



23/24 ANNUAL REPORT



Table of Contents

01

Message from our Executive Director

02

2023 in Review: Successes

03

2023 in Review: Challenges

04

Inspiring Stories

05

Inspiring Stories (Continued)

06

The Numbers

07

4 Ways to get involved

08

Our Generous Partners



Message from our Executive Director



In the beginning of 2023, I sat with the Lord and mentioned that things at ROHO felt dry, like those dry bones Ezekiel was confronted with when God asked Him if they could live again. Like Ezekiel, I answered, ‘only You know God...’ The way God met me at this weary place still astounds me. Our leadership team started doing Paul Manwaring’s Strategic Management and Revival Leadership school this year, helping us establish fresh vision by drawing from what God has done and spoken to us in the past, thereby stewarding the revelation & prophecies He has already given. This has sparked fresh hope, new momentum and expectation for what lies ahead.

We established afresh that the essence of Rhythm of Hope’s existence is to build healthy identities through the journey of dance, and ministering healing, especially inner healing, to our students and their families. Our vision is to see more dance families like ours raised up throughout Africa, who use dance to bring healing and hope to the many who have never been exposed to it. Here is our vision in short: “Redeeming Africa, through dance families, ministering Hope”

This excites us, and we can’t wait to show in this report how God has already started setting us up to see this happen over the coming years.

Much love

Talitha de Klerk

... Here is our vision in short: “Redeeming Africa through Dance families ministering Hope”...

2023 in Review

Join us in celebrating some of our high's for 2023...



Sock-a-Move Christmas in July Fundraiser = New Ballet & Dance Attire

With the goal to raise R15000 towards new dance attire, to replace the hand-me-downs we have been using since 2012, we sold 232 pairs of socks at R50 each. And with a donation from Doxa Deo Brooklyn, we managed to cover all costs and buy the new attire!

Thrift Reward Store at Pure Hope

In 2023 The Cherish Ladies from Doxa Deo Parkview helped us host the most wonderful thrift reward store that made our students feel so loved and special. This is part of our discipline & reward system for which our students work diligently to earn credits to spend at the store throughout the year.

Internal Exams & Annual Show

In 2023 all 61 of our students passed their internal ballet exams with Board Member of Dance Standards Judy Loedolff. The Cherish Ladies helped capture them dressed up for their exams, and calmed their nerves with encouraging words and yummy treats afterwards, to make for sweet, long-lasting memories of exams. They all got show what they have learned at our sold-out Annual Show, Grace Anatomy on 18 November.

High School Ministry Team

This year our focus was training our girls to minister through dance. They were challenged to choreograph 3 dances for various occasions, one of which was Who we are, an identity declaration we did for Heritage Day at Doxa Deo Parkview. In July, our girls were guest artists at Erica Res' 55th Feesjaar Dine and since this event, our Studio & Outreach Senior dancers now formed our ROH ministry team.

Bursary Program

We stand amazed at the fact that all costs for 2023 were miraculously provided for in 2023. Because of this students could participate in YDCT's Cinderella, Pro-Arte's Absolute Dance Show; RAD Intermediate Exams and complete their academic school years with hope! They were also given assignments to draw up their own budgets for 2024, and each raise at least R1000 towards their tuition.

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Year in Review (Continued)

Successes continued...



Dance Dream Workshop 2023

Not only did we raise R3500 with this fundraiser, but 8 of our students were exposed to some of leading dance instructors/people in the SA Dance Industry. They also got to connect with dancers from other studios in Pretoria. Thank you to everyone who supported this initiative!

Family Connection and Brown Shoes

It has always been our hope to deal directly with our students & parents rather than through the school as a 3rd party and to dye our students' ballet shoes to match their skin tones. In 2023 both of these became a reality!

With Joy Skills Development

Our new project manager has been working hard behind the scenes for the launch of our skills development project called: With Joy Gift Boxes aimed to uplift, empower and unite our bursary student's parents. We are still trusting for two corporate clients to fully get going. For more info visit: www.giftwithjoy.co.za or contact Jacque at 0609552173.

Bursaries: Academic Challenges

We have found that most of our bursary students struggle with Maths and we have a need for good math tutor volunteers. Public transport home after dance and then still doing homework late in the afternoon has also been a challenge, as well as doing their assignments on their phones because they do not have laptops.

Expansion Halted, Core Strength

With a vision of expanding into Africa, we have had to reconsider the way we are currently doing things.

- One challenge has been that our first new location, Funanani School, closed down in 2023.
- We work with a part-time team, but will need to move to a more full time structure in order to create the resources and capacity necessary for expansion.

