

CELEBRATING OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE

NLC COVID-19 RELIEF FUND



Long March to Freedom



The Long March to Freedom features life-sized statues of struggle icons.

The National Heritage Project (NHP), a non-profit organisation, said the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) has been extremely supportive of their project and was the first project funder in 2012.

Dali Tambo says funding from the NLC has enabled the bronze artworks that are part of the Long March to Freedom featuring life-sized bronze statues of icons of South Africa's struggle for freedom and democracy to be created by an all-South African team of artists and trainees, foundries, historians and other experts.

He adds that it if wasn't for the national lockdown there would be a large celebration of the Long March to Freedom to mark Heritage Month.

"The lockdown has had a devastating effect on NHP and the Long March to Freedom, which was forced to close along with all other tourist attractions. It had only just opened in

Cape Town and was slowly building visitor numbers," he says.

Tambo said their goal at the NHP is to be South Africa's leading heritage tourist attraction, a jewel in the heritage tourism

crown, and a must-see attraction for all South Africans and international visitors.

"The goal is also to grow the procession to showcase more than 400 individuals, housed in one enormous heritage park," he adds.

“The goal is to grow the procession”



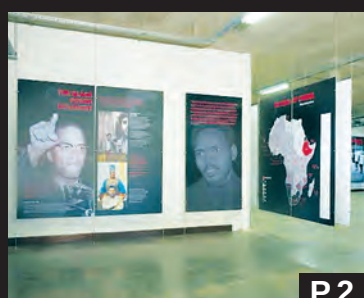
Statues of former ANC leaders Adelaide Tambo and her husband Oliver.



Global icon and human rights activist Mahatma Gandhi's statue.



Rivonia trialist Andrew Mlangeni next to the statue of Ahmed Kathrada.



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Advancing the legacy and values of Biko



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Educating the youth about black people's heritage



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Tourists turn sleepy Jansenville into a hive of activity



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Women's touch in NPO's colourful craft



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THE APARTHEID MUSEUM (GP)

Light shed on Tutu's role as a defender of justice

The Apartheid Museum serves as an example of the rise and fall of South Africa's era of segregation and oppression, and the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) has generously enabled it to achieve its goal.

The museum was established in 2001 to document the contemporary history of South Africa with its main focus being the apartheid story.

Like many other non-profit organisations, the museum was a beneficiary of the NLC in 2018, which funded the research and script development for an exhibition on the life and times of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, booklets and pamphlets, as well as film production.

Wayde Davy, deputy director at the museum, says the funding will assist greatly in telling the story of this great human being who has always stood for justice in all its forms.

Davy says they will forever be thankful to the NLC for the funding because the project was successful in exploring Tutu as an advocate of environmental issues, as well as a powerful voice against gender-based violence.

"Speaking Truth to Power: Archbishop Tutu & the Role of the Church in the Struggle against Apartheid is an exhibition that seeks to examine the important role played by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and other religious leaders as critical voices of the oppressed majority of South Africans from the late 1960s to 1990 – when the political leadership was either incarcerated or in exile," she says.

"It will, at the same time, also document the important contribution of the churches in the struggle against apartheid. The National Lotteries Commission has generously enabled the Apartheid Museum in achieving this goal. It is an important aspect of our history and a story that is critical in our discourse on apartheid and its atrocities."



Archbishop Desmond Tutu watches with great joy as Nelson Mandela and President F.W. de Klerk are jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993 for their efforts to negotiate a peaceful settlement in South Africa. Tutu himself was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984.

Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu is the subject of an eye-opening exhibition at the museum.

Capturing apartheid story crucial to nation building



The Apartheid Museum is a key chronicle of SA's dark past.

It is ... a story that is critical in our discourse on apartheid



The casspir, which forms part of the display at the museum, was one of the main modes of transport for the police during apartheid.

STEVE BIKO FOUNDATION (GP)

Advancing the legacy and values of Biko

Exploring issues of black identity

The anti-apartheid activist Steve Biko might have died but his spirit continues to live on through several institutions in South Africa, including his foundation.

The Steve Biko Foundation, a non-profit organisation and a beneficiary of the National Lotteries Commission (NLC), was established in 1998 to preserve the legacy of the political giant.

