

The Marimba Workshop

(PTY) LTD



BEAT IT!

The Marimba Workshop (PTY) Ltd is a manufacturer of African Marimbas and Marimba-related educational equipment. We are one of the few marimba manufacturers that puts Music Education at the forefront of what we stand for.

August 2022

Edition 28

Marimba Monthly

This is the August edition of the Marimba Workshop (PTY) Ltd Newsletter. We hope all the 3 terms schools have had a restful holiday and that the sound of marimbas have continued to echo through the 4 term school halls. We love seeing many of our clients share their marimba band performances on their school Facebook pages. We have reshared many of these on our own Facebook page if you would like to view them.

We are excited in this edition to highlight the brilliant work done at Clifton School in KZN. We love highlighting schools like this where the teaching is not only about the fantastic marimba music but also about the holistic educational and social development of the students. Keep up the fantastic work you are doing Jane and the rest of your music team at Clifton!

We hope you have a great month ahead as we start to wrap up the end of the year.

Follow us on Social Media for regular updates and exciting news:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheMarimbaWorkshop>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/>



Product Highlight

We are the only marimba manufacturing company that manufactures marimbas that have the ability to be converted to a fully chromatic marimba by simply purchasing the “add-on” chromatic attachment. The chromatic attachment simply stands separately in front of all models of our diatonic marimbas, thus adding all the chromatic notes to your pre-existing diatonic instrument, and giving you endless musical possibilities.

With the ever increasing number of students taking marimba and percussion as their instrument to matric level, this may be the perfect and most cost-wise solution. Contact us today to find out how to convert your pre-existing diatonic instruments into fully chromatic instruments.



Teaching and playing tips

Don't extend your index finger on the marimba mallet when playing. It prevents the beaters from naturally bouncing and will be very difficult to roll easily and fast.

Tips for care and maintenance

Whenever you think “is this okay for my marimba” think: “is this okay for my grand piano.” We too often find coffee mug stains on marimba notes but do not find coffee mug stains on grand pianos.

Supplier Appreciation

Many of our suppliers have worked with Ian and Joan since the company began over 18 years ago! We thank them for their loyalty, kindness and friendship and hope they know they are highly valued members of the Marimba Workshop Family.





The
Marimba Workshop (PTY) Ltd

www.marimbaworkshop.co.za



Tuning Special

**10% OFF your marimba tuning from
now until the end of the year!**

Note tuning, like piano tuning, is an ongoing maintenance procedure one needs to do to all models of African marimbas. Wood is a living entity and will expand in the heat and contract in the cold. If your marimbas are used regularly and exposed to various elements, your notes will eventually need to be tuned. We recommend that our clients get their notes retuned once a year depending on how often they are used.

Terms and Conditions

- This special only applies to tuning of Marimba Workshop Instruments
- The 10% does not include courier fees to us or back to your school
- Tuning can only be done at our factory in Gauteng
- The 10% DOES apply to replaced notes if needed, during the tuning process
- Notes need to be received before the 1st of December, our factory closes on the 14th of December



Send an email to
info@marimbaworkshop.co.za
for more information

New Music

Dance Monkey:

<https://www.sheetmusicplus.com/title/dance-monkey-digital-sheet-music/22067033>



Looking at Budgets for next year!

For budgeting purposes, you can expect roughly a 7-10% price increase on most of our products for next year. We are working hard to try and keep our prices as low as possible, but are largely dependent on our raw material suppliers' prices which we will only know in the new year. We do however have a policy whereby if you place your order before the 16th of December 2022 but for delivery and payment on delivery in 2023, we will still honour the 2022 prices.

Education Africa International Marimba and Steelpan Festival

THE PREMIERE VIEWINGS OF THE EDUCATION AFRICA VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL MARIMBA AND STEELPAN FESTIVAL 2022 There are 12 episodes (most are less than 2 hours in length) which can be viewed on:

The Virtual Festival Facebook page:

“Education Africa’s Virtual International Marimba and Steelpan Festival”

and

The Education Africa YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMsei0CNAvqGHNElek4P5rg>

Will be on the 8/9/15/16 October 2022.



