

2024/25 ANNUAL REPORT



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OUR TEAM

Dedicated, loyal, passionate
team, stakeholders, board

VISION & MISSION

By creating **opportunities** for youth and families to engage with music, visual art, dance and drama, we hope to **unleash hidden potential**, encourage the next generation of South Africans to dream **big dreams** and enable them to make a **positive contribution** to the future **artistic development** of our nation and our world.

Our programs offers learners the **opportunities to:**

- discover creative arts
- learn new skills
- building strong relationships and responsibility
- gives them a sense of belonging
- access to a caring adult



Music and art, the **universal language** that resonates with people worldwide, serves as a **conduit** for emotions, memories, and cultural expressions. Embraced by musicians, composers, music producers, and avid listeners alike, it **fosters connections** and evokes **profound experiences**.



Creating **better** communities to live in,
connecting communities to the world.
Changing the way people think, see and act in
their **environment** and in their relationships.
We believe in developing our beneficiaries
holistically by
igniting potential • stimulating growth



710

Beneficiaries
per week

02

OUR NUMBERS & ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL/FARM	ACTIVITIES & NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	TOTAL
Pineview Primary	Specialised Art 13, Choir 80, Marimbas 22, Percussion 6	121
Kathleen Murray Primary	Choir 42, Marimbas 33	75
Groenberg Secondary	Specialised Art 16, Marimbas 18	34
St Michaels Primary	Choir 48, Marimbas 25, Recorder 12	85
Grabouw High/RAN center	Choir 55, Marimbas 6, Theory 10, Instrumental 4 (Guitar/recorder, drums)	75
De Rust Futura Academy	Choir 45, Ensemble group 14, Solo Singers 3, Marimbas 28, Instrumental 8	96
Maxonia Primary	Marimbas 25, Recorder 12	37
Arieskraal Primary	Marimbas, Drumming (Djembe)	45
Glen Elgin Primary	Marimbas 25, Recorder 15	40
Dennegeur Primary	Recorder 6, Music appreciation 34	40
Dennegeur Foundation	Art , Marimbas, Guitar, recorder & Applewaithe	40
Bridging Social Gaps through music	De Rust Futura Academy, Grabouw High, Pineview Primary	22
RAN in partnership with US	Brass: Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium Strings: violin	



EISTEDDFOD	ACTIVITY	SCHOOL	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	TOTAL
Marimba Jam Eisteddfod	Marimbas	Glen Elgin Primary	12	46
		De Rust Futura Junior	8	
		De Rust Futura Senior	13	
		Groenberg Secondary	13	
Helderberg Eisteddfod	Choirs	Pineview Primary	80	236
		Kathleen Murray	42	
		Grabouw High	55	
		De Rust Futura Intermediate	45	
		De Rust Futura Ensemble	14	
	Marimbas	Pineview Primary	10	55
		Glen Elgin Primary	12	
		Maxonia Primary	10	
		St Michaels Primary	10	
		De Rust Futura Seniors	13	
	Instrumental	Grabouw High	4	4
	Art	Dennegeur Foundation	6	19
		Pineview Primary	4	
		Groenberg Secondary	9	

The number of beneficiaries exposed to performing and taking part in art competitions, eisteddfods and formal performances totaled

360

03

WHOA!

Proudly showcasing our Eisteddfod successes, these achievements highlight the exceptional **quality** and **standard** of our work.





We took part in
the following
Eisteddfods:

**Marimba Jam
Helderberg**





Special Eisteddfod moments:
We are proud of the number of beneficiaries who had the opportunity to perform and compete at a more formal level, gaining valuable exposure.





MUSIC RESULTS

Helderberg Eisteddfod

Marimbas

Pineview Primary	Cum Laude
St Michaels Primary	Goud +
Glen Elgin Primary	Cum laude
De Rust Futura Academy	Cum laude
Maxonia Primary	Cum laude

Helderberg Eisteddfod

Choir

Pineview Primary	Cum Laude
Grabouw High	Goud +
Kathleen Murray Primary	Gold
De Rust Futura Academy	Gold
De Rust Futura Ensemble	Gold

Marimba Jam Eisteddfod

Marimbas

Groenberg Secondary	88 %
Glen Elgin Primary	84 %
De Rust Futura Academy Jnr	79 %
De Rust Futura Academy Snr	83 %

ART RESULTS

This year, we transitioned from the Overberg Eisteddfod to the Helderberg Eisteddfod, entering 19 learners between the ages 8-19 year for the Art Eisteddfod. Some artists entered in more than 1 category.

Despite our subsidies, higher fees prevented many talented artists from participating.

We entered 19 artists from Dennegeur Foundation, Pineview Primary & Groenberg Secondary

Gold + 4

Silver 7

Gold 6

Silver 6

Silver+ 3

Bronze 1



Angevandrick van Rooyen

Most promising student!
Constantly dedicated, well-interacting, a delight, and a truly artistic soul.



