



EDUCATION
AFRICA

REPORT ON

THE EDUCATION AFRICA

7th INTERNATIONAL MARIMBA AND STEELPAN FESTIVAL

2018

HONOURING MADIBA

**243 performances; 90 fringe events and nearly 2000 participants in
this amazing event!**

The largest festival of its kind in the world!

INTRODUCTION AND THANK YOU

Education Africa in partnership with **St Dominic's Catholic School for Girls, Boksburg** and in association with the **High Commission of Trinidad and Tobago** was the host of this prestigious event.



EDUCATION AFRICA FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

We proudly welcomed as our patron the High Commissioner of Trinidad and Tobago, His Excellency, **Roger Gopaul** who donated a beautiful trophy as well as a cash prize for the best steel band performance of the Festival.

This is the second year that we have had the privilege of staging this event at St Dominic's, the perfect venue for this Festival. Thank you to **Roger Loring**, headmaster of St Dominic's and his staff as well as **Neville Smith** for their cooperation and fantastic support.

THE EDUCATION AFRICA INTERNATIONAL MARIMBA AND STEELPAN FESTIVAL relies heavily on over 100 people to ensure that the Festival runs smoothly on the day. I hereby wish to thank the crew, the volunteers from St Dominic's under the leadership of **Sally-Ann Lubbe**, the cleaners, the ground staff, the caterers: **Devine Dines and Food for Life**, the sound team from **Gear House** under the leadership of **Kgotso Motaung**, the security, the bus drivers, the floor team from **Jeppe High School**, the administration staff both at Education Africa and St Dominic's for their professionalism and dedication. Their significant contribution has made this a Festival to be proud of. I would like to also thank the adjudicating team and workshop presenters for sharing their expertise with us.

TRIBUTES

The most important people at the festival however were the TEACHERS. Each year I marvel at their dedication and expertise and love for their pupils. I watched virtually every performance over the two days and was moved to tears more times than I can remember by the wonderful support the teachers were giving their bands. The pride on their faces as their bands performed made me proud to be part of this “elite club”. There were some young “first time teachers” and many experienced teachers but ALL displayed this incredible support.

In honour of these teachers the **Zulu Nyala Heritage Lodge** in Hluhluwe sponsored a weekend away for two. The winner, who was drawn out of a hat, was **Katherine McClelland from Music Voyage ... a new NGO in KZN**. Thank you to **Zulu Nyala** for their kindness and support of the festival!

Each year we pay tribute to the school that travelled the furthest to the Festival and this year it went to **Gansbaai Academia in the Western Cape** who travelled **2 950km** in a round trip to the Festival! Congratulations!

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE FOUNDER OF EDUCATION AFRICA: JAMES URDANG

Education Africa has made a difference in hundreds of thousands of lives throughout its 27 years of existence thanks to the vision and passion of our CEO James Urdang. James is a humanitarian of note and has just been internationally recognized as one of 10 people world-wide for his work at Education Africa and will be going to Switzerland at the end of November to receive his award.



HONOURING MADIBA

Our theme for this year was HONOURING MADIBA. This year is a very special year in the history of South Africa as we celebrate the centenary of Nelson Mandela. “Music will be the salvation of our people” and “It is music and dancing that makes me at peace with the world” are two significant quotes by Madiba that were used in the **MASSED MARIMBA, STEELPAN, CHOIR and DJEMBE COMPOSITION** written by Joan Lithgow entitled “Madiba Speaks!” This composition was taught from scratch to about 500 people and within 40 minutes we had the inaugural performance which started with Madiba’s voice saying: “Well, it is music and dancing that makes me at peace with the world” Thank you to **Reynette Cerff** from East London for teaching the choristers this piece.



In addition to this event in honour of Madiba we asked participants to bring a donation to be given to charity. We thank all those kind people who contributed and in particular those very disadvantaged bands who sacrificed clothing and tinned food to give to those who are even less fortunate than themselves. This was a truly humbling experience to see. To those bands in particular, and you know who you are, THANK YOU on behalf of the recipients.

SOCIAL COHESION

Social Cohesion is always uppermost in our minds at Education Africa when planning this festival. Social Cohesion does not just happen! We, as the teachers of this world need to **make** this happen through the way we teach and facilitate integration. It is through the universal language of music that we **are** achieving this goal. This festival is evidence of what the future of South Africa could be like if **EVERYONE** started making a difference in our beautiful country and our beautiful continent.



