

## Music Crossroads Zimbabwe / Zimbabwe

Music Crossroads Academy is a project of the Music Crossroads Zimbabwe Trust, a vibrant development oriented institution that uses music as a tool for youth empowerment. This year Music Crossroads Zimbabwe celebrates twenty years of promoting young musicians in Zimbabwe. To date 5000 young musicians' careers have been launched and more than 50 000 people in audiences have been reached. Hundreds of promotional workshops and concerts have been coordinated country wide and various regional and international exchanges have been undertaken, leading to the launch of notable household music careers like MunyaradziMunodawafa, King George VI's Liyana, Bongo Love, Progress Chipfumo, First Farai, Gwarimba, Were, Jesa just to name a few. The international world music band, Mokoomba is Music Crossroads Zimbabwe's success story of 2005-2010 where we set to identify an amateur band and nurture and train it to international professional levels. Mokoomba is today, Zimbabwe's pride on the international music scene. In 2013 we established a Music Academy which to date has enrolled 178 students into a one year Certificate in Professional Music program which has sent them teaching in various music schools in and out of Zimbabwe, producing in studios, playing in professional bands and contributing to festivals and other notable music businesses. The academy offers a 1-year Certificate and a 2-year Diploma in Professional Music based on an innovative curriculum that is offered nowhere else in Zimbabwe. Added to this is a one year certificate in sound engineering and most recently a one year certificate in music business. Music Crossroads also contributed to the current form 1 to 6 high schools' music syllabi, infusing aspects of the ideas from its innovative curriculum such as Body Percussion, during the recently concluded national primary and secondary schools curriculum review.