



IN VOELING • IN TOUCH

131 jaar van omgee • 131 years of care 1883 - 2014

Nuusbrief • Newsletter November 2014 - Januarie/January 2015

From foster care to centre stage

Aspiring actress Jadene Nel, 18, is no stranger to hardship and has used her turbulent childhood as a catalyst for her acting career.

The raven-haired teenager spoke candidly to *Tyger*talk about the circumstances that led to her being placed at the Durbanville Children's Home.

"I was 12 when my two younger sisters and I were removed from my parents' home because of substance abuse. We were placed in foster care with my aunt for about a year or two. When things turned sour, I was sent here, and my sisters were placed in foster care in Oudtshoorn." Jadene admits to rebelling "quite a bit" when she arrived at the home four years ago.

"It was very tough in the beginning. It has been a struggle. I didn't adapt easily. I was rebelling like crazy. This is the first year I have actually accepted the reality. I realised that the sooner I accepted it, the sooner I could move on from the pain."

Jadene says her future was handed to her on a "golden platter" last month after she returned from the World Championships of Performing Arts (WCOPA), also known as the "Olympics of the Performing Arts", which ran from Monday 7 July to Wednesday 23 July in Los Angeles in America.

Earlier this year, she entered the national leg of the competition and walked off with four gold qualifying medals.

"It started with the Western Province auditions, where a couple of thousand entrants auditioned. I performed my pieces and got very high percentages, which resulted in me qualifying for the national leg of the competition," she says. Jadene says the level of professionalism she observed while in America was amazing.

"Performers from more than 54 countries took part in the competition. There was no manual preparing me for that." The international competition differed from the national leg, as it focused more on acting for film than for stage.

"The level everybody is on is no joke. I competed in five categories, namely classical, comical, contemporary, dramatic and open, and the pieces needed to be a minute long."

She admits to feeling a little overwhelmed by the time limit. "I only had 60 seconds to impress the judges, which was scary if you take into account that people usually make up their mind about you in the first 10 to 15 seconds of meeting you."

Jadene aced the competition and walked off with three gold medals for her classical, contemporary and open pieces, a silver medal for her dramatic piece and two awards for being the world champion division winner in the contemporary and open categories.

"I also won a two-year US\$10 000 scholarship to attend The New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts. About 2 000 people audition annually and only 200 people secure a spot at the institution. This is an opportunity of a lifetime. I truly believe everything happens for a reason.

"I believe God would not have sent this my way if it weren't a possibility." Jadene is now in the tough predicament of having to raise more than R400 000 to attend the conservatory.

She told *Tyger*talk that the judges praised her for her stage presence and her ability to light up a room, and they said she was "crazy talented".

Jadene says if you want to pursue a career in acting you need to be focused, take criticism with a pinch of salt and

never apologise for your work. Her life experience informs the material she conceptualises.

"If I hadn't gone through the things I have, I wouldn't be here right now. I wouldn't be able to show raw truth and emotion. I tap into the emotions of the past to portray characters in the present.

"The most important thing I would say to people when it comes to acting is that before you learn to become a different character you need to know who you are. I know what it feels like to lose everything. To lose your mom, dad and two younger sisters and be an outcast and have no support from your family. I really need this. It is so much more than acting. I need people to believe in me."

She draws inspiration from actors such as Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham Carter, and was likened to the latter by the WCOPA judges.

She cites *Kanna Hy Kô Hystoe* by playwright Adam Small and *Woza Albert!*, written by Percy Mtwa, Mbongeni Ngema and Barney Simon in 1981, as her all-time favourite South African theatre offerings.

To help Jadene realise her dream call Johanna Strauss on 021 975 6822 or e-mail jstrauss@durbanvillekinderhuis.org.za.



Jadene Nel

Contact Durbanville Children's Home

Tel: (021) 975 6822 | Fax: (021) 975 1613
www.durbanvillekinderhuis.org.za

Durbanville Children's Home, a registered non-profit organisation (NPO 011 - 891), is a programme of BADISA that is a joint ministry of the DR Church (Western and Southern Cape) and URCSA (Cape).