Being fully inclusive we had 3 special needs bands competing in this Festival. This year there were two deaf bands: **MC Kharbai from Lenasia** where most of the members are hard of hearing and a few are totally deaf and **The Dominican School for the Deaf** in Hammanskraal where all their members are totally deaf! Both gave very credible performances and MC Kharbai took 3rd place in one of the categories!



DOMINICAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF



MC KHARBAI SCHOOL

THE FESTIVAL

Marimbas and steelpans started arriving at the festival from Wednesday morning this year as we at Education Africa collected all our hub instruments which were used in the marimba workshops in the fringe events. The facilities at St Dominic's Catholic School for Girls are ideal for the festival. The large Jubilee Centre with built-in seating makes for a wonderful, comfortable venue.

By the time the festival started at 8am on Saturday morning there was a sea of marimbas of all shapes and sizes interspersed with a few steelpans.



PARTICIPATION

Participants from all over South Africa as well as Zimbabwe and Botswana attended. In addition, there were 6 adjudicators: three from South Africa and one each from Uganda, Nigeria and the UK. 73 Institutions participated in 243 competition entries!

The festival has two main components: THE MAIN event and the FRINGE events.

MAIN EVENT

At the main event in the Jubilee Centre, 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 wonderful sponsored prizes.

Our 6 adjudicators were put in 2 teams and alternated between adjudicating and presenting lecture-demonstrations and performances. This allowed the participants the opportunity to experience first-hand the outstanding expertise of the adjudicators.

The six esteemed adjudicators were **Jim Bernardin from the UK, Benon Kigozi from Uganda, Bowie Bowei from Nigeria and Sue Cock, Etienne Mecleon and Zelda Reyneke all from Gauteng.**

Jim Bernardin, friend of Education Africa and well-known in the UK for his world music workshops was on his first visit to the festival. Jim is a great teacher and is involved in a number of steelpan projects in the UK. He also ran two workshops: one on steelpan teaching and another on Chinese dragon-dance drumming.



Dr. Benon Kigozi is a senior staff member in the Performing Arts and Film Department at Makerere University in Uganda. He is sought after as a speaker at conferences all over the world and has just returned from the ISME conference in Baku, Azerbaijan. He is also a jazz pianist of note having performed in 14 countries world-wide. He also ran two workshops on integrating music arts for teachers through “Kaleeba” a folktale from Uganda.



Bowie Bowei is a business man, musician and humanitarian of note. He is no stranger to our Festival as he has been actively involved in bringing various steelpan bands from Nigeria to our Festival in the past for which we are extremely grateful. He also ran two workshops on teaching steelpans.



Sue Cock is a teacher, conductor, adjudicator, choir trainer, marimba teacher, composer, radio presenter and so much more. She also ran two choir workshops entitled: Africa Sings.



Etienne Mecleon, is well-known in Gauteng as a performer, music director, arts administrator and conductor. At present he is the acting CEO of the Johannesburg Youth Orchestra and conducts the wind bands. He also ran a workshop entitled “putting the FUN into fundraising” and one on ensemble coaching tips.



Zelda Reyneke is no stranger to marimbas and our Festival. She is presently teaching music and marimbas at a number of schools in Gauteng. She has brought her bands to the Festival in the past where they have won several prizes. She, herself, has been recognized at a number of Festivals for her enthusiasm and vibrancy as a teacher. She ran two workshops for teachers entitled “Whacky warmups” on marimbas.



THE FRINGE EVENTS

As this Festival is the ultimate EDUTAINMENT event our ever-popular **Fringe** events consisting of workshops in various disciplines were well-attended. The **open workshops** included gumboot dancing by **Durban Prep High School** in KZN; Sepedi dancing by **Greg Lediga**; Hip-Hop dancing by **Jayson Jegels**, Africa Sings choral workshop by **Sue Cock**, steelpan workshops and a concert by **Dave Reynolds** and Chinese Dragon-dance drumming by **Jim Bernardin**. The massed interactive djembe event was presented by **members of PACD** and the massed marimba event was presented by **Joan Lithgow**.

