

# Alowo is a budding author

**Tell us briefly about yourself**

My name is Kein Leigh Madeline Alowo. I am 11 years old and a Primary Six pupil at St Agnes Naggalama Girl's Boarding Primary School in Mukono District.

I was the only gold award winner in the 2025 Queen's Commonwealth Essay competition in the junior category from my school. I am excited for receiving this prestigious award in the international essay competition.

**How did you join this competition where you emerged one of the best performers?**

The Queen's Commonwealth Essay competition Junior category (14 years and below) is held every year and children all over the world from Commonwealth countries compete and the winners are announced in the United Kingdom and receive awards.

This was my first time I and fellow pupils in my school to take part in the competitions and with God's grace, I was the best in my school and my other schoolmates got silver and bronze awards.

**What do you think makes you a good essay writer?**

I am good at creative writing, which this competition is all about. Our English teachers always teach us to be good at it.

**What skills should a creative writer have for them to write excellent pieces?**

A good creative writer should be highly imaginative and also know very well the language they use to write. They should also understand the topic they are writing about very well.

**How long did it take you to write this piece that got you a gold award?**

It took me about a month. I was doing the writing after classes. During this time, I was consulting teachers on the theme. My mother, Ms Vastine Barindwa, was always on my neck to complete the essay and I eventually completed it.

**Do you want to be an author when you grow up?**

Yes, I want to be an author of story books because I have a high sense of imagination, which can make me good at this. Besides, I want to be a medical doctor and treat people with all kinds of ailments.

**What is hardest part in creative**



Alowo shows off her certificate from The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition organisers. PHOTO/FRED MUZAALÉ

**writing?**

Understanding the topic very well is the hardest part in creative writing because when you get to understand it, then you can write without any challenges.

**What was the theme of this year's competition?**

It was *Our commonwealth journey*. It was not very easy to understand but I got it.

**Do you intend to take part in the competition again?**

Of course. I cannot stop competing until I become the best in the world in this competition. I still have

some time to compete in the junior category. I think this time round, I will make it as the overall winner.

**Who is your role model in the field of authoring books?**

My role model is my mother, she is an author and has already authored one interesting book.

**What do you think you will benefit from being an author?**

Besides earning a living from the books I will author, it will also make me known everywhere in the world. Authors such as Ngugi wa Thiongo are known everywhere. Even when they are dead, their work still remain

treasured globally.

**Any advice to fellow children?**

I advice children to always not fear to try something that can promote them because you never know what God has prepared for you.

**Any last word?**

I thank my teachers and parents for encouraging me to write because it is beginning to make me famous.

**Quick Notes**  
**Best colour:** Black and purple  
**Best motto:** Never lose hope  
**Parents names:** Mr Conrad Olowo and Ms Vastine Barindwa.