

Choir Name: Zwelitsha Adult Choir

Province: Eastern Cape

Conductors: Dumisani Tembani

BACKGROUND

The Zwelitsha Adult Choir was reformed in 2011, in Zwelitsha, King Williams Town, Eastern Cape. The objective was to revive the spirit of the old Zwelitsha Adult choir in our community as it was one of the old choirs which were established in Zwelitsha and the Eastern Cape in the 70's, and to honour the name of the choral music veteran, the late Mr Makgato founder and conductor of Zwelitsha Adult Choir. The choir is composed of about 80% unemployed youth, and 20% of employed youth and adults supporting the choir.

The choir raises its funds by holding concerts in various intervals and participation in community activities. However, it has the ability to mobilise a section of youth into activities that bring joy to people through choral music.

MISSION AND VISION

To develop choristers both personally and musically and enhance growth and stability in all spheres of the lives. This venture builds them towards possible career paths and job opportunities that can create a better living for them and the community at large.

Its aim is to encourage young people to follow their dreams and promote individual as well as group singing.

PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

The principle of the choir is to instill discipline, unity and respect to one another as choristers as we are coming from different background. Enhancing the spirit of Ubuntu, as well as promoting good standing in the community at large.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCES

1. It has won several Diplomas in the ATASA (African Teachers Association of South Africa).
2. In 1980, '81,'88 and '89 as well as in the 1980 and in the Champ of Champions Division in 1982.
3. The choir successfully toured Israel in December 1981 under the main sponsorship of Mr Oscar van Leer of Amsterdam and performed at all 13 centres including Tel Aviv, Jerusalem Upper Galilea and the Kibutz.
4. In October 1983 part of the choir choristers toured and performed in traditional dancing in Tel Aviv during their annual International Arts Exhibition.
5. It staged in 1983 five successful concerts in Nelspruit, Giyani, Mmabatho, Themba and Garankuwa.
6. The choir is participating in OR Tambo Choral Music Festival Standard Section and National Choir Festival Standard Section.
7. In 2011 the choir won championship on both competitions. In Old mutual National Choir Festival 2011 Finals the choir obtained an overall position 3 in standard category.
8. In 2012 the choir obtained overall position 2 on OR Tambo Choral Music Festival Standard Section and overall winners of the Standard Section of Old Mutual National Choir Festival Eastern Cape Regional and Overall Position 4 on National Finals.
9. In 2013 the choir won Championship on the OR Tambo Choral Music Festival (ECCMA) Large Category.
10. In 2013 OMNCF Finals the choir obtained overall position 3 in standard category
11. In 2014 OMNCF the choir obtained position 2 Large Category and qualified on the Top 10 Large choirs to perform on OMNCF Finals 2014.
12. The choir has performed in Melting Pot Choral Music Festival from 2014-2016.

13. The choir has performed in several ANC events (Centenary Celebrations, Cosatu Worker's Day, 50th Anniversary of the OAU/AU, Launch of the Steve Biko Centre in King William's Town

PRESCRIBED PIECES

Western: Mimanca La Voce
African: Yash'Ingoma
Indigenous: Imfene umxhentso waMampondo