In addition there were many workshops that required the public to book for. Marimba workshops at various levels were presented by **Mike Sibanda**, **Innocent Mutangadura** and **Bradley Lithgow**. Djembe workshops at various levels were presented by **members of the PACD**. Mbira workshops were presented by **Chris Timbe**. As mentioned above, all the adjudicators also presented workshops in the Fringe events.





There was also a vibrant flea market at the Festival as well as many food stalls:



The **SAMRO** commissioned work: **MUTUPO** composed by **Michael Sibanda** for 4-part marimba band has added another useful piece to our growing repertoire of original pieces. Thank you to the **SAMRO FOUNDATION** for commissioning this work for our Festival. Thank you to the performers of this work: **The TOTEM Marimba Band.**



COMPOSITION COMPETITIONS

In addition to the competitions that were playing out in the Jubilee Centre 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: Dave Reynolds, Jim Bernardin, Bowie Bowei and Benon Kigozi.

Once again there were only 3 entries in total received: 2 entries in the adult section and 1 in the school-going section. The adjudicators shared the award for the adult section between: **Tarisa Muchineripi** from St Mary's DSG in KZN and **Wayne Swart** from Westville Senior Primary School in KZN. The school-going section was won by **Reece Ronaldson** from HCA in KZN. It seems that composers in South Africa only come from KZN!! These compositions are always judged "blind" so the adjudicators had no idea who they were judging! I would like to challenge ALL bands to submit compositions next year! There are many matric students who have to submit compositions for their portfolio. Here is the perfect opportunity for your composition to have a WORLD PREMIERE!!!! and to be heard by 2000 people!

SPONSORSHIP

We would like to pay tribute to **THE SAMRO (South African Music Rights Organisation) FOUNDATION** for their continued support of our festival. Were it not for their very generous sponsorship at least 300 young people would not have been able to attend the festival. In addition, every year they sponsor prizes for the composition competition and commission a new work. We thank the SAMRO FOUNDATION for ALL it does for music in our country. We at Education Africa SALUTE James French, Andre Le Roux and Anriette Chorn for their kindness and hard work.

BASA (Business Arts South Africa) came on board as a sponsor for the first time this year. We thank them for their support and hope that this will continue in the future.



We also had a donor who wishes to remain anonymous who printed all our beautiful souvenir programmes as a gift to the Festival. As a result we were able to sell advertising space in the programme and generate some much needed funds to help cover our costs.

Many companies donated prizes for which we are extremely grateful. See the full list of sponsors and donors at the end of this report.

SPONSORSHIP GOING FORWARD TO 2019

Without significant funding the festival is at a very real risk of collapsing. We are appealing to ALL business owners to contribute small amounts to ensure that the festival happens next year. If we are able to find 20 companies to sponsor R20 000 each the Festival will be able to continue in the new year.

This year we had 10 bands from extremely impoverished areas around the country who were ready and able to take part in the Festival but had no funds to get to the Festival. Due to lack of funding we were unable to help these bands and consequently they had to withdraw. It was an extremely sad

day when that happened as our mandate at Education Africa is to help the poorest of the poor and without adequate funding this was just not possible. To all who are reading this report, please consider a small donation or approaching someone in your circle of friends and business to donate to this very worthy cause. Everyone, collectively can make a huge difference.

CREW

A heartfelt THANK YOU goes to **the Education Africa team** who worked at the Festival. In particular I wish to thank **Thami Ngwenya** as the Festival assistant. The amount of work that happens behind the scenes is enormous and he has helped me tremendously in this regard not to mention the amazing work he has done on the Festival days as the Floor Manager! I am truly blessed to have such an efficient and hardworking assistant.



Thank you to **Bradley Lithgow** the assistant programme director who has been a support and sounding board throughout the year and who ran the social media campaign leading up to the Festival. Thank you to my daughter, **Amy-Sue Lithgow** for all her support throughout the year and her incredible efficiency at the festival. She gave up a trip to Basel to rather work at the Festival! Thank you for such dedication. I am truly lucky to be a mom to such amazing children.

Thank you to my husband, Ian who continues to give both moral, physical and financial support each year at the Festival. In addition, this is the 7th year that he has sponsored a combination marimba at the International Marimba and Steelpan Festival.

Thank you to **Barbara Underhill** for her love and support of all the projects I do and for giving a very meaningful dedication.

