



In his second State of the Province address the Premier of the Free State Province, Mr Mxolisi Dukwana had the following to highlight about the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation:

We will continue to unite, inspire and celebrate our diversity in its varied forms. We look forward to the roll-out of a reimagined MACUFE later this year.

01

32 young people are currently undergoing training in film and television production, NQF Level 5. A total of 610 are being recruited for internships within the film, tourism and hospitality sectors

02

We will launch the Premier's Olympic Cup in the next financial year where five sporting codes will be covered.

03

The process of enlisting the Wesleyan Church, which is the founding venue of the ANC into the World Heritage List, is ongoing. This historical site could be declared the 2nd World Heritage Site in our province after the Vredefort Dome Meteoritic Site. The results will be announced by UNESCO during July 2024.

04



# INTERNATIONAL MOTHER TONGUE DAY CELEBRATION



*If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.*

*-Nelson Mandela*

International Mother Tongue Day is celebrated annually on 21 February; the celebration created by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is aimed at promoting linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.

The Language Services Unit of the Department of Sport, Arts,

Culture and Recreation celebrated the annual International Mother Tongue Day on the 21st February 2024 at the Bon Hotel in Mangaung.

The day was aimed at celebrating cultural and linguistic diversity, and the preservation of mother languages.

During the event which was celebrated under the theme: "Multilingual education is a pillar of intergeneration learning" six third year undergraduate students from the Central University of Technol-

ogy were honoured for their exceptional achievements in language studies.

Ms Nomonde Kubeka and Ms Uyanda Mgedzi received awards for IsiXhosa, Ms Nontsokolo Nogabe and Ms Kekeletso Matuka for Sesotho, Ms Mame Clase for Afrikaans and Ms Amogelang Molekane for Setswana.

In his keynote address, Dr. L. Motake who is a lecturer at the Central University of Technology and holds a PHD in Language Practice emphasized the importance of pre-

serving our mother languages by communicating with the younger generation in their mother tongue.

Other special guests at the event were Mr. Lebogang Matolong who is the station manager for Motheo FM radio station. Mr Matolong elaborated on what the radio station is doing to promote the languages that are predominantly spoken in the province such as Setswana, Sesotho and IsiXhosa as well as the programmes that are broadcasted by the station in these languages.

A representative from Lesedi FM spoke about the role that the station is playing in the preservation and promotion of Sesotho as 64% of the population of the Free State province is Sesotho speaking.

Learners from Vula Masango Secondary School entertained the guests with their traditional IsiXhosa songs and dance and Mr Molale Shuping from the Sesotho Literature Library read an excerpt from a Sesotho book called Kgalala written by M.P. Pelo.



# DSACR HOSTS PROVINCIAL HOMEBREW FESTIVAL



The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) hosted the Provincial HOMEBREW Festival in Mankeng/Kroonstad from 29 February to 04 March 2024.

The HOMEBREW Festival is one of the flagship projects organized by DSACR through the Free State Arts and Culture Council (FSACC). Through this festival, meant to

benefit local artists, Free State artists are exposed to a wide variety of cultural and artistic activities on a platform that truly reflects the multi-cultural society represented within the Free State province.

Homebrew showcased the best promising and semi-professional Free State talent and the selection process for participating artists was

rigorous.

The Arts and Culture Directorate together with District Offices and structures of civil society submitted proposed artists from their respective platforms and

genres to partake in the festival. Besides artistic and cultural showcasing of talent the festival also provided the much-needed job opportunities through various technical and logistical re-

quirements of the festival. Developmental focus was primarily on the following categories: Youth, Women and People with Disabilities.







MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation: Ms L.P. Mahasa

# Mr. Richard Bollers



## Biography

## Artwork



Letlamo Bollers  
Thabo Nchu

**Mr. Richard Bollers** was born on the 19th August 1959 in Georgetown, Guyana. He began his formal studies of Art at an early age and at sixteen he started attending classes at the E.R. Burrowes School of Art for a four-year Diploma Course majoring in Painting. After graduating he left Guyana to study for another four-year Degree Course at the National School of Art in Havana Cuba.

