Local student lands top role in Lion King set for Hong Kong

SIHLE MAVUSO

A DREAM to feature in The Lion King has finally come true for a University of KwaZulu-Natal student who has landed the role of Rafiki in the show that will be performed at Disney World in Hong Kong later this year.

Bonisile Ndlovu, 36, a bachelor of arts student, caught the eye of the show’s organisers at recent auditions for the show held in Durban.

She comes from a musical family and started singing at the age of 11, performing with gospel music group Spiritual Healers who used to rehearse in a house in her neighbourhood.

After some years with them, she heard about The Lion King production on the radio 16 years ago.

Speaking ahead of her departure, Ndlovu said although it had been a long-nurtured dream she never thought she’d actually perform in any production of the successful musical.

“Ndlovu. My family and friends are still in a state of shock. I have had many disappointments over the years but today a new chapter has begun in the story of my life,” Ndlovu said.

“I have never seen The Lion King produced. Neither have I ever been involved in a production of this calibre. My English isn’t anything to boast about but something in me just wanted to audition

LION QUEEN: KwaZulu-Natal student Bonisile Ndlovu’s 16-year-old dream finally came true.

to see how far I could take this,” she said.

Ndlovu said she hoped her performance would receive a positive response from audiences.

“This is an exciting opportunity for me and I want to spend time in Hong Kong and other parts of the world, growing my skills as a performer,” she said.