



OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE CHILDREN IN HISTORICALLY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES WITH THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENJOYMENT, PROMOTION OF SELF-ESTEEM AND EMPOWERMENT THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF DANCE, AS WELL AS TRAINING PROFESSIONAL DANCERS AND DEVELOPING A UNIQUE, INDIGENOUS DANCE COMPANY

# NEWS UPDATE 2020

EDITION TWO

After what has been a very challenging year for everyone, having been unexpectedly affected by the global Covid-19 pandemic, we would like to send our best wishes to those who have come out strong on the other side, and our thoughts to everyone who has been affected in a most negative way, with sincere condolences to the families who have lost loved ones during this difficult and trying time.

The students returned to class very motivated after the national lockdown had been lifted slightly and, although some of our venues at the schools and those in the rural areas were affected, we were able to carry on our work as best possible. Congratulations and well done to all the students who have persevered, and returned, and we look forward to the ones who will be returning in the New Year.

DFA continues to face a very difficult time financially, and we have had to make some very tough decisions, affecting our classes and schedules, as well as our organisation structure as a whole.

Our annual Artscape production and scheduled performances were unfortunately cancelled due to the pandemic, Covid-19 rules and regulations etc, and we decided instead to present an in-house performance **Wistful** with our full-time students to assist with their transport expenses, as well as assisting our part-time teachers who had been hit hard through the industry's huge financial drawback.

After the in-house performance, the students went straight into preparations for their end of year assessments, presenting them with results of where they are technically and what work lies ahead for both students and teachers. In the meantime we welcomed onboard Ballet teacher and former Cape Town City Ballet Artistic Director Robin van Wyk, to steer our Ballet classes. We look forward to working with Robin and hope and trust that his time with DFA will be as productive and exciting as we know him to be with all he engages himself with.

Thank you to our former Ballet teacher, Nicolette Loxton, with all that she has offered and carried over to our students, through her expertise, lovely choreography, and also relations with the students. It is wonderful that we have an ongoing relationship with Nicolette and we wish her well with all that she will be taking on in the future too.

Congratulations to all our full time Bridging Programme students who have continued with their training, and are now as ready as possible during these challenging times, to move on to the next chapter of their lives.

We wish them well and will continue to follow their journeys

**The way forward:**

**Anoxolo Hashibi**

*has been accepted to study BA Theatre & Performance at UCT Centre for Theatre, Dance & Performance Studies in 2021*

**Shante de Klerk**

*has been accepted to study a Diploma in Theatre & Performance at UCT Centre for Theatre, Dance & Performance Studies in 2021*

**Philasande Majikela**

*has been accepted to study AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts Los Angeles, California in 2021*

**Tasmin Andrews**

*has been accepted to study a Latin & Ballroom Instructors course at the Fred Astaire Dance Studios in Texas in 2021*

**Melanie Jacobs**

*has been accepted to study graphic design at Damelin College*

**Timothy Isaacs**

*will be returning to DFA for his 3rd yr, as part of the InSPIRations Youth Co and as a trainee teacher in 2021*

**Andre Maarman**

*will be returning to DFA for his 3rd yr, as part of the InSPIRations Youth Co and as a trainee teacher in 2021*

**Tiffany Kesner**

*will be returning to DFA for her 2nd yr training*

**Nadan Voetpad**

*will be returning to DFA for his 2nd yr training*

As funding applications, outcomes, funding criteria etc has been affected greatly nationally & internationally by the Covid-19 pandemic, we will adapt and continue to do what needs to be done to ensure that DFA carries on with its vital work.

Thank you to all our funders, sponsors, partners, supporters, colleagues & parents who have remained in contact throughout this year and shown their commitment and unwavering support to DFA.

We wish you all strength, peace and calm during this festive season and a most prosperous time with your loved ones. May 2021 be positive and may you embrace all that you have accomplished and overcome during this year and look into the future with an open mind and heart.

Blessings, Love & Light

Allison Hendricks – **Executive Artistic Director**

Marlene Carstens – **Operations Director**

Staff & students at Dance for All (SA)



TO ALL OUR FUNDERS, SPONSORS, PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT.

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