

Notable graduates of the FSSO orchestral pipeline

Bonolo Kgaile, violin, received her violin instruction through the Mangaung String Programme. She was the first African to win the prestigious SANLAM music competition, was one of the Concerto Competition winners with the Kwa Zulu-Natal Philharmonic, and was the leader of the Bochabela String Orchestra on six European tours. In the *FSSO Youth Orchestra* she became leader ('concert master'). She went on to play in the *FSSO Symphony Orchestra* for several years. As an accomplished violinist she took part in the MIAGI Youth Orchestra, the South African National Youth Orchestra and Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival. She is currently studying music at the University of Cape Town.

Thapelo Masita, cello, received his cello instruction through the Mangaung String Programme. He won the string section category at the Arts Cape Music Competition and also won the string category award at the ATKV competition in 2015 and was leader of the cello section of the Bochabela String Orchestra on several European tours. He progressed to the *FSSO Youth Orchestra*, where he also became leader of the cello section. He frequently performed with the *FSSO Symphony Orchestra*. As an accomplished cellist he took part in the MIAGI Youth Orchestra and the South African National Youth Orchestra. After school he studied at the famous Interlochen Music and Arts Academy in the USA and went on to the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester in New York, where he currently is completing his final year of study.

Refiloe Olifant, violin, received her early violin instruction through the Mangaung String Program with Derek Ochse, Professor of Music at the UFS and then leader of the FSSO symphony orchestra. She was concert master of the *FSSO Youth Orchestra* and played in the *FSSO Symphony Orchestra* for several years. She went on to complete a Music Diploma at the University of Stellenbosch, where she was leader of the University of Stellenbosch symphony orchestra as well as the symphony orchestra at the Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival. She has taken part in Master Classes in Manchester, England and in Amsterdam in Holland. Currently she is a Fellowship member of the Kwa Zulu-Natal Philharmonic orchestra (KZNPO).

Tshegofatso Mokobe, viola, received her viola instruction through the Mangaung String Programme. She was a member of the Bochabela String Orchestra, and took part in the Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival and the National Youth Orchestra. She played violin in the *FSSO Youth Orchestra* and progressed to the *FSSO Symphony Orchestra* for several years. After matriculating she joined the Kwa Zulu-Natal Philharmonic Orchestra as a cadet. Two years later she received a full-time tutti position with the KZNPO.

Japie Ngqondi, viola, received his viola instruction through the Mangaung String Programme. He was a member of the Bochabela String Orchestra and participated in three of its European tours. He played in the *FSSO Youth Orchestra* and joined the *FSSO symphony orchestra* as a regular player. He subsequently took part in the Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival and the National Youth Orchestra. After matriculating he joined the Mangaung String

Programme as an ad hoc lecturer. He is currently a full-time Junior Instructor in music with the Free State Provincial Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation.

Keamogetswe Magau, violin, received her viola instruction through the Mangaung String Programme and was a member of the Bochabela String Orchestra. She was a member of the South African National Youth Orchestra and has performed as a violin and vocal soloist with the BSO on its European tours. She went on to become the leader (concert master) of the *FSSO Youth Orchestra* and subsequently played frequently in the *FSSO Symphony Orchestra*. She has also participated in the Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival and the MIAGI Youth Orchestra. After matriculating she became a Fellowship member of the Kwa Zulu-Natal Philharmonic Orchestra (KZNPO). She is currently in Holland attending master classes in terms of a partnership of the KZNPO with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam.

Carmi Nel, violin, studied music at the Odeion School of music. She joined the *FSSO Youth Orchestra* while still at school and later became concert master of this orchestra and frequently played for the *FSSO Symphony Orchestra*. She was also a member (and later concert master) of the National Youth Orchestra. As leader of the Junior Odeion String Quartet, she was invited (one of only 40 musicians worldwide) to attend masterclasses in Apeldoorn, in the Netherlands. After finishing her BMus(Hons) at the University of the Free State, she moved to Pretoria where she is teaching music at one of the prominent schools.

