



Arts and culture

The Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) continues to make significant strides in positioning the cultural and creative industries as one of the main drivers of economic growth and job creation in South Africa.

The success of the arts and culture sector also relies on effective governance, infrastructure and skills development, partnerships, research, sharing of information, and enterprise development. The department is committed to supporting a number of emergent shifts in the arts, culture and heritage sector over the next five years. These shifts have the potential to increase the growth and development of the sector significantly. They include addressing a number of inadequacies in the policy and regulatory environment to strengthen governance in the sector, increase investment, and improve information and statistics for more effective planning and decision making.

To this end, the department is strengthening cooperation with a range of public and private sector institutions and stakeholders. The development and implementation of the Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy is an example of how to mobilise the resources of all stakeholders in the sector.

Heritage projects

The //hapo museum at the historic Freedom Park was officially unveiled in April 2013. The museum, which is situated at the top of Salvokop in Pretoria, will also serve as a monument to the legacy of South Africa's first democratically elected President Nelson Mandela.

Visitors to //hapo will learn more about the struggle for freedom from the Pan African Archives, which are archives of research material in audio, visual and text formats.

//hapo hosts an interactive exhibition space, presenting the history of southern Africa over the past 3,6 billion years in the old-age custom of narrative and visual form, extended by the

National Coat of Arms

South Africa's coat of arms was adopted in 2000.

Symbolism

Rising sun: a life-giving force

Protea: beauty and the flowering of the nation

Ears of wheat: fertility of the land

Elephant tusks: wisdom, steadfastness and strength

Knobkierie and spear: defence of peace

Drum: love of culture



The motto, **ǃKe e:ǀxarraǁke**, written in the Khoisan language of the !Xam people, means "diverse people unite".

Vhuawela garden and walkway, which create space for quiet and peaceful meditation and reflection.

//hapo is a Khoi word which means “a dream.” The museum will help the country define the history, in holistic terms, of starting from the early wars of dispossession such as Khoik-hoi-Dutch war in the 1500s; the arrival of Jan van Riebeeck in the Cape in 1652; the Third War of Dispossession between the Khoisan and colonial authorities in the 1800s; the South African War/Anglo-Boer War, and the anti-apartheid struggle – all of which form part of the freedom history and define the freedom South Africans enjoy today.

The museum is a product of South Africans from all walks of life and is in every shape and form a community’s dream.



The year 2013 marked the 100th anniversary of the Union Buildings in Pretoria. Situated on Meintjieskop overlooking the city, the Union Buildings were originally built to house the entire Public Service of the Union of South Africa. It now not only houses the offices of the President, and is the site of presidential inaugurations, but is also a major tourist attraction.

Designed by Sir Herbert Baker in 1908, building began in 1909 and was completed by 1913. At the time, it was the largest building in the country and possibly the largest construction work undertaken in the Southern Hemisphere. It took about 1 265 artisans, workmen and labourers almost three years to build, using 14 million bricks for the interior office walls, half a million cubic feet of freestone, 74 000 cubic yards of concrete, 40 000 bags of cement and 20 000 cubic feet of granite.

In December 2013, in celebration of the centenary of the most iconic building in Pretoria, a bronze statue of former President Nelson Mandela was unveiled at the Union Buildings as a token of appreciation for his valuable contribution to a free, democratic and non-racial South Africa.

Arts and culture organisations

The following organisations play an active role in preserving and promoting South Africa's arts and culture:

- National Heritage Council
- South African Heritage Resources Agency
- South African Geographical Names Council
- National Arts Council of South Africa
- Arts institutions such as the State Theatre in Pretoria, Playhouse Company in Durban, Artscape in Cape Town, Market Theatre in Johannesburg, Performing Arts Centre of the Free State in Bloemfontein and the Windybrow Theatre in Johannesburg
- Business and Arts South Africa
- Arts and Culture Trust.

Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy

As part of the national target of creating five million jobs within the next 10 years, the DAC's Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy is expected to create more than 150 000 work opportunities between 2012 and 2017.

The strategy involves a number of arts and culture job-creation programmes. These include the Public Art Programme, where youth will receive art classes after which the department will employ them in their respective communities to beautify the environment through art. About 3 000 full-time art facilitators will be deployed in schools throughout the country to facilitate the initiative. Along with the establishment of an Art Bank, this is expected to create 10 000 new work opportunities over the next three years.

