

# ARTYFACTS

Realising dreams through excellence in Arts and Academics

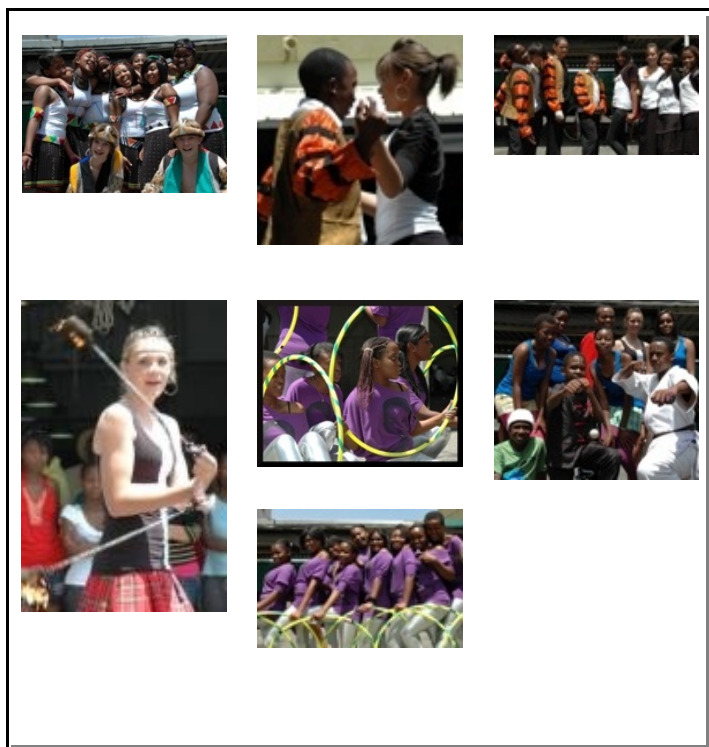
The Official Newsletter of Africa's Leading Art School.

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Issue 4

## and the fof is upon us!

### DRAMA DEPARTMENT

The Grade 9 Drama learners went to the Rosebank Rooftop market on Sunday to perform their street theatre performances. The learners did extremely well and the audience was very impressed. Well done grade 9's for making the Drama department and the NSA proud!



### ART DEPARTMENT

The inaugural Art Parents Committee meeting on Thursday 25th February saw a good turnout of 20 parents. After a lively discussion of the various items on the agenda the election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 2010 was unanimous. Congratulations to Maiyo Simapungula and her deputy Linda Becker.



### CONTEMPORARY MUSIC DEPARTMENT

We here in The Contemporary Music Department are proud to host our first Ensemble evening of the year at the ever popular Tanz Cafe in Bryanston. Please do join us for a wonderful evening of entertainment, food and good times.

Date: 15 March 2010 Time: 19:00

Ticket Price: Adults - R30 Students - R20

The Contemporary Music Department would also like to thank Ms. C Nell for organising us stunning black chairs for our Concert Venue. Thank you very, very much. We love them!!!

### MEDIA CENTRE

#### Co.Za Cares Computer Laboratory

Uniform SA, in partnership with NetDay Association and Mindset Education, installed a Co.Za Cares Computer Centre in the library at the National School of the Arts. The Co.Za Cares Project is the main focus of the Social Responsibility arm of Uniform SA, the co.za domain name administrators. The objective of this project is to promote the use of IT in South African schools. While the project usually targets under-resourced, rural schools, Uniform SA has, from 2010, decided to allocate some of its funding to schools attended by the children of Uniform SA's staff members.

The Co.Za Cares Project provides:

1. 20 computers, monitors, mouse and earphones.
2. 2 Servers, one containing the Mindset Education software, and the other to operate the Linux system.
3. 1 Printer
4. Trunking and cabling
5. 1 UPS
6. The full Open Office Suite (wordprocessor, spreadsheet, presentations, etc)
7. The full package of Mindset interactive multimedia educational software (including FET English, Maths, Science), all completely aligned to the South African curriculum.
8. A package of Open Source educational software.
9. 1 year service contract, including replacement of faulty hardware, at no charge to the school; in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year, service and maintenance response, at cost only.

Something else to look forward to is a connection to the school's Internet router which would happen in the near future.

The full value of a Co.Za Cares laboratory is between R500 000 and R700 00.

Because a Co.Za Cares laboratory runs entirely on an Open Source platform, the school will have no annual licence fee to pay.