According to the information on the foundation web-

site, the approach of the Steve Biko Foundation is to create an inclusive platform to promote Biko's legacy, develop a culture of interrogative leadership, and empower individuals and communities to greater self-reliance through education, training and capacity building.

It seeks to explore issues of identity, focusing on the integration of the personal, political and professional dimensions.

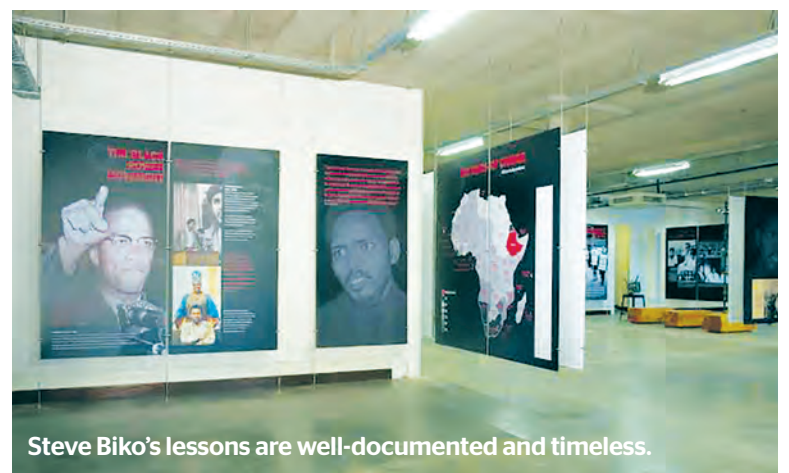
The foundation is described as an institution that has contributed to shaping national discourse, highlighting the void that exists in promoting the intangible as-

pects of development: identity, culture and values, the issues that speak to the soul of a nation.

Since its inception, the Steve Biko Foundation has sought to fill this gap; and in the coming decade will intensify its efforts to strengthen democracy by championing dialogue, scholarship and programmes on the relationship between identity, agency, citizenship and social action.

In 2015 the NLC funded its operational costs, training material, marketing and advertising.

The foundation's programmatic interventions take place



Steve Biko's lessons are well-documented and timeless.

in the areas of international dialogue, arts and culture, education, sports development and economic justice.

The vision is to be the premier independent promoter of the val-

ues that Biko lived and died for: restoring people to their true humanity. Interventions further seek to advance policy, dialogue and advocacy, and leadership development.

UNAKO COMMUNITY BASED MOVEMENT (EC)



Raising the social literacy levels in township schools is a driving ambition.

Levelling education playing field

Unako Community Based Movement, a youth-led non-profit organisation based in the Eastern Cape, is grateful for the funds it received from the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) as it assisted the organisation to fulfil its purpose.

The NPO was established in 2011 in response to the increasing inequality in the provision of and access to basic education for most of the school-going population in the Nelson Mandela Bay metro.

The NLC funded a number of its initiatives last year, including a heritage festival, indigenous games, and its public engagements.

Unathi Fihla, one of the executive members at Unako, says one of their main goals is to encourage local communities to read as a means of raising social literacy levels in the township schools and for community development.

"Schools were identified and visited to start reading clubs. Public speaking and spelling bee competitions were organised for township schools in the Nelson Mandela Bay region and winners received bursaries to study at Nelson Mandela University," he says. This Heritage Month, Unako will raise awareness of how culture helps shape one's behaviour.

KWA-ZULU NATAL MUSEUM (KZN)

Museum staff express appreciation to the NLC

Colouring book project sees the light of day, adds to content mix

The National Lotteries Commission (NLC), through its funding, has assisted the KwaZulu-Natal Museum, one of the biggest national museums in the country, to develop a first ever *Zulu Kingdom Colouring* book, which was later used as part of the curriculum to be taught in schools in the province.

The purpose of the project, which was also endorsed by King Goodwill Zwelithini of the Zulu Kingdom, is to help young people learn about their history and culture.

Founded in 1904 with the sole mandate to increase a better understanding of the history of mankind and that of the world, the museum has become a popular tourist and educational amenity.

Its director, Musa Mazibuko, says the colouring book project was one of the museum's important projects that they had always wanted to do, but could not get off the ground due to financial challenges.

Mazibuko explains that the day they received an e-mail confirming NLC funding, they could not contain their joy, relieved that the project would finally see the light of day.