Public Art Programme

The Public Art Programme, which will focus on beautification and storytelling through art in communities and showcasing artistic talent, is one of three projects aimed at stimulating demand in the sector. The programme was projected to create 5 000 work opportunities between 2013/14 and 2014/15.

The heritage legacy projects include the liberation heritage route and a marine heritage project. The latter is a recreational underwater museum in Kosi Bay in KwaZulu-Natal, which interprets aspects of the history of slavery, indentured labour and the South African Native Labour Corps. It has the potential to create 1 517 work opportunities with annual growth of between 200 and 968 work opportunities between 2013 and 2015.

Investing in Culture Programme

The Investing in Culture Programme promotes job creation, skills development and economic empowerment, supporting business start-ups and poverty-alleviation projects.

Funds are transferred to participants in the programme's projects and are disbursed on the basis of annual business plans and service-level agreements between the department and the individual or group contractors.

Cultural tourism

Cultural festivals, African-cuisine projects, cultural villages, heritage routes and storytelling are areas that benefit from South Africa's booming tourism industry. Many cultural villages have been established throughout South Africa to reflect the different cultures and traditions of the country's people.

Arts festivals

Annual arts festivals are growing in popularity and attendance numbers. These include:

- Aardklop, held annually in Potchefstroom, North West, is inherently Afrikaans, but universal in character.
- Arts Alive International Festival is held in the Johannesburg inner city, with over 600 artists performing during the four-day festival at various venues in Newtown.
- Cape Town International Jazz Festival is a two-day festival featuring some 40 international and African acts performing on five stages and attracting more than 15 000 people. It also features photographic and art exhibitions.
- FNB Dance Umbrella is a festival of contemporary choreography and dance presenting work ranging from community-based dance troupes to international companies.
- Ficksburg Cherry Festival attracts about 20 000 visitors every year to this small eastern Free State town.
- Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees, is held annually in Oudtshoorn and presentations include drama, cabaret, and contemporary and classical music. Measured against 2012 attendance figures, it is presently the most popular festival of its kind.
- Innibos Kunstefees, held annually in June in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga, featuring mainly Afrikaans performers and attracting some 100 000 visitors.
- Mangaung African Cultural Festival in Bloemfontein is gaining status as one of the biggest cultural tourism events in southern Africa. This 10-day festival showcases the cream of African and international talent and attracts up to 140 000 people.
- National Arts Festival, held annually in July in Grahamstown in the Eastern Cape, is one of the largest and most diverse arts gatherings in Africa.
- Oppikoppi Easter Festival and Oppikoppi Bushveld Bash near Northam in North West, offers live performances from rock, alternative and blues bands both local and from abroad.

- Splashy Fen Music Festival near Underberg in KwaZulu-Natal offers a variety of mainstream and alternative rock and pop music.
- Standard Bank Joy of Jazz is Johannesburg's biggest annual jazz festival, with more than 200 local and international artists performing at different venues across the city.
- Up the Creek is a popular music festival on the banks of the Breede River near Swellendam in the Western Cape.

Other festivals that attract visitors at both national and international level are: North West's Cultural Calabash; the One City Festival in Taung, North West; the Awesome Africa Music Festival in Durban; the Spier Summer Festival at Spier Estate in the Western Cape; the Windybrow Theatre Festival in Johannesburg; and the annual Witness Hilton Arts Festival.

Theatre

The theatre scene in South Africa is vibrant, with many active spaces across the country offering everything from indigenous drama, music, dance, cabaret and satire, to West End and Broadway hits, classical music, opera and ballet.

The New Plays Writing Programme at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), Johannesburg is a partnership between the DAC, the university, the British Council and Sustained Theatre.

The objective of the programme is to equip a new generation of South African writers with skills that will enable them to develop dramatic work that resonates with the challenges of the world around them. The programme comprises a series of playwriting workshops, the development of new plays and the production of selected work, both locally and internationally.

Music

Music is one of the key cultural industries identified in the Cultural Industrial Growth Strategy Report, and government has committed itself to harnessing its potential.

