



FRANK PIETERSEN MUSIC CENTRE
MUSIEKSENTRUM IZIKO LOMCULO

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ENCORE!

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

by Hendrik Marais

"And above all, watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you. Because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it."

Dear FPMC School Community,

As I write this foreword for our 2nd term ENCORE newsletter, my heart overflows with gratitude for the incredible opportunity to become part of the Music Centre family. These past two months have been filled with countless beautiful and special moments, wonderful discoveries, tremendous learning, and most importantly – music that has touched all our lives.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our parents, dedicated staff and every single student for making me feel so warmly welcomed and genuinely excited to be here. Your kindness and enthusiasm have made this transition not just smooth, but truly joyful.

Music is such a powerful force that not only touches people's hearts but has the remarkable ability to transform us completely. When the magic of playing a musical instrument unlocks within us, the world around us becomes a more beautiful place – one where people are **kind** to each other, where we show mutual **respect**, where we lift each other up, where we **celebrate** one another's achievements, and where we genuinely **care** about and take **pride** in each other's success.

We are immensely proud of every student and teacher who has experienced success in the numerous competitions and eisteddfods this term. These achievements, which will be acknowledged further in this newsletter, showcase the incredible commitment and dedication you have all shown towards music-making. Your passion and hard work inspire us daily.

As we look ahead, it's crucial that *FPMC* begins preparing for an exciting transformation. Our driving force is to establish ourselves as a truly sustainable music centre – one that provides our students with quality instrumental tuition that will remain relevant and impactful as we navigate our way toward 2035.

To achieve this vision, we need your voice, your valuable input, and your enthusiastic buy-in. We are embarking on the development of a comprehensive five-year strategic plan, and we're eager to put these wheels in motion with your help. Before the end of this term, we will be sharing surveys with our entire school community. Parents, all staff members, and our high school students will have the opportunity to anonymously provide feedback and insights.

The data we collect will be carefully analyzed and used to create a comprehensive roadmap for the next exciting chapter in the long-standing and proud history of our music centre. Together, we will shape the future of FPMC.

Thank you for being part of this incredible musical journey with us.

With warm regards and musical excitement,

Hendrik Marais
#FPMC #ProudlyFPMC



WELCOME TO OUR PYEI ASSISTANTS!

by Melanie Pietersen

Basic Education Employment Initiative

We are exceptionally grateful to welcome Phase V of the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative (PYEI) which aims to grow the range of opportunities available to young people in South Africa. With a focus on helping the youth gain work experience, this initiative also links them to jobs, entrepreneurship and skills development opportunities.

We are excited to welcome Education Assistant (EA), Ms Nozuko Xaba and General School Assistants (GSA), Mr Sulaiman Kara and Mr Fundile Ngcawe. They started at the beginning of June (until end November 2025) and have already made an immense impact on the daily running of the music centre.

Our new staff members are eager and keen to learn, grow their skill sets and tackle the day with positive attitudes.

When asked what they would like to gain from this experience, Nozuko shared that she hopes to improve her interpersonal skills and enhance her support to the educators, to contribute toward an amazing learning environment at FPMC. In all that Sulaiman learns at FPMC, he would like to do it to the best of his ability, he wants to learn more about stage management, and hopes that this experience will be the stepping stone to a permanent job in the future. Fundile wishes to gain more experience in working with power tools, to improve his stage management skills and events planning, and would like to learn to play a new instrument.

We wish them well and a fruitful learning experience as we grow together!



WOODWIND FESTIVAL COMPETITION

by Leandri Louw

For the first time, the Rainbow Exchange NPC hosted the Cape Town Woodwind Competition. This competition took place as part of the Cape Town Woodwind Festival at the University of Cape Town.

The competition features two categories: a Junior-category for scholars, and a Senior-category for tertiary music students.

FPMC flute educator, Ms Lisa van Wyk, and Grade 11 flute learner, Matthew Lamprecht both took part in this competition. This educator-learner duo progressed to the final round of the competition, where Ms Van Wyk won 1st prize in the Senior Category, and Matthew won the MusiCraft award in the Junior Category.

Congratulations, Ms Van Wyk and Matthew! Your hard work and dedication are an inspiration to all of us.



