



**REPORT ON
THE
EDUCATION AFRICA
2ND INTERNATIONAL MARIMBA AND STEELPAN FESTIVAL
2013**

**More than 200 marimbas and steelpan, 197 performances and
over 1400 participants in this amazing event! This must be some
sort of world first!**

Education Africa in partnership with **St. Benedict's College** and in association with the High Commission of Trinidad and Tobago hosted this prestigious event. We were very proud to welcome as our patrons the High Commissioner of Trinidad and Tobago, His Excellency Harry Partap who donated a beautiful trophy for the best steel band of the Festival as well as Andy Narell, arguably the world's greatest steelpannist. We were also delighted and proud to be in this exceptional partnership with St Benedict's College for our 2nd Festival. A BIG thank-you to Mr. Andre Oosthuizen, headmaster of St. Benedict's College and the St. Benedict's Board of Directors for their cooperation and support.

How do you put into words the feelings that were so evident during the two days of the Festival? To say that we were blown away by the unbelievable spirit, enthusiasm, musicality and dedication that was so tangible at the Education Africa International Marimba and Steelpan Festival on 3/4 August 2013 would be a gross understatement!

"This event will remain one of the highlights of my life" said Pops Mohamed, one of our esteemed adjudicators. It certainly will be an event that will stay in our minds forever! Thank-you to absolutely everyone who contributed to making this an event of the year!

From Friday 2 August people from all walks of life started bringing marimbas and steelpanns of all shapes and sizes to the massive marquee in the beautiful grounds of St Benedict's College, the venue for this exciting event. There were just on 200 marimbas and steelpanns on the floor when the Festival began on Saturday morning!

We had participants from all our nine provinces of South Africa as well as Swaziland, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, France and Germany grace our presence in Bedfordview with one intention only: to take part in the 2nd International Marimba and Steelpan Festival held in South Africa. 72 Institutions participated in 197 competition entries!

No matter what type of music you enjoy there was a band at the Festival that would have satisfied your needs! At the main event which took place in the marquee, marimba and steelpan competitions occurred throughout the two days where bands in different age categories competed for the much coveted trophies.

The three esteemed music adjudicators were **Andy Narell**, **Alex Jacobowitz** and **Pops Mohamed**. Andy Narell, one of our patrons and now firm friend of the Festival is arguably the greatest solo steelpannist in the world. Not only is he a phenomenal performer but he is also an incredible teacher which was demonstrated in Gauteng and East London where he gave steelpan clinics to students 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! Alex Jacobowitz, classical marimba performer shared his vast experience and knowledge as an international performer with us! Pops Mohamed, one of South Africa's treasures completed our line-up of adjudicators. Pops has amazing knowledge of all things African and especially in the field of all genres of music of Africa. He is a multi-instrumental performer with not only local but International experience. It was really special for us to have secured his services as an adjudicator for this Festival! Thank-you to these adjudicators for their expertise and hard work and for adding such prestige credibility to this Festival.

Everyone who entered the gates could take part in a number of workshops which were part of the fringe events: djembe workshops offered by **Gontse Segona**, traditional Sotho dance workshops offered by **Gregory Lediga** from Tshwane, gumboot dancing workshops offered by the boys from **Durban Prep High School** in KZN, percussion workshops offered by **Drum Tree-O** from Tshwane, Orff workshops at various levels offered by **The Orff Society** from Johannesburg, on-going fun steelpan workshops offered by **Dave Reynolds** from Cape Town and **Candice Parkin** from Port Elizabeth, marimba workshops offered by **Blessing Chimanga** from Zimbabwe. lecture-demonstration workshops on African Instruments by **Joe Makhanza** from Johannesburg and lecture-demonstrations on the pre-school marimba programme: Adventures of Little Brown Monkey by **Sharon Malan** from East London.

Festival-goers were also treated to a concert on steelpans by South Africa's leading solo steelpannist, **Dave Reynolds** and the **world premiere** of the classical marimba piece: Carnival Faces composed by Christo Jankowitz, commissioned by the SAMRO FOUNDATION and performed by South Africa's own marimba queen, **Magda De Vries**.

One of the highlights of the Festival was the massed marimba and steelpan experience where a **Tribute to Madiba**, 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 as well as featuring two amazing rap artists: Mbali Mashugane and Mpumzi Mtimde, both grade 8 pupils at Reddam House in Bedfordview. Dave Reynolds, Andy Narell and Pops Mohamed all performed short solos as part of the final performance!

In addition to the competitions that were playing out in the Marquee there were a number of other competitions that had taken place prior to the Festival but yet were an integral part of the Festival.

