The Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) aims to contribute to sustainable economic development and enhance job creation by preserving, protecting and developing South African arts, culture and heritage to sustain a socially cohesive and democratic nation.

The department is mandated to:
• develop and promote arts and culture in South Africa, and mainstream its role in social development
• develop and promote the official languages of South Africa, and enhance the linguistic diversity of the country
• improve economic and other development opportunities for South African arts and culture nationally and globally through mutually beneficial partnerships in order to ensure the sustainability of the sector
• develop and monitor the implementation of policy, legislation and strategic direction for the identification, conservation and promotion of cultural heritage. The DAC aims to increase interactions across all races, foster constitutional values, and encourage equal opportunities, inclusion and redress.

Legislation and policies
The DAC derives its mandate from the following legislation:
• Heraldry Act, 1962 (Act 18 of 1962)
• Culture Promotion Act, 1983 (Act 35 of 1983)
• National Archives and Record Service of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act 43 of 1996)
• Legal Deposit Act, 1997 (Act 54 of 1997)
• Cultural Institutions Act, 1998 (Act 119 of 1998)
• National Council for Library and Information Act, 2001 (Act 6 of 2001)
• National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)

In 2015, the DAC undertook a review of the heritage laws that it administers. The specific terms of reference of the review project were to:
• review the heritage laws for divergence, duplication and inconsistency (within and between the laws themselves, in relation to the White Paper on Arts, Culture and Heritage of 1996, the Constitution, constitutionally mandated laws and other applicable laws)
• conduct a gap analysis of heritage policy and legislation;
• identify viable solutions and propose necessary amendments to heritage policy and legislation; and
• consult stakeholders identified by the DAC.

National symbols
Animal: Springbok (Antidorcas marsupialis)
The springbok’s common name is derived from its characteristic jumping display. It is the only southern African gazelle and is fairly widespread in open, dry bush, grasslands or riverbeds near water. It is also the emblem of South Africa’s national rugby team, which bears its name.

Bird: Blue crane (Anthropoides paradisea)
This elegant crane with its silvery blue plumage is endemic to southern Africa, with more than 99% of the population within South Africa’s borders.

Fish: Galjoen (Coracinus capensis)
The galjoen is found only along the South African coast and is a familiar sight to every angler. It keeps to mostly shallow water and is often found in rough surf and sometimes right next to the shore.

Flower: King protea (Protea cynaroides)
This striking protea is found in the south-western and southern areas of the Western Cape. It derives its scientific name cynaroides, which means “like cynara” (artichoke), from the artichoke-like appearance of its flower head.

Tree: Real yellowwood (Podocarpus latifolius)
The yellowwood family is primeval and has been present in South Africa for more than 100 million years. The species is widespread, from Table Mountain, along the southern and eastern Cape coast, in the ravines of the Drakensberg up to the Soutpansberg and the Blouberg in Limpopo.

National flag
South Africa’s flag is one of the most recognised in the world. It was launched and used for the first time on Freedom Day, 27 April 1994. The design and colours are a synopsis of the principal elements of the country’s flag history. It is the only six-coloured national flag in the world. The central design of the flag, beginning
at the flag-pole in a “V” form and flowing into a single horizontal band to the outer edge of the fly, can be interpreted as the convergence of diverse elements within South African society, taking the road ahead in unity.

When the flag is displayed vertically against a wall, the red band should be to the left of the viewer, with the hoist or the cord seam at the top.

When displayed horizontally, the hoist should be to the left of the viewer and the red band at the top. When the flag is displayed next to or behind the speaker at a meeting, it must be placed to the speaker’s right. When it is placed elsewhere in the meeting place, it should be to the right of the audience.

**National anthem**

South Africa’s national anthem is a combined version of *Nkosi Sikelel’ iAfrika* and *The Call of South Africa (Die Stem van Suid-Afrika).*

*Nkosi Sikelel’ iAfrika* was composed by Methodist mission schoolteacher, Enoch Sontonga, in 1897. The words of *The Call of South Africa* were written by CJ Langenhoven in May 1918, and the music was composed by Reverend ML de Villiers in 1921.

**National Coat of Arms**

South Africa’s Coat of Arms, the highest visual symbol of the State, was launched on Freedom Day, 27 April 2000.

Its central image is a secretary bird with uplifted wings and a sun rising above it.

Below the bird is the protea, an indigenous South African flower, representing the aesthetic harmony of all cultures and the country flowering as a nation. The ears of wheat are emblems of the fertility of the land, while the tusks of the African elephant symbolise wisdom, steadfastness and strength.

At the centre, stands a shield signifying the protection of South Africans, above which are a spear and knobkerrie. These assert the defence of peace rather than a posture of war.

Within the shield are images of the Khoisan people, the first inhabitants of the land. The figures are derived from images on the Linton Stone, a world-famous example of South African rock art.

The motto of the coat of arms — !ke e:/xarra//ke — is in the Khoisan language of the /Xam people, and means “diverse people unite” or “people who are different joining together.”

**National Orders**

National Orders are the highest awards that the country, through its President, can bestow on individual South Africans and eminent foreign leaders and personalities.

- The **Order of Mapungubwe** is awarded to South African citizens for excellence and exceptional achievement.
- The **Order of the Baobab** is awarded to South African citizens for distinguished service in the fields of business and the economy; science, medicine and technological innovation; and community service.
- The **Order of the Companions of OR Tambo** is awarded to heads of state and other dignitaries for promoting peace, cooperation and friendship towards South Africa.
- The **Order of Luthuli** is awarded to South Africans who have made a meaningful contribution to the Struggle for democracy, human rights, nation-building, justice and peace, and conflict resolution.
- The **Order of Ikhamanga** is awarded to South African citizens who have excelled in the fields of arts, culture, literature, music, journalism and sport.
- The **Order of Mendi for Bravery** is awarded to South African citizens who have performed extraordinary acts of bravery.

President Jacob Zuma hosted the National Orders Awards Ceremony at the Sefako Makgatho Presidential Guest House in Pretoria in December 2015.
National Orders and Symbols

- The Order of the Baobab
- The Order of Luthuli
- The Order of Mendi
- The Order of Mapungubwe
- The Order of the Companions of OR Tambo
- The Order of Ikhamanga

The Coat of Arms

National flower: King protea
National fish: Galjoen
National tree: Real yellowwood
National bird: Blue crane
National animal: Springbok
The Order of the Baobab

The Order was bestowed in bronze on:
- Yvonne Mokgoro: For her outstanding contribution to the field of Law and the administration of justice in a democratic South Africa.

The Order was bestowed in silver on:
- John Douglas Anderson: For his excellent contribution to the upliftment of children and people with disabilities.
- Mary Makobatjatji Malahlela (Posthumous): For her excellent contribution to the provision of medical services to oppressed South Africans during apartheid. She was one of the first African women to qualify as a medical doctor in South Africa.
- Andrew Ross: For his excellent contribution to the training of young rural medics. His work has provided hope to communities that are treated in rural hospitals.
- Otto Stehlik: For his excellent contribution to economic and social development in South Africa. His business skills in the hospitality industry have benefitted South Africa significantly.

The Order was bestowed in gold on:
- James David Lewis-Williams: For his exceptional and distinguished contribution to the field of archaeology. His research on the rock art of the ancient people of Southern Africa has contributed invaluable knowledge about their lives and times.

Order of Ikhamanga

The Order was bestowed in bronze on:
- Jetro Ndlovu: For his outstanding contribution to the fight for freedom, equality and democracy in South Africa.

The Order was bestowed in silver on:
- Darius Mfana Dhlomo: For his excellent talent in various professional sporting codes. His tenacity, sheer talent and triumph in sport inspired generations of aspiring footballers and boxers who saw in him the epitome of excellence.
- Winnie Mahlangu: For her excellent contribution to the field of broadcasting and for keeping the listeners of Ukhozi FM, the largest radio station in the country, informed and entertained.
- Ramakgobotla John Mekoa: For his excellent contribution to the development of jazz music in South Africa. He established a jazz music centre, The Music Academy, that contributed to the growth of the careers of many South African jazz musicians.

