Dear Friends of Lalela,

As 2015 comes to a close, I would like to express my appreciation to you for supporting a year of extraordinary growth for Lalela.

A very special thank you to our new partners and communities who are adding to our momentum of scaling Lalela, allowing us to reach more and more young learners. Here are some we’ve added this year...

- In partnership with Afrika Tikkun, we have begun working in Mfuleni Township, Cape Town.
- We are now working in Johannesburg through our partnership with Tomorrow Trust.
- Enjoying our ongoing partnership with David Rattray Foundation in KwaZulu Natal, Amy Biehl Foundation in Nyanga, Cape Town, Hope North in Northern Uganda, and the Beacon After School Program in the South Bronx.
- We are also delighted to have launched two new programmes -- Female Empowerment and our music programme, Lalela Live!

We are looking towards 2016 with enthusiasm as we grow new programmes utilizing the power of art!

I wish for you and your families a festive holiday season and peace and happiness in the New Year!

Warmest regards,

ANDREA KERZNER

Happy Holidays!

Maboneng Launch

BY CAROL DUBE, FACILITATOR

Our long awaited launch went without a glitch. Our doors have been open since June 2015 and it is official: Lalela’s Centre of Art and Innovation in Maboneng is here to stay. We are innovatively impacting the lives of youth in this community. Aspects of the curriculum were present in the art work displayed for teachers, parents and the general public to see.

Our students and parents were excited to see their art work displayed on such an occasion. Many thanks to the teachers, artists, and organizations whose participation contributed to a successful launch.

Lalela held its official launch of the Centre of Art and Innovation in Maboneng Precinct in Johannesburg on November 1st.
I want to be a leader because I have seen Lalela change people’s lives for the better. Lalela has had a huge impact on my life. Sinethemba Mabusela

I see Lalela leaders in action at school and how they conduct themselves. Being a leader has been a positive change and a great inspiration for me. Sphosethu Cetywayo

**Peace Poster Competition**

**BY MELODY BONGIWE, GRADE 7**

My name is Melody Bongiwe Legwale and I live in Imizamo Yethu, in Hout Bay. I go to Oranjekloof Moravian Primary School and am in Grade 7. This year is such a wonderful year because I won the Peace Poster Competition. I really thought I wouldn’t win! But when they called out my name, I was so shocked and was not expecting to win first prize. I am so proud to be the winner of the Peace Poster Competition. Thank you Lion’s Club Hout bay and Lalela for the great opportunity to make beautiful art for world peace!

**Female Empowerment**

Lalela’s Female Empowerment Program launched this year. Participants undertook the creation of Heart Maps, one of the cornerstones of Lalela’s curriculum, for the honorees of the Women’s Entrepreneurship Day (WED) at the United Nations in New York City. Lalela learners interviewed the women entrepreneurs via email and in this way, connected with inspirational role models.

**BY SHAKEELAH ADAMS, GRADE 8**

The Female Empowerment workshops mean a lot to me because it is something new - something that has changed me. It equipped us with tools and information to make positive choices and educated decisions regarding our lives. The program encourages the development of critical thinking skills and academic achievement while discouraging negative behaviours.

We were fortunate enough to go the TEDx CapeTownWomen Salon. The Female Empowerment workshops have been a great opportunity and a blessing.

**THRIVE WYZEBUG COMPETITION**

This term Lalela Learners from Hout Bay High and Silikamva High entered the Thrive Hout Bay environmental competition in September. Lalela Hout Bay High were the winners and Lalela Silikamva High came third. The recycled materials for the sculptures came from the Hout Bay dump.

**LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME**

**BY CAT RIEPER, LALELA COO**

Every November Lalela starts the process of identifying learners to join our Leadership Programme. Students are chosen through a selective application and interview process. I usually conduct the interviews with the learners and it was incredible to listen to them explain the impact Lalela has had on their lives.

Dr. Jen Welter, Women's Entrepreneurship Day Honoree and 1st female coach for the National Football League of America, with her Heart Map at the United Nations in New York City
Heritage Day
Cape Town

BY BONGILE MDITSHWA, GRADE 8  
LAELELA STUDENT FROM  
VUKUKHANYE PRIMARY IN NYANGA.

It was exciting to meet Lalela children from Sentinel Primary in Hout Bay. We never expected the children from Hout Bay to be friendly, yet we exchanged brushes and paints as we painted the container. It was wonderful to have visitors from Hout Bay on Heritage Day. Heritage Day is about us as South Africans celebrating our different cultures, beliefs and traditions. It is important for us all to embrace our differences and respect each other, to know that we truly are the Rainbow Nation. I am very proud to be South African!

