

Empowering Youth  
to a better Future



## Rainbow Academy Success Story

**Name and surname:** Odwa Bongo

**Age:** 22

**Year of Graduation from The Rainbow Academy:** 2014

**A.K.A (also known as):** Magigaro



### Describe yourself in a few sentences:

I am an ambitiously energetic young man who enjoys working hard knowing that it will pay off. I love music especially being a performer completes me.

**Are you currently completing Higher Education, any further skills development courses, running your own small business, perusing a career in performing arts or are you involved in productions? Are you involved in setting up your own community projects or all of the above? and Why? How has Rainbow Inspired you in any way to follow your passion?**

I am currently performing around Cape Town and creating my own shows as well as studying. Rainbow has inspired me simply because they are very courageous and always they have been alongside me in good times and bad times. The opportunities they give have really helped me.

**How has the Rainbow Academy Curriculum (a mixture of both ACADEMIC AND PRACTICAL TRAINING in performing arts, music, life kills, tourism, business and performances) benefitted you in acquiring diverse skills, life lessons, learning the values of Ubuntu- never giving up -working hard, etc, helped to develop your career?**

The one thing I learnt from Rainbow is to never give up and this has helped me in career so much that I come to understand that things take time to work the way I want them to. I must just keep on pushing and I will reap what I sow. I learnt that people are different and you should focus on what you are there for. Take away the negativity and good things will start coming your way.

### Who was your favourite teacher(s) and why?

All of them were my favourite teacher because they made me feel at home.



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**How have your studies, job placements in professional shows, gigs, and leadership/entrepreneurship training at The Rainbow Academy helped you to further develop your confidence, build your career planning skills to help you embark on a career as an entrepreneur and reporter.... Please elaborate**

I really do not know how to answer this question. But with all the skills I learnt I now am able to handle my own gigs and shows.

**List some of the exciting performance, career project and successes you have achieved since graduating from The Rainbow Academy? Please list a few career high-lights and achievements.**

I went to Mozambique with UCT Ibuyambo  
I have been invited to perform at the crypt as a guest artist twice  
I have had 5 full shows  
I recorded my single

**What are the key valuable lessons, values, skills and insight and inspiration you have acquired whilst at Rainbow?**

To treat people equally and not to favour others. Working hard takes a lot of energy but it feels good in the end.

**What inspiring memories, challenges, and funny moments do you remember at The Academy?**

I enjoyed all the performances we did.

**What are your next goals, future plans and where do you see yourself in 5 years time?**

In the next 5 years I see myself entering the industry nationally. I want to have my full album by then.

**What is your role in helping to solve the many social problems such as education, youth unemployment, drugs and poverty in our Country?**

For now, I tell my peers about Rainbow Academy because I believe that is where they will learn about life and what they want to peruse.

**What is the most important lesson you have learnt at The Rainbow Academy**

NEVER GIVE UP

