



IMAD... MUSIC NEWS

FEBRUARY 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

CONGRATULATIONS
GEORGE

ASSESSMENTS

TALENT SEARCH

MANKUNKU TRIBUTE

SOEST, GERMANY

EKASI IN SPRING

CAPE TOWN ARTS

YORK ROAD

DRUM WORKSHOP

SA REAL JAZZ BOOK

GIANTS ON FMR

1

2

3

4

MINISTERIAL AWARD



George Werner and Ezra Ngcukana founded the Little Giants in 1999. Recruiting young musicians into the band was difficult because there was no music on the primary or secondary school syllabus in areas such as Lansdowne and Khayelitsha, and so George started IMAD in 2006 to overcome this. George was presented with this ministerial award by Carol van Wyk, Chief Director of the Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport, and Anroux Marais, the Western Cape Provincial Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport in recognition of his contribution to South African music.

ASSESSMENTS



We taught 121 students in 2023 – 47 at Eluxolweni Primary in Khayelitsha, 42 at York Road Primary in Lansdowne and 32 at the Khayelitsha Saturday school. We assessed the 85 instrumental students in November.

The overall results of these assessments were: 39% excellent/very good, 38% good and 33% fair for progress, 56% excellent/ very good, 33% good and 11% fair/poor for ability, and 20% excellent, 32% proficient, 33% satisfactory and 15% developing for theory. We're very happy with these results.

TALENT SEARCH IN KHAYELITSHA



This event was originally meant to have happened in August but was cancelled then due to the taxi strike. It finally took place on 30th September at the Luhaza High School in Khayelitsha. The Suidoosterfees Talent Search 2023 in the Western Cape offers some exciting opportunities for young and upcoming talent and aims to create opportunities through workshops, mentorship and job creation.

WINSTON MANKUNKU NKOZI MEMORIAL CONCERT



This concert to celebrate the life of Winston and his music, was held in November at the Homecoming Theatre in District Six. Feya Faku (trumpet), George Werner (piano), Khaya Mahlangu (saxophone), Joshua Klein (drums) and Wesley Rustin (bass) played compositions from Winston's songbook. Feya, Khaya and George toured with Winston, played on his albums and were lifelong friends. The IMAD choir from Eluxolweni Primary School was invited to attend and perform at this concert.



WHO IS IMAD?

- The IMAD project remains a work in progress
- It is an institute which predominantly teaches music and arts development
- Do you know of any one young or old who would like to learn to play an instrument?

See the contact details on page 4



VISIT TO GERMANY

George Werner (IMAD's Director of Music), Babalwa Mentjies and Carlo Fabe (our project managers), and Uviwe Caso (our Lansdowne guitar teacher) spent two weeks in Germany in November 2023 participating in a cultural exchange programme as a guest of the Muiskschule Soest. This was the fourth part of an ongoing relationship between IMAD and this German school. In March 2020 The Little Giants were invited to spend two weeks in Soest and participated in an inter-cultural programme with the youth of Soest. Since then we have collaborated in a joint audio recording called "Double Rainbow" in 2021, and ten young musicians from Soest visited us in Cape Town in October 2022, rehearsed with The Little Giants and had joint performances with The Little Giants in Langa, on a trip out of Cape Town in Barrydale and Montagu, at York Road Primary School with the IMAD band and choir, and a final concert at The Wave Theatre in Cape Town

Our four teachers were tasked with teaching the German youth South African music and rhythms. Uviwe Caso and Carlo Fabe held daily guitar and drum/percussion workshops at the school,

in addition, the IMAD group did a lunchtime performance at one of the local universities.

This visit was a great success and future collaborations are being discussed.

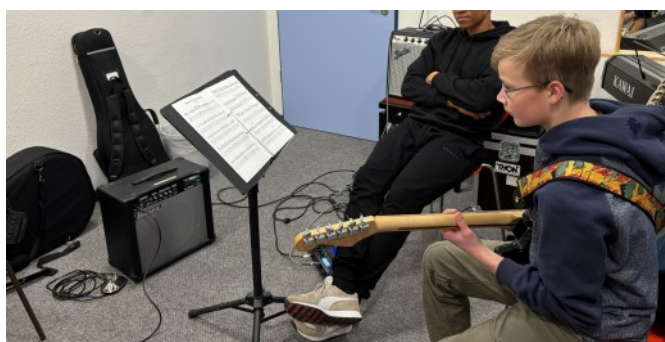


Above and top, Carlo Fabe creating the beat



Above and top, George Werner doing what he knows best

while Babalwa Mentjies and George Werner visited primary and high schools in the area and performed workshops with children in the city. There were two performances with the youth and an adult big band on 24th November and 1st December respectively. The second performance included Lezaam Beets, an ex-Little Giant, who is presently studying in Amsterdam. In



Uviwe Caso checking on the progress of his young guitarist



From top to bottom: Babalwa Mentjies sharing with the young ones, then the youth and eventually strutting her stuff with the band.

EKASI SPRING CONCERT



We hosted this seventh lunch hour concert at Eluxolweni Primary School in Khayelitsha on Saturday, 7th October. The theme of the concert was Exploring the Richness of South African Jazz Music. Both the IMAD Khayelitsha bands – the one from Eluxolweni Primary school and the other from our Saturday Music school - played a selection of well-known South Africa jazz numbers. The audience consisted of parents, school staff and members of the local community, and they gave our young musicians a standing ovation.

CAPE TOWN ARTS FESTIVAL



This festival was held over two days at the beginning of December in the courtyard of the Cape Town Castle. The programme featured music and dance with food stalls offering South African cuisine. Our Khayelitsha band was invited to play on the first day. Playing in front of an enthusiastic audience in this historic landmark was a wonderful experience for our young musicians.

OUR LANSDOWNE SCHOOL



We completed a successful year of music teaching and choir practices and performance with our York Road primary band playing at the Grad 7's award ceremony at the end of the fourth term.



DRUM WORKSHOP



Our IMAD drum students attended a very insightful and enlightening master class at the Baxter Theatre facilitated by Marcus Gilmore, an American award-winning drummer and former Rolex protégé. Meeting this well-known international musician and being taught by him was a wonderful opportunity for them to expand their musical horizons.

SOUTH AFRICAN JAZZ REAL BOOK



The Little Giants second album – Songs of Our Fathers – features eight tracks drawn from the South African songbook of yesterday and today with compositions spanning the eras from Dudu Pukwana, Mankunku and Chris McGregor to McCoy Mrubata and Mandla Mlangeni. There's a review of the CD at

<https://sisgwenjazz.wordpress.com/2022/06/19/the-little-giants-songs-of-our-fathers-much-better-than-biltong-for-fathers-day>. The CD can be ordered from thelittlegiants@jazz.co.za.

Anathi Mobo and the Giants in Lanaga



The above performance was well attended. This performance was recorded and will be featured on Saan Mohamed's slot at 9.00pm on Thursday 29 February. Do take some time out and listen to Fine Music Radio on 101.3FM

These young musicians really knocked the socks off some of the South African Jazz standards that were on offer on the day

STAY IN TOUCH

Please like us on Face book. <https://www.facebook.com/IMAD.NPO/#>

<https://www.facebook.com/the.little.giants.band/#>

Check our webpage

www.imad.co.za

Contact George Werner

on 073 182 5305 or george@jazz.co.za

Nick Green

on 084 660 6158 or nick@jazz.co.za



**THE INSTITUTE FOR MUSIC
AND INDIGENOUS ARTS
DEVELOPMENT**

**PROVIDING ACCESSIBLE MUSIC
EDUCATION FOR ALL**

Spread the word. Forward this newsletter to your friends