

DANCESCAPE SOUTH AFRICA



Monthly Report

The Dancescape South Africa Report for March 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:

Nqaba and Aviwe continued their teaching this month focusing on building and rehearsing the repertoire. The teachers and I had a meeting on the 25th of March at our new office space to discuss the repertoire for the year ahead. We also spoke about the Harvest Long Table event to be held on the 26th of April and Dancescape has been invited to perform on the day. My concern was that after the students returned from school holidays and with only 13 days left in which to put everything together, we may not have enough time. Nqaba said that he would talk to the senior students who had been showing a lack of commitment latterly and see if they would commit to this performance. We feel that extra pressure has been put on our students coming from the local CP School. There has been a change of headmaster there and I feel that he is trying to improve the level of education. The result has been a lack of consistency in dance class attendance. Nqaba did indeed speak with the seniors, and they agreed to be more proactive and show the necessary commitment, and I am relieved to report that we will be attending this event. Our selected senior students attended Saturday classes on the 7th and 21st of March in McGregor this month and these classes continue to be of great benefit.

Below: Dancescape South Africa has been invited to perform at this year's Art Deco Celebration.



For me this month was all about moving into our new office space in the KWV building here in Montagu. As reported in the February report, I have compiled a presentation with text and images, telling the Dancescape Story from my perspective. The exhibit speaks of how

Dancescape was formed and shows a history of the first 10 years of our existence. I hope the viewer will understand more about what we do and hopefully even contribute to keeping the project alive going forward.



Above: Mitya shows off his exhibit and was assisted by Sandra Reichert to display it.

The graphic features three action shots of cyclists on mountain bikes in a scenic, hilly landscape. Overlaid on the images is the text "Live streaming" in a white, cursive font. Below the images, the text reads "Absa Cape Epic '26" in a bold, black font. Underneath that, it says "THE WORLD IS WATCHING & SO ARE WE" in all caps. Further down, it states "From 16-18 March, the Cape Epic Stages 1 & 2 action is streaming LIVE at The Quarter, 43 Long Street, Montagu". At the bottom of the text area, there are icons for a clock (07h00 - 14h00), a pie (World-class pastries), and a heart (Free entry). A small circular logo for "Absa Cape Epic 2026" is also present. At the very bottom, a silhouette of a group of cyclists is shown against a sunset background with the text "Watch the highs, the lows & the unforgettable moments."

Above: Montagu hosts the Cape Epic, and we worked hard to open the office on time.

Montagu hosted the first two days of this year's Cape Epic mountain bike race on the 16th and 17th, and on the 18th the competitors would cycle to McGregor and stay overnight there. It's a huge event, probably the biggest offroad mountain bike cycle event in the world. The auditorium just outside our new office was set up to show spectators the race live on a screen as it happened. We wanted to capitalize on this and worked hard to make sure the office was up and running for the event. However, there were many places to view the race and not many people arrived to watch. Some however did venture into our space and gave positive feedback.



Above: The puppet theatre now shows off movie clips from the DSA performances and Patricia is wearing a tutu as she sorts the costumes out.

A very big THANK YOU once again to Sandra Reichert for her energetic momentum in making the space so beautiful. Patricia and Sandra spent a lot of time putting up a display of costumes and other theatrical props. One of several items which were left behind by the previous user of this space and now adopted by DSA was a puppet theatre. I placed a small monitor into it, and we now show movie clips of our dancers performing repertoire. I feel that it's a big hit and most visitors spend time enjoying the show. The transition to the new space is not yet complete. We hope to set up a storage space by using a part of the building just next to us. It has been closed off, and we first need to insert a door opening. Work is underway and once complete the movement of costumes and other items into this space will take place.



Above: The new DSA office space has a very theatrical feel to it.

One of the objectives of the new space is that we have a much friendlier portal to interact with the people of Montagu and those who visit our area. We are now able to reach out to a greater audience and educate them about Dancescape South Africa. From here we hope to sell items donated to us and receive donations. With this in mind I acquired a Yoco card machine so that payment can easily be made. I am also hoping to display my art works in a portfolio whereby 20% of proceeds of any sales will go to Dancescape. We have had a few difficulties trying to set the card machine up and hope all will be resolved shortly.



Dear Residents of Montagu

We would like to hear from you:

Would you be interested in the following dance classes:

- Ballet and contemporary classes for primary school students.
- Ballet and contemporary classes for high school students.
- Adult ballet and contemporary classes.

We could facilitate classes in the afternoons at the KWV building, twice a week beginning in the second school term of 2026.

This is a great way to get and keep fit, please let us know:

mr.mitya@gmail.com / 079 295 7879

Proceeds of these classes go to Dancescape South Africa to help keep the project alive.

In your correspondence, please specify which of the above classes you would prefer.

Above: DSA is doing a feasibility study regarding offering dance classes to the local community.

This month I spent some time researching the feasibility of beginning dance classes. We advertised on the local MATA WhatsApp group and on Facebook just trying to see how much interest there would be for adult dance classes. Most of the replies were for adult classes and I hope to begin these in April. They will be held in the auditorium just next to our office. We would like to offer dance classes, 2 afternoons of the week. The next step is to commit to it and plan the days and the fees and will report more on this in the April report.

Finally, this report will not include a report from our head teacher, Nqaba Mafilika this month. He received some sad news and that was that his stepsister had passed away and had been dealing with the shock of hearing the news. This happened at the end of March and at a time when he would have been preparing his DSA report. Our condolences Nqaba, please take care and travel safely over this holiday period.

Written by Mitya Sargeant



Above: Patricia stands proudly in front of the exhibition hung in early March.

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)