



Denis Goldberg House of Hope

Newsletter no. 17

August 2022

Since the official opening of the DGHOH in April, the range of our activities has continued to grow. Of course, we hope to add even more activities over time. We hope also that others will use the building for their activities (especially those for young people). But we are proud of what we offer already.

DURING TERM-TIME

One of our regular new activities is our Monday **circus sessions**. We are very fortunate to have Siyabonga (“Bob”) Swelindawo as our instructor. Siyabonga is an experienced and loved instructor at Zip-Zap Circus School. He brings his magic to Hout Bay every Monday afternoon. While learning to “tumble” (acrobatics), juggle and build physical pyramids with their bodies, the children also grow in strength, self-confidence, teamwork, discipline and courage. And it is fun!

The group is currently working towards its first performance – which will be to show parents and family what they have learnt.

Another regular new activity is the Thursday **group music sessions**. We had the good luck to find Mulalo Mphaphuli – a UCT BA Music graduate who also has a teaching qualification. Mulalo was willing to experiment on how to introduce basic music skills, understanding and enjoyment to young children in a group setting. He has devised fun ways to teach basic concepts such as rhythm, tone and notation using voices and clapping alongside instruments such as recorders, djembe drums and shakers.

Our plan is that these children will both perform and listen when a German youth choir visits the DGHOH during October.



The Art of Circus
(click image for video)

THE JULY HOLIDAYS

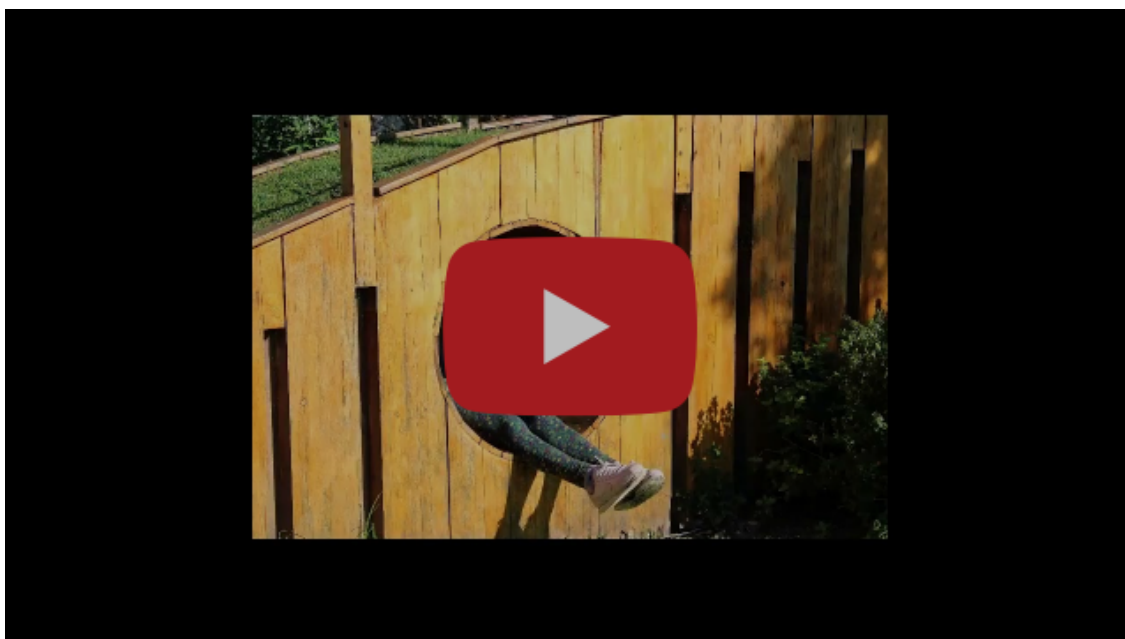
In addition to these and other term-time activities, during the July school holidays we offered activities for young people of different ages.

As in every holiday for the last few years (except for when COVID restrictions prevented this), we had a **three-day holiday programme**. The same children visited the Norval Foundation in the following week.

The three-day programme included activities and games linked to the exhibition on Denis's life. These included Pictionary, writing letters and making envelopes, drawing timelines of their life, and communicating in code. One of the games was a treasure-hunt that introduced the children to the multi-lingual books we received as a donation from Biblionef. On the culinary side, many of the children enjoyed their first meal of pasta other than spaghetti thanks to Massimos, which provided a large bucket of pasta in a delicious tomato sauce. After a generous first helping, there were requests for "seconds", and then some "thirds". We drew the limit after that to avoid sending home children ill

from over-eating.

The **Norval adventure** included a tour of the exhibitions on Irma Stern, and more modern work by South African women artists. There was also a steam-letting-off session outside playing on the installations and viewing the amazing large artworks on display. After enjoying a snack, the Norval educator led the children in creating their own artworks using oil pastels in the three primary colours. Thank you to Norval for offering us this opportunity. We will certainly want to go back for more.



Norval Foundation Outing

For older, secondary school learners, Lynn Carneson designed and facilitated a **two-day drama workshop**. Lynn is a qualified drama teacher with decades of experience in this field and two books to her name on the topic. Her experience and skills – and the talent of participants – were evident in the two plays which the learners both created and performed. We used the two video cameras donated by the Fugard Theatre to film the performances and other exercises. Lynn then led the learners in learning from what they saw themselves doing on the screen. We plan to have further drama workshops in the future.

Encounters Film Festival's outreach day in Hout Bay also fell during the July holidays. It targeted youth aged 16 years and above. The programme included three movies – “Lobola, A Bride's True Price?”, “The Double Futures of Athlone”, and “This Side of Fabulous”. The last-named was produced by Hout Bay's Joy Sapieka, who is also Denis's cousin! Our thanks to Encounters for choosing the DGH OH as one of their venues, and to Vuma Pop-up for organising it all.



Likhona ithemba ebomini

Song of Hope

Written and performed by the drama workshop participants

UPCOMING

HERITAGE DAY

On Saturday 24 September we are collaborating with the neighbouring Valley Pre-Primary School and the Hout Bay Museum in hosting a Heritage Market from 9am to 1pm. In addition to stalls selling goods and services from a range of Hout Bay small businesses, there will be food and drink on offer as well as a magic show, juggling, choir and xylofun performances. Please come and join us and encourage your friends and family to do the same.



PUBLIC HOLIDAY ART COMPETITION

Saturday 24 September is also the closing date for our public holiday art competition. The competition is open to any Hout Bay resident or learner under 30 years of age. The task is to create a calendar showing all the public holidays in 2023. Thanks to Karlind Govender's generosity, R2 000 is available in prize money. For more details, contact 081 245 1122



WITH SADNESS

We acknowledge the passing of Merle Hodges on 21 July 2022. Merle served as one of the Museum's representatives on the DGHOH management committee that brings together representatives of the Denis Goldberg Trust, the Museum Trust, and the provincial Department of Cultural Affairs and Sports. We will miss Merle's enthusiasm and support. We are glad that she will still be with us in the photograph of the turning of the sod on permanent display in the DGHOH.



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dghoh@goldberghouseofhope.co.za

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