The Order was bestowed in gold on:
- Mpumelelo Washington Bongco (Posthumous): For his exceptional contribution to the pursuit of equality and universal suffrage in South Africa. He never relented and paid the ultimate sacrifice for freedom and democracy.

Order of Luthuli

The Order was bestowed in bronze to:
- Kay Moonsamy: For his outstanding contribution to the fight for democracy and freedom in South Africa. As a trade unionist he was among the leading figures who actively fought the apartheid system.

The Order was bestowed in silver to:
- William Frankel: For his excellent contribution to the fight against apartheid. He played a significant role in raising funds for those detained by apartheid security forces and those charged under apartheid legislation.
- Johnson Malcomess Mgabela (Posthumous): For his exceptional contribution to the fight against oppression. He understood that human beings are naturally equal, and that the subjugation of one race by another must
be opposed at all costs.

- Petros Nyawose (Posthumous): For his excellent contribution to the fight against apartheid. He paid the ultimate price for his involvement in the liberation struggle in South Africa.
- Jabulile Nyawose (Posthumous): For her excellent contribution to the fight against apartheid. She also paid the ultimate price for her involvement in South Africa’s struggle.
- Mohammed Tikly: For his excellent contribution to the fight against apartheid. He groomed many young freedom fighters while he was director of the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College (SOMAFCO) during the days of exile.

The Order of the Companions of OR Tambo

The order was bestowed in silver on:
- Gareth Evans (Australia): For his excellent contribution to and support of the Anti-Apartheid Movement. His exceptional leadership influenced the Australian public to provide scholarships for underprivileged South African students at home and in exile.
- Peter Hain (United Kingdom): For his excellent contribution to the fight against the injustices of apartheid and his unwavering support for the South African Liberation Movement.
- Ambassador Vladimir Kazimirov (Russia): For his excellent contribution to the recording of the plight of the majority in Southern African countries, especially South Africa, during the period of minority rule. His work remains a testimony to the deep injustices during apartheid.
- Gay McDougall (United States of America): For her excellent contribution to the fight against the injustices of apartheid. She mobilised policymakers in the United States in support of the struggle for freedom in South Africa and put to use her legal expertise for the defence of political prisoners in South Africa and Namibia.
- Lars Nordbo (Denmark): For his excellent contribution to the struggle for liberation and for his architectural skills that saw him build dormitory blocks in Mazimbu, Tanzania, which housed South African freedom fighters in exile. These blocks were later converted into a Tanzanian university.
- Ambassador Andrey Urnov (Russia): For his excellent contribution to the fight for the liberation of the people of South Africa.
- Tan Sri Dato’ Sri Paduka Dr Lim Kok Wing (Malaysia): For his excellent and commendable contribution to the fight against apartheid and to education internationally, with a special focus on Southern Africa.

The order was bestowed in gold on:
- General Hashim Mbita (Tanzania): For his exceptional and gallant support of African Liberation Movements and his tireless efforts in ensuring that the struggle for freedom throughout the African continent bore fruit.
- Brian Mulroney (Canada): For his exceptional contribution to the liberation movement of South Africa. His steadfast support for the release of Nelson Mandela and for imposing sanctions on South Africa’s apartheid regime led to a free, democratic, non-sexist and non-racial South Africa.

Languages

South Africa is a multilingual country. The country’s Constitution guarantees equal status to 11 official languages to cater for the country’s diverse people and their cultures. These are: English, isiNdebele, isiXhosa, isiZulu, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, Siswati, Tshivenda and Xitsonga.

Other languages used in South Africa include the Khoi, Nama and San languages, Sign Language, Arabic, German, French, Greek, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Portuguese, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telegu and Urdu.

South Africa has various structures and institutions that support the preservation and development of languages.

Role players

National Heritage Council

The NHC of South Africa is a statutory body that is responsible for the preservation of the country’s heritage. Since its inception in February 2004, it has managed to place heritage as a priority for nation-building and national identity.

The NHC focuses on policy development for the sector to meet its transformation goals, enhance public awareness and education, and increase knowledge production in heritage subjects that were previously neglected. It also makes funding available to projects that present heritage as a socio-economic resource. A historic collection of African beads, known as the Broster Beadwork Collection and originates from the Eastern Cape, was declared a heritage property of South Africa. It was unveiled by the Minister of Arts and Culture in March 2016 at the Walter Sisulu University in Mthatha, Eastern Cape.
South African Heritage Resources Agency

SAHRA is a statutory organisation established under the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999), as the national administrative body responsible for the protection of South Africa’s cultural heritage.

SAHRA provides for the identification, protection, conservation and promotion of South Africa’s heritage for present and future generations. It established the National Heritage Resources Fund to provide financial assistance to approved bodies or individuals, for any project that contributes to the conservation and protection of South Africa’s national heritage resources.

Conservation categories include:
- national heritage sites, registers, areas and objects
- protected areas
- structures of more than 60 years old
- burial grounds and graves
- fossils (palaeontology) and archaeology
- rock art
- sites relating to the history of slavery in South Africa
- movable objects such as those recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa
- discoveries that are associated with living heritage; ethnographic and decorative art; objects of scientific interest; books, documents, photographs, film material or sound recordings.

SAHRA conserves buildings of historical or architectural value.

Heritage South Africa is a non-profit organisation that conserves South Africa’s variety of architectural gems.

South African Geographical Names Council (SAGNC)

The SAGNC advises the Minister of Arts and Culture on the transformation and standardisation of official geographical names in South Africa. The council has jurisdiction over all names of geographical features and entities falling within the territories over which the South African Government has sovereignty.

The renaming of geographical features is regarded as a form of symbolic reparation to address South Africa’s past.

The following principles are adhered to:
- each individual feature or entity should have only one official name
- the following types of geographical names would generally be avoided:
  - approved names of places elsewhere in South Africa
  - names of places in other countries and names of countries
  - names that are blasphemous, indecent, offensive, vulgar, unaesthetic or embarrassing
  - names that are discriminatory or derogatory
  - names that may be regarded as an advertisement for a particular product, service or firm
  - names of living people.

Geographical names committees have been established in all nine provinces.

National Arts Council of South Africa

The NAC is a national agency mandated by the DAC with the responsibility of developing South Africa’s creative industry by awarding grants to individuals and organisations in the arts. This is embedded in their mission to develop and promote excellence in the arts.

The NAC operates by inviting applicants to submit their project proposals and applications for bursaries once a year. An independent panel of experts in each of the seven arts disciplines adjudicates on each application and makes recommendations to council.

Arts institutions

The following arts institutions contribute to a sustainable performing arts industry based on access, excellence, diversity and redress, and encourage the development of the full range of performing arts:
- State Theatre, Pretoria
- Playhouse Company, Durban
- ArtsCape, Cape Town
- Market Theatre, Johannesburg
- Performing Arts Centre of the Free State, Bloemfontein
- Windybrow Theatre, Johannesburg.

The institutions receive annual transfers from the DAC, but also generate revenue through entrance fees, donor assistance, sponsorships and rental income.

Performing Arts Institutions provide a platform for the artistic and cultural expression of artists and those interested in performing arts.

Business and Arts South Africa (Basa)

BASA is an internationally recognised South African development agency with a suite of...
integrated programmes implemented nationally and internationally. The agency encourages mutually beneficial partnerships between business and the arts, securing the future development of the arts sector in South Africa and contributing to corporate success through Shared Value.

BASA was founded in 1997 as a joint initiative of the DAC and the business sector as a public/private partnership.

BASA’s mission is to ensure the relevance and sustainability of the arts in South Africa by providing expertise and developing partnerships between business and the arts.

Arts and Culture Trust (ACT)
ACT is the oldest arts funding agency in democratic South Africa. Since 1994 it has advanced its position towards becoming a self-sustaining perpetual fund for the continued development of arts and culture.

It was established to develop and promote arts, culture and heritage, in general, by securing financial and other resources; and to promote the needs and the role of the sector in the public domain.

Due regard is given to ensuring a spread of projects across all the cultural and artistic disciplines, including arts administration, arts education, community art, festivals, heritage, craft, fine art, dance, music, theatre, literature, multidisciplinary and new media.

