



October 2017

Update on travels with Liyana the movie.

In June, the global premiere of Liyana received the Jury Award for “Best Documentary” at the Los Angeles Film Festival.

In July, we enjoyed a splendid outing to the Durban International Film Festival, in Durban, South Africa, with 13 of our teenagers and two housemothers. Many “firsts” were experienced for most of them, -- out of Swaziland, in the ocean, in a ‘big city,’ in a cinema theatre, and an all-you-can-eat buffet dinner (the most memorable for several!!).

A category-defying work, Liyana was awarded a special prize for “Artistic Bravery” at the Durban festival in recognition of several aspects of the project, e.g., issues, hybrid-genre, et. al.

This week is the European premiere at the prestigious **BFI London Film Festival**. Aaron and Amanda are there as I write this. The publicity run-up to this event included the release of a 5-star review available here: <http://www.filmoria.co.uk/lff-2017-liyana-review/>. Screenings are on the 7th and the 9th.

Here follows some clips from their postings of selection announcements for other upcoming screenings:

“Proud to have LIYANA in the Active Cinema program at the 40th **Mill Valley Film Festival** (north San Francisco Bay area). This festival runs October 5-15. Aaron Kopp will be in attendance.”

“And the good news continues... LIYANA is honored to be selected for the international competition program at the **Hot Springs (Arkansas) Documentary Film Festival!** Co-director, Amanda Kopp, will be in attendance for a screening on October 12th!”



"We're excited to announce that LIYANA is one of 10 films in the Documentary Feature Competition at **Bend Film Festival in Oregon!** The theme this year - "IT'S ALL ABOUT THE STORY." Amanda will be in attendance October 13th & 14th."

"We are honored to announce that LIYANA has been chosen as a Finalist for the Documentary Feature Competition at the **Heartland Film Festival in Indianapolis!** LIYANA is one of only five films competing for the Grand Prize." Directors Aaron and Amanda will be in attendance at all four LIYANA screenings, October 19th to 22nd.

"LIYANA has been chosen to be a part of the **United Nations Association Film Festival's** 2017 program, which is centered around the theme of RESPECT. Screening is Saturday October 21st at 11:30am in Palo Alto, CA. Art Director, Shofela Coker will be in attendance."

There are also more festivals that have invited Liyana to show before the end of this year, both in the USA and elsewhere. Those details await formal announcements. Ongoing discussions are arranging for events planned for next year as well (USA & international).

Follow on [www.Facebook.com/liyana the movie](http://www.Facebook.com/liyana%20the%20movie)

More good news!!

Siboniso was the first child brought into New Life Homes. He is also our first graduate from a tertiary training program, the Ngwane Teachers College. He has already been granted a post, teaching at a primary school where they were seeking someone with gifts and interest in languages. He's always done well in English as well as with written and spoken siSwati. He seems firmly set on completing further advanced studies that will allow him to lecture in languages at the university level.

With her long interest in science and health care, our second child, Nomcebo now 19 years old, has applied to a program training paramedics for the emergency services sector.

Aaron and Amanda have been cultivating their desire to see proceeds from **Liyana** go towards the educational aspirations of the youth from New Life Homes. We have established a distinct option on our website's donation page allowing for giving to be set aside for educational costs. Or, you can designate the old fashioned way, via a note on or attached to your check. Thanks for considering this possibility.

Keep praying!!

Peter will be teaching the "Money Matters: God's Answers to Poverty" seminar on 28 October here in Swaziland. It's an open invitation opportunity.

At the leadership's request, Peter reformatted and taught parts of the Money Matters course as Sunday morning sermons for a church in Mbabane during the whole month of August.

Thanks for your continuing interest in our lives and work here,

Peter & Mary Jean Kopp

