

Call for Artists and Creatives: Full Artist and Creatives

Full Descriptions

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1. ASSITEJ South Africa

Project location: Limpopo, South Africa

Narrative Summary

One Person One Note Connect (OPON) Connect is a cross-border artistic collaboration that brings together traditional musicians, dancers, visual artists, educators and creative practitioners. Through reflecting on and reimagining indigenous pipe traditions including Dithlaka, Tshikona and Nyanga, the project explores memory, identity, cultural continuity, social transformation and artistic innovation. The project promotes regional exchange and co-production through creative residencies, performances, exhibitions and educational engagements. The project culminates in three public performance events supported by visual and photographic exhibitions. These performances include a musical production, a theatre production and a visual arts exhibition. These showcases are multidisciplinary, featuring musical ensembles, teachers and community participation supported by backing tracks developed during the creative process. Most creatives will work across all three countries, ensuring a cohesive artistic vision and meaningful cross-border collaboration.

Artist Profiles

1.1 Dithlaka Pipe Dance Leader (X1)

Profile description

We invite the leader of a Dithlaka Pipe Ensemble to collaborate in a unique performance together with a Visual Artist, local teachers and fellow creatives from collaborating countries. The project highlights traditional music and engages with memory, identity, creativity and social transformation.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience working with archival audio, oral history, or field recordings
- Ability to compose for live performance and digital formats
- Interest in translating heritage rhythms into contemporary forms
- Collaborative interdisciplinary approach

Expected Contribution

The Dithlaka Pipe Dance Leader will contribute artistic leadership, traditional repertoire and performance expertise while collaborating with the wider creative team to develop innovative interpretations of indigenous music traditions.

Present Dithlaka performances including music, dance and song.

- Participate in the Creative Week and artistic workshops.
- Collaborate in the development of new performance material.
- Participate in rehearsals and public performances.
- Engage in artist talks and educational activities.

1.2 Tshikona Pipe Dance Leader (X1)

Profile description

We invite the leader of a Tshikona Pipe Ensemble to collaborate in the project's flagship musical production and broader regional activities.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- In possession of all necessary Tshikona pipes and drums.
- Extensive knowledge of Venda musical heritage.
- Experience working with community-based artistic practices.
- Ability to collaborate in multidisciplinary artistic environments.
- Commitment to participatory engagement.
- This artist does not need to be from any particular group or country. They do, however, need to have competent knowledge in the Tshikona pipe dance.

Expected Contribution

The Tshikona Pipe Dance Leader will serve as a key artistic contributor to the flagship Limpopo performance while contributing to regional collaboration across the project.

- Present Tshikona performances including drumming, dance and song.
- Participate in all project workshops and rehearsals.
- Collaborate on artistic development and choreography.
- Participate in educational and public engagement activities.

1.3 Nyanga Pipe Ensemble Leader (X1)

Profile description

We invite the leader of a Nyanga Pipe Ensemble to collaborate in a unique performance together with a Zimbabwe-based musical group and educators.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- In possession of all necessary Nyanga pipes.
- Demonstrated experience in safeguarding traditional musical practices.
- Capacity to mentor younger practitioners.
- Experience in intercultural collaboration.
- Commitment to participatory artistic processes.
- This artist does not need to be from any particular group or country. They do, however, need to have competent knowledge in the Nyanga pipe dance.

Expected Contribution

The Nyanga Pipe Ensemble Leader will contribute traditional repertoire, performance leadership and cultural knowledge to the creative process. They will

- Present Nyanga pipe performances, dances and songs.
- Participate in workshops and rehearsals.
- Collaborate on creative development.
- Participate in public engagement activities.

1.4 Band Leader/Musician (X1)

Profile Description

We invite a Band Leader to lead the musical direction of the flagship Limpopo performance and contribute to musical development throughout the project.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience working with musicians, dancers and storytellers.
- Knowledge of Southern African musical styles.
- Ability to arrange and direct live performances.
- Experience in collaborative artistic processes.

Expected Contribution

The Band Leader will provide musical leadership for the flagship performance and support the development of backing tracks and arrangements used throughout the project.

- Provide musical direction for the flagship performance.
- Arrange and perform repertoire.
- Support development of backing tracks.
- Participate in workshops and rehearsals.

1.5 Photographer (x1)

Profile Description

We invite a professional photographer to work as an active creative participant throughout the project. The photographer will document the Creative Week in South Africa, workshops, rehearsals, performances and community engagements while producing a digital photographic exhibition in Zimbabwe as well as a physical exhibition in Botswana.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in documentary, cultural heritage and performance photography.
- Strong visual storytelling skills.
- Experience curating exhibitions.
- Ability to work across multiple countries and cultural contexts.
- Experience documenting community-based projects.

Expected Contribution

The Photographer will create a visual archive of the project while producing artistic photographic exhibitions that enhance public engagement and complement the performances.

