



FRANK PIETERSEN MUSIC CENTRE  
MUSIEKSENTRUM IZIKO LOMCULO

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ISSUE 11

# ENCORE!

## TERM 3 AND 4 - 2025



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# A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

by Hendrik Marais

Hi everyone!

Can you believe we've already flipped the calendar to December? It honestly feels surreal – where on earth did 2025 go? And here we are wrapping up the year and wondering how it all flew by so quickly!

What I can believe, though, is how incredibly busy Term 3 and 4 has been. Seriously, I don't think we've had a quiet moment! And that's why I want to start by saying a massive **THANK YOU to every single one of you** – our dedicated learners who practice and perform with such passion, our supportive parents who shuttle to lessons and cheer from the audience, and our amazing staff who pour their hearts into teaching. You all helped make the last two terms an absolute triumph, and there's honestly just so much to celebrate!

This newsletter is bursting with good news – and I mean bursting. The achievements of our individual musicians, our bands, and our ensembles at competitions and eisteddfodau have been nothing short of remarkable. It's a real testament to the quality of teaching happening in our studios every single day.

But beyond the trophies and certificates (as wonderful as those are!), what's really stuck with me are those magical musical moments we've shared together. From our cozy Sunday afternoon recitals to the energy of Carin & Co, the excitement of Blast! 2025, and that beautiful, collaborative performance by our Junior and Intermediate Strings at Hugo Lambrechts, and Summer Strings that added even more excitement to the programme – each one reminded me why we do what we do.

**Music isn't something you tick off your to-do list after your weekly lesson or pack away after a performance. It's a lifestyle choice, something we get to share with our community and audiences whenever we possibly can.**

Speaking of sharing, I received a letter from one of our parents earlier this week that I just have to pass on to you. It really captures what FPMC is all about:

*"I am writing this letter to thank everyone at the Frank Pietersen Music Center for the incredible work that you are doing. Your hard work is a great blessing for our children. As a father of one of your many students, I am impressed by the standard of education and the psychological impact it has on my child. Your teachers clearly understand the benefits of character building and encouragement as part of a holistic approach to training. In spite of the world-class calibre, the rigorous program, and the many performances, my young daughter continues to be enthusiastic about her music. At no time does the demands seem to stem her passion. How you manage to sustain this delicate balance is beyond my grasp, but you do it most expertly. As we all know, learning music skills greatly stimulates brain and body development. You have somehow mastered the ability to not only do that, but also instill an enthusiasm that doubles the value of the experience. I frankly cannot imagine a better education for young children than that which Frank Pietersen Music Center offers. Thank you!!!"*

**This letter – this is what makes FPMC the special place it is. It's not just about the music (though that's pretty spectacular!). It's about the joy, the growth, the community, and the love we all share for what we do.**

So grab a cuppa, settle in, and enjoy reading about all the wonderful things that happened in term 3 and 4. You're going to love it!

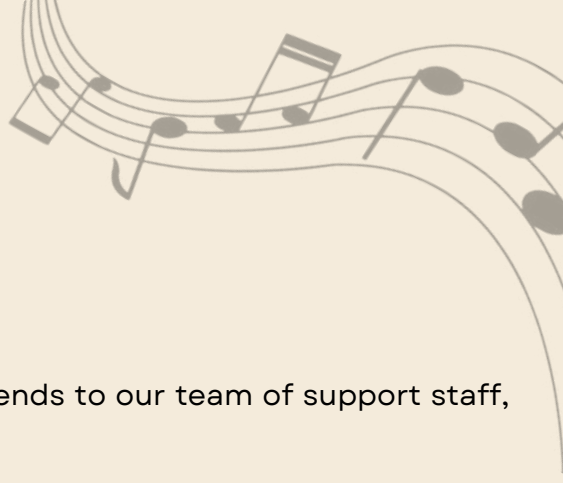
Wishing you all a very blessed festive season and well-deserved break.

Warm regards,  
Hendrik Marais





# WELCOME, NEW STAFF!



by Melanie Pietersen

Just before the end of July, we warmly welcomed Mr Mirven Berends to our team of support staff, as Driver/ General Assistant.

Soon after starting at the Centre, Mr Berends shared that 37 years ago, when he attended Ebenezer Primary School, he was taught music theory by the late Mrs Petronella Pietersen (Frank Pietersen's wife) in 1983, and thereafter had recorder lessons with Mr Vaughan Pietersen in 1986 and 1987.

Mr Berends has made a significant impact and adds tremendous value to our team, safely transporting our learners to the Music Centre and back home.

At the end of July, we gratefully welcomed Dr Cara Kleynhans to our stellar team of educators, as Guitar teacher. With many talents, including a hand in the culinary world, Dr Kleynhans also assists with Piano Accompaniments at the Centre.

Furthermore, her experience lies in the fields of classical guitar, piano, violin, recorder and music theory, with extensive experience in both performance and instruction.

Such wonderful work has taken place in the guitar department to date, including two Class Concerts seeing the department end off their first year with a stunning guitar ensemble!

Thank you, Mr Berends and Dr Kleynhans for sharing your gentle natures and for enriching our learners with your teachings and the examples that you set.

May your work at the Music Centre fulfill, inspire and be equally enriching for each of you.



# KòDALY TEACHERS TRAINING COURSE

by Adele Newman and Leandri Louw

This course was inspiring, energising and insightful. It was presented by highly qualified, skilled and experienced music educators and musicians, who are passionate about what they do.

We were really put through our paces with the amount of practical and written assignments and assessments we had to complete before we could receive accreditation for the course, however, it was so worthwhile.

The knowledge gained can be applied to both individual and group music teaching, whether instrumental, in a general music class set-up or in a music theory class.

With the Kòdaly method, every concept you learn happens in a practical, hands-on, interactive way first, through singing, listening, playing musical games and using solfa hand signs. Thereafter it is visually represented on the board and then written down. This makes music learning very meaningful, especially for children.

It's an excellent way to teach and show how practical and theory go 'hand in hand'.

Music theory is then not seen as something abstract by learners, because every concept they learn about, is experienced in a practical way first.

I have definitely been applying the knowledge I've gained in my teaching.

The opportunity to be part of a mass choir made up of everyone who attended this course, was truly special as well. This choir was conducted by a phenomenal, world renowned and highly skilled choral conductor, who is passionate about singing.

It was an amazing experience singing in this choir at our certificate ceremony, in the fantastic Hugo Lambrechts auditorium.

I will definitely attend this course again as I see the value it holds for every music teacher.



With music, one's whole future life is brightened. This is such a treasure in life that it helps us over many troubles and difficulties. Music is nourishment, a comforting elixir. Music multiplies all that is beautiful and of value in life.

— Zoltan Kodaly —



During the July holidays, a few educators from FPMC had the opportunity to attend the internationally accredited Kodály music education course, hosted at the Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre. While the course started during the holiday, a few online sessions were hosted a couple of weeks before.

Music educators and Kodály trainers from across the globe hosted the course with much passion and vigor. Educators had four subjects: Musicianship, Methodology, Conducting, and Choir. In order to receive a Kodály accreditation, educators had to attend classes, submit assignments and perform practical assessments.

A highlight for me was the choir concert hosted on the last day. All participants in the course sang together in a choir, celebrating new skills, knowledge, and friendships.





# EISTEDDFOD AWARD WINNERS

by Melanie Pietersen

The Tygerberg International Eisteddfod (TIE) and the Paarl Valley Eisteddfod (PVE) annually take place and provide our learners the opportunity to showcase their talents and gain insightful commentary from expert adjudicators. Thank you to the teachers who entered their learners, ensembles and bands this year - the experience that each musician gains on these platforms are incredibly valuable.

Congratulations to every learner who participated and to their teachers who contributed the seeds to their success.

We are immensely proud of you and celebrate your dedicated spirits!

