

Who is Thekgo?

Thekgo means 'support' in sePedi. The bursary scheme was created in 2011 by a small group of friends (Sharlene Khan, Khwezi Gule, Fouad Asfour, Collins Miruka and Grace A Musila) who felt strongly about the plight of first year students at South African colleges and universities. Unable to raise the funds to pay registration fees, many of these students will lose out on tertiary education. New students are often unfamiliar with available funding opportunities until they are part of the university system. This bursary scheme extends a supportive hand towards initial registration fees (for both undergraduate and postgraduate Humanities students).

Based on the South African *stokvel* model of regular communal saving, the five founding members committed to making minimum monthly contributions of R100. Anchored in the principle of ordinary people's philanthropy, we believe that collectively, our contributions can make a huge difference to providing access to higher education and allowing students to realise their potential.

In 2016, we have grown to 14 members who are actively involved in the bursary's selection process, and to date we have contributed to the studies of 27 students from Diploma to PhD level. In 2015, Thekgo Bursary initiative joined the Canon Collins Educational and Legal Assistance Trust to form the **Canon Collins Thekgo Bursary** and as such has now attained Non-Profit Organisation status. Thanks to Canon Collins' staff support, the bursary does not incur staffing expenses, and all funding donated by members goes directly towards student bursaries.

Some of the students we have supported

Makhosazana Happiness Hlatshwayo (PgDip Arts, Culture & Heritage Management, Wits, 2012)

From a young age, Makhosazana organised cultural initiatives in the township of Vosloorus and gained work experience at Khanya College and the Trevor Huddleston Memorial Centre. Witnessing the decline of community art initiatives, she enrolled for a postgraduate diploma in Arts, Culture and Heritage in 2012. Thekgo Bursary covered her registration fees and she received additional bursaries from the Department of Arts and Culture and the National Arts Council. After graduating in 2014, she was appointed Community and Audience Development Manager at Soweto Theatre.



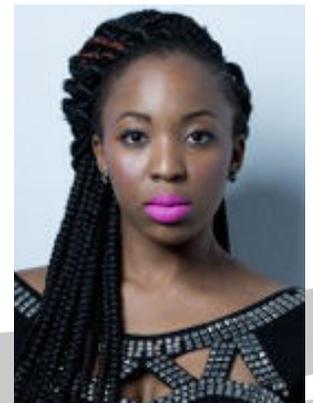
Bethsheba Kangwa (PhD Law, UWC, 2015)

Bethsheba was born and raised in the Copperbelt Province of Zambia. She is currently pursuing her doctorate in International Trade Law at the University of the Western Cape. Thekgo Bursary assisted with the registration for her first year doctoral studies in 2014. The focus of her research is Legal Integration and the effective monitoring and enforcement thereof as a prerequisite for Economic Integration in Africa. She is currently working as Graduate Lecturing Assistant Coordinator in the Law Faculty at the University of the Western Cape, tutoring first year law students in Legal Systems and Customary Law.



Lebohang Kganye (Dip Fine Arts, UJ, 2015)

Lebohang was born in Katlehong, in the East Rand of Johannesburg. She studied at the Market Photo Workshop and received the 2012/13 Tierney Fellowship which led to her first solo exhibition *Ke Lefa Laka*. Thekgo Bursary covered Lebohang's registration fees for studying Fine Arts at the University of Johannesburg in 2014, after which she successfully applied for the Let's Build Our Country Fund (LBOC) to fund the remainder of her studies. She was a featured artist at the 17th BASA Awards in 2014 and exhibited at the Bamako Encounters Biennale of African Photography in 2015, where she received the *Coup de Coeur* Award.



Where do you come in?

This is an invitation to join the initiative and help make higher education accessible for a deserving, but financially-challenged student. While these are stormy economic times, passing up that nice bottle of wine, dinner out, or movie tickets once a month in exchange for making someone's education possible makes a difference we can all be proud of. If you would like to join the Thekgo group, you can give a one-off donation, or give a contribution of your choice, on a monthly or annual basis.

As the fund grows - and with your contribution - we can extend this supportive hand towards more students and make a real difference in their lives.

Join Thekgo today!

Please email thekgobursary@gmail.com to find out more, or fill out the donation form below. If you know of eligible students please encourage them to look out for the next call for applications on our website:

www.canoncollins.org.uk/apply/scholarship/thekgo-bursaries

Donate by Bank Transfer

I have made the following donation: annually monthly once-off

to the Canon Collins Trust, Durban

Bank: Nedbank **Account number:** 1301146897 **Reference:** Thekgo

Name
Address
Postcode
E-mail
Signed Date

Please scan and return to: roger@canoncollins.org.uk

Or donate online at www.givengain.com/cause/4982/donate/#start



Support for first year students

Through the philanthropy
of ordinary people

