TAMBANUKA PROJECT

Social Action & Development through the Arts

**INTRODUCTION: TAMBANUKA PROJECT**

Tambanuka Project is a creative initiative of **Bornfree** that combines community mobilisation and theatrical production on social issues affecting young people. *Tambanuka is* a Shona expression which means “be free” or “express you freedom”. Hence, through the Tambanuka Project, we want to build young people’s capacity to freely express and engage on critical issues and concerns that affect them and their communities.

At the heart of the Tambanuka Project is the story-based strategy. A **Story-based strategy** views social change through the lens of **narrative power** and positions storytelling at the center of the social change strategy. This strategy recognizes that narratives, “story making” and “storytelling” inform how we see and act as individuals and as a society and that if we can change the story, we can change the world and transform our situations. As Bornfrees, we believe young people in Zimbabwe are uniquely gifted to challenge old stories and to write (make) new stories. It is clear for us that the new generations of youth are part of the creative process through which human cultures are transformed and regenerated. Tambanuka therefore provides the opportunity for young people engage in this processes through:

* **Dramatic Arts** like storytelling, Spoken word and Theatre
* **Peer to Peer** engagement and education
* And **Community Lobbying** on social issues affecting young people.

Note: Tambanuka Project is deeply founded on the concept of participatory development where individuals are critical in the exploration of their own problems and proposal and implementation of solutions.

**KEY RESULT AREAS & ACTIVITIES**

1. **Story Making and Storytelling -** This will be the main focus area of Tambanuka and will involve the use performance arts, interactive media and workshops that enables participants to analyse, interpret and tell and share (communicate) their stories of personal experiences and struggle for freedom, justice and peace.
2. **Civic Education and Engagement -**  We will offer trainings to empower “awakened” young people with knowledge, skills and opportunities to engage in initiative for community and social change while deepening their own personal transformation.
3. **Youth Personal Development -** We will organize life skills development activities focusing on communication, decision making and leadership skills.