- Document the Creative Week and all project activities.
- Produce photographs for an exhibition
- Document performances and community engagements in all three sites.
- Provide material for catalogues, publicity and digital archives.
- Participate in artist meetings and collaborative processes.

1.6 Videographer (X1)

Profile description

We invite a professional videographer to document all phases of the project, including workshops, performances and exhibitions.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Multi-camera filming expertise.
- Professional editing and post-production skills.
- Experience documenting cultural heritage projects.
- Strong visual storytelling capacity.
- Ability to work across multiple locations.

Expected Contribution

The Videographer will create a comprehensive visual record of the project and produce documentary outputs that capture the artistic journey and public impact.

- Produce site documentaries for the visual exhibition, the theatrical performance and the musical production taking place in the three different countries.
- Produce an overall project documentary.
- Document exhibitions, performances and workshops.
- Create digital content for dissemination and archiving.

1.7 Artistic Director (X1)

Profile Description

We invite an Artistic Director whose practice engages with storytelling, memory, identity, heritage and social transformation.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Extensive experience directing interdisciplinary performances.
- Experience working with community narratives.
- Ability to coordinate artists from multiple disciplines
- Strong conceptual and dramaturgical skills.
- Commitment to collaborative artistic processes.

Expected Contribution to the Project

The Artistic Director will guide the overall artistic vision of the project and ensure coherence across all performances, exhibitions and public engagements.

Expected Contributions

- Lead artistic development during the Creative Week.
- Direct performances in Botswana and Zimbabwe.
- Facilitate collaboration between all creative participants.
- Participate in educational and public engagement activities.

1.8 Visual Artist (X1)

Profile Description

We invite a Visual Artist working in painting, installation, sculpture or mixed media whose practice engages with memory, identity and social transformation.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong conceptual artistic practice.
- Experience working with symbolic imagery and community narratives.
- Ability to collaborate with artists across multiple sites.
- Experience producing exhibition-ready work.
- Commitment to participatory creative processes.

Expected Contribution

The Visual Artist will create visual artworks inspired by the OPON concept and collaborate with local artists in two countries to produce an accompanying exhibition.

- Produce a body of visual artworks.
- Lead the development of the Gaborone visual art exhibition.
- Collaborate with local artists.
- Contribute to stage and exhibition aesthetics.
- Participate in artist talks and educational engagements.

1.9 Stage Designer (X1)

Profile description

We invite an experienced Stage Designer to work across all three project sites, with special focus on the flagship Limpopo musical and Zimbabwean theatrical performance.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in stage and exhibition design.
- Ability to translate cultural narratives into visual environments.
- Experience working with multidisciplinary teams.
- Understanding of community-based performance settings.
- Ability to design for conventional and alternative venues.

Expected Contribution

The Stage Designer will create visually engaging performance environments and ensure aesthetic coherence across all project activities. Participate in the Creative Week and artistic development process.

- Design stage environments for all three sites.
- Lead stage design for the performances in two countries.
- Develop adaptable designs for schools, community halls and cultural venues.
- Collaborate with the Artistic Director and Visual Artist.
- Support installation and presentation of visual elements.

2. Babukisi Foundation

Project location: Manzini-Mbabane, Kingdom of Eswatini

Narrative Summary

The Narrative Cluster brings together nine interdisciplinary artists who will collaboratively explore and reinterpret siSwati cultural heritage through animation, documentary film, and visual arts. Drawing on the knowledge of cultural custodians, elders, researchers, and creative practitioners, the project will produce a collection of interconnected artistic works that present heritage as a living and evolving practice.

Through animated storytelling, the project will make cultural ceremonies, traditions, and values accessible to younger generations and wider audiences. A documentary film will capture the everyday experiences, knowledge systems, and cultural practices that shape Swati identity, highlighting the role of families, women, and cultural custodians in preserving heritage. Complementing these audiovisual works, a fine art exhibition featuring twelve paintings and selected installation pieces will interpret the siSwati names of the twelve months and their connections to environmental knowledge, seasonal cycles, and community life.

Artist Profiles

2.1 Cinematographer and Director (x1)

Profile Description

A visual storytelling practitioner with expertise in cinematography and documentary-style image-making, skilled in working respectfully within community and heritage settings. Able to direct and capture the richness of both cultural landscapes and everyday lived experiences through compelling visual narratives.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Proficiency in camera operation and lighting techniques
- Strong skills in visual framing and composition
- Experience working in outdoor, natural, and location-based settings

Expected Contribution

- Capture compelling visual stories from across project locations
- Work closely with film teams and community participants to facilitate production activities
- Help define and communicate the project's unique visual voice and aesthetic approach

