

Marlene Le Roux  
MPhil *Cape Town*



### **Abbreviated CV**

Marlene Le Roux is currently the CEO of Artscape Theatre. She is the first person of colour and also the first woman to fill this position. She joined Artscape as Director of Audience Development & Education in 2001. In this capacity, she endeavoured to close the divide which unfortunately still exists due to the legacy of our Apartheid history.

Marlene has gone to great lengths to bring the people to the theatre, and when that proves difficult, to take the theatre in the form of a fully-fledged production to the rural communities.

### **Some of her responsibilities at Artscape:**

- Development of Company Equity
- Skills development of employees
- Liaison with Diplomatic Corps
- Development of the Internship Programs for Arts Administrators
- She facilitated the Arts Resource Centre
- She heads the CRL Commission, which aims to engage South African Citizens to enhance nation building. This group heads the process for the South African Presidency to have a National Conference to discuss programs to combat Xenophobia and to understand South Africa's diverse Cultural, Religious and Linguistic communities.
- Stellenbosch University Alumni of the Year for outstanding contribution to nation building.
- Western Cape University award – Achieving against Odds.
- Establishing the Wellington Town Orchestra – This project is done with disadvantaged kids of the rural areas. The music skills instil dignity and restore pride in these young South African children.

She still makes the time to be involved in many other projects outside of just her day job. She is a motivational speaker and speaks out for the rights of women, children and the disabled people. She is not shy to speak her mind and remains true to any cause which she passionately and vigorously tackles.

She conceptualized and edited a book on women with disabilities called "*Look at Me*" published by Genugtig (2008). It is in essay and photographic form. Recently she compiled a book on the icons of Mitchell's Plain entitled "*Place in the Sun*". The idea behind this publication was to try and counter the negative stereotyping of people of colour in particular. Mitchell's Plain's history of course being a suburb built outside of the city in the Apartheid era exclusively for people of colour. This book gives hope to young people. The sales of the book will be donated to the Mitchell's Plain Trust Fund.

**Some of her most recent awards and achievements include:**

- CEO Magazine Award SA's most influential Women in business and Government 2010.
- 20 countries elected her to serve as an International expert on the London Olympic Committee 2012, and on Arts Council of England to select collaborative Arts projects to be showcased as part of the London Olympics and Paralympics 2012.
- In 2012 she received the German Peace Award.
- In 2017 the French Award "Chevalier dans l'Ordre national du Merite" for her role in the Arts, culture and youth development.
- In 2017 she received an Honorary Doctorate from the University Technology in the Western Cape for her contribution to Education through the Arts.

Marlene is mother to two beautiful children, her daughter Aimee a UCT music graduate and her son Adam, 14 years who was severely cerebral palsy, has sadly passed away.