

A TASTE OF AFRICA

Feel the rhythm of the drums, explore the raw energy of the dance and be inspired by the culture in this well-rounded, educational incursion program.

"I love teaching the community. Just seeing their smiling faces reminds me of why I love doing what I do!"

- Appiah Annan, Director, Asanti Dance Theatre

A word from the teachers...

My hands are still vibrating from the drumming My body is still buzzing from the dance.....ASANTI set our school on fire! The kids went completely wild! Even the staff were blown out of their minds!

- Thais Sansom, Castlemaine PS

ASANTI is the best African performance group we have had in our school. The students and teachers are eager to have you back each year. Your visits to our school have certainly been enriching and memorable. Students talk about you for weeks afterwards. You leave a lasting impression!

- Georgina Wills, Wangaratta West PS

A word from the kids...

Thanks for the performance- it was awesome. Come back again!
Fantastic performance yesterday!
Fan-bloody-tastic!! Great show, really enjoyable. How 'sick' was that drumming?!
They are just so amazing I can't even believe it!
I wish you could come every day.

At a glance...

The package includes: 1 x 15 min intro / performance, 3 x 30 min workshops (students rotate between the 3 activities), 1 x 5 min interactive 'jam' session, 1 x 10 min Q & A

Duration: 120 mins

Interval: N/A

Artist number: 3

Fee: \$6000 + GST per week

Available From: Term 1, 2017

Available To: Term 4, 2018

Min audience number: 30

Max audience number: 300

* The program can be run twice in a day where time and travel allows



Overview:

A Taste of Africa is a popular program that we have designed after years of teaching in schools and communities throughout Australia and internationally. We have found that participants enjoy having a 'taste' of each of the three activities (*drumming, dance and village activities*) as it gives a well rounded experience of the African culture.

Developed in collaboration with performing arts educator Belinda Annan (BCA, BT, Teacher of Drama at Melbourne Grammar School) it is an engaging and educational incursion package that caters for the very beginner to the more advanced and takes into account a range of learning needs. Our facilitators are among Australia's best African performers making the workshops both inspiring and engaging.

Participants are treated to a short performance at the beginning of the session that showcases the raw talent and energy of artists. They are then broken into three groups where they have the chance to explore the activities on offer. This is followed by an interactive performance and ends with a Q & A session.

Company Contact

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State: VIC

Curriculum Links

Physical, Personal and Social Learning

Interpersonal Development
Health and Physical Education
Civics and Citizenship

Discipline-based Learning

The Arts
English

Interdisciplinary Learning

Thinking Processes
Communication



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Performance History

We have performed this program at many schools and communities including;

- On tour with the RAV Education and Families program (2013, 2014 & 2015)
- On tour with QMF / Artslink (2016)
- The Drum Theatre, Dandenong
- Melbourne Grammar School
- Mitcham PS
- Caroline Springs Springside College
- Geelong Lutheran College
- Reservoir West PS
- Geelong College
- Wangaratta West PS

Marketing/Selling Points

This program has been well received by students, staff and communities of all ages and backgrounds making it an engaging incursion program for the **whole community**.

The **extensive experience** of the artists (both as professional artists and in their teaching capacity) makes the rich West African Culture **accessible** to Australian audiences of all backgrounds, ages and abilities.

Asanti have **worked throughout Melbourne and regional Victoria and Australia** with schools and councils, performing at festivals and events and teaching workshops for many years.

They are known for their ability to **engage** the community, **creating a safe and supportive environment** for people to participate.

Asanti Dance Theatre are **Australia's leading Afro-contemporary Dance Company**.

The program explores many of the current **curriculum links** and is designed to feed easily into the Australian curriculum.

Acknowledgments:

We acknowledge the ongoing support of

Knox Community Arts Centre
Multicultural Arts Victoria
Sidney Myer Fund

Alternative programs

While the Taste of Africa is our most popular package on offer we know that it doesn't suit the needs of all communities. Below are some alternative options that we would be happy to discuss.

Performances: These can run from 5 minutes to 1 hour in duration.

Drum workshops: We can cater for up to 100 people per workshop. Duration is between 20 min – 1 hour.

Dance workshops: Styles that can be taught include traditional African, Afro Hip Hop, Afro – contemporary and Gumboot dancing. We can cater for up to 100 people per workshop. Duration is between 20 min – 1.5 hours.

Technical Details

Bump-in time: 30 min

Bump-out time: 20 min

Audio Requirements

3 x vocal microphones

3 x Instrumental microphones

**Where this is not possible alternative arrangements can be discussed. Can be performed acoustically if needed.*

Staging requirements

The program requires 1-3 large spaces to be available. Recommended spaces are gyms, halls, multi-purpose rooms, double classrooms, dance studios and PAC's. Indoor spaces are preferred where possible.

The space used for the performance elements needs to be large enough to fit all audience members in as well as allow a minimum performance space of 6m x 4m.

The other 2 spaces need to be large enough to fit at least 1/3 of the community group comfortably in (people are broken into 3 groups for the workshops and rotate between the activities). Where this is not possible communities can remain in the one space and we adapt the workshops accordingly.

The drumming workshops will require enough chairs for all participants to sit on while they are drumming. We provide drums for each participant to use during the program.

The dance workshops require a PA system that can play either CD's, from a computer, iPad or iPod. Please specify which type of device is available when booking so we ensure we bring the correct format for the music to play.