



**SONWA
SAKUBA**

INSTITUTE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Excellence in Arts Education & Performance for All

**Welcome
To The Next
Level**

Prospectus

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ABOUT US

Founded in 2020, the Sonwa Sakuba Institute for the Performing Arts is an institute that serves as an effective centre of activity for arts education in East London and the greater Eastern Cape region.

The institute is dedicated to offering structured training programmes in a variety of art forms in order to create a safe creative space where students and communities can develop their knowledge of the arts under one roof. The Eastern Cape serves as a great source of talent for the South African entertainment and creative arts industry, however the majority of this talent remains under developed and unemployable due to the lack of skills and resources in the province.

It is through our mission and vision, that we aim to develop communities and create an arts institution that produces highly skilled artists with a strong support base from the community. Programmes are designed and set to the trends, demands and standards of the South African and international arts industries and aim to enhance the employment prospects towards a future in various arts related industries.

Together with our faculty, guest teachers and values on the forefront, students will emerge and graduate from our institution as multifaceted 21st century artists.

ABOUT US

MISSION

Our mission is to serve as an institute that nurtures talent and is dedicated to the further development of communities through excellence in arts education and skills development, live performances, the promotion of health, fitness and job creation.

VISION

Engage | Empower | Inspire

VALUES

- Aspire towards **EXCELLENCE** through dedication and hard work
- Encourage **VERSATILITY**
- Value and celebrate **INDIVIDUALITY** and **DIVERSITY**
- To **LISTEN** and **COMMUNICATE**
- **NURTURE** and **DEVELOP** artistic talent
- To be **RESPECTFUL** and **COURTEOUS**
- Develop **RESILIENCE** and **EMPLOYABILITY** in our students

OBJECTIVES

- **Engage** students of all backgrounds and levels from beginner to professional by providing structured skills development training programmes within the performing arts
- **Empower** students through programmes that are aligned to the requirements and standards of the South African and international performing arts industries
- **Strengthen** and build self confidence, poise and discipline whilst promoting health and fitness within all students
- **Develop** artistic expression through the study of various art forms and techniques in order to prepare students for successful and rewarding careers in the performing arts
- **Operate** as a social entertainment environment that encompasses all cultures, ages, disabilities, heritage and backgrounds for the development of arts and culture
- **Inspire** students and communities through the creation of live performances, training programmes, recordings and entertainment that is educational, original, diverse and aligned to our values
- **Provide** regular internal development opportunities for all faculty and staff for the further development of students and programmes.

FOUNDER & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

SONWA SAKUBA

As an award winning dancer, actor, singer and choreographer, Sonwa returns to South Africa with a wealth of knowledge and an eclectic array of international experience from productions and training programmes from around the world. Sonwa is an energetic and enthusiastic teacher whose classes focus on developing strong technique, performance and individual artistry within each student he teaches. He graduated top of his class from the highly acclaimed Waterfront Theatre School in 2014 where he trained in Musical Theatre, Drama as well as Advanced levels in Modern Dance, Tap Dance, Classical Ballet and Jazz Dance. Sonwa also earned professional teacher status from the internationally recognized Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (London) in Modern Theatre Dance (A.I.S.T.D.) and Tap Dance (A.I.S.T.D.)

Upon graduation he went onto further his studies in New York City at the famous Broadway Dance Center, Alvin Ailey School and Martha Graham Center for Contemporary Dance. It is at the Martha Graham School where he was offered a scholarship and worked as an intern for the Martha Graham Dance Company. Some of his New York credits include dance captain for the off-broadway production of Crybaby the Musical in 2018. He worked with Danielle Pollanko (choreographer for Beyoncé), Rachel Rak and Yanis Marshall to name a few and served as Production Assistant to Tony Award winner Baayork Lee.



