



Student Newspaper • Volume 3 / 2nd Edition | October 2022

Dintshang



SMU Harambee Annual Fund Challenge



Join our Vice Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbatia and SMU in raising funds for a bursary program designed to assist academically qualified but financially disadvantaged students. Additionally, the initiative intends to donate to the university's Hands of Compassion food security project, which delivers meals to underprivileged students on campus.

WAYS TO GIVE

1. Payroll donations
2. Online donations:
<https://smu.devman.co.za/devman/online/giving/>
3. Pay Scan – Zapper
4. SMU Banking Details
Ref: Standard bank | Acc: 070754128
Branch Code: 020909 | Q013 - Name Surname

CONTACT DETAILS

Mr Sbusiso Gwala
Email: sbusiso.gwala@smu.ac.za | Cell: 073 069 0428



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 SMU Dintshang |
 Tune into SMU FM 97.1

#WeAreSMU

KNOWLEDGE FOR QUALITY HEALTH SERVICES





SMU EXPLOSIVE TALENT

Top 15 Profiles

Meet the SMU Explosive Talent Top 15

The journey to win a share of R65 000 is on track. Fifteen golden tickets were handed out to the acts that will compete in the finals. The contestants are vying for **First Prize: R20 000, Second Prize: R10 000 and Third Prize: R5 000.**



ACT 028 KAMO & SUZIEE

Act: Drama and Poetry

Name and Surname: Kamogelo Mogale Rapholo and Suzan Mola

Age: 23 (Both)

Studies: Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) and Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Life Sciences

Social Media Handles:

Kamogelo Mogale Rapholo

📍 @uhm_kamogelo

📍 business @mogale_gale

📍 @makokona_dot_home

Suzan Mola: 📍 @suziie_mola | 📍 Suziie Mola

ACT 005 SHAMAYA

Act: Musician & Violin Player

Name and Surname: Shamaya Maphanga

Age: 17

Studies: MBChB 1

Social Media Handles:

SMU talent show Act#005 | 📍 and 📍 @Shimmy_yey



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ACT 003: MOKHETOA

Act: Singer
 Name and Surname: Mokgethoa Molekwa
 Age: 18
 Studies: BSc in Physiotherapy



4

ACT 023 TUMIEE

Act: Musician (Singer)
 Name & Surname: Tumisho Charmaine Mathlaba
 Age: 18
 Degree: B.Sc. (Occupation and Environmental Health)

Social Media Handles:

📍 @tumi.iee
 🎵 @tumi.iee
 📞 Tumi Charmaine



5

ACT 009: MAHLATSE

Act: Dancer
 Name & Surname: Mahlatse Raphiri
 Age: 18
 Studies: BSc (Life Sciences) ECP 1

Social Media Handles:

📍 small inter | 📞 Fortune wee inter savage | 🎵 wee inter | 🐦 small inter



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ACT 030: PONTSHO

Act: Musician (Singer)
 Name & Surname: Pontsho "Ukiyo" Pitse or Erykah Baduzi (as my favourite crew members would say)
 Age: 19
 Studies: BSc Life Sciences

Social Media Handles:

📍 @phatgirl_pontso

ACT 007: TUMI

Act: Singer
 Name & Surname: Tumi Rethabile Queen Maunye
 Age: 21
 Studies: BSc (Life Sciences) II

Social Media Handles:

📍 @tumiii_retha
 📞 Tumi Rethabile Maunye
 🎵 tumi_retha3



7

ACT 026: TSHEGO AND KELE

Act: Musicians
 Name & Surname: Tshegofatso Marope and Kelebogile Makgoke
 Age: 20 & 21
 Studies: BSc Mathematical Sciences 3

Social Media Handles:

📞 and 🎵 Fatso Alinah Marope & Kelebogile Makgoke



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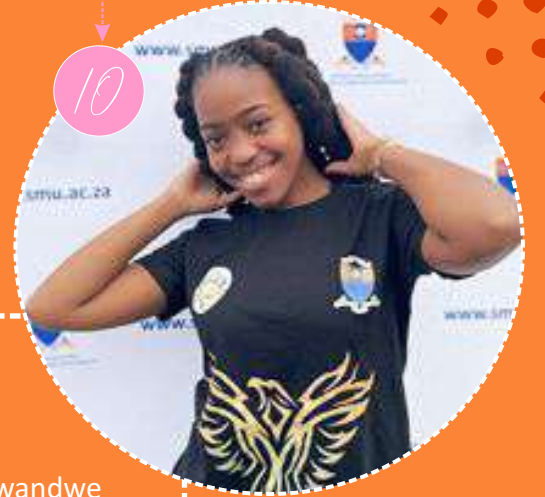




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ACT 038: ZANELE

Act: Musician
Name and Surname: Zanele Ntuli
Age: 22
Studies: MBChBV



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ACT 010: ZAMA

Act: Latin Solo Dancer
Name & Surname: Name Zamandwandwe Nxumalo
Age: 18
Studies: BSc (Physical Sciences)

Social Media Handles:

@zar_dready | @Zarlady Angel Nxumalo

ACT 039: LESEDI
Act: Musician (Singer)
Name & Surname: Lesedi Leokana
Age: 21
Studies: MBChB 3

Social Media Handles:
© Alife_Jackson (Lesedi Brilliant)
f Lesedi Brilliant
TikTok Lesedi brilliant (Sedi)



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ACT 011: KANI AND LETHU

Act: Dancers
Name & Surname: Hitekani Gaza and Lethokuhle Mathebula
Age: 20 and 19
Studies: BSc Life Sciences ECP 1 and BSc Mathematical Science CP 1

Social Media Handles:

Hitekani: © and TikTok @kani.gaza



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ACT 026: TSHEGO AND KELE

Act: Musicians
Name & Surname: Tshegofatso Marope and Kelebogile Makgoke
Age: 20 and 21
Studies: BSc Mathematical Sciences 3

Social Media Handles:

f and TikTok Fatso Alinah Marope and Kelebogile Makgoke



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ACT 022: LISEDI, CINDY AND TUMISHO

Act: Acapella / Singing Group
Name & Surname: Tumisho Manyama, Cindy Makaringe and Lisedi Matjie
Age: 19, 18 and 18
Studies: MBChB

Social Media Platforms:

@_itstumisho
@cnelisiwe_m
@lisedimatjie



15

ACT 037: MTHOKOZISI

Act: Musician
Name & Surname: Mthokozisi Dlamini
Age: 23
Studies: MBChB

Social media handles: © @sir_legend_za | f @Mthokozisi Dlamini (sir legend)



The School of Oral Health Sciences Honours BDS V Students with the White Coat Ceremony



“The School of Oral Health Sciences has been plagued by many leadership and governance issues, which resulted in major disruptions of the academic programme. The situation has been addressed through the interventions put in place by the Vice-Chancellor and Senior Management”, **said Prof Mawela.**



The 4th of August was the beginning of a new journey for the BDS final year students of the Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University as they started with the final clinical year. The School of Oral Health Sciences honoured the BDS V students with the 'White Coat' and Oath Taking Ceremonies. Lecturers and parents were invited to witness this thrilling moment.

Senior Lecturer and Acting Head of the Department of Integrated Clinical Dentistry (ICD) Dr Kebiditswe Masike used the occasion to congratulate the students on reaching their milestones. She explained that the white coat ceremony is held every year as part of the orientation of BDS V students into final year, and to the Comprehensive Care Clinic (CCC), where they will be treating their patients.

The purpose of the ceremony was to welcome the BDS V students to the final level of their programme; to remind the students of their roles and responsibilities as members of the healthcare team and as healthcare professionals providing

Prof Dini Mawela took the parents through the process, from grooming a dental student to producing a good dental surgeon and the challenges they come across during the process.