He graduated as a tutor majoring in Drawing and Painting and Graphic Printing. In September 1983 He return to Guyana and started to tutor third and fourth year students at the E.R Burrowes School of Art. He worked there until December 1986. Bollers then moved to Botswana in 1987 with his South African wife whom he met when they were studying in Cuba. From 1987 to 1989 he worked as a Graphic Artist and photographer at L. M. Publications, Gaborone, Botswana. In 1989 to 1992 he worked as a Graphic Artist at Gaborone Printing Works in Botswana. His responsibilities were studio artwork, darkroom and plate making, stripping and registration of full colour separation artworks with negative and positive film.

In October 1992 he moved with his family to South Africa after the unbanning of the ANC and lived in Johannesburg. He then moved to Welkom to lecture in Painting and Drawing at Welkom Technical College part time. In 1994 he lectured at Welkom High School in Painting, Drawing and History of Art.

1995 to 2013 he began working as the Art Unit Manager at Mmabana Cultural Center in Thaba Nchu, Free State where he is currently residing with his family.

*From 2003 to 2013 he is served on the Advisory Committee of the Fine Arts Unit at the Central University of Technology, Free State.*

*In 2004 to 2016 he served on the Advisory Committee at the Oliewenhuis Art Museum.*

*In 2013 to 2014 he worked as the Acting Head of Mmabana Cultural Center in Thaba Nchu.*

*From 2014 to date he is working as an Assistant Director and Head of the Master Crafter Unit at the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation.*



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# Ms Ivy Temate Matlaletsa



MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture &  
Recreation: Ms L.P. Mahasa

## Biography

**Ms Ivy Temate Matlaletsa** who hails from Kroonstad in the Fezile Dabi District is a Fine Arts student at Musicon in Mangaung. Ivy completed her Grade 12 in 2019 and thereafter enrolled at Motheo FET college for a qualification fine Art and Design. Ms Matlaletsa was raised by her single mother who is also an artist in her own right as she make and sells wigs for a living. Ivy's love for drawing started when she was around 13 years where she would spend countless hours designing clothes. Due to financial constraints, Ivy was unable to complete her qualification at Motheo FET but intends to go back to school to study fashion design as that is her first love. Ivy describes herself as a hardworking and patient young person. "As an artist you need to be very patient, a drawing such as this one (pointing at a portrait of herself) takes a very long time to complete. I started this drawing about two months ago and there is still a lot of work that must be done on it before it is complete". According to Ivy being a student at Musicon has helped to refine her drawing skills. "I had the love for drawing before I came to Musicon, but the knowledge that I have gained here has helped to professionalise my artworks. I would recommend this institution to any potential artist who would like to develop their skill".



## Artwork



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MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation: Ms L.P. Mahasa

# Mr Letshego Theodore Shago



## Biography

**Mr Letshego Theodore Shago** from Batho Location in Mangaung is a former EPWP employee who came to Musicon as an assistant art teacher. Mr Shago started drawing during his high school years at Navalsig High School in Bloemfontein. After completing his Grade 12, Letshego enrolled for an Art and Design qualification at Motheo FET College where he completed his N6. He then enrolled for a National Diploma in Fine Art at the Central University of Technology and a Postgraduate qualification in Education.

In his spare time Letshego enjoys producing music and he hopes to open an art school in the future, where he will recruit and train unemployed artists. "My time at Musicon has taught me a lot about teamwork. We work together as artists and assist each other when necessary. "Working with a renowned artist such as Mr Richard Bollers has helped improve my drawing skills immensely. The patience and passion that is portrayed by Mr Bollers when assisting his students is what I admire most about him".

## Artwork



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# CALEDON RIVER MUSEUM SMITHFIELD

The **Caledon River Museum** which started operating in November 1983 hosts exhibitions which cover the era of the Anglo-Boer War and the Basotho Wars in the area as well as historical artefacts from that era. The museum is one of the establishments in the province which chronicles the history of the Mohokare area as we know it today.

The Caledon River Museum is housed in the old principal's house in Smithfield, the third oldest town in the Free State.

The museum has a wide range of interesting themes, with "Old Grietjie", the six pounder ships cannon, being the focal point. The cannon being named after Margaret (Grietjie) Finlay, wife of gunner Robert Finlay. The cannon was used during the Renoster River conflict in 1857, throughout the Basotho wars and the laying of the cornerstone of the Dutch Reformed Church. "Grietjie" played an important role in the Smithfield Commando and is surrounded by objects depicting history, battles and everyday activities.

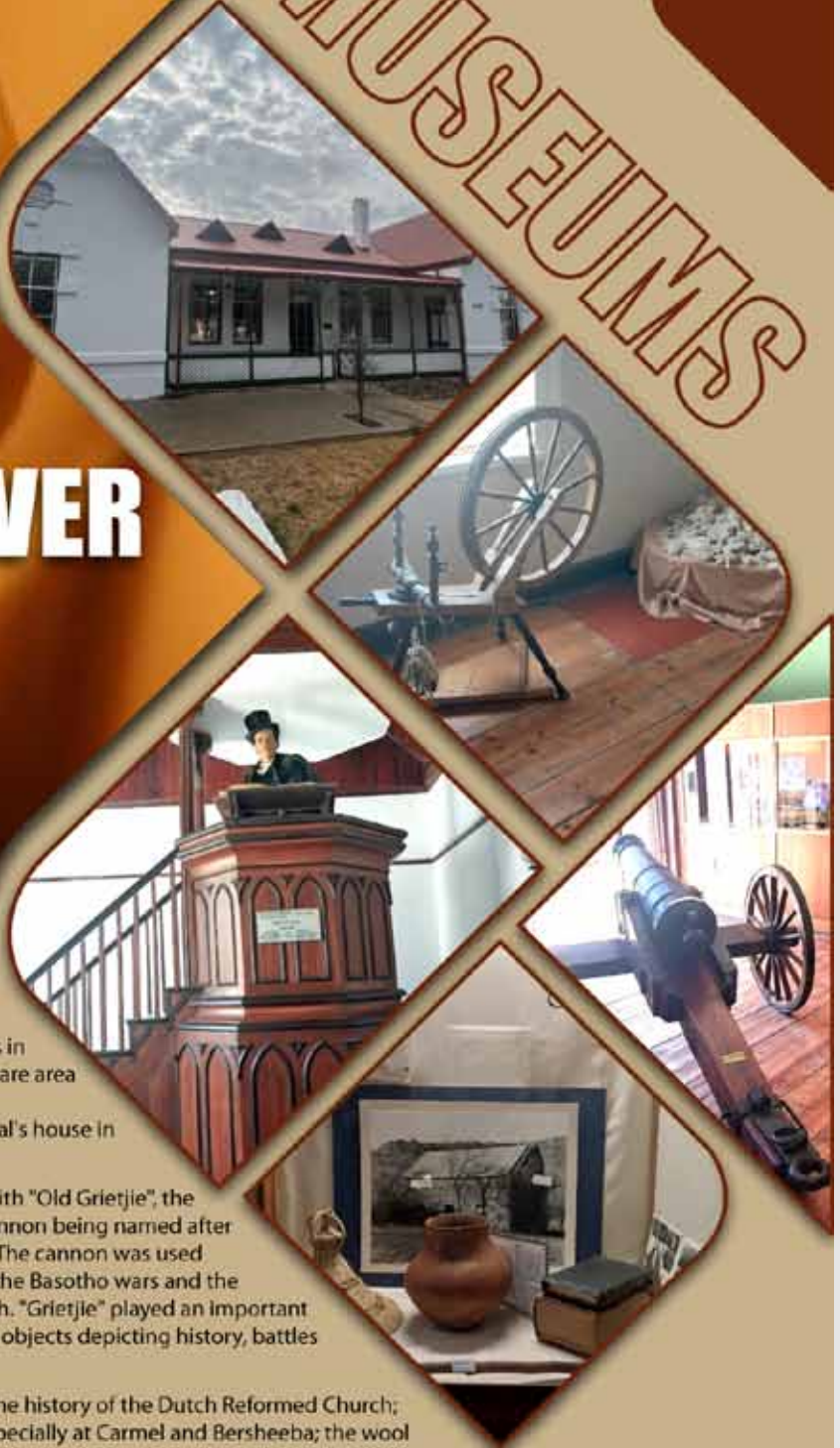
Other prominent exhibitions are: those which portray the history of the Dutch Reformed Church; Anglo-Boer war memorabilia; missionary work done especially at Carmel and Bersheeba; the wool industry on the farm Traacha and examples of a historical farm kitchen and pantry.

**Caledon River Museum, 5 Douglas Street, Smithfield**

**Open Mondays-Fridays**

**08h00 - 16h30**

# MUSEUMS



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