



DREAM | BELIEVE | ACHIEVE

Success STORIES



DANCE FOR ALL STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

THIS SELECTION OF 50 PLUS SUCCESS STORIES ILLUSTRATES THAT THE HIGH STANDARD OF TRAINING OFFERED BY DANCE FOR ALL (DFA) GIVES ITS STUDENTS A SOLID FOUNDATION AND OPENS UP OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANY OF THEM TO FOLLOW A CAREER IN DANCE AND THE PERFORMING ARTS. SOME HAVE USED THE LIFE SKILLS THEY GAINED VIA THEIR DANCE TRAINING TO FORGE SUCCESSFUL CAREERS IN OTHER FIELDS. ALL THESE STUDENTS BEGAN THEIR TRAINING ON ONE OF DFA'S OUTREACH PROGRAMMES.

ABEGAIL MCKENZIE

Abegail did her dance training at Schoonspruit Secondary Arts Focus School. She was accepted on the Bridging Programme and after graduating, joined University of Cape Town School of Dance.

ABONGILE TENZA

Abongile started his dance training at the age of 9 years on the Outreach Programme in Nyanga. He then joined DFA's Specialised Ballet Programme and was on the Bridging Programme and was a member of the InSPIRATIONS Youth Company. After completing his training at DFA he was awarded a three-year bursary to continue his dance training at the Cape Academy of performing Arts (CAPA) with Artistic Director Debbie Turner.

ABDUL-AAGHIER ABU ISAACS

Having completed his dance training at high school level in Wellington, Abdul joined the Bridging Programme before he was offered a place on Jazzart's three-year training programme with Artistic Director Sifiso Kwyama.

AMBIA ANDREWS

Ambia started her dance training at Eersteriver High Arts Focus School and was a student on the Bridging Programme. She was then accepted onto Jazzart's three-year training programme.

ANDISWE DYANTI

She started her dance training at the on the Outreach Programme in Nyanga after which she joined DFA's Specialised Ballet Programme and the Bridging Programme. She is currently a trainee teacher at DFA.

ANNIE HENDRICKS

Annie, started her dance training at the well-known Dance Project before joining the Bridging Programme.

ASANDA MABAYI

Asanda started his training in Khayelitsha at Yomelela Primary School. He attended Alexander Sinton Arts Focus School as part of DFA's Scholarship Programme, and after teaching on the Rural Outreach Programme in Barrydale, he returned to teach on the Cape Town Outreach programme.

AVIWE NOVEMBER

Aviwe started his dance training at the Rural Outreach Programme in Zolani,

Montagu and thereafter received a three-year scholarship to attend the Cape Academy of Performing Arts. He currently works as a professional freelance dancer locally and abroad.

BATHEMBU MYIRA

Bathembu started his training in Khayelitsha at Yomelela Primary School and attended Alexander Sinton Arts Focus School as part of DFA's Scholarship Programme. He performed as guest season with the DFA Youth Company and toured with the production The Lion King in Hamburg, Germany. He has since returned to SA and started a dance project in the outreach areas.

BRADLEY LUWELIN ZEELIE

Bradley started his dance training at George High Arts Focus School. After spending a year on the Bridging Programme, he joined the InSPIRations Youth Company, and completed a teachers' training course with Gillian Joubert at DFA before returning to George to teach Ballet and Contemporary dance. He was awarded a one year scholarship to attend the Cinevox Junior Company in Switzerland, which has since been renewed.

BRONWYN ADAMS

Bronwyn did her dance training at Alexander Sinton Arts Focus School. She was accepted on the Bridging Programme and after graduating, joined University of Cape Town School of Dance.

BUYILE NARWELE

Buyile started dancing at Walter Teka Primary School in Nyanga. He moved on to the Specialised Ballet Programme after which he joined iKapa Dance Theatre as an aspirant. He currently works as a professional freelance dancer.

BYRON KLASSEN

Byron started his dance training at Eersterivier High Arts Focus School, where after he joined the Bridging Programme. He had the opportunity of attending a Summer Dance School in New York and on his return joined Alfred Hinkel's Contemporary dance company "Garage" as a dancer and choreographer.