2.2. Scriptwriter (x1)

Profile Description

We invite one experienced scriptwriter working individually with a strong background in adapting oral traditions, folklore, and community narratives into scripts suitable for

animation and for a documentary. Their work should demonstrate the ability to translate culturally rooted stories into compelling, age-appropriate narrative structures for children, youth and adult audiences.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Demonstrated expertise in storytelling, script development, and dramaturgy
- Experience translating oral histories, traditional knowledge, and folklore into engaging scripted narratives
- Capacity to work collaboratively within multidisciplinary creative teams, including musicians, performers, and visual artists
- Sensitivity to cultural authenticity, ethical representation, and intergenerational perspectives
- Proven ability to write for young audiences and educational or learning-focused context

Expected Contributions

The Script Writer will be responsible for developing culturally authentic and engaging scripts for the project's animation series and documentary film. Working closely with cultural custodians, researchers, and the creative team, the Script Writer will:

- Research and interpret siSwati cultural practices, ceremonies, and traditions.
- Develop storylines, episode structures, dialogue, and narration for the animation series.
- Write documentary and animation scripts, interview guides, and voice-over narration.
- Ensure all content accurately represents siSwati culture while remaining accessible to diverse audiences.
- Collaborate with directors, animators, and editors throughout the production process.
- Support the development of bilingual (siSwati and English) content to increase accessibility and regional reach.

2.3 Documentary editor (x1)

Profile Description

We invite a Documentary Editor who is an experienced visual storyteller with a strong ability to transform raw footage into compelling, coherent, and culturally respectful narratives. They will be responsible for assembling interviews, observational footage, archival materials, music, and visual elements into a high-quality documentary that authentically reflects siSwati cultural heritage and traditions. Working closely with the director, scriptwriter, and cultural advisors, the Editor will ensure the documentary is engaging, technically polished, and accessible to diverse audiences while maintaining the integrity and accuracy of the cultural knowledge being presented.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Advanced proficiency in professional video editing software (e.g. Adobe Premiere Pro, DaVinci Resolve, Final Cut Pro)
- Strong understanding of documentary narrative construction and pacing
- Ability to organise and manage large volumes of video, audio, and archival material
- Experience editing interview-based and observational documentary content
- Skills in colour correction, sound synchronisation, and audio balancing
- Ability to integrate subtitles, captions, graphics, and archival materials
- Strong attention to detail and commitment to cultural accuracy
- Ability to collaborate effectively with directors, producers, scriptwriters, and cultural advisors
- Excellent time management and ability to meet production deadlines
- Experience working on cultural, heritage, educational, or social impact productions is an added advantage

Expected Contributions

The Documentary Editor will be responsible for shaping the documentary into a compelling, coherent, and culturally authentic final production. Working closely with the Director, Script Writer, and cultural advisors, the Editor will review, organise, and assemble all video, audio, interview, and archival materials collected during production.

Key responsibilities will include:

- Reviewing and cataloguing all footage and interview recordings.
- Developing a clear narrative structure that effectively communicates the project's heritage themes.

- Selecting and sequencing footage to create an engaging and emotionally impactful story.
- Editing interviews, voice-overs, music, and ambient sound into a seamless production.
- Incorporating subtitles, captions, graphics, photographs, and archival materials where appropriate.
- Ensuring the documentary accurately represents siSwati cultural knowledge, traditions, and perspectives.
- Conducting colour correction, audio balancing, and quality control to ensure professional broadcast and screening standards.
- Producing final versions of the documentary for public screenings, online distribution, educational use, and project reporting requirements.

2.4. Visual Artists (X2)

The Visual Artists / Installation Artists will be a creative practitioner with demonstrated experience in fine art, contemporary visual arts, public art, or cultural heritage-based artistic production. The artist should possess a strong ability to translate cultural narratives, indigenous knowledge, and environmental themes into compelling visual forms that engage diverse audiences.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong practice in visual arts, including painting, sculpture, installation art, or mixed-media work, with the ability to produce exhibition-quality artworks.
- Demonstrated ability to interpret and communicate cultural heritage, indigenous knowledge, and environmental themes through compelling visual storytelling.
- Experience in conceptual development, artistic research, and translating complex narratives into accessible and engaging artistic expressions.
- Ability to collaborate effectively with cultural custodians, researchers, community members, and interdisciplinary creative teams while ensuring cultural authenticity and sensitivity.
- Strong project management, communication, and organisational skills, including the ability to plan, produce, install, and document artworks within agreed timelines and budgets.

Expected Contributions

- For this project, the artists will lead the conceptualisation and creation of a series of twelve paintings and/or sculptural installations that interpret the siSwati names of the twelve months and their relationship to seasonal cycles, traditional knowledge systems, and environmental conservation. The artists should have a strong appreciation for siSwati culture and heritage, excellent visual storytelling skills, and experience producing exhibition-quality work. Experience in community-engaged art, collaborative projects, and exhibition presentation will be an added advantage.
- The successful candidates should demonstrate creativity, technical proficiency, cultural sensitivity, and the ability to work collaboratively with cultural custodians, researchers, environmental experts, and fellow artists to ensure that the final artworks are both artistically compelling and culturally authentic.

