

Dancescape South Africa (DSA) September 2018 Report

Daily dance classes continued throughout the month of September 2018 (3.00pm – 6.00pm Venue Zolani Hope Centre –Mantlane Road Zolani Ashton) engaging children in beginner and senior dance sessions. We continue to facilitating dance classes in Ashbury at the Ashbury Civic Centre initiated and in collaboration with the RAD Foundation.

Patricia Chimanga has been appointed as our Public Relations Officer:



Above: Patricia Chimanga our new Public Relations Officer

In early September Patricia Chimanga started her work with DSA as its new Public Relations Officer. Patricia's initial work will begin with making connections with the parents of our current students. We have discovered that most of the parents don't really know what their children are doing in the afternoons when they attend classes with DSA. Patricia will be informing the parents / guardians about what we are doing every afternoon of the week. Furthermore they are told about the benefits of dance and the potential for making a career in the performing arts. Patricia is building bridges between DSA and parents and other important role players in our local communities.

The Heritage day performance:

On the 22nd of September our Dancescape South Africa dancers were involved with the Heritage Day celebration performance held at the KVV building in Montagu. DSA performed 3 pieces in our repertoire. They performed alongside several other local performers.









Above: some of the Dancescape South Africa dancers waiting to perform

It was also great to see Aviwe November perform. He was one of the Late Fiona Sargeant's earlier students.

Below: Aviwe November



Dancescape South Africa receives the Mayoral tourism award:

On the 27th of September Dancescape South Africa received the Mayoral Tourism Award for the best special project in the Cape Winelands District. Our new Public Relation Officer, Patricia Chimanga and I attended the 6th annual mayoral tourism award held at Simonsvlei Winery. We were delighted to have received this prestigious award



Our resident teachers report:



Above: Resident teachers Manie and Farouk Irving

We had more children coming to join us for class this month so we started a bridging class for the new comers, some of them show real promise and we are excited to have them with us. On the 22nd of September we had to perform three pieces at the K.W.V. building in Montagu to provide entertainment for those celebrating Heritage Day, they performed well and behaved very professionally on and off stage, we are very proud of our students.

We are also looking forward to our guest teacher (Alfonso Freemantle) who is coming to work with our kids for the first week of October during the school holidays, many of our kids have worked with him before and are excited to be working with him again. We are nearing the end of the year and are very pleased with the progress of the Dancescape children.

Lihle Mfene reports from CAPA in Cape Town:

This term has been amazing in every way that a person could imagine. It really made me think that anything is possible. The corrections that were given to everyone each day when we were doing Ballet, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Jazz, Choreography and Drama, it's like you can see yourself growing each and every day. This month was all about finding the light within ourselves and allowing it to grow to be something big, something that could change this world forever.

This month was all about Choreography. We get a mark for this terms work. Also we worked on the teachers' choreography that we are going to perform at the end of the year performance.

We will be doing Michelle Reid's choreography called Sheeples. Which basically explains the word Sheeples and that human beings are sheeples too. Kirsten Jesenberg also choreographed a second piece, but hasn't named it yet, it's a Ballet.

Here is the concept of the piece I choreographed:

I chose the colour red as my inspiration. Red means blood or danger to me and my story is also based on a true story. A story that happened to my uncle and his friends Musa, Nhono and Xola. But I decided to use Musa's death, where he was killed in his own home. The reason why I chose this was because no one knew why they were killed. On the 28 September we had our first viewing. Next term is our last viewing. I wish I had pictures and videos to show, but we were not allowed to take pictures and videos.

Thanks to Dancescape SA for your personal investments in me. If it wasn't for DSA none of these beautiful experiences would have happened. Thank you so much.

(DSA is supporting Lihle Mfene with his living, accommodation and transport cost as he studies with the Cape Academy of Performing arts in Cape Town. Through donations received we are able to provide this support. Lihle is in his first year of a three year course)

Once again we thank you for taking the time to read this report. Please visit our website at: <http://dancescapesouthafrica.org.za/> and follow us on social media.

Mitya Sargeant (CEO, and Director – Dancescape South Africa)