In addition to its cultural value, music plays an important economic role in the country, generating significant copyright revenue.

In this industry, the department has solid foundations to build on. These include the annual South African Music Week, the in-school education programme run in conjunction with the Department of Basic Education, and the Moshito Music Conference and Exhibition.

The Taking South African Music to the World Programme is aimed at improving export opportunities for South African music.

While local music styles such as South African jazz have influenced African and world music for decades, gospel and kwaito are the most popular and most recorded styles.

Kwaito combines elements of rap, reggae, hip-hop and other styles into a distinctly South African sound. Kwaai Jazz is gaining popularity.

The Breathe Sunshine African Music Conference was launched in April 2013. Debates there raised a question that is important for any industry: work better within old paradigms — or work differently?

According to the *Fourth South African edition of PwC's South African entertainment and media outlook: 2013 – 2017*, published in September, digital music sales will account for just 14% of South African recorded music retail sales by 2017.

South African Music Awards (Samas)

The 19th MTN Samas were held in May 2013 at Sun City:

- Album of the Year: Khuli Chana – *Lost in Time*
- MTN Record of the Year: Sfiso Ncwane – *Kulungile Baba*
- Male Artist of the Year: Khuli Chana – *Lost in Time*
- Female Artist of the Year: Kelly Khumalo – *The Past, The Present, The Future*
- Duo/Group of the Year: Freshlyground – *Take Me to the Dance*
- Newcomer of the Year: Toya Delazy – *Due Drop Deluxe*
- Lifetime Achievement Awards: Johannes Kerkorrel; Sizwe Zako; Dr Thomas Chauke.

Orchestras

The National Arts Council is responsible for funding the KwaZulu-Natal, Cape and Gauteng orchestras as well as the Cape Town Jazz Orchestra.

Dance

The FNB Dance Umbrella 2013 in partnership with Dance Forum and the Johannesburg Arts Alive International Festival, ran from 31 August to 4 September.

Dance Umbrella 2013, included five international companies, 15 new works from South African choreographers along with the Stepping Stones programme, which featured 30 choreographers. The Cape Town City Ballet, started in 1934 as the University of Cape Town Ballet Company, is the oldest ballet company in the country.

The Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory, a priceless historical collection of resources chronicling the life of South Africa's greatest statesman, was launched in November 2013. The date of the launch of the Centre of Memory marked the 20th anniversary of the adoption of South Africa's Interim Constitution on 18 November 1993, when the groundwork for a non-racial and fully democratic South Africa was laid for the first time.

South African Mzansi Ballet's (SAMB) Celebration 5 at the Joburg Theatre in September 2013 showcased a major cultural collaboration between South Africa and Colombia when the Cartagena-based dance company El Colegio del Cuerpo combined forces with SAMB for three performances at the Joburg Theatre and two in Cape Town.

Visual arts

In October 2013, Irma Stern's painting, *The Malay Bride* was sold in London for almost R20 million.

Rock art

There are many traces of ancient cultures that existed in southern Africa in the distant past. Experts estimate that there are 250 000 rock-art sites south of the Zambezi.

The San people left a priceless and unique collection of Stone Age paintings and engravings in the region, which also represents the largest collection of its kind in the world.

Photography

Famous South African photographers include Kevin Carter, Ernest Cole, David Goldblatt, Bob Gosani, Alf Kumalo, Peter Magubane, Jürgen Schadeberg, Austin Stevens and Jodi Bieber.

Many universities of technology in South Africa offer diploma and degree courses in photography, including the universities of technology of Tshwane, Cape Peninsula and Durban, the Central University of Technology, Free State and the Vaal University of Technology in Vanderbijlpark.

Architecture

South Africa has a rich architectural heritage reflecting contributions from all the cultural groups in the country. Through the centuries, a unique trend has developed in South Africa's architectural style, which has been referred to as an innovative marriage of traditions. A prime example of local excellence and innovation is the Mapungubwe Interpretation Centre in the Mapungubwe National Park, Limpopo.

