

LALELA

LIFE-CHANGING ART

2020
Annual
Report





Contents

This report is interactive! Read it using Adobe's Acrobat Reader.



Download the latest version of Adobe Acrobat Reader.

adobe.com/acrobat/pdf-reader.html



Our Mission

Lalela provides educational arts for at-risk youth to spark **creative thinking** and awaken the **entrepreneurial spirit**.

Dear Lalela friends,

In what would otherwise have been a year of celebration for our organization as we marked a milestone decade of providing educational arts for at-risk youth in sub-Saharan Africa, 2020's sombre events instead elicited a more introspective tone. Like organizations across the globe, we were required to formulate a response and adapt as quickly as possible to meet our challenges head on.

At the time of writing this foreword to our 2020 Annual Report the outlook is considerably brighter than it had been for many months, with a strong sense of stability underpinning our operations and programs, and an energized team who pulled through the worst of the crisis together. We are immensely grateful to be in a position where we can now reflect on the positive outcomes of the year – from the great innovations that have ultimately enhanced how we work, to the uninterrupted psychosocial support Lalela was able to provide to our learners.

With full credit to our dynamic team of curriculum writers and art facilitators, Lalela was among the first after-school programs in South Africa to pivot to distance learning through an innovative virtual offering, while also reaching a significantly higher number of learners in the process. More importantly, it brought much-needed joyfulness into their lives while fostering deeper family bonds, with parents becoming actively involved in their children's art projects during the lockdown. Additionally, through valuable donor support, we were able to assist our communities with food parcels and PPE.

While consolidating several of our partnerships, we were fortunate to launch a new program at Cape Town's Philippi Village in collaboration with Bertha Foundation during the fourth quarter of the year, bringing our curricula to learners from schools in Philippi and the Siyangena informal community.

Another achievement of which we are deeply gratified is the development of a comprehensive Lalela Trauma Training Guide, which was compounded by the urgent need at our partner schools to help learners manage the traumatic effects of the pandemic. With an endorsement received from the renowned clinical psychologist, Dori Weill, the rollout of the training to educators across South Africa is set for 2021/22.

Despite the disruptions of the year, Lalela students not only successfully completed their final year at school but were also among the highest achievers (see more about our top Grade 12 learners on page 19). It is the combination of results such as these with positive encounters with our students and alumni that continue to encourage great hope in our youth. We have selected just a few of their stories to share with you here, all of which are testament to Lalela's values: always inspiring with creativity, reimagining challenge as opportunity, and trusting we can be the trailblazers of change. We look forward to continuing this impactful journey with you.

In gratitude,

Andrea Kerzner, Founder & CEO
Leigh Robertson, Executive Director



With full credit to our dynamic team of curriculum writers and art facilitators, Lalela was among the first after-school programs in South Africa to pivot to distance learning through an innovative virtual offering, while also reaching a significantly higher number of learners in the process.



LALELA (la-le-la)

Lalela is an isiZulu word that means “to listen,” and it is at the heart of what we do. By listening to children’s stories and each community’s needs, we are able to understand their challenges and, in turn, provide creative solutions and a way forward.

Our Story

Lalela’s arts education program has touched the lives of thousands of youths since 2010, where our story begins. From a gathering of 20 students in the township of Imizamo Yethu in the Western Cape province of South Africa during the Soccer World Cup, our program has expanded its reach over the past decade to communities across Cape Town as well as in Johannesburg and KwaZulu-Natal, and beyond our borders to Zimbabwe and Uganda.

In partnership with low-fee or no-fee schools and other youth development organizations, we host workshops every day after school in the hours when children are most vulnerable to abuse of every kind. We start from as early as age six in developing the art of imagination, and continue through to grade 12.

By building our curriculum at the intersection of arts education, academic achievement and critical life skills, Lalela’s workshops activate whole-brain thinking, developing the creative potential of at-risk youth and empowering them to become innovative role models with meaningful careers.

#LalelaImpact

Faith joined Lalela as a grade 10 student at Silikamva High School in Imizamo Yethu. Always a top achiever, at the end of 2020 she graduated with flying colors, armfuls of medals and certificates, and the prestigious title of Silikamva Valedictorian.

Hailing from Zimbabwe, Faith's dreams were severely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic as she was not able to return home to obtain her study permit. Ever the optimist, she intended to make the most of her unplanned gap year to better prepare for her future.

"Lalela was a safe space after school, like a breath of fresh air. After the meditation, I would feel refreshed. I'm not the best artist in the world, but I learned that it's not about being talented or perfect. Lalela has helped me to be confident about what I do, to think out the box, and to be creative and open minded.

"In a place like Imizamo Yethu, I feel like Lalela helps protect students from things happening in the community. When you get out of school you still have a lot of energy, but after Lalela you get home and sleep or do your homework; it's too late for you to go out and get influenced by people.

"I'm passionate about nature, and this defines who I am. My dream is to study environmental management at Stellenbosch University, and to become an environmental specialist so that I can preserve the natural world for future generations."



“My dream is to become an environmental specialist so that I can preserve the natural world for future generations.”

Our Footprint

● Imizamo Yethu (IY)

The township of Imizamo Yethu (meaning “our efforts” in isiXhosa) in Hout Bay is where the seeds for our program were planted In **2010**, with the implementation of informal after-school arts education workshops at IY’s Community Center just after the Soccer World Cup. In **2011**, Lalela Project Trust was formally registered as a non-profit organization in South Africa.

● Hangberg

In **2011**, the foundation of our model for an arts education program was developed in our partner schools in both IY and Hangberg, a community located on the steep mountain slope above Hout Bay harbor.

● Masiphumelele

The township of Masiphumulele (meaning “let us succeed” in isiXhosa), which is located between Fish Hoek and Kommetjie on the Cape Peninsula, is another cornerstone of our program. We’ve been working to create change here since **2011**.

● Bonteheuwel

In **2018**, we brought our program to Disa Primary in Bonteheuwel, a Cape Flats community ravaged by violence and gangsterism.

● Zeitz MOCAA

In **2018**, we launched our exciting Zeitz MOCAA program in partnership with this landmark museum at the V&A Waterfront.

● Boschendal

In **2019**, Lalela began a new partnership with the Bertha Foundation, launching a program at Bertha’s Retreat on Boschendal Estate in the Cape Winelands.

● Philippi Village

In **2020**, Lalela’s life-changing arts curricula were introduced to children from the Siyangena informal settlement at our dedicated classroom in Philippi Village, an integrated Community Development Hub in the township of Philippi.