Community art centres and other Cultural organisations
There are hundreds of community art centres are in operation, varying from community-initiated to government-managed centres, in South Africa.

The centres operate at different levels, ranging from general socio-cultural promotion to advanced programmes and vocational training.

Some of these centres are located in, for example, craft centres, community halls and theatres.

Many art centres are functioning well and have made impressive contributions to local socio-economic development.

The DAC endorses and supports programmes in needy centres that are community-initiated or non-governmental.

Bureau of Heraldry
The Bureau of Heraldry was founded in 1963 and is responsible for registering:

- coats of arms
- badges and other emblems such as flags, seals, medals and insignia of rank and offices of order
- names and uniforms (colours) of associations and organisations, such as universities
- promoting national symbols.

National Language Service (NLS)
The NLS is tasked with meeting the constitutional obligations of multilingualism by managing language diversity through language planning, human-language technologies and terminology projects. It also provides a translation and editing service in the official and foreign languages.

Through its bursary scheme, the department offers language-learning opportunities, as well as training in language practice.

The NLS promotes the use and equal status of all official languages. This entails the review of the national language policy, the development of language terminologies and human language technology, translation and publishing services in all official languages, and the awarding of bursaries.

Pan South African Language Board
Parliament established the PanSALB to develop South Africa’s 11 official languages, as well as the Khoi and the San languages and South African Sign Language, and to promote multilingualism by:

- creating the conditions for the development of and the equal use of all official languages
- fostering respect for and encouraging the use of other languages in the country
- encouraging the best use of the country’s linguistic resources to enable South Africans to free themselves from all forms of linguistic discrimination, domination and division and to enable them to exercise appropriate, linguistic choices for their own well-being, and for national development.

To achieve this, the board has three structures:

- provincial language committees
- national language bodies
- national lexicographic units.

The PanSALB is mandated by law to investigate complaints about language-rights violations from any individual, organisation or institution.

It conducts hearings at which complainants and respondents are present, and depending on its findings may recommend steps to be taken by the department or institution concerned.

The PanSALB creates an environment that is conducive to developing, using and promoting all official languages, as well as the Khoi, Nama and San languages and South African Sign Language.
Programmes, projects and initiatives

Public Art Development Programme (PADP)
The PADP is a work stream of the Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy (MGE). It is implemented in partnership with other levels of government, agencies and civil society. The PADP is implemented to strengthen and grow the arts, culture and heritage sector, with particular emphasis on giving the youth, women, children and persons with disabilities the opportunity to participate and benefit from the PADP.

The objectives of the PADP include:
• To create decent work for artists, designers, researchers, storytellers, crafters, performance artists and a range of other workers that are involved in the realisation and presentation of public artworks.
• To attract investment and economic activity to particular locations, including the rural areas.

Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy

The MGE supports creative industries by developing strategies, implementing sector development programmes, supporting projects and providing training.

As part of the national target of creating five million jobs within the next 10 years, the DAC launched the MGE in 2011, which was 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.

In 2015/16, the focus of the MGE incorporated major new initiatives including launching creative arts incubators to nurture entrepreneurs and produce local content facilitated by a dedicated venture capital fund.

The following three incubators were launched in 2015:
• Casterbridge Academy in Mpumalanga
• The PACOFS incubator in the Free State
• The Artscape in the Western Cape.

The total number of individuals incubated during the period of 2015/16 was 408. These incubator programmes are supported by the Art Bank of South Africa.

Festivals

Arts and cultural festivals abound in South Africa, offering something for every taste – from prickly pears, peaches, “witblits”, asparagus and cherries, to various music forms, dance, arts, science, books and whales.

Many of these have become annual events, growing in popularity and attendance numbers.
• 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.
• Arts Alive International Festival in Newtown, Johannesburg provides the best in homegrown and overseas entertainment in September.
• The Cape Town International Jazz Festival features international and African artists. It also features photographic and art exhibitions.
• The Dance Umbrella is a festival of contemporary choreography and dance, presenting work ranging from community-based dance troupes to international companies.
• The Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees, known as the KKNK, a vibrant festival for the performing arts, is held annually in Oudtshoorn and presentations include drama, cabaret, and contemporary and classical music.
• The Mangaung African Cultural Festival (MACUFE) in Bloemfontein in the Free State is one of the biggest cultural tourism events in southern Africa. This 10-day festival showcases the cream of African and international talent.
• 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.
• Oppikoppi Bushveld Bash near Northam in North West offers live performances by rock, alternative and blues bands, both local and from abroad.
• The 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 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: Innibos in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga; Taung Cultural Calabash in North West; the Awesome Windy Thebre Festival in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal; the Market Theatre Festival in Johannesburg; and the Windybrow Festival in KwaZulu-Natal.

The inaugural Mandela International Film Festival took place in Nelson Mandela Bay in December 2015. The festival aims to celebrate and stimulate a brave new world of film-making, and is dedicated to improving both the craft and business of film.

Theatre
South Africa has a prolific theatre scene with more than 100 active spaces around the country offering everything from indigenous drama, music, dance, cabaret and satire to West End and Broadway hits, classical opera and ballet. South African theatre tends to be very interactive, with actors sometimes directly addressing audiences. The country has a long and rich history of storytelling, from the oral narratives and shamanistic dances of the San, to the fables told around the fire by South Africa’s indigenous peoples, to the modern and youthful productions of today.

South African theatre came into its own during the apartheid years, partly due to the cultural boycott of the country by British and American actors. Without any external influences, South African theatre flourished with its own unique and local feel, particularly the protest theatre of the 1970s and 1980s.

But the formal South African theatre tradition dates back as far back as the 1830s, when Andrew Geddes Bains’s Kaatje Kekkelbek, or Life Among the Hottentots, was performed in 1838 by the Grahamstown Amateur Company.

Over the years, playwrights such as Athol Fugard and Gibson Kente would form the backbone of South African theatre. And through their plays, actors such as John Kani and Winston Ntschona became a few of the early participants of a form of theatre that sought to challenge the apartheid system and question racial attitudes of the time.

With mainstream venues like the National Theatre barring black people from creative participation, the Market Theatre in Johannesburg and The Space in Cape Town were just two of many theatres established to give black artists a stage and multicultural audience. Theatre venues were desegregated in 1978.

Some of the more well-known venues include the Market Theatre, Jo’burg Theatre and Soweto Theatre in Johannesburg; the Baxter and Artscape theatres in Cape Town; and the Playhouse in Durban.

Many of the casinos and malls in South Africa are also home to theatres. The Montecasino Theatre and Studio has hosted major productions such as Dream Girls and Phantom of the Opera.

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. Local music accounts for a third of all the music bought by South Africans.

Township jazz and blues, especially the kwêla music of the forties and fifties, are being redefined; the country also has a rich choral tradition, and pop and rock musicians have made their mark internationally. Even techno-rave and house music have found their own variations in local culture. Kwaito and hip-hop are very popular, combining elements of rap, reggae and other musical styles into a distinctly South African style. Kwaai Jazz is also gaining momentum.

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

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

The DAC funds a number of musical ensembles directly and indirectly, through the NAC. In May 2016, the SABC committed itself to playing 90% local music across the 18 radio stations. This followed extensive engagements with some music representatives.

Moshito Music Conference and Exhibition

The DAC hosts the annual Moshito Conference and Exhibition, a key music event on the African continent that promotes collaboration among interested parties from both the private and public sectors.

The event is designed to provide opportunities for business networking; information exchange; music-business education; promotion and product development for national music producers, performers, individuals and entities providing support services; as well as to strengthen business opportunities for the music industry and related media.

Mangaung African Cultural Festival

The DAC, in partnership with the Free State Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation, hosted the MACUFE Festival from 2 to 11 October 2015 in Mangaung, Free State.

In its 18th year of existence MACUFE dazzled its patrons with action-packed entertainment from artists such as Tamia and Dave Koz from the USA as well as Sierra Maestra from Cuba and Kunle from Nigeria.

South African performers, including Victor Kgantlafe, Mafikizolo, Thsopo Tshola, Letta Mbulu, Caiphus Semenya, Unathi and The Soil, also featured prominently at the festival.

