



The Marimba Workshop (PTY) Ltd.

S U M M E R N E W S L E T T E R
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Greetings from the Marimba Workshop family!

What a jam-packed year for marimba deliveries and performances and it is only February! We have already had two Marimba Teacher Training Workshops in Gauteng on the 27th of January. Thank you to St Dominic's for hosting these. We are in the process of planning some more around the country, more info coming soon! We would love to hear how your "Marimba Year" has started and if there is anything we can help or assist you with, whether it be instruments, sheet music, arrangements, or just another ear to bounce ideas off of.

Please drop us an email on info@marimbaworkshop.co.za





Are you looking for new music of Pop song arrangements for your marimba bands? We have a large number of South African and International Pop Music Arrangements written specifically by Marimba Teachers For South African School Marimba Bands. Contact us for the full catalogue.

Did you know?

We offer one of the widest range of teacher resources for the marimba band community of South Africa and abroad. Contact us for a full catalogue of music, marimba specialist books, teacher training and fun workshops, as well as our fabulous array of marimba instruments.

We have designed specialist instruments for Marching Bands, Orff ensembles, Wheelchair Accessible Marimbas, Sit-On Marimbas for students who have low mobility and standing difficulties, Specially-designed preschool Marimbas (and a full step-by-step preschool programme in 4 modules), and of course our ever popular Signature Marimba Sets and Traditional Marimba Sets used by schools and professional marimba bands across the world.

Note Tuning

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 around once a year depending on how often they are used. Please send us an email should you want to book your Marimba Workshop notes in for tuning.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

WE ARE ONE OF SOUTH AFRICA'S LEADING SUPPLIERS OF MARIMBA INSTRUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL AND MARIMBA RELATED MATERIAL. GIVE US A LIKE ON FACEBOOK AND SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH ALL THINGS MARIMBA WORKSHOP!



Do not forget to register for the Education Africa International Marimba & Steelpan Festival 2024.

After the resounding success of last year's (first back since COVID) Live Festival, this year promises to be another epic celebration of the marimba community! The entries this year have been capped, so make sure you get your entries in asap! The closing date for registrations and category entries including payments closes on the 11th of March. However, only the first 300 paid-up categories will be guaranteed a place in the Festival. Any received once this cap has been reached will be put on a waiting list. We already have over 100 paid-up categories! If you want to take part in this Festival, please get your registrations in asap. For more information visit: www.internationalmarimbanfestival.org

We have an array of resources, teaching tips and advice within our newsletters, which are all accessible on our website's home page: www.marimbaworkshop.co.za.

They are also filled with inspirational stories from teachers around South Africa who use Marimba Workshop instruments to change their school and students' lives on a daily basis.



School Highlight

Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls

Location: Gauteng

Teacher: Mrs Zelda Reyneke and Ms Thandi Dube

Empowering Rhythms: Marimba Magic at the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls

Greetings Marimba Workshop enthusiasts! In this edition, we bring you an exclusive feature on our longstanding partnership with the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls (OWLAG). Since its inception when the school opened its doors 2007, marimba playing has been an integral part of the vibrant cultural tapestry at OWLAG.

Origins of the Marimba Journey:

The melodious journey of marimba music at OWLAG began when the school first opened its doors. Over the years, marimba playing has played a pivotal role in shaping the musical life of our students.

Leadership that Inspires:

Under the skilled leadership of Mrs Zelda Reyneke since 2012, the marimba bands at OWLAG have flourished, creating a musical legacy that resonates throughout the academy. Mrs Reyneke's dedication and passion have been instrumental in nurturing and guiding students through their musical odyssey.

Welcoming a New Maestro:

Recently, OWLAG welcomed a new addition to the musical family with the arrival of Ms Thandi Dube. Ms Dube brings a wealth of experience and a fresh perspective to our team. Her expertise further enriches the musical education journey for OWLAG students, promising exciting new chapters in the academy's musical story.

How We Harness the Power of Marimbas:

The marimbas at OWLAG are not just instruments; they are agents of empowerment and unity. Through the Marimba programs, students at OWLAG cultivate teamwork, discipline, and a deep appreciation for the arts.

A Musical Odyssey: Beginner to Concert Band:

OWLAG proudly hosts a unique musical odyssey for its students. Starting in the Beginner Band tailored for new Grade 8 learners, students play through the ranks, progressing to the Junior, Senior, and ultimately the Concert Band when they reach Grade 11 and 12. This tiered approach ensures a comprehensive musical journey for each student, fostering growth and excellence.