Our learners' TIE achievements are as follows:

## *Voice*

**Leah Pieters**

Highest Honours

**Alivia Prinsloo**

Highest Honours

## *Orchestras*

**Senior Wind Band**

Trophy Winners - 96%



Our learners' PVE achievements are as follows:

*Strings*

**Vineto Witbooi**  
**Sadé Theunissen**  
**Emily Purchase**  
**Vialli Mocke**  
**Hannah Purchase**

Most Promising Junior Violinist over 10 Years  
Most Promising Senior Violinist over 15 Years  
Best Junior Violin  
Best Senior Violin  
Best Viola

*Woodwinds: Flute/ Fife*

**Dorian Theunissen**  
**Signe Hartogh**  
**Nina Voigt**  
**Josh Swarts**  
**Nazlee Hesi**  
**Jannes Emmerich**

Most Promising Junior Fife and Best Junior Fife (Gr 1-4)  
Most Promising Junior Flute  
Most Promising Senior Flute  
Best Junior Flute (Gr 1-4)  
Best Senior Flute (Gr 5-8)  
Overall Winner

*Woodwinds: Saxophone, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon*

**Keagan Kearns**  
**Tarren King**  
**Chervaundé Adonis**

Most Promising Senior Clarinet  
Best Junior Clarinet (Gr 1-4)  
Best Senior Oboe (Gr 5-8)

*Brass*

**Martayo Persens**  
**Daneeco Africa**  
**Charnlin-Angel Baron**  
**Beginner Brass Ensemble**  
**Brass Quintet**

Best Junior Trumpet  
Best Senior Trumpet  
Best Senior Trombone  
Best Junior Brass Ensemble  
Best Senior Brass Ensemble

*Orchestral Percussion*

**Joshua Gordan**  
**Hannah Purchase**

Best Junior Percussion  
Best Senior Percussion

*Piano: Senior*

**Sadie Lawrence**  
**Lukas de Villiers**

Most Promising Senior Piano  
Highest Total Mark - Male

*Orchestras*

**Senior String Ensemble**  
**Senior Wind Band**

Best Regional Orchestra  
Best Open Orchestra





# CARIN & Co

by Melanie Pietersen

Our very own, multi-talented, Ms Carin Thompson showcased a joyous celebration of music and performing for the love of art, featuring special friends, colleagues, her learners and family.

She wowed us on the violin, saxophone and humble recorder, with moving and exciting performances:

For the relentless pursuit of lifelong learning  
For my brother, Crispin Ringquest  
For my stupendous students  
For my Dad, Dean Thompson  
For my Mom, Anthea Thompson  
For Janine October  
For the transformative power of love  
For Ramon Alexander and Annemie Nel  
For Karin Maritz  
For the Lekker Mense  
For childlike awe and bravery  
For the pursuit of excellence  
For my heroic colleagues  
For Mrs Lorraine Krige  
For my uncle, Gordon Wilton  
For lifelong friendships  
For my string colleagues, no strings attached  
For my sisters, Cindy Ringquest and Joy Vermeulen  
For Mr Charles Anyster  
For Leandri Louw  
For Mr Ronnie Samaai  
For the love of music and living your purpose, always

For you, Ms Thompson, for your gentle teachings and how you inspire and motivate us to be brave, and that *anything* is possible.









# WOMEN'S DAY EXPO AT PAARL MALL

by Daynah Lawrence

"Music is the voice of the soul, and every woman carries a song within her." - Author Unknown.

I wanted to share something special that happened recently on Women's Day. I was honoured to be selected as one of the few classical guitarists to perform at the Paarl Mall's Women's Day Expo. A wonderful experience.

This opportunity was made possible by Dr Cara Kleynhans, the newly appointed classical guitar teacher at the Frank Pietersen Music Centre (FPMC). She is not only incredibly talented but also deeply inspiring. I'm so grateful that she believed in me and recommended me to perform. Her passion for music and dedication to her students is already making a huge impact at FPMC.

At first, it felt strange playing in the big open space at Paarl Mall, where there was no dedicated audience, unlike a concert where you normally spend weeks preparing for perfection. However, once I started playing, all my nerves went away. Some shoppers stopped to listen, some smiled at me, and a few clapped after my songs.

I also want to say a huge thank you to FPMC for organising the performances at Paarl Mall, and for treating all the performers to delicious pizza at Panarottis between sets! It was such a fun and thoughtful break before going back to play again.

A special thank you to Vialli Mocke, an amazing, multi-talented woman and fellow learner at FPMC, who performed beautifully on the violin, as well as to all the other learners and amazing women who sang so confidently at the Expo. It was truly inspiring to be surrounded by such talented young performers, such as Vialli. Especially as we came together to celebrate the strength, creativity, and spirit of women through music.

Thanks to everyone who listened, supported the FPMC, or even just walked by. And a big thank you again to the organisers who gave me a chance to play. I'm so thankful I got to celebrate all the strong, kind, and beautiful women in Paarl Mall through music.

Thank you for reading.





# HELLENIC ACADEMY COLLABORATION

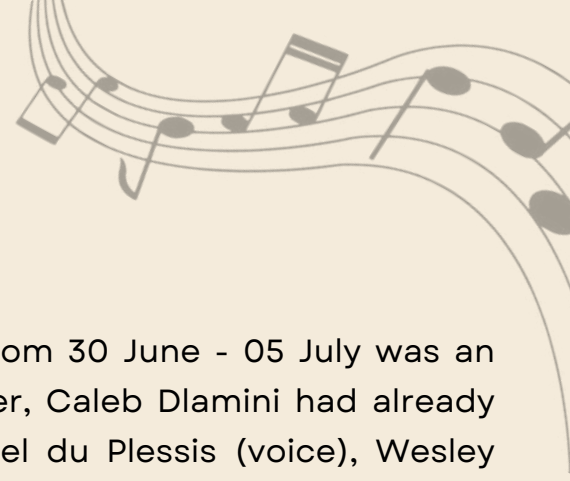
by Hayley Hendricks and Sadé Theunissen

The Hellenic Academy Concert was a good experience. I enjoyed playing with them and experiencing how they do things and how they play. The players in the orchestra are very musical and play as one. They were kind and welcomed us with open arms. Their talent and potential of young players did not go unnoticed. It was a good opportunity that will not be forgotten.

Playing with the Hellenic Academy was an amazing experience. I had an amazing time playing with other musicians and managed to make a few new acquaintances during the process. The people I talked to were very welcoming and had patience with me whenever I asked questions about their travels. Overall, it was a nice experience and I enjoyed playing with them.



# FESTIVALS



## National Youth Jazz Festival

This year's National Youth Jazz Festival in Makhanda, from 30 June - 05 July was an absolute treat for our talented learners! While drummer, Caleb Dlamini had already attended the prestigious festival, it was a first for Yael du Plessis (voice), Wesley Kakwata and Jermaine de Wee (saxophones).

They experienced and gained a wealth of knowledge from experts in the industry, while enjoying exciting, live concerts.

For the second year in a row, Caleb played his way into the National Schools Jazz Band, that brings together the top musicians playing at school level, and this year they were conducted by Ramon Alexander.

Thank you very much to Ms Carin Thompson and Mr Matthew Perry who chaperoned the learners this year.



## The Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival (SICMF)

As a trombonist participating in the Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival, I had the privilege of performing with the Festival Concert Orchestra, alongside talented, young musicians from around the world. Under the expert guidance of Mrs Pamela Kierman, I received invaluable coaching that helped me refine my technique and musicality. The festival's emphasis on collaboration and excellence pushed me to new heights as a musician, and I cherished the opportunity to be part of this celebration of classical music excellence. The experience was truly unforgettable, and I'm grateful for the chance to learn from renowned musicians and industry experts. **Charnlin-Angel Baron**

This was my 3rd year attending the SICMF, and once again, all I can say is that it is one of the most amazing experiences ever! The faculty members are very inspirational, and you learn so much just from watching them play! We are very, very privileged to be able to experience what we experienced at the SICMF.



In just 10 days, you learn so much and meet so many great people!  
And I also always have to give props to the cooks! They never fail to provide a great meal for each and every person there!  
I 100% recommend this festival to any musician wanting to improve their skills!

**Hannah Purchase**



The SICMF was a wonderful experience where I was able to connect with fellow musicians and form a lifelong passion for classical music. The week I spent in Stellenbosch was filled with many special moments I will never forget. **Oliver Sales**

Attending the SICMF was an unforgettable journey into music, community, and inspiration. From the very first evening at the Endler Hall, I was struck by the atmosphere – a mix of anticipation, elegance, and warmth. The hall itself, with its wonderful acoustics, seemed to embrace every note and gave the performances a special intimacy.