The MACUFE Gospel Concert comprised performances by Sfiso Ncwane, Benjamin Dube, Tebogo, Umsingizane, Thoko and Sechaba who were joined by other gospel artists.

The mission of MACUFE is to showcase the best local and international African artists in various disciplines, providing a quality professional service through an extensive and structured marketing campaign.

South African Music Awards (SAMAs)

The 21st annual SAMAs ceremony was held at Sun City, North West, in April 2015. The winners were:

- **Album of the Year**: Beatenberg, *The Hanging Gardens of Beatenberg*.
- **Duo or Group of the Year**: Beatenberg, *The Hanging Gardens of Beatenberg*.

- **Female Artist of the Year**: Bucie, *Princess of House (Easy to Love)*.
- **Male Artist of the Year**: AKA, *Levels*.
- **Newcomer of the Year**: Cassper Nyovest, *Tsholofelo*.
- **Best Rock Album**: aKing, *Morning After*.
- **Best Pop Album**: Beatenberg, *The Hanging Gardens of Beatenberg*.
- **Best Pop Album (Afrikaans)**: Riana Nel, *Die Regte Tyd*.
- **Best Adult Contemporary Album**: Joe Nemand, *Back Again*.
- **Best Adult Contemporary Album (Afrikaans)**: Dewald Wasserfall, *Ek en Jy*.
- **Best African Adult Album**: Maleh, *You Make My Heart Go*.
- **Best Alternative Album**: Bittereinder, *Skerm*.
- **Best R&B/Soul/Reggae Album**: Afrotraction, *For The Lovers*.
- **Best Rap Album**: K.O, *Skhanda Republic*.
- **Best Kwai to Album**: Professor, *University of Kalawa Jazmee since 1994*.
- **Best Dance Album**: Black Motion, *Fortune Teller*.
- **Best Traditional Faith Music Album**: S'fiso Ncwane, *Bayede Baba*.
- **Best Contemporary Faith Music Album**: Loyiso Bala, *Power Love Sound*.
- **Best Traditional Music Album**: Bothlhale Boikanyo, *Spoken Word & Music*.
- **Best Maskandi Album**: Thokozani Langa, *Igama Lami*.
- **Best Jazz Album**: McCoy Mrubata, *Brasskap Sessions Vol. 2*.
- **Best Classical and/or Instrumental Album**: Wouter Kellerman, *Winds of Samsara*.
- **Best Live DVD**: Robin Kohl for *First Decade by Lira*.
- **Best Collaboration**: K.O ft. Kid X, *Caracara*.
- **Best Music Video of the Year**: Ryan Kruger (director), *Let the Night In by Prime Circle*.
- **Best Producer of the Year**: Wouter Kellerman and Ricky Kej for *Winds of Samsara* by Wouter Kellerman.
- **Best Engineer of the Year**: Brian O'Shea, Crighton Goodwill and Maruis Poplanet for *Winds of Samsara* by Wouter Kellerman.
- **Remix of the Year**: DJ Sbu and Robbie Malinga, *Indlela Yam* by DJ Sbu and Mojalefa Thebe.
• **Special awards:** KIA Record of the Year: K.O, featuring kid X, *Caracara*.

• **Best Selling Album:** Riana Nel.

• **Lifetime Achievement awards:** M’du Masilela, Mandla Mofokeng (Spikiri) and Zim Ngqawana.

• **International Achievement Award:** Wouter Kellerman.

• **Best Selling DVD:** Joyous SA, *Vol. 18 One Purpose*.

• **Best Selling Mobile Music Download:** Beatenberg and DJ Clock.

• **Best Selling Ring-Back Tone:** Pluto, DJ Clock ft Beatenberg.

• **Best Selling Full-Track Download:** Pluto, DJ Clock ft Beatenberg.

• **South African Music Performance Rights Association Award Highest Airplay of the Year:** Pluto, DJ Clock ft Beatenberg.

South African Traditional Music Achievement (SATMA) Awards

Launched in 2005, the SATMA Awards are aimed at promoting, preserving, uplifting, developing, honouring and awarding traditional musicians across racial and ethnic backgrounds.

The 10th SATMA Awards ceremony was held on 3 October 2015 in Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal and the winners were:

• **Best Sepedi Album:** Mponi (*Dula le nna*).

• **Best Tshivenda Album:** April Ramufhi (*Vhavenda vhalale*).

• **Best Xitsonga Album:** Joe Shirimani (*Ni Heleketeni*).

• **Best isiNdebele Album:** Smangele (*Ihlonipho*).

• **Best isiXhosa Album:** Butho Vuthela (*Emasi mini kuyaphilwa Vol. 1*).

• **Best Setswana Album:** Diragammu Cultural Group (*Mahikeng*).

• **Best Sesotho Album:** Phoka le Moketa (*Lipooho tsa Borhabela*).

• **Best Siswati Album:** Make Shelangubo (*Ngilele Ebaleni*).

• **Best Indian Album:** Flash Entertainers (*Nagara touch and chutney hits*).

• **Best Boeremusiek Album:** Hans Bothma (*Langarm Boerejol*).

• **Best Maskandi Album:** Amageza Amahle (*Ithende lemicimbi*).

• **Best Vernacular Hip-Hop Album:** Zakwe (Reverse, ft Duncan).

• **Best Song of the Year:** Osaziwayo (*Iphupho*).

• **Best Female Artist:** Buselaphi (Gabi Gabi).

• **Best Afro Soul:** Choko (Lerato).

• **Best Poet:** Phindile “the poet” (Divine purpose).

• **Best African Jazz Song:** Quincy K (*Motswana gorileng*).

• **Best Indigenous Comedian:** Tsoro

• **Best Newcomer Artist:** Bahubhe (Impundulu).

• **Best Mbaqanga Album:** Sandile Khwela (*Uvalo*).

• **Best Isicathamiya Album:** Royal Messengers (*Sakhisizwe*).

• **Best Traditional Dance Group:** Kopano ke Matla Traditional Group.

• **Best Praise Singer:** David Leshomo (*Molodi wa setso*).

• **Best Reggae Album:** Judah of the next generation (*Let thy kingdom come*).

Dance

Dancing is part of the African way of life and has become a prime means of artistic expression, with dance companies expanding and exploring new territory.

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 the trifles of everyday life.

An informal but highly versatile performance venue in Johannesburg, The Dance Factory, provides a permanent platform for a variety of dance and movement groups.

The University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) Theatre is another popular dance venue.

Dance Umbrella

The Dance Umbrella is an annual platform for South African contemporary dance at which new choreographic creations are presented. It is an open platform encompassing performances by youth and community groups, the efforts of young choreographers and commissioned works from professionals. The Dance Umbrella 2015 ran from 26 February to 15 March and offered a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to discover, experience and enjoy contemporary dance on all levels.

New local and international works took over
the city with dance.

A highlight of the 2015 festival was the strong focus on female choreographers. Since Dance Umbrella’s inception, male choreographers have dominated the contemporary dance scene but this has shifted over the past years.

The Dance Umbrella 2015 focused on, and celebrated both the established and the young up-and-coming female choreographers who will share the programme with their male counterparts. In 2015 the Dance Umbrella celebrated 26 years.

Visual arts
South Africa has a rich variety of visual art, with influences ranging from prehistoric, ancient and indigenous art to western, Asian and contemporary art.

Art galleries, ranging from small privately owned commercial galleries, to major regional galleries such as the South African National Gallery in Cape Town, the Durban Art Gallery in KwaZulu-Natal, the Johannesburg Art Gallery in Gauteng and King George VI Gallery in Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape, showcase collections of indigenous, historical and contemporary works.

Educational institutions also play an important role in acquiring works of national interest.

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.

Rock engravings are scattered on flat rock surfaces and boulders throughout the interior. The artworks depict mainly hunter-gatherers and their relationship with the animal world and historical events, as well as their interaction with and observation of newcomers encroaching upon their living space.

Indigenous people with spears and Nguni cattle, Khoikhoi fat-tailed sheep, European settlers on horseback with rifles and wagons, and ships and soldiers in uniform were captured in surprising detail.

Immortalised visions of the artists’ spiritual world can also be found on the sandstone canvases.