In theatrical and corporate stages both nationally and internationally he has performed in numerous

productions such as 'The Lion King', 'Hairspray', Richard Loring's 'African Footprint', 'A Chorus Line',

'Footloose', Estée Lauder Product Launch, 'West Side Story', 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat', British Airways Commercial and 'Guys and Dolls'. His TV credits include playing a lead role on SABC2's Hectic Nine9 youth show Signal High. As a director and choreographer, he has choreographed works for 'Dancers Love Dogs', Baxter Dance Festival, the Netflix series 'Blood Drive', EC Provincial Cultural Awards and stage productions of 'The Jungle Book', 'Alladin', 'I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change', 'Afrika Sings' 'All You Need Is Love', 'Once On this Island' and 'Disney's Moana Jr.'

Since returning back to South Africa, he choreographs, teaches and adjudicates competitions and events all over the country whilst striving to create platforms for young performers from all communities. In 2018 he won the award for Best Choreographer at the EC Cultural Awards and between 2019 and 2020, served as the Artistic Director and consultant for the Johannesburg based Glam Dance Company. He currently is a member of the International Dance Council CID (UNESCO) and has been recently awarded the 2020 Eastern Cape Department of Arts and Culture MEC's Special Award for Performing Arts.



PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES

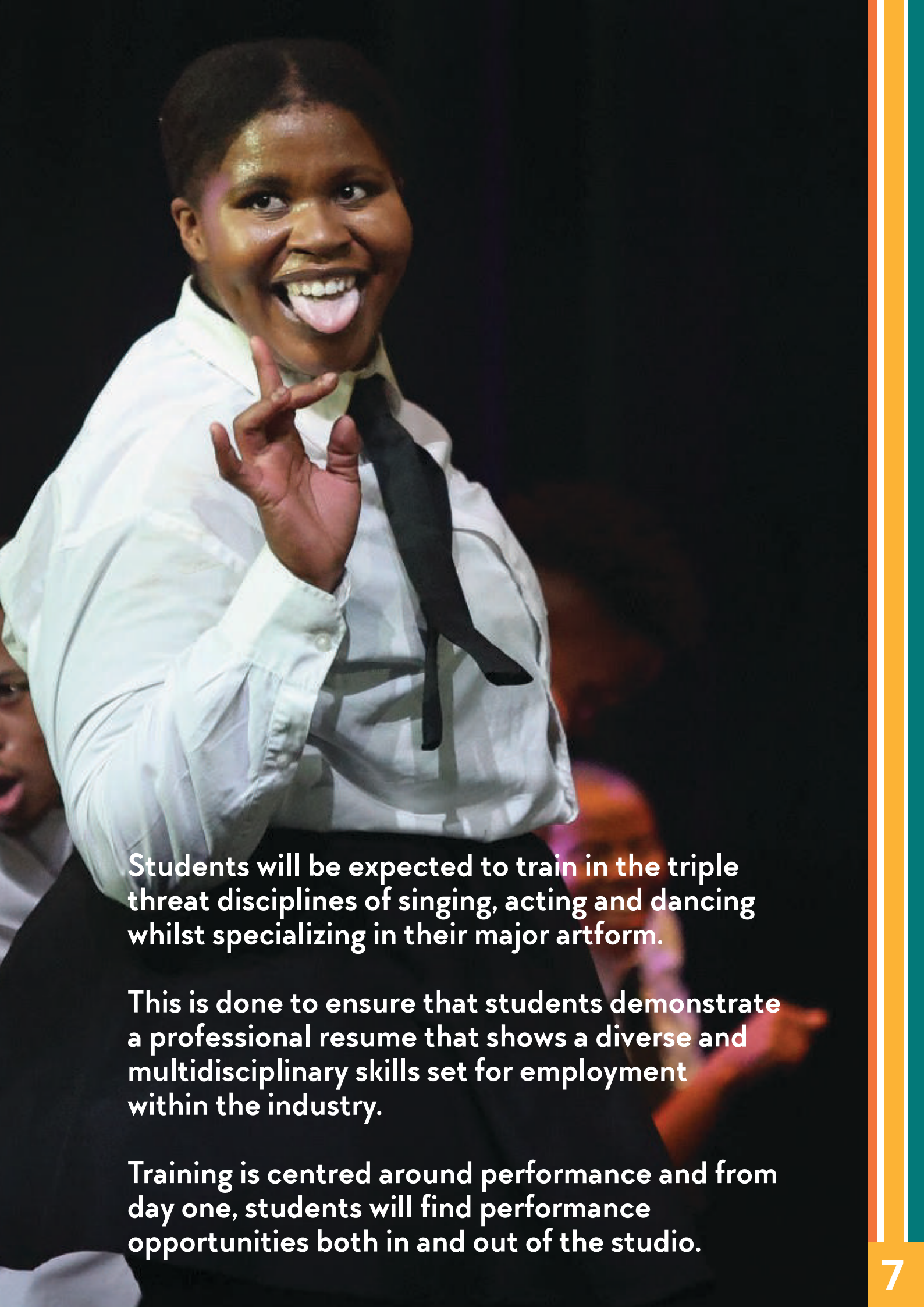
Artistry . Professionalism . Collaboration . Discovery
Diversity. Community

