



02 July 2020

DSACR MOURNS PASSING OF SEASONED LOCAL GUITARIST – OUPA SNAKES MASHIYA

The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) is saddened by the untimely passing of a legendary guitarist from Lejweleputswa District, Mr. Oupa Snakes Mashiya. Through the Lejweleputswa Arts and Culture Centre (LACC), he played a critical role in the development of music in the Lejweleputswa District and was also a member of the Bhekuyise Jobe Music Band from 2011 until 2017.

As a grass-root artist with particular interest in talent identification and promotion of other local artists, Mr. Mashiya benefited greatly through the support and strategic relations he enjoyed with the LACC – one of the four (4) District Arts Centres of the DSACR that aims to advance artistic disciplines into viable industries. Arts and Culture Centres across all districts in the province are established in order to support artists such as Mr. Mashiya through: access to facilities and programmes, institutional support, capacity building and excellence enhancing programmes.

Commenting about the passing of this musical maestro, MEC Limakatso Mahasa stated that, “It is with shock that the Department had received news of the passing on of Mr. Mashiya. He departed at a time when the Department is seeking to assist local artists through the COVID-19 Relief Fund measures put in place during this difficult time. He was one of the many applicants for the COVID-19 Relief Fund that we are finalizing as a Department. He lives behind a memorable legacy and may his soul rest in peace.”

ENDS.

Issued by the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR)

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