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FOUNDER'S NOTE

As we look back on the past year, one thing is clear. Stories remain one of the most powerful tools we have to help children see, shape, and share their world. At a time when many Nigerian children are growing up with limited access to books, creative outlets, or opportunities to express themselves, The Kid Lit Foundation continues to stand in the gap.

2024 was not without its challenges. From growing inequalities in education, insecurity, and poverty, Nigerian children are navigating some of the hardest chapters of our national story. Yet again and again, we have witnessed their creativity, courage, and capacity to imagine more.

Through it all, The Kid Lit Foundation deepened our commitment to nurturing a culture of reading, storytelling, and creative expression, especially for children who are often left behind. With your support, we brought books, mentorship, workshops, and The KidLit Fest to communities across Lagos and beyond. We started out with the Box Library Initiative to deliver mini-libraries to paediatric wards. We trained young writers, speakers, and illustrators, and introduced public speaking intensives and illustration workshops that gave children a platform to grow their voice.

In 2024, we also laid important groundwork for the future. We welcomed new partners, strengthened our advisory board, and reimagined The KidLit Fest as a space not just for celebration but for deep, inclusive impact.

As we look ahead, we are investing even more deeply in the creative power of children through mentorship programmes, the KLF Book Club, The KidLit Fest, and joyful storytelling spaces. Every child deserves to see themselves in the stories around them and to feel the freedom to tell their own.

Thank you for believing in this vision with us.

Sope Martins

Executive Director





ABOUT US

The Kid Lit Foundation was founded in 2023 with the core mandate of making children's literature and storytelling resources accessible to children in Sub-Saharan Africa and beyond.

MISSION

The Kid Lit Foundation is committed to shaping a brighter future by empowering children and teenagers to become avid readers and storytellers.

We believe in the transformative power of stories and aim to equip the next generation with the skills to express themselves, share their voices, and create impact.

VALUES

Service

Serving our communities through widened access to books, mentorship programmes, and storytelling opportunities.

Heritage

Celebrating and protecting Africa's rich storytelling traditions, ensuring they are passed down to future generations.

Empowerment

Equipping young storytellers with the skills and resources to share their voices with the world and encourage them to empower others by sharing and donating books.

Love

Nurturing a deep love for reading and storytelling. By passing stories from one child to another, we inspire a cycle of learning, kindness, and hope.



2024-2025 Highlights

We began this year on the momentum of The Kid Lit Fest, held in December 2024. It was a landmark event that brought together over 1,500 children, parents, educators, and creatives to celebrate the joy of storytelling. The festival featured panel discussions, Author readings, games and interactive sessions, music and dance performances. The energy from the festival has shaped every programme we've carried into 2025.



The KidLit Fest

Annual Report

KLF Mentorship Program



The first mentorship cycle ran from January to February 2025 and focused on picture book storytelling and public speaking. Fifteen children between the ages of 8 and 13 participated in weekly sessions facilitated by experienced mentors such as Chris Haughton, Ugo Anidi, Enajite Efemuaye, Mariam Longe, Folu Storms, Namse Udosen, Dr Chigozie Mbadugha and Olusayo Ajetunmobi. The programme offered structured lessons on character development, visual pacing, and narrative structure, alongside one-on-one feedback. By the end of the cycle, several participants completed their first picture book drafts and submitted original stories to partner platforms. The mentorship space became a place of confidence building, peer support, and creative growth.

Annual Report

KLF Workshops





Illustration Workshop with K.R Onimole

In March 2025, The Kid Lit Foundation hosted its first Illustration Workshop, led by artist and storyteller K. R. Onimole. Designed for children interested in drawing and visual storytelling, the workshop introduced participants to the fundamentals of illustration.

Children were guided through interactive exercises that encouraged observation, imagination, and creative thinking. They sketched, experimented, and shared their work in a supportive space, learning that illustration is not just about drawing well, but about telling a story visually.

The workshop was a joyful entry point into the world of book illustration, strengthening our commitment to helping children explore all aspects of storytelling, both written and visual.

