

ROMITA HANUMAN

A GROUP of young Kwa-Mashu musicians are having a blast with instruments donated by an orchestra from Durban's sister city, Leeds.

At a City Hall ceremony recently, the instruments were officially presented to the KwaMashu Community

Advancement Project (KCap) on behalf of the Leeds Jazz Youth Orchestra.

Head of International Relations for eThekweni, Eric Apelgren, handed over the instruments to Edmund

Mhlongo of KCap, who said the donation would help their members develop into fully-fledged artists.

"We are sowing a good seed that will benefit the Inanda, Ntuzuma and KwaMashu

area, and South Africa as a whole," he said.

KCap runs a number of youth programmes that involve music, theatre and dance.

Deputy Mayor Logie Nai-

doo said the City was committed to empowering youth.

"By showing support to youth programmes, we are preparing them for the international arena."

Naidoo said he hoped some

of the musicians might perform at the World Cup next year. "We would like to see them display their musical talent during 2010," he said.

"Our city has a rich and vibrant culture, which we need to nurture and develop. What better way to do this than to nurture the young?"

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Top brass hand over instruments

Workshop boost for performers

THEMBA KHUMALO

THE exploitation of performing artists, piracy and contracts were some of the issues on the agenda at an artists' workshop, held at Mandlakazulu Community Hall, in uMlazi, recently.

Facilitator Thabani Mbele, who is a theatre director, said the workshop was held to equip artists with skills and knowledge of how the entertainment industry operates.

The City's Arts and Living Cultures Unit organised the two-day workshop with the help of Mbele's company, Thabantainment. Also assisting was Ubunye Artists Production, which is owned by Mbele and Themba Zulu.

Mbele said he was prompted to organise the initiative after staging a performing

arts competition in Umlazi late last year.

"During the competition we realised that emerging artists face a common challenge: they often do not understand the technical and professional skills that would enhance and develop their art," said Mbele.

He said the workshop sought to bridge the gap between emerging and professional performing artists by developing their talents.

In addition, the organisers wanted to encourage established artists and celebrities to, "never forget where they come from and to assist in empowering communities through information and skills".

He said the country need to invest more time and money in our young, emerging talent



WINNING WAYS: Thabani Mbele shares some tips on how performing artists can conduct themselves in a more business-like fashion

Picture: Themba Khumalo

as a means to fight poverty.

He thanked the Arts, Culture and Living Heritage Unit for supporting the workshop.

Other facilitators included Vee Mthembu, a presenter on SABC1's *Imizwilili*, and Simon Gwala, of the hit musical, the *Lion King*.

Mthembu said: "It was an honour for me to be part of

this initiative. I hope what we have shared with these artists will be of use to them."

He wished the gathering well with their careers and encouraged them to "never stop dreaming".

Arts, Culture and Living Heritage Manager, Monwabisi Grootboom, said he hoped the workshop would

help cut crime by keeping "young people busy in a constructive way".

Nompumelelo Khumalo, a musician and poet, said the workshop had been time well spent for her.

"I learned a number of things like the basics of composing a song and how artists get paid for airplay

from radio stations," she said.

Khumalo, who has recently released an album entitled *My Healer*, said: "I hope such initiatives will continue because they are helpful to up-and-coming artist like myself. They open up our minds to important things taking place in this industry."

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DURBAN DIARY:

Your guide to entertainment in the city

DANCE, THEATRE & COMEDY

Tango Nights

The Playhouse Theatre
29 April to 3 May
Call: 031 201 1638

Bald & The Beautiful

Rhumbelow Theatre
Until 26 April
Tickets: R80
Call: 082 499 8636

Woodstock Remembered

Heritage Theatre
Until 17 May
Tickets: R150
Call: 031 765 4197

11th JOMBA! Contemporary

Dance Experience
Elizabeth Sneddon Theatre
Until 3 May
Tickets: R20 to R35
Call: 031 201 1650

