



The Beat of the Arts

January 2017

SUBJECT: Artscape Inclusive Arts Department's- Audience Development and Education Launch 2017

The annual Artscape Inclusive Arts Department's Audience Development and Education launch will take place this year on Thursday, 16 February 2017.

Streamlining Artscape Theatre's development projects to enhance outreach to audiences who do not easily have access to the Arts will be the definitive focal point. The children's and youth projects will expose learners to curriculum based outcomes in the annual set work productions, High School Drama Festival and Schools Arts Festival. The Theatre Centre doors will remain open to patrons who were denied access in the past. Artscape is one of the examples of what arts, culture and heritage can do to contribute to nation-building through the promotion of unity, diversity and social cohesion. Artscape also recognizes the immense challenges facing the youth of today inclusive of socio-economic issues which through our programmes we can assist in resolving some of these challenges.

The annual Rural Outreach Project currently in its 10th year, reaches 2000 young people annually through the Schools Programme. Adults who have never experienced live theatre are exposed to the various genres on their community stages in the form of a Gala Evening. The Rural Outreach Programme brings together the various disciplines of song, instrumental, ballet, opera, dance and choirs. Inclusivity is an important aspect executed through collaborations with arts organisations, professional artist and emerging arts companies such as the Unmute Dance Company specialising in "Mixibility" - mainstreaming artists with disabilities alongside able-bodied artists. The Schools Programme exposes primary school learners to the various art genres while the young learners get a chance to showcase their unique talents. The high school learners are part of a career expo which gives them insight to behind-the-scenes operations from a technical and management perspective. The various Municipalities we have been able to visit are Paarl/Wellington: Drakenstein Municipality, Vredendal: Matzikama Municipality, Saron: Drakenstein Municipality, Ceres: Witzenberg Municipality, George: Eden Municipality, Caledon: Overberg Municipality, Bredasdorp: Cape Agulhas Municipality, Vredenberg: Saldanha Municipality, Robertson: Langeberg Municipality, Heidelberg: Hessequa Municipality, Worcester: Breede Valley Municipality and Clanwilliam, Cederberg Municipality.

Alongside our development projects we will welcome the world to Artscape through the World Congress for Children's Theatre called 'Cradle of Creativity' in partnership with Assitej in May 2017. Artscape will also host major festivals in the City of Cape Town inclusive of the Suidoosterfees and the Cape Town International Jazz Festival among others.

ARTSCAPE





The Beat of the Arts

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Artscape Council who place the Institution at the top of their priorities. We are honoured to have such a dedicated team who not only lead us in governance, but who also contribute selflessly to the Theatre Centre. The leadership of the Council Chairperson, Professor Somadoda Fikeni is highly appreciated.

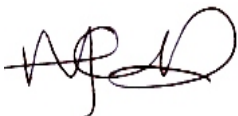
Meanwhile our international projects are making significant strides. International exchange continue through the Brouhaha Festival and the art practitioners exchange with the *Centres d'Entrainement aux Méthodes d'Education Active* (CEMEA) of Bourgogne, France. The joint venture with Afrovibes and the Dutch Consulate of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, cemented in a 3-year agreement with these partners to deliver bilateral creative excellence, is on course.

The Artscape Theatre Centre received a distinguished painting of our first Democratic President, Mr. Nelson Mandela in October 2016. This artwork will be exhibited in our establishment as a permanent fixture. We are anticipating the presence of the Department of Arts and Culture, Mr. Nathi Mtetwa to unveil this prestigious gift.

The 2017 launch will also start the official process of hosting an indigenous ensemble based on-site through the work of Dizu Plaatjies.

I value each person's involvement in contributing to the success of Artscape Theatre Centre to be a beacon of hope and a centre of artistic excellence in our Province and our country! I look forward to working with you as we build into our nation through the values of social cohesion and national pride.

Yours sincerely,



Marlene le Roux
Chief Executive Officer

ARTSCAPE

