

DANCESCAPE SOUTH AFRICA



Monthly Report

The Dancescape South Africa Report for February 2026

Dancescape South Africa (DSA) continues to facilitate daily dance classes every afternoon of the school term time, (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. Furthermore we recently recruited an Assistant Administrative 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.

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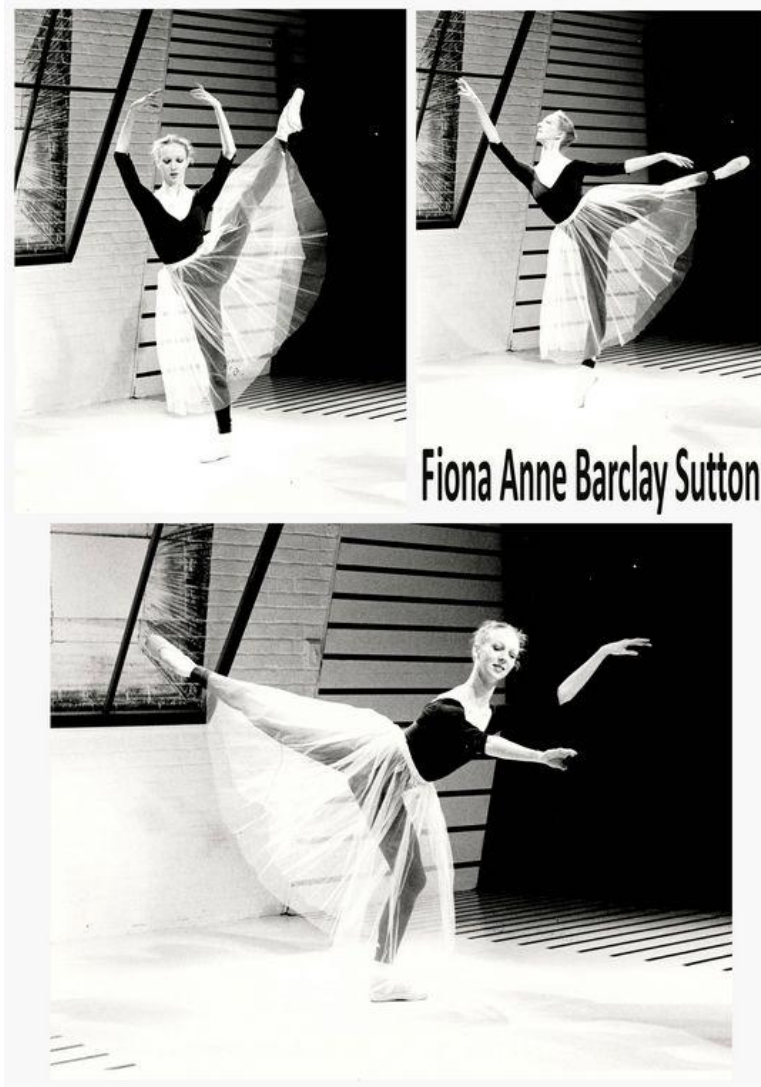
The Directors Report

The Resident Teachers Report



The Directors Report:

As part of running Dancescape SA as a director, there are often a lot of administrative duties. This month I haven't got anything major to report except that classes continued as normal and so did rehearsals as we prepare repertoire for the year ahead. What to perform, where and when? I have, however, been busy with office work and preparations. The value of doing monthly reports is that there are so many things which are quickly forgotten, even in the span of a few weeks or days and a report will always help you to remember, even years later. I was wondering what I could report on and then after some delving into the past weeks I realized there was a lot.



Above: A slide which make up the Dancescape South Africa story board soon to be displayed at the new office venue, in the KWV Building.

For several years now, DSA has applied for the Department of Culture affairs and Sport (DECAS) grant. In 2025 we had the opportunity to meet with the Western Cape Minister of Cultural affairs and Sport, Mr. Ricardo Mackenzie. The application is done online and this month I completed and submitted the Dancescape South Africa application well before the deadline. Steadily over the years our grant amount has grown, and we hope that this year will be no different.