The festival programme was rich and diverse. Each concert felt like a discovery: some works were familiar favourites performed with new energy, while others were pieces I had never heard before but instantly fell in love with. What impressed me most was the combination of internationally acclaimed musicians with young, emerging talents. Watching students perform alongside their mentors was powerful – it wasn't just a concert, it was a celebration of growth, guidance, and the passing on of knowledge. Beyond the music, masterclasses and rehearsals, the conversations were a highlight. They gave a glimpse into the creative process – the discipline, the collaboration, and the joy that lies behind what we see on stage. Hearing artists share their personal insights about music, art, and life made the experience feel very human and connected.

Stellenbosch itself added to the magic. The leafy streets, the mountain backdrop, and the lively energy of the town made every walk between venues feel special. Between concerts, there was time to reflect, meet people, and share in the collective excitement that hung in the air.

What I took away from SICMF was more than just beautiful performances – it was the sense of being part of something meaningful. It reminded me how music can bridge generations, cultures, and experiences. I left feeling inspired, grateful, and already looking forward to the next festival. **Sadé Theunissen**

Getting to attend the Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival was no doubt the highlight of my year. From getting to meet amazing musicians to watching some of the most amazing performances, to having life changing masterclasses. It helped me look at music from a whole other direction and reminded me why I love making music. SICMF allowed me to challenge myself and grow so much as a musician.

The week before we arrived, my nerves were all over the place. Arriving there calmed my nerves a little but sitting in rehearsal the next morning made all my nerves fade away. Those 10 days allowed me to meet new people and strengthen my relationship with some of my band members.

The Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival was the best opportunity I could have ever gotten. Although the days felt like it went by so fast, it taught me a lot about being inside the life of a musician. **Kaylin Arendse**

My third year at the Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival was a game-changer! The talented musicians, incredible performances, and infectious passion reignited my own musical spark. I'm especially grateful for the opportunity to learn from and be inspired by exceptional artists. A special thank you to Dwight Parry, the phenomenal oboist, whose artistry and dedication to his craft motivated me to push my own boundaries. The festival's energy and commitment to nurturing musical talent left me feeling empowered to pursue my own musical journey with renewed purpose and enthusiasm. I'm already looking forward to next year's festival! **Chervaundé Adonis**



This year I had the privilege to attend the Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival for the very first time and I have to say it was the biggest music event I've ever attended. Because of this festival I got to see performances from some of the best musicians in the world and if I could, I would attend this festival every year for the rest of my life. I hope every musician gets to experience what I experienced this year at the festival. The experience is truly lifechanging. **Somila Magalakangqa**

My experience at the SICMF was absolutely inspiring. I learnt so much and used my learning experience in my performances. I got to meet new musicians as well. During those 10 days, I learned to listen more deeply, respond more intuitively and make a stronger connection with my fellow musicians. I got to see the professional musicians performing at the Faculty Concerts, but my favourite concert was the 'Clarinet Concerto' played by Yaoguang Zhai, a professional clarinettist, as well as the 'Bassoon



Concerto' played by Bram van Sambeek, a professional bassoonist. Overall, the SICMF was a transformative experience that left me feeling inspired, motivated and eager to continue to grow as a musician. It was a huge privilege to take part this year and it would be an honour to participate again next year. **Keagan Kearns**

As I entered my 3<sup>rd</sup> year, I look back with pride on my experience as a trumpeter at the SICMF 2025. Playing alongside talented, musical peers challenged me to grow both technically and musically. Chamber music taught me to listen more closely, balance my sound, and blend with others rather than to stand out alone.

The rehearsals and masterclasses were demanding, but they inspired me and gave me valuable feedback from professional musicians. I also formed new friendships and connections with people who share my love for music.

This festival reminded me why I chose this path: because music is powerful, uniting and transformative. I carry with me the lessons, confidence, and inspiration from the Chamber Festival - determined to keep growing as both a trumpeter and a musician.

**Amy Fredericks**

This was my second year at the SICMF and I had high expectations because my first year was absolutely fantastic! I am happy to say it exceeded my expectations on so many levels. It is such a big privilege to take part in the SICMF. The "lessons" were skillfully presented by master musicians. The evening faculty performances was spectacular especially the last night ending of with "Thunderstruck".

I had lots of masterclasses and it was an amazing experience I will always remember. It truly feels like one big happy musical family. I learned an immense amount of valuable knowledge, met new people, made new friends, grew as a person and became a better musician. The SICMF will always be something close to my heart. **Lea Prinsloo**



### **Paarl Boys' High Orchestra Festival**

This year's Paarl Boys' High School Orchestra Festival was held on 16 August at the Toringkerk Church Hall. Our dynamic Senior Wind Band, conducted by Mr Cameron Hofmeester contributed to an evening of musical excellence, alongside the talents of our local schools and guest artist, the Hugo Veldsman Band.

We're tremendously proud of each, talented musician!



## Hugo Lambrechts Concerto Festival

by Matthew Lamprecht

On 23 August, I had the opportunity to perform at Hugo Lambrechts' annual Concerto Festival. This diverse celebration of music provides developing, young musicians the opportunity to play pieces with high quality orchestral accompaniment in the centre's lovely auditorium. Having been my first experience playing my flute as a soloist with an orchestra, I will always remember the experience favourably.

Having submitted my audition video as early as May, I was delighted to hear that I had been accepted to play and based on my prior experience there in 2021 as violinist, I was excited for the coming performance. The following month, it was time for the photo session, where a professional photographer and make-up artist worked with all the participants to prepare promotional material for the concert itself. As an additional benefit, I thus got some high-quality shots of me with my instrument. It was also here that I spoke to the other participants, forging valuable new friendships and learning more about the intricacies of playing different instruments (particularly insightful was learning in greater depth how the accordion works!).

As the rehearsals with the orchestra flew past and the day of performance inched closer, my excitement started to build. Consisting of a lovely programme, the concert featured a variety of works by composers like Piazzolla, Vivaldi, Beethoven, Schumann and Sibelius. My contribution to the evening would be Franz Doppler's 'Fantaisie pastorale hongroise'. A quasi-improvisational rollercoaster, the piece was exciting to play with orchestra. Although the great variation of tempi, contrasting characters of different sections and prominent rubato made integration with the orchestra a challenge, but it was ultimately successful.

Looking back, I can only express gratitude at the opportunity of making beautiful music. The thrill of performing alongside an orchestra in such a beautiful and acoustically rich venue lingers, sure to survive as a special memory.





## Hugo Lambrechts String Festival

*by Inge Wittenberg*

On Saturday, 27 September, our Junior and Intermediate String Ensembles, as well as some beginner violinists excitedly boarded the combis to enjoy an afternoon of music making with the String Department of the Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre (HLMC).

Most of our learners had never been to the Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre before. We prepared our groups well by sending them photos and videos of the Auditorium before the time, but the moment we walked into the foyer and then soon after onto the stage, the WOW feeling became a reality for each one. To play in this wonderful space uplifted our learners and they truly rose to the occasion.

The concert was well organised with our two String Ensembles' items spaced well between the items of the Hugo Lambrechts ensembles. This gave our learners the chance to hear some of the ensembles of our hosts.

The best part of the afternoon was at the end when the two music centres collaborated for two massed items. This had been put together and rehearsed just before the concert and when performing, to the very enthusiastic audience, was another WOW moment for each of our string players. The Hugo Lambrechts Cello teacher, Mr Troy Petersen conducted 'Strings Royale' and Ms Carin Thompson conducted 'The Pacific'. Our percussionists were absolutely awesome, adding that extra spice to the pieces.