Mazibuko shares: "Without NLC, nothing would have come to pass."

"They gave us the funds that made it all possible and today school learners across the province are learning about their history and Kingdom."

He says the funds were used to print 3 500 puzzles of the Zulu Kingdom and to also create a compilation of *Umkosi Womhlanga*.

The director adds that the



Founded in 1904 with the sole mandate to increase a better understanding of the history of mankind and that of the world, the KwaZulu-Natal Museum has become a popular tourist attraction.



project was important because the museum hosts exhibitions for school pupils who visit the museum, noting that the colouring book also assist them teach about the Zulu Kingdom, a

subject that has attracted interest from school pupils.

As one of the museums that houses plenty of Zulu craft, the colouring book has boosted the museum's content mix for

exhibition, and many visitors have expressed appreciation.

"We are grateful to the NLC for what they did for us, the Zulu Kingdom, and the school learners, because this will

indeed help preserve our culture, tradition and our heritage. We say let them [NLC] keep up the good work and fund many more other initiatives that needs their support."

BANA BA KGWALE CULTURAL GROUP (LP)

Striving for the restoration of African culture and tradition

Lotteries steps in at the right time

Technology has taken over the world and there is no doubt that most young people have forgotten about their heritage.

This is the the battle that Bana Ba Kgwale Cultural Group, a non-profit organisation (NPO) based in Steelport, a mining town in Sekhukhune district municipality in Limpopo, has committed to fight and win.

Established in 2006, the NPO's purpose is to change the notion about heritage and

tradition, mostly among young people in different communities.

The cultural group specialises in beadwork, Sepedi traditional dance like Kiba, and it also designs traditional gear for purchase by the public.

Chairperson Linah Mashange says the group's focus is to preserve the heritage, especially among the youth, in order for them to understand how important it is to know who they are.

She adds that when the dark cloud of COVID-19 descended on South Africa's shores, the group members were scared and worried about the future of the organisation, but those fears



Bana Ba Kgwale has made it its mission to educate the youth about black people's heritage.

have evaporated following the funding from the National Lotteries Commission (NLC).

Mashange explains: "We were worried about the future

of the NPO. We thought that our hard work, since 2006, will go down the drain, but in August when we received funding from the NLC, we knew that all the

hope is not lost."

The NPO received NLC funding last month. Mashange says a huge amount of the funds was used to pay stipends to workers and to pay for water and electricity. Some money was used to cover the group's traveling costs.

She shares: "We attend and offer our services at events such as weddings and parties. We also take part in [traditional] initiation school graduation [ceremonies]."

"So, we are happy that [these] events are opening [following the easing of strict lockdown regulations] and that we have funding from the NLC.

INDONISA (KZN)

Using culture to change youth behaviour in SA

Project promotes national heritage

Durban-based non-governmental organisation (NGO) Indoni SA has received funding from the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) to promote national heritage.

The moral regeneration programme uses the tools of culture and indigenous knowledge to bring about behavioural change in young boys and girls.

Dr Nomcebo Mthembu, Indoni SA chairperson, said the organisation holds cultural camps each year across the country where they teach young people about their own tradition, heritage and culture.

At these events a young man and woman are selected by their cultural champions to become cultural ambassadors, each representing their own kingdom at a cultural pageant titled Indoni Miss Cultural South Africa.

Mthembu said that the annual event has been kept going through the funding from the NLC, which made it possible for them to cover most of their expenses in staging the camps and the main event that is the cultur-

al pageant.

She said it was through NLC support that Indoni SA grew and was able to attract television broadcasters to cover their events.

“Not only was this a great opportunity for the students to learn about theatre and multimedia theatre but it also exposed them to the realities of our diverse heritage and culture,” said Mthembu.

Through the NLC’s support, Mthembu said their programme was able to create employment opportunities for 67 staff members and 16 service producers who assisted in staging the event. “It wasn’t easy, but with the NLC on our side, we were able to achieve all our goals, and for that we are grateful to them,” she said.

Returning a sense of dignity, pride and self-worth to a nation is priceless



Young men and women are selected by their cultural champions to become cultural ambassadors, each representing their own kingdom.



Dr Nomcebo Mthembu, founder and chairperson of Indoni SA.



Cultural camps are held each year across the country where young people are taught about their tradition, heritage and culture.