Staff members who require training in computer literacy may apply for training with Avuxeni Computer Academy. This training is sponsored by ISAP (the Internet Service Provider's Association), and there is again no cost to the school.

We would like to thank Fiona Wallace (Social Responsibility Officer) at Uniform for making all of this possible. Our learners and teachers are looking forward to using this magnificent addition to the library.

## HISTORY DEPARTMENT

On Thursday the 11 February, we once again welcomed a visit from Mr Krausz, a WWII Holocaust survivor.

Born in 1930, he and his family were taken from their home in Holland to a camp just outside of Berlin during WWII. There, for two and a half years, it was his job to clear the lifeless corpses of fellow Jews. He was freed in 1945 when the Nazi soldiers that held them captive abandoned the camp after they had heard of the Red Army's approach. Just weeks prior to that, he had escaped a Destruction Camp. Destruction Camps were the last stop before the gas chambers.

He still asks himself the question: " Why me? Why did I escape the fate of so many of my fellow Jews?" The conclusion that he has reached is simple, "... to spread word of the ordeal to as many young South Africans as possible.", and our Grade 9s have been the fortunate recipients of his mission for the past 3 years.

Mr Krausz makes it clear that the purpose of his visit is not to teach hatred of the Germans but instead it is what he calls a message of, 'Moral Regeneration' - so that we may make moral decisions that are governed by our respect for humanity. "I have never met a group of school children that I have not liked," he says, "... how then is it possible for us to show cruelty and malice towards people that could have once been our classmates?".

His message is clear. We at NSA have a duty to our fellow classmates to stand up against bullying and stereotypes that could lead us to forgetting our shared humanity.

He asks that you correspond with him via e-mail at [krausz@netactive.co.za](mailto:krausz@netactive.co.za).

Thank you Mr Krausz!

## SCHOOL FEES EXEMPTIONS

Parents are once again reminded that **THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES FOR 2010** is 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2010. Please ensure that all applications are handed in on or before this date between 7:30am and 2:00pm with all the relevant documentation attached. Many applications were sent to parents by Registered Post. If you have not yet received this application, please collect same from the Finance Office as soon as possible.

Parents who have not applied for exemption and who have to date, not paid any school fees, please be reminded that your account for Term 1 is now in arrears. Please settle as soon as possible.

## DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

The Disciplinary Committee of the NSA imposed the following sanctions on learners who drank alcohol in transit to the Classical Music Camp:

1. The learners were expelled from the NSA. This expulsion was suspended on condition that the learners are not guilty of any serious misconduct charge for the rest of their schooling at the NSA.
2. The learners were suspended for a period of 5 days.
3. The learners must do community service for a specified period of time.
4. The learners must apologise to the educators and learners of the Music Department.

## PUBLIC SPEAKING

Eight grade 9 learners participated in a Public speaking festival on 01/03/2010. There were many butterflies in stomachs and nervous twitches as the two teams waited to take their places in front of the adjudicator. The learners are to be congratulated on well prepared and presented speeches, although there were a few who tried to get it over with as soon as possible. Overall, it was a wonderful evening of friendly competition between the three schools: NSA, Hoerskool Voerentoe and Helpmekaar.

The teams were made up of:

Team 1 – Thandeka Dladla, Reuben Oukamp, Zuleika De Souza, Elzaan Stevens

Team 2 – Andisiwe Sodinga, Welni Duminy, Kevin Pop, Sibonelo Nyathi

A special word of thanks to the group of Grade 12 girls who were there to help. Onalenna Mtezuka was a competent Master of ceremonies, ably assisted by Karabo Lekoane and Thembi Ndlovu. Shalom Zamisa helped behind the scenes.

Well Done All.

## FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

<b>Mar</b>		
	<b>6</b>	<b>Music Concert Exams</b>
	<b>12</b>	<b>Finance Committee meeting</b>
	<b>14</b>	<b>Music Concert Exam</b>
	<b>15</b>	<b>Contemporary Music Show</b>
	<b>15 - 20</b>	<b>Festival of Fame</b>
	<b>22</b>	<b>School Holiday</b>
	<b>26</b>	<b>End of Term 1</b>
<b>April</b>		
	<b>12</b>	<b>Term 2 starts</b>
	<b>16</b>	<b>Reports issued</b>
	<b>28</b>	<b>Parents Evening: Art and Dance</b>
	<b>29</b>	<b>Parents Evening: Drama and Music</b>

**The NSA is the recognised and preferred leading School of the Arts in South Africa**