In collaboration with Trinity Session, Lalela learners from our Centre of Arts and Innovation in Maboneng created content for murals for the 8 bridge pillars in the Doornfontein precinct towards a theme of plant life that would relate to the learners’ syllabus in school. A street art production studio, Grayscale paired with renowned international artist, SoloOne to work alongside experienced local artists to realize our students’ designs.

Lalela launched the pilot program of our first dedicated music program, Lalela Live! during the mid year school vacations. 25 students per day from Hout Bay High and Silikamva High with an ability or passion for music spent four days at the Bay Harbour Market being immersed in theoretical and practical music presentations. We have now extended the Lalela curriculum to incorporate ongoing weekly Lalela Live! music classes.

In a unique partnership for community beautification between Lalela and Snoekies Fish Market, a group of 100 grade 1-5 learners from Sentinel and Oranjekloof Primary Schools undertook the mural painting of the exterior of the Snoekies building creating an instantly iconic underwater mural. Initially the younger students were taken on an outing to the V&A Aquarium. Based upon this, the students designed their own sea creatures. These were then incorporated in the Snoekies mural as seen above...
It has been hectic in Masiphumelele recently. It started about a month and a half ago when a young boy was raped and brutally murdered in his home. The community had enough. For too long the authorities have turned a blind eye on the crime and drug abuse. People have now resorted to mob justice to fight crime. They have been using brute force, going door to door to each and every drug dealer’s house, driving them out of the community for good. The violence has taken a toll on the lives of both adults and children.

I decided to do a campaign with Lalela students using art as a tool to express their emotions. As an artist I believe that when we put our voice to paper, people will listen.

Siyolisi Bani joined Lalela as a student in January 2011. On graduating high school in 2013, he joined our team as an intern. Siyolisi became a role model to learners in Masiphumelele. In June 2015, he bravely took on the role of lead Lalela facilitator in Masiphumelele while at the same time juggling his studies in graphic design at Cape Peninsula University of Technology.
Johannesburg
BY CAROL DUBE, FACILITATOR
In January 2015 we opened the Lalela Centre of Arts and Innovation in the Maboneng Precinct in downtown Johannesburg in partnership with Tomorrow Trust. I was fortunate to see our students grow through the year creatively and artistically. The arts curriculum allowed each student to show their strength and embrace their abilities. It was a rewarding and comforting experience to witness our students seeing their work on display at the Origins Centre Museum in Wits University at the end-of-year Tomorrow Trust graduation. Celebrating artistic achievement was a highlight; we gave away special excellence awards in creativity, teamwork, perseverance and more.

Northern Uganda
BY OKELLO COLLINS MONDAY, FACILITATOR
Lalela, in partnership with Hope North Uganda, constructed the I AM Peace Centre to bring educational arts programs to escaped child soldiers, war affected victims, and orphans. Since the establishment of the centre, there have been great improvements in students’ behaviour and character, both in and outside school. They have also developed team spirit, creativity, self-worth and self-awareness. The murals and artwork pictured are produced by Lalela students on the walls of the centre.

My recent trip to South Africa was very special for me. It was great working with the amazing facilitators and all the Lalela team and I felt so valued and relevant to be involved in the curriculum development process. It’s one of the few moments that you feel your ideas contribute to developing something that will change the world.

Kwa-Zulu Natal
Lalela has been partnering with the David Rattray Foundation since 2013 and we are extremely proud of the work done by our KZN team!

South Bronx
Our Lalela learners from our South Bronx partnership with the Beacon After School Program visited the United Nations for the first time to present Heart Map Awards to the Women’s Entrepreneurship Day honorees. This prestigious event, under the coordination of Wendy Diamond, is a global “movement to empower, celebrate and support women entrepreneurs worldwide”. Lalela CEO Andrea Kerzner participated in a panel discussion during the event.

BY THEOPHILUS BOOI, FACILITATOR
Beginning in 2015, Lalela partnered with Afrika Tikkun in Mfuleni, offering an educational art program to the disadvantaged youth. Mfuleni is a severely under resourced area bordering Khayelitsha on the Cape Flats. With a population of over 52,300 people the township is faced with high unemployment, HIV/AIDS prevalence and increasing crime rates. Reaching 5 primary schools in Mfuleni, we conduct our Lalela classes at the Afrika Tikkun Community Centre.

We held our 1st annual art exhibition for Mandela Day at the centre, showcasing Lalela students’ art for their parents to see.
Some 2015 Highlights

Happy Holidays from the Lalela team!

Lalela Project would like to thank the following for their continued support: