

MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER JANIA GEOGHEGAN

Our mission at Madrinha Trust is to relieve poverty through the power of education and professional development support.

Since 2011, Madrinha has focused solely on providing full scholarships for tertiary education in South Africa, Africa, Nepal, Vietnam, the Caribbean and Palestine.

2023 was a wonderfully rewarding year as we joyously celebrated reaching over 100 alumni.

We asked our alumni to reflect on the impact of the Madrinha Trust wrap around scholarship support:

- Giving inspirational quotes of 2023
- Advice they would give to a Madrinha Scholar
- Reflections on their mentor journey experience
- Becoming a Madrinha Mentor in 2024

We are so happy to share their contributions with you here.

In 2024, we look forward to the launch of our Alumni Society with over half of our alumni expressing an interest in giving back through mentorship and Career Skills Programme leadership support.

Jama

Jania Geoghegan Founder Madrinha Trust

Images:

Right: Jania Geoghegan Front: Alice, Graduate 2022



CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI 2023 GLOBAL BENEFICIARIES

Currently all 102 of our alumni are employed across 13 sectors:

Arts	2
Business	3
Ecology & Horticulture	2
Education	13
Engineering	8
Finance	13
Law	5
Medicine: Doctors/Nurses	30
Science	10
Social Sciences	4
Technology	5
Tourism & Hotel Management	5
Vets	2
Total Alumni	102





CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI WRAP AROUND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

The Madrinha Trust provides a full cycle wrap-around scholarship programme.

We believe this is truly taking our scholars out of poverty through the power of education, mentoring and career support and creating successful alumni.













MADRINHA TRUST









CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI BARBADOS / BRAZIL / CANADA / GHANA



MARCIO Graduated 2015

Ballet Dancer Ballet Jorgan Canada

Inspirational Quote "Where there's a will, there's a way."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It truly helped me to achieve where I am today."





ELSA-RUTH Graduated 2018

Senior House Officer Queen Elizabeth Hospital Barbados

Inspirational Quote

"Shoot for the moon and even if you miss you will land among the stars."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Mentorship has been one of the best and key resources that this journey can offer. Never be afraid to ask for help and guidance from your mentor. They have likely experienced the same situation and can offer assistance."





ADJEI Graduated 2023

Mathematics Teacher Ghana Education Service Ghana



Inspirational Quote "Not my will but thy will be done."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "My mentor journey has been so smooth, supportive, encouraging, motivating and goal oriented."



CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI GHANA

MAVIS Graduated 2023

Maths Teacher Ghana Education Service Ghana

Inspirational Quote

"The smallest deeds are better than the grandest."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It is a great opportunity to serve humanity."



JOYCE Graduated 2023

Midwifery Officer Hospital Ghana

Inspirational Quote
"Know where you are from and where you are going

What would you say about your mentor journey?

"Feels good knowing you have someone who is
readily available whenever you need her and offers
the guidance and encouragement you need. All in all
the journey has been great."

EUNICE Graduated 2023

Maths Teacher
Ghana Education Service
Ghana

What would you say about your mentor journey? "The year 2023 has equipped me with professional skills and insight for my teaching career. I've finally come to the end of my four year programme. I'm so grateful to God and the Trust for making this possible in my life."



CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI GHANA



LUKEMAN Graduated 2023

Pharmacy Technician Damongo District Hospital Ghana

Inspirational Quote

"If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change." Wayne Dyer

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It was a wonderful experience, where I was inspired and encouraged to participate in the Career Skills Programmes."

Graduated 2019

Teaching Ghana Educational Service

Inspirational Quote "It is just a matter of time."

What would you say about your mentor journey?

"It has been a lovely and awesome journey with my mentor Omar and the other students."





Inspirational Quote

"You can be whatever you put your mind to.."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It's a wonderful experience."





CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI KENYA

EVANS Graduated 2021

QMS/Process Improvement Supervisor East African Storage Company Kenya

"For one to receive, he/she must always be willing to give back."

What would you say about your mentor

"One of the best. At my earlier stage in university, journey? I had someone who could really direct me towards my future based on the market as they have been exposed to different working environments. It was a pleasure to have such great mentors at my earliest."





KOMORA Graduated 2019

County Co-ordinator NGAAF Kenya

Inspirational Quote "Humility."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "A meaningful journey that leads one to the right direction in achieving life goals and opportunities."



Resident Medical Officer AGA Khan Hospital Mombasa Kenya

Inspirational Quote

"To new mentees - the journey seems long, though it's short. It'll be over before you know it."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Your success at the end of it is as sweet as the actual journey itself. Embrace and enjoy it."





CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI

NEPAL

MINGMAR Graduated 2022

Education Co-ordinator Himalayan Children's **Foundation** Nepal

Inspirational Quote

"Some lessons have to be experienced before they can be understood."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It is a valuable relationship for learning, growth, and personal development."

PASANG

"Never give up! Be consistent and passionate on what Inspirational Quote

you do."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It was a fruitful journey. I got support from Maya during my educational journey."

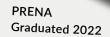
TENZIN Graduated 2019

Sponsorship Coordinator Saraswati Organization Nepal

Inspirational Quote

"Embrace each new day as a canvas of endless possibilities, paint it with the colors of positivity, and see your life turn into a beautiful masterpiece."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Remember, the path to success is often dotted with challenges, but it's these challenges that shape our character and resilience. Embrace each hurdle as an opportunity to learn and grow stronger."



Nurse Hams Hospital Kathmandu Nepal

Inspirational Quote

"We can't become what we need to be by remaining what we are." - Oprah Winfrey

What would you say about your mentor journey? "I have the best mentor(Aine). She's the reason for paving my academic path so smooth. Our mentormentee relationship has helped me to thrive in my career."













ALAA Graduated 2023

Medic Jerusalem **Palestine**

Inspirational Quote

"Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "My mentorship experience was transformative, offering not just guidance through the academic rigors of medical school, but also personal growth and balance. Critical moments, like overcoming the pressures of clinical rotations, were navigated with my mentor's wisdom. This journey has honed my clinical skills, fostered resilience, and inspired my pursuit of a dermatology specialization."

RANEEN Graduated 2017

Caritas Hospital Bethlehem **Palestine**

Inspirational Quote "Nothing is impossible."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "My journey involved the building of an equal relationship characterized by trust, moral support. An experience that I enjoyed "

KHALED Graduated 2021

Physician Ministry of Health **Emergency Paediatrics** Palestine

Inspirational Quote "Work smart and hard to reach the top."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "He was like a father in my journey."



MAHMOUD Graduated 2021

Research and Teaching Assistant Al Quds University Palestine

Inspirational Quote "Stars Can't Shine without Darkness."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Enlightening. It challenges you to be the best possible version of yourself."

MAJD Graduated 2016

Anaesthesia Specialist Istishari Arab Hospital Palestine

Inspirational Quote

"Do what you love and love what you do."

What would you say about your mentor journey?

"It was a nice experience to be able to guide someone and advise them is really precious."

ANGHAM

Graduated 2021

General Practitioner Jenin Governmental Hospital Palestine

Inspirational Quote "Please do your best."

What would you say about your mentor journey?



AYMAN Graduated 2017

Resident Doctor of Neurosurgery Makassed Islamic Charitable Hospital Palestine

"Work hard until you no longer need to introduce yourself."

What would you say about your mentor journey?

"No words can describe how the mentor journey was. Full of power, inspiration, good connections, great people to know, another family of mine. By the way, it is never to forget my first mentor, Dr Nick Dudley. Love you all."



JAMAL Graduated 2022

Neurosurgery Al Shifa Hospital **Palestine**

Inspirational Quote

"Thank you so much for your support, you are special."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "A mentor is a friend, brother or sister, teacher and supporter or supervisor in the same time. All of that will be if the mentee was good as a person before as a student."



RAZAN Graduated 2022

Internship Doctor Palestinian Ministry of Health **Palestine**



Inspirational Quote

"Even in the darkest time, a beam of light appears to illuminate the dark and bring hope."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "My mentor was one of the best people I ever got to know, he helped and supported me throughout my university years."



HADEEL Graduated 2022

Medical Doctor Al-Shifa Hospital Palestine

"You start this way and only you have the power to Inspirational Quote complete"

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It's a fantastic experience, I love all the Madrinha family."



HAYTHAM Graduated 2017

Paediatric Resident Hamad Medical Corporation Palestine

Inspirational Quote "When you have a dream, no one can stop you."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It was a very special period of my life as all of what I reached till now is because my mentor advises."

CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI RWANDA



MONIQUE Graduated 2017

HC Nurse Rwanda

Inspirational Quote

"I will try and fail, but I will never fail to try."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Mentor journey is good because it guides people from one level to another."

INES Graduated 2019

Agriculture & Business Rwanda

Inspirational Quote "Tomorrow will be better."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "I thank them for teaching me, because I am grateful to them."





Graduated 2023

Chief Operation Officer Urukundo Initiative Rwanda

Inspirational Quote

"You've got to get up every morning with determination if you're going to go to bed with satisfaction." – George Lorimer

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Like John Crosby said, mentorship is like you have a brain to pick, an ear to listen and a push in the right direction. I have been blessed to have mentor who has been in the same shoes, therefore following her footsteps was a plus for me."

CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI RWANDA



HONORE Graduated 2022

Technical Assistant Measurement Systems Ltd Rwanda

Inspirational Quote

"Success is not an accident, it's a result of hard work, discipline and believing in yourself."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "On behalf of my mentor Aaron, he really helped my journey by sharing ideas, advice and encouraging and supporting me to complete projects."

JOSEE Graduated 2021

Registered Midwife Gihundwe District Hospital Rwanda

"You can't cross the sea merely by standing and Inspirational Quote staring at the water"

What would you say about your mentor journey? "A mentorship relationship is important to the journey - having a teacher, a role model, an adviser, a motivator, someone who will always want you to succeed. Everyone needs a mentor."



Assistant Draughtsman NPD Ltd Rwanda

Inspirational Quote

"Yes you have dream. So, put an effort in making your dreams real."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It requires you to give good advice and kind support for your mentee. I thank my mentor for giving me that."

CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI RWANDA

XAVERINE Graduated 2019

Assistant Senior Engineer CRE Rwanda

Inspirational Quote

"It always seems impossible until it's done." - Nelson Mandela

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Being a mentor is a very fulfilling experience. It means you can really help someone in a big way. You get to share what you know, give advice, and be there for them. It might not always be easy, but the feeling of seeing someone you're helping improve and do well is priceless. Being a mentor is like a special opportunity to help others become better at what they do, both in their personal and educational lives.."



CLAUDINE Graduated 2028

Biomarker (Field Staff) Rwanda Biomedical Centre Rwanda

Inspirational Quote "Well done is better than well said."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "What I have to tell about the mentor journey is to be flexible, patient and to be strong."



Community Development Facilitator Corps Africa Rwanda

Inspirational Quote

"Setting goals is the first step in turning the invisible into the visible."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Mentor journey is a good experience also I want to learn I will learn more in this journey like to care and advise my mentee."





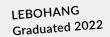
KGOROMPI BEN Graduated 2019

Senior Business Analyst Nedbank Private Wealth South Africa

Inspirational Quote

"The words value and beauty, are not determined by an innate quality, but by the lengths the owner goes to possess them."

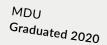
What would you say about your mentor journey? "It's a journey I didn't know I needed until Mark took the first step with me."



Researcher Perinatal HIV Research Unit South Africa

"Turning something from an idea into a reality can make it seem smaller. It changes from unearthly to earthly. The imagination has no limits. The physical world does. The work exists in both." - Rick Rubin

What would you say about your mentor journey? "I learnt a lot through my mentor journey, giving me the opportunity to grow my leadership skills and navigate my interests with guidance. Observing where I am in life someone played a big role in my growth and that someone was my mentor."



IT Support Khula Education South Africa



Inspirational Quote

"Inspiration does exist, but it must find you working."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "The most amazing journey that has connected me with the fantastic Madrinha family - a group of experts who know what they are doing."



PHILASANDE Graduated 2019

Fellowship Programme TTN SA/KHULA South Africa



Inspirational Quote

"You can get everything in life you want if you will just help enough other people get what they want."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It is very helpful academically and also emotionally."



HANNAH Graduated 2022

Analyst FTI Capital Advisors South Africa



"Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears, and never regrets." - Leonardo da Vinci

What would you say about your mentor journey?" "My mentor has been a tremendous source of inspiration and unwavering support throughout our journey, and his ongoing support continues to be invaluable."

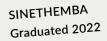


WENZI Graduated 2022

Educator Evander High School South Africa

"We are powerful beyond measure" - Maya Angelou Inspirational Quote

What would you say about your mentor journey?" "My Madrinha mentor journey has been a great experience for me. Now as a mentor, I'm able to reach out and make a difference to another mentee - this is life changing."



Teacher **KHULA Education** South Africa



Inspirational Quote

immensely rewarding."

"The best way to predict the future is to create it." -Peter Drucker

What would you say about your mentor journey? "The mentor journey isn't just about teaching; it's about continuous learning. Your mentee might offer fresh ideas, new technologies, or different ways of thinking that can benefit you as well. Be open to learning from your mentor. They have valuable experiences and insights to offer. As you grow and learn, consider mentoring others in the future. Passing on knowledge and guidance can be

LINDELWE Graduated 2020

Clinical Associate **ER Consulting** South Africa

Inspirational Quote "The only failure is not to try."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It's been an interesting one, filled with love, support and encouragement. It's amazing the conversations we have in these WhatsApp groups. I am absolutely inspired."