GR 10 FET WORKSHOP

by Melanie Pietersen

On 12 April, our Gr 10 subject music learners attended another fruitful FET Foundation Workshop presented by the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) at Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre, in Parow.

The learners in attendance were Mvelo Makeng, Courtney Daars, Zoë-Lee Claasen and Martayo Persens accompanied by their theory teacher, Mr Mark Langenhoven.

Thank you to Mr Langenhoven for ensuring that our learners attended this insightful session, 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 thrive!



STELLENBOSCH EISTEDDFOD

by Leandri Louw

The Stellenbosch Eisteddfod annually takes place in the second term and provides our learners an opportunity to showcase their talents and gain wonderful experience from expert adjudicators. Thank you to the teachers who entered their learners and groups, namely Ms Thompson, Mrs Wittenberg and Mr Hofmeester.

Congratulations to every learner that participated and to their teachers who contributed to their success. We are immensely proud of you and celebrate your hard work.

Our learners' wonderful achievements are as follows:

Gabriella van Zyl	Gold
Codie Jansen	Gold+
Emily Purchase	Gold
Courtney Daars	Silver+
Nina Hartnick	Gold
Caylah Cupido	Silver+
Jonnelle Muller	Silver+
Amber Siebrits	Silver+
Sadé Theunissen	Gold+
Hannah Purchase	Gold
Coretetta	Gold
Daneeco Africa	Cum Laude
Jay-Ronn Isaacs	Gold
Jermaine De Wee	Gold
Garren Monk	Gold+
Jason Klaassen	Cum Laude
Senior Wind Band	Cum Laude



WINDWORX FANFARE

by Leandri Louw

Our Senior Wind Band participated in the annual WindWorx Fanfare on Saturday, 17 May. This year, the event took place at Wynberg Boys' High School and 22 bands participated.

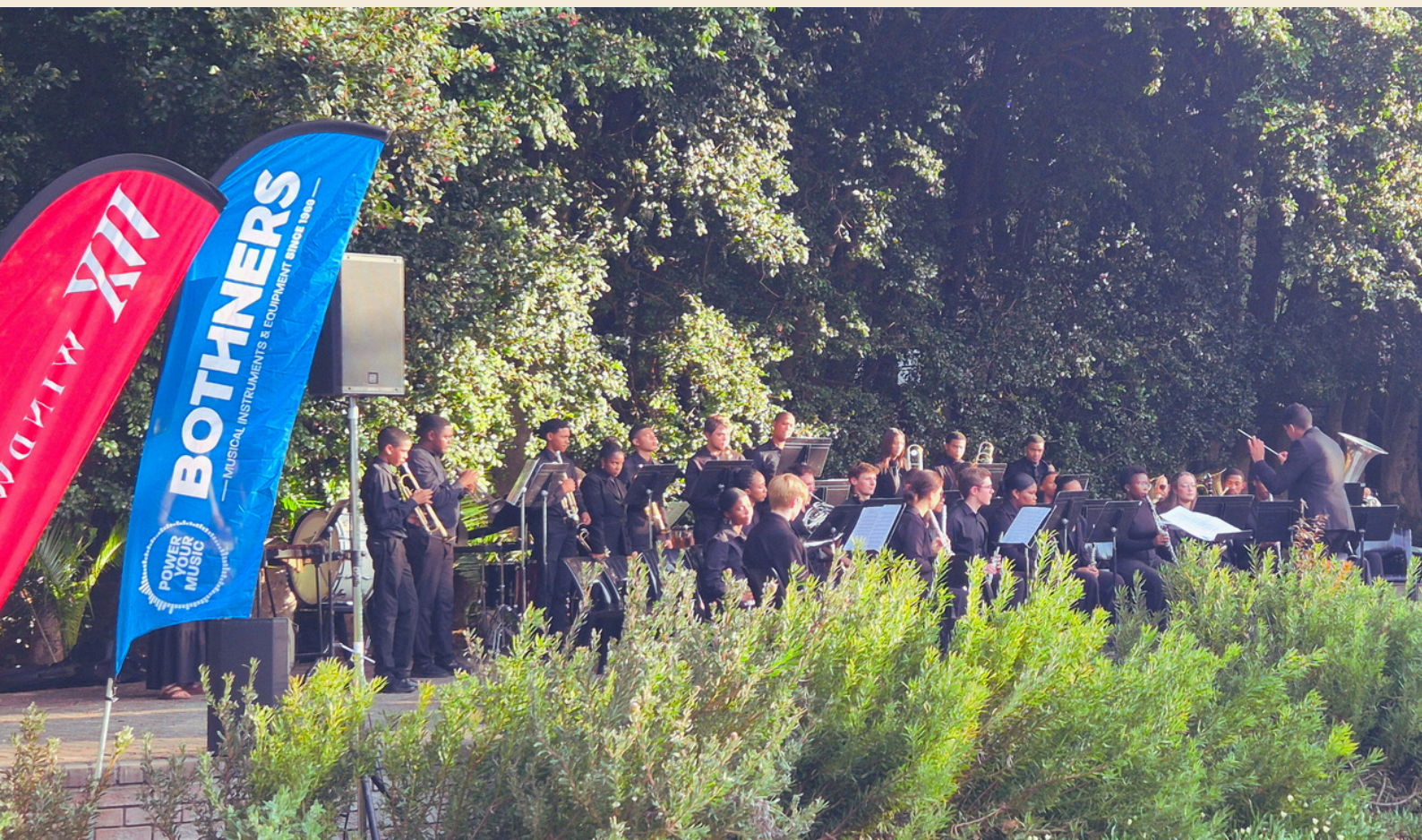
The fanfare consists of three performances, namely a formal evaluation, an informal outdoor performance, and one selected piece in the evening's Gala Concert.