● Maboneng

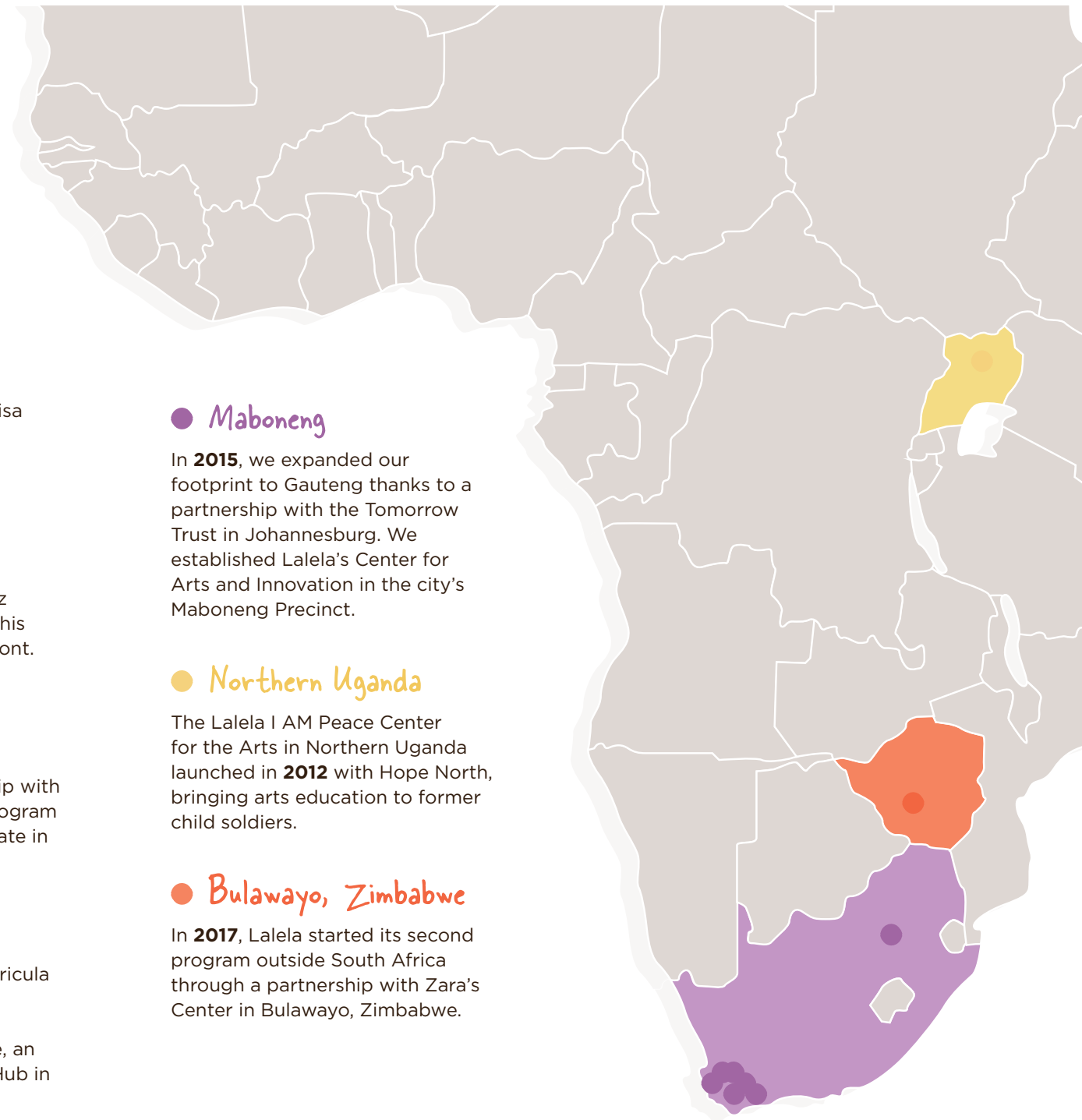
In **2015**, we expanded our footprint to Gauteng thanks to a partnership with the Tomorrow Trust in Johannesburg. We established Lalela’s Center for Arts and Innovation in the city’s Maboneng Precinct.

● Northern Uganda

The Lalela I AM Peace Center for the Arts in Northern Uganda launched in **2012** with Hope North, bringing arts education to former child soldiers.

● Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

In **2017**, Lalela started its second program outside South Africa through a partnership with Zara’s Center in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.



Why the arts?


The arts are often the first subject to be removed from a school due to a lack of resources, yet the importance of creativity in a child's life is significant.

Research proves that arts education enriches the lives of students, increasing their academic, social, mental and economic well-being over the long term.

Our Values

- A** Always inspire with creativity
- R** Reimagine challenge as opportunity
- T** Trust we can be Trailblazers of change





#LalelaImpact



Happymore joined Lalela's after-school program at Zeitz MOCAA for reasons that say everything about his initiative and determination as a talented young artist. Living in the Cape Flats suburb of Manenberg with his mother and sisters, Happymore commutes into Cape Town to attend a school at which the Lalela program is not offered. After participating in one of our vacation workshops at the museum, he courageously asked if he could continue as part of our formal program.

"My passion is drawing, I started from a very young age. At Lalela I learned to appreciate art more than I did before, and I learned how much art can help people improve. Lalela taught me new things I wouldn't have found out for myself, like how other techniques can help improve your imagination, and that there are different worlds of art to explore.

When COVID started I thought it was something that would happen for a few days and then be over. It really affected my family. Being in the virtual classes helped me to calm down. If you draw, you feel calmer, then you relax and you can think about what you're busy with.

After school I want to study fine arts or architecture, another passion of mine. I would love to be an architect designing stadiums and arenas. After I get my degree, I want to travel the world to see different cultures and buildings in places like Paris and Dubai."



After school I want to study fine arts or architecture. I would love to be an architect designing stadiums and arenas.



Outcomes

Lalela's arts education program contributes to six outcomes, which are key indicators of life and academic success.



Academic achievement

For at-risk students, arts education increases school attendance, motivation to learn and academic success across the curriculum, with art students outperforming their peers on standardized tests.



Critical problem-solving

Students who study the arts re-evaluate their work as they go and develop advanced problem-solving skills, adapting their artwork to new perspectives and materials. As a result, art students are more likely to approach problems with patience and innovative thinking.



Communication & collaboration

Arts education provides students with a wide variety of collaborative projects, ranging from painting murals to participating in theatrical and musical performances. These projects teach students how to work in a team and how to navigate each other's strengths and weaknesses.



Grit & perseverance

Students in the arts receive ongoing, constructive feedback and come to understand that feedback is a tool for improvement. Artists constantly draft, practice or rehearse their work before its presentation. They develop the humility and grit to acknowledge criticism and adjust their art as needed.



Creativity & innovation

The development of creativity and innovation is at the center for arts education. In the arts, students are not confined by one answer. Instead, they are continually asked to try new things and seek alternatives. This kind of creative thinking is a key first step towards innovation, which is essential in an increasingly competitive world.



Confidence & leadership

The presentation of their work, through exhibit or performance, gives art students a sense of accomplishment. As a result, they develop a strong sense of identity and confidence in their ability to interpret concepts and express their opinions, driving their ability to perform as leaders in their communities.

Our program's Methodology

Lalela's unique methodology is one of the key factors to our program's success.

Lalela's arts-education program is designed to create permanent, positive change in the lives of our students, providing them with the mindset to design a more certain future for themselves.

Our methodology, in development since 2011, connects the arts to everything important in a child's life, from core academics to critical life skills. At its heart, our philosophy is that we do not teach learners *what* to think. Instead, we provide experiential learning that encourages them *how* to think.

Our curriculum and facilitation methods are supported by thorough needs assessments, rigorous training of facilitators, diligent implementation

as well as community-based strategic partnerships.

Ideas, Art and Music (I AM) form the signature components of every Lalela curriculum.

Every lesson has a consistent rhythm: first an icebreaker, then creative meditation and arts implementation, and finally, reflection. We place an emphasis on timeliness and respect for each other in a collaborative and safe setting.

We promote positive classroom behavior and attitudes by rewarding attendance, collaborative work, respect, courage and leadership.

Lalela has developed a unique, replicable model that can easily be implemented in other communities.

