will gladly put you in contact with schools that hosted Mashirika in 2006. If we are not able to assist you, we will provide contacts of teachers who may be able to help you.

8. How can I maximise the presence of the group when they are in my school?

Feedback from schools has indicated a two day presence is preferred in order for this to happen. The interaction opportunity for students is critical to enable more students to connect with the group and the issues they raise in their workshops and performances. It can also involve social activity such as a game of basketball with the cast. It is encouraged that the schools provide some preparation before the visit. If the basics are known; geography and history then much more can be drawn from the programme.

9. What does the Aegis Trust do during the programme?

As well as coordinating all the administration and offering advice on publicity and media, the Aegis Trust will be happy to help you plan your schools programme leading up to the visit and on the day(s) Mashirika is in your school, Aegis staff will be able to conduct several class sessions to introduce the topic of Holocaust and Genocide.

10. Are there additional resources to help me in my preparation for the group?

There will be an Aegis-Mashirika Website and also the opportunity for schools with Video-Conferencing facilities to have some teaching sessions from the Holocaust Centre or Kigali Memorial Centre, Rwanda, to talk to your teacher or your students about what they are to expect, and discuss pertinent curriculum matters.

11. Can my students perform with Mashirika?

Yes, you can have your students performing with Mashirika, but the minimum rehearsing time is 12 hours. On two day programmes the performance will be to the school. In the three day programme there can be a public performance, which can raise revenue for the school.

Contractual Agreements

The following points should be noted. Mashirika copyright restrictions on filming, recording and photography do apply. It is recommended that schools speak in advance to the Aegis Trust who can guide you accordingly.

No filming is allowed. A film of the Mashirika tour will be made by the Aegis Trust and made available to all schools that are part of the tour. If a school would like a bespoke film of Mashirika in their school this can be arranged but regrettably there is a cost involved.

Photography by school is permitted with permission for personal use and use by the school. Photography may not be used for wider promotion and publication beyond normal school materials without permission from the Aegis Trust.

Note. You are encouraged to work with the media, both local and education media to ensure the widest coverage for your school. Aegis Media Department will provide advice when requested of what can be done and how to do it.

Bookings & Finance

Please note the following in respect of your bookings and other financial matters:

The Aegis Trust will not be able to hold your booking if payment is not made on time. The Mashirika tour will be over subscribed with schools on a waiting list.

The 5% deposit is non-returnable.

Aegis Trust will set up a Mashirika merchandise stall in every venue of performance. Proceeds of these will go directly to supporting the work of genocide prevention.

Schools opting for the three day programme will have a public performance involving Mashirika and the schoolchildren at the end of the programme. All revenues from that performance (exclusive of Mashirika merchandise sales) will be retained by the school.