



Quarterly Report

The 2nd Quarter Report for Dancescape South Africa from
April to June of 2026

Daily dance classes continued during school term times throughout the 2nd quarter of 2026 (2.00pm – 6.00pm Venue Zolani Hope Centre – Mantlane Road Zolani Ashton) engaging children in beginner and senior dance sessions. Dancescape South Africa (DSA) was able, through the kind donations of individuals and organizations to employ 2 full time resident teachers. We were also able to employ the services of a director / administrator and a general assistant. We thank all who have made it possible to preserve the Fiona Sargeant Legacy and to uplift the disadvantaged youth of our country through dance.

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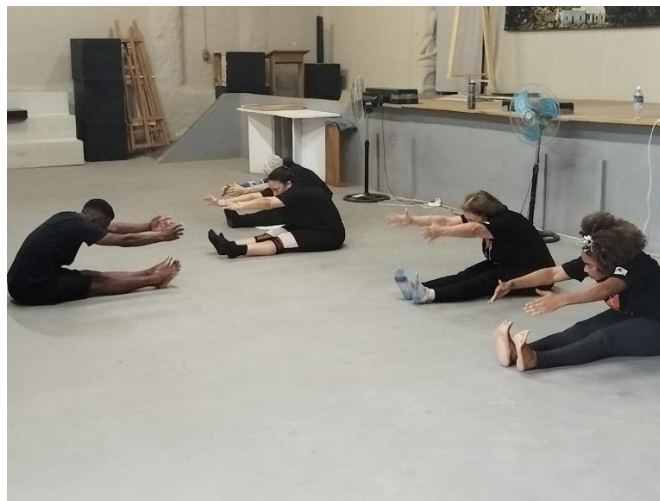
April 2026:

The focus this term was to rehearse repertoire for the Montagu Eisteddfod and the Centre Stage Performance at the Artscape Opera House in Cape Town. However, a lot of time and effort went into preparing for the Long Table Performance which happened on the 26th of April. Aviwe and Nqaba choreographed a piece each. The venue had to be changed to the Montagu Toy Box due to bad weather. Our dancers entertained the large audience of party goers who clearly appreciated it.



Above: The Dancescape Dancers perform at this year's Long Table Event.

DSA now offers adult dance classes on Mondays and Wednesdays every week of the school term but excludes public holidays. Nqaba and Aviwe teach a session each at the KVV Auditorium next to our new office. We hope to add classes for primary and high school learners.



On Tuesday the 21st of April Roslyn Sulcas who is a dance critic and culture writer of note came to visit. It was indeed an honour to meet her at our KVV office where she viewed the exhibition of DSA history. Nqaba and I also spent some time chatting with her regarding Dancescape. We are very excited that she may be able to write an article about Dancescape. That afternoon she watched rehearsals at the Zolani Studio.



Above top: Roslyn Sulcas

May 2026:



Severe storms in May caused an important bridge connecting McGregor to the outside world to wash away. DSA was unable to attend the Saturday Dance Classes held there. The wet and cold could also contribute to students not attending classes. Many of the senior students are not attending classes but this could also be due to academic pressures at school.



Before the storms and on the 6th and 7th of May Solima Mathiso and Laxiwe Salman attended their visa interviews at the USA embassy in Cape Town. Francois Tredoux who is on the Dancescape board and who is also now part of the DSA team, kindly drove them down. Everything went smoothly and just a few days later I received their passports with new visas in them.

DSA continued to offer adult dance classes at the KWV building's Auditorium on Monday and Wednesday evenings. However, several classes were cancelled due to a lack of attendance. I contribute this to the miserable cold and wet weather. Aviwe November left Dancescape at the end of May and we wish Aviwe all the very best.

June 2026:

Dancescape South Africa continued to facilitate classes throughout the month of June. Due to flood damage, we could not attend the Saturday classes in McGregor. The adult classes continued but once again some had to be cancelled due to a lack of attendance.

On the 14th of June Lakhiwe Salman and Solima Mathiso boarded a flight to take them to the USA. Kristine Elliott, who had arranged for this, also arranged for one of her board members to drive them down to the airport. Kristine sent a message asking for the boys immunization records as without it they could not attend the workshop. Nqaba made some enquiries and discovered that forms had to be completed and sent to The Department of Health who would grant permission for these records to be released but this could take a lot of time. Fortunately, Nqaba explained the situation to somebody telephonically and then everything was fast tracked. He picked up the required document in the following week, and I am glad to report that Solima and Lakhiwe were able to attend the dance intensive.



Lakhiwe and Solima waiting to board their flight to the USA

This time of year, is mostly about preparing for the upcoming Eisteddfod but this year the Centre Stage production took place on the 16th of June on the Artscape Opera House stage. A lot of time and effort went into rehearsing a piece choreographed by Nqaba Mafilika called “I want you back”. We needed to maintain the high standards set in previous years. Unfortunately, this time of year is also the time when the students do their school exams, and we consistently had many gaps in the cast especially from the senior students. In general, we have noticed a drop in the number of senior students. The juniors are making up for it and are working hard.

