



# The Marimba Workshop (PTY) Ltd.

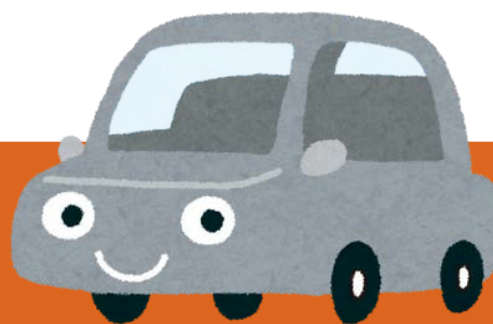
## W I N T E R   N E W S L E T T E R

### 2 0 2 5

This is our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly newsletter of 2025 reflecting on the last few winter months in the marimba world in South Africa. There have been some notable events over these past few months. A massive congratulations to all of the schools and organizations who have been part of organizing them and a special congratulations in particular to all of the Marimba Workshop (PTY) Ltd Schools who have participated and been involved in them! We have loved sharing them on our facebook page, and have highlighted a few in the gallery below. As many schools are approaching the final term of school and looking into 2026 budgets, a reminder that we are always able to assist and offer advice re-marimba related matters! Please do not hesitate to send us an email on [info@marimbaworkshop.co.za](mailto:info@marimbaworkshop.co.za)

The Marimba Workshop prides itself in being one of the few marimba manufacturing companies that puts music and marimba education at the forefront of what we stand for! We are committed to furthering the marimba instruments' reach as one of the most effective musical tools for holistic, personal and community development.





## Are your marimbas like your car?

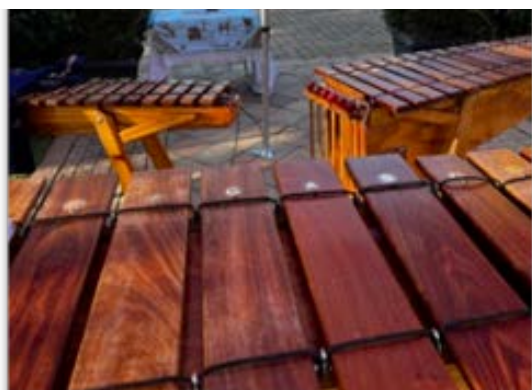
In so much that you should not drive your marimba at 140KPH on the highway, then no they are not like your car.

In so much that you should get them serviced and tuned at least once a year, then YES marimbas are exactly like your car!

In so much that you will likely not put a drum kit and 20 boxes of books on the top of your car for a month, then YES marimbas are exactly like your car!

In so much that you would leave your car outside in the hot sun and rain, then NO marimbas are not like your car! Please do not leave marimbas outside in the sun, rain or cold overnight!

(I think you get the point!) Please always remember marimbas are just as valuable as any other musical instrument!. Many people question why marimbas are so expensive, and while we work hard to keep our prices as low as possible, anything that is handcrafted with wood takes a unique and special skill and many hours of labour. Unlike plastic instruments like a recorder (not a recorder hater) that are made by a machine by the thousand, every marimba and piece of wood on a marimba is specially worked on and handcrafted as every piece of wood is slightly different



## New Website!

We are really excited to have upgraded our website and given it into a modern and user-friendly feel. Please do check out our new website on [www.marimbaworkshop.co.za](http://www.marimbaworkshop.co.za)



We are excited to be launching a new workshop to our offering. Please do contact us if you would like more information on this. The Marimba Workshop (PTY) Ltd Marimba Logistics Workshop. This workshop is designed for both the music teacher/marimba coach as well as the school maintenance/support staff who regularly are required to move and transport the instruments. The workshop is designed to be a fun and interactive session with tips on best practices of moving, transporting and general care for the marimbas. The workshops will be done at the school and will require a minimum number of attendees. A certificate of participation will be given to all attendees. Please do send us an email if this is something you would like to do.



**BEAT IT!**

The  
**Marimba Workshop** (PTY) Ltd

[www.marimbaworkshop.co.za](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> of December, our factory closes on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December

