Dear Lalela Friends,

Welcome to the 8th edition of our Lalela Impact newsletter written by our Lalela students. Our students share their personal accounts of the second school term, providing a glimpse into events, art workshops and collaborations they have enjoyed. From sharing the joy of their artworks being used on scarves, linking their art into entrepreneurialship in their communities, their participation in the Shakespeare School festivals, to a visit to New York City and hosting a Pop-up Clothing store. Lalela students have been creative, critical, and conscious!

Lalela is now active on twitter, Instagram and Facebook. We invite you to follow for further updates and stories!

CAT RIEPER, COO LALELA

BY SIMPHIWE BENDLE, GRADE 12

I was recently part of a photoshoot wearing scarves printed with artwork by Lalela artists. To tell a story through art, to have it printed onto a scarf AND to see someone wearing your art is an incredible feeling. There is a story behind all the art. And by wearing a scarf, one too becomes a part of the story woven into these scarves. It is a great thing to know your artwork is worn around the world through the Lalela scarf and to see people appreciating the creativity of Lalela students.

It is a dream come true to know that our stories are being heard by the public. People will see and acknowledge our stories as the youth of communities such as Imizamo Yethu, Masiphumelele and Hangberg. I am very grateful to Lalela for the scarves, for sharing our stories.

To view our scarf collection, please click on the link: www.thelalelascarf.merchdirect.com
Art of Advertising
BY ELIE MABUNDA,
GRADE 12
For the Art of Advertising we had to create a logo or sign for any business from our community. Many small businesses don’t have a name or logo that describes what they do to potential customers. Our facilitator taught us that through creativity we should be able to invite customers in and that often creativity can speak louder than words. We made posters that explain more about certain businesses, for example, hair salons, car washes, barber shops, fish and chip shops and more. The vision of this was to assist in getting the attention of the community and hopefully bringing in more customers. It was interesting to learn about the power of advertising and how creativity can make or break a business.

Cap & Skateboard Design
BY CHUMANE NKOPE, GRADE 7
In the last school holidays in April we had so much fun and I was so proud because I won a brand new skateboard! It all started with a drawing competition where we made our very own designs for caps that we could take home to proudly show off our artwork. I was very excited about mine and worked really hard on it. Winning the competition meant that we would be able to put our cap designs onto the skateboard. I am so happy to have won the competition and I am really proud to ride my board around my community!
* A big thank you to DragonSports, Kat van Duinen, Kelly John Gough, Brand Name Marketing and AM agencies for the generous donations of skateboards and caps.

Art of Casting
BY VIOLET KALUWA, GRADE 10
For the Art of Casting, we started by talking about communication, the different ways in which we interact. One of the ways of communication is sign language whereby we use our hands to express our words and thoughts. We discussed different symbols and what they mean. We were then divided into groups where we first drew different types of symbols. Then using playdough and our fingers we molded and shaped different symbols. Afterwards we mixed water and plaster together, which we poured into the mold and left to dry. The pictures below show the process and end result.
Romeo, Romeo. Wherefore art thou Romeo?

I wish we had this festival when we were at school because Shakespeare was boring! This festival makes Shakespeare come alive.

Cristi Little, teacher at Silikamva High.

Lalela Project’s Romeo and Juliet was a modern day narration of the iconic love story which saw Romeo banished to the Eastern Cape, police sirens being used and paramedics arriving at the scene of the lovers’ tragic deaths.

BY SELINAH INGWANE, GRADE 11

Being in Lalela means exploring great opportunities and engaging in many awesome activities such as participating in the national Shakespeare Festival, in a play directed by the most wonderful and inspiring director Claire Baker. The drama ‘Romeo & Juliet’ a love story/tragedy about two people from warring families who fall in love. Taking part in the play as a narrator has taught me self awareness, discipline, versatility, confidence and helped me discover my strengths and weaknesses. So far the journey has been absolutely amazing, seeing all the stunning costumes, props and sound system being arranged. Having to perform at the Artscape is a huge opportunity for me and an honour. The production has been exquisite, driven by young talented and beautiful actors and actresses. For all the dedication and hard work Lalela and our director have arranged a way of recognising the hard work by awarding us a tin of golden biscuits. This has been effective in encouraging young minds into putting out your best, because what you put in is what you get out. A very special thanks to Annie’s Angels for the wonderful costumes!

"I wish we had this festival when we were at school because Shakespeare was boring! This festival makes Shakespeare come alive."

Cristi Little, teacher at Silikamva High.

