

Marolize Botha



About me

I completed my B. Optometry degree in 2016 while achieving best clinical Optometry student in both my third and senior years and was elected head of the student council.

In January 2017 I officially became a member of Dirk Booysen & Associates as an optometrist. I am passionate about working with children which is why I have offered free screenings to all private and public schools in our area. Since 2017, I have screened more than 6,500 children. My most difficult learning curve was by far screening all children in a school for autism and severely mentally retarded children. I absolutely loved working with every young person in that school, each with their own personal needs and personalities. I have learned to take into account the personal needs and capabilities of each child in deciding whether a spectacle correction and other visual intervention would make a significant difference in the child's life.

I enjoy working with each patient with their own unique situation and helping them all as best I can. Clinical pathology has always been a passion of mine, using a variety of equipment to evaluate eye health and possibly diagnose ocular conditions or refer to appropriate treatment and management of ocular conditions as needed.

I also enjoy specialty contact lenses such as rigid gas permeable contact lenses, hybrid contact lenses, semi-scleral and scleral contact lenses.

Furthermore, I enjoy learning and educating others. I had the privilege of being invited by Leoni Joubert, founder of the Paediatric Training Academy, to give a lecture for the first time at her annual conference on Eye Tracking and Reading-Related Learning Disabilities in Children. The conference took place in Mpumalanga in 2018. I realized there how much I love to present, luckily I got a few more opportunities to gain more experience in this field.

I have won the Young Optometrist of the Year award presented to me by Vision Magazine and presented on behalf of the Optometric Industry of South Africa for ingenuity in service to Optometry and service to the visual well-being of the public.

In addition to working as an optometrist, I assisted in assessing clinical skills of students at the University of Johannesburg. I also lectured on 'human performance' to aspiring pilots at Infinite Aviation, a local aviation academy in South Africa.

In 2019 I started my master's degree at the University of Johannesburg. My study is aimed at establishing reading standards for children attending South African primary school using the Thomson Clinical Eye Tracker.

My most recent adventure was emigrating to the Netherlands. I have obtained my professional competence as optometrist in the Netherlands and is working as a full time Optometrist at Oogwereld Kesteren and Oogzorg Centrum Zwolle. I have recently expanded my knowledge here by learning the language, attending courses in the co-management of Myopia control, orthokeratology and fixation disparity. I am also still actively writing articles for SB Media.

I enjoy spending time fur-babies. And I regularly take my cat, Oliver, on walks. I do my best to help save stray animals from the streets. My hobbies are building small DIY projects and pottery.

One of my dreams is to see as many parts of the world as possible, I enjoy getting lost in foreign cities and exploring different cultures.