School Highlight

School: Clifton School

Teacher: Mr Stéphane Pechoux (College), Mrs Jane Magner (Senior Prep) and Ms Londiwe Mbuli (Foundation Phase)

Location: Morningside, Durban, KZN



At Clifton in Durban, we are fortunate to have built up a wide range of traditional African percussion instruments in our music department over the years from various sources, and we incorporate these widely into our class music curriculum.

We have 2 sets of Marimbas: One set is allocated for our boys in the College and one set for our Prep; the latter set acquired from The Marimba Workshop. In the College, we have traditional African marimbas- soprano, alto, tenor and bass, but in the prep, we work with diatonic combination 3.5 octave marimbas and bass marimbas- much more fun as more boys per marimba means more playing with friends and more fun! In the classroom, we find that this best suits the way that parts can be arranged in groups to mirror

age-appropriate ability and other stages of learning in the music curriculum according to grade and age. As the boys get older and move into four part harmony, the marimbas can then, at times, potentially be a practical application of this.

It is no surprise that our boys are drawn to marimbas. Growing boys are physical and active beings, and playing percussion instruments mirror strength and boisterous, energetic play in the musical sphere. This allows boys to freely express and empower themselves through music in a way that is intrinsically 'boy', and they love it!

Making music with your friends, and forging new friendships through making music together as a team, also makes boys look forward to marimbas with enthusiasm and excitement each week. The versatility of what can be played (anything from Mozart to Maroon 5!), along with the ease through which to learn tunes quickly in early stages, also grows boys' confidence in themselves and makes music ensemble playing very accessible, and most importantly, lots of fun! *

For the co-curricular marimba bands, we use our well-loved and versatile Marimba Workshop Marimbas. Co-curricular Marimbas at Clifton has grown exponentially -from an SP Band of 7 boys in 2018 (known affectionately as our "founding fathers" of marimbas at Clifton!), we now have two bands in the Senior Primary phase (Grade 4 and 5, and Grade 6 and 7), and one College Marimba Band (Grade 8-12) which often collaborates with our College Drumline. We also have a marimba 'club' in the Foundation Phase, to introduce boys to the great fun of making music on marimbas. We have also extended our marimba music-making to our Clifton community, running some fun staff workshops and Parents' Marimba mornings too.

Our Marimba band boys perform frequently at school functions- whether music concerts or general events in the life of the school- as well as at other concerts around Durban. Most recently, both SP Marimba Bands enjoyed a successful music tour to the KZN Midlands a few weeks back. Along with our SP Choir and SP Orchestra, the boys loved the experience of visiting different schools and sharing their music with others. The Grade 6 and 7 Band also took part in the 2021 Education Africa Virtual Marimba Festival, and we hope to expose our boys to more opportunities such as this going forward.

It is a privilege to explore and enjoy the wide range of possibilities that comes with making music together on these wonderful instruments. Marimbas are a firm favourite here at Clifton, and we look forward to growing and developing our marimba music programme even further in the years to come.

Jane Magner
Clifton School, Durban
Head of Music: Preparatory School
Director of Instrumental Music



A fabulous NPO are requesting help to reignite their marimba programme. Please see the details below if you are able to assist:

This year 2022 Bet on Better will focus on the most vulnerable in our communities - the homeless. With your generous contributions we have provided food and blankets to the poorest of the poor. We need your assistance to keep this initiative going and kindly request you to continue donating. Any donations would be appreciated as these are challenging times for all of us.

Back a buddy link

<https://www.backabuddy.co.za/charity/profile/bet-on-better>

Facebook page Link

<https://www.facebook.com/Bet-on-Better-112829653614617/>

Have you seen our website yet? Visit our website and don't forget to share! Every little bit helps!

<http://betonbetter.co.za>

Donation

<https://www.walletedoc.com/pay/Better>

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Thank-you to the Orff Schulwerk Society of South Africa for having us at your 50th celebratory conference. Here are a few pictures of this great coming together of music educators and facilitators from around the country along with international and local workshop presenters.