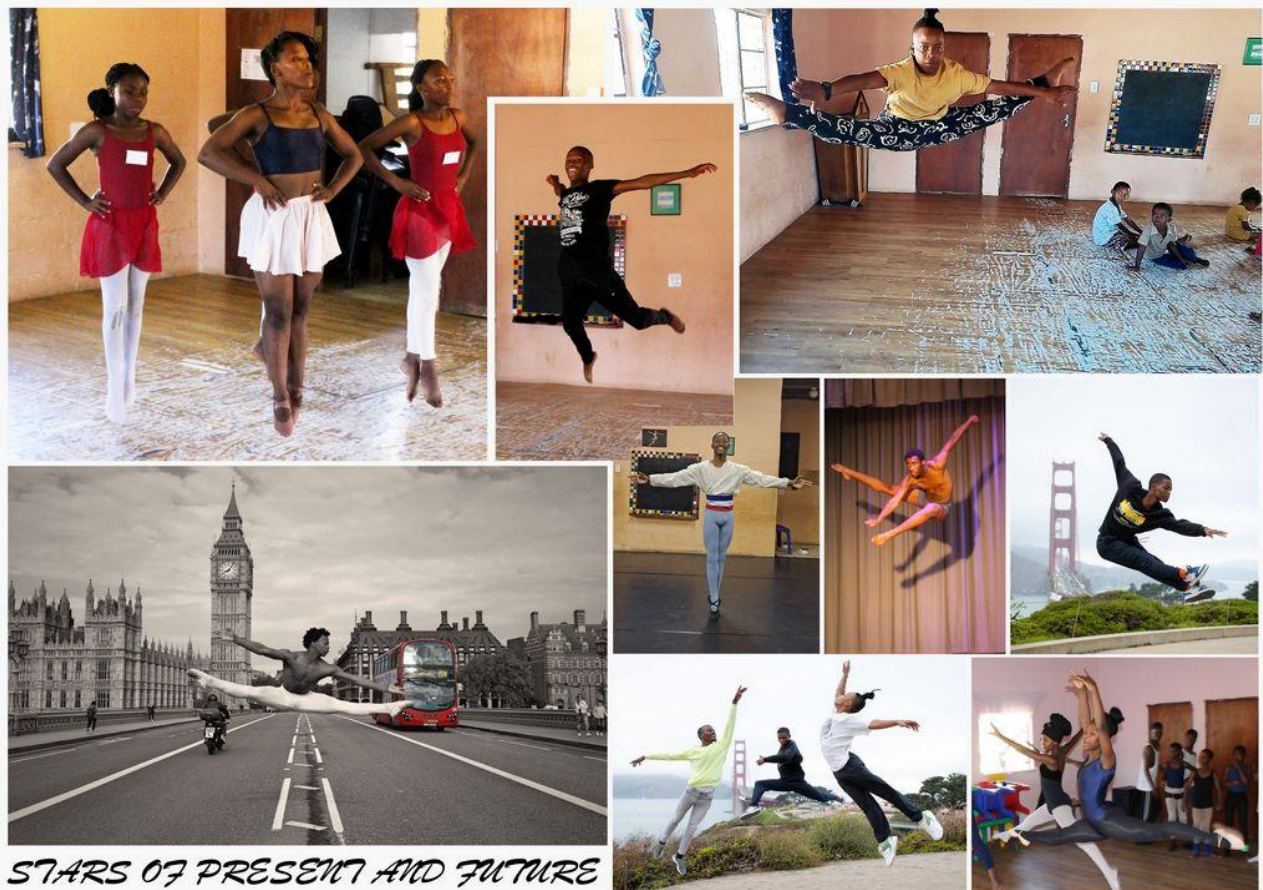


Above: One more of the slides which make up the Dancescape South Africa story board soon to be displayed at the new office venue, in the KWV Building.

Next month, March 2026, DSA would have been in existence for 10 years and I would like to couple this milestone with moving into our new office space at the KWV Building. The objective is for the viewer and guests to understand more about what Dancescape does and what has been achieved over the last decade. A3 and A4 size posters with text and pictures will be printed, laminated and then displayed in historical order.

