Welcome to the 2009 Burngreave Cultural Industries Challenge. It is about explaining

- The new cultural industries
- Building up a project from idea to growth
- Networking ideas through teams
- Learning or enhancing specific digital skills
- Improving cross cultural working through the arts
- Adding value to new or existing projects

Our weekly sessions will build towards exhibitions through collaboration. For the youth there are also opportunities to enhance skills through our school *Kutamba! School of Performing Arts* and to get that volunteering effort recognised through the National Art Awards scheme administered by Trinity College in London.

Profile yourself and ideas at:

http://sheffieldchallenge.ning.com

Burngreave Cultural Industries Challenge

SEMEA is a team building, training and multimedia organisation run as a not for profit. Its prime intention has been to build links between Yorkshire and communities in Africa or Southern countries to show everything positive that can be achieved through capacity building.

Wherever in the world you come from many of us have multiple identities. You will be welcome to join us in thinking through so many problems relating to cultural production that are often shared. It’s about getting our ideas out to other people.

Over 35 languages are spoken in Burngreave each representing hundreds of people. Some are performing artists, writers, some work in restaurants and others may be working in photography, art, video, music, illustration or design. Some work as teachers but we all have a need for the skills of others in getting projects going. Each of us creates potential wealth through our connections.

Burngreave also needs to reach out to other communities bringing wealth to the area.

http://sheffieldchallenge.ning.com
Show Me the Money

The most successful cultural industries in the UK set up by individuals have mostly had no access to public funding. This is even more so in America. There are many good reasons why some projects need public injections of funds but what happens when the money runs out? Is the project about the genius of individuals or is it about the money alone?

Is a project worth buying into? To whom do you want to sell it? Maybe we can help.

Getting the word Out

Join our networking portal at http://sheffieldchallenge.com

Our own new projects include a premiere production of Dambudzo Revisited. Based on the problem of dual identity, the writer passed away at a very young age. He is being lauded in this year’s Marechera Festival in Oxford- May 16 & 17. A reading of the play is 3 Jan and casting day will take place 9 January. Give us a buzz if you want to participate.

About Our Organization…

SEMEA has been working from the area since 1992 though more formally since 2002. Set up as a voluntary not for profit organisation we wanted to support professional artists working in Southern Africa and elsewhere. Our offices were in Harare and Sheffield to support international touring.

From a background in community theatre in Southern Africa, education, publishing design, writing and training we quickly realised that Burngreave was the place to be in the UK. Sheffield was a new centre for growing cultural and creative industries. It was also clear a lot of people had the same desire and needs as our own projects.

We are a training agency but have also supported our own dance theatre group and now twin the art space at the Vestry Hall with support for the Open Air Youth Arts centre in Pumula, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe see www.sunduza.org. We also set up Sheffield’s isicathamiya intercultural chorus SOSA-XA! Sounds of Southern Africa www.sosa-xa.org.uk

Also at www.myspace.com/sosaxa

We are not a grant giving organisation. We are a doing organisation. Everyone has always told us it “can’t be done, or that “others” are already doing that. We aim to do things better. We are not a government quango.

The Challenge is to make some ideas happen and give recognition to those who make things happen by growing out of Burngreave and taking on the nation. In 2007 we launched the all England premiere of the Poverty Requiem working with Oxfam Novib in Amsterdam.

On 25 & 26 April we will host our own Zambako/Izibuko Cultural Crossings initiative with plays, films, cultural performances in partnership with the Britain Zimbabwe Society at the “V” Space.

On 6 & 7 June we are going to flight a Festival of Southern Voices supporting new small scale creative work. Keep in focus at http://www.semea.org/challenge

Why the “V” Space?

We have only recently relocated to the Burngreave Vestry Hall which can now be located on Google Maps thanks to our in house geographer. Previously what was invisible to the search engines is now visible. The Vestry Hall has a fascinating history since way back in Victorian Times as a poor house in a poor area.

Really, as the stone work on the front of the building states, it has been actually the Vestry Offices since 1864. Yet the new space inside surely demands an upmarket name that symbolises the past, the future and strangely its V like structure of arches that hold up its vaulted roof.

2009 Course dates

Jan 10 onwards. Kutamba Kids! Saturdays 12.00-15.00p.m. (+/-)

Thursday Jan 8 Challenge evenings 5.00p.m. to 7.00p.m. Show me the Money! Join any time

Mac OS training in basic Mac OS Skills, web development and digital design Fridays 9.30a.m. to 12.30p.m. From paper to publisher, from Video to DVD. Also Managing the web.

See extra leaflet. From Friday Jan 9

The six week courses are £30 in total or £6.00 per session payable in advance.