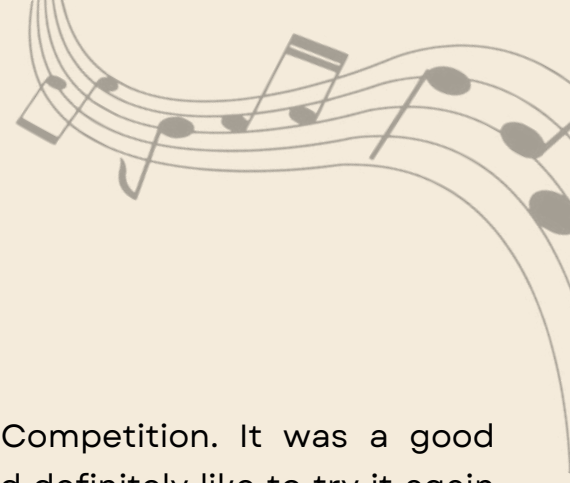
We are very proud of our learners who showed confidence in their performance and their stage etiquette. All our parents in attendance agreed that our ensembles did not need to shy away at all and that Frank Pietersen Music Centre can be very proud of our learners. We hope that this type of collaboration can become an annual event.

Thank you to Mrs Zelda Wepner and her HLMC String Department for hosting us in such a friendly way and thank you for the delicious donuts.

I extend great thanks to my colleagues, namely Ms Thompson for sourcing the amazing piece, 'The Pacific', arranging it for all the beginners, drafting our rehearsal schedule and keeping us to it. To Mr Duminy for assisting with rehearsals beforehand, to Ms Reyneke for performing with the cellos and to Mrs Newman for her superb accompaniment. Thank you, Mr Langenhoven, Mrs Newman and Ms Reyneke for managing the learners backstage, and to Mr Marais for cheering us on from the audience! To Mr Januarie, Mr Berends and Mr Ngcawe - thank you for managing our stage setup and percussionists, and for transporting us safely from Paarl and back. Thank you, to our parents for your unfailing support and a big thank you to each learner - you are wonderful ambassadors of FPMC.



# COMPETITIONS



## Johann Vos National Music Competition

*by Hannah Purchase*

In August of 2025 I entered the Johann Vos Music Competition. It was a good experience and different to what I'm used to, but I would definitely like to try it again next year! I want to give a huge thanks to Ms Annemie Nel for helping me with all my percussion works and making me do things that I thought was impossible. She has really molded me into the most amazing, talented, gorgeous, unforgettable, humble percussionist I am today. 😊

I also want to thank Dr Cara Kleynhans for accompanying me during the competition! We were looking for an accompanist who could play the tricky piano parts and Dr Kleynhans came right at the last minute!

I'm so grateful for the opportunities I am blessed with.



## Talento Singing Competition

*by Tarryn Pegram and Melanie Pietersen*

What an experience! I had the privilege to take part in a singing competition (Talento) where I had to make it through multiple rounds in order to qualify for the finals. It was an extremely long process - from the audition day all the way until the Gala Evening where they announced the winners. I met amazing people with amazing voices. Initially I thought that I was not going to make it past my audition because they cut me off midway in my song (it was apparently too long). I felt demotivated and really embarrassed, even questioning why I entered this competition in the first place. A few weeks later my mom got a message saying that I made it through to the next round! WHAT A SURPRISE!

I realised then that I might actually have a chance on making it through to the finals. The feeling of being on that big stage in front of a large audience as well as being judged by the panel, was absolutely thrilling, but once I got on stage with the mic in my



hand, I felt at ease. When they announced that I came first and was a category winner, I was in total disbelief. I could not have done it without my Sir, Blaine Josephs! He is definitely the reason I got so far in the competition. It was an amazing experience, and I am grateful that my Sir exposed me to so much and to my mom, my biggest supporter!

We are also exceptionally proud of voice learner, Ezri Hansen (pictured below in brown) who also performed in the Pop category, and sang her way into the finals, too. Ezri came in third place at the competition!

Thank you to Mx Blaine Josephs, for the exposure to the various platforms and stages for our learners to experience and excel in!

Congratulations to Ezri and Tarryn, and their wonderfully supportive, and proud parents!



### Stellenbosch National Ensemble Competition

Congratulations to the Awaken Jazz Quintet who reigned supreme as the overall winners of the Open Category (Classical and Jazz) at the Stellenbosch National Ensemble Competition, on 27 September!

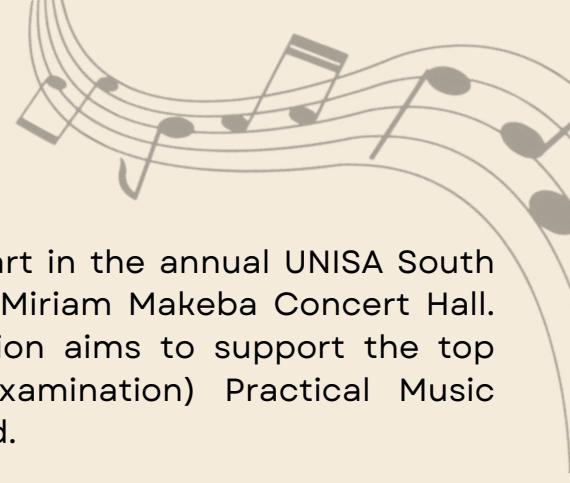
These exceptionally talented gents are also the category winners of the Open Jazz section and we are so proud of these incredible awards! It was also their first time entering this competition.

Congratulations to drummer, Caleb Dlamini and his proud teacher, Ms Annemie Nel!



## UNISA South African Music Scholarship Competition

*by Matthew Lamprecht*



On 16 and 17 October, I ventured to Pretoria to take part in the annual UNISA South African Music Scholarship Competition held at the Dr Miriam Makeba Concert Hall. With only 10 other competitors invited, the competition aims to support the top candidates of UNISA's Grade 8 (highest graded examination) Practical Music Examinations, with a variety of cash prizes being awarded.

Flying to OR Tambo International on 14 October, I had to arrange for practices with an accompanist beforehand to ensure optimal performance during the competition. Welcomed by the soft purple cushioning of Jacarandas lining the streets, I buzzed with excitement as the performance day approached.

The competition saw a variety of instruments performing, ranging from violin and piano to saxophone and French horn. My program consisted of a solo, 'Fantasia' by Telemann, the first movement of Mouquet's popular 'La Flute de Pan' as well as 'Mabalêl: Fantasia' based on the poem by Eugene Marais, by South African composer, Hendrik Hofmeyr. The first piece gave me a unique opportunity to display my tone and mastery of the Baroque style with the other two pieces allowing me to share a clear narrative with the audience through my flute. The Mouquet, for example, is based on the story of Pan, a god from Greek mythology, and contains many pastoral elements. Thus, I aimed to convey a scene reminiscent of the busy day of a shepherd living in the mountains, my flute acting as Pan's very own reed pipes. The last piece presented an entirely different challenge and narrative quality. Containing simple, jovial melodies, a range of extended techniques and highly virtuosic passages, the piece presented a poignant depiction of Marais's poem, Mabalêl, that follows a blissfully ignorant young girl trotting along a tranquil path towards a brooding crocodile, awaiting her death. From slap-tonguing (a technique involving the quick manoeuvring of the tongue to create a distinctly sharp percussive effect), that imitated the snapping of a crocodile's jaws, to tongue-ramming (a technique involving the stopping of the flute's hole with the tongue to create a round, explosive sound), that suggested Mabalêl's last breaths, the piece was a compelling tone poem.

Having been there last year and ending as Runner-Up with the violin, it was a lovely experience competing again. Following the performances, every participant received certificates of participation at the Prize Giving Ceremony, and I was additionally awarded a Du Toit-Van Tonder Music Scholarship and UNISA South African Composition Prize for best performance of a South African composition. Following the Prize Giving, there was a delicious reception buffet where I had great fun talking to the other musicians. It has been a lovely experience and a wonderful opportunity to listen to and share music with like-minded youths, with a passion for the art.





# RECITALS

## Lea Prinsloo Solo Recital

*by Lea Prinsloo*

My first solo recital was a truly wonderful experience!

Even though I felt a bit nervous and excited, after the first piece I relaxed, and loved every moment thereafter. Mr Duminy's exceptional accompaniment made the performance very special!

A huge thank you to Mr Duminy for the amazing support - it really made a difference, and I appreciate his hard work and dedication.

It is a huge privilege to be able to have my next Solo Recital in March 2026, and I cannot wait!



## Senior Strings Recital

On 28 September, our Senior String Ensemble showcased a programme of exceptional standard when they played their annual recital.