Each curriculum...

- 1 ... is **stand-alone with a step-by-step process** which allows any person with basic arts training to implement and adapt it in any community.
- 2 ... has a **primary and a secondary goal** to connect the curriculum to our Theory of Change (ToC) outcomes.
- 3 ... includes **baseline questions** asked at the beginning and the end of each session to measure its primary and secondary goals.



Our theory of change

Our Monitoring and Evaluation Learning (MEL) model has been developed to measure the impact of our program on a short- and long-term basis.

The Lalela MEL model has been developed in a participatory manner and is firmly based on actualities on the ground. The MEL model has been designed to be integrated into Lalela's program processes and operations so that it is part of the work flow at all levels.

Our innovative Theory of Change allows us to strengthen and refine the development of our arts education program and ensures that we remain focused on the objectives. It is based on the understanding that innovative and creative young people will contribute to social and economic development. Furthermore, the World Economic Forum Future of Jobs Report 2018 predicts that by 2022 innovation, creativity and originality will be among the top trending skills in the workplace.

Lalela supports and is aligned with these Sustainable Development Goals:





Theory of Change & Indicators

Lalela graduates are role models and innovators with meaningful careers.

SHORT-TERM

STO1: More positive towards self, others and future

- more respectful
- more confident
- more positive future goals

STO2: More creative

- more imagination
- better art skills
- more use of creativity to manage stress and emotion

MEDIUM-TERM

MTO1: Better interactions with others

- with other friends
- with school staff
- at home and in the community
- better communication skills
- better social & emotional intelligence

MTO2: More positive behavior: Healthier choices

- reduced substance abuse
- fewer teenage pregnancies
- more self respect
- less crime and aggression

MTO3: More positive behavior: Greater tenacity

- increased commitment, motivation and resilience
- improved leadership and responsibility
- improved grit, drive and resilience

MTO4: Better cognitive and school performance

- higher school pass rates
- higher school graduation rates
- fewer school drop-outs
- better school marks
- better cognitive functioning

LONG-TERM

LTO1: Active citizens

- more involved in the community
- more involved at school
- more involved at home

LTO2: Positive role models

- leadership positions at school and in the community

LTO3: Meaningful work/further education

- more innovative
- more graduates in meaningful employment
- more graduates in higher education



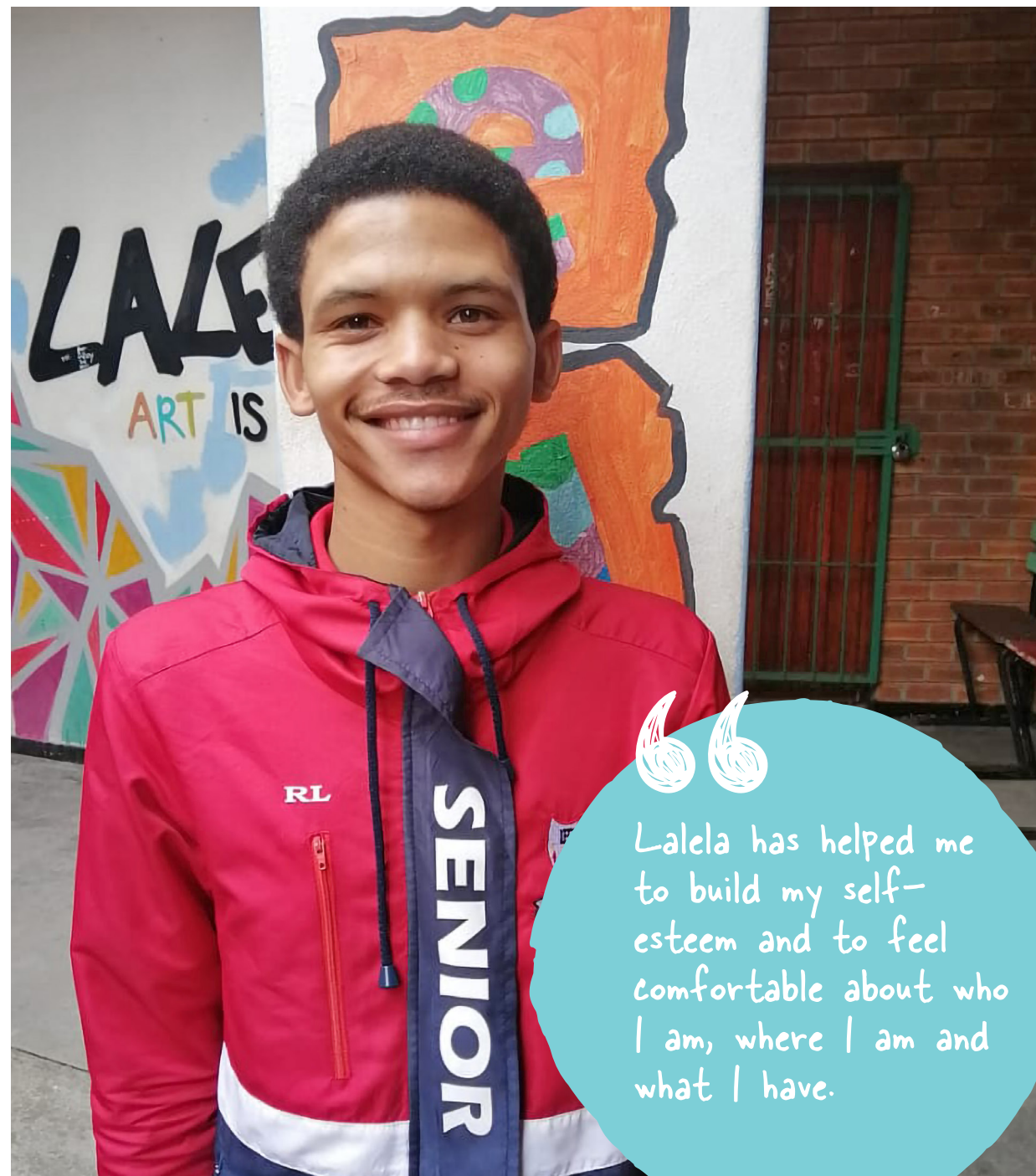
#LalelaImpact

Ryan has been in the Lalela program since its inception in Hout Bay 10 years ago. He's grown up in difficult circumstances and faced many challenges, not only in the home and academically but also as a young man looking to find his place in society. Despite this, Ryan has never given up or allowed his failures to define him, rather using them as lessons in tenacity and perseverance.

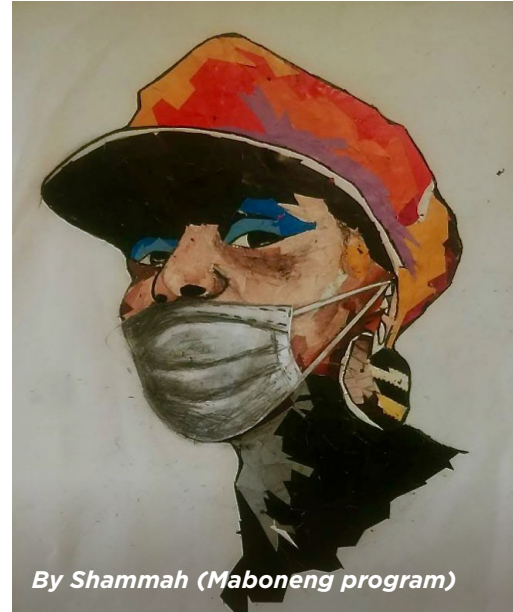
A Leadership alumnus, he's become a representative for young people in his community and serves as head of the Hout Bay High Student Representative Council (SRC). Ryan says that his Lalela class has always been a safe space. "No matter what your artwork looks like, it always has a story to tell and your voice will be heard. Lalela has helped me to build my self-esteem and to feel comfortable about who I am, where I am and what I have. It's helped me to say, 'I can do it and I can be strong and I am brave'.

