



ARTS AND CULTURE



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The Department of Arts and Culture is tasked with creating an environment conducive to the growth, development and flowering of South Africa's arts, culture and heritage landscape.

The Department of Arts and Culture funded 21 World Cup arts- and culture-related projects totalling R59 million and set aside R127 million for infrastructure development projects, which were regarded as 2010 legacy projects.

Arts and culture initiatives

Investing in Culture

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

Other initiatives include:

- Indigenous Music and Oral History Project
- Heritage Month celebrations
- Mosadi wa Konokono (Woman of Substance)
- Youth in Arts
- Artists in Schools Project
- Art in Correctional Facilities Programme.

Legacy projects

Monuments, museums, plaques, outdoor art, heritage trails and other symbolic representations create visible reminders of, and commemorate, the many aspects of South Africa's past.

Government has initiated several national legacy projects to establish commemorative symbols of South Africa's history and celebrate its heritage.

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, **!Ke e:xarra/ke**, written in the Khoisan language of the !Xam people, means "diverse people unite".



The legacy projects include the:

- Women's Monument
- Chief Albert Luthuli's house in KwaDukuza, KwaZulu-Natal
- Battle of Blood River/Ncome Project
- Samora Machel Project
- Nelson Mandela Museum
- Constitution Hill Project
- Sarah Baartman Centre of Remembrance
- Khoisan Legacy Project
- Freedom Park Project
- Dulcie September Legacy Project
- 2010 FIFA World Cup™ Legacy Project.

Other projects underway are the 1981 Matola Raid Memorial in Maputo, Mozambique; the rehabilitation and development of the Lock Street women's prison in East London into a museum; the development of the former apartheid state security site Vlakplaas into a heritage memorial site; and the OR Tambo Memorial Project in Bizana in the Eastern Cape.

The Department of Arts and Culture has funded the Lilliesleaf Project with an amount of R5 million. Lilliesleaf Farm, which was once the headquarters of the African National Congress' military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, has been turned into a museum to showcase the story of South Africa's transformation.

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 (NAC)
- 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

In January 2010, South African soprano Pumeza Matshikiza won the sixth Veronica Dunne International Singing Competition in Dublin, Ireland.

After outshining 59 vocalists from 21 countries, Matshikiza took the top honour, while fellow South African Sarah-Jane Brandon walked off with the second prize.



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the Free State in Bloemfontein and the Windybrow Theatre in Johannesburg

- Business and Arts South Africa
- Arts and Culture Trust.

Cultural industries

The creative industries have been identified as one of the key areas in which South Africa can achieve the goals of job creation and greater economic growth.

The Cultural Industries Growth Strategy capitalises on the economic potential of the craft, music, film, publishing and design industries. The Department of Arts and Culture provides support in the form of financing, management capacity, advocacy and networking, and by developing public-private partnerships and other initiatives that use culture as a tool for urban regeneration.

In November 2008, the department bought the Downtown Music Hub in Johannesburg from Gallo/Avusa, with the aim of developing sustainable cultural industries.

The music hub is expected to become a unique and innovative music production entity that will empower all stakeholders in the music industry, especially previous disadvantaged artists.

The hub is a partnership involving corporate and community-based entities.

Cultural tourism

Cultural festivals, African-cuisine projects, cultural villages, heritage routes and story-telling are areas that can benefit from South Africa's booming tourism industry.

Arts festivals

The Department of Arts and Culture provides financial support to various arts and culture festivals.

In March 2010, South African art was again sold by Bonhams in London. Out of a total of 135 works by 42 artists, 82% were sold, bringing in R28,5 million in total.

Works by Pierneef, Gerard Sekoto and Maggie Laubser all beat their pre-sale estimates. The top-priced work was by Pierneef, titled *An Extensive View of Farmlands*, which sold for R3,9 million against an estimate of R1,3 million to R1,9 million.

The sale's catalogue cover lot by Gerard Sekoto, *Market Street Scene, Cape Town*, sold for R2,1 million and a Maggie Laubser, *Woman Wearing a Red Doek*, sold for R554 000.



The Cape Town Film Studio, Africa's first modern high-technology film complex, opened in 2010. It was built at a cost of R400 million and covers 200 hectares. Shooting of the first ever 3D movie on the African continent, *Judge Dredge*, started in November 2010.



The 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.

Aardklop, held annually in Potchefstroom, North West, is inherently Afrikaans, but universal in character. The festival provides a platform for the creativity and talent of local artists.

Other festivals that attract visitors at both national and international level are the Joy of Jazz International Festival; Oppikoppi; 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 Innibos, Nelspruit.

Theatre

South African theatre is internationally acclaimed as being unique and of top quality.

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.

In recent years, South African theatre has taken the entertainment world by storm with commendable reviews for *Umoja*, *The Lion King* and *Kat and The Kings*. The reception these productions receive in capitals of the world testifies to the high quality of indigenous South African theatre.

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 today.

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

Kwaai Jazz is gaining popularity.

