

Cape Town, December 2025

Dear supporters,

When the year draws to a close and we look back on what we have experienced, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to you. Your support has once again enabled us to give many children music, community and new perspectives in 2025. The year began and ended with special highlights for our project. Philipp's visit at the beginning of the year (see travel report from June) coincided with the launch of this year's music programme. Once again, five scholarship holders accompanied between 60 and 70 children from Philippi, Crossroads and Langa: Unathi – guitar, Candice – piano, Thandi – African bows, Tshepo – choir and singing, and Kofi – drums and African dance. Some of them have been active in the project for several years, while others joined this year. The student teaching team is well-coordinated and highly motivated. Their work continues to be coordinated by Paul, and we are grateful that Paul continues to organise the rotation in small groups and is an experienced contact person on site on Saturdays. In addition, various volunteers are involved in the project. Alexa helps with the participant lists, Ntobeko with singing, and Dizu Prlaatjies, now professor emeritus of African music, also drops by from time to time. We would also like to express our gratitude to the staff at the South African College of Music: Sammy and Milton ensured that the rooms could be used safely, Paulina got a group of students to put together 60 to 70 packed lunches every week, and Fiona helped us promote the final concert!



UCT OUTREACH PROGRAMME



THE  
**BAXTER**

CROSS  
ROADS

KHULA  
CAPE  
FOUNDATION

**SACM**  
SOUTH AFRICAN COLLEGE OF MUSIC  
UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

And that brings us to the second highlight of this year: on 25 October, a final concert for families, friends and our local supporters took place in the concert hall of the Baxter Theatre Complex.

In a programme lasting over an hour, the children impressively demonstrated what they had learned over the past year. It was particularly valuable for the parents to be able to experience for themselves the results of the many Saturdays spent rehearsing and learning. We hope that this shared experience will help to make it even easier for the children to participate regularly in the future. In any case, the enthusiasm in the hall was overwhelming.

We recorded the concert for you. You can watch it [here](#).

Now we are using the time to plan for next year. Before we start training teachers for the community centres in the townships so that the children can also receive musical input during the week and in the school holidays, we want to improve the weekly meetings at SACM by teaching the children in smaller groups – especially for piano and guitar – and on more Saturdays throughout the year.



This year, we also took an important step for the future of our project by founding the non-profit association Crossroads e.V. Our aim is to make our work even more flexible and independent – but above all to ensure that no administrative fees are incurred and that every single euro donated goes directly where it is needed – to the project itself. At the same time, our status as an association opens up new opportunities for us to apply for funding and attract

additional support to secure and further expand our work in the long term. This step would not have been possible without your trust and continuous support. It was not an easy decision to part ways with the Berlin Mission, with whom we have enjoyed over 10 years of wonderful collaboration. But now we are looking forward to moving on. In this letter, you can see our new corporate design, which was donated to us by the media agency Kopfkunst. They also designed the logo (see above) and the website that you can find [here](#).

Especially during the Christmas season, we would like to cordially invite you to continue supporting our project. The many new structures pose a financial challenge for the project, but they also put it on a more stable footing.

Every donation helps directly to provide children with education, community and new perspectives through music. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support over the past years! Without this support, this project would not exist – it is now 13 years old. And planning for next year would not be possible without this ongoing support.

With best wishes for the Christmas season and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandmeier".

Professor Rebekka Sandmeier, PhD  
Second Chair Crossroads e.V.  
Musicology  
South African College of Music  
University of Cape Town

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mathmann".

Dr. Philipp Mathmann  
First Chair Crossroads e.V.  
Senior Physician & Operasinger  
University Clinic of Münster

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Szczeponik".

Nikolas Szczeponik  
Treasurer Crossroads e.V.  
Medical Student