"Lalela provided methods to help me work hard for the dreams and goals that I have, always encouraging me to stay focused and show determination for what I want (to achieve). They have been there when I needed them the most, whether through supporting me academically or with personal life matters. I make better decisions because of the role that Lalela played in my life.

"I'm looking forward to going to college or university to study social work or social community development. I want to be a role model for those who've gone through a difficult time."



Lalela has helped me to build my self-esteem and to feel comfortable about who I am, where I am and what I have.



“ I am 17 years old and doing grade 11 this year. This artwork is called ‘Not all superheroes wear capes’. It should encourage everyone to trust their doctors and show that they too should be recognized as heroes.”
– Shaun, learner from Imizamo Yethu.

2020 Impact Year in review

The COVID-19 crisis created an unprecedented need in the communities where Lalela serves, making our programs more important than ever. We made it our mission to continue inspiring hope through creativity while providing practical, tangible support and aid.

Lalela Virtual

Lalela quickly pivoted to provide learners with virtual access to our arts curricula, which includes creative arts-based methods to instill healthy habits and psychosocial tools that our students could use to stay safe and cope during these troubling times. The remote art program was designed to allow students to participate via WhatsApp Classrooms. Thanks to a generous donor, we were able to provide them with the data required to participate.

#lalelalockdownchallenge

Lalela’s facilitation team developed a virtual vacation program to keep students busy and motivated while at home during the sudden lockdown in March 2020. Through a series of educational and creative challenges—made possible by way of text, WhatsApp and Facebook messages to those learners with access to cellular phones and data—we could continue to provide life-changing art to particularly vulnerable children, making their days indoors that little bit brighter.

“ My daughter had a wonderful time. Our children really need this. The program motivates her so much.”
Gertrude, Lalela parent, Hout Bay

We reached 10 times more learners

than other South African virtual after-school programs.

79%

of learners felt they **made new or stronger friendships** because of the virtual program, an especially important element for children during this strange time of isolation.

93%

of learners felt they could **better use art to manage stress** or anxiety as a result of the Lalela Virtual program.

3 TB
Data provided to students for Lalela Virtual.



400 **Art material packs**
distributed to Lalela's young
artists during the lockdown.

Have crayons, will draw!

We supplemented art materials to some of our students who would otherwise not have been able to participate in our virtual workshops from home. Nothing could beat the sight of their smiling eyes when collecting their supplies!



COVID-19 relief

With the generous support from Kirsh Foundation, and working with organizations such as COURAGE and Hope SA, we stepped in to provide aid to our students, families and communities with much-needed parcels of food and vouchers for purchasing essential supplies, which our team distributed every month.

“Lalela came out strongly in support of our kids when they were going through a very difficult time. When their parents didn't have work and there was no income, Lalela's food parcels kept them going. When learners could come back to school, it was so much easier for them to fall in again. What Lalela is doing is changing the lives of young people and guiding them to success.”

Mr. Julius, Principal, Hout Bay High School



5,500

COVID-19 relief food
parcels and vouchers
distributed to Lalela
students and their
families.



Strong Together Challenge

As part of the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation's #StrongTogether Challenge, the Lalela team distributed essential PPE to residents and many of our learners in Imizamo Yethu. For many members of the community, access to masks and sanitizer was limited in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lalela's Trauma Curriculum

Drawing on the experience gained from our Heart Maps social cohesion project, Lalela developed a comprehensive guide for educators working with learners affected by trauma. The curriculum provides tips and tools to assist educators as they navigate through traumatic and uncertain times. The training is due for rollout starting with the Western Cape Department of Education in the latter part of 2021.

“I must commend the Lalela team for compiling and designing this program, which can act as a blueprint for every organization that deals with children – including every school. Trauma happens and I believe the necessity of training educators to understand and intervene is paramount.”

Dorianne Weil, Clinical Psychologist



5,000

*Lalela-branded masks were produced specially by **Lalela Scarf** and donated for distribution to all our students.*





#LalelaImpact



Valentine attends our program at Lalela's Center for Arts & Innovation in Maboneng, where she's proven to be a committed student with a fervent desire to reach her dreams, whatever the odds. Residing in Joburg's inner city with her mother and sister, Valentine's life isn't always easy. Yet she's never missed a Lalela session—in-person or virtual—even while putting her academic studies first, and is now the head girl at her school.

"Lalela doesn't only teach you about being creative, but also how to stand on your own two feet. Lalela has taught me how to believe in myself and to forget about the bad things that are happening in my life.

"During the lockdown, when my parents didn't have enough money to buy food, Lalela helped us with food parcels and sent us data every month.

"Learning online during that time was very difficult, because you don't always understand some of the things. I coped (academically) because I studied a lot and was doing extra lessons, including Lalela Virtual workshops.

"Through Lalela, I've learned to make good decisions about my life and to manage stress better. They encouraged me to think about my future. When I finish school, I want to start my own business. I haven't decided what kind yet, but I'm looking forward to learning more."



Through Lalela, I've learned to make good decisions about my life and to manage stress better.

Grade 12 results

In what were the most challenging of circumstances for grade 12 students to write their exams, Lalela learners still managed to achieve above-average results.

86%

of Lalela learners at Hout Bay High School **passed grade 12** (compared to the 80% average pass rate of Western Cape and the 76% national pass rate).

65%

of Lalela learners at Silikamva High School **passed grade 12** (compared to the 51% average pass rate at the school).

63%

of Lalela's grade 12 learners at Maboneng achieved a Bachelor's Pass, qualifying them for **university entry** (compared to the 44,5% Bachelor's Pass Rate of grade 12 learners in Gauteng).

71%

of Lalela's grade 12 learners at Hout Bay High School achieved a **Bachelor's Pass** (compared to the 44% Bachelor's Pass Rate of grade 12 learners in Western Cape).



Lalela facilitator Nwabisa Ndogeni and Lalela graduates from Silikamva High School.



