

## Mawi Asgedom



Mawi Asgedom has written eight books that are used in thousands of classrooms across North America, and spoken to over 1,000,000 students and educators in more than forty states. An innovator in the field of student leadership development, Mawi created Mental Karate and Leadership Skills Development, an online leadership class taught globally.

As a child, Mawi fled civil war in Ethiopia and survived a Sudanese refugee camp for three years. After being resettled in The United States, he overcame poverty, language barriers and personal tragedy to graduate from Harvard University, where he gave the Commencement address to over 30,000 people.

Mawi's bestselling memoir, *Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard*, has been read as a one-book, one-community reading selection by thousands of schools. Citing the impact of Mawi's work, The Illinois Association of Teachers of English named Mawi the 2006 Illinois Author of the Year.

Media outlets that have featured Mawi include:

- The Oprah Winfrey Show, "One of the Twenty Best Moments of Oprah's Career"
- *ESSENCE*, "One of the 40 Most Inspiring African-Americans"
- *Chicago Tribune*, *Boston Globe*, *Seattle Times*, *Harvard Magazine*, *Ebony Magazine*

You can learn more about Mawi's work in education at [www.MawiLearning.com](http://www.MawiLearning.com).