

# ***NZ Singing*** **NEWSLETTER** ***Studio***

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## **THANKS**

I'd personally like to thank each of their students for being willing to share their talent with me and for choosing to consistently choose me to guide their vocal journey. I'd also like to thank the parents of these students for their unwavering support and encouragement both to me, and to their young singer. Accomplishing all we have this year has been a momentous task and I do believe that we can only move onwards and upwards. As the year draws to a close, I would like to wish the families a safe and restful break. Please encourage your young singer to put aside their insecurities and sing for their families and friends as much as they possibly can! There is no more liberating vocalization than free and spontaneous vocalization! I wish all of you Happy Holidays, and a prosperous New Year.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

The following students achieved at an external exam! Congratulations to each of you! We understand how hairy the first exam can be.

SR- Trinity 3- 72%  
MLC- Trinity 3- 88%  
LN- Trinity 4- 91%  
SD- Trinity 4- 91%  
NB- Trinity 5- 78%  
SD- Tinity 5- 81%  
AG- Trinity 5- 80%  
MS- Trinity 5- 90%  
DS- Trinity 6- 87%  
GB- Trinity 7- 88%  
JJ- ABRSM 7- 89%

# NEWS FROM WITHIN



DS was the first of the PRG boys to have sung a Trinity exam. Currently completing his matric year, DS worked exceptionally hard, having lessons any chance he could possibly get, and managed to prepare for his Trinity 6 in less than a month of lessons! To prepare his performance for a small audience, DS would routinely fetch any of the boys from outside to sit and watch him run his full program. Well Done DS! I wish you all the best for your bright future!

In her first year at Rhenish, LN caused quite colossal excitement when she was featured as one of Trinity's many Western Cape top achievers. LN received 91% for her grade 4 exam. Well done LN! Your star is on the rise and will shine even brighter yet!



Our little studio even had the opportunity to do a studio concert to celebrate their singing in March of 2023.

On Behalf of the Singing Studio, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank each and every member of the studio, and wish its matric learners (GB, SG, DS) all the best with their exams and their bright futures!

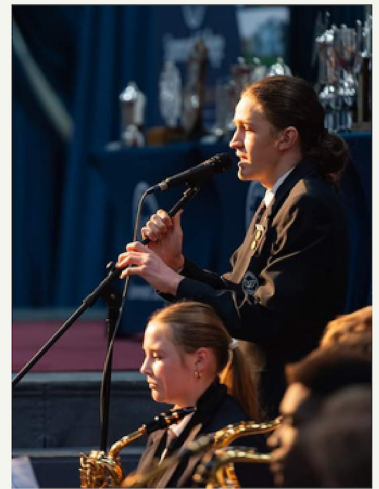


# NEWS FROM WITHIN



SD got bitten by the results-bug in 2023 when she sang an outstanding concert program for the Stellenbosch Eisteddfod in preparation for her Trinity grade 4 exam for which she received 91%! I joked with SD that it's time we begin working towards the next grade but SD, a dedicated student who does not do music as subject worked tirelessly and did two Trinity in-person exams in 2023! Well done SD! All of your hard work will certainly pay off!

Together with SD, they formed the only two senior learners who had dared to sing a full concert program at the Stellenbosch Eisteddfod in 2023. The concert program consists of 12-15 minutes of contrasting repertoire sung in succession, without a break. It is a mammoth task for any young singer. JJ went on to thrill the ABRSM adjudicator with his expressive and committed performance. JJ received 89% in his grade 7 ABRSM exam.



NB, currently in grade 10, delivered his very first external exam this November! Noah has wowed many of his peers with his rich and resonant voice, and has made numerous personal debuts at the school and for the school. It seems the results bug has bitten NB too as he's already considering what he wants to sing for the next exam! Well done NB; you've worked hard and it's paying off!

Thank you to all of the students who performed beautifully at our studio concert! I look forward to doing many more of them with each of you. A special thank you also to the Johnmans' School of Music for the use of their venue, as well as the Strydom Piano Studio for their exceptional piano performances!