Betrokkenheid skep bewustheid

Durbanville Kinderhuis se ambassadeurs speel 'n wesenlik-belangrike rol om die boodskap oor ons doen en late uit te dra en ons in talle opsigte te ondersteun. 'n Paar van ons bekende ambassadeurs deel hul ervaring en mening oor die Durbanville Kinderhuis:

Joe Pietersen

Ek en 'n vriend (Steph du Toit) het albei 'n baie sagte plek vir kinders en het besluit om betrokke te raak by 'n kinderhuis. Ek het 'n seuntjie van een jaar en mens kom dan veral agter hoe kinders liefde en sekuriteit nodig het. Ons het besluit op Durbanville Kinderhuis want ons voel julle bied die kinders baie. Ek en Steph het 'n webblad (stars4dignity.com) begin om hierdie boodskap uit te dra aan mense rondom ons en sodoende ook die geleentheid te benut om mense uit die gemeenskap betrokke te kry. Ek voel dat kinders se belange 'n hoër status verdien in ons land en dat hulle beter versorg moet word. Daarom hoop ons dat ons betrokkenheid 'n invloed sal hê om die kinders te kan ophef vir 'n beter toekoms.



Deon Meyer

Die sleutel tot Suid-Afrika se sukses gaan ons vermoë wees om vir elkeen van ons kinders 'n gelyke kans op sukses te gee. En na my mening is dit nie net die regering nie, maar elke landsburger se plig om hiertoe by te dra, sodat dié droom werklikheid kan word. Juis daarom is dit so 'n voorreg om by die Durbanville Kinderhuis se Borg 'n Kind-projek betrokke te wees. Dit maak 'n daadwerklike en regstreekse verskil in die lewe van minderbevoorregte kinders, en skep boonop 'n bousteen vir ons land se welslae.



Zanne Stapelberg

Om die beskermvrou van die Durbanville Kinderhuis te wees is een van die mees betekenisvolle dinge in my lewe. Kinders is so weerloos – totaal en al afhanklik van dié wat vir hulle sorg, om fisies en emosioneel na hul behoeftes om te sien. Ek verwonder my aan die werk wat gedoen word by ons Kinderhuis. Die toewyding, passie en deernis wat die personeel en vrywilligers het as “instaan ouers” vir hierdie gekwete, brose kinders is so ontroerend. Ek dink altyd hoe aaklig die gedagte daaraan as daar nie so 'n plek



was waarheen hulle kon gaan nie, nie net om heel te word nie, maar ook te groei, hul selfvertroue te herwin en hul volle potensiaal te ontwikkel. Soos Steve Tyler van Aerosmith sing in die liedjie Amazing: “How high can you fly with broken wings?” By die Durbanville Kinderhuis word vlerkies heelgemaak sodat kindertjies kan vlieg. Dit is vir my 'n reuse-voorreg om op 'n baie klein manier te kan deel wees hiervan.

Marlene le Roux

Dit is vir my 'n voorreg om deel te wees van Durbanville Kinderhuis juis omdat hulle fokus op die ontwikkeling en karaktervorming van die jeug wat op hul beurt gereed moet maak om Suid-Afrika se nuwe leiers te word. Hierdie Kinderhuis doen baanbrekerswerk op die gebied van gehalte-opvoeding en die skep van 'n ware tuiste. Daar is baie instellings in ons beeldskone land wat kan leer by Durbanville Kinderhuis en sy onmiddellike gemeenskap. Suid-Afrika word in der waarheid gevoed en geseën deur hierdie uitmuntende instelling. Dit is voorwaar 'n plek om op trots te wees!



Ek is geseënd om deel te wees van 'n organisasie wat agting het vir ander, beskerming en ondersteuning bied en fokus op omgee vir sy medemens, maar wat veral die opvoeding en liefdevolle ondersteuning van kinders eerste op hul agenda plaas.

*Taking a child in your arms
And as you feel your heart sing
Tears start to fall as you're letting him cling
Taking a child for a king*

*Taking a child by the hand
Singing him nursery rhymes
So that he'll sleep at the end of the day
Singing his troubles away*

*Taking a child to your breast
Soothing away his unrest
And looking on to the future you've planned
Taking a child by the hand*

*Years on your own, now no longer alone
Taking a child for your own*

Laat hierdie woorde van die Griekse nagtegaal Nana Mouskouri altyd in ons gedagtes bly sodat die Durbanville Kinderhuis en sy mense in ons harte kan bly.



CALL FOR SUPPORT

We are calling on corporates and individuals to make a difference in our children's lives by donating R25 000 to our urgent needs programme. This donation can be paid either in a single instalment, or over a five-month period.