"The performance last night was stunning. Our play was by far the best! We also got the loudest applause and appreciation from the audience. Lalela rocks!"

Mrs Julius, teacher at Hout Bay High.

"I wish we had this festival when we were at school because Shakespeare was boring! This festival makes Shakespeare come alive."

Cristi Little, teacher at Silikamva High.

Lalela students received a standing ovation for their incredible performance. Well done everyone!
NEW YORK NEW YORK!

On the 20th of May Lalela hosted its annual fundraiser at Madiba Harlem, NYC. Thanks to Colin Cowie and his team, our sponsors, as well as our wonderful host committee, this was not only financially successful but also a fun night enjoyed by all.

BY HASAN ESSOP, FACILITATOR & ARTIST

This was the first time I travelled to the US, a journey I have dreamt about for many years. I was fortunate to have travelled during two of the biggest New York art fairs: Art fairs, Frieze and 154 African Art Contemporary.

My week in New York was jam-packed with visits to the Guggenheim, MOMA and the Natural History Museum. The students who accompanied myself and fellow colleague Loyiso Skoti, enjoyed evening walks around Times Square, tours around the city and walks in Central Park.

The day of the fundraiser was very special as we met friends and sponsors who all contribute to making Lalela a success. We were treated to fantastic performances, a special one from Wyclef Jean, and very moving speeches from our students and members of management.

I am truly grateful to Lalela and the team for granting me the opportunity to embark on this journey and to have an experience that has been so beneficial to my work and art practice.

BY ZIMASA DYANI

On the 16th of May, Loyiso, Hasan, Ncedo and I arrived in New York. It was quite an overwhelming experience and I could not stop looking outside the car window and the tall buildings even though it made me dizzy.

I really enjoyed the everyday walks; they gave us a taste of the day in the life of a New Yorker. The place I related to the most was Chinatown. The place was really busy, something I am used to coming from the township. The Blue Man Group (amazing art and music) was fantastic; I loved the way they interacted with the audience. I also loved the tours of the art museums, namely the Guggenheim and MOMA.

The day of the fundraiser was the cherry on top of the cake. Working with Colin Cowie’s team to set up the venue and having a personal mentoring experience with this extraordinary person fuelled my passion for events planning.

Ncedo and Hasan hanging out with Wyclef Jean

Ncedo and Hasan delivering their touching speeches at the fundraiser evening.

Ncedo and Zimasa delivering their touching speeches at the fundraiser evening.
In April, Lalela students were invited to a talk by Chris Fallows at the One&Only Hotel. Chris is an expert on the Great White Shark and their hunting habits. He is also the first member of the scientific community to observe the breaching behaviour of the Great White. It was a great experience. A real eye-opener, a look at the other side of nature, the side humans seldom explore. Fear being the barrier that limits interaction between humans and nature. Mr Fallows carried us over that barrier. He got us interested in exploring our natural surroundings, as well as the creatures close yet so far from us.

My right eye was steady on Mr Fallows as he explained all his encounters, and the left one was glued to the screen, marveling at the pictures Mr Fallows and his team took. Now that I’ve seen the interactions between people and some of nature’s most dangerous predators, I have more enthusiasm and interest in learning more and doing more regarding these creatures. It was a really awesome experience.

Lalela and Coats for Cape Town, in collaboration with SAPS Hout Bay and the Hout Bay Library rolled out the 228th “Street Store” worldwide. Based on the concept “Hang Up. Help Out”, those in need were invited to shop for the clothing displayed, with one major difference: it’s all for free. With an amazing initial donation of over 1000 winter coats, we set up our pop-up “Street Store” with the students of Lalela assisting in a unique give-back to those less fortunate than themselves. Having spread the word throughout the Hout Bay communities of Imizamo Yethu and Hangberg, we didn’t have long to wait, with more than 1000 people flocking to the store. Winter has been made a little more bearable for them. Simamkele Benani, Lalela intern, says: “Giving back to the community is something I mostly see on TV especially on Mandela Day when everyone in the country celebrates it. The pop up store held by Lalela was a huge success where over a thousand coats were distributed in the community for disadvantaged people. Everyone knows me as the coat lady now. I feel like a super hero.”

The Lalela staff were invited by Dala to visit their factory. Dala (which means ‘to bring into existence’ in Xhosa), is a company that supplies and creates art products for artists of all ages and all levels of art. Lalela has also been fortunate in that many of our art supplies are sponsored by Dala. Thank you Dala for your continued support and thank you for the workshop where we got to play and explore with all the awesome art materials!