

MPHATLALATSANE

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

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PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

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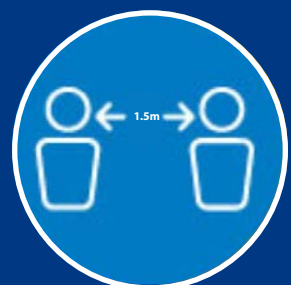


Delivering her 2022 State of the Province Address (SOPA), the Free State Premier Honourable Sefora “Sisi” Ntombela averred that, “Sport, arts and culture defines the essence of who we are. We will use these sectors to inspire and celebrate our diversity”. This assertion made by Premier Ntombela infuses us as a Department to work hard in ensuring that we revive our sector following the devastating effect

of COVID-19 global health pandemic. We are also elated to learn that our much acclaimed international arts festival – Mangaung African Cultural Festival (MACUFE) – will be hosted later in the year for the benefit of the people of our province as a whole. We look forward to the return of this world-class event and hope it bring back the much needed economic stimulus to our province. As a norm, not only does

MACUFE benefit artists, it also brings with it opportunities for the growth of other sectors such as tourism, small businesses, hospitality etc. The Department will seize this momentous occasion to showcase the best of Free State’s arts and culture to the world to convey a message that we remain tenacious and resilient following the COVID-19 aftermath.

*Mrs L.P. Mahasa
MEC: Sport, Arts,
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FREE STATE PROVINCE

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DSACR CELEBRATES DR KPD MAPHALLA



On 25 February 2022 the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) honoured and celebrated the late Dr Khotso Pieter David Maphalla (popularly known as KPD) who departed on 05 April 2021 at the age of 66. Following his departure, the late Dr KPD Maphalla was posthumously awarded with the

Order of Ikhamanga Award by the State President of the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa for his outstanding literary work.

Due to the advent of COVID-19 lockdown regulations, the Free State Province had not had an opportunity to celebrate this milestone achieved

by its son of the soil. DSACR did, however, decide to host an event in celebration of this late icon on 25 February 2022, a day on which he would have celebrated his birthday. Born in the Free State in 1955 Dr KPD Maphalla was a renowned and prolific writer in the Sesotho language. Unequaled in Sesotho literature, he has

authored more than 70 literary books. His works, which span across all genres, have been prescribed for use in schools and tertiary institutions. They have also been the subject of research by Masters and PhD students at universities.

During his lifetime Dr KPD Maphalla received numerous accolades including an honorary doctor-

ate from the University of the Free State. From winning the Orator of the Year award as a student at Tshiya College of Education, in 1976, he went on to amass a string of awards which included Radio Sesotho Astera, Thomas Mofolo Floating Trophy and recognition from a number of publishing houses.





DISTRICTS ARTS FESTIVALS REVIVE ARTS SECTOR



Despite the daunting challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, there is still light at the end of the tunnel for Free State artists. With the current Financial Year drawing to an end in March, and with the national lockdown restrictions being relaxed, the Department is on course to implement programmes that have been postponed in the past.

District Arts Festivals will be hosted in all the districts of the province during the course of February and March 2022 as follows:

LEJWELEPUTSWA DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE FESTIVAL

Dates: 18, 19, 20 February 2022

Venue: Ernest Oppenheimer Theatre, Welkom

Time: 10:00

XHARIEP DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE FESTIVAL

Dates: 25, 26 February 2022

Venue: Ikanyegeng School Hall, Jacobsdal

Time: 10:00

FEZILE DABI DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE FESTIVAL

Dates: 11, 12 March 2022

Venue: To be confirmed, Sasolburg

Time: 10:00

MANGAUNG METRO MUNICIPALITY ARTS AND CULTURE FESTIVAL

Dates: 17, 18, 19 March 2022

Venue: Mmabana Arts and Culture Centre, Thaba Nchu

Time: 10:00

THABO MOFUTSANYANA DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE FESTIVAL

Dates: 25, 26 March 2022

Venue: To be confirmed

Time: 10:00

Free State Artists are encouraged to visit their Arts and Culture Centres to register on a database. Selection of artists to participate in this programme will be done from the database as per a set criterion. This process has already started for Lejweleputswa district.

These District Arts Festivals will culminate in a provincial programme called the Free State Music Festival that will be staged in Kroonstad towards the end of March 2022.



DSACR HOSTS SENIOR CITIZENS GAMES



The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) in collaboration with the Office of the Premier, Provincial Senior Citizens Committee, Lejweleputswa District Municipality as well as the Tswelopele Local Municipality hosted the 2022 edition of Senior Citizens Games on 23 February 2022. These Games were aimed at reactivating Senior Citizens

after the sector was affected by the COVID-19 global health pandemic hence many of our Senior Citizens were at a high-risk of contracting the virus due to a number of comorbidities. Participants took part in the following sport codes:

- Ball pass & Kick
- Duck walk
- Ball Relay
- Ring the Stick
- Rugby ball throw
- Dress up
- Jukskei
- Goal shooting

• Passing the ball
 Commenting about this programme, the Free State MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation Me Limakatso Mahasa stated that, “In building an active and winning nation, the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation will spare no effort in ensuring that our senior citizens are part of this ideal. We seek to build a society wherein sport and recreation

are part of every citizen’s lifestyle and contribute towards good health for all.

This programme is a platform where our senior citizens get to keep themselves active and

take care of their health.”