Your generosity will be rewarded in the following ways:

- A table for 10 guests at the Rugby Day.
- A table for 10 guests at a ladies tea or a four ball to the Golf Day.
- 10 tickets to our Christmas Concert.
- A table for 10 guests to the Annual Ball on 8 May 2015 at Eensgezind.
- Your logo will be displayed on our website, in our newsletter and in our annual report.
- You will receive an 18 A tax certificate.
- A BEE certificate will be available on request.
- There will be volunteer opportunities for staff.

Please contact Sunette for the urgent needs list at email: events@durbanvillekinderhuis.org.za or telephone: 021 975 6822.

(Articles submitted by the children are published without any language changes.)

It's time for December.

From January to November we have fights we have awkward moments but most of all we have memories, we wait for December so that we can hope for January again.

We don't go to bed early, we don't cry all the time. We smile. The sun is up on full blast burning almost everything. He is up early but goes to bed late. We don't mind because it is December!

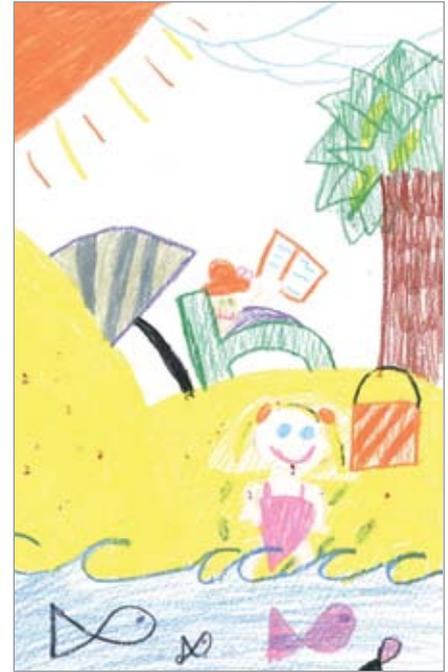
On the 24th of December we go early to bed but instead of sleeping we try to listen for Santa's reindeer up on the roof trying to jump down the chimney and drink the warm milk and eat mom's homemade cookies.

We try to hear if he has brought our presents! When we wake up in the morning we don't brush hair or teeth because we want to see what Santa brought us.

Some of us don't get what we want but that is okay because it is December and we are with mommy and daddy, the people we truly love.

It's time for December and time for love but most of all memories.

Girl aged 15



My math page feels the same...

Being in high school is never easy, but being a teenager, in love and in high school is even less.

Morning after morning you hear your alarm clock go off "oh well" you reach out and snooze it. "Come on we're going to be late if you don't come down at this minute!" You're not even dressed properly and half way down the stairs, you realise you forgot your books. This has been your life for the past couple of days, or at least mine.

You arrive at school wondering around like you are on a strange new planet but then... BAM! a pole jumps in front of you (not literally). When the bell goes, you give a sigh and with a hip in your hop, you go off to register, where your class mates awaits.

Going through the day not really paying attention, you realise that it's 13:45, just 45 minutes to go. Tik-tok tik-tok, the minutes go by and then when the bell announces the end of the day, your poor math page looks like a love letter. Well, at least this entire day you learned how to draw a perfect heart.

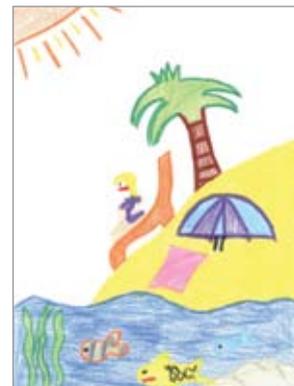
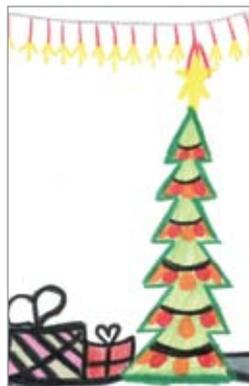
Girl aged 17



MY Matriek Afskyt

Ek wil net se baie dankie vir Woensdag aand. Want ek wil net se dankie vir alles want ek het baie mooi gelyk, want die tafels, die kos en alles. Ek gaan regtig die plek mis want julle almal doen so baie vir my van dat ek hier gekom het.

