

REGIONAL SCHOOLS' FESTIVAL presents:

Future Arts Programme, 2021

Theatre and art live on! **The National Arts Festival** are doing what we can to ensure that our programmes push forward.

The **Grahamstown Foundation's** Regional Schools' Festival has been a fixture in South African schools' calendars for 45 years. The world is changing, and so are we. With the generous support of our principal funder, the National Lottery, as well as additional support from the National Arts Council and the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture, the Grahamstown Foundation and National Arts Festival are excited and proud to be teaming up with the **Market Theatre Laboratory**.

For this 46th year of Regional Schools' Festival the Market Theatre Laboratory has conceptualized and the *Future Arts Programme* as a series of pre-recorded workshops as a film development and production process, designed and presented by a selection of South Africa's respected artists. The workshops are designed to be experienced by students in their schools and facilitated by educators.

This reconceived Regional Schools' Festival 2021 will continue to be a group activity; will include workshops designed and presented by professionals; will give access to new technology and tools; will build skills for our young people needed in our emerging future; will share creativity across schools; and will ensure that learners get feedback on the work they have produced. All this while keeping to covid protocols and exploring the new approaches to conceptualising and producing artistic content for all arts students and new screen formats.

WHATS NEW

- 2021 sees us bring our new Schools' Festival programme to schools where they are, which they can incorporate into their school schedule as it best suits them;
- We are open for Grades 10, 11 and 12 learners to participate;
- We are open for learners from any of the arts subjects to participate (e.g. the visual arts, music, dance...)
- Over the course of the 2-day workshop process, learners will produce their own films!
- Screens and vlogging kits are needed - the National Arts Festival is set up to provide these devices to schools should they require them to participate;
- We are reaching out to schools in all nine provinces increasing our learners and educators' breath of sharing and depth of insight into what our young people are expressing nationally.
- Participation is FREE!

Why partner with the Market Theatre Laboratory?

The Market Theatre Laboratory trains actors and theatre makers. Founded by Barney Simon and Dr John Kani in 1988, it is the educational arm of the Market Theatre, and has developed into one of the premiere training facilities of its kind in Southern Africa. It has trained exceptional performers and theatre-makers including Olive Schreiner Award winner Phillip Dikotla, three Standard Bank Young Artist of the Year winners, Monageng Motshabi (2016), Prince Lamla (2013), and Mncedisi Shabangu (2014), and SAFTA award winners Harriet Manamela, Warren Masemola and Lindiwe Ndlovu. In addition, the Market Theatre Laboratory stood up to the challenges of 2020 by swiftly transforming its syllabus and approach to continue to teach the performing arts under lockdown conditions, embracing new education for new formats in the context of diverse digital-access scenarios.

The National Arts Festival similarly transformed its National Arts Festival to an online programme, facilitating over 260 works in 2020 at a time when live events were cancelled and South Africans were under the harshest lockdown levels experienced yet, welcoming 85,000 audience members to this new form of virtual festival. Through this process artists developed many new ways of pushing creativity and innovation despite phenomenal constraint. In response the National Arts Festival developed new ways of supporting its artists to produce and present their work. With all these experiences, the National Arts Festival and the Grahamstown Foundation are more determined than ever to push our sector forward into a new age working with our next generation of artists in new ways.

The National Arts Festival has assembled vlogging kits and screens so that learners, despite the digital divide, may participate in this pioneering programme. The Regional Schools Festival's *Future Arts Programme* brings these lessons and lines of hope to learners around the country.

The Curriculum and Format

Together, students will go through a creative content-making process, at the end of which, The National Arts Festival will present the learners' work on our platform enabling learners and educators across the country to see each other's work and receive feedback on their work at the end of the process from the facilitators.

Each workshop is its own creative and production process. These experiences are progressively layered over the two-day experience so that learners in small groups in their schools, together create a final short film.

