

Focus on Ability Short Fest Film calls for entries

By Sam Banda Jnr

Organisers of Focus on Ability Short Film Festival – Focus on Ability Society (Foas) and Nova Employment of Australia have called for entries into the 2022 edition.

The festival aims at raising awareness on the abilities of people with disability.

Foas Executive Director Macdonald Nyirenda said yesterday they were excited to make a comeback after a successful 2021 edition.

“The theme for the competition this year is ‘Focus on the Ability’ and this is our goal to bring to light talents of persons with disability,” Nyirenda said.

He said this year will see two films winning \$500 each (approximately K400,000) and that two people with

disability featured in the films will walk away with \$250 each (approximately K200,000).

Nyirenda said the country’s film entrants were also eligible for prizes in the international contest.

“For us to succeed with the festival, we need support and having more players partnering us would mean increasing the number of awards,” he said.

The deadline for receiving entries is July 29 2022.

“We aim to make this festival big and every year we strive to bring out new things but the main focus is on persons with disability,” Nyirenda said.

Last year, two filmmakers and two persons with disability scooped the awards.

The filmmakers were Aram Nyondo and Alfred Zgambo, who won with their films *Home is a Place Like This* and *Aliyense*



FLASHBACK—Kachule (second left) receives a dummy cheque from Nyirenda (3rd) right last year—File photo

Ali Ndi Luso respectively. They pocketed \$500 each.

In the category of best actors (persons with disabilities featuring in the film), the winners

were Luis Nsomba for the film titled *The Cornerstone* and Agnes Kachule with a movie titled *I Do Believe*. The two received \$250 each.