Mthembu said that the NLC has been with them for the past three years and has helped sustain Indoni SA’s programmes.

“These seeds that are being sown by the NLC will be harvested for generations to come.

Returning a sense of dignity, pride and self-worth to a nation is priceless.

“Without the NLC, most organisations would not succeed in running their programmes, Indoni concluded.”

SID FOURIE TRUST (EC)

Tourist attractions keep boring Jansenville buzzing

Unemployed are taught skills in pottery, weaving

“Life is simple and boring in a small country town of Jansenville in rural Eastern Cape, but with the funding that we got from the National Lotteries Commission (NLC), we could bring excitement and culture to our town,” according to Pauline van Zyl, the chairperson of the Sid Fourie Trust and project manager for its arts and culture projects.

The organisation strives to maintain two museums, the Sid Fourie Historical House and the International Mohair Experience.

It ensures that the residents, including school children and the youth from underprivileged communities visit the centres to enjoy and discover the treasures which are on display at the museums.

“We exhibit the valuable artefacts and treasures that have been collected. The NLC helped a great deal over the years with maintenance and additions of



Tourists who visit Jansenville get a chance to enjoy and discover the treasures which are on display at the Sid Fourie Historical House and the International Mohair Experience.

a Xhosa Hut; Khoi cave; stuffed goats, toilets, upgrading, the electricity, security fencing and store rooms,” says Van Zyl.

“The museums were described by a travel magazine as one of the best smaller museums in the country.”

Van Zyl believes they wouldn’t have achieved their goals without the assistance from the commission.

“The museums are two of the few attractions that the town has. It is important to maintain them for tourist attrac-

tions. Workshops are conducted to teach unemployed youths pottery, weaving, mosaic and painting, all thanks to the help from the Lottery.”

Van Zyl is happy to share that the NLC has also assisted an old-age home in the area.



Workshops are conducted to teach painting and mosaic.



Cultural activities are part of the museums’ programmes.



The NLC helped set up a soup kitchen to feed the poor.

PHANSI MUSEUM (KZN)

Making artefacts more accessible

The public has a new window to museum treasures

Museums are best known for being among the most reliable entities for the preservation of a nation's heritage.

The National Lotteries Commission (NLC) has approved funding for numerous museums across the country.

One such museum to benefit from the NLC's generous funding was Phansi Museum Trust, which operates Phansi Museum in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal.

The museum, founded in 2000 in a double-story house in Glenwood, houses the largest collection of Southern African traditional artefacts in South Africa.

Phansi Museum manager Phumzile Nkosi said the organisation applied for NLC funding to establish a publicly accessible database of indigenous arts, crafts, artefacts, ceremonies and customs.

"It was our dream, and it was made possible by NLC," said Nkosi.

She said with the NLC funding, the museum was able to procure the services of skilled professionals to assist them to create a database of all the cultural artefacts in their museum to ensure that they were accessible publicly.

"We work with other partners, but at the time the NLC approved our application for funding we were stuck and had no



Phansi Museum was founded in 2000 in a double-story house in Glenwood, Durban.



The largest collection of Southern African traditional artefacts in South Africa.



The museum is a treasure trove of traditional artefacts and other interesting finds.



All the cultural artefacts in their museum are now in the database.

“It was our dream and it was made possible by NLC”

“

At the time the NLC approved our application for funding we were stuck

one to help us," she said. Vanigay Dass, Phansi Museum's administrator, said the

museum was now easily accessible and running smoothly, all thanks to the NLC's support. "We are grateful to the NLC for recognising our work and supporting our vision by helping in ensuring the sustainability of the museum and its work."

FORGED BY WOMAN ARTS (FS)

Women's touch evident in NPO's colourful craft, accessories

Skills transfer produces results of high standard

Forged by Woman Arts is a crafty and artistic organisation established last year to promote and transfer skills to woman of colour.

Based in Virginia in the Free State, the non-profit organisation has helped 45 women through an NLC-funded project carried out in Phomolong Mmamahabane and Extension 5, all in the Matjhabeng municipality.

Mpho Mbali, the organisation's project manager and chairperson, says the project was based on women and what they are able to create with their hands.

The project involved creating beadwork, making jewellery, mosaic, shoe-custom painting and business empowerment.