These depict complex symbols and metaphors to illustrate the supernatural powers and potency they received from nature.

The oldest dated rock art in South Africa, an engraved stone, some 10 200 years, was discovered in a living floor at the Wonderwerk Cave near Kuruman in the Northern Cape.

The oldest painted stones (around 6 400 years) were recovered at Boomplaas Cave in the Cango Valley near Oudtshoorn.

Three painted stones were also found at the Klasies River caves, which yielded the second-oldest painted stone, dating back some 3 900 years.

The DAC supports a number of projects, including a rock-heritage project in Clanwilliam in the Western Cape.

In July 2014, millions of pieces of tools made by humankind’s ancestors (possibly the Homo heidelbergensis species) were uncovered at Kathu in the Northern Cape. The site is between 700 000 and a million years old and used to be a huge workshop to produce tools. The findings were published in the technical magazine, *PLoS One*, by the universities of Cape Town and Toronto (Canada) and the McGregor Museum in Kimberley. The hominid species produced tools and equipment at the site for 20 000 to 30 000 years generation after generation.

Photography
With its scenic beauty, abundant wildlife, diversity of cultures and rich historical heritage, South Africa is a photographer’s paradise.

Many South African photographers have been acclaimed for their work, which features in coffee table books, documentaries, local and international exhibitions, magazines and newspapers.

Famous South African photographers include Kevin Carter, Ernest Cole, Alf Kumalo, Peter Magubane, Jürgen Schadeberg, Austin Stevens, Greg Marinovich, Andrew Tshabangu, Sam Nzima and James Oatway.

In June 2016, Peter Magubane launched a book titled *June 16: 40th Anniversary Edition* in Johannesburg. It is a pictorial account of the events that took place on 16 June 1976 - a fateful day that marked a significant change in the discourse of South Africa’s push for liberation. The foreword of the book was written by Struggle veteran Winnie Madikizela-Mandela.

A number of photographers from the state of emergency era partnered with the McGregor Museum and the Nelson Mandela Foundation to honour photographers who played a fundamental role in the liberation.

This museum is home an exhibition which tells
forgotten stories and highlights South Africa’s heritage.

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.

This is evident in the variety of architectural structures found all over the country, ranging from humble dwellings, historical homesteads and public buildings, to modern, commercial buildings reflecting state-of-the-art technology and designs that match the best in the world.

Schools of architecture exist within various South African universities, including the universities of Pretoria, Cape Town, the Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, the Witwatersrand and the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.

Crafts
A high level of skill is brought to the production of work that has long been a part of African society, and has found new commercial outlets.

South African beadwork, once the insignia of tribal royalty, has found a huge range of applications, from the creation of coverings for everything such as bottles and matchboxes, to the reproduction of the red AIDS ribbon using Zulu beadwork known as Zulu love letters.

With workplaces ranging from the pavements and markets of the big cities to dwellings in deep rural areas, South Africans produce a remarkable range of arts and crafts, including various forms of traditional artwork and innovative new products.

There are also 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. The Durban Art Gallery houses works of historical and anthropological significance.

These range from jewellery, tableware, home decorations, embroidery and key rings to skilfully crafted wooden engravings and wirework sculptures. In addition to the standard materials such as beads, grass, leather, fabric and clay, many other mediums are also used, including telephone wire, plastic bags, empty cans, bottle tops and even food tin labels, to create brightly coloured paper mâché bowls.

Shops, markets and collectors dealing in African crafts provide much-needed employment and income to communities.

Fugitive’s Drift in KwaZulu-Natal, offers a large variety of skilfully crafted basketry; the Northern Cape Schmidtsdrift community of displaced San people produces paintings influenced by ancient rock art; and the Madi a Thavha Art Gallery in the Soutpansberg region of the Limpopo produces and sells a range of arts and crafts created by the local Venda and Tsonga communities, including beautiful beadwork, sculptures, ceramics and jewellery.

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

The Ndebele tradition of house-painting, part of the widespread African practice of painting or decorating the exteriors of homes, burgeoned amazingly with the advent of commercial paints.

It also gave rise to artists such as Esther Mahlangu, who has put her adaptations of the distinctive, highly coloured geometric Ndebele designs on everything from cars to aeroplanes.

Design
The Design Indaba Conference 2016 took place from 17 to 19 February 2016 in Cape Town and was broadcast live to broadcast live to six Southern African cities.

It was the first time that the annual Design Indaba festival was held at the Artscape Theatre having had been held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre for over a decade.

The festival comprised a varied programme of creative talks, exhibits, films and music.

Literature
South Africa has a rich and diverse literary history, with realism, until relatively recently, dominating works of fiction.

Fiction has been written in all of South Africa’s 11 official languages – with a large body of work in Afrikaans and English. This overview focuses primarily on English fiction, though it also touches on major poetic developments.

The local literature sector has become globally competitive and the country’s writers continue to command respect throughout the world.

Well-known South African writers include Nobel Prize winners JM Coetzee and Nadine Gordimer, Gcina Mhlope, Phaswane Mpe, Es’kia Mphahlele, Wally Serote, Athol Fugard, Herman Charles Bosman, Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, Breyten Breytenbach, Dalene Matthee, Alan Paton, Olive Schreiner, Andre P Brink and Njabulo Ndebele.

The current generation of writers are also making their mark on the world stage, with writers such as Zakes Mda, Niq Mhlongo and the
late Kabelo K Sello Duiker, who have had their novels translated into languages such as Dutch, German and Spanish; and Deon Meyer, whose work has attracted worldwide critical acclaim and a growing international fan base. Originally written in Afrikaans, Meyer’s books have been translated into 25 languages, including English, French, German, Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Russian, Finnish, Czech, Romanian, Slovakian, Bulgarian, Japanese and Polish.

Well-known poets include Keorapetse William Kgositisele, Joseph Mbuyiseni Mtshali, Roy Campbell, Sheila Cussons, Jakob Daniël du Toit (better known as Totius), Elisabeth Eybers, Ingrid Jonker, Antjie Krog, Thomas Pringle, NP van Wyk Louw and Eugène Marais.

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

The Publishing Association of South Africa is committed to creativity, literacy, the free flow of ideas and encouraging a culture of reading.

In September 2015, National Book Week was launched at Emoyeni Estate in Johannesburg. The campaign ran from 7 to 13 September 2015 and it is an annual premier platform through which government, the book sector, media and civil society establish dynamic partnerships for the promotion of the culture of reading.

National Book Week is an initiative of the DAC in association with the SABDC. The campaign featured a number of reading activities for the young and old including a bus full of activities that travelled throughout the country. Activities included storytelling, a toy library, poetry, workshops and a mascot called Funda Bala who distributed books to children.

The DAC supports the Baobab Literary Journal with the purpose of providing a regular publishing platform for budding writers to appear alongside seasoned ones. This publication includes contributors from various countries across the African continent and the Diaspora.

The department continues to support the Time of the Writer and the Poetry Africa festivals, held annually in Durban. These festivals also deliver developmental workshops for young emerging writers, a schools programme and an initiative with the Department of Correctional Services to promote writing among inmates. WordFest, a literary component of the Grahamstown Arts Festival, focuses on promoting literature in indigenous languages. Also popular are the Johannesburg and Franschhoek literary festivals.

There is an English Literary Museum in Grahamstown and an Afrikaans Museum in Bloemfontein. The Centre for African Literary Studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal is home to the Bernth Lindfors Collection of African literature.

The centre’s mission is to promote a culture of reading, writing and publishing in all local languages, and easy access to books for all South Africans.

South African Literary Awards (SALA)
The SALA were held Tshwane Events Centre, Tshwane, Gauteng, in November 2015 and the winners were:

• First-time Published Author Award: Carol Campbell.
• Sello Duiker Memorial Literary Award: Zukiswa Wanner.
• Creative Non-Fiction Award: Edwin Cameron.
• Lifetime Achievement Literary Award: Achmat Dangor and Antjie Krog.
• Poetry Award: Mangaliso Buzani, Charl-Pierre Naude, Bishop MT Makobe.
• Nadine Gordimer Short Story Award: Abraham H de Vries.
• Literary Journalism Award: Michele Magwood.
• Posthumous Literary Award: RRR Dhlomo, HIE Dhlomo.
• Literary Translators Award: Karen Press.
• Chairperson’s Award: Prof Peter Mtuze.