Orchestral Marimba and Exam Excellence:

Beyond the traditional marimba bands, OWLAG offers an enriching experience with Orchestral Marimba. Learners here engage in Trinity College London Tuned Percussion Examinations, consistently achieving exceptional results at the highest levels. The dedication and talent exhibited by OWLAG students in these examinations are a testament to the academy's commitment to musical excellence.

Impact and Achievements:

The impact of marimba music on the students at OWLAG has been profound. Our marimba bands have actively participated in various Eisteddfods, consistently achieving Diplomas for their vibrant and outstanding performances. Notably, at the International Marimba and Steelpan Festival, the OWLAG Concert Band have previously secured the distinguished title of Category Winners, proudly bringing home the trophy.

Collaborative Performances:

In addition to marimba brilliance, OWLAG showcases the collaborative synergy of marimba bands, the OWLAG Senior Choir, and Combined Orchestra at festivals and performances. This harmonious collaboration adds another layer to the academy's rich musical tapestry.

Annual Extravaganzas:

The rhythm doesn't stop there! The OWLAG marimba bands are annual stars at various school festivals, including the Henly-on-Klip Mardi Gras. On-campus events, such as the Blazer Ceremony, Heritage Days Celebration Concert, Sihaya Ingoma, Valediction, and the ED Luncheon, are all graced by the energetic beats of our marimba maestros.

Looking Ahead:

As OWLAG celebrates the ongoing success of its musical endeavours, the academy looks forward to new milestones and harmonious melodies in the years to come. The academy remains committed to fostering a diverse and vibrant musical culture.

Stay tuned for more rhythm-infused updates and join us in applauding the incredible talent nurtured at OWLAG through the power of marimba music!

A Message from OWLAG Executive Director:

For me, the greatest impact of marimba music on our girls has been the confidence it has given them. To experience a shy girl, who had never even seen the marimba instrument in her life before, coming into her own, laughing, dancing and commanding the crowd and playing that instrument gives me Goosebumps every time. Ms Gugu Ndebele.

Keep the beats alive!





SUMMER GALLERY



We had a great time doing marimba and percussion workshops at The American International School Pretoria Campus.



Our Marching Marimba was featured at The Brixton Light Festival.

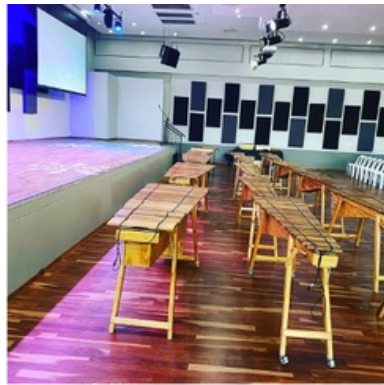


Our company band performed at a number of beautiful weddings and end-of-year corporate events!



Brad gave a fun workshop for parents of the marimba band at Jeppe Boys. What a great idea! Why not take this on for the parents of your school!

We were honored to present workshops at the All Crawford Schools Arts Festival.



The Education Africa Alumni All Stars Band performed at the iconic Market Theatre as part of WOMAD (World of Music and Dance) Festival, the brainchild of Peter Gabriel.

We continued to grow the population of very young up and coming marimba players through our fun and interactive workshops at World Of Golf in Woodmead.



The Education Africa Alumni Band performed at the Finnish Embassy as part of the National Day of Independence in Finland. Pictured is also Manqoba Radebe who we are delighted to have joining our team at The Marimba Workshop (PTY) Ltd.



Our marimbas once again graced the stage of the prestigious Linder Auditorium in Johannesburg for the World New Music Days Festival.



A video of Westville Senior Primary School performing a medley of songs out of The Shaya Marimba Series Book went viral. Click on the photo to see the full article!

St Catherine's performing on Jacaranda FM.

Click on the image to see the full video.



We are delighted to see our Inclusive Range of Marimbas being utilized in a further two schools over the last few months. Further proof that nobody should be restricted in any way from the joy and educational benefit of playing marimbas! Here we see our wheelchair marimbas and our sit-on marimbas.



We were ecstatic to see our marimbas being performed for the iconic world humanitarian Malala Yousafzai.



BEAT IT!