The workshops include:

DEVISING, by **Kgomotso 'MoMo' Matsunyane**

NARRATIVE, by **Ameera Patel**

SPACE/LIGHT/ART DIRECTION, by **Jemma Kahn**

OBJECT/PUPPETRY, by **Liezl de Kock** and **Rob Murray**

MOVEMENT, by **Billy Langa**

CAMERA/COLLATION, by **Daniel Buckland**

CAMERA/COLLATION, by **Mongiwekhaya Mthombeni**

SOUND, by **Nhlanhla Mahlangu**

Set-up required

Ideally there are a minimum of at least two groups of 5 students each (10 total) per school. This allows for learners to have the opportunity to share workshop outcomes with each other and bear witness to each other's processes. Interspersed with workshops, learners will have the opportunity to view works by some of our innovative artists who participated in the virtual National Arts Festival 2020, to be further provoked, inspired, and entertained.

Requirements for Participation

Schools will be required to register to ensure participation. There is a registration form included in this package, please complete it and submit as stated on the form. Deadline for submission is 24 February 2021.

Your school will need to commit two full days to the workshop process. Students should ideally have an undisturbed working space which is conducive to social distancing, and if possible with limited noise. There is a list of basic stationary students will need to have ready at the start of the process, which will be sent on registration. An educator will need to facilitate the 2-day process with learners. It is important to note that the workshops are designed to as much as possible be self-evident, and self-directed.

Participation will require the ability to screen the workshops to learners. The workshops can be accessed through streaming workshop files from the National Arts Festival digital platform. Learners will require basic vlogging kits to use during the workshops to produce their work, ideally one vlogging kit for a group of 5 students.

For school unable to access workshop content online, or without inhouse vlogging kits, The National Arts Festival is able to provide smart TVs loaded with video-on-demand workshop content as well as vlogging kits on loan. The specific needs of each school will be logged during the registration process, the National Arts Festival will then be able to schedule the dissemination of resources accordingly. Though the National Arts Festival will be disseminating the smart TVs and vlogging kits on a rotational or staggered basis, there are limited numbers of these resources so it is imperative that schools register early.

Process ahead

After registering, the Schools' Festival team will be in contact with you to confirm your registration, to forward more technical set-up and/or scheduling information, and to supply the stationary list.

This is a new chapter for the National Arts Festival, the Grahamstown Foundation and the Market Theatre Laboratory, and our teams are excited to be writing it with you!
Looking forward to a future filled with imagination...

Regional Schools' Festival *Future Arts Programme 2021* Registration Form

12 – 13 March 2021 (Western Cape, Northern Cape & North West)
 19 – 20 March 2021 (Eastern Cape, Free State & KwaZulu Natal)
 26 – 27 March 2021 (Gauteng, Mpumalanga & Limpopo)

- Please complete **all** the information on this form to enroll for the Virtual Schools' Festival.
- Please submit this form via email to lily.may@foundation.org.za, or fax to: 086 555 4415
- **Deadline for submitting registration form: 24 February 2021.**
- By registering the school commits to abide by Covid 19 safety guidelines. A separate document specifying these details will be sent to registered schools.

NAME OF SCHOOL		
SCHOOL ADDRESS		
SCHOOL TELEPHONE NO.		
NAME OF TEACHER IN CHARGE of ADMIN		
	Email address:	Cell number:
NAME OF TEACHER IN CHARGE of IT (to liaise with Schools' Fest tech team)		
	Email address:	Cell number:
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST		
In order to participate in the Virtual Schools' Festival, your school will require specific equipment and technical abilities. Please answer the following questions to indicate whether your school is able to provide these.		
1. Are you able to download up to 2GB of files from a website?	YES	NO
2. Do you have the facility to play content to a group of learners?		
3. Do your learners have access to a smart phone that can film video with sound?		
4. Do you have the facility to upload video footage to a website?		

Virtual Schools' Festival 2021 Delegate List

Please list the names of the learners that will be participating in the 2021 Virtual Schools' Festival. We will be most grateful if ALL columns are completed, as this assists us with compiling accurate statistics.

SCHOOL:						
FIRST NAME		SURNAME	STATUS P = Pupil T = Teacher	GRADE	SEX F = Female M = Male	RACE Black, White, Coloured, Indian, Asian or Other
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You may make copies of this page if you have more than 30 participants.