Limited Time during School Hours

During COVID our class times moved from straight after school to during school hours, in their break times. But during our internal exams over the last two years it has been evident that this time-slot does not allow for the focus and progress that we used to have before COVID, which allowed our students to participate in Formal Cecchetti Exams. Therefore our class times will need to be reconsidered in 2024, to perhaps move after school again, if possible.



Challenges

Inspiring Stories & News

Portia's 'impossible' Dance Bursary, made possible...



"You will never fully understand the joy and peace of the certainty that your education is secure..."

Portia, our oldest students, is originally from Lesotho, and (we have) struggled with her paperwork to study in SA for years. Every year, God has been gracious enough to provide for her despite this challenge, thereby confirming His call on her life. This is what it has meant to her: "Being gifted with my school funds has not only aided me in so many ways but it has also taken off a huge amount of weight off of my parents. You will never fully understand the joy and peace of the certainty that your education is secure or any aspect of your life for that matter until you have had to worry on where next month's school fees would come from. I deeply thankful to We Buy Cars and GROOT FM for the blessing they have gifted me with.

Like every journey there is always hurdles. It was through this opportunity that I was able to learn so many life skills some of which I felt incompetent to achieve but God knew I would need them one day. In terms of what would like to do with this opportunity after school is that I would love to teach dance and whether it will full time or part time is still in discussion."

Mihle's Experience at Rhythm of Hope

I never imagined myself as a dancer especially ballet because no one around me has ever been a dancer so I never thought that far of actually becoming a dancer because there was no influence around me. But all that changed when i started going to Pure Hope School in 2017 and my first ballet teacher was the lovely teacher Larissa. Thinking back, I had the most fun times at ballet class, then a few years passed and I started having ballet classes with teacher Talitha. It was always a joy going to ballet class but it wasn't always easy. Moving forward I was given the chance to audition at the YDCT in 2021 and luckily I was accepted. I was very happy and excited when i got the news that I will be attending ballet classes every Saturday at a dance company.

But it wasn't what I always expected, there weren't teachers who will go through the dance slowly or beg you to dance or even do the best you can, but luckily I coped and I really enjoyed the first year of The Nutcracker dance and now I fully understand most of the rules and everything that comes with the privilege I have.

And I am very excited for everything that comes with it...

Mihle will be our 4th bursary Student to attend Pro-Arte Alphen Park in 2024.

"...it was always a joy going to ballet class, but it wasn't always easy"



Inspiring Stories (Continued)

Touching lives, but being touched in return...



"I was overwhelmed with the beauty God showed me in each one through that lens. They are princesses and chosen. Beautifully and wonderfully made"

Ilona Matthee has been a champion volunteer in 2023, serving with passion and heart at our Thrift Stores as a Shop Assistant and at our internal exams as photographer for the day. Here is her personal experience: "Its been my absolute pleasure to love and serve the girls. I have been touched by the girls in many ways - their bright smiles amidst their circumstances, their zest for life and passion for dancing. Reaching for more than what the cards dealt them. I was overwhelmed with the beauty God showed me in each one through that lens. They are princesses and chosen. Beautifully and wonderfully made.

They have made me even get out of my shy state many times and push me to look at myself differently. Too not be too serious and let go of things that are not important.

They gave me a heavenly perspective on what God can do through us and that serving brings far more joy than getting. And they make me want to dance.

Sensing and living out a call, through her service

by Magriet Badenhorst (Layita Coaching)

"I have never been passionate about non-profit work. In all honesty, I have found that most non-profits lack in stewardship of both their vision and resources. I have found especially Christian non-profits miss the point of truly seeing and building every part of their enterprise in a way that glorifies Jesus in the highest way.

Since working with Talitha from Rhythm of Hope, I have found myself drawn into an industry that I was never passionate about (dance) and drawn to give us much of my time possible to their vision and the way they honour Jesus above all things.



To me personally I am not someone who volunteers time or services (coaching and consulting, I am part of Revival that Jesus is bringing to Africa through the beautiful and inspiring vehicle of Rhythm of Hope. Last year during the show I saw young women dancing and saw how they are writing the future of a continent and it is called...HOPE! They are not in debt or privileged to have me on their team, I am the one who feels small and humbled that I get to be a part of what Jesus is doing through Rhythm of Hope. It has never been about being a volunteer, but sensing a call and confirmation for the more and higher things outside of ourselves that God wants to do. He is doing something great and I get to be a part of it.

Redeeming Africa through dance families ministering hope!"

