

Spier Arts Academy announces 2015 recruitment drive

The Spier Arts Academy offers a three-year employment-based training in professional mosaic and ceramics specialisation and has announced a recruitment drive for Cape Town's aspiring artisans.

Started in 2008, the programme aims to equip apprentices with the necessary skills, work experiences and industry connections to run their own creative enterprises after graduation.

Monique Davids of the Spier Arts Academy says, "We are delighted to welcome aspiring 2015 applicants to build their creative aspirations at the Spier Arts Academy. As Cape Town celebrates World Design Capital and implements design based transformation, it is an integral year to celebrate the creative community, and implement skills transfer and entrepreneurial tools to ensure economic growth in the industry."



With local and international industry experts heading the training, apprentices gain invaluable industry experience working on real-world projects - working against production deadlines, collaborating with high calibre artists and learning professional art practices by association.

The mosaic studio is headed up by Irene Rizzin, a former masters graduate from the renowned Scuola Mosaicisti del Friuli in Italy; while the ceramic studio is run by Karen Kotze, a ceramic artist whose work is included in collections across South Africa. Additionally, both courses include tuition in drawing, art history, applied theory and business skills.

"Our theoretical training of business acumen, art history and drawing is fused with practical industry experience in exhibition work, as well as exposure to renowned artists and mentorship opportunities. Successful graduates have received

local and international work experience and the tools to become creative entrepreneurs," says Davids.

Apprentices are also exposed to the local art and culture scene, via excursions to art studios, galleries, museums and the art library. The ultimate excursion takes the form of a cultural tour of Europe - awarded to third year apprentices who perform consistently well.

Under the direction of Yellowwoods Art, the Academy has produced architectural-scale mosaic artworks to critical acclaim; to date winning two BASA Awards and the BAMM Award in the UK. The Spier Arts Academy is also an official project of World Design Capital Cape Town 2014.

Open days will be hosted in the historic headquarters at Cape Town's Union House on 1-2 August.

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>