



The Art of Coexistence



Empowering the Next Generation

SACT's **Wild at HeART** program focuses specifically on 6th-grade students living in critical wildlife buffer zones. In these communities, wildlife is frequently viewed either as a tourist attraction or as a dangerous threat to livelihoods, crops, and livestock. This arts education initiative provides a vital emotional bridge. By painting the elephants, painted dogs, or lions that share their landscape, students shift their perspective—moving from a mindset of conflict to seeing these animals as a proud part of their own identity and heritage.

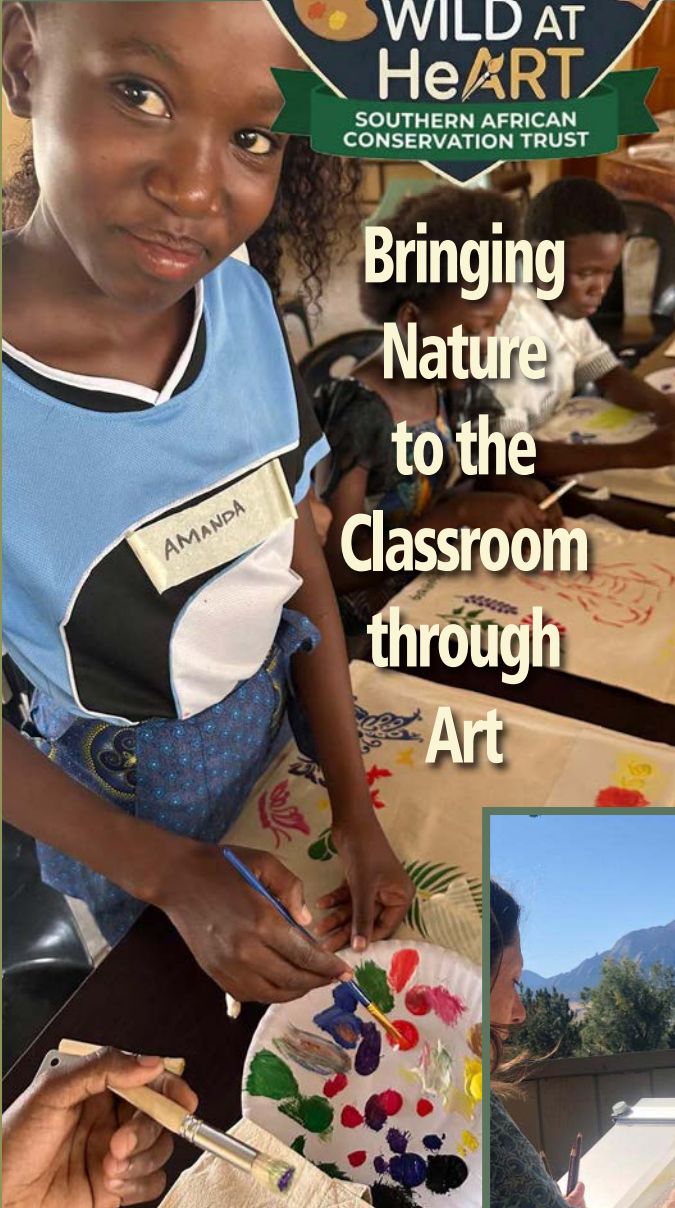
The 2026 Pilot: Lessons and Successes

Following the successful completion of the 6-class pilot phase in the rural communities bordering **Hwange National Park** (Zimbabwe) and the **Makgadikgadi Pans** (Botswana), the program is shifting from a trial run into a structured, scalable curriculum. Led by SACT Trustee and wildlife artist **Rosana Venturini**, future workshops are being designed to efficiently engage approximately 40 children per day.

Bringing
Nature
to the
Classroom
through
Art

Rosana Venturini:

"I believe the key to lasting change lies in the next generation. My goal is to bridge the gap between international art galleries and rural schoolrooms. By launching an art program in rural communities in Africa together with SACT—the "Wild at HeART" program we aim to inspire future guardians by sharing the stories and "comics" of conservation and providing kids with the tools to express their own creativity."





The First Brush Initiative

Key Milestone from the 2026 Trials

During the 2026 trials, each participant painted two custom canvas tote bags. Students kept one bag as a personal badge of honor and donated the second to be sold globally, directly raising funds to sustain and supply the program.