Woodstock Remembered

The Heritage Theatre
Until 17 May
Tickets: R150
Call: 031 765 4197

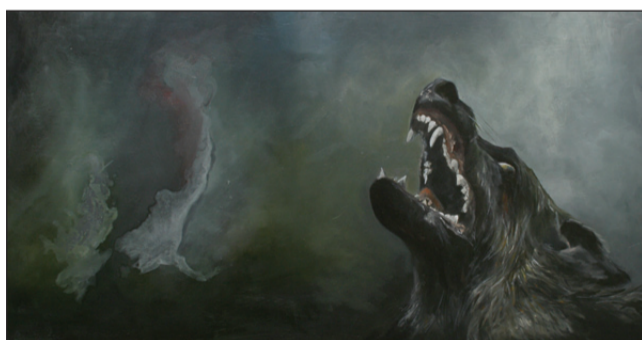
Rocking Down Broadway

The Barnyard Theatre
Until: 4 June
Tickets: R70 to R105
Call: 031 566 3045

ART

Situation

Bank Gallery



WHO LET THE DOG OUT?: An oil on canvas by Deborah van Niekerk, from her series, *The Hand that Feeds*. It is part of an exhibition, *The Big Night Out*, at the KZNSA Gallery until 10 May

Until: 28 May
Call: 031 312 6911

Not Alone

Durban Art Gallery
Until 20 May
Call: 031 311 2267

Stamps and Newspapers

Durban Art Gallery
Until 30 April
Call: 031 311 2264

Siemon Allen: Imaging SA

Durban Art Gallery
Until 26 April
Call: 083 310 1930 or
073 532 3113

Records

Bank Gallery
Until: 26 April
Call: 031 312 6911

Exhibition in the park

Arena Park, Bluff
31 May
Call: 031 466 5562

Big Night Out

KZNSA Gallery
Until 10 May
Call: 031 202 3686

Despotica

KZNSA Gallery
Until 10 May
Call: 031 277 1705

Obsessive Urge to Categorize

artSPACE
Until: 9 May
Call: 031 312 0793

Masterful Conversations

artSPACE
Until 9 May

Call: 031 312 0793

Hole in the Wall

artSPACE
Until 9 May
Call: 031 312 0793

MUSIC

Murphy (Music Unlimited)

Badgers
Saturdays from 6pm
Call: 084 060 9078
Sinatra's, La Lucia, on
Wednesdays from 6pm
Call: 031 572 2604

EVENTS

Andrew Zondo exhibition:

"Why I did it"
KwaMuhle Museum
Until end April
Call: 031 311 2222

Darwin Reluctant

Revolutionary Exhibition
Natural Science Museum
Until December
Call: 031 311 2249

Open Mic Sessions

Workshop amphitheatre
Wednesday, 13 May
Call: 031 311 4558

Queensburgh Orchid Club

Show
Mistrals Hall, Walnut Road
27 to 28 June
Tickets: R5



BIG VOICE: Romaine Barreio Lloyd in Rocking Down Broadway, now showing at the Barnyard

Call: 083 789 2287

Herbs for the Home and Cures From my Garden

Botanic Gardens
Permaculture Training Centre
20 May, 9am to noon
Tickets: R300
Call: 031 309 1170

Cars in the Park

Kloof and Highway SPCA
26 April
Call: 031 764 1212

Yoga

ICC Arena
Wednesdays, 5.30pm

Call: 031 360 1359

Golden Hours Family Market

Near Hyper by the Sea
Sundays, 10am
Call: 083 262 3693

Ladies High Tea

Kloof SPCA Tea Garden
7 May, 10 am
Tickets: R150
Call: 031 764 1212

Model Railway Exhibition

Westville Civic Centre
15 and 16 August
Tickets: R20 to R60
Call: 031 266 3987

McCord Hospital Centenary

Durban City Hall
2 May, 9am until noon
Entry is free
Call: 031 268 5725

Entertainment in the Park

UShaka Marine World
25 April to 3 May
Time: 8.45am to 4.30pm
Call: 031 328 8000

KZN Conservation Service

guided walks
Krantzkloof Nature Reserve
First and third Sundays
Call: 031 764 3515

□ Compiled by Themba Khumalo. To have your events included in the Durban Diary, fax 031 306 4603 or e-mail khumalotk@durban.gov.za .