Film
The first-ever newsreel was shot in South Africa during the Anglo-Boer/South African War, which ended in 1902. The weekly newsreel ran for more than 60 years. Film production began in 1916, when IW Schlesinger set up Killarney Studios in Johannesburg.

The studio produced 42 movies between 1916 and 1922. Access to international markets became limited in the 1920s, and it was only in the 1950s that the market picked up again, when Afrikaans filmmakers 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 GDP, while providing employment for more than 25,000 people.

The South African government offers a package of incentives to promote its film production industry.

The incentives comprise the Foreign Film and Television Production incentive to attract foreign-based film productions to shoot on location in South Africa, and the South African Film and Television Production and Co-production incentive, which aims to assist local film producers in producing local content.

South Africa’s first co-production treaty was signed with Canada in 1997, followed by Germany, Italy, the UK, France, Australia and New Zealand.

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 Apollo Film Festival in Victoria West; 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.

**National Film and Video Foundation**

The NFVF is an agency of the DAC that was created to ensure the equitable growth of South Africa’s film and video industry. The NFVF provides funding for the development, production, marketing and distribution of films and also the training and development of filmmakers. In addition, the NFVF commissions research and produces industry statistics that provide both the public and stakeholders with valuable insights into the South African film industry.

In March 2015, the Eco Kids Film Initiative screened many short films that were entered, and sourced locally and abroad over the course of seven days for children in Cape Town between the ages of three and 17.

In March 2016, the foundation released its Box Office Report for the period of January to December 2015.

The 2015 gross box office saw a growth of 36%, even though there was a price hike on cinema tickets by exhibitors.

Box office revenues were R1,198 billion in 2015. This was due to popular releases of films such as *Fast & Furious 7*, which was the top earner grossing R89.9 million, *Star Wars* was the second highest grossing film taking R51.5 million for the eight weeks it was on circuit. *Minions*, which grossed R50 million in 12 weeks, was amongst the top earning films.

A total of 22 local films were released with a box office earning of R69.2 million which accounted for 6% of gross box office.

The top three local films were *Schuks! Pay Back the Money*, which grossed R17.6 million, *Ballade vir ’n Enkeling* grossed over R9 million and *Mooririvier* made R7.2 million.

Comedy was the highest grossing genre with earnings of R28 million. The drama genre earned R22 million, and the romance genre made R13 million.

Multilingual films were the most popular accounting for 14 titles released and the accounted for 65% of the gross.

South Africa has become steadily more popular in recent years as an international filming location. Some international feature films that were shot on location in South Africa and released in local cinemas include:

- *Avengers: Age of Ultron* was one of the most anticipated titles which had a few scenes shot in the Johannesburg inner city and Sandton.
- *Mad Max Fury Road* another moderate hit at the box office had scenes shot at the Cape Town film studios.

A number of local films were well received by the international audience. Local Afrikaans film *Die Windpomp* (The Windmill) won the Audience Award for Best Foreign Film at the 2015 Long Beach International Film Festival in New York, competing against over 50 internationally acclaimed films.

*Thina Sobabili* won the coveted Audience Choice Award at the Pan African Film Festival 2015, which took place in Los Angeles.

*Miners Shot Down* won Best Documentary at the International Emmy Awards.

*Necktie Youth*, a local drama, won both the best South African feature award and the international jury award for best director at the Durban International Film Festival.

**South African Film and Television Awards (SAFTAs)**

The SAFTAs, also known as the Golden Horn Awards, were held in March 2016 in Johannesburg.

The ceremony was hosted by Minnie Dlamini.
and Katlego Maboe who walked away with the Best Presenter Award for a second year in a row.
Nomhle Nkonyeni received the Lifetime Achievement Award and in the new category, Special Recognition Awards were handed to Rhulani Baloyi and the UGU Film Festival for their contribution to provincial development.

The winners were:

- **Best Achievement by a Supporting Actor in a TV Comedy**: Bongani Madondo (*Kota Life Crisis*: Season 2).
- **Best Achievement by a Supporting Actress in a TV Comedy**: Linda Sebezo (*Gauteng Maboneng*).
- **Best Achievement by a Lead Actor in a TV Comedy**: Mandla Gaduka (*Gauteng Maboneng*).
- **Best Achievement by a Lead Actress in a TV Comedy**: Robyn Scott (*Those Who Can’t*).
- **Best Achievement in Directing in a TV Comedy**: Krijay Govender, Joshua Rous, Segomotso Keorapetse (*Ga Re Dumele: Season 4*).
- **Best TV Comedy**: Both Worlds (*ZA News: Puppet Nation*).
- **Best Achievement by a Supporting Actor in a TV Drama**: Deon Lotz (*When We Were Black*: Season 2).
- **Best Achievement by a Supporting Actress in a TV Drama**: Charmaine Mtinta (*Matatiele*).
- **Best Achievement by a Lead Actor in a TV Drama**: Siyabonga Radebe (*Saints and Sinners*: Season 1).
- **Best Achievement by a Lead Actress in a TV Drama**: Ntathi Moshesh (*Saints and Sinners*: Season 1).
- **Best Achievement in Directing in a TV Drama**: Rolisizwe Nikiwe, Zuko Nodada (*Matatiele*).
- **Best TV Drama**: Quizzical Pictures (*Umlilo*).
- **Best TV Presenter Non-Fiction**: Variety: Katlego Maboe for Expresso Morning Show.
- **Best Achievement by a Supporting Actor in a TV Soap**: Samson Kumalo (*Isibaya*: Season 3).
- **Best Achievement by a Supporting Actress in a TV Soap**: Maggie Benedict (*Ashes to Ashes*).
- **Best Achievement by a Lead Actor in a TV Soap**: Vusi Kunene (*Isibaya*).
- **Best Achievement by a Lead Actress in a TV Soap**: Leeanda Reddy (*Isidingo*).
- **Best Achievement in Directing in a TV Soap**: Eric Mogale, Siyabonga Mkhize, Heather Cooke (*Rhythm City*).
- **Best TV Soap**: Quizzical Pictures (*Rhythm City*).
- **Most Popular TV Soap**: *Skeem Saam*.
- **Special Recognition Award for Contribution to Persons with Disabilities**: Rhulani Baloyi.
- **Special Recognition award for Contribution to Provincial Development**: UGU Film Festival.
- **Best Student Film**: Jabu (*The Animation School*).
- **Best Achievement by a Supporting Actor in a Feature Film**: Marius Weyers (*Dis Ek, Anna*).
- **Best Achievement by a Supporting Actress in a Feature Film**: Tina Jaxa (*While You Weren’t Looking*).
- **Best Achievement by a Lead Actor in a Feature Film**: Mduduzi Mabaso (*For Love and Broken Bones*).
- **Best Achievement by a Lead Actress in a Feature Film**: Fulu Mughovani (*Ayanda*).
- **Best Achievement in Directing in a Feature Film**: Sara Blecher (*Dis Ek, Anna*).
- **Best Feature Film**: Palama Productions (*Dis Ek, Anna*).

### Museums

Museums are the windows to the natural and cultural heritage of a country. South Africa can justifiably be called the “museum country of Africa”, with the earliest of its museums dating back to the first half of the 19th century.

There are more than 300 museums in South Africa. They range from museums of geology, history, the biological sciences and the arts, to mining, agriculture, forestry and many other disciplines.

Visitors can find exhibits, both conventional and eccentric, on every conceivable topic – from beer to beadwork, from fashion to food.

New additions are those reflecting the apartheid era, and commemorating those who fought and died for the cause of establishing a democratic country.

Most of the country’s national museums are declared cultural institutions and fall under the overall jurisdiction of the DAC.

