



Monthly Report

The Dancescape South Africa Report for December 2024

Dancescape South Africa (DSA) continues to facilitate daily dance classes in December of 2024 (2.00pm – 6.00pm Venue Zolani Hope Centre – Mantlane Road Zolani Ashton) engaging children in beginner and senior dance sessions. We currently employ the services of a resident teacher, an assistant teacher, a general assistant, and a director. Thanks to the support of all those who have donated to our project we are able to preserve the Fiona Sargeant legacy. Our top priority is to facilitate classes in a safe environment for both teacher and learners and to provide an extramural activity which is good for both mind and body.

Inside this Issue:

The Directors Report

The Resident Teachers Report



The Directors Report:

December 2024 was a short month for Dancescape South Africa. The schools officially closed in the second week of the month and so did we. We find that this time of year is exceptionally hot and many of the students go away for the holidays, some find holiday jobs such as picking fruit and so on. However, in the two weeks of dancing we had two very exciting events.

The first was a performance in McGregor on Friday the 6th of December. I was approached by the Langeberg Municipality to participate at this years turning on of the Christmas lights in McGregor. We were told that we would be dancing on the main street and so we chose two pieces which were more street dancing style dances. The municipality organized the entire event which included transportation and something for the dancers to eat. The other performers were the Zolani Youth Choir, The Ashton School of Dance and The First Step Ballet to name a few. We all delighted the large crowd, and it was a lovely evening.



Above: The junior dancers performing in McGregor.



Above and below: The seniors performing at the turning on of the lights in McGregor.



The next highlight of the month was to watch The Nutcracker at the Artscape Theatre, performed by the Cape Town City Ballet. 16 students, the two teachers, and Patricia and I travelled down on Saturday the 14th on a Swanns Bus. Our first stop was in Worcester where we all had a meal at a KFC. This meal was made possible by the Ashton Winery, and we are very grateful for their support. The students enjoyed it, and everybody got back on the bus with full bellies. Next, we had a stop off in Seapoint to see the sea. The kids always love this and for some it is a first for them. Then to the Artscape Theatre complex. The Nutcracker is such a wonderful ballet for this time of the year, and it didn't disappoint. I can safely report that every one of our students really enjoyed it, and I am sure it will make wonderful memories for them. After the performance we met up with Lihle Mfene who was instrumental in getting complimentary tickets for the show. It was also great to see him dancing in the production. We thank you Lihle for making it possible.



Above: Outside the Artscape Theatre complex.



Above: The students enjoying a KFC lunch, the sea and meeting with Lihle Mfene.

Well, that's our year rapped up. I pray that all the DSA staff and students have a safe holiday and that we can all come back together in 2025. Thanks to all for a successful year and for all your hard work and dedication. God Bless.

Written by Mitya Sargeant.

Our Resident Teacher Report:

It's been an amazing month as we have wrapped things up for the year, good two weeks in the month and not that much attendance but I guess its holiday time, kids are travelling away to see families. I have been enjoying having Aviwe at work and seeing him working with the kids and sharing his love for dance with them.

My biggest highlights of this year were when we took the students to perform at Artscape and witness the opening of the performing arts centre in McGregor and see the effort each student put in to make these events a reality. The McGregor collaboration is proving to be a great initiative where our dancers are not only learning dance but socializing, learning communication skills and a sense of belonging, family or team.

Written by Nqaba Mafilika.



Above and below: Dancers doing class and then enjoying chocolate cake on the last day.



We thank you for taking the time to read this report. Please visit our website at: <http://dancescapesouthafrica.org.za/> and follow us on social media. Mitya Sargeant (CEO, and Director – Dancescape South Africa)