

HIT THE BEAT

in rhythm we meet

Jubilee tour 2018: Heideberg, Tankturm. Photo © Felix Spitta, bloom-kollektiv.com



Hit the Beat Tour 2016: Worms, Gauß-Gymnasium – on stage with refugees from all over the world – Photo © Hans-Peter Seeger



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Ambassador of Namibia

100 years ago on 07 September, Rudolf Steiner founded the Waldorf comprehensive school in Stuttgart at which the children of the workers of the local cigarette factory were instructed essentially coeducationally.

Such progressive concept of collaborative learning for all lead eventually led to the founding of about 1150 Waldorf schools world-wide. In Windhoek, the capital of the Republic of Namibia, which gained independence on 21 March 1990, a Waldorf school was established in 2000. It started with 42 learners and in the meantime has successfully increased to about 250 learners.

Especially in times of globally rising right-wing populist tendencies, I consider the Stuttgart Declaration an important and courageous signal: The German Waldorf schools adopted it in 2007, and committed to life in peace and harmony with respect for human rights, spoke out and against racism and any form of discrimination.

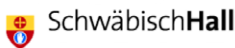
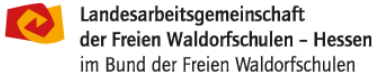
Arts, and here especially music is one major element, which links society transcending ethnic ascriptions, national or social origin, gender, language, religion, political or other convictions. The project Hit the Beat – In Rhythm we meet – Unity through cultural diversity! was established in 2005 at the Waldorfschool Windhoek. Its overarching objective is to unite young people across the world, to celebrate cultural diversity and to build bridges through music, dance, and art.

On the occasion of this year's centenary celebrations of the founding of the Waldorfschule, I am particularly delighted to assume the patronage of the Hit the Beat German Tour and wish

the young cultural Ambassadors of the Republic of Namibia successful and well attended concerts.

H. E. Andreas B. D. Guibeb
Namibia's Ambassador to Germany

Project Partner



Waldorf100 Tour

Thu 22.08.2019

20:00h

Waldorf School Göttingen

Concert

Fri 23.08.2019

20:00h

Waldorf School Kassel

Concert

Thu 29.08.2019

afternoon

Waldorf School Marburg

Concert

Fri 30.08.2019

20:00h

Waldorf School Darmstadt

Concert

Sat 31.08.2019

10:30h–18:00h

Waldorf School Darmstadt

Open Day concert

Mon 02.09.2019

20:00h

Waldorf School Wiesbaden

Concert

Wed 04.09.2019

20:00h

“Das Wormser”

Charity Concert, Worms

Waldorf100 Tour

Sat 07.09.2019

10:30h

Jubilee Event – 100 years
Waldorf School Uhlandshöhe,
Liederhalle/Stuttgart

Wed 11.09.2019

20:00h

Waldorf School Schwäbisch
Hall, Concert

Thu 12.09.2019

20:00h

Waldorf School Heidelberg
Concert

Mon 16.09.2019

20:00h

Waldorf School Berlin–Südost
Concert

Thu 19.09.2019

10:30h & 20:00h

Jubilee Event – Waldorf100,
Tempodrom/Berlin



Waldorf School Windhoek

Since its inception almost twenty years ago the school has striven to introduce innovative teaching and learning principles, which view all children holistically and provides them with an integrated education, resulting in well-rounded young adults, fully prepared for all aspects of life in Namibia.

