



SUMBANDILA

2023/24



THE PROBLEM

show the world

Sumbandila aims to transform the landscape of opportunity for brilliant students from economically deprived backgrounds in deep rural areas by providing access to high-quality education, from secondary school through university and into the workplace. Our vision is to cultivate a generation of change makers and leaders who, armed with knowledge and empowerment, will drive sustainable development within their communities and across the nation. Through unwavering support and commitment to excellence, Sumbandila aspires to break the cycle of poverty and ignite a beacon of hope and innovation, ensuring that every student can reach their full potential and contribute meaningfully to a brighter, more equitable future."

The challenges

FINANCIAL INEQUALITIES

- South Africa has the world's highest GINI index, leading to a growing gap between rich and poor.
- Poor quality education in quintile one and two schools reinforces social inequality, poverty, and unemployment.
- Educational outcomes in South Africa are largely determined by wealth, school location, and language.



TERTIARY

- Approximately 12 out of every 100 pupils who start grade one go on to tertiary education, and the huge dropout rate is largely from quintile one schools.

UNEMPLOYMENT

- South Africa's youth unemployment rate is a shocking 55% and continues to rise.



STEM (SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING MATHS)

- South Africa ranks last out of 144 countries for the quality of Science and Maths education.
- The number of students writing Mathematics and Science is declining.
- Only 21% of public schools in Limpopo have computer laboratories, and many rural schools lack the skills and resources to fully utilise or maintain them.

LITERACY

- 27% of South African pupils who have attended school for six years cannot read.



How Sumbandila has been contributing to the solution since 2008

- Sumbandila's goal is to identify brilliant and determined children from severely disadvantaged rural areas and assist them in acquiring a world class education.
- We believe in quality over quantity. Our focus is on identifying a handful of exceptional children and embarking on an educational journey with them, from high school to university and ultimately into the workplace.
- The ultimate long-term objective is to cultivate leaders and entrepreneurs who can effect essential transformations in our society and economy.
- We believe that the 8-year partnership with our students initiates a process of positive change that remains with them throughout their lives and impacts the individuals and communities they encounter.
- We understand the importance of wraparound support for vulnerable children throughout this critical period of their lives, rather than just providing them with a high school or university education.
- Our programs are resource-intensive because we are committed to creating a select group of individuals who will emerge as leaders in their respective fields and have a meaningful impact on society.
- By prioritizing high touch instead of high numbers, we ensure that each student receives personalized attention and support tailored to their unique needs.
- Our aim is not to produce graduates in bulk, but to cultivate a few extraordinary individuals who will go on to assume leadership positions and effect real change in their communities and beyond.



As of March 2023 we have;

170 students currently at University

147 Tertiary Graduates

92 students in our Secondary School Programmes

- Sumbandila places a strong emphasis on STEM, ie Maths, Science Engineering and Technology in order to create graduates who can help to address South Africa's desperate need for top quality scientists, engineers and doctors.

25% of our students study or have studied in Science faculties, 16% in Engineering, 9% in IT and 14% in the Health Sciences.

- Sumbandila ensures that every student on their programme is fully computer literate before leaving school.
- Literacy, English language proficiency and writing computer coding are a priority for Sumbandila's Residential and Exceptionals (Outlier) programmes.



OUR PROGRAMMES

show the world

Residential

Exceptionals (Outliers)

Holiday School

University Programme

Community Outreach

Work placement



Residential

show the world

- Students in the Residential programme receive full bursaries to attend high quality independent schools or model C schools in close proximity to their communities of origin.
- These bursaries are full in the widest sense of the term. They cover:

- » Tuition Fees
- » Housing
- » Medical Needs
- » Transport
- » Exam Fees
- » Food & Clothing
- » Computer Access & Software
- » Books & Stationery
- » Extramural Activities
- » Mentoring & Pastoral Care



Achievements

Last year 2023

100% pass Maths and Science

100% Bachelor pass

TOP ACHIEVER at Ridgeway College

2 Investec Scholarships

- Critical to the success of this programme is the ongoing support surrounding the transition from village life to an essentially middle-class school situated in the town. This support is not only given by the staff but by the older Sumbandila students and the Alumni.