Thanks for the hairdresse, nails and make up you all did give me wings to fly. I really love you all and I really going to mis you.



Our book sale volunteer shares a hidden secret

As a retired librarian, my knowledge of books is put to good use in developing the fundraising bookshop at the Home. I call it Durbanville's best kept secret because you will never find so many incredible bargain books, CDs, DVDs, magazines and toys anywhere else in the Cape.

Ilze Swart

- The bookshop, which has been running for the past 10 years, is open to the public from 10am until 1pm every Thursday.

VIER FEES TER ERE VAN VERSKILLENDE KULTURE

Twee derdejaar maatskaplike werk-studente van Universiteit Stellenbosch, Chanel Schoonhoven en Shakira Khan, het tydens hul vrywillige werk by Durbanville Kinderhuis 'n gemeenskapswerkprojek, Kultuurdag, gereël. Hierdie dag is op 27 September vanjaar vir die sesde keer by Durbanville Kinderhuis gehou. Die tema van hierdie projek wat die belangrikheid van kultuur beklemtoon het, was Gee Om Vir Jou Kultuur.

Hierdie Kultuurdag is benut ter viering van Erfenisdag op 24 September. Hierdie projek word jaarliks gebruik om die kinders by Durbanville Kinderhuis deur middel van kos, klere, musiek en dans bewus te maak van die verskillende kulture in Suid-Afrika. En dit is nie net ons kinders wat die dag kan geniet nie – hul familie en vriende word ook uitgenooi.

Die maatskaplike werk-studente het donasies van die gemeenskap ingesamel en Durbanville Kinderhuis se kinderversorgers en kinders het dit gebruik om die kos voor te berei.

Die program vir die dag het bestaan uit kosstalletjies van verskillende kulture, dans- en modelkompetisies, sang en 'n

motiveringspreker. Aan die einde van die program is middagete aan al die gaste, personeel en kinders bedien.

Die dag is gekenmerk deur entoesiasme en glimlaggies op die kinders se gesigte. Wat meer wil ons hê?!



JA Ek wil graag 'n verskil maak aan 'n kind se lewe in 2014!
YES I'd like to make a difference to a child's life in 2014!

Ingesluit is my geskenk: / Enclosed is my gift:

- R100 – Skryfbehoeftes / Stationery
- R150 – Kospakkies / Food parcels
- R200 – Skoolklere / School clothes

Name / Naam: _____

Address / Adres: _____

E-mail / E-pos: _____

Direkte inbetalings / Direct bank deposits

Ek betaal graag R _____ in julle rekening in.

I would like to deposit R _____ into your account.

ABSA Bank. Rekening/Account no: 1410290983 Ref: your name/Christmas
(Please fax proof of payment, plus your name, telephone number and address to 021 975 1613)

Tjek en posorders / Cheque and postal orders

Ek sluit graag 'n tjek/posoder van R _____ in.
I gladly enclose a cheque/postal order to the value of R _____

Tjeks is betaalbaar aan BADISA Durbanville Kinderhuis. Voltooi asseblief adresbesonderhede.

Cheques are payable to BADISA Durbanville Children's Home. Please add address details.

Swift code: absazajj (for overseas payments)

Registered charity number: 011 - 891

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Charity begins at Durbanville Children's Home

The Durbanville Children's Home launched its OMGee Charity Shop on Mandela Day, Friday 18 July, and it's calling on the community to help with fundraising initiatives.

Johanna Strauss, manager of marketing and fundraising at the home since 2009, says it costs R10-million to keep the home afloat annually and they receive a third of that funding from the Department of Social Development. "It costs us R6 000 a month to look after one child. Because many of the children are victims of abuse, there are additional costs for therapy."

The shop is run by volunteers and all the items in it have been donated by the public. "We sell CDs, jewellery, books, sweets, clothes and décor items, among other things."

Ms Strauss calls on the public to donate to the shop and volunteer their time. "We are also hoping to get the older children at the home to volunteer in order to gain sales experience and to ultimately ignite the spirit of entrepreneurship in them."

The home opened its doors in 1883 and this year celebrates its 131st anniversary. "We house 132 children in Durbanville and our satellite house in Kraaifontein houses 10 children. It is always better to house children in the community they come from, but owing to financial constraints that is not an option for us."