NOMFUNDO Graduated 2021

Customer Success Account Manager Microsoft SA South Africa

Inspirational Quote

"It is much better to lose a battle and win the war than to win a battle and lose the war. Resolve to keep your

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Mentors are the best people to introduce you to a world of skills you weren't likely to know."



Wealth Management Associate **PCH** South Africa



Inspirational Quote

"Always strive to be better than you were yesterday."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It was exceptional, I gained a lifelong friend and sister."







BOITSHEPO Graduated 2023

Teacher **Diepsloot Combined School** South Africa

Inspirational Quote

"The level of success you achieve will be in direct proportion to the depth of your commitment."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It has been a great and a self building experience. I have learned a lot through my mentor "

CLAIRE Graduated 2016

Ballet Dancer English National Ballet (UK) South Africa

Inspirational Quote "Create the life you love."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "The mentor journey is really special and will teach you so many valuable skills to take with you into a career one day. These years of learning are so precious and will set you up for a successful career and life."





Educator Ronaki International School (Iraq) South Africa



Inspirational Quote "Proper preparation prevents poor performance."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It's truly inspirational."







ESTELLE Graduated 2022

Community Service Dietitian Pretoria West District Hospital South Africa

Inspirational Quote

"Sometimes we are tested, not to show our weaknesses but to discover our strengths." - Poetscafé

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It's such a blessing to have, the mentor you have will guide and support you on all levels: Academically and emotionally. They become like a family member."



KGOMOTSO Graduating 2025

Conservation Ecology Masters Degree Stellenbosch University South Africa

"Do not focus on what you don't have, focus on what Inspirational Quote you have and make the best of it."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "The mentor journey is for life. No matter where you are in life, you can always count on your mentor."



SANELE Graduated 2019

Clinical Associate **Emmaus Hospital** South Africa



Inspirational Quote

"Whatever your mind can conceive and believe, your mind can achieve "

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It's always been my dream to be someone's mentor. I also wish to join organisations like KHULA Education and be one of the greatest mentors of all time"



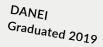
SHANNON Graduated 2020

Community & Social Media Manager VALR South Africa



Inspirational Quote "Let your dreams be your wings."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Great initiative."



Co-Founder and COO Findamentals South Africa

Inspirational Quote

"Love your neighbour as you love yourself."

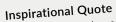
What would you say about your mentor journey? "It is so helpful to have a mentor."

'You must learn from the mistakes of others. You can't possibly live long enough to make them all yourself' -Samuel Levenson



THULI Graduated 2019

Finance Administration Officer Teach the Nation South Africa



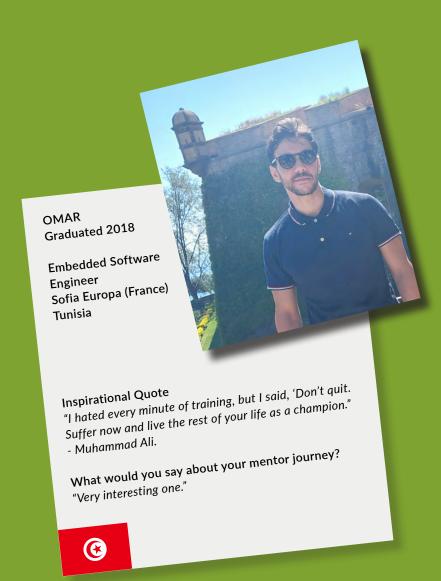
"Education is not preparing for life, education is life itself."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It's important to have a mentor that has experience and knowledge about your career, making it easier for both of you to communicate and understand each other."





CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI TUNISIA





Inspirational Quote

"Do not focus on what you don't have, focus on what you have and make the best of it."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "The mentor journey is for life. No matter where you are in life, you can always count on your mentor."



CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI TANZANIA

ELIAS Graduated 2021

IT Officer Jubilee Health Insurance Tanzania



"If you are working on something that you really care about, you don't have to be pushed. The vision pulls you." - Steve Jobs.

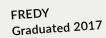
What would you say about your mentor journey? "It is actually a perfect thing I never had. A mentorship program makes me feel like I'm not alone in my journey, which makes it easier to find the purpose in my studies and life in general. Most of the students get stuck in their studies and life in general, since they don't have someone to share with or even to guide them; they end up failing."

IRENE Graduated 2021

Staff Trainee The Navigators Ministry Tanzania

Inspirational Quote

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."



Economist Government of Tanzania Prime Ministers' Office Tanzania

Inspirational Quote

"Success is the time when preparation and opportunity meet! Get prepared!"