The actual performance went very well. Nqaba reported that he was pleased with the students. Lihle Mfene from Jazzart and a former student from many years ago told me that Dancescape's performance went very well and he was impressed with it.

Going on a trip to Cape Town requires planning and comes at a cost. In early June, I made efforts to broadcast our needs. Mareletta posted this on the MATA WhatsApp group. Ashton Winery responded by sponsoring the cost of the food for the outing. Thank you to Michelle and Helen for stepping up to the plate. I was also approached by Montagu Talk who wanted to donate the proceeds of one of their talks to DSA. That talk happened on the 15th of June and afterwards I was given R4000. It was perfect timing as it nearly covered the Cape Town trip's transport cost. Many thanks to Marion and Jo from Montagu Talk for thinking about DSA and their fund-raising initiatives. Furthermore, in June, one of our adult dance students, who is a Yoga teacher, organized to have the proceeds of one of her classes donated to DSA. This was a special class taught on International Yoga Day, on the 20th of June.



Above: I attended a Montagu Talk talk after which DSA received a cash donation

Dancescape South Africa officially closed for holidays on the 26th of June however, we attended a workshop hosted by Jazzart Dance Theatre on the 27th. It was an amazing event. Thimna Ndwe, also a former student, organized the day which was held at the Zolani

Community Hall. Lihle Mfene who is now a prominent teacher and figure at Jazzart, taught class and later his choreography was performed by the Jazzart dancers. Milisa Mathiso, also a former DSA student, is now one of the Jazzart dancers. In the morning classes took place and later in the afternoon, there was a showcase. Dancescape, The Worcester First Step and others performed and so did the Zolani Youth Choir. It was an awesome afternoon enjoyed by all. We hope to have more of these workshops in the future.

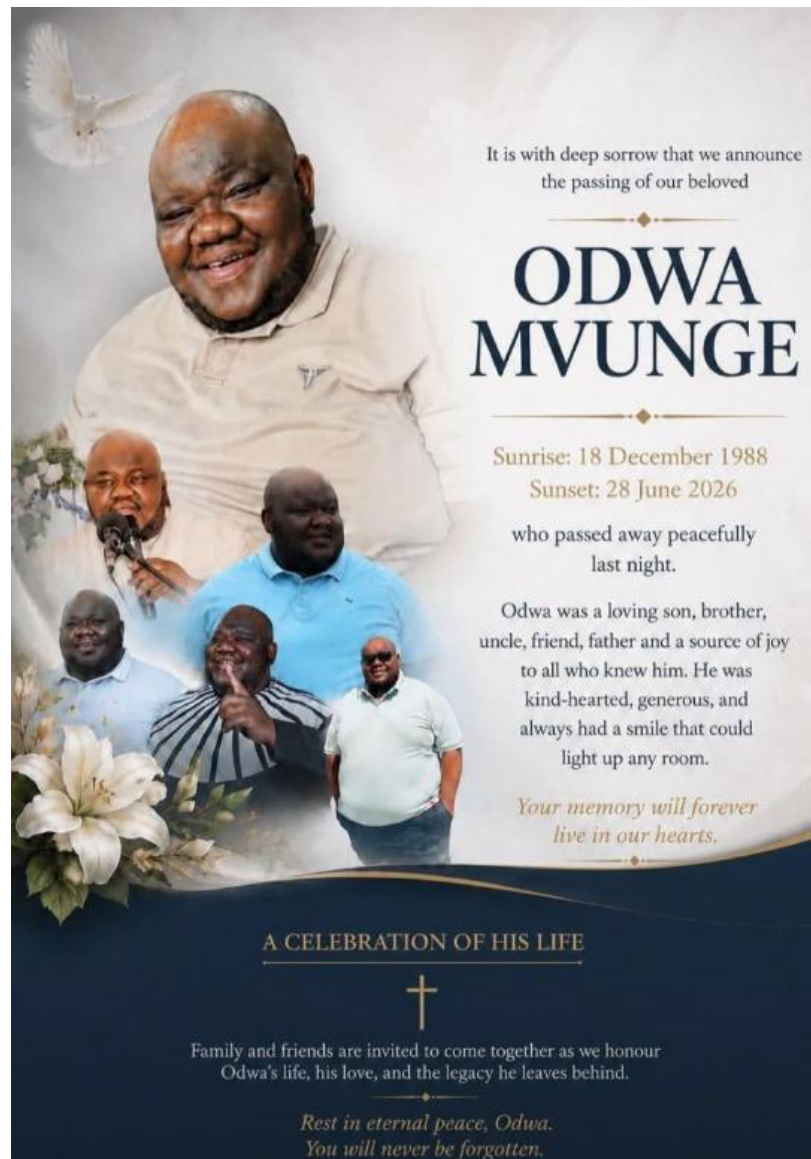


Above: DSA dancers performing at this years Centre Stage Production.



Above: DSA students attend a Jazzart workshop.

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Odwa Mvunge on the 28th of June. Odwa formed and established the Zolani Youth Choir. He mentored and taught this group for many years and was considered a legend. Often time DSA has worked with him. He was an inspiration, and a larger-than-life character. We are very sad. Rest In Peace Odwa. It was a privilege to have known you.



Above: Rest in peace dear Odwa.

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)