Congratulations to the soloists who held their own on stage, namely violist, Hannah Purchase, violinist, Hayley Hendricks, and oboist, Chervaundé Adonis, and thank you to Mr Mark Langenhoven on harpsichord.

Thank you to teacher, Mr Hadley Duminy for the love of music excellence that he has instilled in each learner whose future is incredibly bright from where we sit in the audience.

## Hannah Purchase & Sadé Theunissen with Family and Friends

*by Hannah Purchase and Sadé Theunissen*

The Recital, titled "Hannah Purchase & Sadé Theunissen, with family and friends, accompaniment by Dr Cara Kleynhans" was such a wonderful experience! It was lovely working alongside Sadé Theunissen, an amazing violinist whom I have known for about 8 years now. We have done lots of sleepover practices together in the past and it's always so fun with her! I'm hoping to do a lot more works with her in the coming future!

Dr Kleynhans is the best accompanist I could ask for! Matching the vibe with each student she plays with and always giving a big smile before and after each performance. I would really like to thank everyone who made that recital possible, including the audience! It was definitely a day to remember!

I also want to say well done to Connor Purchase, as this was his very first concert performed at Frank Pietersen Music Centre! Although very nervous, he was brave enough to go up with his friends and family and perform in the massed item with us all.

The recital I had with Hannah was one experience I could never duplicate again. It was my first ever recital and I enjoyed playing with her, especially when I played the family item with my brothers, with our main instruments.

But that day had me feeling a rollercoaster of emotions. On that day, I received a beautiful violin that was 100 years old. It was amazing! I shed a few tears, thinking of how I was the first person the teachers thought of when that violin came to the centre.

I would also like to thank Mr Michael Jack for giving the violin to me. He told me that he felt at ease giving the violin to me after he heard my playing, and that was what contributed to my tears of joy, as I felt honoured that such a precious instrument was given to me. I cannot thank him enough.

In short, the recital is a day I could never forget and it was a day where I truly felt appreciated for my hard work.





# NEW AFRICAN PERCUSSION TALENT!

by Glenn Morton

New, talented and vibrant, primary school learners have joined our department, namely Gr 4-7's from Ebenezer and Langabuya Primary Schools and 3 groups from Mbekweni Primary School. It was a very exciting year working with these groups of new talent, as the younger grades are eager and enthusiastic.

Although the 'genre' is very broad, our main focus at FPMC is to prepare learners to play "School Marimbas". The learning process of African Music differs considerably from learning Western art Music.

*"It takes a village to raise a child."* – African Proverb

African Music is 'village music' and a young learner would learn in a village context, from accomplished players, playing in context. A young learner would thus learn by playing the supporting parts, the timeline patterns and age-appropriate instruments before being allowed to play highly specialised hand drums or marimbas. In this context they would also learn the psychological and emotional maturity of the performance art genre.

This year's Grade 6 and 7 Mbekweni Primary learners transitioned onto the marimbas and had their debut performance at the Paarl Valley Eisteddfod's awards ceremony, at Huguenote Primary School on 18 October. Although nervous, they played very well.

Soon after, their second performance was at the inauguration of William Lloyd Primary School's new school hall, on 28 October. The group performed as guests arrived and enjoyed refreshments, awaiting the 'ribbon cutting' ceremony. The group learnt an important lesson about stamina that day - being fit enough to play long enough and also to slow down their playing, in order to enjoy the music.

Some of the beginners took to the stage at the Funky Hats Beginners Concert, opening with a traditional Mali Djembe piece that is 11000-years old. We look forward to their bright futures!





# FPMC BLAST!

by Leandri Louw

On Saturday, 13 September, our wind department hosted the first FPMC Blast! This concert featured FPMC's Beginner, Junior and Senior wind bands. Smaller instrumental ensembles also performed, including Beginner, Intermediate and Senior Brass ensembles, flute ensembles, an oboe duet, clarinet ensembles, and saxophone quartets.

The programme included wind band works such as 'Persis' by James Hosay and 'Domus' by Jan van der Roost, as well as South African classics from Mango Groove and Mafikizolo, and popular music from Queen and The Beatles. Audience members enjoyed a pancake or a boerewors roll together during the interval, and took part in a raffle to win a huge helium balloon.

The evening's performances culminated in a mass band performance consisting of about 80 players! We are grateful for the unwavering support of FPMC's parents, learners and staff who made this concert possible.





# MR VAUGHAN PIETERSEN'S BIRTHDAY!

On 16 September, it was a joy to celebrate Mr Vaughan Pietersen's 66th Birthday, one year after his retirement as principal. The celebrations included a surprise unveiling of his photograph in our foyer, as a lasting symbol and reminder of his place, and space at the Frank Pietersen Music Centre.

Thank you to our special learners, parents, staff, School Governing Body and Mrs Natalie Gabriels who joined us for a memorable afternoon.

May Mr Pietersen's legacy, teachings and dreams for our Centre continue to fill the rooms and passages we move in, as our talented learners bless each space with beautiful music.





# SYO YEAR-END GALA & GIMNASIUM HIGH SCHOOL'S SWIERIGE SOIRÉE

by Leandri Louw

FPMC's Senior Wind was invited to two collaborative concerts over the past two terms. The first took place on Friday, 24 October when the Stellenbosch Youth Orchestra (SYO) hosted their annual Year-End Gala Concert with three other invited orchestras, namely the Paarl Gimnasium Orchestra, Bloemhof Girls' High Stringendo, and the FPMC Senior Wind Band, conducted by Mr Cameron Hofmeester. Our Senior Wind Band contributed three pieces to this concert, hosted at Stellenbosch University Konservatorium's Endler Hall.

On Sunday, 26 October, Paarl Gimnasium High School hosted a concert in Windmeul Kelder titled, Swierige Soirée. Our Senior Wind Band was invited to play a few items at this concert alongside Paarl Gimnasium's ensembles. The concert concluded with a Massed Ensemble performance of Sia's 'Courage to Change'.

It was a pleasure to collaborate with other ensembles in these concerts, in a spirit of musical exchange and appreciation.





# GR 11 AND 12 FET WORKSHOPS

by Melanie Pietersen

On 26 July, our Gr 12 subject music learners attended another fruitful Music FET Workshop presented by the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) at Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre.

The learners who attended were Chervaundé Adonis, Charnlin-Angel Baron and Somila Magalakangqa, accompanied by their theory teacher, Mr Mark Langenhoven.

Similarly, on 25 October, our Gr 11 subject music learners attended a workshop presented by the WCED in collaboration with the South African College of Music (SACM), from the University of Cape Town. This insightful workshop was an 'Introduction to Indigenous Music (IAM)'.

Mr Langenhoven accompanied Kaylin Arendse, Signe Hartogh, Josh Swarts, Caleb Dlamini, Liam Abrahams, Sadé Theunissen, Loren Roodtman, Shamiela Fortuin and Keagan Kearns on this excursion.

Thank you to Mr Langenhoven for ensuring that our learners attended both of these important sessions, to reap the benefits of the valuable information that was shared.

We also extend our humble thanks to the WCED for creating this wonderful opportunity for our learners to experience and thrive!



# LYDIA DREYER HOUSE CONCERT

Hiermee wil ek baie graag dankie sê vir die persoon wie die bursary aan my geskenk het by die musiek sentrum. Ek waardeer dit regtig baie en vir die onderwyser wat vir my so ver gehelp het met my musiek, baie dankie. Hoe ver ek al met my musiek bereik het en vir een en elk wat vir my klas gegee het soos juffrou Wittenberg, mnr Hofmeester en juffrou Louw. Ek waardeer julle opreg wat julle vir my geleer en beteken het. Baie dankie dat ek so ver kan gekom het met my musiek. Sonder die onderwysers weet ek nie waar ek myself sal bevind het nie. Dit het nie net 'n vak geword nie, maar 'n passie. Weerens, baie dankie dat ek een van die leerders kan gewees het wat 'n bursary kon gekry het. Van **Ashtonique Diergaarth**

Dear Sir/Madam

Letter of thanks

I hope you are doing well. I, Aviwe Cetywayo, as a bursary recipient really appreciate the opportunity you've given me. The bursary means a lot to me; it has opened more opportunities for me. My goals as a musician are to study music further until I become a well-known clarinet player then help other kids to achieve their dreams too. I love music because it makes me feel happy and at peace. Thank you so much for the bursary. May God bless you.

