



09 April 2020

**DSACR MOURNS PASSING OF VINOLIA “V-MASH” MASHEGO & CHARLIE “BIG BOY” MAJA**

The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) wishes to take this opportunity to express its heartfelt condolences to the families, friends, fans and colleagues of the late Vinolia “V-Mash” Mashego and Charlie “Big-Boy” Maja. The passing of these two icons within the creative and entertainment sector is a huge loss to the development and promotion of the entire creative sector in South Africa.

Vinolia Mashego was a well-known South African star. She was an actress and television presenter. Known by the stage name V-Mash, Vinolia was known for her role as Hilda Letlalo in the SABC1 soap opera Generations. She also co-presented the popular music entertainment show Jam Alley during the 1990s. At the time of her untimely departure she had joined Moja Love channel on DSTV as a presenter.

DSACR also wishes to extend its heartfelt sympathy to Charles “Big-Boy” Maja’s family and friends following his passing. Mr. Maja played the role of Big Boy, where he showcased his talent and won many fans with his memorable performances on SABC 1’s popular programme, Skeem Saam. His contribution to the arts will never be forgotten.

Commenting about these two cultural icons, the Free State MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation stated that, “On behalf of the cultural sector in the Free State Provinces, we wish to express our condolences and sympathy to all who are affected by their untimely passing. The creative industry is indeed poorer without them and we are all indebted to keep their legacies alive posthumously. Their contribution to society will forever be remembered and we encourage the youth to follow in their footsteps.”

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Issued by the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR)

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