

Thursday, January 28, 2010



“Ubuntu,” I am because you are
Anton van Zyl and Zaidi Khumalo
John Hatcher, Moderator

Anton van Zyl and Zaidi Khumalo have a unique relationship. Van Zyl is the publisher of a group of independent papers in the Limpopo province. Khumalo is editor of a monthly paper in one of the townships of Johannesburg. In spite of their very different situations and backgrounds, they are strong allies operating in a partnership that van Zyl describes using the Nguni word, “Ubuntu,” which suggests an individual is measured by their relationships with others: “I am because you are.”

The two will talk about their relationship; about the challenges of being a small independent publisher in South Africa; about the changes in their country in recent decades and about the importance of newspapers in communities—especially in encouraging education in Youth. Van Zyl’s papers won the World Young Reader prize given by the World Association of Newspapers for their youth publication in 2005.

Zaidi Khumalo is editor of the award-winning *Kathorus Mail* newspaper in Gauteng. He is a Sanlam Community Press Awards judge and also serves on a number of national media training and development bodies, where he champions the interests of grassroots journalists. In 2004 he received the award for the Best Emerging Newspaper in the Sanlam Community Newspaper Competition.

Anton Van Zyl is manager of the Zoutnet group, a newspaper group located in the northeastern Limpopo Province of South Africa. In 2004, one of his newspapers, *The Limpopo Mirror*, won the World Association of Newspapers’ World Young Reader Prize for its series of educational supplements. The series of little booklets, published under the title “Science of Life,” also appeared in the Zoutpansberger and was distributed to thousands of school children. Last fall, his newspaper group launched a new partnership with a local community radio station as a way of expanding its reach into the community.

9:00 a.m.

For
all
staff



John Hatcher received his Ph.D. from Syracuse University’s Newhouse School of Public Communications in the fall of 2007. He is the former education director at the Center for Community Journalism, based at the State University of New York at Oswego. From 1992 to 2003, he worked for *The Daily Messenger*, a small daily newspaper in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York.