In May 2013, the Department of Arts and Culture handed over a R13-million cheque for the development of the Ray Alexander Simons Memory Centre in Gugulethu, which will make visitors aware of the role that the residents of Gugulethu played in the struggle for democracy in South Africa. The centre will offer jazz development programmes and create an awareness of tourism among workers. Young workers will be urged to continue with their education. The vision also includes plans for a hotel that will encourage tourists to stay overnight in Gugulethu, as well as a desire to turn flats used by migrants into permanent homes for the present occupants.

Designed by Peter Rich Architects of Johannesburg, the building was awarded the World Building of the Year Award 2009 at the World Architecture Festival in Barcelona, as well as the David Alsop Sustainability Award.

Crafts

A high level of skill is brought to the production of work that has long been a part of African society, and has now found new commercial outlets. South African bead work, once the insignia of tribal royalty alone, has today found a huge range of applications, from the creation of coverings for everything from bottles to matchboxes – and the reproduction of the red AIDS ribbon in the form of small Zulu bead works known as Zulu love letters. There's a lot of new work in traditional media, with artists constantly developing the African crafts repertoire.

There are several important collections of African art in South Africa, such as the Standard Bank collection at the Gertrude Posel Gallery at Wits University in Johannesburg, or the Durban Art Gallery, housing works of historical and anthropological significance.

There can be few other places in the world where one can see this variety of African arts and crafts, whether they be masks made in one of the continent's many styles, or carved chairs, or embroidered or appliqué cloths.

South Africa's National Anthem

The national anthem is a combined version of *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika* (*God bless Africa*) and *The Call of South Africa* (*Die Stem*).

Nkosi sikelel' i Afrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo,
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso,
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho,
O se boloke,
O se boloke setjhaba
sa heso,
Setjhaba sa South Afrika –
South Afrika.

Uit die blou van onse hemel,
Uit die diepte van ons see,
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,
Waar die kranse antwoord gee.

Sounds the call to come together,
And united we shall stand,
Let us live and strive for freedom,
In South Africa our land.

South African folk art is also making inroads into Western-style “high art.”

Literature

The DAC, in collaboration with the National Library of South Africa (NLSA), is reprinting some out-of-print books that are considered classics in indigenous African languages.

The DAC is continuing with the Indigenous Languages Publishing Programme, a partnership with the South African Book Development Council (SABDC), to produce new material in the nine previously marginalised indigenous languages.

The programme offers publishing opportunities to emerging writers and support to independent small publishers.

National Book Week was celebrated from 2 to 7 September 2013. The initiative aimed to promote literacy and celebrate reading. It is the result of a partnership between the SABDC, the DAC and the Department of Correctional Services. The theme for 2013 was: “The Book of Our Lives.” The main events were held at the Red Location Museum in Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape, with regional events held in the other provinces.

South African Literary Awards

The 2013 recipients of the South African Literary Awards were:

- *For the Mercy of Water* by Karen Jayes, which also won the 2013 *Sunday Times* Fiction Prize, was awarded the prestigious K Sello Duiker Memorial Literary Award.
- Afrikaans writer PG du Plessis was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his entire oeuvre.
- First-time published author award: *Khalif's Journey* by Ashraf Kagee.
- Nadine Gordimer Short Story Award: *Haai Karoo* deur Etienne van Heerden.
- Literary Translators Award: *Mangolo a nnake* (Letter to My Sister) by Nhlanhla Maake.
- Poetry Award: *Om die gedagte van geel* by Petra Muller.
- Creative Non-Fiction Award: *Transformations* by Imraan Coovadia.

Film

The first ever newsreel was shot in South Africa during the Anglo-Boer/South African War. The weekly newsreel ran for

On 16 December 2013, President Jacob Zuma unveiled the R8-million statue of former President Nelson Mandela at the Union Buildings. The nine-metre bronze statue depicts Madiba with his signature smile, with an open arm pose and one leg slightly extended back. The unveiling of the statue was part of the countdown to 20 years of democracy and part of the Union Buildings' centenary, which also took place in December.

more than 60 years. Film production began in 1916 when IW Schlesinger set up Killarney Studios in Johannesburg, and the studio produced 42 movies between 1916 and 1922.

When access to international markets became limited in the 1920s, the so-called 30-year lull began, and it was only in the 1950s that the market picked up again, when Afrikaans film makers developed an interest in the industry.

