



NAC-SEA

MUSIC SCHOOL & DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2013

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INTRODUCTION

In March 2013, District Apostle MP Mkhwanazi underscored the following outcomes pertaining to music for the NAC-SEA working area for 2013-14.

1. Singing families.
2. Music leadership structures at Bishop area level.
3. Effective new hymn learning in all congregations.
4. Positive drive to increase music development in all township congregations.
5. Music school established in entire NAC-SEA working area.
6. Focus on sunday school singing.
7. Translating 300 english hymns into Setswana, Zulu, Sotho, and Portuguese.

These focus areas are all entrenched in the Music Vision Statement of our church.

- (1) Create a culture in music appreciation.
- (2) Develop standards through acquired knowledge.
- (3) Achieve excellence. Enjoyable and enthusiastic participation.
- (4) Express our love for God and our fellow man through music.

With the support of all the stake holders, we saw the numbers at the Music School grew from 13 to 165 during 2013.

This report deams to address some of the outcomes achieved in 2013.



1. GAUTENG

2013 brought its challenges but also its blessings. The Music School started gaining momentum slowly but as the year progressed, the interest levels increased and a greater number of music learners took up the challenge.

Of note is the tremendous efforts of the teachers, parents and the ministers in the respective areas. They believed in the dream to give our children the opportunity and moved without hesitation to engage anyone who is willing to learn music.

1.1 SOSHANGUVE, SIYABUSWA & GA-RANKUWA AREAS - 46 LEARNERS



Even the cold could not hamper the urge for learning music. Recorders forms the first step to music learning.



An outstanding feature of this program is the fact that the Spiritual Leadership supported the program.



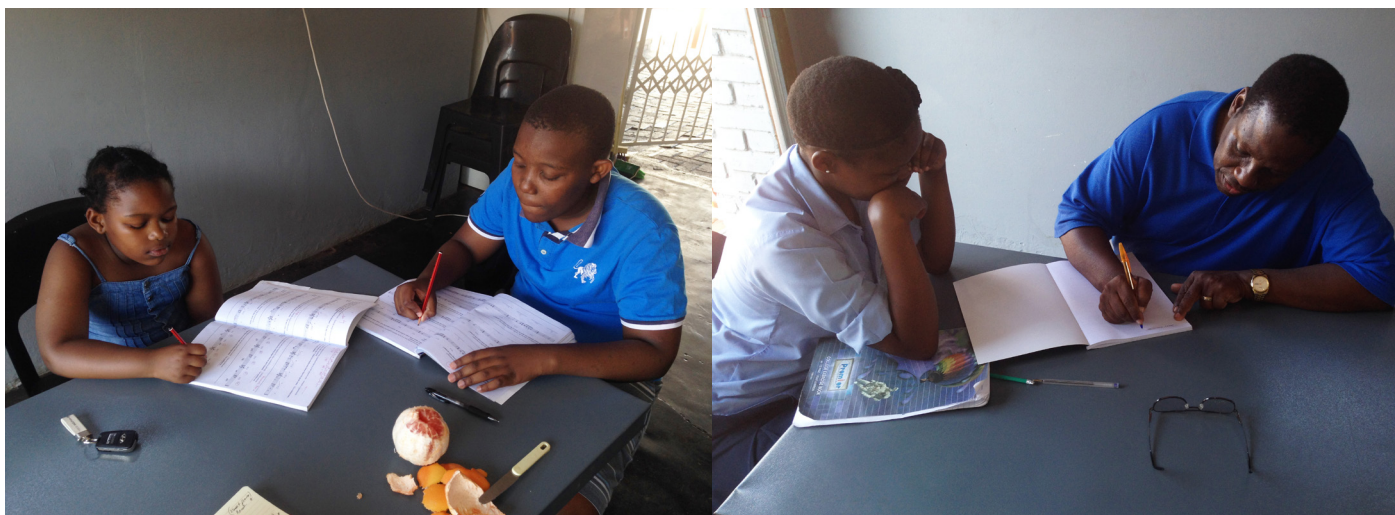
1.2 STRING LESSONS – EKANGALA

The attendance to the music classes were good, learners took pride in their group sessions. Most of the string classes are done on a mentorship program; this works well because our new learners are also our younger learners. The improvement levels increased due to this approach.