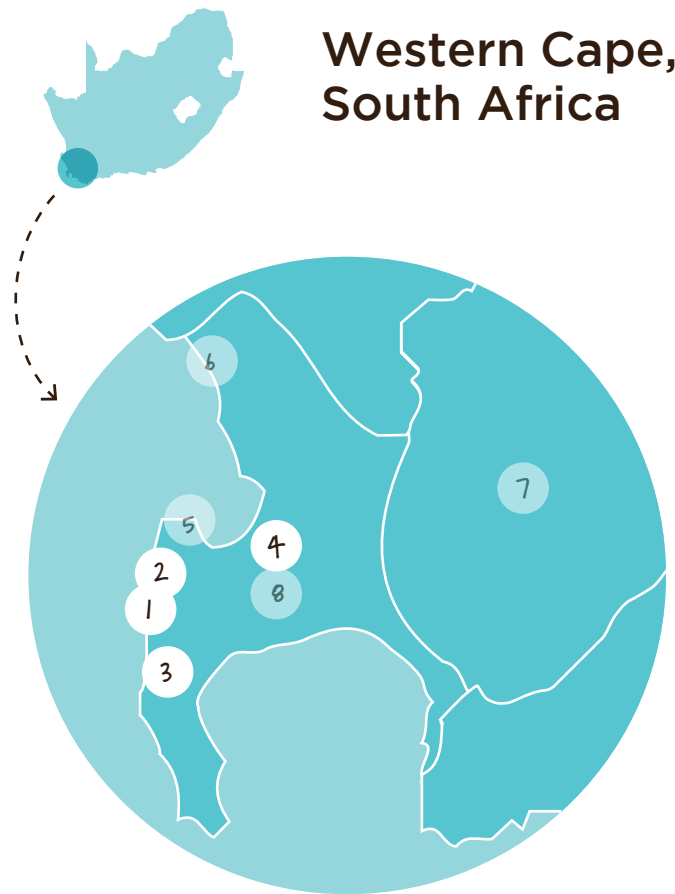
Our communities and partners

Our strategic partnerships with low-fee or no-fee schools as well as with other organizations that champion youth development allow us to grow our program while putting Lalela at the forefront of educational arts in Southern Africa. These partnerships enhance our ability to advocate the critical contribution that the arts make to academic achievement, socio-economic change and innovation.



Lalela has made it that much easier for us and has helped to solve many issues we were experiencing with our learners, from discipline to their work ethic. We have seen improvements in behavior and academic work, and the learners have developed more self-respect and confidence. A lot of our Lalela kids have become leaders in their class and in our school representative council, as well as mentors to their fellow learners.

Mr. Julius, Principal, Hout Bay High School



Western Cape, South Africa

1 Hangberg

Hangberg in Hout Bay was once a flourishing fishing village, but due to the steady decline of its economic health, now suffers from extreme poverty and issues such as gangsterism and domestic violence. Its population is predominantly mixed-race English- and Afrikaans-speaking.

School Partners: Sentinel Primary School, Hout Bay Primary School and Hout Bay High School.

2 Imizamo Yethu

IY, as it's commonly known, is an informal or shack settlement set on a steep mountain slope in Hout Bay, with a population of approximately 40,000 mostly isiXhosa-speaking residents. It is beset by issues such as overcrowding, unemployment and substance abuse.

School Partners: Oranjekloof Moravian Primary School and Silikamva High School.

3 Masiphumelele

Masiphumelele, or Masi, is a township near Fish Hoek with a mostly isiXhosa-speaking population. Basic amenities are scarce in the community, which, in addition to suffering the effects of extreme poverty, has a high prevalence of HIV and tuberculosis.

School Partners: Ukhanyo Primary School and Masiphumelele High School.

4 Bonteheuwel

Bonteheuwel is a Cape Flats community ravaged by violence and gangsterism. Marked by abject poverty, poor infrastructure and overcrowding, a lack of opportunities for youth further drives the allure of drug use and criminal activity.

School Partner: Disa Primary School.

Lalela is one of the best projects ever for our school and for Masiphumelele because of the many challenges we face in our community. All these social ills impact negatively on the education of our learners. Having Lalela at our school is a blessing because the mindset of our learners has changed. There are learners that now have a growth mindset, thinking: 'I can grow, I can change, I can change the way I do things, and I can develop.' Lalela has given us hope.

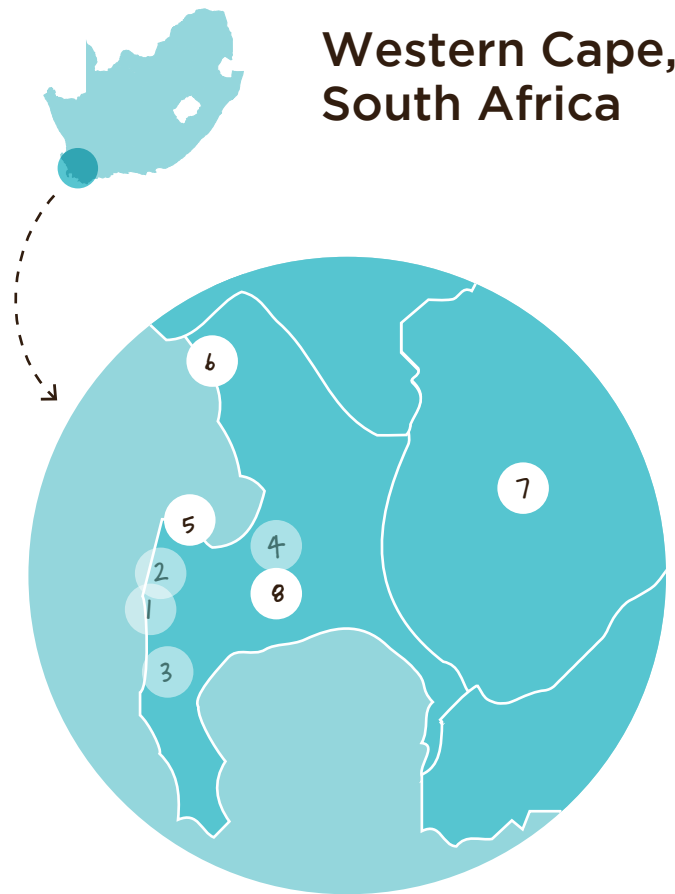
Mr. Tyhali, Principal, Ukhanyo Primary School

The program helps our learners who are faced with challenging social issues, poor living conditions, violence and lack of sustenance to have a sense of belonging.

Mr. Mhlengu, Teacher,
Silikamva High School

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. It's amazing what Lalela does to better our community. I believe they do things for people not because of who they are or what they do, but because of what Lalela is as an organization. We salute you, Lalela!

Miss Libbie, Teacher, Disa Primary School.



Western Cape, South Africa

5 Zeitz MOCAA

In collaboration with Cape Town's landmark contemporary African art museum, Lalela is able to bring our after-school program to children from poverty stricken inner-city communities who might otherwise never have access to the creative arts. Our workshops are held on weekday afternoons at the Zeitz MOCAA Center for Art Education.

School & Welfare Partners: Mary Kihn School For Partially Hearing Children, Prestwich Street Primary School, St Paul's Primary School, Ellerton Primary School, Dryden Street Primary School, Salt River High School, Sea Point High School, Vista High School, Ons Plek Child and Youth Care Center, Marsh Memorial Homes, South African Children's Home, Lawrence House Child and Youth Care Center.

6 Melkbosstrand

Working with the Rotary Club of Melkbos, Lalela provided after-school workshops to learners from the Melkbos Care Center, which itself provides services to orphaned and marginalized children, many of whom live in homes affected by HIV/AIDS and substance abuse.

School Partner: Van Riebeeckstrand Primary School.

7 Boschendal, Cape Winelands

In partnership with Bertha Foundation, Lalela provides our life-changing arts curricula to children from the communities of Pniel and Langedoc at our dedicated classroom at Bertha's Retreat on Boschendal Estate. While adjacent to the affluence of the tourism-rich Cape Winelands, these communities are adversely affected by poverty, with a notably high drop-out rate in schools.

School Partners: Pniel Primary School and Nondzame Primary School.

8 Philippi Village

Our latest project with Bertha Foundation launched late in 2020 in Philippi Village, a ground-breaking integrated Community Development Hub in the Cape Flats township of Philippi, which is considered one of the most neglected areas in the Cape Town Metropole. The introduction of our program was a direct response to the needs of the community, which includes the Siyangena informal settlement.