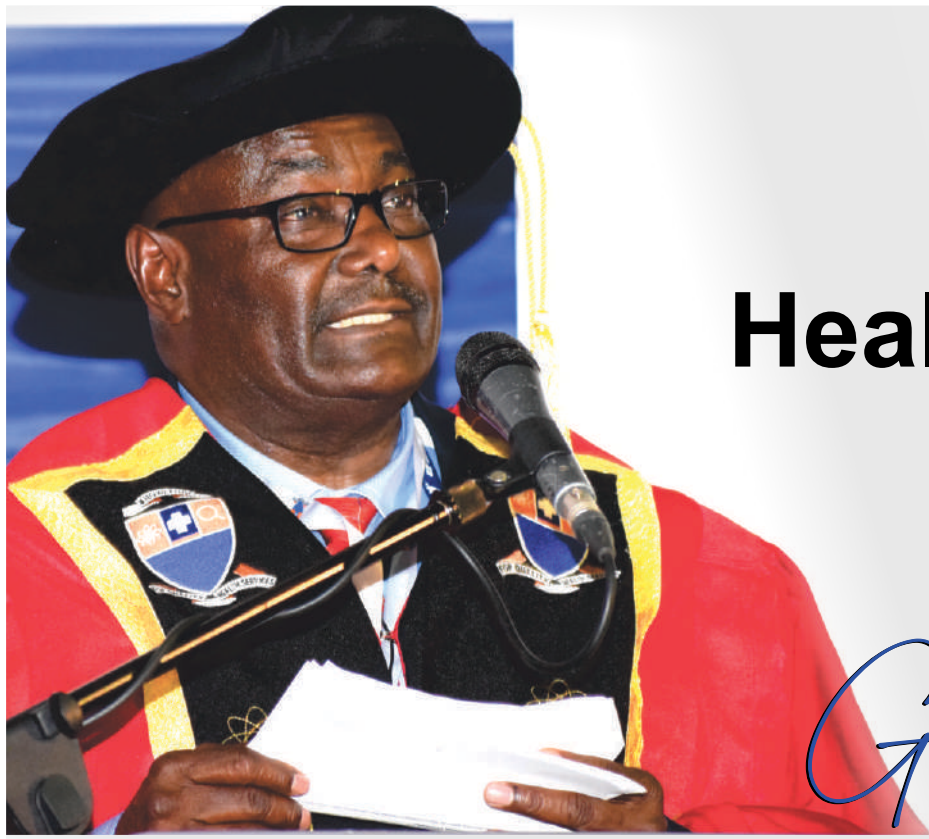
Mawela also said COVID-19 was extremely disruptive, particularly in programmes that are clinical and require hands-on training, this pushed the university to rapidly pivot into remote online teaching and learning strategies.

“Online teaching was provided on the Blackboard platform. As soon as the lockdown regulations were relaxed, students were able to return to campus,” added Prof Mawela.

The School of Oral Health Sciences is now doing well and the students are making sure that they regain time lost during the COVID-19 pandemic and are working hard to finally complete their respective qualifications.



Class of 2020/21 *congrats*



Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University recently hosted symbolic in-person Graduation Ceremonies

The symbolic in-person graduation ceremonies took place at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University recently over a period of two days from 20 to 21 September 2022 for the cohorts of students who graduated virtually in 2020 and 2021 respectively as a result of the Covid-19 restrictions enforced by government at the time. Professor Peter Mbatia in his capacity as Acting Chancellor presided over the ceremony and also awarded Degrees to a group of students who could not attend the May 2022 physical graduations ceremonies due to reasons beyond their control.

Speaking at the ceremonies, newly appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic and Research Professor Tandi Matsha - Erasmus in her capacity as Acting Vice-Chancellor congratulated all graduates and commended them for defying the odds to eventually complete their studies in the midst of Covid-19 and other geopolitical factors and challenges. Matsha - Erasmus further urged the graduates to remain humble and kind especially to those who assisted them to attain their qualifications. She commended Prof Mbatia for his leadership of the University adding that the work he has done remains visible. The Acting Vice-Chancellor challenged the graduates to fight corruption and any form of maladministration wherever and reminded them that they are joining multitudes of SMU Alumni whom the University is proud of.