1.3 THEORY LESSONS IN SOSHANGUVE - 18 LEARNERS DONE THEIR EXAMS THIS YEAR



Intensive theory classes takes place at all centres. Most of the classes are done in group format thus getting the stronger learners to help the younger learners.

1.4 VOICE LESSONS IN PRETORIA CENTRAL & JOHANNESBURG – 6 LEARNERS

Singing classes is becoming a strong feature in the Music School. We have classes in Johannesburg and Pretoria, which is done by Marc Maloi. Voice training (singing classes) will be entertained in 4 more areas in 2014.



Voice lessons started for the first time at the NAC-SEA Music School during the course of 2013. To date, 6 young vibrant singers are registered for voice lessons - 5 are from Pretoria and 1 from Johannesburg. Most of our current voice learners are congregational choristers with huge potential to become soloists in their own right.



1.5 VIOLIN LESSONS AT EDENVALE - 16 LEARNERS



Ivan Lazarov and his wife Snejana has been teaching violin lessons for over 7 years at the NAC-SEA Music School. Their standard of teaching is very high. They expect nothing less from their learners. Their motto: "I give you my best so you give your best".



1.6 PIANO, VIOLIN & WOODWIND LESSONS AT MONDEOR - 14 LEARNERS



Jenny Botto is the piano teacher for Mondeor Music Centre. She teaches both pianoforte and theory lessons. Doing homework in music is vital. Amazingly enough, our teachers are happy with the homework done thus far.



The piano has its own moments of surprise and joy. Posture, concentration and good rhythm is what makes any teacher happy. Jenny's students know if they want to feel good, they have to practice regularly at home. No practice, no happy lesson!



4 more violin students are taught at our church in Mondeor.



1.7 BRASS LESSONS AT VALHALLA – 19 LEARNERS

Our Brass class is taken by Karl Ackerman. His methods brings about quick results and a free flow of love for the instrument. Class playing forms an integral part of the lessons, it gives every learner an opportunity to have a feel for ensemble playing and “see” where his/her part fits in.



What makes this year’s brass class special is the fact that there are 5 different families taking part. Every session comes with review and renew sessions.

The idea is to start Brass ensembles in other townships in Johannesburg and Pretoria. This will allow ample opportunity for musicality to take shape in an effective sustainable manner.

Of importance for these future programs is that each area will later take ownership of its own music development.





Children and Adults in the same class - more than fun! The ability to work under pressure starts from small. The younger learners are coupled with adults to learn faster – a recipe for success.





1.8 GERMISTON PROGRAM - LEARNERS

It started in the heart of the District Elder Doralingo. He had the dream to build orchestras in every congregation of his district. This was done with systematic planning and positive marketing strategies.

The idea was sold to all Rectors and Ministers in the district. Targets were raised and driven by the Elder and the Rectors. Consistent announcements were made every Sunday.



The word: "Come, it is for everyone who wants to play in the Lord's house". The overwhelming response speaks for itself. The parents and ministers worked together to transport young and "on in years" to the Edenpark congregation.



The interest in the project turned into a huge hunger for musical sounds.

On the day when the program started the feeling was mutual: It is here! Quite amazing was the nonchalant camaraderie between young and so young who for the first time started to put brain to instrument. For some it was strange for others scintillating. In the end it was a feeling of mutual worth.



For our current orchestra players it was a matter of “labours of love”. They all agreed to put back into the work that they have gained out of it for years. What a fulfilling way to serve each other.



Learning and Supporting was the order of the day. The outer court yard at the church became a class room for the Brass players.



1.9 THE GERMISTON CONCERT - THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



The much awaited concert was held on 3 November 2013 in the Linder Auditorium. Over 77 first time players were supported by existing orchestra players and their teachers.



The Male Choir of Germiston District embraced the concert with warm harmonious contributions on the day. One of their renditions was accompanied by the same ensemble.



1.10 BOSMONT DISTRICT MUSIC SCHOOL 25 YEARS, 1988 - 2013

The Music Development Program in the Bosmont District started in 1988, thus it has been teaching "Musical Instrument Learners" for 25 years now, from 1988 to 2013, "



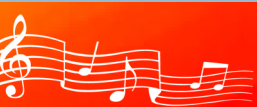
The program has covered the following instruments: Violin, Viola, Cello, Clarinet, Silverflute, Trumpet, Organ, Recorders. The venue was mainly our Bosmont church, but for some periods it was in Johannesburg Central Church (Hillbrow) and then in Jeppestown Church before returning to Bosmont Church.

