

ARE YOU SHARK WISE?



Above: Nelson Chileshe Musonda and Unathi Speelman. Right: Nirray Kruger and Nelson Chileshe Musonda. Photos: Lesley Rochat.

Jungle Theatre Company's brand new play *Shark Dreams* which was based on Lesley Rochat's 'Sue Finds Happy Eddie The Shy Shark', went on two tours during the second school term. The first tour took place mainly in the south peninsula in Simonstown, Masiphumelele, Ocean View, Fish Hoek and Kalk Bay as part of the City of Cape Town's Youth Environmental Schools (YES) Programme promoting shark awareness and ocean safety. The show also went to schools in Elsie's River and Mowbray and visited a total of 10 schools. Ms Rochat from the Save Our Seas Shark Centre said: "The performance was absolutely fantastic, the kids loved it, and the educational value combined with the humour and interactive approach certainly had them in the actors' palms." The second tour was part of YES Programme's World Environment

Week 1-6 June, which was again based in the south peninsula, with three days at the Muizenberg Pavilion and two days at the Kalk Bay Community Centre. Schools involved in World Environment Week included: Star of the Sea Primary; Bay Primary; Yellowwoods Primary; Observatory Primary; Cafda Primary; Delta Primary; Surrey Primary; Harmony Primary Lourier Primary and St Mary's Primary. Learners were engaged in a programme that included our play, a beach clean up, lessons from Ocean Conservancy and SANCCOB. Mrs Erfort from Harmony Primary said: "Learners like the funny characters, the flags, different sharks in a fun way. [A] very good programme generally." For more information about sharks and the work of the Save Our Seas Shark Centre, Main Road, Kalk Bay – contact Verona on 021 788 6694. www.saveourseas.com

THE THREE RS

Levana Primary, Muizenberg Junior and Zerilda Park Primary showcased their play *Kiss Waste Goodbye* at the Muizenberg Pavilion on 18th June. The showcase about reduce, reuse and recycle was opened by Councillor Demetri Qually and saw the Grade 4 learners from the three schools come

together and present a dance and puppetry piece about issues and solutions around waste in their communities.

JTC has been working with the learners who developed drama through their own experiences and helped to make their own costumes from waste brought from home.

Thank you to our current funders:



International Fund for Animal Welfare



Western Cape Cultural Commission
(Dept. of Cultural Affairs and Sport)



Environmental Resource Management Department



Social Development – Arts and Culture

Joan St Leger Lindbergh Charitable Trust (BoE)



National Arts Council

Country Lane Developments



HCI Foundation



The C.A.P.E. Biodiversity Conservation Education Programme (CBCEP)

INDLOVU PEOPLE



Vincent Meyburgh and Charity Mkhasibe. Photo: Friso Quentemeijer

Indlovu People, other new play took the stage at the Baxter Theatre for International Fund for Animal Welfare's annual 'Twinning' Programme.

This year the event itself was twinned with a photographic exhibition 'Elephants in Nature' by Professor Rudi van Aarde in the Baxter's Gallery. The event was opened by IFAW Professor van Aarde, Director of the Conservation Ecology Unit at University of Pretoria and a foremost African elephant scientist, gave a talk on his research initiative 'Megaparks for Metapopulations'.

Indlovu People was performed to a total of 13 diverse schools, including underprivileged, privileged and learners with special educational needs, over 5 days.

Indlovu People tells a story through the ages of the interactions between humans and elephants, tribal connection and the impact of colonial forces, to the advent of national parks and reserves and current issues.

Jungle actors Vincent Meyburgh, Charity Mkhasibe,

Nimray Kruger and Mfundo Hashe are cast in the play which is directed by Lunchbox Theatre's Stuart Palmer. *Indlovu People* was developed with IFAW as part of their Elephants Secure Habitats campaign. Mrs Foster from Parkvale Primary commented: "Nature conservation, as it pertains to elephants, was portrayed in such a way that it became real and alive. A very creative way to confront environmental issues and create awareness amongst learners."

UNWRAPPING RUBBISH

Rubbish Wrap was back on tour as part of City of Cape Town's YES Waste Wise Week in April. The show was performed all over the greater Cape Town area including: Guglethu, Kraaifontein, Eerste Rivier, Faure, Three Anchor Bay, City Bowl and Langa. The play is based on the City's Smart Living Handbook and looks at ways to reduce waste, litter and pollution. Jungle's international volunteer Soren Kaspersinski stage managed the schools tour.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- JTC is in the process of developing a new play that links football with the environment ahead of the FIFA World Cup. The play is expected to be rolled out to schools from January – June 2010. The 30 min educational intervention is part of a wider programme that includes a poster and educational booklet for teachers. Watch this space for updates.

- eMzansi Carnival is full steam ahead thanks to National Lottery funding which means that JTC is developing a workshop programme for term three. 9 south peninsula schools will twin into 5 groups who will explore the regions big 5: Baboons; Sharks, Western Leopard Toads; Whales and Penguins. JTC's programme will run over 8 weeks whilst the whole schools programme will run throughout term 3 and 4. This year's carnival is set for 5th December.

- Thanks to Green Home for supporting Kiss Waste Goodbye Showcase with a donation of biodegradable cups and plates for the Grade 4 learners to use at the showcase on 18th June.

- An excerpt of *Moya - The Air We Breathe* was performed at the Urban Environmental Management Programme Annual Conference in May.

- A big thank you to Reddam House Atlantic Seaboard, Micklefield, Bishop's Prep and Western Province Prep Schools who sponsored underprivileged schools to partake in the IFAW Baxter 'Twinning' Programme.

- We will shortly say goodbye to intern Friso Quentemeijer and volunteer Soren Kaspersinski. They have been fantastic addition to the JTC team in the first half of the year which has been an exceptionally busy period and productive period for Jungle. Their creative input and will be very much missed by all at Jungle Theatre Company.