In making the curriculum relevant to the Namibian socio-economic situation the primary focus has been on the development of an intercultural environment, through multilingual teaching and the celebration of Namibia's diverse cultural history. The performing arts plays an integral role in Waldorf education, not only in the delivery of skills and knowledge, but also as a vehicle for self-development and reflection. Thus, walking around the school, one

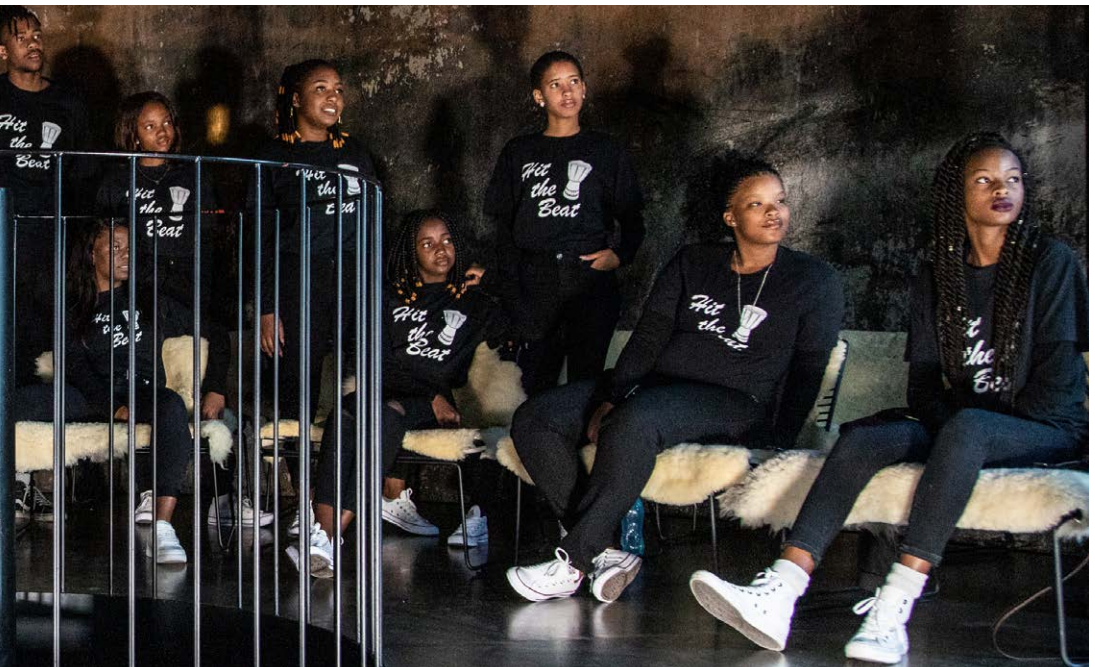


Jubilee Tour 2018: Heidelberg, Tankturm.
Photo © Felix Spitzer, bloom-kollektiv.com

finds oneself amongst a variety of sounds, emanating from: the array of different languages being spoken; the African drumming; the dramatic chants of children preparing for their class play; squeals of laughter from children playing imaginatively and freely, safe in the knowledge that they can be who they are: children.

The WSW is also unique in Namibia in that it places the provision of vocational education and training as a priority in the preparation of learners for life. The development of competence required for competing in the Namibian job market already begins with grade one and continues throughout the school till grade 11, as learners develop technical, artistic, and personal skills, whilst engaging in challenging projects.

www.waldorf-namibia.org



Hit the Beat

20 years Hit the Beat

100 – concerts

140 – workshops

4.500 – workshop participants

1.500 – singers & musicians on stage

20.000 – concert visitors



Hit the Beat "Let's move it" 2014, Windhoek, Warehouse Photo © Katharina Wyss

Simone de Picciotto founded Hit the Beat in 1999. She has been expanding her work with children, adolescents and adults ever since – together with her professional artist team. Today the focus is on independent educational projects with singing, instruments, dance and visual-artistic elements. The two-day up to three-week workshops especially in Namibia, South Africa and Germany bring together young people with different social and cultural backgrounds.

www.hit-the-beat.org



Retrospect, Tours, Concerts, Workshops

2006 Soccer World Cup, trip to Stuttgart with 25 learners from Namibia with various drum performances

2009 Vision Building Workshop with 25 learners and drum performance for 200 employees of the Bank of Namibia in Windhoek. From the director to the Tea Lady, everyone took part. The concert was followed by a 2-hour musical workshop with learners as facilitators.