- The students are provided with a safe and nurturing environment to best support their educational and personal needs. They live in a dedicated hostel adjacent to the Sumbandila offices and close to their schools.
- Students are encouraged and financed to return home every weekend so that they stay rooted in their communities. This allows them to remain in their churches, youth groups, and maintain their friendships and family relationships.

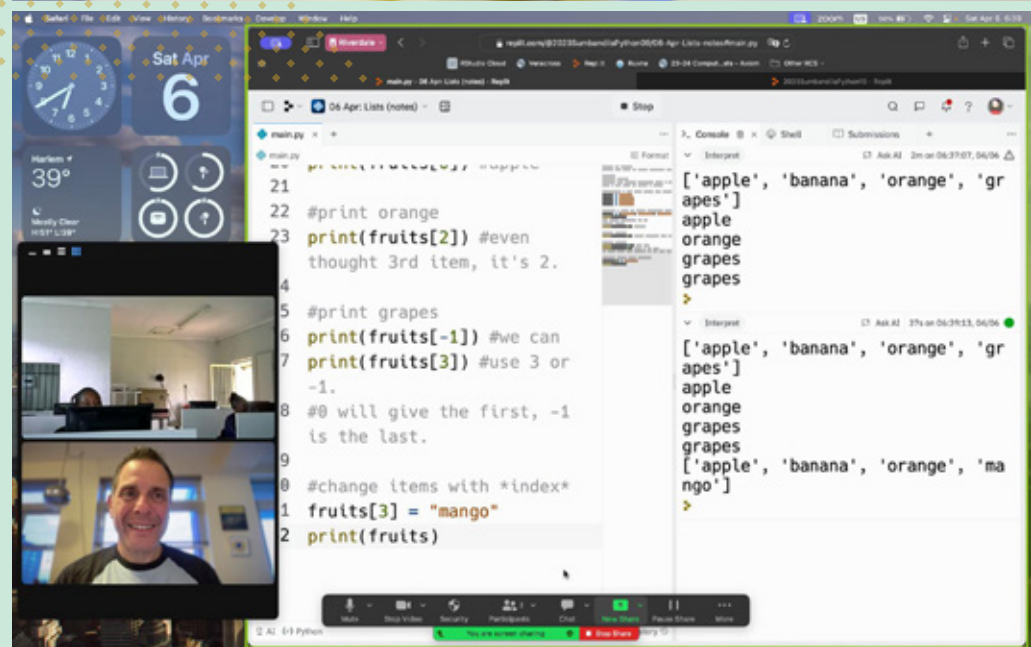
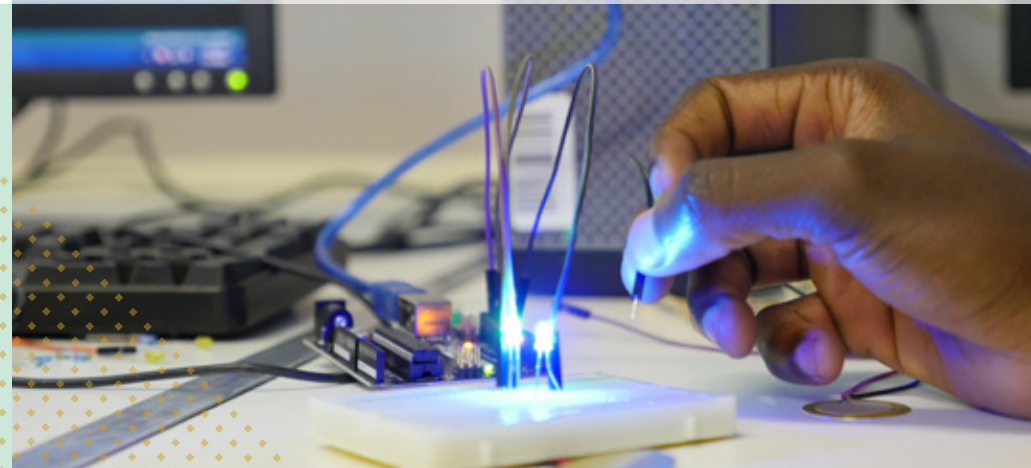