Yours sincerely, **Aviwe Cetywayo**

First, I want to thank the person who gave me the bursary and it is a big opportunity for me because music is the thing I love and it can bring me far in the world. I love being a musician because of the teacher that are giving me the best theory classes and teaching me good to play my instrument. I enjoy music because my instrument can play high notes and bass notes and I love the wind band and all the other sounds because it makes a great match, and for all of this I thank you Miss Leandre Louw 🥰🥰

🎵🎸🥰❤️🩹 **Gaywin Frans**

Dear Dr Dreyer,

Thank you for believing in us and investing in our musical futures! Your kindness and support inspire us to be the best versions of ourselves and make a positive impact through music. Your legacy will echo through our music and lives forever!

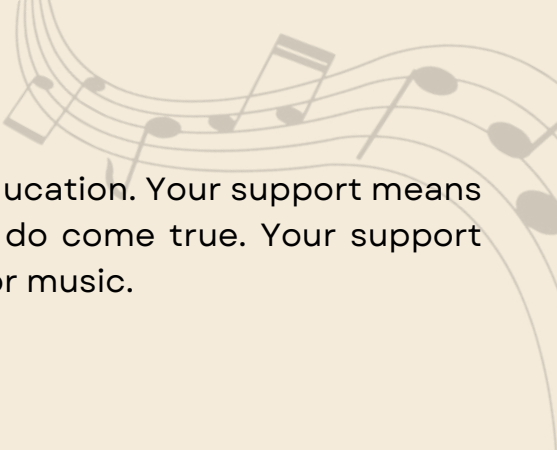
**Chervaundé Adonis**

Dear Principal

I am truly honoured to have been selected and I deeply appreciate your generous support. Thank you so much for the opportunity of having the bursary.

From **Chresanté Davids**





Dear Dr Lydia Dreyer

I'm so grateful for your generosity in funding my music education. Your support means the world to me and you made me realise that dreams do come true. Your support motivated me to keep pursuing my dreams and passion for music.

**Charlin-Angel Baron**

Dankie vir die toekenning van my musiekbeurs

Geagte Beurskomitee

Ek wil graag my opregte dank uitspreek vir die toekenning van die musiekbeurs. Dit is vir my 'n groot eer en 'n ongelooflike geleentheid om my talent op die trompet verder te ontwikkel. Musiek is 'n belangrike deel van my lewe en hierdie beurs gee my die kans om nog harder te werk aan my droom om eendag 'n professionele musikant te word. Ek is baie dankbaar vir die ondersteuning en vertroue wat die komitee in my toon.

Ek was verlede jaar benoem as die beste junior trompetspeler en ek sal aanhou streef om myself te verbeter en trots te maak op die wie in my glo. Ek waardeer die belegging wat julle in jong musikante soos ek maak.

Baie dankie dat julle hierdie pad saam met my stap. Ek beloof om die geleentheid met toewyding, dissipline en entoesiasme te benut.

Vriendelike groete, **Mercedes Persens**

I'm writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for the scholarship awarded to me to pursue my studies in music at Frank Pietersen Music Centre. Receiving this scholarship is not only an honour, but also a significant milestone in my musical journey. I am deeply grateful for the recognition and support, which will enable me to focus on nurturing my passion for music.

This scholarship will greatly assist me in pursuing my dreams, allowing me to access quality musical education and training that enhances my skills and knowledge. I am committed to dedicating myself to my craft, working diligently and making the most of this opportunity.

I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Frank Pietersen Music Centre community for believing in me and investing in my future. Your support will have a lasting impact on my musical aspirations and I am excited to contribute to the music community.

Thank you again for this incredible recognition. I look forward to making the most of this opportunity and representing Frank Pietersen Music Centre with pride.

Sincerely, **Kelly-Ann Mattheus**

Dear Dr Dreyer

Music is not only a hobby to me, it is my life. I am very grateful to be one of the bursary recipients.

This bursary has changed my life for the better. I am now able to go and live my dream, which is to pursue music as a career.

I will forever be thankful for this opportunity to be able to express my musicality and passion. **Somila Magalakangqa**

Dear Mrs Dreyer

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for your generous support and for giving me the opportunity to pursue my passion for music. Your commitment to the arts and music education means more than words can fully capture.

Thanks to your sponsorship, a world of possibilities has been opened, not only for me, but for so many others who share the same dream. Your belief in the power of music and in the potential of young musicians like myself is both inspiring and deeply encouraging.

You have truly made a difference in our lives and we are excited to continue growing, learning and sharing our music with you. It is through supporters like you that we are able to strive toward our dreams with confidence and hope.

Thank you once more for your generosity and vision.

We look forward to making you proud.

With heartfelt appreciation, **Mvelo Makeng**

Dear Dr Deyer

I am deeply grateful for the bursary awarded to me. This support means everything to me and I am thrilled to be a part of the concert on 01 November 2025. Music is more than just a passion to me, it's a way to express myself and connect with others.

With this bursary, I am able to focus on my musical journey.

Thank you for investing in my musical future. I look forward to sharing my gratitude through music at the concert. **Keagan Kearns**





# CENTRE AWARDS

by Melanie Pietersen

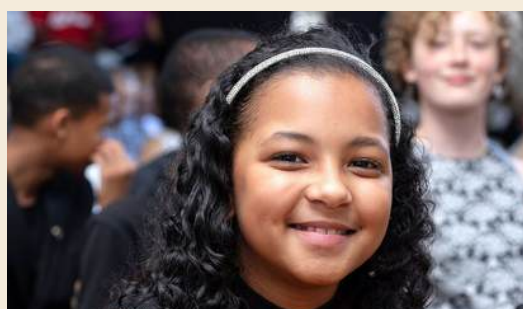
Once again, this year's prestigious Centre Awards was an evening of validation and celebration for the hard work, and tenacity of our talented learners - we are so proud of each one of you!

May this year's awards and accolades inspire you to greater heights in the new year, and may the example you set, inspire your peers. We also thank each teacher for their dedicated teaching, care and development of each learner - this ceremony cannot be possible without each of you.

The awards photographs will still be for sale at reception in the new year, at R30.00 each and they are available via WeTransfer or on your own flash drive.

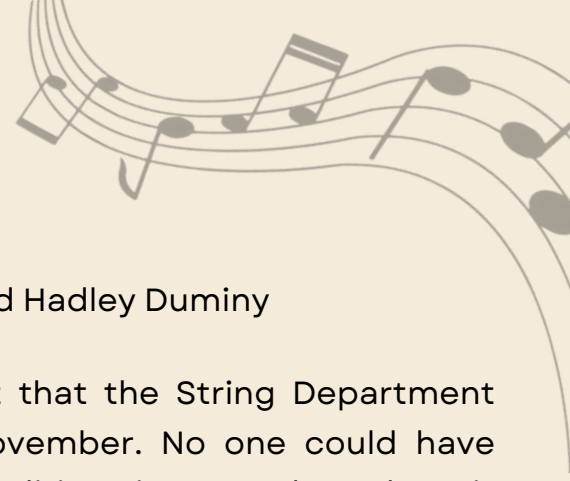








# SUMMER STRINGS



by Inge Wittenberg, Carin Thompson, Amalia Reyneke and Hadley Duminy

*Summer Strings* was a very apt name for the concert that the String Department hosted on a sweltering Saturday afternoon, on 22 November. No one could have imagined that we would have such extreme summer conditions in November where it is usually still quite cool, but hey, with Climate Change being a very huge reality in this world, nothing is the same as before. We had just thought of being in time for the rugby game, later on.

Our performers looked great in their jeans with pink, white and blue t-shirts. Each String Ensemble had their moment to shine as a group, but also in smaller ensembles. Well done to each ensemble who spent a lot of extra time rehearsing!

Not only did we have our usual String Ensembles: Junior, Intermediate and Senior Ensembles with their percussionists, but we also had a guitar ensemble and cello ensembles, one of them from William Lloyd Primary School (WLPS). The violin beginners from WLPS gave a very impressive performance! The excitement was great for all these learners as this was their very first performance ever. The highlight of the performances were the two massed items, namely 'The Pacific' and 'Carnival Nights'.