Looking Ahead: The 2027 Official Launch

Building on the insights gained in 2026, the official 2027 launch focuses on scaling the program sustainably to ensure every child in our target border-impact zones has a voice in conservation. Crucial to this expansion is our collaboration with local village women; by equipping them with new creative and leadership skills, we transform the initiative into a continuous, deeply rooted, and community-led model. These women will co-facilitate and lead the annual creative workshops in their local rural schools.

- **Hwange National Park (Zimbabwe):** Targeting 100% coverage of all 6th-grade students (approximately 800–900 students).
- **Makgadikgadi Pans (Botswana):** Targeting 100% coverage of all 6th-grade students (approximately 200 students).

The “Vanguard” Advanced Program

The creative journey does not end with the introductory workshop. The top 20 or so most passionate and creative students from the initial sessions will be selected for an annual Advanced Conservation Art Class. Mentored by professional artists, these advanced students will design high-impact conservation posters and assets to broadcast critical wildlife protection messages directly within their own villages, turning local youth into primary conservation advocates.



▲ A 60-second video of our workshop in collaboration with the Painted Dog Conservation near Hwange National Park.



W@H Safari with a Soul

Sustainable Funding

To fully fund the logistics and materials of this initiative, SACT is introducing the **Safari with a Soul** itinerary—an exclusive travel model where global supporters actively participate in grassroots conservation education before embarking on a world-class safari.

To test interest in the Safari with a Soul concept, Rosana Venturini conducted an initial survey within a close circle of supporters and friends in the USA and UK. The response was overwhelmingly positive, demonstrating immediate, organic demand. This core group is actively awaiting the finalized itinerary details, fully prepared to register as the inaugural cohort for the 2027 pilot launch.

Group Size & Exclusivity

To protect the intimacy of the school workshops and ensure low-impact, meaningful community engagement, the number of travelers per cohort will be strictly limited. While the exact maximum capacity will be finalized later as operational details are locked in, the group size is projected to be capped at no more than 20 to 24 participants.

The 2027 Pilot Partnership

We are proposing a pilot partnership with **Africa Geographic (AG)** to manage the travel and booking logistics for the 2027 launch. A successful pilot will pave the way for a long-term, multi-year partnership between AG and SACT. For supporters unable to join the inaugural 2027 trip, registration will remain open for annual departures in 2028 and beyond.

Concept Itinerary

Zimbabwe (Hwange Region):
No prior artistic experience is required for travelers.

• **Days 1 & 2:** Arrival in Victoria Falls, a private tour of the Falls, and transfer to Hwange Safari Lodge. • **Day 3:** A morning 2-hour, hands-on training session with the Wild at HeART team to learn the workshop flow and curriculum. Followed by a meaningful tour of the Painted Dog Conservation visitor center. • **Days 4 & 5:** Volunteers deploy in pairs to local rural schools. Working alongside a trained artisan woman from the local village, volunteers deliver the curriculum to the region's 6th graders over two inspiring days. • **Days 6 to 9:** An unforgettable, traditional luxury safari hosted by our conservation-tier lodge partners, concluding with a transfer back to Victoria Falls. • **Day 10:** Departure.

While the baseline concept focuses on Zimbabwe, a parallel itinerary will be created to support the communities and schools surrounding Makgadikgadi National Park in Botswana (and in the future, other regions).

To accommodate varying financial preferences, the itinerary offers a choice of partnering luxury lodges, allowing participants to select the accommodation tier that best fits their budget.



W@H Safari with a Soul

Financial Sustainability & Lodge Alliances

The Self-Funding Mechanism:

Participants pay an itinerary package that includes a built-in, dedicated program premium. This philanthropic fee—the exact amount of which will be finalized during the pricing phase—will be directed entirely to SACTrust. These funds will cover all student art supplies, workshop logistics, and fair-wage stipends for the local women co-facilitators, and the advanced materials and mentorship required to sustain the Vanguard Art Program.

Strategic Lodge Partnerships:

We aim to collaborate with premier eco-tourism operators deeply rooted in community development, such as Wilderness (Children in the Wilderness), Amalinda Collection (Mother Africa Trust), African Bush Camps Foundation, and Imvelo Safari Lodges (Imvelo Trust). By aligning with these lodges, we can keep travel packages competitively priced while securing a dedicated, recurring revenue stream for the schools.

Crucially, we are also partnering with African Sun. Because the Hwange Safari Lodge is strategically positioned immediately adjacent to our primary target villages, it provides an ideal operational base for our travelers.

