

Denis Goldberg House of Hope Newsletter no. 18 November 2022



A NEW WEEKLY ACTIVITY: HOUT BAY HOPERS

This programme grew out of a SHAWCO initiative in which University of Cape Town students came to the DGHOH once a week to read FunDza funzines with the learners. We, as DGHOH, took over and reshaped the programme about two months ago. And the learners chose the new name for the programme.

The weekly sessions have since included other reading material, monthly movies, a live play, poetry, music and art, as well as games related to the material. The diversity of activities has each week attracted about twenty learners from Hout Bay's two public secondary schools – Silikamva and Hout Bay High.

The Scott Estate and Baviaanskloof Community Improvement District (SEBCID) has kindly agreed to provide funding for the programme. Our budget includes funds for one special event each term. We included this after the two actors and producer of "Year of the Bicycle" agreed to do a special performance at the DGHOH for these learners, with time afterwards to engage with them.



INTRODUCING THE DGHOH TO PRE-SCHOOLERS

Valley Pre-Primary School shares a border with our site, and was thus an ideal partner for our first venture into activities for this age group. On Monday 29 August their youngest class spent a jam-packed hour with us. We told them a little about Denis, looked at the paintings of flowers from Denis's art collection, made and painted poppies out of egg cartons and green straws, drew flowers with button-centres, and sang and danced together. On each of the next four days we were joined by about twenty children from other classes for the same activities.

Since these visits the number of friendly waves from the other side of the fence has definitely increased. We have also seen Valley children trying to copy the movements when we have dance and movement sessions outside. In October we had a similar session with children from Sammy's Place, the creche run by Sanet & Joseph Strauss, who also provide transport for our Saturday hip-hop classes and high school learners.



Pre school visit

THE OCTOBER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Meanwhile we continue to provide a range of activities for primary school-age children, during both term time and holidays. The 30 places for our three-day holiday programme in October were snapped up within less than 24 hours of our distributing the notice about it.

The programme included a visit to the Two Oceans Aquarium. The visit included a short introductory talk and watching two feeding sessions – one of the penguins, and the second by two divers into one of the exhibit tanks. The children ate their lunch packs outside, perched on the benches and ledges of the Aquarium.

The activities of the two days spent at the DGHOH were also themed around the sea. The main artistic creations were large papier mache jellyfish. We did this multi-session activity in groups of three, using balloons, newspaper strips, flour-and-water glue, paint, markers and streamers. Some children took their creations home, but others agreed to leave theirs with us to hang up in the DGHOH. You can also see some of the children's life-size skeleton drawings and some paper-plate jellyfish on the DGHOH walls. Many thanks to the Jonsson Foundation for making this programme possible.



October holiday programme (click image for video)

THANK YOU TO HOUT BAY'S RESTAURATEURS

Snoekies – for the discount on the sea-themed holiday programme lunch of fish and chips

Massimos – for the two large tubs of delicious pasta for another day's lunch Darios – for donations of vegetables (for our winter home-made soup) and fruit (for our summer snacks), as well as an oven



ANOTHER HONOUR FOR DENIS

As part of their five-year celebration of their change of name from University of Port Elizabeth, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University has renamed Akkerdal Flats student accommodation on their George campus after Denis Goldberg. Denis would be delighted that others similarly honoured include both political leaders such as Fatima Meer and musician Jonny Clegg.



WE NEED ANY SUPPORT YOU CAN GIVE

It is now just over six months since the DGHOH was officially opened, and we are pleased with what we have been able to offer the young people of Hout Bay and beyond. We spend every rand we receive carefully, and keep our expenses as low as we can. But maintaining the building and basic operations costs money, as do all the activities. Please do contribute if you can. Each and every donation encourages us and tells us that Denis's dream continues to inspire people.

Please donate and help us continue and expand what we do at the Denis Goldberg House of Hope

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US-based donors can donate through Omprakash. **UK-based donors** can also contact Omprakash about how to make a donation that is eligible for Gift Aid.

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