

Christmas Greetings December 2012

Dear Friends,

We've had an exciting workshop week at the PAC with over 80 children attending a 5 day program; we were pleased to welcome a group of young people from our local ACTS Clinic.

The focus of the week has been on making music, singing and acting, learning new skills, experimenting with instruments, and sharing ideas. We've been privileged to have several coaches and experts share their knowledge and skills with our youngsters, namely:

Aggi d'Aguiar (Band Development)

John Jacobs (Vocal, Drama, Band Development)

Sharne Mostert (Vocal Coach)

Di Atherton (Communication and Vision Workshop)

Charles Loram (Technical)

Oliver and Carole Borowski of Theatre Thump (Drama Workshop)

ACTS Clinic Film Crew (Film Workshop)

Anneke Coetzer (Conductor) and the Brass Section from Pienaar who assisted with Orchestra Auditions.

We'd like to say a whole-hearted THANK YOU to all of our coaches who contributed their time and expertise so generously.

In addition thank you to Nasima Bhayat for keeping over 80 youngsters well-fed with the most delicious food every day. Gratitude also to CMDA staff Musa, Lucky, Brendan and Mike for making things happen!

As the week has been such a success we thought you'd enjoy seeing a gallery of photos which will give you an idea of the learning, fun and enjoyment that's been had. Please scroll down to pages 2 and 3 and enjoy!

Exciting new show - ILIZWE

In collaboration with the National Arts Council

Ingrid Wylde of Blue Sky Productions is producing a show called Ilizwi by Ingrid Wylde and Vuyo Jack. The show is planned to take place towards the end of March next year and has been largely funded by the National Arts Council.

The cast includes many of our musicians and our vocalists and include Mmatshilo Motsei and Princess Indlovukazi, who will also be performing. The show will feature many songs from great South African musicians as well as three new songs written and composed by Moses Nyatheli who is currently based in Nelspruit.

We are so excited about this show, so do watch the press and Facebook for further details!!



Lowveld Community Orchestra

We are planning to cooperate with the Johannesburg Youth Orchestra through our relationship with the Mackenzie Foundation and plan to invite them to come and perform with the soon to be established CMDA sponsored Lowveld Community Orchestra.



Our initial orchestra rehearsal schedule is as follows:

Sunday 27 January
Sunday 17 February
Sunday 17 March
Sunday 14 April
Sunday 12 May

This promises to be a wonderful initiative for our community and we will update you further.



Communication Skills with Di Atherton



Stage presence

Band Practice with Aggi



Goal setting with Vision Boards



Percussion Skills



Princess does some research



Oliver and Carole Borowski of Theatre Thump



John Jacobs takes the students through some acting moves



Bass practice for Tobogo



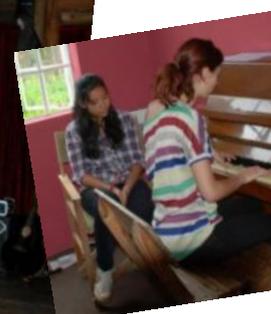
Stage Skills



Getting technical with Fruity Loops



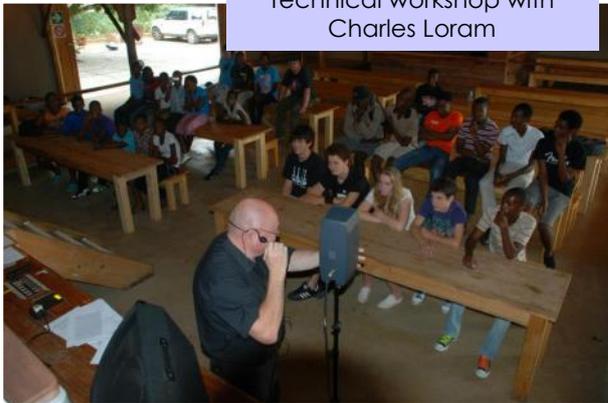
Band Practice for Laura, Tembi, Hannah and Tsavo



So many instruments to play!



Technical workshop with Charles Loram



Delicious lunches thanks to Nasima!



Stage Time



More Vocal Practice



Vocal Training with John Jacobs



Guitar skills for Sarah



Vocal Training with Sharne Mostert



Courtney rocks!



A potential Orchestra participant



Febe & Tsavo jam together



Zanika on stage!



Anneke oversees our Orchestra Auditions



Neville on the keyboard

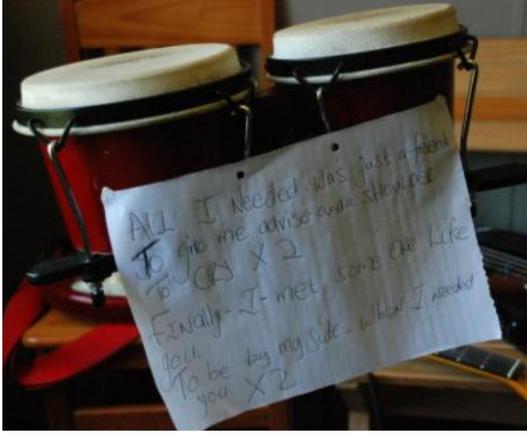


Fun & Friendship!



Band Practice for Monday Night Mavericks

A thank you note from one of our students who participated in the workshop: 'I enjoyed the communication workshop, it helped me a lot because I'm not very good with public speaking, so that was really helpful. And I enjoyed the practices, and the singing is a new thing for me; it's difficult but I'm determined to pull through and make it work. Being surrounded by people that have the same passion as I do makes it enjoyable and fun and there was always something new I learnt everyday, so it really was worthwhile to me. Thank you so much!' - Zanika.



COMPOSERS COMPETITION

We are running a composers competition for our students to stimulate their creativity and to experiment with sound recording and video editing. The entries will be uploaded onto Youtube and adjudicated by the Music Resource Centre in Charlottesville, Virginia.

The winner will receive a R10 000 voucher for equipment at Harry Green Music World in Nelspruit. Second Place will receive a voucher for R7,500 and third place R5,000. Anyone interested should contact us at info@mpuma-music.org.za or via our Facebook page.

A Big Thank You to our donors..

We deeply appreciate the support of our sponsors and donors, without whom our recent workshop and other activities would not be possible. A special thank you to Coca Cola who sponsored the food and drinks for all the students, every day of the workshop.

We would like to express our gratitude to our two most recent donors, namely The Mackenzie Foundation and the HCI Foundation. Thank you for your support and for your faith in our program. We also continue to receive support from several private donors and a special thank you to you all.



... and to our Coaches

We have 10 music coaches working for the CMDA, sharing their skills and expertise with 370 students in our 3 hubs. A big thank you to our coaches for all the time and energy and enthusiasm that they invest in our students. Watch out for our next newsletter as we will be featuring these men and women, and telling you a bit about their own music careers, their talents and they'll be giving some insights on their personal involvement with our program.

*From all of us at
the CMDA*

*We wish you
a Merry Christmas
and a Peaceful
and Prosperous
New Year!*