Families and friends came to support graduates as they walked the stage and got an opportunity to take photographs as part of creating memories. Qualifications were awarded in different fields of study from the Five Schools of the University namely; Schools of Medicine, Health Care Sciences, Oral Health Sciences, Pharmacy as well as Science and Technology.

SMU is on a trajectory of growth and success and plays a pivotal role in producing quality graduates to serve the health and sciences fraternities. The University is home to National Research Foundation (NRF) rated researchers and academics.



From repeating her first year to representing South Africa in the 10th International Pharmaceutical Student Federation Annual Symposium in Tanzania – **Siphiwe Khumalo's** story of resilience

“Growing up in a place where a girl child is not allowed nor encouraged to attend varsity was very much disheartening. But I was determined to complete a University Degree and be somebody in life and not fall into the customs and norms of where I came from, being expected to get married after passing my matric. It is through that passion and determination that I became the first girl in my village to attend and attain a University Degree”.

Ms Siphiwe Khumalo explains that she grew up in a village where it was not believed a girl child should further their education to tertiary level. It dawned on her that it was not going to be easy for her to further her studies following the death of both her parents. It was her mother's wish that she should further her studies and become a doctor. This wish kept her going despite the difficulties she had to endure.

“When I was in grade 12 my family looked for a rich old man for me to get married to but I refused. I knew if I got married I would not be allowed to further my studies and that is not the life I wanted for myself.

She explains that upon completing matric in 2015, one of her high school teachers helped her register at the University of Limpopo in Turfloop to study Pharmacy in 2016. “The first year did not go so well; I was admitted at a hospital for 6 months due to some health complications. It was a very difficult thing because I had to repeat the year. When I got discharged my HOD, then Prof Patrick Demana who is now the Dean of the School of Pharmacy at SMU helped me get transferred to Tshwane University of Technology in 2017 where I started the degree from first year.

Siphiwe was credited some modules that she had already passed from her previous institution and completed the degree in 2020 at TUT. Before she could start attending classes at TUT, she worked as a bar lady at Lanseria airport and managed to save money as she did not have enough financial support. She however credits her godparents in Pretoria west who continue to take care of her. Following completion of her Degree, she got an opportunity to do an internship in one hospital but chose to continue with her studies.

She decided to come to SMU to do a Masters in Public Health Pharmacy and Management. She finds SMU to be a different environment where her own School is supportive of her dreams as demonstrated recently when she represented South Africa in Tanzania during the 10th International Pharmaceutical Student Federation annual symposium for the African Region that took place from 16 to 17 July 2022.

Siphiwe was also afforded an opportunity to be a moderator for one of the sessions in the symposium which gave her an opportunity to have conversations with some of the most influential people in the pharmaceutical industry globally.

“I was chosen to moderate a session on digitalization of systems in medical supply chain in this era. My job was to work with the panel to get as much information on where are we headed as Africa with regards to supply chain in the medical sector. Supply chain is a very important system within the sector that helps us be effective and efficient in the supply of medication at all levels. For a hospital to run out of medication for instance, may be due of some form of a glitch within the supply chain system”.

“My vision is to venture into health economics, to be able to analyse the cost of intervention when treating a patient and dealing with national insurance that aims to attain universal health coverage. It is those things that interest me the most in health economics. Being able to appropriate finances in the health sector”.

Following her participation at the symposium, she is in talks with an organization to collaborate with them in new technological developments in the medical supply chain. “I am very much grateful for the support and encouragement I get at SMU. My department has shown great enthusiasm in my journey and have funded me for the previous trip”, she said.

Siphiwe is headed for another symposium which will take place in Ghana in 2023 and she is appealing for further support. She wishes for an international scholarship to do a PhD or work locally moving forward.