NEW & FUTURE PROJECTS

BRIDGING SOCIAL GAPS THROUGH MUSIC

In August 2024, we **launched**
"Bridging Social Gaps through Music"
with the **University of Stellenbosch**.

The program, focusing on **brass and strings**, enrolled **20 students** from Pineview Primary, De Rust Futura Academy, and Grabouw High.

Each week, three university students handle practical training, while Betsie Ryke covers theory.

Our aim: to eventually form an orchestra.

2025 THE ROAD LESS TRAVELLED

showcase event 13 March at Elgin Railway Market,
celebrating 30 years of democracy.



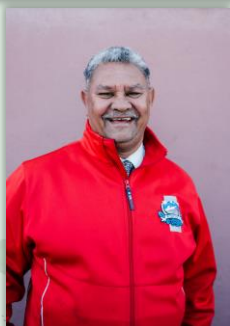
A PICTURE
IS WORTH A
THOUSAND
WORDS



The Team



Friends, partners, support staff, principals, teachers & RAN team





RAN pictures that
breathe life!



HELDERBERG EISTEDDFOD

SPECIAL AWARDS

Overall Winners in specific age groups

Pineview Primary
Inge Combe
12 year

94%



Maxonia Primary
Reagan Diedericks
14 years

97%



De Rust Futura Academy
Reagan Diedericks
16 years

98%



Dear Members and Board of the Rural Arts Network,

Firstly my thanks go to Betsie Ryke for allowing me the opportunity of being involved with RAN, an organisation that has done more than anyone can even envisage to the self esteem, confidence and amazing musical abilities as well as artistic flair, dancing and other classic arts not normally available to school children whose domestic situation may not be able to offer these opportunities to their children.

We all believe that education is so much more than just maths, language, geography, sciences and history, but is so enhanced by having contact with a range of the arts, which turns basic school work into a wider broader education which all children need to get to become successful new citizens of our country, and RAN certainly has the ability to do this for so many disadvantaged children in the Grabouw / Elgin valley.

I am very proud of having been part of this wonderful organisation for the years I spent in Grabouw and wish the new Board and management all the very best for the future, especially for the benefit of children of the Valley.

My thanks to Betsie and her staff for doing a fantastic job in keeping the ideals of RAN alive and growing in the Valley

Kindest regards and my very best wishes to all involved with RAN –Stuart Maxwell



Farewell

For the RAN team, 2024 has been an interesting year. We've experienced great successes and highlights as reflected in the annual report. Parallel to the good there have been many challenges and hurdles that we had to overcome.

The Challenges

Mostly relate to the socio-economic climate and conditions in our disadvantaged communities, which affect the quality and standard of engagement with our beneficiaries. Sadly, we see the deterioration every year. The general financial climate, poor living conditions, and lack of basic needs such as water, food, electricity, safety and lack of stable family units and healthy relationships greatly affect the capacity and scholastic outcomes of the beneficiaries with whom we engaged.

The addiction to cell phones, with countless hours of screen time spent watching TikTok, playing games, or browsing Facebook and Instagram, negatively impacts their concentration span and leads to dopamine addiction. Which in turn leads to depression.

No teacher or academic curriculum can compete with the excitement that dopamine unleashes in the brain. Consequently, our beneficiaries often lose interest in any interaction, completing or starting tasks, learning or reading.

The transformative power of Creative Arts and Sports in our communities.

Creative Arts, alongside Sports, are among the most crucial activities for our beneficiaries. They combat negative influences and challenge individuals to "come alive," helping them find their authentic selves and re-establish a sense of normalcy.

Our activities are often the only lifeline and safe space in these communities.

Seeing the holistic transformation our programs bring to the lives of our beneficiaries is a true privilege. From rekindling their interest in learning to nurturing their authentic selves through Creative Arts and Sports, the impact is profound and inspiring.

The successes, results, and feedback we see and receive keep us passionate and energized. The RAN team's effort comprises of dedicated facilitators, our board, stakeholders, partners, and funders.

Seeing the positive impact of our programs drives us forward and reinforces our commitment to making a difference in our communities. **Betsie Ryke**



From the Heart
Executive Officer



Our programs foster

- Inter-cultural & racial socialization
- Inter-school cohesion
- Personal & community transformation
- Future aspirations



Holistic Development

- Respect
- Teamwork
- Essential Life skills
- Discipline
- Positive Roll models
- Confidence



The Ripple Effect

3550

Indirect beneficiaries are individuals touched by our projects' influence zone. Beyond direct participants, we impact family members, community members, and audiences. Our work inspires past beneficiaries to give back, pursue arts careers, and transform entire communities.



THANKS!



Contact us
betsie@ruralarts.co.za
+27 83 229 0598
www.ruralarts.co.za

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&
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