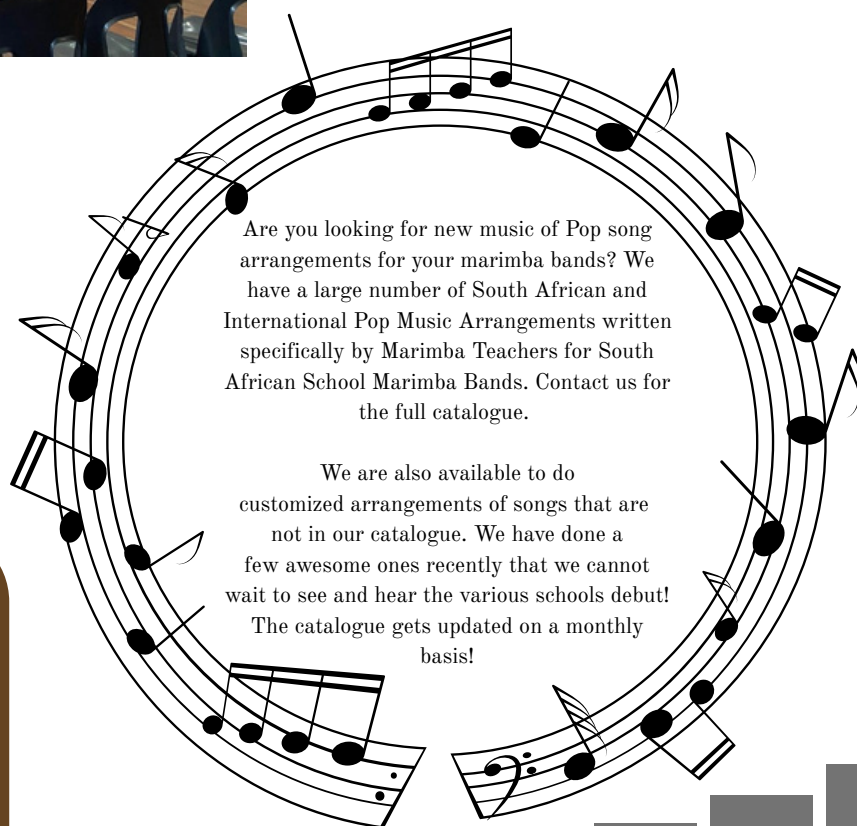


Send an email to  
[info@marimbaworkshop.co.za](mailto:info@marimbaworkshop.co.za)  
for more information



# Team Building

Similar to djembe drumming teambuilding workshops we do the same with marimbas! We are able to bring enough marimbas to your school or event for 22 players. If you have ever wanted the rest of your school staff to appreciate the enormous power of marimbas and have an experience of playing in a fun-filled workshop, why not get us in to do your school's/company's end of year teambuilding event on MARIMBAS! Drop us an email for more information.



Contact us if you are looking for a marimba teacher/coach for your school. We have a data base of excellent marimba teachers who have been trained by us through Education Africa.



# School Highlight

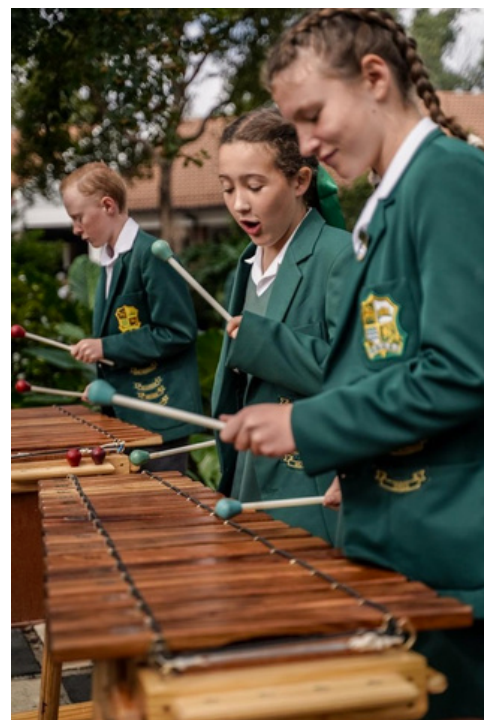
Jan Celliers Laerskool, Gauteng  
Teacher: Reinhardt Liebenberg

Since 2010, it has been Jan Cellier's dream to establish a Marimba orchestra. The biggest obstacle was finding a venue large enough to accommodate the instruments.

In 2015, the school's new cultural centre was inaugurated, where a space for the Marimba ensemble became available. The school had many Orff instruments, and systematically, a Marimba was purchased each year to expand the Orff ensemble and eventually take it over.

Today, under the leadership of the enthusiastic Marimba leader, Mr. Reinhardt Liebenberg, the school can boast a Junior Marimba orchestra of 26 members who practice on Fridays at 7:00. The Senior Marimba orchestra, with 30 members, is known as 'Umculo' and practices on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 7:00. The learners enjoy the sense of togetherness, making music together, and expressing emotions when they play the Marimbas.

In 2023, Jan Celliers introduced a Marimba section during the Jan Celliers Eisteddfod. The purpose was to provide exposure for the Marimba ensembles through a competition with other orchestras, where the emphasis is on the enjoyment of making music rather than the competitive aspect. Our aim is to continue to grow and expand our Marimba orchestra so that more of our members can get involved.





# 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!



Joan is presenting at the Redhill Redefine Conference on THE POWER OF THE MARIMBA: INCLUSIVITY AND HOLISTIC MARIMBA TEACHING IN THE SCHOOLS OF THE FUTURE. The presentation will take the form of a talk which includes videos, photographs, case studies and demonstrations.

Did you know

We also sell Djembe Drums, Djembe bags and we do reskinning of djembe drums. Contact us to arrange for your djembes to be reskinned.



## Teacher Training July 2025



"Between the 30th of June and the 4th of July, I had the privilege of training over 50 marimba teachers in my 40-Hour marimba training course for beginners. Thank you, Education Africa, for giving me this opportunity to share my methodology with all these amazing people.

We had a great deal of fun not only learning to play marimbas but also learning how to teach marimbas using my holistic marimba methodology. Wonderful friendships were made and the greatest take-aways from the course for me were the thought of how many young people will be impacted by these teachers being trained and the fact that each of these marimba teachers now have a solid grounding in marimba technique and a tried and tested methodology that allows large groups of students to learn to play the marimba at the same time."

Joan Lithgow

# WINTER GALLERY



BEAT IT!

Congratulations to all the schools and organizations who held marimba events this winter. We are excited to announce that we will be involved and one of the sponsors for the Education Africa International Marimba & Steelpan Festival, with more information on registrations coming in the next newsletter.





**We love to share all Marimba Workshop schools on our facebook page! Please do check out our facebook page to see all of the schools using our companies marimbas so effectively and enthusiastically! Below are a few pictures we had notable excitement in seeing our companies marimbas being used at!**





Our company band has been busy over the last few months and as wedding season is coming up, our calendar is filling up fast. Contact us soon if you are looking at having a marimba band at your next event!