SMU Student aims for the crown in the upcoming **Miss Tshwane Regions Pageant**

Rhoda Mwepu, a third-year physiotherapy student at SMU, was interviewed by Dintshang Reporter to talk about her experience competing in beauty pageants. Rhoda, also referred to as the "Purple Princess," is not afraid to wear a crown. As a finalist, she is presently competing to become Miss Tshwane Regions 2022/23. Rhoda discusses how she juggles school and other goals.

Who is Rhoda?

I am 22-year-old little girl at heart from Tweenfontein, KwaNdebele (Mpumalanga). A 3rd-year physiotherapy student at SMU who loves to be on stage, also a Master of Ceremony for SMU Explosive Talent show and a finalist for Miss Tshwane Regions 2022/23. A lover of food loves to laugh.

Can you recall a time when you first fell in love with beauty pageants?

I don't remember but my first ever pageant was when I was in grade 6 and my second in grade 12. I loved that pageantry allowed me to have fun on stage and I love that.

My defining moments are just being on stage, anything that goes with stage I go for it. I put my heels on and that is my defining moment. I also love the different avenues opened up for me to explore, for instance, charity work.

What is a beauty queen, do you agree with the statement 'beauty with purpose'?

Yes, I do, it is someone relatable and willing to be of service. Beauty with purpose through servitude. It is more than walking in heels. I can also add that pageants provide one with a platform to be yourself and have a voice for change. It allows you to express your passion and it teaches you to be bold.

How did you enter Miss Tshwane regions and did you expect to get this far?

In 2020 a friend of mine who was a finalist asked me to enter. 2021 I entered, had so much fun and made the top 5. That came with lessons and I polished my craft and re-entered again this year and here I am a finalist.

As a student, how do you manage to juggle between school and your other interest?

The non-academic staff keeps me sane; I need that balance. Test/exam week is solely for academics. I always remember to reprioritize my goals. Being at SMU has opened doors for me to explore my other interest.

So Rhoda, how do you stay confident in yourself?

I am Christian, I am not what the world tells me I am. I am whom God says I am. He validates me. I was born to share this; I was made for it. What I do yields confidence in me. Additionally, I have learnt that I am capable and that I too can stand for something and my voice needs to be heard.

With varied beauty perceptions and the influence of social media expectations, how would you advise young girls, and ladies, to remain true to their kind of beauty?

God doesn't make mistakes. You are you for a reason, there is nothing wrong with the way you are. Worldly perceptions are ever-changing. BE YOU! They must also be aware that one has to go through challenges such as self-doubt, comparison, and looking for outside validation is a constant mind battles. There are also, financial limitations to doing charity work. For me to keep sane, I write a lot and pray.

You mentioned earlier that a beauty queen is of service to others, how do you keep in touch with your community?

I do soup drive, like I said I love food, what better way to share that with people? (Laughs). I also do career talks on Facebook and engage high scholars on career paths and what SMU offers. I am still learning to find a place for other interests in my life. In future, one would like to tap more into fundraising. The puzzle will eventually fit together.

So where from here, what can we expect from you?

Living in freedom, the full expression of myself. To keep on going for what I want. I would love to host Miss Soweto 2024. And yes, hopefully, miss SA. I want to serve and represent SA on an international stage.

Rhoda can be reached on the following accounts:

Facebook: Rhoda the purple princess

Tik Tok: purpleprinces_3

Instagram: Rhodapurple_

YouTube: Rhoda the purple princess



SRC Reviews Academic Exclusion Policy

The SMU SRC members recently held a session in Rustenburg to review the Academic Exclusion policy and procedures. The University requires students to maintain a satisfactory level of academic progress in their study programmes and to complete their studies within the maximum time allowed. The policy and procedures give guidance to be applied when students fail to meet the above requirement. Furthermore, appropriate interventions and systems of support are expected to reduce dropout rates and exclusions and improve throughputs and completion rates.