School Partners: Siyazakha Primary School, Nomlinganiselo Primary School, Sunnyside Primary School, Zanemfundo Senior Secondary School and Dr. Nelson R. Mandela High School.

Lalela has served as a wonderful platform for our learners to express themselves artistically and creatively (our school being a fantastic recipient of this), while also embarking on uplifting opportunities to empower and improve the social circumstances of the Imizamu Yethu and Hout Bay communities.

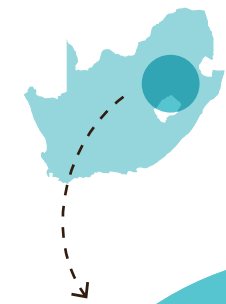
Faseeg Manie, Principal, Silikamva High School

"I look forward to the Lalela workshops every week because I learn more than just art there."

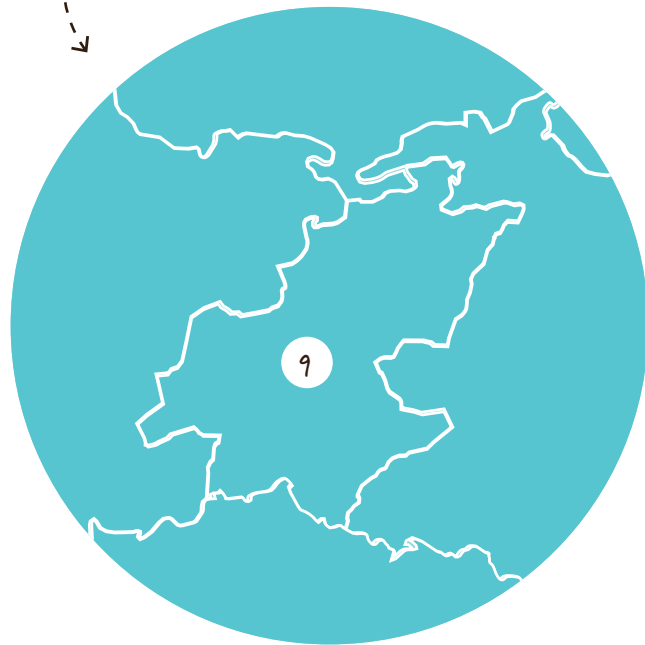
Imani, Grade 7, Sunnyside Primary School

"Lalela has helped me to be kind to people, to respect people and to appreciate everything that I get. Lalela has helped me to improve at school. My artwork is also improving every single day."

Sharon, Grade 5, Pniel Primary School



Gauteng, South Africa



9 Lalela Center for Arts and Innovation, Gauteng

Lalela partners with several schools in Johannesburg's inner city, providing a safe space for learners of multiple ethnicities at our center in the Maboneng district. The area is home to approximately two-million multilingual individuals from South Africa and the greater African continent.

Challenges are ever-present as the area suffers from severe poverty and issues such as unemployment, crime, xenophobia, and drug and alcohol abuse. Many of our students are undocumented and therefore face additional challenges such as not being eligible for further study or job opportunities.

Lalela's partnership with the Tomorrow Trust has brought our arts education program to learners from Soweto and Diepsloot through workshops on Saturday mornings.

School Partners: Metropolitan College, Fort Usher Educational Institute (formerly Olympus), JW Saints College, Mahlasedi High School, Mahlasedi Primary School, Beyhan College and Kube Schools.



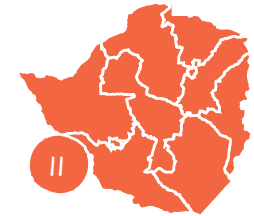
"A lot of children's lives have been changed because they have the space to just be themselves. At first I thought I was here in this space to draw and make art, but later I realized art is about learning who you want to be in life."

Immanuel, 16, Lalela Maboneng



Lalela has benefitted our children a lot in terms of the artistic skills they have developed, but we have also realized that the arts education they receive through the program works as a form of counseling. We are so grateful for this service to our community, and for the intervention of food parcels during the lockdown period. We would also like to thank Lalela for the virtual program, which has gone a long way in ensuring our students are occupied during this time. I think it's a brilliant project.

Mr. Mudzembo, Principal, Fort Usher Educational Institute (formerly Olympus)



Zimbabwe

Through our partnership with Zara's Center in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, we continue to provide arts education to vulnerable children for whom the after-school center is a safe haven.



Uganda

Lalela workshops are held at the I AM Peace Center for the Arts with Hope North in Northern Uganda, one of our earliest partnerships. The Center provides a safe space for former child soldiers, who now have the chance to express themselves through art and creativity.

Special Programs

Leadership

Every year, Lalela chooses a group of learners from Silikamva High School in Imizamo Yethu and Hout Bay High School in Hangberg to participate in our Leadership program, which seeks to transform students into role models and strong leaders who can truly become trailblazers of change.



It's important that we identify and nurture the young leaders of our communities today, because they will drive and affect change in the years to come. We couldn't be more proud of the amazing group of emerging leaders that we have in the program this year!

Rowan Roman, Facilitator, Lalela Leadership



Female Empowerment

Equipping young women to imagine a better future for themselves is one of the main goals of our Female Empowerment program for high school students. It aims to encourage female learners to remain in school, develop the confidence to excel in their academic studies and build the courage to dream beyond what is expected of them. With South African girls and women under the constant threat of gender-based violence, it is vital to provide the critical life skills they need to navigate the many challenges they face every day.



Being able to share two wonderful days of art and yoga workshops with the ever-inspiring Female Empowerment students of Lalela was to me what the yoga practice is all about – connection, union, and togetherness. Seeing such strong, independent young women proves that female empowerment knows no borders or boundaries, which is why South Africa and the world at large better get ready for the next generation of leaders!

Jordan Ashley, Souljourn Yoga



#LalelaImpact

***Sindile** was one of the first students to join Lalela's Maboneng program when it launched in 2015. Even though he graduated from his high school with an impressive Bachelor's pass in 2020, he's stayed on as a Lalela volunteer while considering his future options. For students such as Sindile who've immigrated with their families from other African countries, tertiary study is often an impossible dream without the right documentation. Sindile lives with his parents and younger sister in Hillbrow.*

"Lalela is a very warm place, like a home away from home. What I've enjoyed the most when doing the artworks and interacting with the environment is being creative. Using art, I've learned how to control my thoughts and keep myself motivated. I used to have a lot of anger issues and low self-esteem, but now I'm able to manage my emotions.

'The Lalela Virtual art program helped me to cope during the lockdown because it distracted me from doing a lot of thinking or sitting and not being active. What I liked was the interactivity. I got to meet a lot of people that I didn't know.

"I've learnt that with art anything is possible; that I can achieve anything that I put my mind to. Lalela has taught me how to think outside the box and helped me discover who I am and what I like to do. I'm actually business-minded! In the future, I want to own my own brand and to be my own boss."



“Using art, I've learned how to control my thoughts and keep myself motivated.”

2020 Highlights

Despite the challenges presented by COVID-19, Lalela students, partners and friends of the organization engaged in many joyful and meaningful activities throughout the year.



Stanford Bing Overseas Study Program students Janet and Paloma.



Our stand at the ICTAF.



Lalela young actors in our rendition of The Tempest.