FIELD TRIPS, CULTURAL EVENTS, SPORTS & COMPETITIONS



Outliers "Exceptionals"

- The Full Residential Programme is limited by available funds and candidate students go through rigorous testing and an interview process before being selected. However, Sumbandila believes that having given these children a glimmer of hope they must be part of the family. Therefore, any children that make it to the final selection process but not onto the Full Residential Programme automatically become part of the Outlier/ Exceptionals Programme.
- Students in the Outlier Programme are funded to come to Ridgeway College on Saturdays and during the school holidays for academic and psychosocial support, as well as a wide range of activities and experiences designed to extend their cultural, social and personal horizons.
- The Outlier Programme covers the costs of textbooks, stationery, laboratory equipment, meals, and transport, as well as accommodation during holiday schools.
- Highly qualified teachers support students in Science, Mathematics, English, Accountancy, Computer Literacy, Coding and Biology.
- Sumbandila provides career guidance and assistance with tertiary institution applications and bursaries, covering all application costs for Exceptional and Residential students in their final year.





GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL

**EXCEPTIONALS AND RESIDENTIAL (OUTLIERS)
MATRIC RESULTS 2023 (27 students)**

- »» **100%** Bachelors pass rate for NSC matric (school leaving results).
Bachelors pass = University entrance
- »» **100%** passed Maths.
- »» **100%** pass rate in Science.
- »» **62** distinctions in Total



Holiday School

Watch on YouTube: **Holiday School 2023**

<https://youtu.be/fQGQAFGnSUQ>

Holiday School is the highlight of the year for students from all of our programs.

Local and International partners.

- Residential, Outlier and some University students and Alumni attend.
- Sumbandila is enormously grateful to partner with a top school in New York, Riverdale Country School. Riverdale sponsors volunteer teachers to join us for 7 days and provide a diverse range of activities, classes and design a creative theme for the week.
<https://www.riverdale.edu/>
- For 2023 we were also joined by a volunteer from Dalton school NYC, and Mr Wong a photographer and retired teacher from Lakeside Seattle.
- Local Teachers from Ridgeway College and Louis Trichardt High School have been supporting our programme since its inception in 2008.
- We are deeply indebted to Ridgeway College who generously donate their premises for the duration.



The Holiday School curriculum includes:

- »» Photography
- »» Sport
- »» Fine Art
- »» Mindfulness
- »» Android Coding
- »» Drama
- »» Computer Coding
- »» Mathematics
- »» Capoeira
- »» Creative Writing
- »» Dance
- »» Teacher mentoring for university students studying education
- »» Yoga
- »» Motivational talks from Sumbandila Alumni
- »» Music

- Holiday School culminates in a day of exhibitions and performances where students showcase their newly acquired skills and talents. Art and design exhibitions, drama, capoeira and music productions all culminating in a colourful street festival.
- Holiday School exposes the students to a wide variety of activities and practices that many have never encountered before. This invaluable experience is a time for learning, bonding, personal growth and fun!
- 2023 we had a total of 177 participants for Holiday School.



2023 Holiday School



University Programme

January 2024 **25** new first year students entered University.
Currently total of **170** students at University.
148 students have graduated from University.
17% of our students are currently studying in
Science Faculties, **13%** in Engineering, **5%** in IT and
19% in the Health Sciences, **23%** in Finance,
11% in Education and **7%** in Humanities.

Sumbandila provides support for all Residentials and Outliers 'Exceptionals' entering university in the following ways:

- Grade 12 students are given intensive career advice and are encouraged to select courses that match their talents and interests and for which they qualify in terms of APS scores.
- Sumbandila helps administer all NSFAS applications (Nation Student Financial Aid Scheme) the government student bursary and loan scheme for financial assistance).
- Students are given practical and financial help to apply to three tertiary institutions and to a wide range of bursaries and funding options. They are given logistical and financial help to attend interviews for bursaries.
- Sumbandila assists logistically and financially by finding accommodation for students whose bursaries are not comprehensive.
- Students are assisted with travel expenses to get to university and with basics like bedding, cooking utensils, stationery, and startup groceries.
- The transition to university is difficult both emotionally and academically. Ongoing mentorship is given by Sumbandila staff. Students are given all-encompassing practical and emotional support, especially during the settling in period.

