

Share Foundation offers scholarship to 230 students

Story & Picture:
Rose Hayford Darko, Tema

A LOCAL non-governmental organisation (NGO), Share Foundation, has offered scholarships to 230 brilliant needy students in junior and senior high schools to enable them to adequately access education.

The scholarship package covers tuition, provision of school uniforms, school bags, books, shoes, extra classes fees, pocket money and the payment of other school levies.

The beneficiaries are made up of 210 JHS and 20 SHS students.

Speaking to the *Daily Graphic* after its second Reading Contest organised for selected 55 pupils drawn from 20 schools in the Tema Metropolis, the founder of the foundation, Ms Lily Akua Mintah, said the organisation was a Christian NGO which offered schoolchildren in deprived communities good environmental, health and Christian teachings.

She said reading was essential to the growing child, since it provides him or her with knowledge and power, and pointed out that the organisation had set up a library at Tema Manhean with another at Tema Community Four Republic Road Basic School to inculcate the habit of reading in students.

Fifty-five children from 20 basic schools took part in the reading contest and they were judged according

to their confidence, pronunciation and general posture of the reader.

The primary category was won by Hillary Debrah of the Baptist School who is in primary four, while Priscilla Tornu of the El Shadai JHS at Tema Manhean took the first place in the JHS category.

The winners took away notebooks, readers, markers and T-shirts with the inscription of the Share Foundation on them.

All the other contestants were also awarded with a book each to encourage them to improve on their performance.

Ms Mintah appealed to corporate organisations to support the reading project by contributing to the setting up of more libraries and also supporting needy brilliant children to shape their future.

She said the foundation was instituted about six years ago and had strived to help children in deprived communities in the metropolis to acquire reading habits which according to her, was the beginning of knowledge.

Ms Mintah said there were plans to expand the reading project to the peripheral areas of Tema to help children who were lacking facilities in their communities to also acquire the habit of reading.

She mentioned funding as the greatest challenge to the foundation and commended the Praise Valley Organisation in the UK for its major role in sponsoring the foundation and Rotary Club of Tema for its assistance.

The President of Praise Valley U.K., Rev Gilbert Amartey, who

chaired the programme, said children should be enticed with such contests to make reading attractive to them.

He called on the contestants to show determination and improve on

their reading to win future contests.

Rev Amartey said the Praise Valley UK had plans to improve the value of prizes to make the contest more competitive by awarding the two

winners from primary and junior high school with a package including a trip to the United Kingdom to stay with a Christian family and tour places of interest during their stay.



• Winners of the contest with the founder of the Share Foundation, Ms Lily Akua Mintah (seated).