

MO SCHOLAR'S SPHERE

The future is ours !



A MONTH OF GROWTH & COLLABORATION

This month, our scholars have actively engaged in insightful monthly meetings, fostering mentorship, skill-building, and peer support. These sessions have become a space for **learning, connection, and inspiration, strengthening** our community and empowering scholars on their journey.

Here's to more growth and shared success ahead!



SPECIAL SHOUTOUT!

A big congratulations to **Joseph Njau** for winning our newsletter naming competition! His creative contribution, "**Mo Scholars' Sphere,**" perfectly captures the essence of our scholar community—a space of connection, knowledge, and impact.

Well done, Joseph!



A TRAILBLAZER IN MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY

Albertina Mella
 University of Dar es Salaam
 Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting



Albertina Mella has been on a mission to transform mental health awareness in Tanzania. While pursuing her Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting in 2016 at the University of Dar es Salaam, she founded **Open Up Foundation**, a youth-led NGO dedicated to breaking the stigma around mental health and creating safe spaces for those in need.

Through her leadership, Open Up has impacted over **5,000 students** via its Mental Health School Club, with **65% improving academically and many gaining emotional resilience** through one-on-one counseling.

“Start where you are, with whatever you have. As you move forward, the right people and opportunities will come your way.”

Albertina Mella

The foundation has also **empowered 1,800 youth** through webinars and supported 200 professionals in corporate wellness programs. Her dedication caught the attention of the Ministry of Health, leading to a collaboration with **Mirembe National Mental Health Hospital** to host impactful awareness initiatives.

Now, Open Up is working on a **mental health curriculum** for Tanzanian secondary schools—laying the foundation for a more informed and supportive generation.

Beyond her NGO work, Albertina uses media to inspire change. She previously hosted Campus Cycle on Boresha Radio, engaging **35,000 youth**, and now runs **Afro Wisdom**, a podcast celebrating African literature with **7,000+ listeners**.





MERGING LEADERSHIP AND STATISTICAL THINKING AT EASDC 2024

Caren Kiwele
University of Dar es Salaam
Bachelor in Statistics

From September 8th to 12th, 2024, Caren had the honor of serving as an adjudicator at the East African Schools Debate Championship (EASDC) in Arusha, Tanzania. The tournament brought together bright young debaters from Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, and the DRC, tackling issues of justice, governance, and accountability under the theme **“Fostering Access to Justice for All.”**



As a judge, Caren honed critical leadership skills—analytical thinking, impartial decision-making, and constructive feedback—all of which align with her passion for statistics. Just as debates rely on well-structured arguments, statistics demand **data-driven reasoning and unbiased conclusions, reinforcing her commitment to evidence-based policymaking.**

The grand finale at the **East African Community (EAC) Chambers**, attended by top regional leaders, was a defining moment. Winning the **Best Debate Judge award** validated her ability to analyze, lead, and inspire. More than just adjudicating, this experience reaffirmed her mission—to use data and leadership to drive meaningful societal change.





TALKING ABOUT WOMEN POWER! THE UNSTOPPABLE RISE OF ASIA JUMA.

Asia Juma
University of Dar es Salaam
Bachelor of Law

The courtroom is no place for a woman? Think again. Asia Juma is here to rewrite that narrative. From a young girl with a dream to a **formidable state attorney** at the Office of the **Solicitor General**, her journey is a masterclass in **resilience, ambition, and breaking barriers.**

Asia's defining moment came when she earned the Mo Dewji Scholarship to pursue her law degree at the University of Dar es Salaam. But this wasn't just a scholarship—it was a **game-changer**. It gave her access to **world-class education, leadership training, and the confidence** to take up space where women are often sidelined. She didn't just study law; **she mastered the art of leadership, integrity, and fearless advocacy.**



The Mo Dewji Scholarship changed my life. Embrace opportunities like this with courage and determination—I did, and it made all the difference.

Asia Juma

Her journey didn't stop at graduation. She sharpened her skills at **METL** as an **HR professional**, learning the ropes of corporate dynamics before stepping into her true calling—serving justice as a state attorney. Now, she stands firm in the legal arena, proving that women don't just belong in the room; they lead it.

Asia Juma is not an exception—she is an example. An example that young women can and should aim high, take charge, and dismantle outdated stereotypes.

The law is her battlefield, and she is fighting not just for herself, **but for every girl who dares to dream beyond limitations.**



The Journey Forward

Every great story is written one chapter at a time, and this month, our scholars have added pages filled with determination, innovation, and bold ideas. From inspiring conversations to groundbreaking initiatives, they remind us that change doesn't happen overnight—it happens when people dare to take the first step.

But the journey doesn't end here. The road ahead is wide open, waiting for new challenges to be tackled, new ideas to take shape, and new milestones to be reached. Keep pushing, keep learning, and keep showing up for the future you want to create.



Connect with Us

Would you like to learn more about our featured scholars or reach out to them? Below are their contact details:

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Want to Share Your Journey?

Share your story with us at moscholars@modewjifoundation.org and inspire others! You might be featured in our next newsletter!