Bursary Partnerships

- »» StudyTrust
- »» Moshal Scholarship Programme
- »» Allan Gray Orbis Foundation
- »» Thuthuka Bursary Fund
- »» Jakes Gerwel Fellowship
- »» Investec Bursary
- »» Standard Bank
- »» Raise the Children
- »» NSFAS
- »» Orascom Development





Alumni in the work place play a significant role in mentoring university studies and sharing opportunities in the workplace. This year 2024 we held our first Alumni strategic planning workshop.

UNIVERSITY HOUSES

Sumbandila has two houses, zoned as hostels, in close proximity to Pretoria University. These hostels play a very important role in the following ways;

- Provide subsidised accommodation for students whose bursaries do not cover accommodation.
- Provide the care of a hostel mother and unlimited access to the internet.
- Are a space where other Sumbandila students in the vicinity can come to meet with Sumbandila peers.
- Foster a sense of community and support for students far from home.

WORK PLACEMENT

With more and more Sumbandila students graduating and entering the workplace, and with unemployment statistics permanently rising in our country, helping our students enter the workplace is an ever-growing part of our programme.

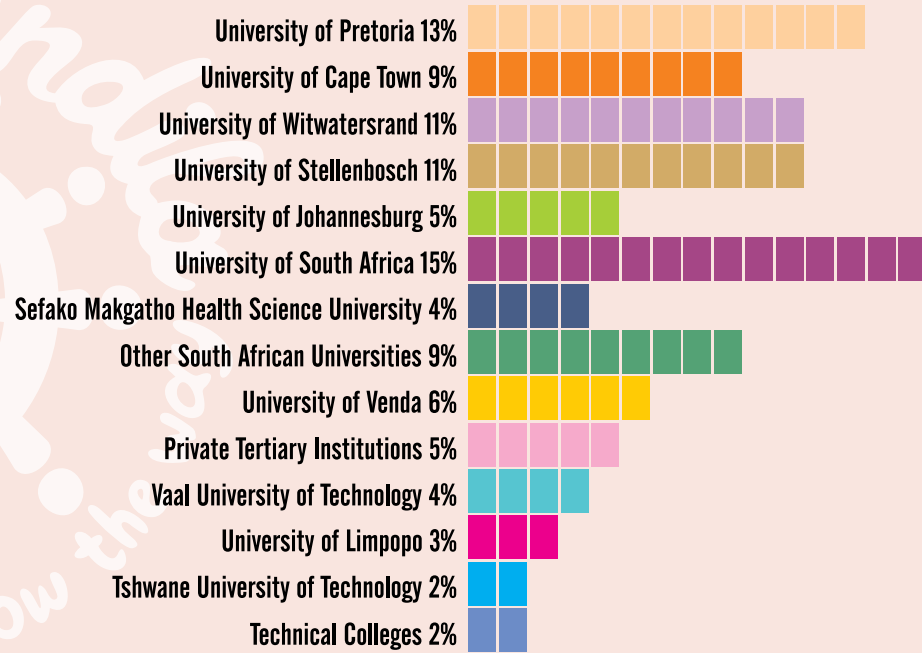
Where requested, Sumbandila helps in the following ways;

- Professional dress codes.
- Interview preparation.
- Exposure to our expanding networks in the workplace via Alumni.
- Assistance getting into graduate intern programs.
- Assistance finding accommodation near the workplace, and loans for deposits and signing of leases.



