

# MPHATLALATSANE

DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE & RECREATION NEWSLETTER **NALEDI YA MESO**

JANUARY 2022

Issue 1



The Year 2022 brings with it new opportunities that we must all seize as officials working for the sport, arts and culture fraternity. This year we must dedicate our energies and skills towards uplifting all our athletes and artists out of the difficulties that they continue to face following the aftermath of the COVID-19 hard national lockdown which saw many of them without work and revenue income. It is our collective responsibility to revive these sectors working in partnership with organised structures

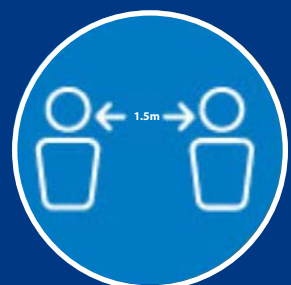
representing athletes and artists.

During this difficult moment of economic and health distress, I wish to send a message of hope and encouragement to all our artists and athletes that the time will eventually come when we will all return to normalcy.

As a Department, we pledge ourselves to serving our constituencies with excellence and diligence. We are also recommitting ourselves to fighting corruption and positioning our Department as a vehicle that can

deliver on its mandate of championing social transformation for all. In building a socially cohesive nation, we realise that sport, arts and culture are the locomotives to take us to that destination. Therefore, working together with all our stakeholders, we dedicate this year to uplifting the livelihoods of all our athletes and artists in the Free State Province.

**Mrs L.P. Mahasa**  
**MEC: Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation**



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Department of  
Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation  
FREE STATE PROVINCE

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# FS PROUDLY HOST NATIONAL SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS



The Free State Province was the proud host of the 2022 National School Sport Championships that took place in Bloemfontein from 03-06 February. All athletes who participated in these championships were provincial champions in their own right and were selected through a process that kick-started at school sport competition level, proceeding to local, district and provincial competitions.

Provinces sent their best athletes to this year's Na-

tional School Sport Championships as representatives across various sport codes. Speaking at the closing ceremony the Free State MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation stated that, "Gathered here are young athletes who have reaffirmed our country as a country of champions and an active nation.

We are proud and confident that this contingent of young sport men and women will one day represent our country at a global level with

distinction. These athletes and champions are the cream of the crop and have been nurtured here in our country. They are the hope that the future of sport is looking bright for our provinces and the country."

MEC Mahasa went further to lament that, "We need more young people to be actively involved in sport, especially at school level and seated here are good examples of what sport can do to enhance social cohesion and combat delinquent practices such as crime in

our communities. Sport, Recreation and Education are important vehicles for building a transformed, non-racial, non-sexist society, united in its diversity. These are also essential in the promotion of national reconciliation, social cohesion and national identity."

School sport provides a platform for all learners, skilled or unskilled with an opportunity to develop their potential at a very early age. DSACR believes that School Sport is the bedrock of our

entire sport development continuum. It sets a foundation from which some of the great sports persons can develop their potential. Sport is an important medium that, if pursued in the spirit in which it is intended, has the capacity for instilling in our youth, the morals and values that we would like to see in all aspects of their lives. Sport has an important role to play in the moral regeneration process that we are embarking upon.



# DSACR REPRESENTED AT LIBRARIES MARKETING & ADVOCACY INDABA



On 24 February 2022, the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) – an agency of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture – convened a Libraries Marketing & Advocacy Indaba in Cape Town where all provincial heads of library services from all nine provinces of South Africa met together with government communication officers to strategize about ways to improve the visibility of libraries in the country.

This three day event was convened under the theme: “Enhancing Library Visibility in Pursuit of the Promotion of Access to Information Resources”. The Indaba also noted that this year has been declared by UNESCO as “The Year of the Beginning of the Decade for Indigenous Languages.”