Firstly we had a COMPOSITION COMPETITION in three age categories that was fully sponsored by THE SAMRO FOUNDATION. The erudite adjudicators for this competition

were: **Jeanne Zaidel-Rudolph**, one of South Africa's most eminent art music composers having composed more than 70 works across all genres. She was the first woman in South Africa to obtain a doctorate in composition. **Dave Reynolds**, composer and performer of steelpan music and **Pops Mohamed**, African music guru.

While there were only 7 entries in total received, the standard generally was excellent and the winners truly deserved their cash prizes of R2500 each: **Ian Holloway** in the adult category; **Robin Gower** in the student category and **Minenhle Buthelezi** in the school category. These compositions were judged "blind" so the adjudicators had no idea who they were adjudicating!

Art and photographic competitions were also part of this festival. We received very few entries. All the art and photography received was featured at the Festival at the Art exhibition. Thank-you to the art and photographic judges for their time and expertise in making some very difficult decisions: **Rose Buric and Ernie Buric** were our esteemed judges this year.

In the week leading up to the Festival and also the week after the festival there were concerts and performances in and around Gauteng to create an awareness of the Festival: Alex Jacobowitz and Andy Narell gave master classes at the Wits School of the Arts. Education Africa in partnership with the Sydenham Shul presented SOUNDS OF CELEBRATION, a concert held at the Theatre of Marcellus at Emperor's Palace featuring Andy Narell and his band on Steelpan, Alex Jacobowitz on classical marimba, Allan Thompson on clarinet and Sonja van Zyl on piano, the newly formed marimba band from King David, Linksfield and the Stoneridge Marimba Band from Eden Park. Andy Narell also gave an inspirational steelpan clinic to performers from Assumption Convent and St. Dominic's Boksburg.

A heartfelt THANK-YOU to all the crew who worked at the Festival and especially the PRO young men from St Benedict's College and young women from Holy Rosary, Assumption Convent and St. Dominic's Boksburg. Under the phenomenal leadership of **Janet Chalmers 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 minute's silence was observed to remember one of the bands: Twelopele who lost a band member due to a car accident the day before the Festival and had to withdraw. A particular thank-you must go to Richard Wilson and Chiquita Candy from St. Benedict's College for all their help! Nothing was ever too much for them! Without their help this Festival would not have been as successful!

Thank-you to Vanessa Perumal and the JT Comms team for all the publicity they generated around the event. We had the BBC, SABC, YO-TV, MNET, Radio 702, SAFM, radio Veritas, the Citizen, The Daily Sun, The Sunday Times, Channel Africa, and all the local newspapers covering this event.

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 of the Festival!

“Joan Lithgow has again co-ordinated a hugely successful festival, the evidence of which is in the fact that it was oversubscribed, so schools and organisations are encouraged to register early” said Linda Gould, Operations Director of Education Africa.

We would like to thank and acknowledge the following sponsors/donors who supported our 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
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
EDUCATION AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cash donation to sponsor under-resourced bands to get to the festival • meals for 700 disadvantaged participants
BUDGET CAR HIRE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discounted car hire for festival participants in Gauteng
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The trophy for the Best Steelpan performance at the Festival
FYRE INTERACTIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discounted rates on our amazing website
VIRGIN ATLANTIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discounted rates on all international flights for participants
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
PAN INC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a tenor steelpan as a lucky draw prize
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
CASIO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Casio keyboard as a lucky draw prize • Casio watches for the art and photographic competitions
ASSUMPTION CONVENT MALVERN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gazebos
SONJA LARIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the chocolate awards
SOUNDS OF CELEBRATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of adjudicator expenses