Mbali says: "We believe in supporting women to become



Members of the Forged by Women display some of their African craft and jewellery. They benefitted from an NLC-funded project.

independent. As an organisation in a disadvantaged area, we are so grateful to have been funded by NLC [National Lotteries Commission].

"We express our gratitude to this caring and beautiful organisation. We cannot mention Forged by Women Arts without mentioning the NLC.

Our relationship with NLC is a peculiar one."

The organisation will celebrate the Heritage Day showcasing African craft and colourful accessories.

Mbali explains: "Through our arts and crafts projects, we have managed to produce uniquely African-decorated products. We

use canvas and ink details in our local surroundings and colourful beads to portray our many cultures and African story.

"Funding from the NLC has helped us achieve our mandate and objectives to help and improve other people's lives in our communities.

Mbali explains further: "When we were told that we will be receiving funding from NLC last year, we felt ecstatic, honoured and rather challenged to deliver on our objectives."

BOPANANG CLEANING HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT (FS)



Last year, Bopanang received funding for farming and waste management projects.

Cleanliness is next to Godliness

“We are very happy to have received the National Lottery Commission's (NLC) funding. We wouldn't have achieved everything that we did if it wasn't for their support. This has definitely changed many people's lives for the better," says Sabata Mahloane, chairperson of the Bopanang Cleaning Healthy Environment from Thaba Nchu in the Free State.

Those who have benefited from the NLC-funded projects include about 550 children through the organisation's school feeding programme, as well 97 youth and about a hundred adults from disadvantaged families in the area.

Last year, the organisation received funding for farming and waste management projects.

"The funds helped us buy agricultural equipment, environmental equipment, seeds and personal protective equipment in order to execute our various projects," says Mahloane.

"The NLC funds also helped with the school feeding scheme and created employment for about 22 young people, in particular women."

The non-profit organisation was established in 2017 to provide farming and waste management training to the youth.

Its projects include, among others, a four-hectare school vegetable garden with a 10-year lease, cleaning illegal dumping sites and installation of rubbish bins in the illegal dumping sites.

Mahloane explains: "Heritage for us means acknowledging our culture, values and norms through planting and enjoying our own organic foods.

"We're celebrating heritage month by exploring different vegetables from other ethnic groups.

"We also celebrate heritage month by planting new agricultural products or vegetables, such as Okra, which is popular among Nigerians and people from other Western countries.

He continues: "We are learning from other cultures and we are introducing them to our traditional food such as spinach, cabbage and beans."

Bopanang is grateful for the Lotteries' help and would like to appeal for more funding as the scope of its work has increased.

THE BEAD FOUNDATION (KZN)

Helping beadwork dream work

Foundation now able to expand its reach and impact

The National Lotteries Commission (NLC) has helped many organisations fulfill their purpose through its funding across the country.

And since its inception, the organisation has always valued the importance of preserving our national heritage to ensure that the country and its people do not lose their identity.

This the NLC has done by empowering organisations across the country, especially those that promote and preserve South African cultures and history, from museums to community-based structures that promote crafting of indigenous arts, and preservation of local languages.

One such organisation that benefitted from the NLC's generous funding was The Bead Foundation in KwaZulu-Natal.

Led by Trish Luthuli as chairwoman and Andre van der Bijl as CFO, The Bead Foundation helps and encourages rural-based women and men to start cooperatives to showcase and market their beads to a wider market.

The organisation's leaders said before receiving the NLC funding, their work was limited to a few areas of Edumbe and they struggled to reach out to more deep rural areas.

However, they said NLC funding propelled them to new heights as they were able to reach almost all the villages under seven districts.

"The NLC has gotten a lot more people involved in The Beads Foundation than we did. Their work brings tears to me when I think of the good work they have done for us and the community," said Van der Bijl.

He said it was as if the NLC



Scores of young girls took over the streets to proudly show off their heritage and culture in this colourful parade in KwaZulu-Natal.



Traditional dancers grabbed the attention of the audience as they danced up a storm in one of the cultural events.

had sensed that they were experiencing financial challenges and having difficulties implementing some of their programmes.

"We always wanted to bring all rural-based groups together from *amabutho*, ordinary bead

workers, to create one long market parade where they could all showcase their beadwork to a wider market. We know that our biggest supporters and buyers of beads are tourists and at the time, most bead creators who are in the rural areas could not

access spaces where they could sell more of their stuff. With NLC funding, we managed to create a long market and got all the bead workers to come parade their work."