CHRIS NCEKANA

Chris started dancing with DFA at the Masikhanye Centre in Gugulethu before progressing to the Specialised Ballet Programme. He works as a freelance professional and has since been granted the opportunity to work as a dancer on board some of the finest cruise liners, travelling in Europe.

FARNEL SMART

Farnel did his dance training at Eersterivier High Arts Focus School, before the joining the Senior Contemporary Programme. He moved on to the Bridging Programme and after graduating, received a three-year scholarship programme at the Cape Academy of Performing Arts.

GABRIELLA DIRKSE

Gabriella graduated from the Bridging Programme and was offered a place on Jazzart's three-year training programme.

HOPE NONGQONGQO

Hope Nongqongqo began her dance training with Janette Buys in Gugulethu and continued with DFA at Sivuyile College. She became an assistant teacher and with the assistance of the David Poole Trust completed the African and Contemporary dance course at UCT School of Dance. Hope returned to DFA as a full-time teacher, choreographer and drummer. In 2013 she was promoted to Outreach Manager.

JASON FREDERICKS

Jason, an ex-pupil at Eersterivier High Arts Focus School, trained on the Bridging Programme and on completing his course, was accepted at the Tshwane University of Technology to further his training as a dance student.

KANANELO PRECIOUS NGALEKA

Ngaleka started dancing at school and joined DFA's bridging programme for a year. She was then offered a bursary to attend Jazzart's training programme.

KHOLEKILE BIYONGO

Kholekile started his training at primary school level before joining the Specialised Ballet Programme. He then joined the Bridging Programme and became a member of the InSPIRATIONS Youth Company. He was awarded a three-year bursary to continue his training at the Cape Academy of Performing Arts.

LEE JOEL BOSMAN

Joel trained at school level before joining the Bridging Programme. He was then accepted onto Jazzart's three-year training programme.

LESLEIGH-ANN WEBER

Weber, from the area of Riversdale started her training as a drama and physical theatre student at Northlink College. After spending a year on DFA's Bridging

programme and with the focus on teaching, she returned to Riversdale to teach ballet and contemporary dance at schools in the area of Barrydale and Riversdale.

LEWELLYN AFRIKA

Lewellyn started his dance training at Eersterivier High Arts Focus School and was a student on the Bridging Programme. He was then accepted onto Jazzart's three-year training programme before joining the Cape Academy of Performing Arts.

LISA NONGQONGQO

Nongqongqo started dancing on the DFA outreach before joining the senior contemporary programme and after matriculating was offered a bursary to attend Jazzart's training programme.

LORRAINE NDINDWA

Lorraine started her dance training with DFA in Gugulethu and attended UCT School of Dance with a bursary from the David Poole Trust, where she did the African and Contemporary dance course. After working with iKapa Dance Theatre on the Outreach programme, she returned to DFA and is currently a full-time teacher, choreographer and drummer.

LUTHANDO JEJE

Luthando started dancing with DFA in Khayelitsha, before working with the Jikileza Dance Project in Hout Bay. He then joined Cape Town City Ballet's Male development programme and became an aspirant dancer with the company. After his departure from Cape Town City Ballet, he continued work as freelance dancer before his untimely death in 2014.

LUVUYO BAKANA

Luvuyo started his dance training in Gugulethu on the Outreach Programme and moved onto the Scholarship programme at Alexander Sinton Arts Focus School.

LUVUYO SIMANDLA

Luvuyo started his dance training in Gugulethu and at a later stage joined La Rosa Spanish Dance Theatre. He has taught on the Outreach and Bridging Programme and has since continued with further academic studies.

LWANDO DUTYULWA

Lwando started his dance training at Walter Teka Primary School in Nyanga and joined the Specialised Programme, moving on later to the Bridging Programme

and the InSPIRations Youth Company. He was awarded a three-year bursary to continue his training at the Cape Academy of Performing Arts.

MBULELO NGUBOMBINI

Mbulelo started dancing at Yomelela Primary in Khayelitsha and moved on to the Scholarship programme at Alexander Sinton. He joined the DFA Youth Company in 2005 where after he was offered a bursary at the Central School of Dance in the UK. On his return, he joined iKapa Dance Theatre and is currently freelancing.

