

December 2009

Graphic Design Report Back



Report on the LtE Students studying further in 2009

The objective of this report is to give you a look at some of the stories and faces of the students who you have sponsored through the graphic design bridging course. It is a very exciting task for me to feedback on the progress of the students from the 1st and 2nd design courses that Learn to Earn ran in 2008 & 2009. The 2008 course enabled six students to gain access to tertiary institutions where they are all continuing their studies in the exciting field of Graphic Design & Photography!

The final part of this report is about the current group of design students, their progress and achievements during 2009.

Thank you NMCF for your funding of this course. I'm sure the testimonies will speak for themselves!

Julia Baker
Design Trainer



LtE graphics students - 2008

‘From the horse’s mouth’....

I interviewed some of LtE’s 2008 students to see how they are enjoying their first year of tertiary studies, this is what they had to say...



Thokozani Mpotsha - Stellenbosch University

How have you enjoyed your first year?

“I am loving my first year at Stellenbosch University! It has been very hard work, I have often been up until 2 or even 5am to get all my work in by deadline! I have learnt so much this year, my drawing skills have improved enormously and I’m proud to say that I’m going to be in 2nd year in 2010!”

How has the bridging course at Learn to Earn helped you?

“Well firstly I wouldn’t even be here if it hadn’t been for the course at Learn to Earn (LtE)! Apart from the assistance to get into Stellenbosch, the foundation we received has been invaluable. I know the design programmes already, the basics about fonts, colours and design, even what we learnt about time management has been so useful! I gained so much self confidence from doing the bridging course that I don’t feel intimidated this year even though I’m in a class full of students who have studied at wealthy schools! I can’t wait till third year when I will lecture LtE students just as we were mentored by previous students! Thank you to Learn to Earn and NMCF for making this course possible, it has changed my life!”



Bongwiwe Basela - Stellenbosch Academy of Design and Photography

How have you enjoyed your first year?

“Of course I’m enjoying my first year! It has been a lot of hard work, but with help from my lecturer I’m coping and doing well!”

How has the bridging course at Learn to Earn helped you?

“The foundation we received at LtE was so helpful. When we started at the Academy we already knew what was expected of us. Knowing the design programmes and basic design principles helped a lot! Thank you for your investment LtE and NMCF!”



Lubabalo Faltein - Stellenbosch Academy of Design and Photography

How have you enjoyed your first year?

“I am more than enjoying myself! I am passing all my subjects and have made good friends in my class.”

How has the bridging course at Learn to Earn helped you?

“There is no way I would be on this course or been able to cope with the pressure of first year if I hadn’t done the bridging course at Learn to Earn. I often help my classmates and even second year students with CDP (computer design practical) because I learnt how to use the programmes at Learn to Earn. Thank you to LtE and NMCF for making this possible for me. This is my dream career and I’m so excited that I’ve finished my first year! Phambili ngoLearn to Earn!” (Keep going with the good work LtE!)



Siyanda Buzo - Cape Peninsular University of Technology (Bellville)

How have you enjoyed your first year?

“My first year was a dream come true and on top of that it was exciting, fun and I felt like I belong somewhere for the first time in my life.”

How has the bridging course at Learn to Earn helped you?

“Learn to Earn showed me my path. Now I’m one step closer to living my dreams. I can see clearly now!”

LtE graphics students - 2009

Learn to Earn Graphic Design student Thandeka Bobani wins the Big Blue national T-shirt design competition.

The following excerpt is from a BizCommunity.com press release.

'The top dog winning designer of the Makhulu Polane* 2009 title is Thandeka Bobani with the design 'Boy with a Wheel'.

We received over 600 designs this year, the standard of design was the best we have ever seen. We thank you for your effort and applaud your talent - SA design is alive and well!

The competition, created in 2006 by Big Blue to discover and support local design talent, received over 600 submissions, from which the top 50 were drawn.

Bobani wins R20 000 in cash and her T-shirts, bearing the winning design will be sold in all Big Blue and Kitsch & Kool stores during November and December. She is currently studying a bridging course in graphic design at Learn to Earn in Khayelitsha and it's her dream to study further and become a fully fledged designer one day. Let's hope the R20 000 she's won can help her fulfil her dream.



Thandeka (seated) with her classmates and trainer Julia Baker all wearing Big Blue T-shirts of her winning design 'boy with wheel'

2009 Students Progress



It has been a year of definite 'peaks and troughs'. Starting the year with 11 students, it was very disappointing to have 4 drop out. One student had studied previously and was given a more advanced course opportunity at Concept Interactive. The remaining 6 students have progressed very well and have designed logo's for companies as far afield as Holland and the UK.

A large part of our time is spent in portfolio preparation. This year we submitted portfolios to Stellenbosch Academy of Design and Photography, Cape Peninsular University of Technology and Ruth Prowse School of Art.

We were delighted that Thobelani Maloyi was accepted into CPUT Bellville as well as the Stellenbosch Design and Photography Academy. Desmond Coetzee was accepted at both CPUT Cape Town and Ruth Prowse School of Art and Victor Nqakaza into Ruth Prowse. The other three students portfolio's were up to standard however their Matric results were not good enough so all three are rewriting their Matric next year to be able to have the right points to study further.

It is extremely rewarding to see how well these students have done! Well done zimboza!

December 2009