Distribution of Sumbandila students at South African Tertiary Institutions

UNIVERSITY DISTRIBUTION



Sumbandila scholars are currently enrolled for or have completed the following degrees:

Accounting Science	BSc Applied Mathematics and Computing	Dietetics
Actuarial Science	BSc Biological Sciences	Electronic Engineering
Aeronautical Engineering	Honours in Accounting	Electrical Engineering
B Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics	Honours in Applied Mechanics	Software Engineering
B Sports Science	BSc Chemistry and Mathematics	Mechanical Engineering
B Nursing and Midwifery	BSc Computer Engineering	Data Engineering
BA Speech-Language Pathology	BSc Construction Studies	Hotel & Tourism
BA Visual Arts Jewellery and Design	BSc Genetics	Industrial Engineering
BCom Economic & Management Sciences	BSc Honours in Conservation Biology	Law
BCom Information Systems	BSc Honours in Geoinformatics	Masters in Applied Mathematics
Education	BSc Honours in Quantity Surveying	Masters in International Relations
Biochemistry	BSc Honours in Social Work	Masters in Risk Management of Financial Markets
Biological and Agricultural Sciences	BSc Mathematical Science	Medicine
Biomedical Technology	BSc Environmental Science	ND Sport Management
Biomedical Engineering	Chemical Engineering	Occupational Therapy
Mechatronics Engineering	Civil & Mechanical Engineering	Pharmacy
	Culinary Arts	Physiotherapy
	Clinical Medical Practice	Veterinary Science
		Veterinary Technology



COMMUNITY

At the heart of our mission lies the objective of nurturing young adults who are firmly rooted in their communities, possess a sense of pride for their culture, and uphold the values espoused by Sumbandila.

We stress the importance of scholars respecting and maintaining their own cultural values, traditions and most importantly their language.

Our aim is for these individuals to eventually give back to their communities and become role models for other children who share similar backgrounds.

Students are reminded of the responsibility to their families and communities, the idea of service in leadership and the philosophy of Ubuntu (I am because we are). Already many of our Alumni are giving back to their own families and communities and to Sumbandila in the form of;

- Financial contributions.
- Tutoring of younger students.
- Role models.
- Motivational talks.
- Volunteering at Holiday School.
- Career counselling.
- Networks and job opportunities in the work place.
- Counselling and advice.
- Volunteering at Sumbandila offices and Hostel.
- Support networks at University.
- Supporting their own families and extended families.



Outreach projects

Sumbandila also works with two Foundation Phase schools in the deep rural areas in a variety of ways;

- Capital development such as playgrounds, classrooms, books and uniforms.
- Consultation around academic support and teacher training.



Highlights from 2023

Cash & Rocket Mother and Child visit.

Cash & Rocket visit Sumbandila

November 2023 a group of thirteen of the Cash & Rocket ladies, with their children visited Sumbandila in South Africa.

Watch on YouTube:

Cash & Rocket Visit 2023

<https://youtu.be/AQ8QixBRqK4>





Partnership with Raise The Children

- Raise the Children is an international non-profit organization focusing on empowering orphans with high potential, to get quality education and mentorship.
- This year we were delighted to partner again with Raise the Children to sponsor an additional two bringing us to a total of 5 students at Ridgeway College.
- In September 2023 we were very happy to receive Paul Horn the Executive Director of Raise the Children and his colleagues Mmatsie Motimele and Smiley Gabonewe. They were able to visit some of the children's homes in the villages and experience our Sumbandila family at a dinner in the Hostel.



New Students for 2024

- Testing for new students took place in August 2023. We selected a total of 19 new Saturday School students and 6 new Residential students.
- Currently Sumbandila has 147 University graduates, 170 students at University and 92 scholars at High School.





21st Century convergence of technologies can **transform education** for the poorest of the poor in deep rural Africa.

Utilising:

- Satellite **Internet**
- Handheld **electronic devices**
- STEM/AI/Robotics **online educational resources**
- Portable **solar power**
- Trained **facilitators**



This simple, mobile and eco-friendly STEM/AI/Robotics unit, we call a Hive.



Watch on YouTube:
NEW PROJECT (HIVE)
<https://youtu.be/JyQMfDfgvCY>



Our pilot in two rural schools showed outstanding results: Groups of 40 to 50 students engaging in **lag-free online coding and mathematics**, with significant engagement from both students and teachers.



Central to our strategy is training educators, to ensure **long term sustainability**. We're seeking to scale this model across Africa, in collaboration with local and international partners, to **bridge educational gaps** and **empower communities** through STEM/AI education.