KLF Workshops





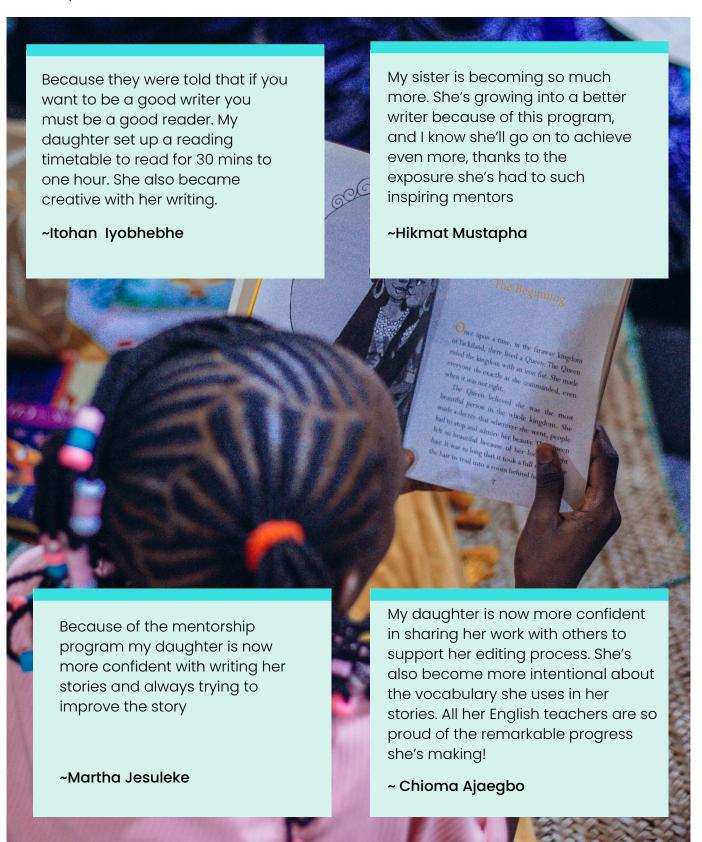
Speak with Impact: Public Speaking workshop

In April 2025, The Kid Lit Foundation hosted its first Speak With Impact workshop at Alliance Française, led by communication coach Oluwaseun Olusegun. Designed for children aged 10 to 16, the session focused on helping young people find their voice and speak with clarity, confidence, and purpose.

Over the course of the workshop, participants learned how to manage stage fright, structure a speech, and deliver their ideas with impact. From breathing exercises to mini-presentations, each child was given the tools and space to grow. By the end of the day, every participant had delivered a short speech before their peers.

Testimonials

At the heart of everything we do are the children, educators, volunteers, and partners whose stories remind us why our mission matters. Here's what they had to say about their experience with KLF





AUDITED FINANCIALS

THE KID LIT FOUNDATION

NOTE TO ACCOUNTS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Kid Lit Foundation is a non-profit organisation dedicated to advancing literacy and creative expression among children in Nigeria, especially in underserved communities. Through book donations, mentorship programmes, creative workshops, and our annual storytelling festival, we provide children with access to books, platforms to share their stories, and safe spaces to read, learn, and grow

The Foundation commenced operations in 2023 and was officially registered on the 30th of May 2024 with Incorporation Number RC 7532228.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are stated below. These policies are consistent with those adopted in prior periods and will be updated in future reports as required.

(a) BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements of The Kid Lit Foundation have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. The statements are presented in Naira and prepared under the historical cost convention using data provided by the organisation.

Preparation in accordance with IFRS requires the trustees to make judgements, estimates, and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts.

MBA ADEBAYO & CO. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS LAGOS, NIGERIA DATE: 26 MAY, 2025.



(b) REVENUE RECOGNITION

Revenue comprises donations and support received in cash, kind, or through the use of space and services. Revenue is recognised when it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the Foundation and the amount can be measured reliably.

Sources of revenue include:

- Donations from individuals and organisations
- Grants and sponsorships
- In-kind contributions (e.g., space, materials, technical support)

(c) RECEIVABLES

The Foundation does not operate on credit; all contributions are received before service delivery. Therefore, no receivables are recorded in these accounts.

(d) PAYABLES

Payables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. They are classified as current liabilities unless the Foundation intends to defer settlement for more than 12 months.