As this was a fundraiser, we had potjiekos and lovely treats on sale. Thank you for all the donations we received and for each parent and learners' siblings who assisted in so many ways. A big THANK YOU to all our colleagues who helped - we really appreciate your time and efforts.

The raffle was also a huge success! Vialli Mocke, our only matric learner in the string department this year, drew the lucky winners of a swing ball set (won by a WLPS string learner), and two outings to Exotic Animal World (won by Amber Siebrits' mom and Mae Grové's mom). The huge bottle of wine was won by Mrs Michelle Cupido and Alivia Prinsloo (percussion) won a pool float with her lucky raffle number.

We wish Vialli well for her music studies at Stellenbosch University in 2026!



Thank you, parents and guardians for all your support throughout the year!

We made it through a very busy year and we are looking forward to a year of wonderful opportunities, lots of chamber music and playing together because it is fun! Thank you to all of our enthusiastic chamber music groups - we are so proud of you!

So, all in all, despite the heat and the instruments constantly going out of tune, Summer Strings was exceptionally enjoyable and we thank our wonderful audience for their support, and presence, too.

And who knows, maybe next year we will present an Autumn or Winter Strings...? Have a restful holiday and a happy Christmas to all of our string players and their families!









# FUNKY HATS BEGINNERS CONCERT

by Inge Wittenberg

The Funky Hats Beginners Concert has become a favourite on the FPMC Calendar. It is really fun to see all the different hats on their wearers. The performers were all learners who started music tuition this year, either completely from scratch, with no music knowledge or current learners who started a new/ second instrument.

The atmosphere was that of fun and appreciation, and every child was acknowledged with loud applause, whistling and cheer. It was so lovely to have some parents in our audience wear their own funky hat - definitely adding to the fun!

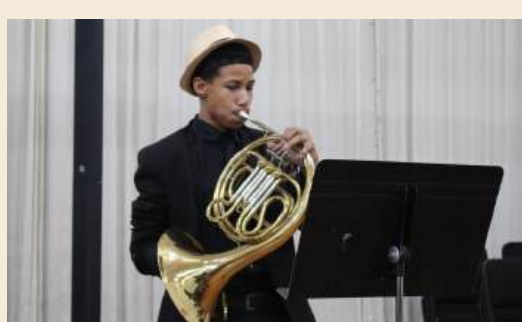
The concert started with the Beginner African Percussion djembe- and then marimba ensemble, followed by various performances of piano, drum kit, clarinet, violin, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, French horn, recorder and cello. Our newly formed, Beginner Brass Ensemble ended off the performances, with matriculant, Charlin-Angel Baron as conductor!

It was wonderful to enjoy so many talented, young learners' performances and we look forward to seeing them perform at our Student Concerts next year.

To the many new faces of our parents/ guardians, welcome to the FPMC Family - we hope you had a great experience! We are exceptionally proud of your children!









# VOICE DIVISION CHRISTMAS SINGALONG

by Melanie Pietersen

A magical evening awaited when the Voice Division presented their Fa-la-la Singfest Christmas Singalong on 09 December.

The stage was transformed into a Christmas wonderland as the spirited voices of our Vocal Ensemble and Adult Choir filled the air, accompanied by the exceptionally talented, Mx Blaine Josephs. Mr Mark Langenhoven narrated the story of the birth of Jesus in between performances, with the audience joining in to singalong to the favourites of this season.

This concert was Mx Josephs' last at FPMC and it is truly bittersweet to have to greet such a creative spirit. We wish him well and know that the future holds goodness, success, with music ever near.







# FAREWELL TO DEAR STAFF & MATRICS

***Just commit to the note and keep on singing!***

FPMC Voice Department and Melanie Pietersen

Every once in a while someone crosses your path and you just know: *daar is magic daar*. And so it was with Mx Blaine Josephs. With kindness and enthusiasm he rolled into the Voice Department in a wave of unbridled talent. A born teacher and born to sing, Blaine encouraged his students – both learners and adults – to perform with confidence while discovering their voices.

During his time at the FPMC, Blaine revived the Children's Choir, established a Voice Ensemble and skillfully led the Adult Choir. He applied his creativity to create opportunities for his department on various platforms. Voice students were exposed to both classical and popular music and, for the first time at the FPMC, musical theatre. His production, DEMURE, earned great praise from audiences in February this year. With a theme of inclusivity and tongue-in-the-cheek social commentary, it was a reflection of his ethos.

We will miss our soft spoken, kind-hearted, immensely talented teacher and mentor dearly. Go well into the world, teacher Blaine! Thank you for sharing your world with us. We can't wait to see what you will come up with next!

Mx Blaine Josephs,

They have been more than just an educator to me. From my first year singing in the La Rochelle Girls' Primary's senior choir, to the Friday/ Thursday evenings spent at the Frank Pietersen Music Centre, Blaine has made it clear that they are not only an educator, but a ball of energy that lights up any rehearsal.

Four years has flown by in an instant, and countless memories fill the gaps. Blaine has inspired young minds, much like my own, to pursue choral singing as not only a passion, but as an art. Their stage presence and calm demeanor creates the perfect atmosphere for unforgettable lessons – be it educational or applicable to life.

In the wise words of Henry Adams, "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."

Blaine's influence is that that lasts a lifetime, for they have been more than just a mentor, but rather closer to a friend.

**Zarah Pasha**

Dear Sir

Thank for a year of fun and sometimes a little interesting lessons filled with highs and lows. Literally.

I hope you enjoy your next adventure wherever it may be and if things start to look a little dodgy just remember, it all leads back to Jesus.

**Johan (Tjoppie)**



Hi mam this is **Somila**.

I am very grateful to have had the privilege to be taught by Miss Leandri. If I could turn back time I would go back to the very first lesson we had and restart our whole journey. It is sad that mam will be leaving the Centre, but I am very happy for her as she will be opening another chapter of her life. To Miss Leandri: I wish you the best of luck in everything that you will do in future. We will always cheer you on. We love you. 🥰❤️

Dear Ms Louw 🥰

I'm going to miss you so much! 😔 You've been an incredible teacher and mentor to me and your passion for teaching clarinet has made a HUGE impact on my life.

Your energetic way of teaching has made learning fun 😄 and engaging, and I'll always be grateful for that. I'm so happy for you and your new opportunity, and I know you'll excel in what you do best. 💖

Thank you for believing in me, pushing me in the water 😊 so that I get to be where I am today and inspiring each and everyone of your students to pursue their musical dreams 🎵. You'll always be remembered and cherished. 🌸  
I'll love and miss you terribly 🥰💖

Lots of love

**Keagan** 🎉



Dear Miss Leandri

I hope you are good. I would like to thank you for your kindness. I will always remember your beautiful smile, you made me feel welcome at FPMC and you took care of me like I was your own child.

I will always remember you and I wish we would see you again. You were friendly to us and I wish you all the best in your new job.

Yours sincerely

**Aviwe Cetywayo**

"You're never too old to wall sit with your students - From **Niki**" 🕯

Dear Ms. Louw/ Girlie

I am going to miss you so much. 😞😭 Having to imagine you leaving already is hard. While writing this I'm probably tearing up a bit 😞

Thank you so much for being there. Like asking me how I REALLY am and giving me advice and reassurance that everything will be okay.

You really inspired me to not just be a good clarinettist, but to be a good and caring person. I hope you know that I really do look up to you.

I'm going to miss your smile and enthusiasm. Like really 🥺 I am.

I know I'll see you again though. Lots of love.

**Tarren King**

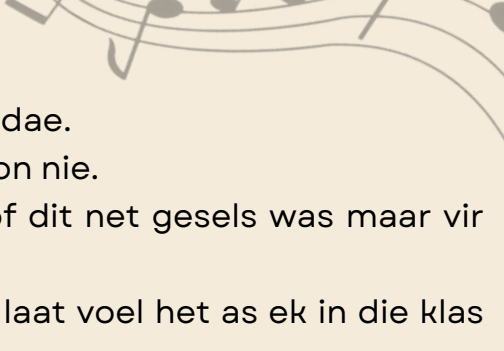
Dear Leandri,

Thank you so much for this year! Thank you for helping my passion for the clarinet to grow. Thank you for the valuable lessons.