2.5. Storyboard Artist / Animation Visualiser (x1)

Profile Description

We invite an experienced Storyboard Artist / Animation Visualiser to lead the visual interpretation of a 12-episode animated short series (10 minutes per episode). The selected artist will work closely with the Director, Writers, and Production Team to translate scripts into compelling visual sequences that establish storytelling rhythm, character performance, camera language, and emotional continuity.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Minimum 5 years professional experience in storyboarding for animation, television, film, or digital media.
- Strong understanding of visual storytelling, cinematography, staging, pacing, and character acting.
- Proven experience creating animatics synchronized with dialogue, sound, and timing requirements.
- Ability to interpret scripts and provide visual solutions to narrative challenges.
- Excellent drawing and composition skills.

Expected Contributions

- Development of complete storyboard sequences for all 12 episodes.
- Creation and editing of production-ready animatics.
- Participation in script breakdown and visual development sessions.
- Contribution to shot planning and narrative continuity.

2.6 3D Character, Environment & Prop Artist (x1)

Profile Description

We invite an experienced 3D Artist to design and develop the visual world of the animated series, including stylized characters, environments, props, and production assets.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Minimum 5 years professional experience in 3D asset creation.
- Strong understanding of stylized character design and visual development.
- Experience creating environments and props for animation productions.
- Proficiency in Maya, Blender, Cinema 4D, or equivalent software.
- Knowledge of topology, UV mapping, texturing, shading, and asset optimization.

Expected Contributions

Design and modelling of all principal and supporting characters.

- Creation of production-ready environments and props.
- Development of texture, material, and look-development assets.

2.7 3D Animator / Rigging Artist (x2)

Profile Description

We invite experienced 3D Animators with rigging capabilities to join the production team for a 12-episode animated series.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Minimum 5 years professional experience in animation production.
- Strong understanding of body mechanics, acting, weight, timing, and performance.
- Experience rigging stylized characters for television, film, or digital productions.
- Advanced proficiency in Maya, Blender, Cinema 4D, or equivalent software.

Expected Contribution

- Rigging all assigned characters and assets.
- Producing high-quality animation for assigned episodes.
- Maintaining consistency in character performance and movement.

3. The Craft + Design Institute (CDI)

Project location: Cape Town, South Africa (with regional participation across Southern Africa)

Narrative summary

The Making Futures Narrative Cluster brings together a cohort of nine creatives—craft practitioners, a documentary filmmaker, a curator/narrative facilitator, and a learning materials developer—to collaboratively explore Southern African craft heritage through intergenerational exchange and hybrid making. Working as an integrated group, participants will co-create material, visual, and narrative outputs through a residency combining in-person collaboration with digital engagement. Craft producers and designer-makers will anchor the process in material practice, while the filmmaker documents and interprets unfolding processes, the curator supports collective storytelling and exhibition development, and the learning materials developer translates outcomes into accessible digital learning resources. Through dialogue with tradition-bearers, sustainable production approaches, and cross-disciplinary exchange, the cohort will produce exhibition-ready works, an exhibition including public engagements, and a digital archive on CDI's LEARN platform, expanding the visibility and contemporary relevance of craft heritage narratives.

Artistic Profiles

3.1. Craft Producers / Designer-Makers (x 6)

Profile description

We invite craft producers and designer-makers working with heritage, material culture, and traditional knowledge systems. Applicants should demonstrate a strong grounding in craft practice, with exceptional making technical skills, alongside a willingness to

experiment across traditional and contemporary methods. As part of an integrated cohort, participants will collaborate closely with the filmmaker, curator, and learning materials developer, contributing both material outputs and narrative content.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- A practice rooted in craft or design traditions (textiles, ceramics, wood, metal, beadwork or similar).
- Deep technical skills and engagement with materials and innovation
- Engagement with heritage, identity, and intergenerational knowledge.
- Interest in hybrid making approaches.
- Ability to work collaboratively across disciplines.
- Openness to experimentation and documentation.

Expected Contribution

Participants will form the material core of the cohort, contributing to collaborative narrative development and the production of exhibition works and learning materials.

- Collaboration with the Documentary Filmmaker, Curator and Learning Materials Developer and other cohort participants
- Participation in residency and collaborative processes over a 6-month period
- Development of prototypes and production of final exhibition-ready works
- Contribution to heritage research and narrative development
- Documentation and reflection of processes (own and collaborations)
- Participation in public engagement activities

3.2. Documentary Filmmaker/ Visual Storyteller (x1)

Profile description

We invite a documentary videographer with an interest in heritage, indigenous knowledge, craft and design making processes, and material culture. The participant will work as an embedded member of the cohort, collaboratively shaping how processes and narratives are documented.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong experience in documentary or observational filmmaking
- Sensitivity to process-based storytelling
- Experience working with artists or cultural practitioners working with objects and material culture
- Ability to produce content for multiple formats

Expected Contribution

The videographer will document and interpret collaborative processes, producing audiovisual outputs for exhibition and digital learning dissemination.

