

## MAZINGIRA 2015 TROPHY GOES TO CHIROMO ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS CLUB

Students from Chiromo Environment Awareness Club (CEAC) won the Mazingira Challenge 2015 trophy for participating in a quiz challenge, public speaking and an essay writing competition. This year's theme for Mazingira Challenge was ***Harnessing youth innovation for environmental conservation***. The club represented University of Nairobi in a competition that had ten universities battle it out for the trophy.

Unelker Maogo , a second year Environmental Conservation and Natural Resource Management student from the School of Biological Sciences won in the essay category, while Joel Kinanga, a third year student also from School of Biological Sciences was the best in public speaking. The winners were awarded cash prizes, certificates and trophies.

Mazingira challenge is a yearly intervarsity competition whose main aim is to raise awareness on issues related to conservation. Students from higher learning institutions across Kenya compete in six categories: Essay writing, Poetry, Art, Innovation, Public Speaking and a Quiz Challenge. The overall winner of the trophy has to emerge the best in a Quiz Challenge and can only retain the trophy after three successive wins at the Challenge.

From 2010, CEAC has participated annually at the Mazingira Challenge. This is the second time that the students are walking away as overall winners. Their first triumph was in 2011.

Kenya Forest Working Group is the main organizer of the event. The event is also sponsored by East Africa Wildlife Society as well as World Wildlife Fund. The organizers support and award innovation and creativity of students in a platform that encourages students and organizations to build a network of participants in environmental related issues.

During the presentation of the trophy to the College of Biological and Physical Sciences Principal, Prof. Bernard Aduda, congratulated the students and challenged them to ensure that the trophy remains in the College. He praised Chiromo Environment Awareness Club (CEAC) for being the most active club in the College.

CEAC also recently established an indigenous tree nursery at the College. The tree nursery was launched in October 2015.