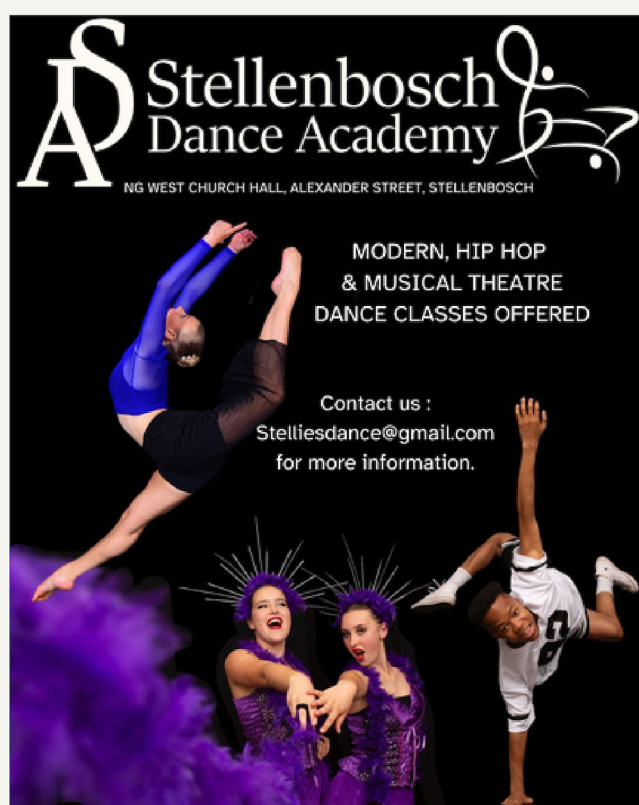


Harry Hartman Wine Company is a local wine producer, producing award-winning premium wines from all over the Western Cape. Shop online by clicking the logo to the left.

We will giftwrap your choice of wine in our special Christmas wrap at no additional cost - what to get your favourite music teacher! Select "Gift Wrap" as an add-on before checkout.

Wishing you all happy holidays

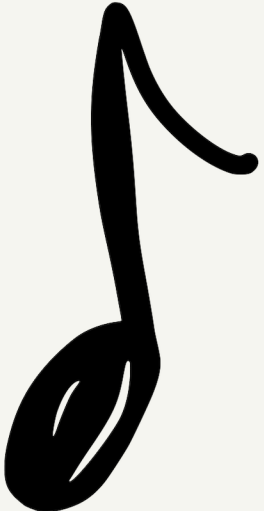
To find out more about the fantastic dance opportunities offered at Stellenbosch Dance Academy, click on the picture to the right. Let us work together to create the most unbeatable triple threats the arts circle has the pleasure of working with.





# LOOKING AHEAD

## EISTEDDFOD



Each year, students have the opportunity to participate in the eisteddfods. As of 2024, I'd like to encourage the singers to participate in different eisteddfods. Although the eisteddfod does create a comfortable competition environment, we usually use the opportunity as a practice round for something upcoming such as an exam. Participation in the eisteddfod is entirely up to the young singer, however, it does provide the young singer with the opportunity to receive external feedback from someone other than their teacher, and provides them with the opportunity to interact with and listen to other young singers their age.

### Stellenbosch Eisteddfod for Singing

Prices for 2024:

Solo: R85

Concert programme: R160

Duet (2 persons): R140

Trio (3 persons): R210

Entries open February 2024

### Tygerberg International Eisteddfod

Prices for 2024: TBC

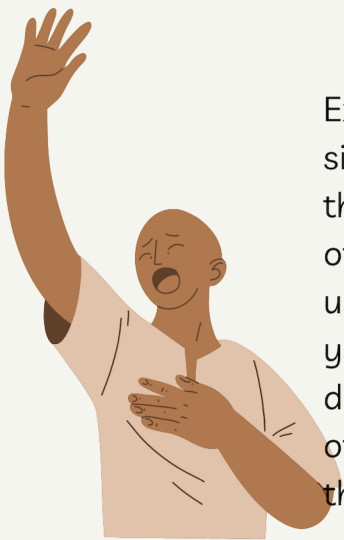
Entries open February 2024

### Helderberg Eisteddfod

Prices for 2024: TBC

Entries open May 2024

## EXTERNAL EXAMS



External exams offer a wonderful sense of encouragement to the young singers. They are reminded that they are working towards a specific goal. For those singers who wish to pursue tertiary studies abroad, these exams also offer them the opportunity to earn college credits, a system we don't really use in South Africa. Often, these exams are incredibly stressful and require the young singers to perform before an audience of one person has their head down as they are making notes and grading the performance. Many schools offer their students honours and colours awards as incentive for excelling at their external exams.

Please note the following with regards to the 2024 external exams:

- Unless you request a live or in person exam, we will do the online exams instead.
- Should you request to do an external exam, you must have at least one weekly hour of lesson.
- Accompaniment fees for the external exam are applicable but discounted should you choose Nathan Lewis as accompanist.
- All repertoire for the exam must preferably be memorized.
- The preferred exam boards are : Trinity College London & ABRSM