

SIZANANI

SEWING AND FASHION DESIGN



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Dear Friends

OCTOBER 2012

As the hours and days merge into weeks and months, we once again near the end of another year of training here at Sizanani. It has been a challenging year for the project not so much over funding this year, but that we have not had as many students registered in our course as we have had in the past. This has brought about a lot of soul searching by the staff and a little despondency about whether this skill is still required in this modern age, but then also a realisation that we are still helping people even if we are not filling our classes.

It reminds me of the story of a young girl who was walking along a beach upon which thousands of starfish had been washed up during a terrible storm. When she came to each starfish, she would pick it up, and throw it back into the ocean. She had been doing this for some time when a man approached her and said, "Little girl, why are you doing this? Look at this beach! You can't save all these starfish. You can't begin to make a difference!"

The girl seemed crushed, suddenly deflated. But after a few moments, she bent down, picked up another starfish, and hurled it as far as she could into the ocean. Then she looked up at the man and replied, "Well, I made a difference to that one!"

adapted from the Star Thrower by Loren C. Eiseley

So, yes, we know we are making a difference to 'this student'; the one who shows a passion for learning this sewing skill and a determination to use it once she has completed the course.

So with this in mind, we are excited to be able to market our training a little differently for 2013. We are still offering a 1 year or 2 year course, but Year 1 has been

YEAR 1

Term 1

Basic sewing skill

Learn to use a domestic sewing machine and overlocker. Make samples of seams, gathering, binding, quilting. Make up a utility bag, kitchen set, cushion and curtain.

R550.00
(compulsory)

Term 2

Children's clothing

Make samples of pockets, collars, sleeves and cuffs. Make up a school uniform, boy's button-up shirt, shorts with a fly zip and a lined tracksuit top.

R1 100.00

Term 3

Advanced skill – Introduction to pattern drafting

Make samples of vents, darts, waistbands, pleats, facings and zips. Learn to take measurements and draft a skirt, bodice/dress and sleeve.

R1 650.00

broken down into 4 terms or modules, with each module focusing on different skills.

Each module also has its own cost so students can decide whether they complete one module, two modules or all four modules depending on their finances. The first module is compulsory and this is the module that is subsidised by the project thus ensuring that as many people as possible can have the opportunity to learn the basics of sewing. The rest of the modules are optional, and if a student attends all four modules they will receive a Certificate in sewing skills at the end of that year.

Once the 1st year has been completed, students qualify to attend Year 2 of training after which they will receive a Diploma in sewing skills. The second year is a full year and the focus is on clothing design.

Part-time courses are also offered either on a Saturday morning or during normal training hours (students can attend 1, 2 or more mornings a week). We will try and accommodate everyone who wants to learn to sew.

There is still the exciting offer for a student to choose to purchase a new sewing machine through Sizanani and pay it off during the time they are in training. This new machine is then used by the student while at Sizanani and once training is completed, and the machine is paid in full, the student takes home a machine that they have full knowledge of how to use and maintain.

The graduation and fashion show for the 2012 students will be held on the morning of Saturday 1 December. As in the past, this has been a lovely event to be at, so look out for tickets that will go on sale in early November.

Bongiwe Zuma is one of the Saturday students' who has been attending Sizanani for nearly 2 years. Earlier this year she heard that a company was looking for someone to make up a small order of shirts as a uniform. She took the shirt, traced the pattern from it and then made up the small order. The company was very impressed with her work and this has given Bongiwe the confidence she needs, to see what she is capable of. Well done, Bongiwe!

All that is left now is to say – “Till we meet again, God bless you all”.

Sharon and Mpume

Term 4

Advanced skill

Sewing

Sketch, design and sew a lined skirt and waistcoat and design and sew an outfit for graduation fashion show

R1 100.00

Total cost for **Year 1** =

R4 400.00

YEAR 2

Sample work on necklines, sleeves, collars/cuffs, etc., advanced drafting and sewing of ladies, men's and children's clothing including trousers, jackets and evening wear

R6 300.00

PART TIME

Follow the Year 1 syllabus

R400.00 per month

SEWING MACHINE

Choose to buy a new sewing machine through Sizanani and use it while being trained. Pay it off throughout your time of training and ...

leave with your own machine!