They receive an annual subsidy from the department, but function autonomously.
The following officially declared heritage institutions depend on annual transfers from the DAC:

- Northern Flagship Institutions, Pretoria
- Freedom Park, Pretoria
- Iziko Museum, Cape Town
- Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg
- Bloemfontein National Museum
- Afrikaans Language Museum, Paarl
- The National English Literary Museum, Grahamstown
- Msunduzi/Voortrekker Museum, Pietermaritzburg
- War Museum of the Boer Republics, Bloemfontein
- Robben Island Museum, Cape Town
- William Humphreys Art Gallery, Kimberley
- Luthuli Museum, KwaDukuza
- Nelson Mandela Museum, Mthatha.

The following museums report to the Minister of Arts and Culture:

- Ditsong museums of South Africa
- Iziko museums, Cape Town
- Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg
- National Museum, Bloemfontein
- Language Museum, Paarl
- National English Literary Museum, Grahamstown
- Msunduzi/Voortrekker Museum, Pietermaritzburg
- War Museum of the Boer Republics, Bloemfontein
- Robben Island Museum, Cape Town
- William Humphreys Art Gallery, Kimberley
- Engelenburg House Art Collection, Pretoria
- Nelson Mandela Museum, Mthatha
- Luthuli Museum, KwaDukuza.


The Iziko museums of Cape Town comprise the South African Museum, the South African Cultural History Museum and its satellite museums, the South African National Gallery, the William Fehr Collection and the Michaelis Collection.

The Robben Island Museum was established as a national monument and museum, and declared South Africa’s first world heritage site in 1999. Guided tours are offered to historical sites on the island, including the cell in which former President Mandela was imprisoned.

In April 2009, the DAC declared Freedom Park, Pretoria, a cultural institution under the Cultural Institutions Act of 1998.

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 mighty legacy of South Africa’s first democratically elected President, Nelson Mandela.

//hapo is a Khoi word which means “a dream.”

The museum will help the country define the history, in holistic terms, from the early wars of dispossession such as the Khoikhoi-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; and the South African War, previously known as the Anglo-Boer War, to the anti-apartheid struggle – all of which form part of the freedom history and define the freedom South Africans enjoy today. The museum is the result of nationwide consultative processes that solicited advice from youth, intellectuals, academics, artistic communities, women’s groups, traditional leaders and healers and faith-based organisations.

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

Other elements include a vast wall commemorating those who paid the ultimate price for freedom, an eternal flame paying tribute to the unknown and unsung heroes and heroines, a gallery dedicated to the legends of humanity, a symbolic resting place for those who have died and the story of southern Africa’s 3.6 billion years of history.

Other museums administered by central government departments or research councils are the:

- Museum of the Council for Geoscience (Pretoria)
- Theiler Veterinary Science Museum at Onderstepoort (Pretoria)
- South African Air Force Museum at Swartkop Air Force Base (Pretoria) with its satellites in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Durban
- museum of the Department of Correctional Services (Pretoria).

Other museums housed in the Iziko museums, the Ditsong museums of South Africa, the National Museum and the KwaZulu-Natal Museum.
The following natural history museums do not fall under the DAC, but work closely with the national heritage institutions:

- McGregor Museum, Kimberley
- East London Museum
- South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity, Grahamstown
- Port Elizabeth Museum
- Durban Museum of Natural History.

The best-known cultural history collections are housed in the Iziko and the Ditsong museums, as well as the Durban Local History Museum and Museum Africa in Johannesburg.

The South African National Gallery in Cape Town and the William Humphreys Art Gallery in Kimberley report to the DAC.

The South African Cultural History Museum (Slave Lodge) in Cape Town houses the oldest cultural history collection in the country.

The South African Museum (Cape Town) showcases the natural history of South Africa, and relics of the early human inhabitants of the subcontinent.

The huge Whale Hall houses possibly the most impressive of all its exhibitions. This is the only collection in South Africa with a planetarium attached to it.

The Transvaal Museum in Pretoria houses the skull of Mrs Ples, a 2.5-million-year-old hominid fossil, and depicts the origin and development of life in South Africa, from the most primitive unicellular form of life to the emergence of mammals and the first human beings.

It has an impressive collection of early human fossils and houses some of the largest herpetological and ornithological collections in southern Africa.

The Tswaing Meteorite Crater, situated to the north-west of Pretoria, combines a museum with a cultural-development initiative.

The National Cultural History Museum in Pretoria is a centre for the preservation and promotion of the culture and heritage of all South Africans.

It explores cultural diversity and commonalities, links the present and the past to offer a better understanding of both, and nurtures the living cultures of all South Africans.

Mining is best represented by the De Beers Museum at the Big Hole in Kimberley, where visitors can view the biggest hole ever made by man with pick and shovel.

It includes an open-air museum, which houses many buildings dating back to the era of the diamond diggings.

Another important mining museum is at Pilgrim's Rest, Mpumalanga, where the first economically viable gold field was discovered. The entire village has been conserved and restored.

Agriculture in South Africa is depicted mainly in two museums. These are Kleinplasie in Worcester, Western Cape, which showcases the wine culture and characteristic architecture of the winelands; and the Willem Prinsloo Agricultural Museum between Pretoria and Bronkhorstspruit, in Gauteng.

This museum comprises two “house” museums and runs educational programmes based on its extensive collection of early farming implements, vehicles of yesteryear and indigenous farm animals.

The Absa Museum and archives in Johannesburg preserve the banking group's more than 110 years of history. The museum also houses a unique and very valuable coin and banknote collection.

The Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg offers a realistic view of the political situation in South Africa during the apartheid years. Exhibitions in the museum include audiovisual footage recorded during the apartheid era.

The Red Location Museum in Port Elizabeth highlights the struggle against apartheid and has won several international awards.

A common type of museum in South Africa is the “house” museum. Examples include an entire village nucleus in Stellenbosch; the mansion of the millionaire industrialist Sammy Marks; the Kruger House Museum, the residence of Paul Kruger, former President of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek; and Melrose House, where the Peace Treaty of Vereeniging that ended the Second Anglo-Boer/South African War (1899 to 1902) was signed, around the massive dining table, on 31 May 1902, in Pretoria.

Simpler variations include the Pioneer Museum and 1848 house in Silverton, Pretoria; and the Diepkoof Farm Museum featuring a farmhouse dating back to the 1850s, at Suikerbosrand near Heidelberg, in Gauteng.

There are several open-air museums that showcase the black cultures of the country, for example, Tsonga Kraal near Letsitele, Limpopo; the NdebeleMuseum in Middelburg, Mpumalanga; the Bakone Malapa Museum in Polokwane, Limpopo; and the South Sotho Museum in Witsieshoek, Free State.

The South African Museum for Military History in Johannesburg reflects the military history of the country, while the War Museum
in Bloemfontein depicts the Anglo-Boer/South African War, in particular.

The famous battlefields of KwaZulu-Natal, the Northern Cape and North West are also worth a visit.

On 18 May, the world celebrates International Museum Day which is coordinated by the International Council of Museums. The event highlights a specific theme that changes every year and that is at the heart of the international museum community’s preoccupations.

The theme of International Museum Day 2015 was “Museums for a Sustainable Society”. The theme recognised the role of museums in raising public awareness about the need for a society that is less wasteful, more cooperative and uses resources in a way that respects living systems. In 2015, more than 35 000 museums participated in the event in some 145 countries.

Archives

The archives of governmental bodies are transferred to archive repositories after 20 years, and are accessible to the public and to the office of origin.

The National Archives in Pretoria includes the National Film, Video and Sound Archives (NFVSA).

Its primary functions are to obtain and preserve films, videotapes and sound recordings of archival value, and to make these available for research and reference purposes.

The archives of central government are preserved in the National Archives’ repository in Pretoria.

The nine provinces run their archiving services independently from the National Archives.

The retrieval of information from archives is facilitated by the National Automated Archival Information System, which can be found at www.national.archives.gov.za.

It includes national registers of manuscripts, photographs and audiovisual material.

The National Archives is responsible for collecting non-public records with enduring value of national significance.

The National Archives also renders a regulatory records-management service with regard to current records in governmental bodies, aimed at promoting efficient, transparent and accountable administration.

In so doing, it is obliged to pay special attention to aspects of the nation’s experience neglected by archives of the past.

The Oral History Programme seeks to build the National Archives’ capacity to document the spoken word, and fill the gaps in the archives of previously disadvantaged communities.