2009 Life Line, Child Line: Team Building Workshop with Concert and learners as facilitators.

2010 South Africa: Drum tour with 25 learners in Cape Town with several performances as well as workshop offers

2012 Germany tour "Choir and Friends I": Choir and drum tour with 70 learners from Windhoek with performances in Berlin, Worms, Stuttgart and Künzelsau

2013 Warehouse "Let's move it 1", together with Gonzo N`Friends interdisciplinary art project with performances at Warehouse Theatre: 3-week Hit the Beat Project with classes 8–12 of the WSW (120 learners) in Windhoek

2014 Warehouse "Let's move it 2". 3-week Hit the Beat project with all classes 10–12 of WSW (100 learners) in Windhoek, together with Gonzo N`Friend's performances at the Warehouse Theatre

2015 Warehouse: “Silent Words-sing out loud!” Interdisciplinary Music and movement project, in connection with PEPFAR (US Presidents Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief): project over 12 months with integrated HIV prevention programme for classes 8–12 of WSW (120 learners)

2016 Germany tour “Choir and Friends II”: 2-week choir, drum and dancing tour with 25 learners from Windhoek workshops with refugees from Karlsruhe and performances in Worms, Stuttgart, Künzelsau and Heidelberg

2016 2016 Warehouse: One-year project with an integrated HIV prevention program for classes 8–12 of the WSW (120 learners)

2017 Gala Dinner with 80 learners from the Waldorf School Windhoek

2018 Warehouse “Honour the Earth” interdisciplinary music and movement Project: 3-week Hit the Beat Project with classes 8–12 of the WSW (80 learners) in Windhoek

2018 Jubilee Tour 2018 - for the occasion of 3 anniversaries the “Hit the Beat Choir” was invited to Germany from 16 to 24 November 2018, with a small but fine 16-strong group performing in Worms, Schwäbisch Hall and Stuttgart.

Profile, Goals & Offers

Building bridges through music, dance, art and culture

Hit the Beat is passionate about bringing people and their heart-beat together: “Unity through cultural diversity”. Our intercultural projects and workshops are a meeting place for many different young people at an artistic level.

Young people discover their talents through music, movement, art and culture: on stage, as individuals, in togetherness through the power of community and cultural diversity.

The projects inspires young people through joint choir work, workshops and a final performance. In doing so, they build bridges and overcome prejudices and differences. Because no matter where they come from, they all have dreams and talents. And with Hit the Beat their hearts beat in the same rhythm.



Waldorf100 – an occasion for intercultural encounter between young people worldwide.

We offer:

Encounter with 24 young people from Namibia, exchange experiences on the Topic "How do we experience Waldorf in Germany and Namibia".

- Format: workshop
- Target group: high school learners
- Group size: 10–100
- Duration: 2–3 hours
- Rehearsal of an African choral piece
- Drumming workshop
- Workshop for African Dance – with drum accompaniment
- Poetry slam in English and German
- Beatboxing and Rhythm & Blues – working with Namibian artists
- It is also possible that a cultural contribution from the German learners is taught to Namibian learners and is integrated into the evening program.
- A proposed choir piece can be rehearsed beforehand and then sung together
- Film about Hit the Beat, Namibia and the Waldorf School Windhoek
- Public evening concert integrating afternoon workshops in addition to the actual Namibian performance
- On request, only a concert can be offered.

Hit the Beat "Honour the earth" 2018: Windhoek, Warehouse Photo © Hans-Peter Seeger



**BUILDING BRIDGES
THROUGH
MUSIC, DANCE,
ART AND CULTURE.**



Project Management

Project Management

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Hit the Beat – Team

Simone de Picciotto – Germany

Project Management, Choir, Drums, Improvisation

Hans-Peter Seeger – Germany

Marketing and Coordination

Sarah Situde – Namibia

Choir, Singer

Faizel Browny – Namibia/Germany

Dance

Tapz Munyayi – Namibia

Drums

Katharina Wyss – Germany

Public Relation



Thanks for your donation!
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Hit the Beat "In rhythm we meet" 2016: Windhoek, Warehouse - Photo © Katharina Wyss

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