“The Academic Policy Workshop was thoroughgoing in engagements, there were high quality discussions informed by the desire to balance access to higher education with the high standards and quality of SMU. The SMU SRC displayed a high level of insight and pragmatism and was able to advance good points in preparation for the presentation to the Senate and Council. The arguments they advanced were convincing and fundamentally strong,” said Tembile Yako, session Facilitator.

The policy clearly outlines its purpose of providing a comprehensive set of principles and procedures to be followed when dealing with students who have failed to maintain a satisfactory level of academic achievement in their studies as prescribed in the General Rules and applicable School Rules, and want to reapply for admission to the current or another study programme. It clarifies the roles and responsibilities of the various Committees of the University on matters of academic exclusion and ensures that underperforming students are identified early and offered academic support, and personal or career counselling/advice.

“Suitable interventions and systems of support are expected to reduce dropout rates and exclusions and to improve throughputs and completion rates. Also to indicate appropriate interventions and actions to be implemented for students at risk,” said Daniel Masekwameng, Secretary General of the SRC.



Physiotherapy Students Receive Scrubs for Clinical Training

The Universal Health Comps Care Medical Scheme organized a scrub handover ceremony for the third-year physiotherapy students at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU). The ceremony's goal was to recognize the contributions of healthcare workers and to promote preventative care services not only to patients but also to healthcare students.

The Head of the Department of Physiotherapy, Professor Douglas Maleka, expressed his gratitude to Comps Care for honouring the students before their clinical blocks began on August 15, 2022. "This has been a long time coming, and I hope this is the start of a partnership with Comps-Care. I am overjoyed that every student from different backgrounds is taken care of", he said.

CEO/Principal Officer of Comps-Care Josua Joubert spoke about their medical programme and used the occasion to encourage the students to work and wear

their scrubs with pride. Joubert encouraged those who are in a position to help others to continue doing so as such gestures leave lasting impressions. The CEO expressed hope that they will continue to work with the University in future.

Students were given two sets of scrubs and a complimentary care bag containing a mug and a water bottle.

Asanda Gwala, a class representative thanked all the guests and classmates for coming to witness the handover session and said that a burden has been lifted off their shoulders as they no longer need to worry about scrubs. Fellow student Janet Geldenhuys received a standing ovation for taking the initiative to find a sponsor for her classmates. She is delighted to benefit from this and has encouraged other students to participate and continue to promote the brand, with the hope that everyone will collaborate in the future with the Comps-Care Medical Scheme.





Stellenbosch University Student Representative Council visits SMU for benchmarking

The SRC through the office of the President Philani Mdakane hosted the Stellenbosch University SRC committee members on the 07th of July 2022, the meeting took place at the Natural Sciences building staff cafeteria boardroom, SMU. The purpose of their visit was to benchmark with the SRC of SMU. “Welcome to SMU colleagues, we were pleased to receive the documents from you outlining the purpose of your visit and I must say it is quite interesting to have Stellenbosch University SRC benchmarking with SMU” said Philani Mdakane SMU SRC president.

Mdakane was accompanied by other officials of the SRC namely; Deputy President Yanga Ngcese, Secretary General Daniel Masekwameng, Deputy Secretary Vincent Maje and Treasurer Prince Khumalo. After introducing his colleagues, he shared a brief history of SMU from former MEDUNSA to where it is today.

The Stellenbosch delegation was led by SRC Chairperson Viwe Kobokana. She was accompanied by the Vice-Chairperson and policy officer Philip Visage, Secretary - General Alysa Abby Kekana, Treasurer, Social Impact and Innovation Precious Nhamo, Takadiwa Chipfumbu SU International, Chairperson: Senior Prim Committee Eugene Nell, Chairperson: Academic Affairs Council George Van Dyk, Branding manager Wandile Sebothoma and Special Needs Manager Anna Pansegrouw.

“It really is an honor to be here and continue with our benchmarking. Our university is well-resourced, but we believe from the SRC perspective there is a lot we can learn from other universities. We are not only here to benchmark but we want to constantly learn, develop and grow as Stellenbosch University SRC” said Kobokana.