The automated National Register of Oral Sources is an important element of the programme.

The National Oral History Association, which was established in 2006, hosts annual oral history conferences.

The National Archives’ outreach programme promotes the use of its facilities and functions. Archives are taken to the people of South Africa through coordinated national and provincial archive services.

The National Archives is also responsible for ensuring effective, transparent and accountable management of all public records.

The Convention for a Democratic South Africa and the multiparty South African collections have been nominated and provisionally registered for the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Memory of the World International Register.

This is part of South Africa’s contribution to the documented collective memory of the peoples of the world.

Library and information services (LIS)

South Africa’s growing LIS sector includes the NLSA, a statutory body; the South African Library for the Blind (SALB); Blind South Africa (Blind SA); public/community libraries; special libraries; government libraries; and higher education libraries.

National Library of South Africa

The NLSA was established after the merger of the former State Library in Pretoria and the former South African Library in Cape Town, and includes a specialist unit, the Centre for the Book in Cape Town.

The NLSA in Pretoria has seating capacity for 1 300 library users.

The NLSA offers free Internet access to users in Cape Town and Pretoria.

The Centre for the Book promotes the culture of reading, writing and publishing in all official languages of South Africa.

The NLSA is a custodian and provider of the nation’s knowledge resources. It is mandated to collect and preserve intellectual documentary heritage material and make it accessible worldwide.

Its collections contain a wealth of information sources, including rare manuscripts, books,
periodicals, government publications, foreign official publications, maps, technical reports, and special interest material, including Africana and newspapers.

The functions of the NLSA are to:
- build a complete collection of published documents emanating from or relating to South Africa
- maintain and preserve these collections
- provide access to them through bibliographic, reference, information and interlending services
- promote information awareness and literacy.

In terms of the Legal Deposit Act, 1997 (Act 54 of 1997), the NLSA receives two copies of each book, periodical, newspaper, map, manuscript material or other publication that is published in South Africa in any medium, whether print or electronic.

The Bookkeeper Mass De-Acidification has been installed at the NLSA in Pretoria to treat books and archival non-book material to extend the useful life of paper collections.

The NLSA is also able to offer moderate services to local libraries, archives and museums.

The NLSA is a link between the LIS sector and heritage sector. It will influence a social cohesive nation by providing free and equitable access to knowledge and information resources, with a theme: “A reading nation is a thriving nation.”

Library and Information Association of South Africa
Libraries have always played a role in education, whether school, academic, public or special libraries.

Where there are not enough school libraries, public libraries are largely bridging the gap.

The concept of lifelong learning is one embodied in all libraries, especially public and community libraries.

That any person, young or old, rich or poor, employed or unemployed, can walk into a library and find information (in both electronic and traditional formats) to educate and enrich themselves, is one of the major benefits of libraries.

National Library Week was held from 14 to 21 March 2015 and the theme was “Connect @ Your Library” based on the premise that libraries connect people to each other, to knowledge and information, to print and electronic resources, to technology and to professional support.

National Council for Library and Information Services (NCLIS)
The NCLIS is an advisory council that advises the ministers of arts and culture, of basic education and of higher education and training on matters relating to LIS to support and stimulate the socio-economic, educational, cultural, recreational, scientific research, technological and information development of all communities in the country.

The council is broadly representative and councillors are appointed for their expertise and experience in the field of LIS.

Members serve on the council for a renewable term of three years.

Some important policy matters include the development of the Library and Information Services Transformation Charter, which aligns the role of libraries with the vision and strategic framework of government; the training of librarians; and the funding of the sector.

Legal Deposit Committee (New Members July 2016)
The Legal Deposit Committee was appointed in terms of the Legal Deposit Act of 1997, which is administered by the DAC.

The committee members serve on the committee for a renewable term of three years.

The mandate of the Act includes:
- providing for the preservation of the national documentary heritage through the legal deposit of published documents
- ensuring the preservation and cataloguing of, and access to, published documents emanating from, or adapted for, South Africa
- providing for access to government information.

The core functions of the Legal Deposit Committee include:
- advising the Minister on any matter dealt with in this Act
- making recommendations to the Minister concerning any regulations which the Minister may make under this Act
- coordinating the tasks carried out by the places of legal deposit
- advising any place of legal deposit regarding any matter dealt with in this Act.

The places of legal deposit are: the NLSA; the Library of Parliament in Cape Town; the Mangaung Public Library in Bloemfontein; the Msunduzi/Voortrekker Municipal Library in Pietermaritzburg; and the NFVSA in Pretoria.

The Act also provides for the establishment of official publications depositories (OPDs), namely the Constitutional Court Library in Johannesburg;
South African Library for the Blind
The SALB is a statutory organisation located in Grahamstown in the Eastern Cape. Its purpose is to provide, free of charge as far as is reasonably possible, a national LIS to serve blind and print-handicapped readers in South Africa.

It is partly state-funded and depends for the remainder of its financial needs on funds from the private sector and the general public.

The SALB also produces documents in special media such as Braille, audio and tactile formats. It develops standards for the production of such documents and researches production methods and technology in the appropriate fields.

It also acquires, manufactures and disseminates the technology people with visual disabilities use to read. The SALB has five broad objectives, namely to significantly contribute towards:

• helping to build a nation of readers
• assisting the organised blind community
• improving the lives of individuals with print disabilities by meeting their information needs
• helping the state to discharge its cultural mandate, and its obligations to blind and visually impaired people
• assisting Africa’s development by providing advice, expertise and documents in accessible formats for blind people and the institutions that serve their information needs.

The SALB has a membership of about 3 655 people, an audio and Braille collection of more than 25 600 books, and an annual circulation of 133 222 books in Braille or audio format.

To make library services more accessible, the SALB partners 82 public libraries providing accessible reading material and assisting devices.

International relations
The DAC’s participation in various activities in the international cultural arena helps to identify, promote and exploit mutually beneficial partnerships for social and economic development in South Africa.

Together with the African Union (AU) and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development, South Africa has embarked on the road to restoring, preserving and protecting its African heritage.

The department ensures that South African talent takes its rightful place on the global stage, and uses arts and culture as a tool for economic self-liberation.

Bilateral agreements have been signed with France, the UK, China, Cuba, India, New Zealand and many more.

South Africa ratified the Convention on the Promotion and Protection of Cultural Diversity in 2006, becoming the 35th member country to do so.

In the area of international cooperation on cultural development, the DAC is committed to promoting the African Agenda.

The DAC continues to encourage and support initiatives to promote South African artists on the world stage.

Indigenous music and oral history
The International Library of African Music (ILAM), attached to the Music Department at Rhodes University, is the largest repository of African music in the world. Founded in 1954 by ethnomusicologist Hugh Tracy, ILAM is devoted to the study of music and oral arts in Africa. It preserves thousands of historical recordings, going back to 1929, and supports contemporary fieldwork.

The DAC has entered into partnerships with the universities of Venda, Fort Hare and Zululand to conduct research into indigenous music and instruments, as well as identifying and collecting all aspects of intangible cultural heritage in their provinces.

The department and the African Cultural Heritage Fund promote indigenous music
by hosting regional, provincial and national indigenous dance and music competitions.

On 4 July 2015, the ILAM hosted Celebrating African Music, a festive concert marking ILAM’s 60th anniversary, at the Transnet Great Hall in Grahamstown, Eastern Cape.

**African World Heritage Fund (AWHF)**

The AWHF provides financial and technical support for the conservation and protection of Africa’s natural and cultural heritage of outstanding universal value. The fund was established as a result of work undertaken by African member states of UNESCO, with the objective of developing an ongoing strategy to deal with the challenges that most African countries have in implementing the World Heritage Convention. The AWHF is the first regional funding initiative within the framework of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention.

The AWHF strives towards the effective conservation and protection of Africa’s natural and cultural heritage. AWHF is aimed at AU member states that signed the 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention in support of these goals.

In April 2016, the AWHF and UNESCO collaborated to host the first regional Youth Forum for World Heritage in the Africa region as well as an international conference on Conservation of African World Heritage properties and Sustainable Development.