These are the essential values of the professional programmes at the institution

There are three primary art forms of study

- Dance
- Music
- Drama





Students will be expected to train in the triple threat disciplines of singing, acting and dancing whilst specializing in their major artform.

This is done to ensure that students demonstrate a professional resume that shows a diverse and multidisciplinary skills set for employment within the industry.

Training is centred around performance and from day one, students will find performance opportunities both in and out of the studio.

DANCE



Performance, Composition & Education

The dance training programme is specifically designed and intended for students who wish to pursue professional dance training studies in performance, composition and dance education. The programme follows an intensive schedule covering various modules and complimentary skills classes that enable students to become dance artists with resumes that demonstrate versatility and adaptability.

Purpose

The purpose of this programme is to provide high quality level training in dance performance, dance studies, choreography, production design, entrepreneurship and dance education. This ensures that a strong professional insight and personal enrichment is achieved within each graduate. The prescribed curriculum is set to the standards of the South African and international dance industries, and is combined with complimentary skills that graduates can use to enhance their employment prospects towards a future in dance.

Outcomes

Students graduating from this programme acquire an understanding of dance in a variety of contexts.

- ▶ As performers; the body is developed as an instrument of expression through various techniques, performance principles and the stylistic features of cross cultural dance genres
- ▶ As dance creators and choreographers; the skills to conceptualise and create dance performances that are developed through the use of effective presentation skills, techniques and technologies that exhibit an understanding of dramatic and expressive principles
- ▶ As music educators; the ability to apply vocal pedagogical content and knowledge
- ▶ As dance educators; the ability to apply pedagogical content and knowledge is acquired and also implemented to the planning, teaching and assessment of dance education.

Through these obtained skills, graduates will emerge as critical thinkers and multifaceted 21st century artists with an ability to make a positive impact in various music related industries and their communities.



Curriculum

Listed below are the core subjects and modules within the set curriculum. Students are assessed twice within each academic year.

PERFORMANCE

Performance Studies

- Elements of Performance
- Improvisation

Techniques

- Classical Ballet
- Graham Technique
- Horton Technique
- Tap Dance

Complimentary Studies

- African Dance
- Jazz Dance
- Acrobatics
- Contemporary Dance
- Street Styles
- Body Conditioning
- Musical Theatre/Broadway
- Acting
- Singing

COMPOSITION

Composition Studies

Dance Composition

Design & Production

- Costume Design
- Sound Design
- Lighting Design
- Make Up Design
- Professional Practice

EDUCATION

Teaching Studies

- Dance Pedagogy
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Dance History
- Theatre History

Music Studies

- Music Theory

Business in Arts

- Artist Management

Admission Requirements

- ▶ A successful performance in an audition
- ▶ A completed application form.
- ▶ A Recommendation Letter from your teacher or an individual who has knowledge of your work.
- ▶ The National Senior Certificate is NOT required
- ▶ R 150 application fee

Age Limits

The minimum age limit upon entry is 17.
No maximum age limit is set.

Programme Intake

35 students

MUSIC



Performance, Composition & Education

The music training programme is specifically designed for students who wish to pursue music training studies in vocal performance. The aim is to develop a broad range of skills across performance, composition and education. Students study universal music genres as well as modules that include songwriting, producing, vocal technique, teaching, and the essential business skills to succeed in music. This versatile programme ensures that students can make a living through music as vocalists either by performing, creating, teaching or even a combination of these.