“We have been to other institutions namely the Tshwane University of Technology, Wits University, University of Pretoria, University of the North West Potchefstroom Campus and we must say indeed we learned a lot from those institutions and we are looking forward to learning more here at SMU” said Kobokana.

The delegates were then divided into four groups and each group was given a section to discuss amongst themselves and share experiences as the Stellenbosch university SRC needed to compile a report about their benchmarking.

The topics discussed are as follows:

- Support given to the SRC (Resources available for them, benefits of the and general support)
- Resources and the budget for SRC and the uses of the budget allocated to SRC.
- Responsibilities and powers of the SRC.
- The institution in general (placement of the when compared to other institutions, statutory committee, constitution, society and campus safety).

After the conclusion of the formal discussions, the delegation was taken on a campus tour of the University to experience student life. “This was a fruitful visit and we are happy to have taken the decision to include the SMU on our benchmarking report and we are happy with the outcome of our visit”, said Philip Visage of the Stellenbosch university.



Meet Wizzy The Creator Hip-Hop Artist and Medical Student

His music is now available online.



music industry requirements. My fourth challenge came when I had to market my music after release, mind you I didn't know anything about music marketing and it was all a learning process that made me feel like giving up at times.

What are your future plans musically?

My future plans include releasing about 4-5 more albums for the remainder of the years in SMU. I'm also in the process of registering my record label which will also open doors to other upcoming artists. My focus now is to make it big as in chart #1 on billboards and make platinum records.

Which qualification are you pursuing at SMU?

I'm currently doing Practice of Medicine and Practice of Surgery in SMU. It is an exciting ride for me because I'm doing it out of passion, challenges are everywhere and my drive comes from challenges.

Any message to SMU students?

To SMU students who want to switch to Medicine, I encourage you to keep your eyes on the prize and never give up no matter the odds. To the rest of SMU students, we are one big family and we shall make memories together for so long as we are on this journey to establish stable foundations for ourselves and our family back at home, and I'd love to say that Stand Up for what you believe in (where we coming from is close, but where we are going is far, so never stop believing in yourselves and God's plans).

What are your social media accounts?

Instagram: @wizzy_the_creator

Twitter: @WizzyTheCreator

Youtube channel: WIZZY THE CREATOR

Facebook page: WIZZY THE CREATOR

When did you start with your music?

I started to write my first lyrics in the form of poetry when I was in high school, 2014. What motivated me to start writing was my friend, we both listened to hip hop music and he was all in. He got bored of it and I eventually continued writing and learning how to rhyme.

I recorded my demo tape in 2019 at my friend's backroom studio and also a demo EP in 2020 at res. I'm currently sitting on 3 official tracks and a debut album which was released on the 9th of September (I delivered a masterpiece as promised).

Where can your music be found?

My music is available on all streaming platforms, such as YouTube Music, Spotify, Apple Music, Deezer, Amazon music, Tidal music, etc.

What challenges have you encountered as a musician?

At first my challenge was to find a studio to record in, then my second challenge was to keep my demo music available after the copyright claims from the producers who made the beats. My third challenge was when I had to sit down and learn how to make my own beats, it doesn't end there, I had to also teach myself how to engineer my sound quality in order to make it meet the

House Committee Gala Dinner in pictures



FROM SMU TO COSAFACUP CUP

SMU congratulates its alumnus Felix Sabelo Nkuna, who has been appointed as the physiotherapist for the SA under-20 national team that will participate in the 2022 Council of Southern Africa Football Associations (COSAFA) Men's under-20 Championships.

Nkuna holds a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Physiotherapy and a Master of Science (MSc) in Sports Medicine from SMU.

Currently, he is taking a gap year from academics and is still doing well beyond the classroom. He is looking forward to furthering his studies next year.

**#WeAreSMU | #smusports
#cosafacup2022**