Other News

Meet our newest Board Member: Reneilwe Dube

Reneilwe is a dedicated leadership development specialist, driven by a commitment to fostering inclusive organisational cultures that empower all individuals to find their sense of belonging and excel in their unique talents. With a professional background in Industrial Engineering and a natural flair for creativity, she approaches problem-solving with both analytical precision and creative innovation.



Reneilwe's journey into the world of arts began at a young age when she was introduced to ballet dancing at the age of eight. Over the years, her passion for dance expanded to various genres, including Contemporary, Hip Hop, and Latin American styles. This diverse dance background has enriched her perspective and approach to life.

One of Reneilwe's most profound beliefs is in the untapped potential of South African youth, especially in underprivileged communities. She recognises that exposure and opportunity can unlock countless dreams and untapped genius. This has inspired her to be instrumental in youth upliftment through the creative arts.

Today, Reneilwe continues to nurture her love for ballet as a dotting ballet dance mom, combining her passion for dance with her dedication to creating a brighter future for the youth of South Africa.

More about our new Skills Development Project Manager: Jacqueline Hall



Jacqueline is a Skills Development Program Manager that has a heart for helping others find and identify skills in themselves and partnering with them to watch these skills grow and develop. In 2018 Jacque did her Discipleship Training School (DTS) with YWAM where she worked on the community outreach team that prioritized getting to know the families in Papua New Guinea in order to identify their needs. In 2019 she staffed a backpackers DTS that moved around different locations in South East Asia and Southern Africa, spreading the gospel but mainly helping wherever help was needed, including building a library. She was a team leader on outreaches where she organized outreach opportunities for the team as well as places to stay.

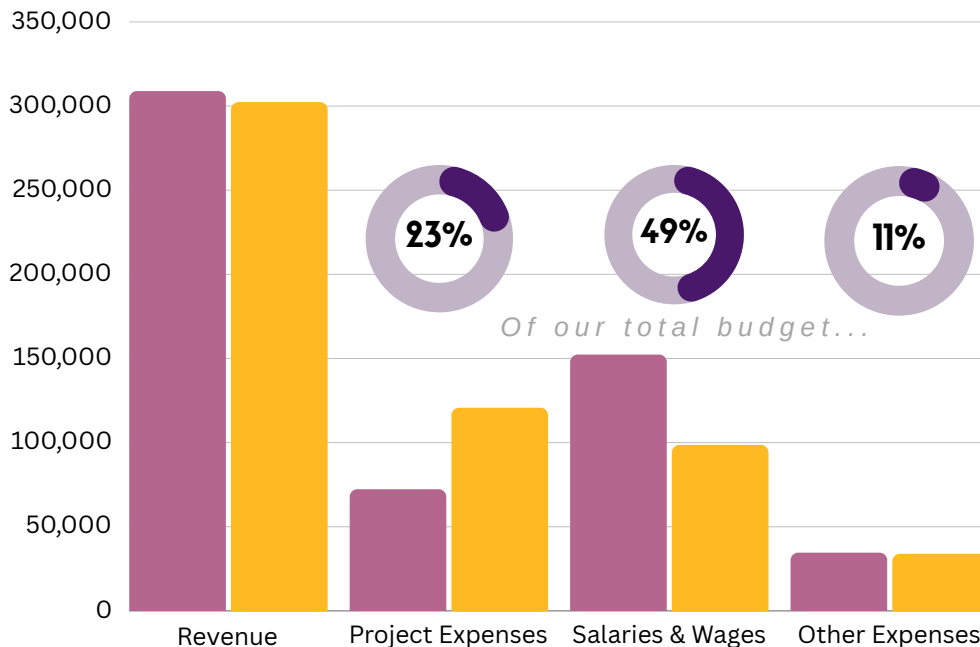
After YWAM she felt a calling to Africa and development so she applied to study further to learn the different hurdles, challenges and opportunities that are currently at work in South Africa and the global community. In 2021 she finished her BAdmin in Public Management and International Relations. During this time Jacque was a model UN mentor (2021 and 2022) where she discovered a deep love for empowerment and watching people grow and discover new skills they didn't know they had. In 2022 she finished her honours in International Relations with her research paper focusing on Quantum Leadership in Mediation which helped her to identify different leadership and mediation models. She plans to finish her PMI-ACP (Agile Certified Practitioner) certification in 2024.

Her dream is to partner with people at the top of their fields to go into communities and partnership with the people there. To identify skills in people, empower them and help them to draw out those talents and skills and learn how to use them effectively. She is very excited and hopeful to go on the journey with With Joy as it opens the door to partner with experts and gives the opportunity for many to identify skills within themselves and grow.