MBULELO NDABENI

Mbulelo started dancing at Yomelela Primary in Khayelitsha before attending Alexander Sinton High on the Scholarship programme. He danced with Cape Town City Ballet for a season and was offered a scholarship to attend the London Studio Centre. He had the opportunity to tour with Mathew Bourne's All Male Swan Lake Company for a few years before joining the Rambert Dance Company in 2007.

MCEBISI XOTYENI

Mcebisi started dancing at Walter Teka in Nyanga before attending Alexander Sinton High on the Scholarship programme. He joined iKapa Dance theatre for a short while as an apprentice and is currently freelancing.

MIHLALI GWATYU

Mihlali started dancing on the senior contemporary programme and after 8 years at DFA was offered a bursary to attend Jazzart's training programme.

MONDE SITHOLE

Monde started his training at Yomelela Primary in Khayelitsha before attending Alexander Sinton High on the Scholarship programme. He was chosen as part of a crew on board a ship on a voyage across the Atlantic and won a place to a young explorer's camp in Switzerland, where he climbed Les Diablerets. He went further to start his own mountaineering enterprise and embarked on a "Seven Summits Two Poles" expedition Dare to Dream. Monde often appears as a motivational speaker locally and abroad.

MTHUTHUZELI NOVEMBER

Mthuthuzeli started his training in the rural area of Zolani, Montagu. At a later stage, he was awarded a three-year training scholarship at the Cape Academy of Performing Arts to further his training. He graduated with distinction in 2013 and became a member of the Cape Dance Company. Tutu (as he is fondly known) won

the Contemporary section of the SA International Ballet Competition, where he was awarded a bursary to attend the Alvin Ailey School in New York. He also received an opportunity to further his training for six months at the Central School of Ballet in London, and is at present a member of the company Ballet Black in the UK.

NANDIPHA SANDLANA

Nandipha started her dance training at DFA in Gugulethu before becoming an assistant teacher. She is currently a dance teacher at Cedar High Arts Focus School and a staff member at Moyo, an outreach project in Hout Bay.

NCEBA NGUBOMBINI

Nceba started dancing in Khayelitsha before attending Alexander Sinton High on the Scholarship programme. He was a member of the DFA Youth Company for five years before he was offered a bursary to attend the Cinevox Junior Company in Switzerland for two years. He performed in a musical production for one year before returning to SA to join iKapa Dance theatre. He taught and choreographed at DFA for a short while and has since started a dance project in the outreach areas.

NICOLETTE LETUBE

Nicolette trained with DFA in Gugulethu. She was later presented with an opportunity to do a technical theatre course at Artscape Theatre, where she currently works on the technical side of productions.

NKOSHITHI FIGLAN

Nkosinathi trained with DFA in Gugulethu and Alexander Sinton on the Scholarship programme. He later joined La Rosa Spanish Dance Theatre and now freelances.

NOLUYANDA MQULWANA

Noluyanda started her training at Yomelela Primary in Khayelitsha before attending Alexander Sinton High on the Scholarship programme. She was a member of the DFA Youth Company before she was offered a bursary to attend the Cinevox Junior Company in Switzerland. On her return to SA, she taught Contemporary Dance at DFA. She was a member of the InSPIRations Company before she joined the cast of The Lion King in Singapore and Hamburg, Germany. She was also given the opportunity to be part of the musical theatre production 'Mother Africa' in Hamburg, as well as 'West Side Story' in Europe.

NOZUKO DAMANE

Nozuko started her training with DFA in Gugulethu and received a bursary to attend Wynberg Girls High while also attending afternoon classes at Alexander Sinton High and UCT School of Dance, and later attended the University as a full-time student with support of the David Poole Trust. She has worked in Dubai and Spain, and is currently teaching at iKapa Dance Theatre on the Outreach Programme.

NQABA MAFILIKA

Nqaba started training at Yomelela Primary in Khayelitsha before attending Alexander Sinton High on the Scholarship programme. He was a member of the Youth Company from 2005-2008 before doing a season with Cape Town City Ballet. After working with iKapa Dance Theatre, he joined the cast of Spartacus of Africa in 2015 and is currently freelancing.