**PRIZE WINNERS
2013
EDUCATION AFRICA
INTERNATIONAL MARIMBA AND STEELPAN FESTIVAL**

BEST COSTUMES	THOMAS MORE
BEST SINGER	ELSBURG H.S.
ADULT COMPOSITION	IAN HOLLOWAY: R2500
UNIVERSITY STUDENT COMPOSITION	ROBIN GOWER: R2500
SCHOOL GOING COMPOSITION	MINENHLE BUTHELEZI: R2500
TEACHER WITH THE MOST SPIRIT	OPRAH WINFREY ACADEMY
ONLY FAMILY BAND	THE STRYDS
BEST EMERGING TEACHERS' BAND	JISWA
THE SPIRIT AWARD	WATERSHED
CHILD WITH THE MOST SPIRIT	THOMAS MORE
PS1 1 ST	THEMBELISHA SWAZILAND
PS1 2 ND	DURBAN GIRLS COLLEGE KZN
PS1 3 RD	SELBORNE EAST LONDON
PS2 1 ST	SELBORNE EAST LONDON
PS2 2 ND	HUDSON EAST LONDON
PS2 3 RD	QUEENS QUEENSTOWN
PS3 1 ST	CURRO AURORA GAUTENG DURBAN GIRLS COLLEGE KZN
PS3 2 ND	HUDSON EAST LONDON
PS3 3 RD	KLEINMOND WESTERN CAPE
PL1 1 ST	AQUA VISTA EAST LONDON
PL1 2 ND	CURRO HCA KZN
PL1 3 RD	THOMAS MORE KZN
PL2 1 ST	AQUA VISTA EAST LONDON
PL2 2 ND	MERRIFIELD EAST LONDON
PL2 3 RD	ASSUMPTION CONVENT GAUTENG
PL3 1 ST	CURRO HCA KZN
PL3 2 ND	THOMAS MORE KZN
PL3 3 RD	AQUA VISTA EAST LONDON

HS1 1 ST	WATERSHED ZIMBABWE
HS1 2 ND	HILTON COLLEGE KZN
HS1 3 RD	OPRAH WINFREY ACADEMY GAUTENG
HS2 1 ST	ST DAVIDS GAUTENG
HS2 2 ND	SACRED HEART LESOTHO
HS2 3 RD	PARKTOWN GIRLS GAUTENG
HS3 1 ST	HILTON COLLEGE KZN
HS3 2 ND	THOMAS MORE KZN
HS3 3 RD	TIGERKLOOF NORTHWEST
HL1 1 ST	CURRO HCA KZN
HL1 2 ND	REDHILL AND JOHN WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE GAUTENG
HL1 3 RD	MERRIFIELD EAST LONDON
HL2 1 ST	MERRIFIELD EAST LONDON
HL2 2 ND	ST DOMINIC'S BOKSBURG GAUTENG
HL2 3 RD	NOT AWARDED
HL3 1 ST	CURRO HCA KZN
HL3 2 ND	MERRIFIELD EAST LONDON
HL3 3 RD	NOT AWARDED
OS1 1 ST	HILLBROW MUSIC CENTRE GAUTENG AND HILTON KZN
OS1 2 ND	TAMBARIMBA ZIMBABWE
OS1 3 RD	VOICE OUT GAUTENG
OS2 1 ST	HILLBROW MUSIC CENTRE GAUTENG
OS2 2 ND	TAMBARIMBA ZIMBABWE
OS2 3 RD	PLETTENBERG PIONEERS WESTERN CAPE
OS3 1 ST	ENLIGHTEN-ELGIN WESTERN CAPE
OS3 2 ND	PLETTENBERG PIONEERS WESTERN CAPE
OS3 3 RD	NINGIZIMU SPECIAL SCHOOL KZN

OL1 1 ST	MERRIFIELD EAST LONDON
OL1 2 ND	NOT AWARDED
OL1 3 RD	NOT AWARDED
OL2 1 ST	NOT AWARDED
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	WATERSHED ZIMBABWE
CATEGORY 4 2 ND	HILLBROW MUSIC CENTRE GAUTENG
CATEGORY 4 3 RD	TAMBARIMBA ZIMBABWE
Best steelpan performance of the Festival	PLETTENBERG PIONEERS WESTERN CAPE
Best marimba band performance of the Festival	WATERSHED ZIMBABWE AND HILLBROW MUSIC CENTRE GAUTENG
1 CASIO KEYBOARD	RYNFIELD GAUTENG
1 PANINC STEEL PAN	MERRIFIELD EAST LONDON
1 MARIMBA WORKSHOP MARIMBA	AQUA VISTA EAST LONDON
BAND TO TRAVEL WITH EDUCATION AFRICA ON THEIR NEXT TOUR	JOHN WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE ETWATWA GAUTENG
ART PRIZE: overall winner	MARICHEN WEICH
adult	SIPHIWE MBATA
14 -17	THOKOZANI MSANABO
8 - 13	PRABHAT PALRAJ
7 and under	HAYLEIGH KNIPE
Photography: School going youth	LILU WOODS
Photography: Adults	Not awarded

The band that was chosen to go on Education Africa's next overseas tour was the **JOHN WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE MARIMBA BAND**.

The 3rd International Marimba and Steelpan Festival will take place on the **2nd and 3rd August 2014**. 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 3rd International Marimba and Steelpan Festival in 2014!

The Education Africa Festival Committee