- Collaboration with the Curator and Learning Materials Developer and other cohort participants
- Filming of residency and interviews
- Production of edited video outputs and a documentary
- Collaboration with participants on narrative capture
- Contribution to [LEARN](https://learn.thecd.org.za/#!/) platform content (<https://learn.thecd.org.za/#!/>)
- Documentation of public events

3.3 Curator / Narrative Facilitator / Writer (x1)

Profile description

We invite a curator or narrative facilitator experienced in heritage and material culture. They will support collective storytelling and work with participants to ensure narratives emerge from the collaborations and curate and implement an interactive exhibition.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in curatorial and/or narrative-based projects
- Strong writing and storytelling skills
- Experience with heritage or community knowledge systems
- Ability to facilitate collaborative processes
- Ability to conceptualise, design and install exhibitions

Expected Contribution

- Collaboration with the Documentary Filmmaker and Learning Materials Developer and other cohort participants

- Development of curation framework for the exhibition
- Facilitation of narrative processes and writing these into interpretive texts
- Coordination of the design of infrastructure and installation of the exhibition
- Contribution to the narrative/scripting of video digital content and learning materials where necessary for consistency of narrative messaging
- Participation in public programmes

3.4 Creative Learning Materials Developer (x1)

Profile description

We invite a learning materials developer with an interest in heritage, craft and visual culture. They will work alongside the cohort to translate processes and outputs into accessible learning resources.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in developing educational content for hybrid learning formats
- Ability to translate creative processes into structured learning
- Understanding of digital learning platforms and familiarity with LMS authoring software
- Strong organisational and synthesis skills

Expected Contribution

The learning developer will produce digital learning materials that extend the project's reach and support knowledge dissemination.

- Collaboration with the Documentary Filmmaker and Curator and other cohort participants
- Structuring educational materials
- Development of learning assets
- Preparation of LEARN platform content
- Supporting dissemination

4. Eswatini Theatre Club

Project location: Mbabane, Eswatini

Narrative Summary

Folklore Futures brings together nine artists to reimagine Swazi life, culture, and identity through photography, performance, and music. Two photographers will create a contemporary visual record shaped by archives, memory, and lived experience; a curator will guide the conceptual and aesthetic direction of the photographic work; three theatre and dance artists will transform Swazi stories, people, and movement into an original stage performance; and three musicians or composers will translate Swazi rhythm, sound, and story into contemporary music for live presentation. Together, the artists will engage with communities, landscapes, dances, and everyday life to produce work that is rooted in place yet forward-looking. The project seeks to preserve cultural memory while generating new artistic expressions that speak to the present and imagine the future of Swazi cultural storytelling.

Artist Profiles

4.1 Photographer (x2)

Profile Description

We invite two photographers whose work centers on identity, memory, social, and cultural experiences. Their work should be socially engaged; they must demonstrate the ability to reflect on the past and frame the present. Their work should be suitable for exhibition and archival purposes.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience working with documentary, archival, or community-based approaches to image-making.
- Sensitivity to themes of heritage, belonging, change, and lived experience.
- Capacity to produce work that is conceptually strong and visually compelling for exhibition, publication, and archival use.
- Demonstrated ability to engage respectfully with people, communities, and cultural contexts.
- Openness to participatory, collaborative, and dialogic artistic processes.
- Ability to create work that can function in both institutional and community settings.
- Technical competence in producing high-quality photographic outputs suitable for curatorial and archival standards.

Expected Contribution

The photographers will produce work inspired by the narrative document and reflecting on existing photo archives of Emaswatini (Swazi People). The new photographs will depict contemporary Swazi life and will be used as a representation of a people.

- Production of a body of work (Photographs)
- Participate in talks and engagements
- Development of an exhibition
- Contribution to a digital archive or digital exhibition

4.2 Profile title: Curator (x1)

Profile Description

We are seeking a curator whose practice is grounded in identity, memory, social experience, and cultural narrative. The ideal candidate should bring a rigorous intellectual approach to image-making, with the ability to frame contemporary photographic work through a strong conceptual and contextual lens. Their role will be to guide the artistic direction of the project, shape the narrative structure, and support the photographers in developing a coherent body of work suitable for exhibition and archival preservation.

The curator should have experience working across art, photography, heritage, and cultural discourse. They should be able to engage with questions of place, history, representation, and belonging, while also holding space for contemporary voices and lived realities. A strong understanding of socially engaged practice is essential, particularly work that reflects on the past while actively interpreting the present.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong curatorial practice in photography, visual culture, contemporary art, or heritage.
- Demonstrated interest in themes such as identity, memory, social change, cultural heritage, and representation.
- Ability to develop a clear curatorial framework that connects historical reflection with new narratives.