ODWA MAKANDA

Odwa started his dance training at Walter Teka Primary School in Nyanga and joined the Specialised Programme, moving on later to the Bridging Programme and the InSPIRations Youth Company. He was awarded a three-year bursary to continue his training at the Cape Academy of Performing Arts.

PATRICIA BOTHA

Patricia started her training with DFA in Gugulethu and became an assistant teacher on the Outreach Programme. She also taught at the Jikileza Dance Project and currently works in the corporate industry.

PAXTON SIMONS

Paxton joined DFA's Senior Contemporary Programme, after training at Alexander Sinton High and was then offered a place on Jazzart's three-year training programme.

PHUMLISA NDINDWA

Phumlisa started his training with DFA in Gugulethu. He was a member of Cape Town City Ballet before he became an assistant teacher on the iKapa Dance Theatre Outreach Programme.

SIBAHLE TSHIBIKA

Sibahle started training at Yomelela Primary in Khayelitsha before attending Alexander Sinton High on the Scholarship programme. She joined iKapa Dance theatre for a short while as an apprentice and is currently freelancing. Sibahle also

won the South African contest and television series “So You Think You Can Dance”.

SILUMKO SILWANA

Silumko started dancing at Walter Teka in Nyanga before attending Alexander Sinton High on the Scholarship programme. He graduated from UCT School of Dance and is currently freelancing.

SIPHE NOVEMBER

Started his dance training on DFA's Rural Outreach Programme in Montagu. He was then offered a bursary to attend the Canadian National Ballet School in Toronto for further training.

SKHUMBUZO NDALENI

Started his training on DFA's Outreach Programme in Khayelitsha. He then joined DFA's Specialised Ballet Programme and was a member of the InSPIRations Youth Company. After being on DFA's Bridging Programme for a year, he was awarded a three-year bursary to continue his dance training at the Cape Academy of Performing Arts.

TAMSYN PRETORIUS

Started her dance training at the Arts Focus School, Alexander Sinton, then joined DFA's Specialised Ballet Programme where she also became a member of the InSPIRations Youth Company. After being on DFA's Bridging Programme for a year she was awarded a three-year bursary to continue her dance training at the Cape Academy of performing Arts.

TANZLEY JOOSTE

Tanzley graduated from the Bridging Programme and was offered a place on Jazzart's three-year training programme.

THANDUMZI MOYAKHE

Thandumzi began his dance training at Sivuyile College in Gugulethu and continued with DFA as a member of the Youth Company. He had a successful career with SA Ballet Theatre and Mzansi Productions before his untimely death in 2008.

THEO NDINDWA

Theo began his dance training at Sivuyile College and Masikhanye Centre before joining Alexander Sinton on the scholarship programme. He attended afternoon classes at UCT School of Dance before he received a two-year scholarship to

Rambert Dance School in London. He joined Phoenix Dance Company in Leeds, before freelancing in the UK. He returned to SA in 2005, joined the Youth Company before starting iKapa Dance Theatre.

TUSILE TENZA

Tusile started dancing at Walter Teka in Nyanga. He was later part of the DFA Youth Company before joining Cape Town City Ballet.

VUYOLWETHU NOMPESHENI

Vuyulwethu joined DFA's Senior Contemporary Programme, after training at primary school level, and became a member of the InSPIRATIONS Youth Company before she was offered a place on Jazzart's three-year training programme.

XOLA PUTYE

Xola started dancing at the Masikhanye Centre in Gugulethu. He was later part of the Senior Scholarship Programme at Alexander Sinton, DFA Youth Company and then joining Cape Town City Ballet.

ZANDILE CONSTABLE

Zandile started dancing in Gugulethu before joining the Senior Scholarship Programme at Alexander Sinton, DFA Youth Company, and at age 19 was the first black dancer to take the lead role in David Poole's Kami. Zandile has worked with iKapa Dance Theatre, and is currently freelancing locally and abroad.

ZETU MTATI

Zethu started dancing in Gugulethu before she became an assistant teacher on the Outreach Programme. After UCT School of Dance where she majored in Spanish Dance, she joined La Rosa Spanish Dance Theatre as a dancer and part of management. She is currently teaching at the UCT School of Dance.

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