(e) FUNDS

Funds represent the accumulated net income or loss since the inception of the Foundation. They include restricted and unrestricted funds based on donor instructions or grant agreements.

(f) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand and balances held with banks. The Foundation does not operate an overdraft facility.

(g) CONTRIBUTED USE OF FACILITIES

The Kid Lit Foundation receives contributed use of space and event venues from partners such as Alliance Française and The Bookworm Café. These contributions are not recorded in cash flow but are recognised for internal valuation and reporting purposes.



3. Short Term Investment

The Foundation had no money market or capital market investments during the year.

Total: ₩0

4. Receivables

No outstanding payments (debtors), but prepayments were recorded, likely for venue or service bookings.

Total Prepayments: ₩383,643

5. Payables

No creditors were owed at the end of the year, but there were accrued expenses—probably fees for services received but not yet paid for.

Total Payables: ₩150,000

6.Donor's Fund

There were no physical assets donated during the year, and no balance carried forward from the previous year.

Total Donor's Fund: ₩0

7. Accumulated Fund

This represents the total surplus carried forward. There was no prior balance since this is the Foundation's first full accounting year.

Surplus for the year: ₦254,056

Total Accumulated Fund: \\$254,056

8. Income

The Foundation received a total of \(\frac{\pmathrm{47}}{7},983,753\) in donations and support during the year. This came from individual donors.

9. Expenditure

Expenses incurred amounted to \#7,729,697, covering:

- Venue and logistics: #3,600,000
- Staff salaries and volunteer stipends: \\$2,250,000 + \\$60,000
- Digital operations and website: \\$558,900
- Programme activities (e.g., mentorship, competitions, workshops): #1,200,800
- Admin, printing, marketing, and bank/audit fees: #259,997



2025-2026 PROJECTIONS

The Box Library Project will begin its next phase in 2025 with installations in the children's wards at Gbagada General Hospital and the ward school at Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH). These libraries will provide children receiving care with access to books, and Author reading sessions, supported by hospital staff and KLF volunteers. This initiative marks a continued effort to make healing environments more hopeful and enriching through stories.

The KidLit Fest 2025 will take place on December 6th, 2025, and is set to be our most dynamic festival yet. This edition will feature star performances, curated activities at The Book Café and Craft Café, panel sessions, a spelling bee competition, Gen-One Talks, and a variety of hands-on literary experiences for children and families. The festival will serve as a celebration of books, creativity, storytelling and the growing community of young readers and storytellers we have built.

The KLF Mentorship Programme for 2026 will begin with the Picture Book Track from January to February. During this phase, mentors will guide children through the process of writing and developing their own picture books, focusing on storytelling techniques, structure, and illustration concepts. In June, the second phase will launch with the Middle Grade and Young Adult Track for older children and teens interested in writing longer, more complex narratives. Throughout the year, we will also run standalone public speaking and illustration workshops to give participants additional platforms to grow their creative voice and confidence.



Partners







Team



SOPE MARTINSExecutive Director



OLULOWO MAYOWA

Communications Lead



OLORUNSOLA ENIOLA

Teams Co-ordinator

Our Governance and Support Team

We are supported by a dedicated team of volunteers and a board of trustees who oversee the organization's operations, ensure the effective delivery of impact projects, and help us stay true to our mission.





WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT

Join us in making storytelling and creative education accessible to children across Africa. You can support by donating to our Box Library Initiative, sponsoring a child to attend The KidLit Fest, or funding mentorship programs and creative workshops. Partner with us as a sponsor or collaborator, or volunteer your skills as an educator, storyteller, author, or creative professional.

Donate Today and help make storytelling and creative education accessible to every child.

Bank	Account Name	Account Number	Currency	
United Bank for Africa (UBA)	The Kid Lit Foundation	1027133771	Naira (NGN)	
United Bank for Africa (UBA)	The Kid Lit Foundation	3004453956	Dollar (USD)	
United Bank for Africa (UBA)	The Kid Lit Foundation	3620321	Dollar (USD)	
United Bank for Africa (UBA)	The Kid Lit Foundation	0013664082	Euro (EUR)	
United Bank for Africa (UBA)	The Kid Lit Foundation	0013664090	Pound (GBP)	