



**REPORT ON
THE EDUCATION AFRICA
3rd INTERNATIONAL MARIMBA AND STEELPAN FESTIVAL
2014**

**More than 250 marimbas and steelpanns, 225 performances and
over 1600 participants in this amazing event!
The largest festival of its kind in the world!**

Education Africa in partnership with **St. Benedict's College** and in association with the High Commission of Trinidad and Tobago was the host of this prestigious event. Once again we were very proud to welcome as our patrons the High Commissioner of Trinidad and Tobago, His Excellency, **Harry Partap** who once again donated a beautiful trophy as well as R3000 for the best steel band performance of the Festival as well as **Andy Narell**, friend of Education Africa and one of the world's greatest steelpanns. We were also delighted, proud and privileged to be in this exceptional partnership with St Benedict's College for our 3rd Festival. Once again a BIG thank-you to **Mr. Andre Oosthuizen**, headmaster of St. Benedict's College and the St. Benedict's Board of Directors as well as **Janet Chalmers**, director of Music, for their cooperation and support.

Words cannot express my deep gratitude to all who attended the festival and made this event such a special occasion. There is an intangible spirit of Ubuntu, of friendship and comradeship that is felt at this festival. It is a bit like the comrades marathon for marimba and steelpan players! Everyone who participated felt that magic and for me, personally, I am humbled by the enthusiasm and professionalism I encountered from both the teachers and the band members. Thank you for making this so special for everyone! Andy Narell, said that he looks forward to this festival and sees it as a highlight in his yearly calendar!

From early Friday 1st August marimbas and steelpanns started arriving at the festival. The massive marquee in the beautiful grounds of St Benedict's College slowly filled up with marimbas and steelpanns from all over South Africa as well as Zimbabwe, Swaziland and all the way from Nigeria. There were over 250 marimbas and steelpanns on the floor when the Festival began on Saturday morning!

We had participants from most of our nine provinces of South Africa as well as Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Nigeria, France and USA grace our presence in Bedfordview. All were here to be part of the 3rd Education Africa International Marimba and Steelpan Festival held in South Africa. 71 Institutions participated in 225 competition entries!

At the main event which took place in the marquee, marimba and steelpan competitions took place throughout the two days where bands in different sections and age categories competed for the much coveted trophies and many, many prizes.

The three esteemed adjudicators were **Andy Narell from France**, **Dr. Brian Willson one of Education Africa's Board Members in the USA** and **Bongani Sotshononda from Cape Town**. Andy Narell is one of our patrons and also a firm friend of the Festival. I had the privilege of hearing him once again perform just after the Festival and there is no doubt in my mind that he really is an incredible musician! Not only is he a phenomenal performer but he is also a superb teacher which was demonstrated in Gauteng where he gave steelpan demonstrations to students before and after the Festival was over. Andy plays all over the world all the time and his wealth of knowledge of all things to do with music, not only steelpans, made him the perfect choice for an adjudicator!

Dr Brian Willson is a retired professor of music from the Brooklyn College of Music in New York. His vast knowledge of music of all genres made him a great choice to have as an adjudicator this year. Brian is also a performer and conductor and a fine teacher. This was evident when he gave a master class at Wits after the Festival and many students asked him to come back the next day to share some more of his knowledge.

Bongani Sotshononda is a superb marimba player of all genres and is well-known in the music scene in Cape Town. His expertise in performance was evidenced when he performed the SAMRO commissioned work, DANGER BEACH, with Dave Reynolds and Bradley Lithgow. Thank you to all these three adjudicators for their incredible hard work and their expertise.

The Fringe events were much larger than ever before. Everyone who entered the gates could take part in a number of workshops which were part of the fringe events: djembe workshops at all levels were offered by **PACD** as were Tswana dancing and hip-hop. Once again the gumboot dancing workshops were offered by the boys from **Durban Prep High School** in KZN. On-going steelpan workshops were offered by **Dave Reynolds** from Cape Town and proved to be extremely popular. Marimba workshops at various levels were offered by **Blessing Chimanga** from Zimbabwe, **Mike Sibanda**, from **St Stithians College** and **Lox Mmileng** from Redhill College. We also were very privileged to have a Greek Dancing workshop by **Diana Cowen** from Saheti, an Indian Dance workshop by **Kashmira** from the Kashvita Dance Studio and Boere Dances presented by **ATKV**. Lecture-demonstration workshops on African Instruments by **Pops Mohamed** from Johannesburg were well-attended and we had a marimba arranging workshop presented by **Ian Holloway** from KZN. **Bonny Philips** gave a boomwhackers workshop on Sunday afternoon.