I wish you the best!

Love: **Sadie**





Ek weet waar om te begin dankie sê nie.  
Dae wat juffrou nooit opgegee het op my nie.  
Ondersteuning wat juffrou my gegee het in my donkerste dae.  
Die vertroue wat juffrou in my kon sien terwyl ek self nie kon nie.  
Geselskap wat juffrou my kon gee (dit mag dalk lyk asof dit net gesels was maar vir my was dit 'n moment of getaway in life).  
Juffrou se liefde wat oorgeloop het en my hart altyd tuis laat voel het as ek in die klas kom.  
Baie, baie dankie vir al die kere wat ek kon groei en dankie vir al die memorable memories.

Juffrou, in drie jaar het juffrou my gesien groei. In my donkerste dae, my ligste dae, dae waar ek nie lis was nie, maar juffrou het my altyd lis gekry en dae waar ek self verlief ook was.

Ek wil ook net se ek is baie jammer as ek 'n moeilike leerder was, maar juffrou het my geleer om net myself te wees, lag and never show someone your downfall.

Ek kan nie dink dat dit die einde van ons pad saam is nie. My hart is gebreek. Erger as 'n breakup. Ek wys dalk nie my trane nie, maar my hart breek. Juffrou was my motivation om elke week in te kom en te kom leer en ek is so dankbaar daarvoor. Juffrou het altyd vertroue in my gehad wanneer ek self nie gehad het nie.

Ek wens en bid elke aand dat juffrou net die beste moet kry in die lewe want juffrou verdien dit. Die Here het my gebed gehoor en juffrou het die beste gekry.  
Baie geluk met die nuwe werk. Ons FPMS kinders sal juffrou baie mis, maar juffrou verdien die kans om te groei.

Ek is baie trots op die mens wie juffrou is: liefde, liefdevol, slim, sterk, iemand wat in haar kinders glo, talented en daar is vele meer goed. (Ek wil nie nog skryf nie net nou sê miss Melanie ek skryf te lank.) Ek is ook baie lief vir juffrou.

Ek weet juffrou is altyd net 'n message of 'n call away, maar ek sal nog altyd juffrou mis en juffrou en my se gesels.

God bless you, miss, and keep you for many more wonderful years to come, my wonderful, amazing teacher.

(Ek het glad nie gehuil toe ek dit type nie, my oë het net gesweet.)

Juffrou, don't forget about Stefano. I love him, and he also needs to take care

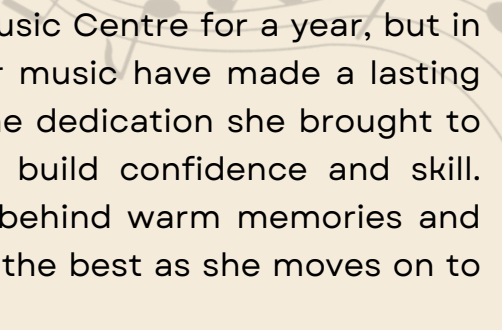
Luke 1:45 NIV

"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me".

**Aimee-Leigh Trueman**





Ms Van Wyk has only been part of the Frank Pietersen Music Centre for a year, but in that short time her guidance, patience, and passion for music have made a lasting impact. I would like to express my deep gratitude for the dedication she brought to every lesson and for the encouragement that helped build confidence and skill. Although her time at FPMC has been brief, she leaves behind warm memories and kindness. She will be greatly missed, and we wish her all the best as she moves on to her next chapter.

**Safiyyah Moerat**

Dit was 'n voorreg om deur Me Van Wyk onderrig te word. Ek het baie by haar geleer en haar passie vir musiek en die dwarsfluit is aansteeklik. Ek hoop alles wat mooi is vir haar toekoms.

**Nina Voigt**

"I have never had a full experience or spent enough time with Ms Van Wyk before, but I had one practice with her and that proved to me of what a good teacher she is. She was so kind and sweet and the first time we met, I instantly liked her. We also spoke after a practice and she was always so encouraging and had a sense of fashion, which I always gave her compliments for. She plays the flute with a strong passion and I admire the type of flautist she is. Time went by so fast, but I appreciate the little moments we shared. Farewell, Ms Van Wyk; I hope to see you become more than what you have already achieved."

From **Signé Hartogh** :)

**Ms Van Wyk: A Youthful Inspiration**

It is with great regret that the centre greets Ms Lisa van Wyk after her year as flute teacher. Taking the reigns from Mrs Inge Scott, Ms Van Wyk quickly won Mrs Scott's former students over and made a memorable difference in each one's musical journey.

When Mrs Scott left the centre to move to Johannesburg this time last year, I remember how despondent I had been. With great ambition of making 2025 my "Flute Year", I had thought I would have to write off my hopes for the coming year. Soon, however, it became apparent that the new arrival – Ms Van Wyk – would be more than up to the task and my year of lessons with her has seen me grow greatly as a flautist. In a year studded with competitions, exams and performances, based on the strong foundation Mrs Scott had laid, Ms Van Wyk worked diligently with me to help me actualise my goals for the year.

Notably, Ms Van Wyk and I competed in the same competition (her in the Senior category and I in the Junior category) earlier in the year and both moved on to the final round. Thus, I had the opportunity to see my new teacher perform on stage and I recall being absolutely blown away by her proficiency and talent.

Presenting a devilish programme including the Dutilleux and Feld Sonatas, Ms Van Wyk walked out as the First Prize Winner of her category. Coupled with her thus far effective pedagogy, I was excited for the rest of the year.

Now, as the holiday approaches and my last lesson for the year has passed by, I am grateful to Ms Van Wyk for her enthusiastic contribution to my education. I have undeniably learned a lot throughout the course of the year - so have the rest of Ms Van Wyk's students - and I wish her all the best for her future endeavours.

**Matthew Lamprecht**



Last, but certainly not the least - to our **Matriculants of 2025**; you did it!

We are so proud and grateful to have had your talents, smiles, and personalities light up our Music Centre and contribute so greatly to our growth, over many years.

We send you off with our best wishes for your brilliant futures that are waiting over the horizon - the **very best is yet to come!**







# DONATIONS FOR OUR BURSARY FUND

In 2023, the Music Centre created a Bursary Fund to enable financially needy and promising learners to receive/ continue with music education. Any donation that you add to our donation box or tap on our Yoco machine, at a concert or event, goes directly toward this Fund.

If you are in a position to do so, you may also sponsor a learner with tuition fees, instrument hire or examination/ eisteddfod entry fees. Contact our finance office, at [finance@fpmusiccentre.org.za](mailto:finance@fpmusiccentre.org.za) for more information and find our bank details below:

**Bank: Standard Bank**

**Branch code: 051001**

**Cheque account number: 072214503**

**Name of account: Frank Pietersen Music Centre**

**Reference: Name your donation**

Another easy way to support the Centre, is to use a MySchool-card when shopping at Woolworths, Engen, Builders, Loot, Netstar or Worksheetcloud, and **load Frank Pietersen Music Centre as a beneficiary.**

Simply follow the easy steps below!

Any contribution to our Music Centre, whether financial or a helping hand, is deeply appreciated and makes a lasting impact on our development and sustainability.

## Why join MySchool?

- You can raise funds for your favourite school or charity without it costing you a cent!
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1. Collect a MySchool card from your local Woolworths or Engen.
2. Join for free at [myschool.co.za](https://myschool.co.za) and activate your account.
3. Login with your card details and password.
4. Click on "Beneficiaries".
5. Search for "Frank Pietersen Music Centre" and click on "Support".
6. Swipe your MySchool card every time you shop at Woolworths, Engen, Builders, Loot, Netstar or Worksheetcloud.



## **2026 Attractions!**

**Opening Assembly**, 14 January 2026, 16:00, Hall  
Orchestra, Ensemble, and Wind Band Camps

### **School in Action!**

Solo Recitals

### **Student Concerts**

and more!



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The Frank Pietersen Music Centre is a  
Western Cape Education Department Music Centre.

**Music for all! Musiek vir almal! Umculo woluntu lonke!**