- Strong research and writing skills for producing curatorial text, thematic concepts, and exhibition narratives.
- Ability to collaborate closely with photographers, communities, and stakeholders in a respectful and dialogic way.
- Sensitivity to cultural context, authorship, and the ethics of visual representation.
- Capacity to support work intended for exhibition, publication, and archival use.
- Ability to contribute to public-facing interpretation, including essays, talks, and exhibition materials.

Expected Contribution to the project

The curator will help shape the conceptual direction of the project, drawing from the narrative document and the existing photo archives of Emaswatini. They will support the framing of the photographic work as a contemporary visual record of Swazi life, ensuring the project is positioned as both artistically strong and culturally meaningful.

Expected Contributions:

- Development of the curatorial framework and project direction.
- Contribution to the narrative and conceptual interpretation of the work.
- Support in selecting, sequencing, and editing the photographic material.
- Participation in talks, reviews, and public engagements.
- Development of exhibition text, curatorial notes, or interpretive materials.
- Contribution to the design of the exhibition and/or digital archive or digital exhibition.
- Support in positioning the project for archival, educational, and public presentation purposes.

4.3. Contemporary Dance Artist (x3)

We are seeking three artists whose work is rooted in **contemporary dance practice**. These artists should be able to respond creatively to the textures of Swazi life, drawing from observation, memory, rhythm, gesture, and community encounters to develop an original performance work. The artists should have sensitivity in how heritage stories are seen, felt, and shared in the present.

The artists will engage with people, places, dances, and everyday experiences as part of a creative journey through which they will gather inspiration and insight. From this

process, they will create a performance for presentation at Eswatini Theatre Club that speaks to continuity, transformation, and cultural imagination. The work should be grounded in a clear artistic intention to move Swazi narratives forward in ways that are meaningful, contemporary, and resonant.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- A strong artistic practice in contemporary dance performance.
- Openness to creative research, travel, and immersive cultural experience.
- Capacity to transform observation, rhythm, gesture, and encounter into original performance.
- Sensitivity to the ethics of representation and cultural context.
- Interest in exploring identity, belonging, memory, tradition, and change.
- Ability to work collaboratively while contributing a distinct artistic voice.
- Experience in creating work for public performance and audience engagement.
- Willingness to engage in reflection, dialogue, and artistic exchange throughout the process.

Expected Contribution to the Project

The artists will take part in a shared journey of cultural immersion, engaging with Swazi life, dances, people, and everyday realities. Through this experience, they will develop an original performance that moves Swazi stories and cultures forward through a contemporary dance performance. The final work will be showcased at Eswatini Theatre Club and should reflect both artistic originality and a deep relationship to the lived world from which it emerges.

Expected Contributions:

- Participation in the travel and immersion process.
- Engagement with Swazi culture, people, dances, and everyday life.
- Development of an original contemporary dance performance.
- Contribution to rehearsals, devising sessions, and creative discussions.
- Participation in public showcase and related engagements.
- Collaboration with fellow artists and project stakeholders.
- Delivery of a performance that presents Swazi stories in a contemporary, forward-looking way.

4.4 Musician (x3)

Profile Description

We are seeking three musicians whose practice is rooted in transforming stories and sounds into new music. The artists should be able to listen deeply to cultural expressions and translate them into new musical work, drawing from traditional sounds, jazz, rhythm-based composition, and experimental forms. Their work should connect memory, identity, and lived experience with fresh musical interpretation, creating sound that is both culturally grounded and artistically forward-looking. The artists will engage with traditional songs, dance, stories, and people through an immersive cultural exploration. From this, they will develop original music for live performance that responds to the rhythms, textures, and stories they encounter. The final work may include a live performance or improvisation, depending on the artistic direction of the project.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

We are seeking three musicians whose practice is rooted in transforming stories and sounds into new music. The artists should be able to listen deeply to cultural expressions and translate them into new musical work, drawing from traditional sounds, jazz, rhythm-based composition, and experimental forms. Their work should connect memory, identity, and lived experience with fresh musical interpretation, creating sound that is both culturally grounded and artistically forward-looking. The artists will engage with traditional songs, dance, stories, and people through an immersive cultural exploration. From this, they will develop original music for live performance that responds to the rhythms, textures, and stories they encounter. The final work may include a live performance or improvisation, depending on the artistic direction of the project.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong practice in music composition, performance, or sound creation.
- Ability to translate rhythms, movement, and storytelling into contemporary musical forms.
- Interest in jazz, rhythm-based music, and improvisation.
- Sensitivity to cultural heritage, musical memory, and ethical representation.
- Capacity to create music for live performance on stage.
- Openness to experimentation, collaboration, and creative exchange.

