

ANNUAL REPORT 2017/8



JUNGLE
THEATRE COMPANY
EDUCATIONAL-INTERACTIVE-ENVIRONMENTAL

INTRODUCTION

- ❖ During the 2017/8 financial year Jungle Theatre Company (JTC) performed 39 shows and facilitated 101 workshops; reaching an audience of 7 000, mostly consisting of children in the Western & Eastern Cape.
 - ❖ JTC is presently in its first year of their three year strategy 2018-2020 workshopped under the direction of the lovely Dr Alice Ashwell in May 2017.
 - ❖ The management team members comprising Vincent Meyburgh, Miranda Tait & Siyawandisa Badi have received continued support from a dedicated artistic team as well as Board members: Tracey Saunders; Celia Musikanth, Ntombifuthi Mkhasibe & Yoliswa Ngqame.
- Highlights of the year consisted of: an ongoing performing arts club in Muizenberg with participants from Capricorn & Muizenberg and a successful Thundafund campaign which allowed JTC to perform *The Magic Shell* for several organisation & schools as well at the Masque Theatre in December.
- ❖ The Jungle team is grateful for all the support it has received from its donors, partners and the general public, without whom, the organisation would not be able to continue changing the lives of its beneficiaries.



WHEN LION HAD WINGS

With funding received from the National Lotteries Commission the storytelling version of *When Lion Had Wings* toured to the Northern Cape as well as locally from March to May reaching 3 000 learners.



The street theatre version was performed leading up to the Assitej World Congress – Cradle of Creativity at the Waterfront Amphitheatre & Artscape.



Based on a traditional Khoikhoi folktale the story's characters make use of masks and music and tell the story of a flying lion who is bullying all the animals and has made vultures his slaves. They portray hilarious frogs who lead the animals to discover their own talents and to stand up to the bully.

“Suitable level and entertaining. Good length & curriculum links.” Sid G Rule



A DOGS' LIFE

The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and JTC have been collaborating for more than 10 years to bring educational theatre to primary school learners mainly in the Cape Metropolitan area.

During June of 2017 the twinnings programme took place at the Masque Theatre in Muizenberg, giving the opportunity for primary schools and foundation phase learners from different backgrounds, to come together for an integrated exploration of Life Skills topics.

“It’s theatre with a real heart. With every performance, children leave for home singing and humming the theme song ‘What Does a Happy Dog Have,’ and emerging as the next generation of animal lovers.” (Lisa Cant-Haylett – IFAW)



A total of 11 schools partook in the programme with a total of 753 foundation phase learners mostly from grade 3 and underprivileged schools.

“Both learners and teachers enjoyed the performance. It was a good way to teach learners about the responsibilities of having a pet. We would love to see many other educational performances such as this one, regarding other important issues.” (Zenzeleni Waldorf)



THE MAGIC SHELL

The Magic Shell AKA How Stories Began was performed 12 times during this financial year reaching close to 1200 audience members mainly due to JTC's successful Thundafund campaign which was run during the latter part of 2017.

Thanks to our backers the show was performed at the Muizenberg festival; Kids Embrace festival; Cape Mental Health; Sentinel Primary and at the Masque Theatre in December. Children from the Lalela Project in Hout Bay and the Orphan Care Foundation in Westlake were transported to the Masque to come and watch the show.



The Magic Shell explores how stories come from our connection to nature and the spiritual world. It encourages children to tell imaginative stories and to read. This work has value because it fosters pride in our heritage and language, connects us to nature, brings laughter and opens up channels of creativity.

"It was very powerful. I like the acting changes of the animals. I have not seen anything like this before." - Anonymous



CREATING THEATRE WITH CHILDREN

Jungle Theatre Company has developed a *Creating Theatre with Children Module* as part of the Community Arts Partners (CAP) facilitators training project run by the Butterfly Art Project.

JTC ran a pilot, funded by EJ Lombardi Charitable Trust, in June last year with 16 participants graduating from the Module. The Module was evaluated and adjusted and has now become fully integrated in the CAP programme as one of the modules.

The *Creating Theatre with Children Module* teaches participants to learn to facilitate the creation of a piece of theatre with a group of children based on an African folktale.



“It really taught me a lot about acting and how you can play out the story with children.” - Nomfundo Mlamla



PERFORMING ARTS CLUBS

With funding received from the National Lotteries Commission; L & S Chiapini Charitable Trust and the Department of Cultural Affairs & Sport (DCAS), JTC was able to run several performing arts clubs in Khayelitsha & Kalksteentfontein up until April of 2017. The Muizenberg Performing Arts Club, continued for the duration of the financial year funded by the Rolf Stephan Nussbaum Foundation.