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Where I come from I had no one to talk to or give me advice about my career or anything involving my studies. My Madrinha mentor is when I met that one person for the first time in my life and it was a turning point from just studying to studying with determination."



Geotechnical Engineer Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Tanzania

Inspirational Quote

"Make what you can of what you have been given."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "It is a journey of impact. A journey of inspiration and change."

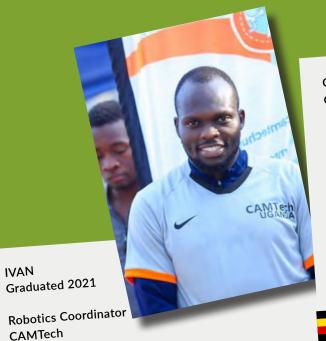








CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI UGANDA

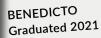


CLEMENSIA Graduated 2021

Managing Director The Unique Tutoring Hub Uganda

Inspirational Quote "Opportunities favour the prepared."

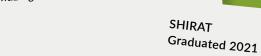
What would you say about your mentor journey? "It's been amazing."



Customer Agronomist Syova Seed Uganda Ltd Uganda

Inspirational Quote "Everyday is a new day."

What would you say about your mentor journey? "Worth it."



Locum Laboratory Technologist Joint Clinical Research Centre Uganda

Inspirational Quote "Patience, time and consistency pays off."

What would you say about your mentor journey?"It's really amazing I learnt a lot of things."





IVAN

Uganda

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward." -Martin Luther King, Jr.

What would you say about your mentor journey? "My mentor was my accountability partner, working with her helped to greatly improve my grades at University."



CELEBRATING OUR 100+ ALUMNI FULL LIST OF MADRINHA ALUMNI 2023



BARBADOS

Elsa Ruth Arthur Chryssie Deukett

BRAZIL / CANADA Marcio Teiveira-Silva

GHANA

Rachael Adjei
Wilhelmina Semackor
Adjei Mohamed
Eunice Quashie
Mavis Tawiah
Joyce Kalang
Lukeman Dugunaa

INDIA

Bikash Jha Deepak Roy

KENYA

Alice Shauri
Evans Abaganda Haron
Komora Benedict
Nancy Tomee
Ongonge Collins
Rabbia Fatma

NEPAL

Dawa Bhote Mingmar Tamang Pasang Lhamo Sherpa Prena Senchury Tashi Wangmo Gurung Tenzin Paldon Lama Tenzin Sonam Lama

PALESTINE

Alaa Sharawneh Angham Marea Ansam Sha'ar Ashraf Awad Asmaa Abu Hamada Avman Ahmad Salman Dr Maid Mahmoud Dabboor Hadeel Mahmoud Abu Rahma Havtham Shuhaiber Hisham Abu Amro Khaled Ghorab Majd Azzam Izzat Abu Alrob Jamal Salha Mahmoud Mohsen Mahmoud Sami Alshawwaf Mohammed Farid A Emad Najwah Zaklam Raneen Bakhri Razan Mansour Shahed Al Shaer

RWANDA

Alice Ishimwe Claudine Mutoniwase Dieudonne Tuyishime Honore Niyonsaba Ines Umubyeyi
Jean D'Amour Niyonkuru
Josee Uwiye
Maombi Barnabe
Monique Byumvuhore
Sandrine Niyonkuru
Xaverine Muhawenayo
Yvette Gatoni

SOUTH AFRICA

Alisha du Plessis **Antoinette Farow** Boitshepo Tlou Claire Barrett Danei Rall Estelle Van Rijn Hannah Hill Kgomotso Morake Kgorompi Ben Chabalala Kwanele Majola Lebohang Mlambo Lindelwe Due Mcebiseni Sithole Mduduzi Maxwell Mahlaba Mzolisa Thandi Nosiphiwe Nassma Abdou Omare Nokuthula "Thuli" Fakude Nomfundo Mfeka Philasande Gamede Philasande Mkhwanazi Rief Ridsdale Sakhile Njoko

Sanele Mayisa Shannon Levin Sinethemba Majozi Sisimeme Mabanga Susana De Abreu Wensiweyinkosi Nene

TANZANIA

Buharije Leonard Diana Shussa Elias John Fredy Oddo Irene Kyenga

TUNISIA

Maha Rebai Nessrine Hammouda Omar Ben Slima

UGANDA

Benidicto Kisitu Clemensia Tuheisemukama Felix Okumu Ivan Ilemut Shirat Nakabiri

VIETNAM

Binh Lo Binh Emi Phuong Esmee Bùi Yumi Nguyen



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www.madrinha-trust.org

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