He said they also created a competition in which they selected the best beadwork from all the groups that participated at the market.

The competition attracted 10 000 participants and the winner was given a stipend to help with their business.

Van der Bijl said because of the NLC, they were able to create livelihoods for people in rural areas, some of whom came from disadvantaged families.

"I remember there was one woman who was able to take her son to university until he managed to graduate, through beadwork, because of our programme, which was funded by the NLC."

brought together thousands of people to celebrate their heritage and in doing so, promote social cohesion," says Makananisa.

"Pedi rap is one of the genres on the up and the talent is insane. We can't wait to find more new talent and expose it to the world."

He explains that due to the lockdown, they had to cancel a lot of planned gigs and lay off some members of staff due to cash constraints.

"We are a heritage project and postponing it meant a loss of income for artists and the hospitality business. Students also re-



Matodzi Makananisa

ly on us to earn something out of this project by doing promotion work and helping us with activations.

"Small companies that help us with marketing and communication, graphic design, printing and the whole produc-

tion of the main event also lost out on making income from this project".

This heritage month, Makananisa has urged people to celebrate their heritage responsibly in light of COVID-19. "Let us wear our bright colours and sing our songs while dancing to our beat," he adds.

We pride ourselves in talent identification and exposure thereof

SIVUKILE PERFORMING ARTS ORGANISATION (NC)



Members of the performing arts group are grateful for funding they receive from the NLC.

Sivukile comes out to play

Heritage month is a crucial period in our nation where arts, crafts, culture and dance music bring people from different backgrounds together, according to Tsholohelo Chupologo, the chairperson and founder of the Sivukile Performing Arts Organisation.

"This is the time where we bring people together from far and wide, where memories are made and friendships are established, says Chupologo.

"It's the time when the small and rural Dikgatlong municipality gets to be on the spotlight and its people get to make money by working at the event. So, heritage month is the most important month for us."

Based in Barkley West in the Northern Cape, the organisation was established in 2003 to uplift and develop the arts by creating jobs for youth or adults through different programmes and activities.

The National Lotteries Commission (NLC) funded Sivukile for a stage play called *Dikeledi*.

Chupologo says: "Through the NLC funding, we were able to host auditions and go to small towns around the municipality to meet other artists who were interested in auditioning for the stage play. We were also able to do marketing for the play.

"We were very excited for receiving the news that our proposal for funding has been approved. Our dream finally came true and I thank God that people who undermine the arts could finally see that we can make a living out of the arts."

The organisation, which strives to celebrate unsung heroes and musicians, is divided into five units comprising drama, music, sports, craft and photography.

The NLC-funded project was also meant to create jobs for the unemployed in the area.

Chupologo explains: "I feel great about the initiative of the NLC as it is really a tool with which we can bring people out of poverty and help fight the hunger and crime that is ravaging our communities.

A performing arts project demands a lot, including transport and costumes, among other things.

SEPEDI MUSIC AWARDS (EC)

The show goes on, thanks to funding from the NLC

Music awards celebrate Bapedi

Matodzi Makananisa, founder of the Sepedi Music Awards, says they will forever be grateful to the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) for funding their cultural projects.

The Sepedi Music Awards were created to celebrate the rich history of the Bapedi nation and to encourage the coming generations to emulate their forefathers who were proud of being Bapedi.

Makananisa urged the NLC

to continue supporting them to identify and develop talent, and preserve the Bapedi culture through the awards.

"We pride ourselves in talent identification and exposure thereof. We would have

GALESHWE THEATRE ORGANISATION (NC)

Lotteries plugs the gaps in the arts

Funding helps create jobs for young people

“Through the various projects that were funded by the National Lotteries Commission (NLC), we have created employment and further development opportunities for 143 actors, choreographers, dancers, musicians, mentors, technicians and production support staff,” says Nkululeko Gqozo, the production manager for Galeshewe Theatre Organisation (Gato).

Gqozo says the majority of the beneficiaries are based in Galeshewe in Kimberley and in Warrenton, Upington and Kuruman, as well as in the North West, adding that the number of beneficiaries also extended to professional arts practitioners from Gauteng who visited the Northern Cape to share their experience with local artists.

