

## Dancescape South Africa May Report 2017

Daily dance classes continued throughout May (3.00pm – 6.00pm Venue AFM Church –Mantlane Road Zolani Ashton) engaging over 60 children in beginner and senior dance sessions. Children attending classes were privileged to have had our guest teachers taking classes and rehearsals from the 29<sup>th</sup> of April to the 1 May 2017. Kristine Elliott Schwabacher who danced with American Ballet Theatre brought her friend Cathleen McCarthy and Nani to teach and what an amazing weekend. Both Kathleen and Nani are incredible teachers in their own right. The students were given daily dance class followed by rehearsal and even a lecture on anatomy.





Joining the 3 teachers above was Noluyanda MqIwana who was one of Fiona's first pupils when she taught in khayelitsha Township several years ago. She has made a success of her career performing and teaching around the world. We are very grateful that Noluyanda decided to stay on until the 14<sup>th</sup> of May to teach. When I spoke with her she told me that she is a dancer, singer, actress, choreographer and motivational speaker. She now lives in Germany, Hamburg. She started work in Germany with the Lion King but now is a freelancer being involved with productions such as Mother Africa and Westside Story. She also teaches in Germany and says that there is a lot of opportunity for young South Africans to work in Europe.

Noluyanda describes the kids in Zolani as simply amazing and very talented, we were born to move and you just teach them a movement and they move. However she did say that they need lots of work on their technique. Over the time spent she focused on technique and discipline. Educating them on how to respect their craft. She commented on the facilities being pleased with the floor and the facilities in general. Noluyanda spoke about how truly amazing it has been to connect with Fiona again. It's been a blessing from God. For her to give back to Fiona's project is so amazing for her to give back to the kids. She hopes to come back and teach again soon.





We continue to show of our work on Facebook, please visit...

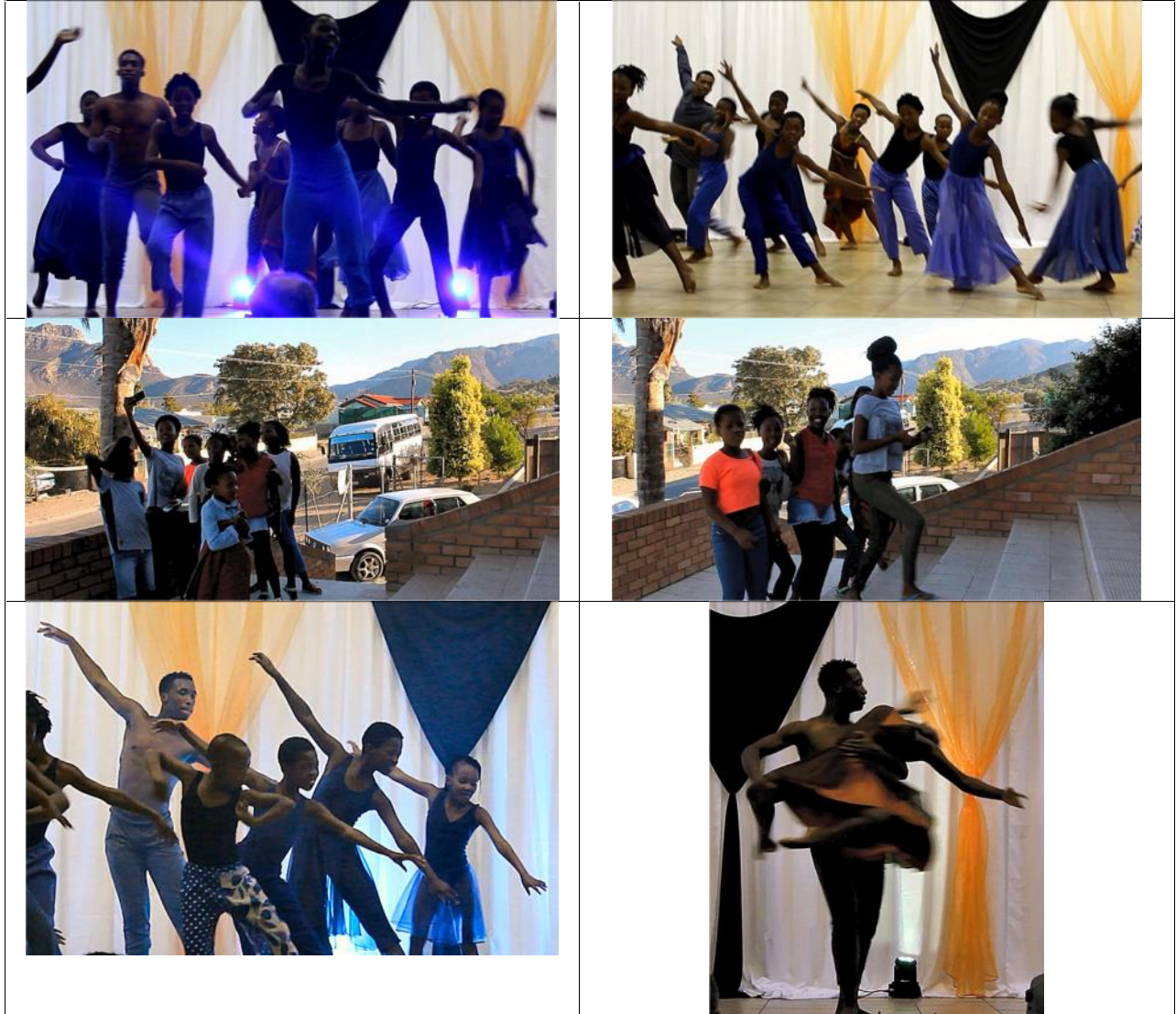
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100014810193788>

Apart from creating a challenge video for Kyra Goede from Australia who is helping Dancescape South Africa to fundraise we followed up with an introduction movie of what Dancescape South Africa does. Please visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEWXB8RtyrI&feature=youtu.be>

On the 19 May 2017 our dancers performed at the Montagu Kultuurkis at the Montagu Civic Centre. It was a delightful evening sharing the stage with many other performers from the local community.





On Friday the 26 we facilitated a workshop, the first of many, to teach the trainee teachers to teach. This being an intensive time to impart years of knowledge so that they too can pass this on to other generations.

Apart from our trainee teachers attending we also had students who we hope will become trainee teachers in time to come. I started with talking about feet and how important it is to have strong feet and slowly we worked our way up the body just trying to bring a level of awareness of the body and how it relates to dance.

We also focused on how to impart this knowledge to the younger kids. It was a good session both entertaining and challenging for all who participated.



We thank you for your support and hope that you have enjoyed reading this report for May 2017 written and compiled by Mitya Sargeant (Administrative Director Dancescape South Africa)