In the 1980s, South Africa gave foreign companies the opportunity to film movies in the country by giving them tax breaks. The South African film industry contributes R3,5 billion annually to the country's gross domestic product, while providing employment for more than 25 000 people.

In October 2013, the locally produced film, *Felix*, won a cash prize of €7 500 (R100 000) for Best Children's film at the 36th Lucas International Children's Film Festival in Germany.

Felix also won the Audience Award at the Durban International Film Festival and was screened at the Hamburg Film Festival, British Film Industry's London Film Festival and the Vancouver International Film Festival.

Florence Masebe won the award for best actress in a lead role for the film *Elelwani* during the 2013 African Movie Academy Awards. The film also won the best production design award, while a number of other South African productions were nominated and received awards at the event.

The film *Layla Fourie* received a jury special mention award at the Berlinale International Film Festival, while local comedy *Fanie Fourie's Lobola* won the audience choice award for best comedy at the 19th Sedona International Film Festival in Arizona, USA, in March. The film won the audience award at the Seattle International Film Festival in June 2013.

In the same month, South African film *Otelo Burning* added to a long list of accolades, picking up a hat-trick of awards – for best film, best dramatic feature and best surf film – at Australia's Byron Bay International Film Festival.

At the NFVF Film Indaba, held in November 2013, the NFVF pledged to put R1,5 million towards a nine-province documentary proposal by filmmakers with disabilities.

The locally produced film, *Mandela: Long Walk To Freedom* emerged as the highest grossing film in South Africa in its opening weekend in December 2013, earning over R4 million. The film also opened in the United States in November 2013, with exclusive engagements in New York and Los Angeles.

It earned the highest in its opening weekend there, with an average of US\$25,076 per screen.

The three largest film distributors in South Africa are Ster-Kinekor, United International Pictures and Nu-Metro. Ster-Kinekor has a specialised art circuit called Cinema Nouveau with theatres in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria.

Film festivals include the Durban International Film Festival; the North West Film Festival; the Three Continents Film Festival (specialising in African, South American and Asian films); the Soweto Film Festival; and the Encounters Documentary Festival, which alternates between Cape Town and Johannesburg.

Museums

More than 300 of the approximately 1 000 museums in Africa are in South Africa. The DAC subsidises most museums, which are otherwise autonomous.

The department pays an annual subsidy to 13 national museums, ensuring the preservation of artefacts and collections that are important to all South Africans.

National Library of South Africa

The NLSA is a custodian and provider of the nation's key knowledge resources. It is mandated by the NLSA Act of 1998 to collect and preserve intellectual documentary heritage material and to make it accessible worldwide. It ensures that knowledge and information are not lost to posterity and are available for future research.

The South African Library for the Blind is a statutory organisation located in Grahamstown in the Eastern Cape. Its purpose is to provide, free of charge as a national LIS to serve blind and print-handicapped readers in South Africa.

Blind SA is an organisation of the blind, governed by the blind, and is located in Johannesburg. One of its primary objectives is to provide services for blind and partially sighted individuals to uplift and empower them by publishing books, magazines and other documents in Braille.

Since the 1990s, the Msunduzi Museum in Pietermaritzburg, an agency of the National Department of Arts and Culture, has been transformed from a historically single-themed museum to one that depicts the heritage of different cultural groups of KwaZulu-Natal.

The museum was created in 1912 as a tribute to the Voortrekkers. Voortrekker history is the main focus in the Voortrekker Complex, i.e. the Church of the Vow, the Andries Pretorius House, the EG Jansen extension, the Voortrekker Memorial Church and the Church Hall.

The Museum also boasts a replica Hindu Shiva temple and a herb garden.

A display on the South African/Anglo-Boer War can be seen at the Voortrekker House, 333 Boom Street, Pietermaritzburg.

National symbols

South Africa's national symbols are:



National animal:
Springbok



National bird:
Blue Crane



National fish:
Galjoen



National flower:
King Protea



National tree:
Real Yellowwood

National Orders

South Africa's National Orders are:



The Order of
the Baobab



The Order of
Mapungubwe



The Order of the
Companions of OR Tambo



The Order of
Luthuli



The Order of Mendi
for Bravery



The Order of
Ikhamanga