PUBLICITY

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

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

SAMRO FOUNDATION	sponsorship of entry fees for under-resourced bands; cash prizes for the composition competitions; fees for the chief composition adjudicator; the commissioned work.
BASA	Sponsorship.
GEER HOUSE	Discounted prices on hiring of equipment.
KOPANONG HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE	Discounted accommodation.
BEYERS CHOCOLATES	Chocolates for the chocolate awards.
CASIO	A Casio keyboard and 3 external hard drives used as prizes.
LANG PERCUSSION	Side Drum used as a prize.
LOVEMORE MUSIC	21 category prizes consisting of music books.
MARIMBAONE	Sets of mallets used for prizes.
MARSHALL MUSIC	5 gift vouchers.
TOMS	3 keyboards used as prizes and the use of a drumkit.
THE MARIMBA WORKSHOP	Combination marimba as a lucky draw prize. Alport Memorial Trophy for the best marimba band performance.
AFRICA TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO STEELPAN DEVELOPMENT CO LTD	A tenor steelpan as a lucky draw prize.
HIGH COMMISSION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	The trophy for the Best Steelpan performance at the Festival as well as R3000 in cash.
ZULU NYALA	Weekend away for two people at the ZULU NYALA HERITAGE LODGE.
ANONYMOUS DONOR	Printing of the souvenir programme.
SHARON ANTONIZZI	Layout services for the souvenir programme.
D'ADDARIO	Variety of small instruments used for prizes.
MARK STONE	CDs used for prizes.
BRIAN WILLSON	Drum sticks used for prizes.



	2018 PRIZE WINNERS
PS1 1 ST	ACACIA PRIMARY SCHOOL BOTSWANA
PS1 2 ND	ELUNDINI FULL-SERVICE SCHOOL -2 EASTERN CAPE S.A.
PS1 3 RD	RURAL ARTS NETWORK – DENNEGEUR WESTERN CAPE S.A.
PS2 1 ST	ST MARTIN’S CONVENT PRIMARY ZIMBABWE
PS2 2 ND	DOMINICAN CONVENT SCHOOL GAUTENG S.A.
PS2 3 RD	STEYN CITY SCHOOL GAUTENG S.A.
PS3 1 ST	LIVINGSTONE HOUSE BOTSWANA
PS3 2 ND	ST MARTIN’S CONVENT SCHOOL ZIMBABWE
PS3 3 RD	ACACIA PRIMARY SCHOOL BOTSWANA
PL1 1 ST	ZENZE REDHILL GAUTENG S.A.
PL1 2 ND	ACACIA PRIMARY BOTSWANA
PL1 3 RD	LIVINGSTONE HOUSE BOTSWANA
PL2 1 ST	REDHILL GAUTENG S.A.
PL2 2 ND	AQUA VISTA PRIMARY SCHOOL EASTERN CAPE S.A.
PL2 3 RD	BATHOEN HOUSE BOTSWANA
PL3 1 ST	AQUA VISTA PRIMARY SCHOOL EASTERN CAPE S.A.

PL3 2 ND	MERRIFIELD PREP AND COLLEGE EASTERN CAPE S.A.
PL3 3 RD	BOTETI HOUSE SCHOOL BOTSWANA
HS1 1 ST	MICHAELHOUSE KZN S.A.
HS1 2 ND	HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS GAUTENG S.A.
HS1 3 RD	TIGER KLOOF COMBINED SCHOOL NORTHWEST S.A.
HS2 1 ST	MICHAELHOUSE KZN S.A.
HS2 2 ND	TIGERKLOOF COMBINED SCHOOL NORTHWEST S.A.
HS2 3 RD	EPWORTH HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS KZN S.A.
HS3 1 ST	MICHAELHOUSE KZN S.A.
HS3 2 ND	EPWORTH HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS KZN S.A.
HS3 3 RD	GOEDEHOOP GAUTENG S.A.
HL1 1 ST	DAINFERN COLLEGE GAUTENG S.A.
HL1 2 nd	HOËRSKOOL GRENS EASTERN CAPE S.A.
HL1 3 RD	MANYORA REDHILL GAUTENG S.A.
HL2 1 ST	SHINGIRIRA REDHILL GAUTENG S.A.
HL2 2 ND	CURRO HILLCREST KZN S.A.
HL2 3 RD	CARTER GAUTENG S.A.
HL3 1 ST	CURRO HILLCREST KZN S.A.
HL3 2 ND	ST MARY'S DSG KLOOF KZN S.A.
HL3 3 RD	DAINFERN COLLEGE GAUTENG S.A.
OS1 1 ST	OUTREACH FOUNDATION GAUTENG S.A.
OS1 2 ND	MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY: RIMBA RESONANCE ZIMBABWE
OS1 3 RD	ZASHA AFRICA GAUTENG S.A.
OS2 1 ST	MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY: RIMBA RESONANCE ZIMBABWE
OS2 2 ND	ZASHA AFRICA GAUTENG S.A.

