

THE NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL OF ZIMBABWE

Media Statement: For immediate release

11 September 2024

The National Arts Council of South Africa (NACSA) and the National Arts Council of Zimbabwe (NACZ) are delighted to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that will see both parties collaborating and partnering on areas of mutual interest in an effort to promote and develop the arts and culture sector in both countries.

On the 9th of September 2024, the NAC's Interim Chief Executive Officer, Ms Julie Diphofa welcomed the NACZ's Executive Director, Mr Napoleon Nyanhi at the NAC Head Office in Newtown, Johannesburg for the signing thereof.

As the funding agency of the National Department of Sports, Arts and Culture, the NAC is deliberate in ensuring that we are an accessible and responsive funding agency, delivering public value by leveraging partnerships to foster the development, promotion and sustainability of the arts sector as mandated. As such, we see this MoU as a significant step forward for the two organisations to partner on activities of mutual interest to strengthen opportunities for artists in both countries.

The collaboration will see both parties partnering in areas consisting of:

- Cultural and Creative Exchange Programs
- Heritage Preservation
- Arts Education Partnership and Residencies
- Institution Exchanges, Internships and Training
- Research and Development

In her address during the MoU signing ceremony, Ms Diphofa expressed how it is imperative for both parties to share knowledge and learnings from each other's experiences, especially for NACSA in strengthening its policy framework and for the NACZ to enhance its funding model.

The MoU's good effects were also emphasised by Mr Nyanhi who pointed out that the MoU will fortify relations and generate reciprocal benefits for Zimbabwean and South African artists.

The NAC looks forward to a transformative collaboration with the NACZ as it aligns with its strategic objectives of creating international market access for South African artists.

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About The National Arts Council of South Africa (NAC)

The National Arts Council is an Agency of the National Department of Sport, Arts and Culture. It was established in April 1997 through an act of Parliament (Act No. 56 of 1997). It is the largest Arts & Culture funding agency in South Africa, responsible for serving most of the arts disciplines namely, Dance, Music, Theatre, Craft, Literature, Visual Arts and Multidiscipline.

<https://www.nac.org.za>

About The National Arts Council of Zimbabwe

The National Arts Council of Zimbabwe (NACZ) was established in 1985 as a government agency meant to foster the understanding and practice of arts as well as the exhibition of such activities. It is also a cultural institution, a mainstay of arts development and it works under the Ministry of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture. NACZ's mandate has been to promote and to add value to the artistic endeavours within the country. It is also mandated to identify and develop talent and plays a pivotal role in sector regulation and policy formulation.

<https://nac.z.co.zw/>

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