- Ability to work with traditional inspiration while developing an original contemporary sound.
- Capable of performing music composed for an audience.
- Willingness to engage with communities, artists, and cultural material as part of the creative process.
- Commitment to creating work that reflects Swazi stories in a fresh, resonant, and contemporary way.
- Examples of traditional songs from Eswatini:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxloIgJ-9P4&list=RDCxloIgJ-9P4&start_radio=1 /
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hF1xlv6_xmE&list=OLAK5uy_nbsBVRe9y8-Hc27Wh1nulOaFb3y_Daoz4&index=2

Expected Contribution

The musicians will participate in the cultural immersion journey, engaging with Swazi rhythm, music, movement, and everyday life. Through this experience, they will create new musical works that interpret Swazi stories and sounds for stage performance. Their contribution will support the overall artistic vision of the project and help present Swazi culture in a contemporary musical language.

Expected Contributions:

- Participation in the travel and immersion process.
- Engagement with Swazi rhythm, music, movement, and stories.
- Development of original compositions or live musical performance works.
- Collaboration with dancers, theatre artists, and other project participants.
- Contribution to rehearsals, arrangement, and creative development sessions.
- Participation in performances, talks, or public engagements.
- Delivery of music suitable for live stage presentation and artistic documentation.

5. GEM Institute

Project Location: *Lesotho, Maseru*

Narrative Summary

Peacing the Nation: Co-Creating Contemporary Basotho Heritage Narratives from Butha Buthe to Thaba Bosiu", revitalises King Moshoeshoe I's peaceful nation building legacy under the core theme "Khotso e aha sechaba" (Peace Builds a Nation). The concept centres on co-creating new, contemporary heritage narratives through artistic interpretation and interdisciplinary collaboration. Tangible elements include fortifications, graves, and sacred pools, while the intangible elements encompass Botho philosophy, diplomatic practices, lithoko praise poetry, folklore, mokhibo dance, litema murals, and pitso community assemblies. This heritage forms the core of Basotho identity and presents a powerful African model of peacebuilding, with strong contemporary relevance to migration, gender dynamics, environmental stewardship, and social inclusion. Authentic, community validated narrative source material gathered via ethical pitso consultations is transformed into innovative expressions across film, music and dance, poetry, fashion (virtual patterning of traditional motifs like litema for sustainable contemporary textiles).

Artist Profiles

5.1 Filmmaker and director (x1)

Profile Description

The Filmmaker will lead the co-creation of a heritage feature documentary, from research and script development through to directing the filming and guiding the delivery of an exhibition ready final cut, working directly with knowledge holders and cultural practitioners to ensure authenticity.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience conducting or overseeing oral history research and community interviews
- Ability to translate historical and oral narratives into a structured documentary script or treatment
- Commitment to ethical and inclusive representation of gender equality and balanced heritage narratives
- Technical proficiency in production equipment and postproduction editing

Expected Contribution

Lead the research phase and develop the documentary's script/treatment, working directly with knowledge holders and cultural practitioners to ensure authenticity. Applicants are encouraged to bring their own creative style and artistic voice to the work.

Specific Deliverables

- Conduct or oversee community interviews and oral history sessions
- Co-produce a documentary script or treatment grounded in verified cultural narratives
- Participate in creative and cultural heritage dialogues and workshops
- Contribute footage, research materials and raw archival material to the project's cultural archive

5.2. Producer and cinematographer (x1)

Profile description

We invite a cinematographer who will lead the filming of the documentary with the director. The cinematographer will create the tone and visual story of the documentary.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Proven cinematography, filming,
- Ability to work with communities to capture footage respectfully and authentically
- Passion for documenting and preserving cultural heritage through visual media
- Technical proficiency in production equipment

Expected contribution

Film the heritage documentary based on the research/script output, ensuring the final cut is exhibition-ready.

Expected contribution

- Film on-location and community footage in line with the script/treatment
- Co-produce a documentary script or treatment grounded in verified cultural narratives
- Edit and produce a final cut for exhibition screening
- Support community participation during filming and ensure dependable representation

- Contribute final footage and raw archival material to the cultural archive

5.3 Documentary editor (x1)

Profile description

We invite one experienced Video/Film Editor with a strong background in documentary filmmaking, cultural heritage, and visual storytelling.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Demonstrated experience in documentary film editing and post-production.
- Advanced proficiency in professional editing software
- Strong understanding of narrative structure, pacing, sound design, colour grading, and visual storytelling.
- Experience editing interviews, oral histories, live performances, and community-based documentation.
- Skilled in narrative structuring for documentary film
- Ability to work collaboratively with directors, cinematographers, photographers, cultural practitioners, and community stakeholders.