The performing arts clubs target learners between the ages of 8 – 14 years and focus on African folktales. While acquiring performing arts skills the children are encouraged to relate the stories to their personal lives resulting in increased self-confidence; team work; trust and a general well-being. The children tackle modern day issues in a playful manner and through the characters of the story.

“I learned new things like interacting with other people and confidence and I will improve that.” – Thirston, age 12

Each term culminated in a performance for participants’ friends, parents and teachers. The performing arts clubs have been a huge success and JTC has raised funds to carry on with the clubs during the next financial year.



YOUTH TRAINING

During the last quarter of 2017 JTC ran a Youth Workshop Programme facilitated by Theatre maker Joce Engelbrecht. The programme was funded by Sub council 19 with a focus on developing theatre making skills enabling youths from Lavender Hill and Vrygrond to become positive role models for younger children in their community and bring together all community role players as one.



During August last year, JTC's Artistic Director, Vincent Meyburgh, worked with grade 8 & 9 learners from Lotus High school in preparation of a performance for the Flight of Dreams Parade in September 2017 celebrating bird life at Princess Ulei.



IN-HOUSE TRAINING.



JTC conducted a Transitional Youth Drama Programme during the last quarter of 2017 whereby JTC's facilitators were trained in many areas with an emphasis on Monitoring & Evaluation i.e. making use of the Logic Model Framework in terms of planning their work with school children with a view to carrying over this knowledge to South African youths working with children.

In January 2018 JTC facilitated a storytelling workshop for a group of undergraduate students, drama/film majors from Clarks University.

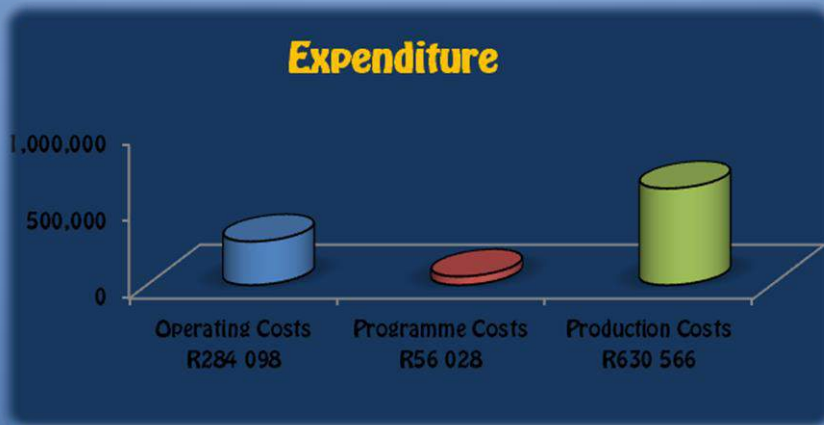
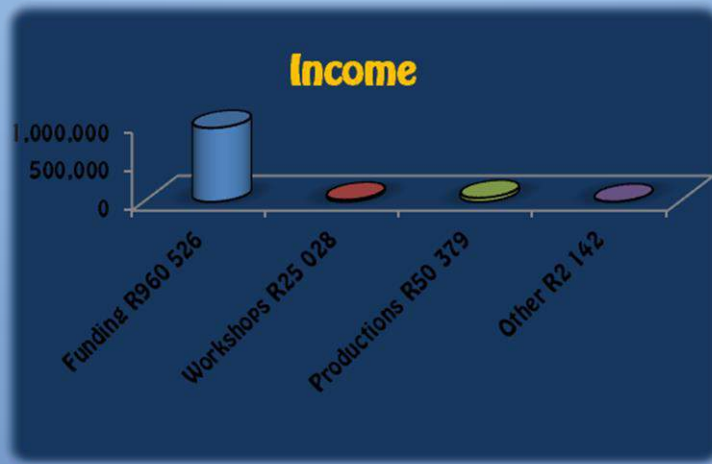
From February JTC has been assisting Assitej-SA with on-site visits and training for the practitioners of the After School Game Changer Creative Arts Facilitator Programme.

JTC has also been working association with Circle Productions and created an African Storytelling Circle workshop whereby participants experience storytelling first hand through voice, drums, mime and movement and get to perform the story to a POP UP audience.



FINANCIALS

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Theatre for Young People