February is the last month of our financial year, and I was very busy preparing our income and expenditure figures for Barnard Chartered Accountants. They have done our financials for several years and we are most grateful that they do this at a discount rate. I spent a lot of

time going through the bank statements and number crunching to get an accurate reflection of the state of our finances to send on to the accountants in early March.



Above: Another of the slides which make up the Dancescape South Africa story board soon to be displayed at the new office venue, in the KVV Building.

Early in February Lakhiwe Salman and I sat together in the DSA office to complete the online USA visa application. Lakhiwe is hoping to travel in June to the USA with Solima Mathiso to attend a dance intensive in Houston. It is always a nerve-racking experience because even though I have been through this experience several times one is always worried that you have either missed something or made a mistake. However, it went through and payment was made for the application, and a visa appointment was made for mid-April. The next challenge is to get all the supporting documents together to take to the interview. These are especially important as Lakhiwe is a minor.

This year the Centre Stage performance which we have attended for the last 2 years in Cape Town at the Artscape Opera House will happen on Youth Day, the 16th of June. It's a public

holiday and makes perfect sense to celebrate this day with a performance. Schools and organizations such as ours must apply with a proposal of what they are going to be dancing, and to observe the rules associated with this performance. Planning ahead is not that easy as we have to work out which piece fits the criteria and be the most appropriate. There is also a time restraint, and we were given a week to submit our application. After several meetings with the teachers in Zolani we managed to decide on which piece to submit. Our application was approved a few days later, and Nqaba will be preparing this year's dance piece for this special day.



Above: This A2 slide is part of the Dancescape South Africa story board soon to be displayed at the new office venue, in the KVV Building.

Once again, a very big THANK YOU to Sandra Reichert who has been very busy preparing the new office space at the KWV building in Montagu. The walls and floor have been painted and some furniture acquired. Patricia is preparing costumes in the wardrobe for transportation to the venue, and I have been very busy putting together a storyboard for visitors to go through and to learn more about our roots and what we do at Dancescape. I have had to wade through a lot of images from years ago to find the ones that I think are most suited to telling the DSA story. Memories surfaced, some painful, as I relived the early days when our founding member, The Late Fiona Sargeant, was still alive. I hope that what I have created will do DSA justice and be of great interest to all viewers.

Every month usually has at least one stressful situation. This month it came from the ABSA bank who sent an email stating that they were doing an annual review of Dancescape South Africa. We have had a bank account with them for 10 years now and this is the first “annual review” ever. None the less, they wanted information proving that we were doing what we say we do and delivering on our mandate for the kids of the township. If anything has changed, they need to know all about it. The challenge came when they asked for a certificate of compliance from the Non-Profit Authority at the Department of Social Development. For many years I have been unable to log on to their online platform but fortunately contacted a very helpful department worker who processed several of my reports for me. However, this year she was unable to do this again and the only way would be to log on to the department’s new online portal. The only problem is that it doesn’t work properly. However, after discussing this with ABSA who have had similar problems with other NPO’s and clients, are now sympathetic, but it did cause a lot of stress. If ABSA is not satisfied with the review, they could close the account.

Written by Mitya Sargeant

Our Resident Teacher Report:

This month we were going back and forth to McGregor to celebrate 14 years of miss Mary being in McGregor and our students were treated with an all-day party on the 21st, there was no dancing but just fun!

Coming to our studio in Zolani, we have a big new group of committed beginners and juniors which Aviwe and I have been pushing very hard to get them in form and get the better training that they deserve.



Above: Aviwe November teaches some Pilates/Body Conditioning exercises.

Our senior group is showing interest in attending at least three or more classes a week as they are still committed to schoolwork and we are pleased to have them at work and keeping up with their repertoire.

I'm also happy to say the two assistant teachers have been very helpful and show commitment in teaching the classes.

Finally, the repertoire we have looks good, and strong, and you can tell that the dancers enjoy working on every detail we give them.

Written by Nqaba Mafilika

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)

