

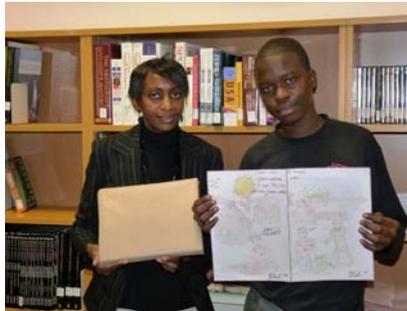
## Earth Day Poster Contest Prize Winners

Science books & dictionaries, magazines, drawing materials: these were the prizes awarded to the top three artists in our Earth Day poster competition at a special ceremony in the Reading Room on Thursday June 4.

Congratulations to:

- **Mfana Twala**, Grade 12, Gatang Comprehensive School (first prize; *top*)
- **Ramohlale Kholofelo**, Grade 11, Gatang Comprehensive School (second prize: *center*)
- **Elton Monyai**, Grade 12, Lehlabile Senior Secondary School (third prize: *bottom*).

U.S. Embassy Librarian Ruth Koko presented the prizes.



### June Events

(Programs start at 2.45 p.m.)

#### Thursday June 4

- President Obama's Cairo speech
- Earth Day poster competition prize-giving ceremony

#### Wednesday June 10

Hands-on workshop: building a Fischertechnik kit.

#### Wednesday June 17

HIV/AIDS peer educator workshop.

#### June 18-19

Methods in teaching science: special program for teachers by visiting University of Illinois professor, Norman Lederman.

### Coming in July

A trip to the Hartbeeshoek radio telescope observatory and a video conference with a NASA astronaut are the highlights of our celebration of the 40th anniversary of the first moon landing.

### May statistics

- 169 books checked out.
- 1014 visitors.

## President Obama's Cairo Speech



Mamelodi joined the world in watching President Barack Obama's historic Cairo speech, "A New Beginning", on June 4.

Twenty-six of our members put aside their mid-year exam pressures to watch his speech in our auditorium. Afterwards,

US Embassy officer Daleya Uddin led a lively discussion session.

You can read about this program and other events on our [Facebook](#) page.

# Year of Science 2009

## Theme for June: The Ocean and Water

YEAR of SCIENCE 2009  
Explore. Empower. Engage...

From the YoS Website (<http://www.yearofscience2009.org>):

### Why are we celebrating the ocean and water?

Did you know that:

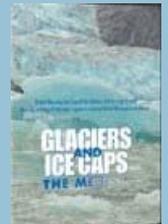
- 71 percent of Earth's surface covered by ocean and 97% of the Earth's water is found in the ocean as salt water. Only about 2% of the earth's water is stored as fresh water in glaciers, ice caps, and snowy mountain ranges.
- 99% of Earth's living space is water and almost every known phyla is represented in the ocean and waterways.
- Only 1% of the earth's water available to us for our daily water supply needs and Americans drink more than one billion glasses of tap water per day.
- 60-70% of your body weight is water. Your brain is about 70% water, and lungs almost 90% water.

Earth truly is the Water Planet and the water we share is always on the move. The rain that filled the reservoir where you live may have been water in the ocean just days before. And the water you see in a river or stream may have been snow on a high mountaintop. Think of all the places the water coming out of your faucet has been! Understanding that we all share and enjoy the same watershed should give us reason to appreciate and protect the water that we have and use every day.

### Ocean and Water in the Reading Room

**Glaciers and Ice Caps: The Melting.** 2008. DVD: 30 minutes.

The change from a solid state, snow and ice, to a liquid state, water, makes the Arctic sensitive to climate change and introduces many dangerous positive feedback loops that can drive sudden detrimental climate shifts— shifts that can affect the whole planet and human civilization.



M 333.91 BUR

**Not a drop to drink : water for a thirsty world** / Michael Burgin. National Geographic, 2008

The scarcity of clean drinking water will have dramatic consequences for humanity in the 21st century: water disputes could spark regional conflict, while increased desertification and drought could affect world food supplies and the future of farming.



M 333.9162 POS

**Rivers for life : managing water for people and nature** / Sandra Postel, Brian Richter. Island Press, 2003.

Leading water experts Sandra Postel and Brian Richter explain why restoring and preserving more natural river flows are key to sustaining freshwater biodiversity and healthy river systems, and describe innovative policies, scientific approaches, and management reforms for achieving those goals.



M 363.61 WIL

**Will the world run out of fresh water?** / Debra A. Miller, editor. Greenhaven Press, 2007.

Throughout history water has contributed to both domestic and international conflict. How these conflicts will be resolved is unclear.