Three judges of esteemed wind band professionals adjudicated the bands. The adjudicators were Bridget Rennie-Salonen, Pamela Kierman and Kenny Leibbrandt. The Senior Wind Band achieved a Triple Gold (Diploma) Award - the highest award for the day.

During the evening's Gala Concert, the band was chosen to perform "Persis" by Hosay - a piece most often performed by tertiary music education institutes. Special mention was made of percussionist, Hannah Purchase for her excellent mastery of an extremely challenging xylophone part.

The fanfare concluded with two mass orchestras: one for Junior bands, and one for Senior Bands. What a sight to see so many young musicians on one stage!

Congratulations to the Senior Wind Band for this achievement.





LEGATO CHORAL FESTIVAL AND TIE

by Elsabet Wessels

After the excitement of DEMURE in the first term, the FPMC Children's and Adult Choirs shifted their focus to more "traditional" choral performances in Term 2. Both choirs participated in the Legato Choral Festival held at Curro Durbanville High School on 18 May. The Legato group's mission is to provide a platform "that nurtures musical talent, fosters artistic expression, and fosters a sense of community among performers and audiences alike", which is 100% aligned with the ethos of our choirs. All choristers enjoyed sharing the stage with other talented Western Cape singers and were impressed with the well-organised event.

Shortly after the festival, the Adult Choir participated in the Tygerberg International Eisteddfod at Durbanville High School on a wet and icy 20 May. This was the choir's first adjudicated performance under the guidance of Mx Blaine Josephs. They received an Honourable Mention certificate (74%), with the adjudicators all commenting on the palpable sense of enjoyment and camaraderie the choir radiates. This particularly warmed their hearts, since, although small, the Adult Choir is a very close knit group of which some choristers have been members for more than 15 years. The choir welcomes the adjudicators' comments and critique, and will take it to heart.

The choristers would like to thank our dedicated and enthusiastic director, Blaine, for leading us with encouragement and kindness. We appreciate you!

We are always happy to welcome new members. If any student or parent would like to join in the fun, please contact Blaine via the centre for more information!



MEET MR MARAIS!

by Leandri Louw

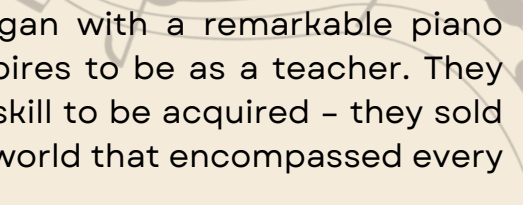
As Mr Marais settled into his new position as principal, the *Paarl Post* has visited to meet him and Drakenstein Municipality's *Vars* editorial team will feature our centre in their next edition. Most recently, Mr Derek Swart interviewed Mr Marais, for his Wednesday evening radio show on KC107.7 entitled, *Derek's Classics*, sharing on all things music and his new position as Head of our Music Centre.

