

Workshops for the self-realization of young people

Faced with the increasing rate of school drop-outs, through its multifaceted workshops, the Sénoufo Cultural Center in Sikasso is trying to bring about a more positive view towards educating of young people. These workshops aim not only at positively occupying young people's free time, but they also supplement their formal education which is often a fixed exercise, rarely adapted to real life needs.

The newly introduced workshop entitled "**Agri-Art**" is an example among others. This aims at introducing young people to the techniques of visual art as well as transmitting to them values of an ecological agriculture. The short-term workshops are often held on Thursday afternoons. It was the case on Thursday, November 22, 2018 when the team of the Cultural Center helped a group of over forty young people to reflect on the benefits of a more or less "sacred bird" among the Senufo people known as "*le Grand Calao*" (the great Hornbill). After a brief lecture and discussion on the great hornbill directed by Mr. Elie Y. Bamba, the participants proceeded to the artistic representation of the bird. An enthusiastic painter Mr. Mohamed Maiga also agreed to pass on his know-how to these future artists.

A vote of thanks to the parents who accompany their children to the Center in order for them to participate in these free and open workshops, which open the minds of young people to the universe of self-realization.

Sikasso, November 25, 2018