Orchestras

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

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Dance

South African dance is unique in its vitality and energy. More and more South African dance companies, individual dancers and choreographers are being invited to perform at festivals throughout Europe, Australia and the United States of America.

Contemporary work ranges from normal preconceptions of movement and performance art or performance theatre, to the completely unconventional. Added to this is the African experience, which includes traditional dance inspired by wedding ceremonies, battles, rituals and everyday life.

The Dance Factory in Johannesburg provides a permanent platform for all kinds of dance and movement groups, while the Wits (University) Theatre is home to the annual Dance Umbrella, a showcase for new work.

The Cape Town City Ballet is the oldest ballet company in the country.

Visual arts

Art galleries in South Africa's major cities (such as the Durban Art Gallery in KwaZulu-Natal; the Johannesburg Art Gallery in Gauteng; the South African National Gallery in Cape Town; and the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum in Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape) display collections of indigenous, historical and contemporary work.

Universities also play an important role in acquiring artwork of national interest.

These include collections housed in the Gertrude Posel Gallery of the University of the Witwatersrand, the University of South Africa Gallery in Pretoria, the Edoardo Villa Museum and other galleries at the University of Pretoria, and a collection of contemporary Indian art at the University of Durban-Westville.

Crafts

The craft industry has been identified as a strategic sector for the economic upliftment of South Africans. The crafts

The Film and Publications Board, under the Department of Home Affairs, in collaboration with the Department of Trade and Industry, launched the Anti-Piracy Campaign in September 2010, in Boksburg, Gauteng.





On 11 July 2010, a sell-out crowd inside Soweto's Soccer City Stadium as well as an audience of hundreds of millions across the globe were entertained by a colourful ceremony to celebrate the successful conclusion of a memorable first FIFA World Cup™ on African soil.

Colombian pop star Shakira took centre stage, along with local fusion band Freshlyground, with the worldwide hit *Waka Waka* (This Time for Africa).

industry has the potential to create meaningful jobs and the Department of Arts and Culture has begun to consolidate the marketing and distribution of South African products to international markets such as Art Mundi in Brazil.

Film

Film production is actively supported by government; just one initiative is the Location Film and Television Scheme introduced by the Department of Trade and Industry.

South Africa offers foreign producers world-class film facilitation, logistics, talent and administration-management services.

Television production accounts for more than a third of total film/television revenue, with local-content quotas increasing the demand for programming.

The National Film and Video Foundation (NFVF) develops and promotes the film and video industry in South Africa. It is also involved in the development of projects that appeal to targeted audiences and have greater commercial returns. The foundation disburses grants for developing and producing feature films, short films, television series, documentaries and animation projects, as well as bursaries for students from other countries. This ensures a South African presence at major local and international film markets, festivals and exhibitions.

In 2010, the Department of Arts and Culture supported the NFVF with a R10-million grant to set up cooperatives in rural areas and townships that focus on taking cinemas to the people and developing skills in areas related to film production.

Literature

South Africa has a rich history of literary output that has been well received locally and internationally. Fiction is written in all of South Africa's 11 official languages – with a large body of work in Afrikaans, in particular.

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The net turnover of the book sector was estimated at about R5 billion in 2010.

The new pop culture in poetry, often referred to as “spoken-word poetry”, is one of the most celebrated art forms throughout the country and beyond. Poets such as Lesego Rampokeng, Lebogang Mashile, Kgafela oa Magogodi, Blaq Pearl, Jessica Mbangeni and Mark Manaka are household names in the genre. There are regular platforms created to give these poets opportunities to hone their skills.

The current generation of writers is also making its mark on the world stage, with writers such as Zakes Mda, Niq Mhlongo and the late K Sello Duiker having their novels translated into languages such as Dutch, German and Spanish.

In 2010, the Department of Arts and Culture, in collaboration with the National Library of South Africa (NLSA), undertook to reprint some out-of-print books that are considered as classics in indigenous African languages.

A total of 27 titles in all the nine previously marginalised languages were reproduced and distributed to public libraries across the nation.

The department embarked on the second phase of the project which involved the re-issuing of a total of 18 titles (two in each indigenous language). These titles include *Apha Naphaya* by DM Jongilanga, *Ikusasa Alaziwa* by OTM Nxumalo and *Megokgo ya Bjoko* by Oliver Kgadime Matsepe.

Museums

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

In September 2010, the former Minister of Arts and Culture, Ms Lulu Xingwana, launched the Iziko Social History Centre in Cape Town.

The launch was part of the Heritage Month celebrations. The centre holds a wide range of reserve collections and archives, including indigenous cultural material from southern Africa, artifacts from the colonial period of the Cape, including maritime and historical archaeology, as well as, among other things, collections of world ceramics, furniture, coins and textiles.

The centre will also focus on the colonial apartheid and post-apartheid periods. An important resource located at the Iziko Social History Centre is the Social History Library, which focuses on the history and people of southern Africa, with a special interest in Cape Town and the Western Cape.



The fifth Cape Town Book Fair took place from 30 July to 2 August 2010. More than 34 000 visitors and 273 exhibitors attended.



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, 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.

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.

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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