JANUARY

Welcoming our Stanford Interns

We're proud of our longstanding partnership with the Stanford Bing Overseas Study Program, and warmly welcomed Stanford students Janet Martinez (an International Relations major) and Paloma Jimenez (an Urban Studies major) to join our team as interns during the first term. The pair created a zine, incorporating methodology used in their own academic work at Stanford, modelling their interviews after the practice of "testimonio".

FEBRUARY

Investec Cape Town Art Fair

Lalela was invited to join the Investec Cape Town Art Fair as its CSI partner for the sixth year in a row. In addition to having the privilege of showcasing our program at this prestigious event, we were thrilled to be one of the beneficiaries of mountains of beautiful, high-quality art materials, which were the building blocks of a very special art installation created especially for the fair.

MARCH

The Tempest

In March, our cast of Lalela actors put on an inspired rendition of "The Tempest" for the Cape Town leg of the Shakespeare Schools Festival South Africa, held at the Fugard Theater. With only six weeks left to audition, learn their lines and rehearse until the performance, these young thespians put their hearts and souls into what was their first-ever theatrical experience. Bravo to the cast and volunteer crew, especially to the tireless director, Claire Baker.

AUGUST

Women Supporting Women

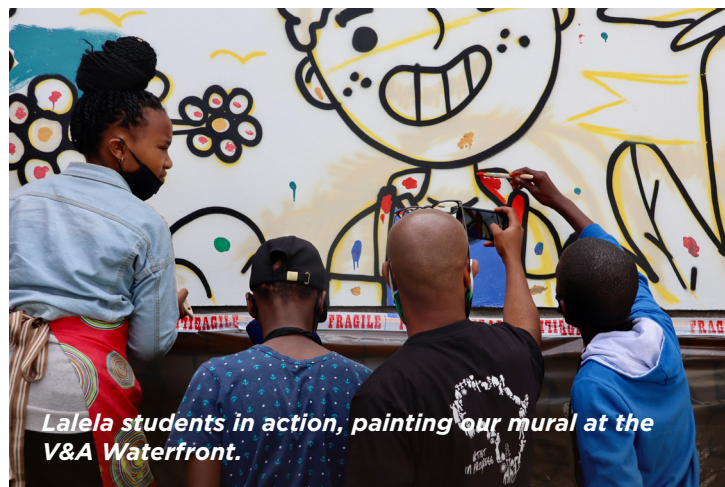
During Women's Month our grade 8 Female Empowerment students were paired up with inspiring female role models through an interactive process conducted via WhatsApp. Each pair was then asked to interview each other, and then create and exchange their resulting Heart Maps.



Our mural at the V&A Waterfront.



Students share their Blessing Ngobeni-inspired artworks.



Lalela students in action, painting our mural at the V&A Waterfront.



Little Amal meets our Boschendal learners.



Maboneng learners keeping the Lights on After School.

SEPTEMBER

Little Amal meets Lalela

Learners from our Boschendal program welcomed Little Amal, the celebrated giant puppet travelling the world to highlight the plight of refugees, to the Western Cape for a day of interactive fun on the estate. We were proud to be a part of this global storytelling initiative! (walkwithamal.org)

OCTOBER

Keeping the Lights On

Our Maboneng team and students were excited to participate in the #LightsOnAfterSchool global campaign, which highlighted the significant impact that After School Programs make in supporting students, families and schools especially during a time of crisis.

Inspiring our Artists

Award-winning artist Blessing Ngobeni took time out to work with a group of our high school learners in an interactive WhatsApp workshop, which culminated in the creation of their own incredible artworks inspired by his distinctive style.

NOVEMBER

Making our Mark

Young artists from Lalela's Zeitz MOCAA program used their creative talents to create a new mural in collaboration with the V&A Waterfront and graffiti artist Garth Wareley. Originally intended to be created on Human Rights Day in March, the message of the design still holds as a declaration of children's right to education, equality and healthcare.

Our Sustainable Future

Lalela's future impact relies on sustainable and diversified funding, as well as strategic alliances with committed programmatic partners. We aim to derive more investments from South Africa through interest in education and transformation.

Our focus is on the development of corporate sponsorships, a private donor and foundation revenue and campaigns across our digital platforms, aimed at funding both physical and virtual Lalela classrooms.

The average size of a physical Lalela classroom is 24 learners, served by a Lalela facilitator and co-facilitator who have undergone training in our proprietary curriculum and methodology. Thanks to virtual workshops held in WhatsApp "classrooms", we can provide our life-changing arts curricula outside of the traditional structures. In both instances—regardless of the platform—learners are equipped with unique experiential learning and support, which extends beyond the classroom and into the community.

Visit our new website: www.lalela.org





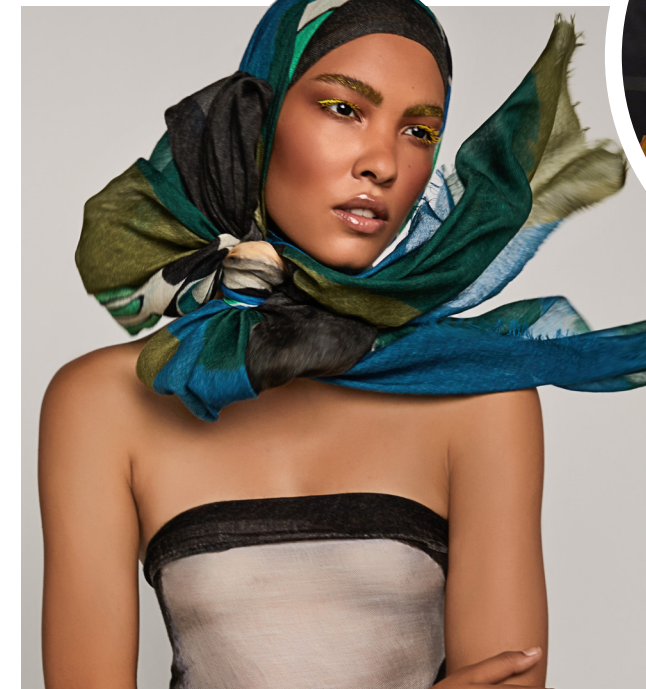
Lalela Scarf

Lalela Scarf is integral to the organization's sustainability. Products ranging from luxurious scarves to accessories such as leather bags and luggage tags feature inspiring designs from the young artists in our programs. A large percentage of the proceeds from each sale go toward helping young innovators find their voice and overcome the narrative of poverty through the transformative power of arts education.

These products are sold directly to the public or to high-end retail outlets, locally and internationally, and are available to purchase on www.lalelascarf.co.za

Despite a tough year with COVID-19,

2204 Lalela Scarf products sold in 2020



A limited-edition range of Lalela Scarf masks was also created in collaboration with South African designer Juditha Sakinofsky. The double-sided three-pleat masks were made from Lalela printed hemp and West African fabric, all in pursuit of health, wellness and zero waste.