Ms Strauss says children will never be referred to the home because of poverty alone. "Poverty can be treated within the community and this is a more cost-effective way of looking after a child than sending them to a home."

Ms Strauss, who holds a BA degree from Stellenbosch University, says they presently have three specialised units on site: Early Childhood Development (ECD), occupational therapy and a therapy unit that looks at the children's needs, such as psychotherapy, play therapy and various other forms of therapy.

Ms Strauss says they don't have registered psychologists on site owing to financial constraints and she calls on people who would like to render this service for free to come on board. "We consistently invest in training our child care workers and there is currently one child care worker for 12 children which isn't ideal but that is a reality," she explained.

She also calls on residents to help the home with a piece of land on its premises that has not been drained correctly and which

they plan to convert into sports grounds for the children. "We have contractors on board but we need somebody to donate grass, bricks, pipes and sand. The exterior of our building also needs a coat of paint."

Ms Strauss says the children at the home attend 28 different schools in Cape Town and that four vehicles are used to transport them every day.

She says they are "very fortunate" to have 30 permanent volunteers from Germany, Britain and France living on site. "They stay for between three months and a year, and help the children with ECD games, play with them and transport them."

Ms Strauss says Mahatma Gandhi's quote "Be the change you want to see in the world" is seen in action at the home.

"This is a very enabling environment," she says. "This is a job where, if you aren't here, it will have a detrimental effect on the children. When working here you feel that you add value to the lives of the children. It's really wonderful to see volunteers give time by reaching out and making a difference."

For people who feel their lives are too fast-paced to give back, Ms Strauss says: "We have Sponsor a Child initiative where people give R100 a month to the home. We provide them with regular updates and they really feel they are making a difference in the children's lives."



- The OMGee Charity Shop is open on Thursdays from 10am until 4pm, Fridays from 12pm until 4pm and on Saturdays from 10am until noon. For more information and to volunteer your time, e-mail jstrauss@durbanvillekinderhuis.org.za or call 021 975 6822.

* Article first published in Tygertalk.

JA ek wil graag 'n spesifieke kind borg / YES I'd like to sponsor a specific child

Indien jy 'n kind wil help deur 'n maandlikse bydrae te maak, is daar 'n paar opsies waaruit jy kan kies.
If you would like to help a child through making a monthly contribution, there are a number of options you can choose from.

Direkte inbetalings / Direct bank deposits

Ek betaal graag R _____ in julle rekening in.
I would like to pay R _____ into your account.

ABSA Bank. Rekening / Account no: 1410290983 Ref: your name/Christmas

(Please fax proof of payment, plus your name, telephone number and address to 021 975 1613)

Debietorder Durbanville Kinderhuis / Children's Home debit order

This authority may be cancelled by me/us giving you 30 days notice in writing, sent by prepaid, registered post. I/we understand that I/we shall not be entitled to any refund of amounts which you have withdrawn while this authority was in force if such amounts were legally owed to you. Receipt of this instruction by you shall be regarded as receipt thereof by my/our bank (whichever it is or will be).

ASSIGNMENT: I/we acknowledge that the party hereby authorised to effect the drawing(s) against my/our account may not cede or assign any of its rights to any third party without my/our prior written consent. I/we may not delegate any of my/our obligations in terms of this contract authority to any third party without prior written consent of the authorised party.

Ek gee hiermee toestemming dat my rekening gedebiteer word met R _____

I hereby give permission for my account to be debited with R _____

Naam/Name: _____

Bank: _____

Takkode/Branch code: _____

Rekeningno/Account no: _____

Tipe rekening/Type of account: _____

Datum van 1ste aftrekking/Date of 1st deduction: _____

Handtekening/Signature: _____

Events 2015

Attend our fundraising events in 2015:

Annual Ball: 8 May | **Ladies' Breakfast:** 5 September | **Annual General Meeting:** 15 September | **Rugby Event:** 3 October | **Golf Day:** 3 November



Urgent needs

- Toasters
- Cutlery
- School shoes and clothes
- Stationery
- Track suits
- Travel bags
- Single duvet inners, covers and sheets



DANKIE!

Dankie aan ons Platinum-borge wat elk R25 000 tot die Durbanville Kinderhuis bygedra het: Phakisha Holdings, Indawo Group, XChequer/His Kingdom Trust, Capricorn Shipping & MK Freights.



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All children have wings, we teach them to fly! [6]