With the kind help of generous caring friends they we were able to purchase instruments for the learners at discount prices, or allocate 'hand-me-down' instruments to eager recipients.

For approximatley 12 years our Violin Lessons were by Miroslav Chakaryan, who went loyally every Saturday morning to Bosmont Church, and then subsequently to Johannesburg Central Church, and then to Jeppestown Church, and then eventually again to Bosmont Church.

The Music Development Program in Bosmont was driven by the District Elder Ben and his team. This centre has accomodated learners from Eldorado Park and Ennerdale.

Over 45 learners are part of the program to date.





CONDUCTOR DEVELOPMENT IN GAUTENG

- A program to develop musicians to serve as district conductors was started in 2013, in the greater Johannesburg and Pretoria areas. Over 30 conductors took part in these sessions.
- Learner conductor classes were also undertaken in the Katorus District and Pretoria.



2. BLOEMFONTEIN PROMGRAM - OVER 56 STRING LEARNERS



They were of the first learners – Thumbs up after our first lesson!



Our learners come from the districts in and around Bloemfontein. The children are collected at their respective schools in and around Bloemfontein and dropped off again after their lessons.

My two visits were met with the same spirit, excitingly happy children who do not want to be late for their lesson. They are proud and live up to the opportunity – to be the best they can be.



2.1 MR GUY – VIOLIN TEACHER & PRINCIPAL OF FREE STATE STRING PROGRAM

Everyone knows they start by Mr Guy. He is the tuner and says nice things. He never plays wrong notes! Watch it if you did not practice! - From a few children's hearts.



2.2 SUNDAY SCHOOL MUSIC FESTIVAL - BLOEMFONTEIN, 16 NOVEMBER 2013

Bloemfontein, Mangaung and Eastern Free State District Churches presented an All For The Children choral afternoon on 16 November 2013. Participating congregations were Rodenbeck, Heidedal, Wiegandia, Hilton and Bloemfontein Central.

Each district delivered three musical pieces and afterwards combined to form a mass choir that rendered six hymns. The children enjoyed every moment of it and afterwards each child was presented with a gift during the fellowship that was arranged by the parents.





3. KIMBERLEY PROGRAM – 86 LEARNERS

The program in Kimberley started off with a violin project for 16 children. Within the first three weeks it grew to 20. Now it stands at 38 learners. What was striking about this project was that the children learnt to share their violins until the District Apostle agreed to purchase the instruments on a pay back scheme. This scheme has now been adopted for all districts in the NAC-SEA district church.



“I am playing my own Violin! – What a nice feeling! I am going to play this thing! Thanks to Aunty Shirley (their violin teacher)”



The success of this program can be seen in:

- 110% attendance. There was always new children coming to class
- Willingness to practice - even those without violins made a plan to go and practice at someone else's home.
- Good quality sound – an ongoing quality of the group.
- They play for each other.
- Their motto – Music is my life! Lives in them.
- Out of this group there are 4 players who now plays in the “big ”orchestra of Kimberley

Priest Litchie started a piano learning program for children in Galeshewe.



Every Saturday they march to Galeshewe Central for their Piano lessons. They all say: “We gonna play that organ... one day for sure”



3.1 FRUITS OF THEIR LABOURS – THANKSGIVING CONCERT IN KIMBERLEY, 2013

This year a Thanksgiving Day concert was the highlight of the Music School Orchestra Project. New Discipline and visionary input created tremendous stimulus amongst our players. Some are now taking individual lessons as well.



The Orchestra on its own is also attending development sessions which helps them to improve their play and reading ability.



The leading players made it easy for the learners to step up their game - It was worth it. Of note is that you see families getting involved. Parents are also taking up instruments to share the experience with their children. Recorders well played has a place in any music environment.





3.2 MUSIC FESTIVAL IN KIMBERLEY, 23 NOVEMBER 2013



Bishop Bhana and the District Leaders become positive drivers of the Music Development Program.