Mr Marais completed his BMus in Music Education at Stellenbosch University, and received a scholarship to further his studies at the University of Toronto in Canada specialising in Choral Conducting. This opportunity allowed him to work and travel for two years alongside one of the world's most renowned children's choir conductors, Professor Doreen Rao. During his time in Toronto, he lived with Professor Rao and her husband, the legendary jazz composer, Oscar Petersen. Mr Marais describes his time in Toronto as "not only world-class musical training but also insights into the lives and artistry of two exceptional musicians who profoundly influenced my approach to music education". He furthermore holds a BEd Honours and Master's degrees which equipped him with the pedagogical foundation necessary for excellence in music education leadership.

Before his appointment as Principal, Mr Marais served as Head of Music Creative Arts at Rustenburg Girls' Junior School for the past 19 years. In 2021, his responsibilities expanded to include the position of Head of Student Teacher Development, where he mentored and guided the next generation of educators entering the profession.

Mr Marais has an insatiable curiosity and passion for knowledge, and is currently completing his second Master's degree. He oftentimes works until 02:00 am, completely absorbed in his research focused on developing strategies to improve Initial Teacher Training at tertiary institutions across South Africa. Beyond academia, he loves flowers and floral couture in particular.





Mr Marais' inspiration to become a music educator, began with a remarkable piano teacher. This teacher embodied everything Mr Marais aspires to be as a teacher. They "didn't just present music as a subject to be learned or a skill to be acquired – they sold me on music as a complete lifestyle, a way of being in the world that encompassed every aspect of life."

When Mr Marais was introduced to choral singing, the addiction to music started. He says, "There is something absolutely magical about the experience of singing in a choir that defies explanation yet demands to be shared. When a group of voices comes together in perfect harmony, something transcendent occurs. It's not just about the music itself, but about the profound human connection that emerges when people synchronize not just their voices, but their very beings. In those magical moments during choral performances, I experienced what I can only describe as complete unity with my fellow singers. We weren't just singing the same notes or following the same rhythm – we were breathing as one entity, our hearts beating in synchronization, our souls connected through the universal language of music."

For him, music education doesn't only teach rhythm, notes and technique. It facilitates these transformative experiences for others, creating opportunities for students to discover not just their musical abilities, but their capacity for deep human connection and emotional expression.

"Music education, I've come to understand, is ultimately about human transformation. It's about taking individuals and helping them discover their voice, both literally and metaphorically. It's about building community through shared musical experiences and fostering the kind of deep listening and collaboration that our world desperately needs. When I think about my career in music education, I don't just see myself teaching musical concepts – I see myself nurturing the next generation of musical souls who will carry forward the transformative power of music in their own lives and communities."

We warmly welcome Mr Marais to the FPMC-community. We are grateful for the passion and expertise he shares and we look forward to walking this path with him.



THE CALEB DLAMINI QUINTET AND THE ARTSCAPE YOUTH JAZZ SERIES

by Leandri Louw

We are exceptionally proud of Caleb Dlamini, a drummer and senior percussionist at FPMC. On 29 May, Caleb hosted a jazz concert in the FPMC Hall with the Caleb Dlamini Quintet. This quintet features Logan Jantjies (bass), Kyle Damons (piano), Henco Bester (saxophone) and Quintin Pietersen (guitar), with Caleb on drums.

Caleb was also chosen to perform at the Artscape Youth Jazz Series on Friday, 13 June. This project was launched in 2003 as the Youth Jazz Festival and has grown extensively over the years to accommodate the enormous interest and exceptional talent of young jazz musicians. Incredible value was gained and connections made through music.

We're grateful to the University of Cape Town's Music Department (SACM), the Artscape Theatre Centre and the City of Cape Town for this phenomenal opportunity.

Caleb can also be seen in our Jazz Band and Senior Wind Band, and to be such a versatile young musician, is no small feat.

Congratulations to Caleb and his supportive family, and teacher, Ms Nel!