42 retail outlets internationally

Our Financials

Financial Summary for 2020/2019

Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2020

Figures in USD	Notes	2020	2019
Assets			
Cash	4	\$ 338,266	\$ 534,603
Unconditional promises to give	1c, 5	70,409	43,761
Accounts receivable		113,166	45,715
Prepaid expenses and other assets		28,656	22,979
Property and equipment, at cost, net of accumulated depreciation	1d, 6	9,849	14,895
Total Assets		\$ 560,346	\$ 661,953
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		\$ 45,006	\$ 46,005
Loan payable	7	29,835	-
Total Liabilities		74,841	46,005
Commitment and Contingency	9, 10		
Net Assets			
Without donor restrictions		485,505	615,948
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		\$ 560,346	\$ 661,953

Statement of Activities as at December 31, 2020

Figures in USD	Notes	2020	2019
Changes in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions			
Revenue and Public Support			
Contributions and grants			
Foundations		\$ 41,678	\$ 2,645
Individuals		420,725	177,717
Corporations		21,985	19,797
Contributed materials and services	7	-	38,150
Special events		-	659,702
Less: Direct event expenses		-	(148,379)
Merchandise sales	8	75,909	133,836
Interest income		63	241
Total Revenue and Public Support		\$ 560,360	\$ 883,709
Expenses			
Program Services		445,677	724,031
Supporting Services			
Management and general		146,523	137,153
Fundraising		98,603	243,642
Total Supporting Services		245,126	380,795
Total Expenses		690,803	1,104,826
Decrease in net assets		(130,443)	(221,117)
Net assets, beginning of year		615,948	837,065
Net Assets, End of Year		\$ 485,505	\$ 615,948



Unenceba is in grade 11 at Silikamva High in Imizamo Yethu, where she lives with her parents. Coming from a community that faces many social issues, Unenceba is described by her Lalela facilitators as ‘someone who is clearly determined not to be defined by circumstance but rather by her strong convictions, faith and hard work’. A role model for her younger peers, she’s also a budding entrepreneur, having started her own jewellery-making business.

“Lalela is a safe space where you can be yourself and feel free. When I started, I didn’t know how to do art, but I loved it. I now know how to paint and draw, and I can do anything that pops into my mind.

“The most important thing that Lalela has taught me is to be real with myself. Participating in Lalela has affected my self-esteem in a way that now I am able to speak publicly and proudly. I’ve learned that the decisions I make today will determine my future.

“My dream is to become a lawyer or a psychologist. Right now, I’m looking forward to finishing my studies, getting a job, and making my parents proud.”



I’ve learned
that the
decisions
I make
today will
determine
my future.

Our Strategic Partners



I would like to congratulate the entire Lalela team on the work that they have done during lockdown with their Lalela children and families. The commitment and agility they have demonstrated in continuing the creative and therapeutic work through the arts as well as ensuring necessary, basic provisions

for families in need during this time, is commendable, and a testament to their unwavering professional care and deep concern for our most at-risk communities. The Zeitz MOCAA Center for Art Education is happy to have Lalela as one of our 'travel companions' – not only at this time of COVID-19 but as we continue to work together in creative arts education to give our future audiences and citizens a voice and agency to make better communities and a better world.

Liesl Hartman, Head of Education, Zeitz MOCAA



Through our partnership with Lalela and showcasing their magnificent

scarves in our hotels and lodge boutiques, we not only show our appreciation for these incredible works of art, but we continue to support this initiative where creative thinking in children is nurtured, and we celebrate their journey of how art changes lives.

Liz Biden, The Royal Portfolio



That the well-established relationship between the V&A Waterfront and Lalela has continued to

grow and flourish, even despite the unique challenges brought on recently by COVID-19, is testimony to our joint sense of self belief and purpose, something we anticipate sharing in the future.

Henry Mathys, Program Manager:
Social Inclusion and Placemaking,
V&A Waterfront



Our Board

US Board

Chairperson: **Andrea Kerzner**
Secretary: **Terry Torok**
Treasurer: **Norman Cohen**
Michael Beneville
Colin Finkelstein
Wendy Fisher
Lisa Kaye
Vanessa Kerzner
Mark Landis
Jesse Robert Lovejoy
Shaun Osher
Sandy Tabatznik
Michele Wiltshire
Ronald Wohlman

Advisory Board

Chairperson: **Ronald Wohlman**
Emily Beare
Greg Calejo
Colin Cowie
David Friedman
Mariane Ibrahim
Kweku Mandela
Edward Nahem
Renee Roller
Nina Runsdorf
Mark Rutstein
Nikki Silver
Lara Stein
Carmen Zita

SA Board

Chairperson: **Andrea Kerzner**
Secretary: **Caro Macdonald**
Treasurer: **Suzanne Annenberg**
Abigail Bisogno
Pulane Kingston
Mandla Sibeko
Sandy Tabatznik
Marco van Embden

Trustees

Andrea Kerzner
Abigail Bisogno
Marco Van Embden

Our 2020 team

New York Head Office

Chief Executive Officer & Co-founder:

Andrea Kerzner

Chief Creative Officer & Co-founder:

Sandy Tabatznik

Program & Communications

Administrator: Melissa Jester

Cape Town Head Office

Executive Director:

Leigh Robertson

Events & Relations Manager:

Oliver Nurock

Senior Program Manager:

Firdous Hendricks

Program Administrator:

Dominique Olivier

Program Manager – Partners:

Sean MacGinty

Office Support:

Maxine Christians, Zimasile Sibotoboto

Interns:

Caitlyn Johnson, Jason Minnaar,
Kelebogile Pholoane

Cape Town facilitators

Art Facilitators:

Siyolisi Bani, Sikelelo Holose,
Tandile Makhabeeni, Chanté Marajh,
Thelma Mort, Nwabisa Ndongeni,
Marilyn November, Tony Mhayi, Mark Oppelt,
Rowan Roman, Naz Saldulker, Lyonelle Smith,
Meliny Swartz, Chuma Nozewu

Co-facilitators:

Nozuko Manyisana, Wilma Bruintjies-Mathese

Maboneng Precinct Lalela Center for Arts and Innovation (Gauteng, SA)

Program Coordinator: Vika Mjoka

Art Facilitator: Thandiwe Sibanyoni

Art Co-facilitator: Portia Qhemekoane

Hope North (Uganda)

Art Facilitator: George Ochora

Zara's Center (Zimbabwe)

Art Facilitator: Rebecca Gopito





#LalelaImpact

***Thimna** is in grade 10 at Masiphumelele High. In the three years since joining Lalela our team has witnessed her bloom into a strong, determined and highly focused young woman. Thimna lives in Masi with her mom, a single mother, as well as her aunt and cousins, who lost their dad to COVID-19. Finding balance between the challenges at home and her academics is often a struggle, and yet she's one of the top achievers at school and a natural leader in the classroom.*

"At Lalela we don't only learn about art but also about social issues, and we get to be open about stuff happening in our lives. Lalela has helped me with my mental issues because the environment is full of love and laughter. I become at ease, and then I let loose and I become myself. I've learned about the importance of creativity and imagination; how it's important to imagine and visualize things and dream.

"When my uncle died, I used to cry every day. Being in the virtual group helped me because I could escape from reality and focus on my artwork. The energy was the same as when we were in class together; it was a happy, fun place for me.

"I'm looking forward to being successful, living my own life, and being my own person. My dream is to be both an engineer and a doctor! Once I've got my bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and worked for five years, I'll get my degree in medicine."



I've learned about the importance of creativity and imagination; how it's important to imagine and visualize things and dream.



Follow our journey



www.lalela.org

Lalela Office, South Africa

+27 21 790 1108

36 Albert Road, Hout Bay, Cape Town 7806
PBO nr: 93 0036496 NPO: 090608

Lalela Office, New York

+1 212 579 2480

melissa@lalela.org