OS2 3 RD	MOUNTAIN CAMBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL GAUTENG S.A.
OS3 1 ST	OUTREACH FOUNDATION GAUTENG S.A.
OS3 2 ND	WAKKERSTROOM MUSIC FESTIVAL MPUMALANGA S.A.
OS3 3 RD	ZASHA AFRICA GAUTENG S.A.
OL1 1 ST	HILTON COLLEGE KZN S.A.
OL1 2 ND	REDHILL GAUTENG S.A.
OL1 3 RD	ST MARY'S DSG KLOOF KZN S.A.
OL2 1 ST	HILTON COLLEGE KZN S.A.
OL2 2 ND	JOHN WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE GAUTENG S.A.
OL2 3 RD	MC KHARBAI GAUTENG S.A.
OL3 1 ST	HILTON COLLEGE KZN S.A.
OL3 2 ND	BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF PROTEA GLEN GAUTENG S.A.
OL3 3 RD	JOHN WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE GAUTENG S.A.
P4 1st	ST MARTIN'S CONVENT PRIMARY ZIMBABWE
P4 2nd	MERRIFIELD PREP EASTERN CAPE S.A.
P4 3rd	WESTVILLE SENIOR PRIMARY SCHOOL KZN S.A.
H4 1st	MICHAELHOUSE KZN S.A.
H4 2nd	CARTER PINKY BAND GAUTENG S.A.
H4 3rd	DOMINICAN CONVENT – BOKGOSI GAUTENG S.A.
O4 1st	HILTON COLLEGE KZN S.A.
O4 2nd	MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY: RIMBA RESONANCE ZIMBABWE
O4 3rd	OUTREACH FOUNDATION GAUTENG S.A.
BEST STEELPAN PERFORMANCE (T & T TROPHY)	MANGO GROOVE BY ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL BOKSBURG GAUTENG S.A.
BEST MARIMBA BAND PERFORMANCE OF THE FESTIVAL (ALPORT MHLANGA TROPHY)	MICHAELHOUSE KZN S.A.

BEST EDUCATION AFRICA MARIMBA HUB	CARTER PRIMARY GAUTENG S.A.
BEST SPECIAL SCHOOLS PERFORMANCE	MC KHARBAI GAUTENG S.A.
SOCIAL COHESION AWARD	SOUNDS OF CELEBRATION GAUTENG S.A.
UBUNTU AWARD	REDHILL
MARIMBA WORKSHOP MARIMBA LUCKY DRAW	BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB IN BERTRAMS GAUTENG S.A.
AFRICA TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO STEELPAN DEVELOPMENT CO LTD: TENOR PAN LUCKY DRAW	TIGERKLOOF COMBINED SCHOOL NORTHWEST S.A.
1ST BAND TO REGISTER AND PAY	MICHAELHOUSE KZN S.A.
BAND THAT TRAVELLED THE FURTHEST	GANSBAAI ACADEMIA WESTERN CAPE S.A.
SPECIAL ADJUDICATORS' AWARD: OPPORTUNITY TO PERFORM WITH THE JOHANNESBURG YOUTH ORCHESTRA IN 2019	CARTER PRIMARY GAUTENG S.A.

Thank you for attending this year's Festival. It has been our pleasure serving you and we look forward to welcoming you to the 8th International Marimba and Steelpan Festival in 2019!

The tentative dates for next year's Festival are: 27th and 28th July 2019: to be confirmed.

Yours in marimba music!



Joan Lithgow and The Education Africa Festival Committee.
August 2018