JAZZ CONCERT FT. IMAD JAZZ BAND

by Leandri Louw

On Thursday, 19 June, FPMC's Hall came alive with the sounds of jazz. Our Jazz Band collaborated with the Institute for Music and Indigenous Arts Development (IMAD) to host a concert and showcase their talent.

IMAD opened the concert with an inspirational selection of South African Jazz. Their energy was captivating, and by the last item, the audience were on their feet dancing and cheering.

FPMC's Jazz Band played the second half of the concert, opening with a piece called "On the Sunny Side of the Street". Our learners bravely improvised solos in numerous pieces from composers like Feya Faku and Abdullah Ibrahim.

The concert concluded with a piece titled "Tsakwe" in which IMAD's pianist spontaneously joined the ensemble and ended the evening on a high note.

All FPMC learners are welcome and encouraged to join our multi-talented Jazz Band. The band rehearses on Wednesday evenings, from 18:00 - 19:00 in the percussion practise room.

We hope to see you there!





VIALLI MOCKE SOLO RECITAL

by Leandri Louw

On a chilly Sunday afternoon, senior violinist, Vialli Mocke performed her third solo recital at the Music Centre, and what a treat it was to experience.

Vialli is a Grade 12-learner at Paarl Gimnasium High School and this recital was her last as a FPMC learner. She started lessons with Mr Hadley Duminy at 8 years-old and is now flourishing at 17 years-old. What a journey the two of them have had!



The recital programme featured pieces from Vialli's UNISA Licentiate repertoire, and a large portion of the programme was impressively performed from memory. Performing repertoire ranging from Bruch to Kroll and Mozart, Vialli was accompanied by her teacher, Mr Duminy.

Months of hard work culminated in a very successful recital, and we are very proud of this achievement.

Next year, Vialli wants to study BMUS at Stellenbosch University in violin, opera and jazz singing. She eventually wants to finish her degree and become a soloist/ performer.

We wish Vialli well as she prepares for her final exams and know that her expectant future is as bright as ever!

Left: Vialli Mocke and Mr Hadley Duminy.

Below: Vialli and music teachers from Gimnasium High School.



PERFORMANCE PAT CONCERT

by Leandri Louw

On Monday 23 June, our FET-learners from Grade 10 - 12 hosted their very own concert in the FPMC Hall. This concert forms part of their assessment for Music and learners had to arrange the concert in its entirety.

Their responsibilities included advertising the concert, setting up a programme, writing programme notes, filling in a SAMRO-application, making sure the concert runs smoothly, and performing a piece in the concert.

We are very proud of our FET-learners and how they approached this responsibility with professionalism and creativity. Along with a well-organised concert, learners showcased their immense musicality and hard work in their performances.

FET-music can be taken as a subject from Grade 10 - 12, and at FPMC we offer Music as a subject to interested learners from schools where music is not offered.

Contact us for more information, should you be interested.



STUDENT CONCERTS

by Inge Wittenberg

This term's Student Concerts took place from 24 - 26 June, and on 24 June, we sadly said farewell to violinist, Ollie Karstel. Ollie and his parents will be moving to the UK next term. Ollie started violin lessons at the beginning of 2020, a few weeks before the Covid-19 Pandemic hit and we all had to go into lockdown. He persevered with his weekly lessons via WhatsApp video calls and is now playing at Grade 3 level.

The family travels from Slanghoek (past Worcester) every week to attend his violin and theory lessons as well his orchestra practises. Ollie has made a big impact on his friends, the learners from the Intermediate String and Percussion Ensemble. Many of them first performed with him in the Junior String Ensemble, and will they ever forget trying to stand on one leg while playing the violin?

We wish Ollie and his parents all the best especially when he starts Military School in order to pursue his wish to join the British Airforce. We will miss you dearly, Ollie!





DONATIONS FOR BURSARY FUND

In 2023, the Music Centre created a bursary fund to enable financially needy and promising learners to continue with music education. Any donation that you add to our donation box at a concert or event, goes directly to our bursary 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 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 not, is deeply appreciated and makes a lasting impact on our development.



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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.

Term 3 Attractions!

Choir Conductors' Workshop
Lea Prinsloo Solo Recital
Carin & Co. Recital and Fundraising Concert
Choir Gala Concert
Concerto Festival
GET Workshop
and more!



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