Additionally, we can utilize African Sun's hospitality properties in Victoria Falls to host the initial, arrival portion of the journey. Aligning with these specific operators keeps guest packages highly competitive while securing a structured, recurring revenue stream for local conservation education.





Merchandising & Impact



Once our travel and logistical partnerships are secured for 2027, the focus will shift entirely to production, local material sourcing, and fundraising:

The Artist Badge:

Every student will paint a custom T-shirt to keep, pre-printed with the text: "I am an ARTIST – Wild at HeART program by Southern African Conservation Trust." (Lodge and partner logos will be featured on the T-shirt).

Sustained Micro-Economies (Evaluating the Line):

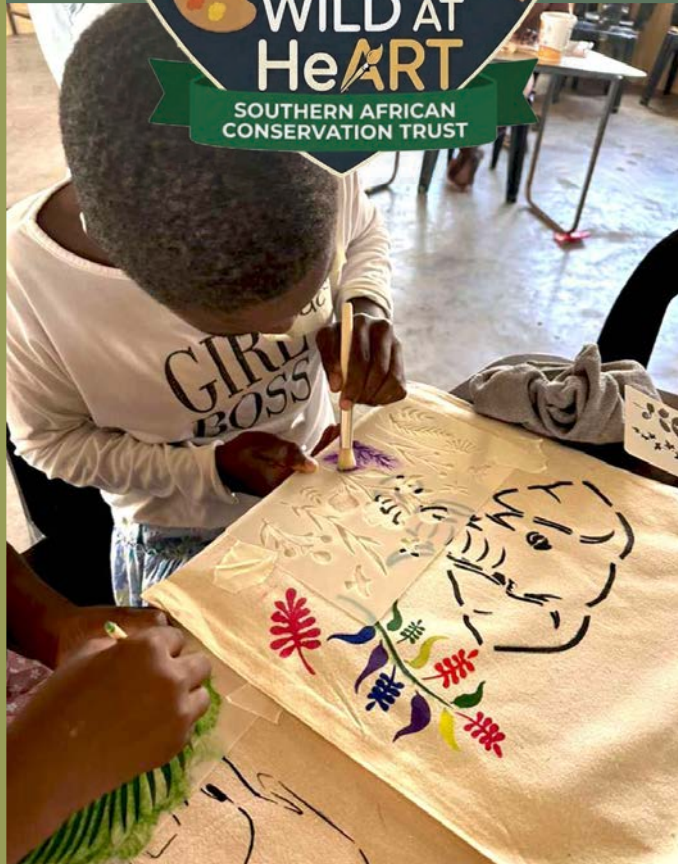
We will finalize our 2027 commercial merchandise line—evaluating whether to continue with our canvas tote bags or expand into premium home textiles like table runners, placemats, and linen napkins crafted by the local village artisans.

Retail & Lodge Curio Alliances:

As the program matures, our long-term vision is to transform this textile production into a guaranteed, self-sustaining micro-economy for the community.

Future Goal:

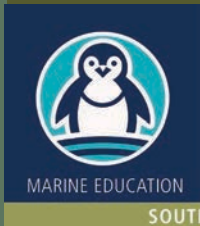
Our future goal is to establish commercial agreements with partner safari lodges to stock these artisan pieces in their on-site curio shops. We will seek structured partnerships where lodges commit to an annual or seasonal contract to purchase a set minimum volume of goods. This will ensure a predictable, recurring income stream that cycles directly back into the local schools and the artisan collective.



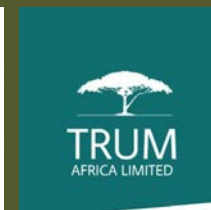
Bringing Nature to the Classroom



CORPORATE SOCIAL INVESTMENT PARTNERS:



SOUTHERN AFRICAN CONSERVATION TRUST



Board of Trustees: BP Courtenay (Chair), A Courtenay, GP Courtenay, WD Forrester, Dr M Hofmeyr, D Llewelyn (AU), Dr D Rosen (USA), SE Matthias (UK), R Venturini (Brazil). **Scientific Advisor:** Dr M. Hofmeyr, Veterinarian. **Compliance and fiduciary officer:** B Courtenay. **Registration numbers:** SACT Public Benefit Organization registered with SARS: PBO 930039588, and Registered Trust IT 18/2012PMB. **Postal Address:** P.O.Box 427, Umhlanga Rocks 4320 South Africa.