Elsabe Raath, viola, graduated with a BMus(Hons) from the Odeion School of Music of the UFS, majoring in viola performance. She became a member and later leader of the viola section of the *FSSO Youth Orchestra* and regularly played for the *FSSO Symphony Orchestra*. She also acted as leader of the viola sections of the National Youth Orchestra and the Miagi Youth Orchestra and toured Europe with the latter. She was accepted as a student at the Birmingham Conservatoire where she has completed a Master's Degree in music and is currently busy with an Advanced Performance diploma.

An illustrative list of young 'graduates'

Name	Instrument	Notes
Bonolo Kgaile	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Studying music at University of Cape Town.
Lebo Ledwaba	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2011. Currently freelance musician & music teacher in Pretoria.
Stella Benbooi	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Went on to play professionally in the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra (KZNPO).
David Langford	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Now studying medicine at UCT.
Sue-Phil Peterson	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Now in KZNPO.
Tsegofatso Mokobe	Violin	Played in the Symphony Orchestra from 2008. Now a professional member of the KZNPO.

Dineo Molebatsi	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Now in KZNPO.
Keamogetswe Magau	Violin	Played in the Symphony Orchestra and now studying music at the UFS. A Fellowship member of the KZNPO. Accepted into the mentoring partnership of KZNPO with Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam.
Regomodicoe Molosioa	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Now in KZNPO.
Sumeet Sarkar	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2010. Now studying in USA.
Sehle Mosolo	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2014. Currently studying music at UFS.
Tienkie Viljoen	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2012. Currently a teacher in Bloemfontein.
Nhlanhla Xipu	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2012. Currently a music teacher in Kimberley.
Sisa Mgauli	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2009. Currently studying music at UCT.
Carmi Nel	Violin	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Currently a teacher in Pretoria.
Refiloe Olifant	Violin	Played in the Symphony Orchestra for several years. Now playing professionally as a Fellowship member of the KZNPO.
Stacey Janse	Violin	Student, in the Symphony Orchestra since 2015.
Thakane Mabope	Violin	Student, in the Symphony Orchestra since 2015.
Tsolofelo Tshikare	Violin	In the Symphony Orchestra since 2009. Now a music instructor in the Mangaung String Programme.
Mpho Thito	Violin	In the Symphony Orchestra since 2014. Now a student.
Elsabe Raath	Viola	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Went on to study Master's degree in music in Birmingham, U.K.
Kgaugelo Mpyane	Viola	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2010. Currently a freelance musician working in Gauteng.
Maja van Dyk	Viola	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2010. Currently a freelance musician working in Cape Town.
Japie Ngqondi	Viola	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Currently a music instructor at the Mangaung String Programme.
Mookho Rankhala	Viola	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2012. Went on to study music in Austria.
Gift Hess	Viola	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2009. Currently a music instructor in the Mangaung String Programme.
Moeketsi Khang	Viola	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2009. Went on to play in KZNPO.
Thapelo Masita	Cello	Played in the Symphony Orchestra. Currently studying music at the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester in New York, USA.

Reggie Teys	Cello	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2012. Now studying music in Austria.
Siyolise Nyondo	Double bass	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2009. Currently a Fellowship member of the Kwa Zulu-Natal Philharmonic Orchestra (KZNPO). Accepted into the mentoring partnership of KZNPO with Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam.
Jonalene Taylor	Double bass	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2009. Went on to play in KZNPO.
Linda Mngoma	Double bass	In the Symphony Orchestra since 2012. Studying at UFS.
Geruan Geldenhuys	Flute	In the Symphony Orchestra since 2013, then became a teacher in Bloemfontein.
Ross McGregor	Oboe	In the Symphony Orchestra since 2013. Busy with post-graduate studies in Cape Town
Ronelle van der Merwe	Clarinet	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in from 2008. Went on to become a music teacher in the Western Cape.
Alyssa Bouwer	Clarinet	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in from 2008. Now teaching music in Bloemfontein.
Vuyani Gxavu	Trombone	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Currently a music teacher at Musicon.
Lester Jonas	Trombone	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in 2008. Currently in Police Band in Kimberley.
Ezekias Matlala	Trombone	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in from 2015. Studying at UFS.
Heinrich Lategan	Percussion	Playing in the Symphony Orchestra since 2008. Now teaching music at a Bloemfontein school.
Phenyo Motshabi	Percussion	Started playing in the Symphony Orchestra in from 2015. Now teaching in Kimberley.