Speakers included academics, librarians and government communicators such as Dr Buhle Mbambo

Thatha from the National University of Lesotho, Mr Hayford Siaw from Ghana Library Authority, Mr Danny Legodi from the National Heritage Council, Mr Mandla Ntombela from the South African Library for the Blind as well as Mr Mandla Mona from the Centre for the Book at NLSA just to mention a few. These speakers highlighted challenges that libraries face especially during the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic and

amidst the digital age that the world finds itself in. They also shared knowledge about opportunities that exist for libraries in various communities. South Africa continues to be plagued by low rates of a population that reads. Research estimates that only 14% of South Africans read books and only 5% read to their children.

The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recrea-

tion (DSACR) was represented by the Acting Director for Library Services Me Rasby Ramugondo, Assistant Director for Development Services Me Henna Adendorff as well as Mr Fezile Sonkwane the Assistant Director for Internal Communication and Speech Writing. DSACR was also afforded an opportunity to present challenges, achievements and opportunities that exist within library services in the province.

# PROVINCIAL SOCIAL COHESION WORKSHOP HELD



The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) through its Cultural Affairs chief directorate, hosted a Provincial Social Cohesion Workshop on 09 December 2021 in Mangaung.

This workshop was informed by Outcome 14 of the National Development Plan 2030 which deals with Social Cohesion and Nation Building as a practical expression and objectives of the government. Community conversations are

deliverables and form part of Outcome 14. This initiative is coordinated and monitored by the National Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC) as a program for the government in its entirety. Conversations around social cohesion and nation building are created as dialogue platforms by the government for communities to discuss issues that are impediment when creating a socially inclusive, caring, peaceful and tolerant nation.



# WORLD READ ALOUD DAY HOSTED IN QWAQWA

**WORLD Read Aloud Day**

Come celebrate World Read Aloud Day with the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) and the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation.

DATE: 2 FEBRUARY 2022  
WHERE: THAROLLO COMBINED SCHOOL (QWAQWA)  
LIVESTREAM ON NLSA'S FACEBOOK  
TIME: 10H00 - 14H00

**WORLD READ ALOUD DAY**

**Activities on the day:**

- Book Donation
- Reading Out Aloud
- Poetry
- Impromptu Reading
- Storytelling
- Pre-school Rhymes
- Motivational Talk

RSVP: [itumeleng.maduwa@nlsa.ac.za](mailto:itumeleng.maduwa@nlsa.ac.za)

**NLSA**  
National Library of South Africa  
an agency of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture

**sport, arts, culture & recreation**  
Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation  
QWAQWA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

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The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) in partnership with the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) celebrated World Read Aloud Day (WRAD) on 02 February 2022 in QwaQwa. This initiative was aimed at promoting reading for pleasure and improving literacy levels hence various research suggest that South Africa has low literacy levels and this poses a threat to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In celebration of WRAD, the NLSA

and DSACR donated reading material to Tharollo Combined School in QwaQwa. Reading books in their mother tongues, studies confirm, fosters a love for reading at a young age. It is against this backdrop that the NLSA and DSACR observed WRAD; a day that celebrates the reading aloud and storytelling at Tharollo Combined School in QwaQwa from 10H00 to 14H00.

Activities on the day included: Book donation, Reading out aloud, Poetry, Impromptu reading, Storytelling, Pre-school rhymes and Motivational talk.



# DID YOU KNOW?

## WESLEYAN CHURCH MUSEUM



The Wesleyan Methodist School Church, in Waaihoek, Bloemfontein, saw the founding of the ANC in 1912. The party was founded in the school room located at the church. The church stands in what used to be a black township in Bloemfontein in Free State province. It was here in 1912 that businessmen, clergymen, journalists, lawyers and teachers held a political meeting that laid the foundations of the South African Native National Congress, renamed the ANC in 1923.

Visit us at:  
Fort Street, Waaihoek, Bloemfontein  
Bloemfontein  
Tel: 051 410 4740

Visiting hours  
Monday to Friday:  
8:00 – 15:30  
Weekends and public holidays:

**BY APPOINTMENT, ENTRANCE IS FREE**

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