Purpose

The purpose of this programme is to provide high quality level training in vocal performance, music studies, composition, arrangement, African music and music education. This ensures that strong professional insight and personal enrichment is achieved within each graduate. The prescribed curriculum is set to the standards of the South African and international industries, and is combined with complimentary skills that graduates can use to enhance their employment prospects towards a future in music.

Programme Outcomes

Students graduating from this programme acquire an understanding of music in a variety of contexts.

- ▶ As performers; the voice is developed as an instrument of expression through various vocal techniques, performance principles and the stylistic features of cross cultural music genres
- ▶ As music creators and producers; the skills to conceptualise and create musical performances are developed through the use of effective presentation skills, techniques and technologies that exhibit an understanding of effective and expressive principles
- ▶ As music educators; the ability to apply vocal pedagogical content and knowledge is acquired and also implemented to the planning teaching and assessment of music education.

Through these obtained skills, graduates will emerge as critical thinkers and multifaceted 21st century artists with an ability to make a positive impact in various music related industries and their communities.



Curriculum

Listed below are the core subjects and modules within the set curriculum. Students are assessed twice within each academic year.

PERFORMANCE

Performance Studies

- Elements of Performance
- Improvisation

Techniques

- Voice: Individual
- Voice: Group
- Active Listening
- Microphone Techniques
- Breath Control

Complimentary Studies

- Dance & Movement
- South African Music
- African Music
- Classical & Jazz Music
- Popular & Contemporary Music

COMPOSITION

Composition Studies

- Music Composition
- Songwriting
- Sounds & Acoustics

Design & Production

- Recording & Editing
- Producing
- Sound Design
- Professional Practice

EDUCATION

Teaching Studies

- Vocal Pedagogy
- Music History & Philosophy
- Theatre History

Music Studies

- Music Theory

Business in Arts

- Artist Management: Copyrights, Royalties & Publishing

Admission Requirements

- ▶ A successful performance in an audition
- ▶ A completed Audition Application Form
- ▶ A Recommendation Letter from your teacher or an individual who has knowledge of your work.
- ▶ The National Senior Certificate is NOT required
- ▶ R 150 application fee

Age Limits

The minimum age limit upon entry is 17.
No maximum age limit is set.

Programme Intake

35 students

DRAMA



Performance, Composition & Education

The drama training programme is designed to focus on the art of acting and offers an intensive study in performance, composition and the education of drama. The programme is aimed to develop a strong skills set and offers training in acting for stage, film and television. Students will develop through specialised classes in learning the principles and practices of writing, directing, entrepreneurship, producing and teaching. The programme also provides students with numerous performance experience opportunities which serve as the perfect springboard for the competitive demands of the performing arts industry.

Purpose

The purpose of this programme is to provide high quality level training in drama performance, drama studies, script writing, directing, production design, entrepreneurship and drama education. This ensures that a strong professional insight and personal enrichment is achieved within each graduate. The prescribed curriculum is set to the standards of the South African and international industries, and is combined with complimentary skills that graduates can use to enhance their employment prospects towards a future in drama.

Programme Outcomes

Students graduating from this programme acquire an understanding of drama in a variety of contexts.

- ▶ As performers; the actor is developed as an instrument of expression through various techniques, performance principles and the stylistic features of characters, and situations.
- ▶ As writers and directors; the skills to conceptualise and create performances that are developed through the use of effective presentation skills, techniques and technologies that exhibit an understanding of dramatic and expressive principles.
- ▶ As drama and acting educators; the ability to apply dramatic pedagogical content and knowledge is acquired and also implemented to the planning, teaching and assessment of drama education.

Through these obtained skills, graduates will emerge as critical thinkers and multifaceted 21st century artists with an ability to make a positive impact in various drama related industries and their communities.



Curriculum

Listed below are the core subjects and modules within the set curriculum. Students are assessed twice within each academic year.