Thank you also to our photographers: **Ernie** and **Rose Buric** and **Dannika Nicoll** as well as **Sonja Creux** who made videos of the entire event. Thank you to the sound crew team lead by **Kgotso Motaung** and assisted by **Lindo Ngwenya** and **Nick Bjorkman**. For the outstanding work done managing the main venue I would like to pay tribute to **Bradley Lithgow** and **Thami Ngwenya**. Thank you to **Kendall Hauptfleisch**, our time-keeper and **Chris Dicks** for his assistance at the front gate.

The **SAMRO** commissioned work: DANGER BEACH composed by **Dave Reynolds** for steelpan, chromatic orchestral marimba and a chromatic bass marimba demonstrated a beautiful synergy between the instruments and was a delight to listen to. We hope that this

composition will become a standard in the repertoire of the bands of the festival. Thank you to the **SAMRO FOUNDATION** for commissioning this work for our Festival.

One of the highlights of the Festival was the massed marimba and steelpan experience where a **Tribute to South Africa's 20 years of democracy** composed by **Joan Lithgow** for the Festival was taught by the composer to all participants en masse in 40 minutes! This piece was written for massed marimbas and steelpans including a massed choir directed by **Janet Chalmers**. The piece entitled **TOGETHER** also featured **Dave Reynolds, Andy Narell** and **Bongani Sotshononda** all performing short solos as part of the final performance!

In addition to the competitions that were playing out in the Marquee there was also a **COMPOSITION COMPETITION** in three age categories that was fully sponsored by **THE SAMRO FOUNDATION**. The erudite adjudicators for this competition were: **Andy Narell, Dave Reynolds** and **Dr Brian Willson**.

There were only 4 entries in total received. There were 3 entries in the adult section and 1 in the school-going section. The standard was excellent and the winners truly deserved their cash prizes of R2500 each: **Dr Waldo Malan** in the adult section and **Nande Mavume** in the school section. These compositions were judged "blind" so the adjudicators had no idea who they were judging!

Once again a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to **all the crew** who worked at the Festival and especially the young men from St Benedict's College. Under the phenomenal leadership of **Janet Chalmers**, together with her music staff: **Robert Strydom, Louise Dos Santos and Sarah Greene** from **St Benedict's** these volunteers gave of their time and service to help run the Festival. We are so very grateful to all of them for giving of their time to help make the Festival run smoothly. Thank you to **Father Malcolm Chalmers** who gave a very meaningful dedication just before the prize-giving. A particular thank you must go to **Richard Wilson** from **St. Benedict's College** for all his help! Nothing was ever too much for him! Without his help this Festival would not have been as successful!

Thank-you to **Vanessa Perumal, Sinenthemba Dywili** and the **JT Comms** team for all the publicity they generated around the event. Thank you also to the **FELINE** media students for covering the event. The Festival was covered by a number of print media companies as well as a number of TV programmes.

The beautiful trophies were made by **Ian Lithgow** who also donated the Alport Mhlanga Memorial Floating Trophy to the Festival for the Best marimba band performance of the Festival!

One of the real wow factors at the Festival was the announcement of two teachers who won all-expenses paid trips to the city of Vienna for one week. This was sponsored jointly by **Education Africa** and the **City of Vienna**. Congratulations and bon voyage to **Charmaine Holloway** from HCA in KZN who won one of the prizes as a result of a lucky draw and **Alicia Davids**, from Goede Hoop Primary School in Reiger Park who was chosen from Education Africa's marimba hub programme as the most dedicated teacher of our **MARIMBA HUBS**.