Theme for the Sunday School Music Festival in Kimberley was under pinned by the principal to "Dream Big". JP as he's known, was the top performer in the string project for 2013.



First Sunday School Music Festival was held in Kimberley, 23 November 2013.





Sister Shirley de Jager, Wayne, Bronwyn and Priest Clark gave the string project a home in Kimberley. They started in July 2013, and today the group is 38 strong. They have started to play hymns and with confidence, accompanied the audience with "Mighty God...".



Most of the Districts who took part in the festival used their initiative to colour the event with interesting attire for the day.

At this concert, it was announced that Nathan Carlo passed his Grade 5 piano exam with distinction; he was also offered a full scholarship to study music at the University of the Free State. This is proof that the development program works.

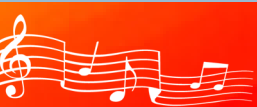




Above is the team who helped make the string project a success. It was never easy since they started teaching children from scratch. Several workshops, including a holiday music workshop, put the learners on their way to learn the violin. As the project progressed, parents became more interested and more children joined. This project was aided by the NAC-SEA Instrument Support Program.



The Kimberly Academy of Music has become a public partner in our music development program for the Kimberley area. Here Estelle Vorster motivates all parents and children to build the dream to make every New Apostolic family, a music family.



4. KWAZULU NATAL - CONDUCTORS WORKSHOP BY ARJAN TIEN

Arjan Tien a world renowned Conductor had a session with our conductors in Pinetown on 15 October 2013.

The workshop was attended by a choir of 77 and an orchestra of approximately 24 players.



Amongst the audience were district leaders, rectors and family members. Arjan and Bishop Naidoo with the conductors who attended the preparatory session

It was during this session that he reflected on his first moments as a Conductor which also started in church. He received his motivation for conducting from his father who was a choir conductor in his home town.



Arjan embraced the conductors through various interactive moments. His friendly, yet professional way of working with our conductors paid off. The "change" as required at times came without force because they could experience the impact it had on the choir and orchestra.

His success came from two words and he encouraged conductors, orchestra players and choirsters to embrace it: LISTEN & STUDY.



5. MPUMALANGA INSTRUMENT TRAINER PROGRAM, 2-6 DECEMBER 2013

Classical Moments of fun and learning was experienced by all. After day one everyone knew the instrument and was ready to hear good sounds and even play welcome tunes.



When asking them what made it easy for them to play violin, some said – our teacher was excellent, understanding and willing to help us.

Isaac Mollekoa led the workshop.





These are the trainers from Mpulozi, Nhlazatshe and Nelspruit. They will in 2014 lead the violin project in Mpumalanga.

DISTRICT CONDUCTOR DEVELOPMENT

- A program to develop musicians to serve as district conductors was started in 2013.
- Approximately 13 conductors attended this program.



6. VERNACULAR HYMNAL

The project on the translations of the 300 Vernacular languages has started in June 2013. The preferred languages will be Zulu, Sotho, Setswana and Portuguese.

The projected target date for this project is Thanksgiving 2014. As an extension from this project, the scorers will also be taught the basics on how to use the Sibelius music scoring program.



The team in Maputo being prepared to score text to Sibelius.



The team in Mpumalanga being prepared to work on the Zulu copies.



REPORT ON MUSIC ACTIVITIES IN OTHER AREAS:

Mahikeng – 4 Learners

Durban – 6 Learners at Durban Music school and 4 take lessons by Sis M Henderson

Gauteng School also have 4 cello learners registered to take lessons by Moshe Kustanovich. Another of our long standing top teachers at the school.

Limpopo – 7 has started this year (This include piano and Brass).

In total this year over 165 Learners have been part of the NAC-Sea Music School projects. 2014 the aim is to cater for 600. (This does not include the Germiston project (81) and Bosmont program (42).



VOTE OF THANKS TO:

1. District Apostole MP Mkhwanazi - Creating the vision and constant support to the programs.
2. Apostles & Bishops who helped create an atmosphere for growth.
3. District Leaders & Rectors who consistantly shown support under all circumstances.
4. Various music work groups for leadership shown.
5. All conductors, organists, teachers, sunday school teachers and parents.
6. The staff at the administration office, under leadership of Bishop Wentzel.

THANK YOU...