Gato, which focuses on historical events, was established in 2009. The organisation is about connecting with audiences through projects that they can relate to.

This heritage month, Gqozo hopes for each community to celebrate their customs and traditions in a manner that will make sense to them.

Gqozo shares: “The NLC funding was utilised across the development chain including script development, skills transfer for upcoming actors, rehearsal sessions, payment of cast and crew, development of production support materials and the marketing and staging phases.

“The funding also assisted in the design conceptualisation and costing for the proposed infrastructure, as well as programme planning.

“The NLC has played a very important role in the funding of the arts sector, often closing



Some professional artists recently visited the Northern Cape to share skills and experience with up and coming local actors.



Actors recently attended the local group's mentoring programme.

the gaps which artists and arts organisations struggle with.

“We are utilising the funds to assist artists and communities in the creation of new

narratives, meanings and opportunities in an often broken down socio-economic system which we currently find ourselves in,” he adds.

SWAHILI LANGUAGE BOARD OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



The organisation builds awareness around the development and usage of local languages.

Language used to bridge the divide

The Swahili Language Board of Southern Africa (SLBSA) is one of the recipients of funding from the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) to aid in its mission to preserve, develop and promote the Swahili language in South Africa.

The organisation prides itself on its work in organising seminars and conducting lectures to build awareness around the development and usage of local languages among people.



We promote social cohesion using the medium of kiSwahili language

With the funding received from the NLC, SLBSA chairperson Zukile Jama says the organisation ran a series of programmes in partnership with the University of the Western Cape to promote the importance of local language through a colloquium under the theme “The role of indigenous languages in shaping the future of the continent”.

Jama says they were able to reach out to 250 high schools where they held numerous dialogues and seminars to promote Swahili as a language.

All the schools covered were based in areas such as Fishhoek, Khayelitsha, Kraaifontein, Langa, Claremont and Bellville, and as result of the dialogue, pupils from the schools attended the colloquium.

Jama says they were grateful to the NLC for coming to their rescue financially. “We managed to achieve our goal because we were standing on the shoulders of a giant by the name of the National Lotteries Commission.

“The funding they gave us played a key role in our success as we promote social cohesion using the medium of kiSwahili language,” said Jama.

SOUTH END MUSEUM (PE)

Helping to heal the divisive scars of apartheid brutality

Museum explores dark chapter for PE

The National Lotteries Commission's support for the South End Museum Trust has assisted in keeping the museum doors open.

The NLC's contribution has also helped the Port Elizabeth-based museum devoted to the history and effects of apartheid on the South End community with building costs, job creation and to pay staff.

“Although the museum's staff complement has never reached an ideal situation, at least NLC has assisted in keeping the museum's doors open,” says Colin Abrahams, the museum's ad-



The South End Museum explores the effects of apartheid on the South End community.

ministrator.

“The NLC has also allowed us to provide training and development so that our personnel can increase their abilities to do the tasks they are requested for. We have a small workforce but they have all learnt to multi-task.”

The trustees, who are mainly from disadvantaged communities, have been struggling to keep the museum going since its inception in 2001.

The museum inherited a very old building and renovations and maintenance became cru-

cial to develop the centre.

With the help of the NLC, Abrahams says they were able to do repairs and maintenance.

“Museums such as ours, sport and charity organisations, even schools and churches, struggle to receive support within a South African society where the focus is on spending most of its money on education, health, housing and so on. Yet our museum, and other similar institutions, can play a vital role in the education and becalming of our society, and more support should be granted to these organisations.

“All we can say is a very big thank you to NLC for the wonderful work they're doing,” Abrahams says.

THE NATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL (EC)

Festival key in bringing arts to life

Funding ensures voices not silenced

The National Arts Festival says the ongoing support they have been receiving from the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) has assisted many aspiring artists' careers.

The festival is one of the biggest events on the arts and culture calendar, attended by thousands of people. It takes place annually at Makhanda, formerly known as Grahamstown in the Eastern Cape. The funding received from the NLC has assisted in producing the work, setting up venues, managing a huge temporary and permanent workforce, marketing the event and producing materials needed in navigating it, among others.