The Numbers

Brief Financial Overview

A quick comparison of the last 2 years



2023

Financial year:
2022/23

2022

Financial year:
2021/22

*All Figures in ZAR



Change in our revenue from 2022...

482

**HOURS SPENT
DANCING THIS YEAR**

69

**STUDENTS
TAUGHT**

574

**DANCE CLASSES
IN 2023**

11

**YEARS IN
EXISTENCE**

4 Ways to get involved

Our 2024 Wishlist/Prayer Points:

- Full Time Basic Teaching & Administrative Salaries
- 5 Full Time Bursaries at Pro-Arte Alphen Park (R165,000)
- 8 Part time Bursaries at the Youth Dance Company of Tshwane (R44,000)
- A Dance Camp for our Ministry Team (R10,000)
- Bus services for a Theater outing and for our Year End Production (R8,000)
- Taking professional dance photographs and printing a copy for each student (R3,000)
- Theatre Hire for our Annual Show (R20,000)
- Publishing Identity Dance Journals for 40 Senior Students (R2,800)
- 5 Laptops for Bursary Students (New/ Second Hand)
- 5 Mentors for our Bursary Students, engage in a structured identity building process



01

Make us your favourite Tax Deduction

Up to 10% of your taxable income can be given to Public Benefit Organisations like ours, tax free! Your investment in our program or any of our specific projects will make a difference to our society.



02

Join our Volunteer Base

All our term-ends and events (like Exams or our Annual show) rely on our volunteer base to make sure no student gets overlooked but treated with love and care. A bit of your time, can go a long way! You/ your company can sign up via our website.



03

Donate Goods/ Services Support our Thrift Store

We have professionals like Physiotherapists/psychologists/tutors donating their services when necessary. We also appreciate any second hand dance-related donations, used directly by our students or sold in our Thrift Store: @rhythmofhopeshop on Instagram.



04

Join our Profit Generating Dance Classes

If you become a member of any of Rhythm of Hope Dance's Junior or Adult Dance Classes in Lynnwood/Wilgers in Pretoria, 10% of you/your junior's class fees contribute directly towards this Outreach Program.



All of the above have been made possible through these **GENEROUS PARTNERS**

ULTIMA FINANCIAL PLANNERS for ongoing investment since the beginning and through all seasons.

PURE HOPE PRIMARY SCHOOL for giving us a platform to work with your students on a weekly basis and honouring all our logistical requests to make this possible.

PRO ARTE ALPHEN PARK'S DANCE DEPARTMENT for making our bursary students part of your family and hosting our Dance Dream Fundraiser Workshop at your facilities.

YOUTH DANCE COMPANY OF TSHWANE

& PRO ARTE SENIOR DANCE ACADEMY for selflessly creating a space for our students to learn and develop with the company's students.

DOXA DEO PARKVIEW for making your facilities available for our Family Dinners, Show & With Gift Box Packing.

DOXA DEO BROOKLYN for making a significant contribution towards our Sock-a-move Campaign and allowing us to sell socks at your market.

DOXA DEO PARKVIEW CHERISH for the constant practical support especially with our exams, show & reward thrift store.

GROOT FM & WE BUY CARS "Jou Mense, My Mense", for helping Portia Tabola raise all of the fees necessary to attend Pro-Arte, PASDA & YDCT.

ROELOFSE FAMILY TRUST for making a significant contribution towards our 2023 Bursary Fund.

IMPACT RADIO for ongoing exposure and support, especially with our Sock-a-Move Fundraiser Initiative in July 2023.

THE OAKS COLLECTIVE for shooting & editing our With Joy Gift Boxes Marketing Video & dreaming with us on this.

MARILIZE COETZEE PHOTOGRAPHY for our amazing Church Square Photoshoot (ft. in this report) in December 2022 and for our Grace Anatomy Photos.

NILENE NEL for taking our beautiful in class action and group photos.

MONTOYA SPANISH DANCE THEATRE

for inviting the girls to their Espana show at the Atterbury Theatre.

MARIKA KOK PHYSIOTHERAPY & SANDRA CROUS PSYCHOLOGY

for making your services available to our bursary students at discounted rates.

ETIENNE BEDEKER INC. for sponsoring our students' transport on outings to watch their peers dance in Absolute Dance & Espana Shows.




PAPERION (PTY) LTD for sponsoring 2 tickets to our Dance Dreams Workshop.

Thank you for investing and believing in our vision, team and students. You empowered hope this year!



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