Partners/Funders

- »» Cash & Rocket
- »» Marwyn Investments London
- »» The August Schippers Foundation
- »» Orascom Development
- »» Claremont Holdings
- »» Riverdale Country School
- »» Ball Family Foundation
- »» Corbett Family Foundation
- »» The Lucky Stone Trust
- »» Seolo Africa
- »» Standard Bank
- »» The Jacana Development Foundation
- »» Investec
- »» Study Trust
- »» Moshal
- »» Raise the Children
- »» Allan & Gill Gray Philanthropies
- »» Ridgeway College
- »» High School Louis Trichardt

Thank You

CASH & ROCKET
MARWYN
INVESTMENTS LONDON
THE AUGUST SCHIPPERS FOUNDATION



Some of the University students meeting with the Chairman of the Board, Hendrik Roux.



Ball Family Foundation



THE **JACANA**
DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION



ORASCOM
DEVELOPMENT



Thank you



Our Team

OUR TEAM

Sumbandila Scholarship Trust Staff

- Leigh Bristow
- Angela Brennan
- Annemie Meintjes
- Tsakani Miyen
- Denè Wolmarans
- Duncan Mulaudzi
- Evelyn Manyamba
- Ndivho Mulaudzi
- Lynn Biggs
- Energy Sigauke
- Noriah Matsimbi
- Ouma Lithole
- Nhlanhla Mahlangu
- Carol Chaput



Trustees SA

- Leigh Bristow
- Hendrik Roux
- Takalani Muloiwa
- Andrew Walford
- Mike Linden
- Douglas Richard Hoernle

Trustees USA

- Leigh Bristow
- Antoinette Quarshie
- Jennifer Lauren Chu
- Margie Worthington-Smith

Trustees UK

- Leigh Bristow
- Shanne Boyd
- Andrew Walford
- Douglas Richard Hoernle
- Antoinette Vanderpujje
- Emma Verneti



MASUWE
LANDELA SAFARIS

Masuwe Primary School



At Seolo Africa we believe that education is the cornerstone of conservation. Millions of people live in impoverished rural towns and villages that border iconic game reserves and parks. It is vital that these communities recognise the tangible benefits which stem from the combination of conservation and eco-tourism, and recognise the long-term harm of poaching and pollution. Understanding the value of conservation leads to individuals becoming proponents and custodians of these precious areas and the diverse, and in many cases threatened, life forms within. Education shapes knowledge, attitudes and critical thinking - all of which are essential for long-term sustainability.

Sumbandila often thanks Seolo Africa for our support. Now it's our turn to say,

'Thank you Sumbandila'

Rhino Post Safari Lodge and Rhino Walking Safaris in the Kruger National Park say: Thank you for:

- The opportunity to get involved in education - our passion, but not our area of expertise.
- Helping us to ensure that our bursary sponsorships are used wisely and effectively and target deserving youth.
- The caring and responsible manner in which rural children are supported and educated, without losing their identity.
- Allowing us the opportunity to mentor and provide internships to deserving and excellent students – we and our guests are so impressed with the quality of students that come from your programs.
- Your comprehensive approach condemns the vicarious voyeurism and virtue signalling often displayed by tourists visiting impoverished schools or communities, and avoids impractical, insensitive, or poorly considered hand-outs.
- Preserving dignity and providing a hand-up rather than a hand-out.

We are very excited that Sumbandila is extending its reach into Zimbabwe. Victoria Falls is an eco-tourism mecca, and Masuwe Lodge on the edge of the Chamabonda Reserve (which already supports the Masuwe Primary School) and Chundu Island in the Zambezi National Park will be supporting you all the way. We look forward to:

- Sharing your efforts and successes with our guests, and encouraging them to support you too.
- Spreading the word amongst our trade partners and agents, introducing the amazing work you do and suggesting ways that they too can benefit from your expertise in reliably and responsibly educating future leaders.
- Sponsoring prizes for fundraisers and helping you in any way that we can.





“A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single human contemplates it, bearing within them the image of a cathedral.”

Antoine de Saint-Exupery