"The Lottery's funding was part of a vital pool of funding that makes the festival come to life. As one of South Africa's oldest and most recognisable parts of the arts ecosystem, many careers have [been] formed and recognised at the festival and for many audiences it is an annual immersion into the extraordinary world of imagination, escapism and reinvention that the arts bring. The arts play a vital role in expressing the voices of our communities, the storytelling of our nation and the collective forces for change and healing we need as a society," explains Monica Newton, the CEO of the National Arts Festival and Grahamstown Foundation.

The festival has been in existence for 46 years and it is known as an important, diverse and innovative gathering place for artists from across South Africa and the world. Every year it has created about 450 direct



The National Arts Festival offers a stage for established and rising stars to shine and many have moved on to become household names.

employment opportunities. With COVID-19, the prestige event went entirely online this year.

"The Lottery funding contributes to many aspects of the operations, from event and venue management to transportation, safety, marketing and training, so we feel extremely grateful to the generous support of the NLC," says Newton.

"The Lottery plays an essen-



It is a diverse and innovative gathering place for artists from across South Africa and the world.

COVID-19 forced the festival to go online this year.

tial part of sustaining a vibrant, thriving and vocal arts sector and we would like

to thank them for their efforts. In these times, with the arts so

severely impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic we will need the support of grant makers like the NLC even more.

"We truly value our relationship with the NLC and consider them a core partner."

THE SPORTS HERITAGE INSTITUTE (EC)

Celebrating sports icons as SA treasures

September is a month to celebrate and reflect on the country's heritage and this year due to the national lockdown, the day will be observed virtually under the theme "Celebrating South African Living Human Treasures".

The Sports Heritage Institute, a non-profit organisation (NPO) in the Eastern Cape, also got the memo.

Funded in June last year with operational costs by the National Lotteries Commission (NLC), the NPO says it has joined in the commemoration to salute and honour the present sports veterans and legends who were the heroes and heroines of the past.

Chairperson of the institute Zandisile Makina says it's the right time to uncover the untold stories of sports legends.

Makina says they are grateful for the NLC funding because the institute has managed to introduce to the people of the Eastern Cape to the concept of sports heritage, which is designed to maximise preservation and documentation of the sporting heritage of the province.

Makina also says their goal as the institute is to explore the sporting past for the betterment of future generations. "The above will happen when we mobilise, honour, inspire, and educate the sports veterans of the Eastern Cape through preservation and conversation of their sporting past," he says.

LISAHLUMA SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (EC)

Organisation commits to nurturing children's talents at a tender age

Lotteries helps fund children, youth festival

In a search to influence the landscape of indigenous knowledge systems agenda in the Eastern Cape, Lisahluma Skills Development Services held its first children and youth in arts festival last year.

The organisation received generous funding from the National Lotteries Commission (NLC), which funded the organisation's first festival called Kei Road Children and Youth in Arts Festival.

The educational and arts festival saw children from various communities in Mbashe, OR Tambo, Joe Gqabi, Mbizana, Mnquma, Makhanda, Nelson Mandela Metro, Amahlathi and Chris Hani East-Intsika Yethu



Children and youth from various communities in the province came out in big numbers to attend the arts festival.

come in numbers to take part in the event.

Nompucuko Zakaza, a director at the non-profit organisation, says the festival was ear-

marked for its rich history which necessitated reimagining and renarration to young and old.

Zakaza, who is also a storyteller, adds that she will always

be grateful for the NLC funding because it made the festival possible.

Zakaza shares: "The festival, for the first time in the history of Kei Road, sought to enable for children and youth from various districts [particularly grade 4-9 pupils] an exclusive arts, cultural language, literacy, history and heritage experience."

"It further sought to guide and mentor at least five out-of-school youth [age 15-35] to arts cultural education and skills development. This was partly achieved as groups came with school educators, parents, librarians and arts educators."

She says Kei Road became a rich cultural sight for almost three months after it lasted from July to September, thanks to funding from the NLC.

"This festival began a long journey of arts cultural education and skills development in



Storyteller Sophie Mgcina is flanked by Nompucuko Zakaza, left, and an unidentified woman.

this area, where children obtained access, for the first time, to a continuous arts cultural circle – Isangqa Senkcubeko – which is backed by various organisations.

"These organisations include Nalibali, which provides reading resources in isiXhosa; Bhodlingqaka Poetry Skills and Brainfeed Arts, with the hope to engage children in scarce skills like script writing."