

Kalubi is gospel music's rising star

Talented: Martha Kalubi is passionate about singing for God. She has been able to record music with the school choir.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Budding gospel musician Kalubi

BY FRED MUZAALE

Tell us briefly about yourself

My name is Martha Kalubi. I am in Primary Four at Nakisenyi Foundation Primary School in Ndeese Town, Kasawo Sub-county, Mukono District. I am a gospel music singer and the youngest member of our school's choir.

When did your music career begin?

I began singing gospel music last year, when I was in Primary Three. At first, I was singing in the school choir but later when my teachers realised that I had the talent, they started training and making my music better.

Why did you choose to sing gospel music?

I think it was because in our school, which is an adventist-founded school, we sing a lot of gospel music. I also love praising God my creator through music.

You said your teachers are helping you make your music better, what are they doing exactly?

My teachers help me in my practice and teach me how to sing and how to move on stage.

Do you have parents or relatives who are musicians?

Yes. My mother is also a member of our church choir and loves music a lot. She has been very helpful in promoting my talent.

What do you think are the qualities of a good musician?

One, they must know the language they are singing in and also know what they are singing about.

Also, a good musician should be able to sing loudly so that they are heard by the people.

What do you like about singing gospel music?

I like gospel music because apart from singing and entertaining people, I am also praising my God.

Do you compose your music or someone does it for you?

My teachers and parents compose my songs but when I grow up, I will start composing my own gospel songs.

How many gospel songs have you recorded so far?

They are three now but I hope to work on another one in April.

Can you give me the titles of your songs?

They are *Kisa kya Mukama*, *Mwakikuba Nnyo* and *Mukama Bayambe*.

As a young musician, do people enjoy what you sing?

Yes they enjoy it and they usually give me money in appreciation.

Do they pay you for your music?

At my school, they do not pay me but when I sing at a function, they give me a token of appreciation, something like Shs20,000.

What do you not love about some musicians in Uganda?

Some of them fight and abuse each other which is not good. God tells us to love one another.

Do you intend to become a gospel musician?

Yes but I also want to be a nurse. I think I can do both because I will not be singing all the time.

What are your best subjects?

Science and English are my best subjects.

Any word to fellow children?

Children should obey their parents and also love God. They should also go for prayers on Sabbath.

QUICK NOTES

Best food: Rice and fish
Role model: Judith Babirye
Best colour: Blue
Best motto: Hard work pays



9
YEARS