



South African Society of Music Teachers – Eastern Cape Report 2018

The Port Elizabeth branch of the SASMT may, yet again look back on a year filled with memorable, enriching presentations and workshops and at two particularly well-supported music competitions.

This year's committee consisted of: Lestie Hughes (Chairman), Dr Alethea de Villiers (Treasurer), Nicky Bosman (Secretary), Pierre Malan (SASMT Life Member), Hanli Young, Robert Gillmer, René Zietsman, Lilian Zeelie (Promotion), Paul Richard and Liska du Preez.

The 2018 activities of the Port-Elizabeth Branch commenced on Saturday morning, 10 March, when Petrus Meyer gave feedback on the Matric Papers and the status of Subject Music to High School Music teachers at D.F. Malherbe High School. Meyer is a National Marker, Examiner for the Written Gr 11 and Matric Papers, Practical and SBA Moderator and Cluster Leader for the Nelson Mandela Metropole District.

Our annual SASMT Cocktail Party for music teachers was subsequently held in the St Dominic's Priory Foundation Phase Building, on the evening of 14 March. Alison Hiscock and Nicky Bosman are, respectively, to be thanked for securing this venue for the SASMT and for arranging the refreshments. The main speaker at this event was the acclaimed Choral Conductor, Junita van Dijk. Besides conducting a choir that performed for Pope John Paul II, she also lead choirs that performed for Queen Elizabeth II, Desmond Tutu and the late President Nelson Mandela. Another career highlight was being on the IFCM's Artistic Committee for the 2017 World Choral Symposium in Barcelona. Ms. Van Dijk presented a compelling talk on the benefits of Choral Singing. Other speakers at the event included Erika Bothma, who informed us about the forthcoming concerts of the Port Elizabeth Music Society and Jenny Yates, who reported back on the activities of RCM Choral and Recorder Workshops in the Bethelsdorp Area.

From 5 to 7 April Lestie Hughes and Alethea de Villiers represented the Eastern Cape at the National SASMT Conference, in their respective capacities as SASMT President-Elect and SASMT Vice-President for the Eastern Cape. The Conference, held in Durban, was based on the theme 'Diversity in Music' and marked the centennial celebrations of the SASMT. A vibrant performance by the KwaZulu-Natal Youth Orchestra and a superb rendition of the Beethoven Bagatelles by Andrew Warburton at the Gala Concert proved musical highlights at this auspicious event. Port Elizabeth will be hosting the 2019 National Conference for the first time in about 30 years, and the EXCO-Committee, made up of members of the SASMT-Committee of the Port Elizabeth branch, are currently gearing up for this exciting musical event. Members of the Committee of the Port Elizabeth branch also currently constitute the National SASMT Standing Committee and regularly make decisions on matters such as membership applications.

During 2018 the Port Elizabeth SASMT Committee has, furthermore, continued to encourage professional growth among Music teachers in the Eastern Cape Region by organising a number of workshops: On the afternoon of 4 May Wayne Hughes, a highly experienced Musical Director and Creative Arts and Computer teacher, presented a hands-on workshop on the use of the Music Software Programme Sibelius at Charlo Primary, and on 5 May Paul Richard facilitated a Saxophone

Workshop in the same venue. Paul Richard, the winner of the 7th National Grahamstown Music Competition (2012), is not only an acclaimed performer but is also a sought-after teacher and Eisteddfod adjudicator. He is currently towards a Doctorate in Composition through Rhodes University, has a passion for conducting and has worked with various wind bands and orchestras.

Shifting the focus from woodwinds to strings, David Bester ran our final 2018 workshop on 25 August, in the Music Building of the Bird Street Campus. Bester is a violinist with a passion for research in string pedagogy and currently teaches at Nelson Mandela University. As soloist, he has performed with the Stellenbosch Camerata, the Cape Town-, KwaZulu Natal-, and Gauteng Philharmonic Orchestras and he regularly plays as a member of the Chamber Orchestra of Namur and the Amici Quartet. He has also won the String Category of the ATKV Muziq Competition and was a finalist in the Stellenbosch International Study Bursary Competition in 2015.

Both of the Port Elizabeth-based SASMT-Music Competitions flourished during 2018. The highly popular Mini Maestros Competition, for primary school pupils on Beginner, Initial and Grade 1 levels, took place at Collegiate Junior School on the 25th and 26th of May. It was adjudicated in a constructive, encouraging manner by the SASMT Life-Member Pierre Malan. Hanlie Young and Lilian Zeelie require special recognition for the care with which they arrange this competition, conceptualised as a non-threatening performance platform for fledgling musicians, on an annual basis.

David Bester and Howard Nock were the highly professional adjudicators of the Annual SASMT/Lee Gold Music Competition, held in the South-Campus Auditorium on the weekend of 31 August – 1 September. The administrative work poured into this competition by Nicky Bosman, our secretary, is deeply appreciated.

Due to the overwhelming number of entries for the competition, co-sponsored by the Nelson Mandela University Music Department, a decision has been made to run the Primary and High School Sections over two consecutive weekends in future. The prize winners of our competitions were as follows:

MINI MAESTROS

Beginner Section:

Tiffany Frans (Piano)

Soné Lubbe (Piano)

Gizelle Venter (Violin)

Caitlyn Mezdau (Piano)

Clarice Pieterse (Clarinet)

Wian Hocta Hanson (Piano)

Xavier Brand (Euphonium)

Terryn Delpont (Violin)

Megan Hough (Piano)

Initial Section:

Lieschen Loèst (Piano)

Eli Pritchard (Piano)

Cara Steyn (Piano)

Roxy Geldenhuys (Piano)

Rachel Fields (Clarinet)

Anika Potgieter (Piano)

Amore Coetzee (Recorder)

Natalie Vermaak (Piano)

Nathan Flugez (Recorder)

Grade 1 Section:

Clarice Pieterse (Piano)

Hannah Campbell (Trumpet)

Heila Oosthuizen (Piano)

Ayabulela Masango (Trumpet)

Britney Madeikanda (Flute)

Olivia Broccardo (Piano)

ANNUAL SASMT/LEE GOLD COMPETITION

ENSEMBLE CATEGORY – PRIMARY SCHOOLS – CLASSICAL

Name
Summerwood Wind Ensemble

ENSEMBLE CATEGORY – HIGH SCHOOLS – CLASSICAL

Name
Pearson Saxophone Quartet

PRIMARY SCHOOL CATEGORY (Gr 2-3)

Name	Instrument
Xavier Binsbergen	Guitar

Lüdgen le Roux	Piano
Phoebe Goliath	Piano

PRIMARY SCHOOL CATEGORY (Gr 2-3)

Name	Instrument
Robyn Hough	Clarinet
Ruan le Roux	Saxophone
Nicole Andrews	Flute

HIGH SCHOOL CATEGORY (Gr 4-6)

Name	Instrument
Liyema Ralo	Voice
Dané van Dyk	Piano
Sivenathi Sikina	Voice

HIGH SCHOOL CATEGORY (Gr 7 and higher)

Name	Instrument
James van der Merwe	Voice
Lena Liu	Piano
Denovan Jephta	Violin

The SASMT-branch of Port Elizabeth may, once again, be proud of a successful and productive year. Aims for 2019 include the continued recruitment of new members, especially among the younger Music teachers in the Eastern Cape region, and the fostering of a more inclusive approach, both with regard to the ethnicity/cultural orientation of our members and the musical styles enjoying representation through our workshops and competitions.