We would like to thank and acknowledge the following sponsors/donors who supported our Festival:

ABI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drinks for the under-resourced bands
AFRICA-TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO STEELPAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a tenor steelpan as a lucky draw prize • special discounts
ANDY NARELL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDs and DVDs as prizes
BEYERS CHOCOLATES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 Chocolates used for the chocolate awards
BRIAN WILLSON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDs and DVDs for prizes
BUDGET CAR HIRE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discounted car hire for festival participants in Gauteng
BUNNIES ON THE BURB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special discounts
CALATO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • side drum sticks used in category prizes
CASIO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Casio keyboard used for a prize
CAXTON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magazines for the goodie bags
CHIP 'N DIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prize
CITY OF VIENNA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all expenses paid trip for two teachers to the City of Vienna
D'ADDARIO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • category prizes
DAVE REYNOLDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDs for prizes
EASTERN DELIGHTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special discounts
EDUCATION AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cash donation to sponsor under-resourced bands to get to the festival including their accommodation, transport, entrance fees • 3000 meals for under-resourced participants
EDUCATION AFRICA INC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bringing Dr Brian Willson to the festival as an adjudicator
EDUMUSIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special discounts
FOOTLONG CAFE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special discounts
FYRE INTERACTIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discounted rates on our amazing website
IAN HOLLOWAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • books for prizes
JOAN LITHGOW MUSIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special discounts • books for prizes
JT COMMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prizes
LANG PERCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • side drum used as a prize
LINCOLN BROS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special discounts • books for prizes
MARIMBAONE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sets of mallets used for prizes
MARSHALL MUSIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A cajon drum and a percussion kit used for prizes • Special discounts
MATRIX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special discounts

MUSIC MATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R2000 in vouchers for the best marimba band performance • Special discounts
MUSICAL GIFTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prizes • discounts
NBK TRAVEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assistance with travel
PAN INC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a tenor steelpan as a lucky draw prize
POLLIACKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special discounts • prize
SAMRO FOUNDATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cash prizes for the composition competitions • fees for the composition adjudicators • sponsorship of under-resourced bands to get to the festival
ST BENEDICT'S COLLEGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of the school's premises and infra-structure • use of buses and personnel
T.O.M.S.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mallets as prizes • 3 X sets of Paiste cymbals • 1 X drumkit • Goodie bags and pens • Medena keyboard
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The trophy for the Best Steelpan performance at the Festival as well as R3000 in cash
THE MARIMBA WORKSHOP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A combination marimba as a lucky draw prize • the Alport Mhlanga Memorial Trophy for best marimba band performance at the Festival
TURNKEY MUSIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various percussion instruments and smalls that were used in the category prizes • Special discounts
UNIQUE EXPERIENCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discounted tour prices
VINIS RESTAURANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special discounts
VIRGIN ATLANTIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discounted rates on all international flights for participants
WELLNESS CENTRE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special discounts

**PRIZE WINNERS
2014
EDUCATION AFRICA
INTERNATIONAL MARIMBA AND STEELPAN FESTIVAL**

ADULT COMPOSITION	DR WALDO MALAN: R2500
SCHOOL GOING COMPOSITION	NANDE MAVUME: R2500
PS1 1 ST	JOHN WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE ETWATWA GAUTENG
PS1 2 ND	THEMBELISHA SWAZILAND
PS1 3 RD	CURRO THATCHFIELD CENTURION
PS2 1 ST	WESTVILLE PRIMARY KZN
PS2 2 ND	GEORGE RANDELL EAST LONDON
PS2 3 RD	HANDEVAT MARIMBA MAGIC WESTERN CAPE
PS3 1 ST	MARIS STELLA KZN
PS3 2 ND	HANDEVAT MARIMBA MAGIC WESTERN CAPE
PS3 3 RD	KLEINMOND LAERSKOOL WESTERN CAPE AND WESTVILLE PRIMARY KZN
PL1 1 ST	ST STITHIANS GAUTENG
PL1 2 ND	CURRO HCA KZN
PL1 3 RD	MONDEOR PRIMARY GAUTENG
PL2 1 ST	MERRIFIELD EAST LONDON
PL2 2 ND	QUEENS COLLEGE QUEENSTOWN
PL2 3 RD	LORETO CONVENT PRETORIA
PL3 1 ST	CURRO HCA KZN
PL3 2 ND	AQUA VISTA EAST LONDON
PL3 3 RD	DURBAN GIRLS COLLEGE KZN
HS1 1 ST	WATERSHED ZIMBABWE
HS1 2 ND	HILLBROW COMMUNITY CENTRE
HS1 3 RD	ST JUDES NIGERIA
HS2 1 ST	EPWORTH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS KZN
HS2 2 ND	SACRED HEART GAUTENG

HS2 3 RD	GRENS EAST LONDON
HS3 1 ST	GRENS EAST LONDON
HS3 2 ND	DURBAN GIRLS COLLEGE KZN
HS3 3 RD	MARIS STELLA KZN
HL1 1 ST	OPRAH WINFREY ACADEMY MEYERTON
HL1 2 ND	JOHN WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE ETWATWA GAUTENG
HL1 3 RD	CURRO HCA KZN
HL2 1 ST	MERRIFIELD EAST LONDON
HL2 2 ND	OPRAH WINFREY ACADEMY MEYERTON
HL2 3 RD	STONERIDGE
HL3 1 ST	CURRO HCA KZN
HL3 2 ND	NOT AWARDED
HL3 3 RD	NOT AWARDED
OS1 1 ST	ZIMBABWE COLLEGE OF MUSIC ZIMBABWE
OS1 2 ND	HILLBROW OUTREACH COMMUNITY CENTRE GAUTENG
OS1 3 RD	MR AFFITI GAUTENG
OS2 1 ST	CAPE WHALERS WESTERN CAPE
OS2 2 ND	NINGIZIMU SPECIAL SCHOOL KZN
OS2 3 RD	FRIENDLY DRUMMERS GAUTENG
OS3 1 ST	NINGIZIMU SPECIAL SCHOOL KZN
OS3 2 ND	FRIENDLY DRUMMERS GAUTENG
OS3 3 RD	THE HOODZ EAST LONDON
OL1 1 ST	ST STITHIANS GAUTENG
OL1 2 ND	MERRIFIELD EAST LONDON
OL1 3 RD	PRETORIA-OOS PRETORIA
OL2 1 ST	MERRIFIELD
OL2 2 ND	NOT AWARDED
OL2 3 RD	NOT AWARDED
OL3 1 ST	NOT AWARDED
OL3 2 ND	NOT AWARDED
OL3 3 RD	NOT AWARDED

CATEGORY 4 1 ST	ZIMBABWE COLLEGE OF MUSIC ZIMBABWE
CATEGORY 4 2 ND	FRIENDLY DRUMMERS GAUTENG
CATEGORY 4 3 RD	ST STITHIANS GAUTENG
Best steelpan performance of the Festival	ST JUDES NIGERIA
Best marimba band performance of the Festival	ZIMBABWE COLLEGE OF MUSIC ZIMBABWE
BEST MARIMBA HUB: 1st	GOEDEHOOP PRIMARY REIGER PARK GAUTENG
2 nd	CARTER PRIMARY ALEXANDRA GAUTENG
3 rd	ITHUTE PRIMARY ALEXANDRA GAUTENG
BEST SPECIAL SCHOOLS: 1 ST	NINGIZIMU SPECIAL SCHOOL KZN
2 nd	MC KHARBAI SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF LENASIA GAUTENG
3 rd	JISWA SPECIAL SCHOOL LENASIA GAUTENG
1 PANINC STEEL PAN: LUCKY DRAW	PARKTOWN GIRLS GAUTENG
1 MARIMBA WORKSHOP MARIMBA: LUCKY DRAW	DPHS KZN
1 AFRICA-TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO STEELPAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY STEELPAN: LUCKY DRAW	ACACIA PRIMARY BOTSWANA
TEACHER TO TRAVEL TO VIENNA SELECTED FROM OUR MARIMBA HUBS	ALICIA DAVIDS GOEDEHOOP PRIMARY REIGER PARK GAUTENG
TEACHER TO TRAVEL TO VIENNA: LUCKY DRAW:	CHARMAINE HOLLOWAY CURRO HCA KZN

The 4th Education Africa International Marimba and Steelpan Festival will take place on the **1st and 2nd August 2015**. If you did not attend this year's Festival make sure you do so next year. This is an event not to be missed!

It has been our pleasure serving you and we look forward to welcoming you to the 4th International Marimba and Steelpan Festival in 2015!

The Education Africa Festival Committee