PERFORMANCE

Performance Studies

- Elements of Performance
- Improvisation

Techniques

- Acting Methodology
- Practical Interpretation
- Text Study
- Voice

Complimentary Studies

- Dance & Movement
- Mime
- Acting for Screen
- Presenting

COMPOSITION

Composition Studies

- Scriptwriting
- Directing

Design & Production

- Costume Design
- Sound Design
- Lighting Design
- Make Up Design
- Professional Practice

EDUCATION

Teaching Studies

- Drama Pedagogy
- Theatre History

Music Studies

- Music Theory

Business in Arts

- Artist Management

Admission Requirements

- ▶ A successful performance in an audition
- ▶ A completed application form
- ▶ A Recommendation Letter from your teacher or an individual who has knowledge of your work.
- ▶ The National Senior Certificate is NOT required
- ▶ R 150 application fee


Age Limits

The minimum age limit upon entry is 17.
No maximum age limit is set.

Programme Intake

35 students

AUDITIONS



The institution seeks students whose talent and commitment to excellence promise future achievement within its programmes. The audition panel will be looking for a set of attributes within each applicant. These attributes will assess how the student will respond to what and how we teach as well as their natural ability as a performer.

DANCE

Audition Procedure

- ▶ Applicants are asked to prepare (not improvise) a **TWO CONTRASTING 90 SECOND DANCE SOLOS** that showcases their performance skills and best ability as a dancer.
- ▶ Applicants will also participate in a Classical Ballet/Modern/Jazz class to assess their previous technical training and ability.

Audition Dress Code

- ▶ Dancers should be neat and professional looking
- ▶ Ladies: **STRICTLY** Black sleeveless unitard or black leotard with black tights (Must stop at the ankles)
- ▶ Men: **STRICTLY** Black sleeveless unitard or black leotard or form fitting vest with Black Tights (Must stop at the ankles)
- ▶ Dancers must be barefoot but should bring a pair of dance boots or sneakers for the commercial dance choreography
- ▶ Hair should be neat, pulled back if long, and away from the face and neck.

MUSIC

Audition Procedure

- ▶ Applicants are asked to prepare **TWO CONTRASTING SONGS** that showcase their performance skills and best ability as a singer. Songs must be performed acapella or with your own backing track. Songs can be performed in any language however one must be performed in English.
- ▶ Applicants will also participate in a Vocal Technique class to assess their previous technical training and ability.

Audition Dress Code

- ▶ Singers are to wear comfortable clothes that are easy to move around in such as tracksuits/sweat pants, leggings, vests or a T-shirt. No jeans or short skirts
- ▶ Hair should be neat, pulled back if long, and away from the face and neck
- ▶ No sandals or open shoes. Preferably sneakers or takkies.

DRAMA

Audition Procedure

- ▶ Applicants are asked to prepare **TWO CONTRASTING MONOLOGUES** of maximum 2minutes each that showcase their performance skills and best ability as an actor. Monologues can be performed in any South African language however one must be performed in English.
- ▶ Applicants will also participate in an Improvisation class to assess their previous technical training and ability.

Audition Dress Code

- ▶ Actors are to wear comfortable clothes that are easy to move around in such as tracksuits/sweat pants, leggings, vests or a T-shirt. No jeans or short skirts
- ▶ Hair should be neat, pulled back if long, and away from the face and neck
- ▶ No sandals or open shoes. Preferably sneakers or takkies.

FEES

Listed below are the Professional Training Programmes in dance, music, drama and Student Accommodation fees.



Professional Training Programme

Application Fee	R 150
Annual Tuition	R 25 000
Annual Registration	R 1 500
Annual Coursework Materials	R 2 000



Finance Your Studies

Do you want to invest in your future self but do not have the funding available upfront? We've got you covered. Financing makes education more affordable by spreading the payments over a longer term. The institution has partnered with Student Hero to help applicants apply and qualify for study funding. Student Hero is South Africa's largest student finance facilitation service, an initiative aimed at helping students be their future selves sooner. Visit www.studenthero.co.za to apply.



Student Accommodation

Single Rooms	R 2 250
Per Person Sharing	R 1 700

The institution can accommodate students in a self catering residence that includes a daily shuttle service to and from the institution. Students who wish to live in the residence are advised to apply early as rooms are allocated on a first come first serve basis as there is limited space.

CONTACT US



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