Expected Contribution

- Edit and produce a final cut for exhibition screening
- Edit documentary based on the research/script output, ensuring the final cut is exhibition-ready.
- Collaborate with the director, cinematographer to create a film that captures the heritage narrative

5.4 Fashion and Costume designers (x2)

Profile Description

Fashion designers will co-create a single fashion show presentation, translating the Peacing Nations story into fashion expressions inspired by cultural heritage themes, with a fine artist collaborator as part of their support team. Designers will translate the Peacing Nations story into fashion expressions inspired by cultural heritage themes.

Artistic Orientation & Competencies

- Dedicated to exploring and promoting cultural heritage through fashion, textile or visual art
- Skilled in pattern making, garment construction and textile design
- Ability to integrate traditional heritage with contemporary design or artistic practice
- Capacity to work with a fine artist support team member to translate narrative and visual themes into a cohesive, storytelling collection

Expected contributions

Co-create the garments and textile pieces that anchor the collection, working with the fine artist(s) on this team to align visual themes across the full presentation.

Specific Deliverables

- Design and produce garments and textile pieces that translate the Peacing Nations story into fashion expressions
- Collaborate with a fine artist support team member (digital or traditional) to align garments and visual art into one cohesive, storytelling presentation
- Display work in a fashion show at the exhibition with accompanying discussion on cultural heritage
- Participate in creative and cultural heritage dialogues and workshops
- Contribute design pieces and documentation to the project's cultural archive

5.5 Visual Artist (x1)

Profile Description

The visual artist will collaborate with the fashion designers to *produce original visual artwork that complements and extends the fashion collection — e.g. runway backdrops, accessories, printed textile art, or staging pieces — for unified presentation at the exhibition*

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Passionate about integrating traditional heritage and contemporary creative expression
- Proficiency in a visual art medium (painting, sculpture, digital fine art, mixed media, printmaking)

- Ability to interpret and preserve cultural heritage through visual art
- Capacity to collaborate closely with fashion/textile designers to produce a unified presentation

Expected Contribution

Co-create visual art that complements the garments, working with the fashion/costume designer(s) on this team so the full fashion-show presentation reads as one cohesive heritage narrative.

Specific Deliverables

- Produce visual art pieces that complement and extend the fashion collection (backdrops, accessories, staging, or textile art)
- Present alongside the fashion show at the exhibition with accompanying discussion on cultural heritage
- Collaborate with the team's fashion/costume designer(s) to align visual themes
- Contribute artworks/documentation to the project's cultural archive

5.6. Vocalist and songwriter (x1)

Profile description

We invite a singer-songwriter to co-create heritage music with traditional music compositions. This role contributes to two outputs: composition/songwriting and performance with indigenous/traditional instruments.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong vocal ability in traditional style
- Knowledge of cultural heritage, oral tradition, and indigenous storytelling forms
- Proficiency in accompanying instruments
- Collaboration and engagement with community, cultural and music practitioners

Expected Contribution

Write and compose an original heritage song, with lyrics drawing on heritage narratives and indigenous storytelling traditions.

Specific Deliverables

- Write original song lyrics rooted in heritage narratives
- Compose musical works inspired by heritage narratives

- Participate in creative and cultural heritage dialogues/workshops
- Contribute lyrics/compositions to the project's cultural archive

5.7. Indigenous instrumentalist with dance experience (x1)

Profile description

We invite a musician who plays indigenous instruments to co-create and perform *heritage song(s) live at an exhibition using indigenous instruments, combined with contemporary instrumentation and accompanying dances*

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Proficiency in one or more cultural/indigenous instruments (e.g. lesiba, thomo, lekope, African drums/meropa, marimba, setolotolo, setinkane, Umrhube, Ngoma, sekhankula, phala)
- Ability to combine indigenous instruments with modern/contemporary instruments
- Live performance with dance experience preferably mohobelo and mokhibo
- Collaboration and engagement with community and music practitioners

Expected Contribution

Perform the heritage song live at the exhibition, combining indigenous instruments with contemporary instrumentation

Specific Deliverables

- Perform/present the heritage song at the exhibition
- Play traditional/indigenous instruments live, combined with modern adapted instruments
- Rehearse and align performance with the composition output
- Participate in creative and cultural heritage dialogues/workshops

5.8. Spoken Word Artist (x1)

Profile description

We invite a poet engaging with memory, identity and resilience to transform oral stories into a powerful performance.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong performance and writing practice
- Engagement with cultural identity and remembrance
- Ability to connect diverse audiences

Expected Contribution

Perform the heritage poem live at the exhibition, connecting audiences .

Specific Deliverables

- Write original poems relating to the narrative themes
- Perform/present the heritage poem at the exhibition
- Rehearse and align performance
- Participate in creative and cultural heritage dialogues/workshops

6. Impact Fund

Project location: Maun, Botswana

Narrative summary

This heritage project, based in Maun, Botswana, brings together San ostrich eggshell bead artistry and Hambukushu basket weaving through collaborative product design, documentary film, and publishing. An Arts and Crafts Product Designer will guide an Ostrich Eggshell Artist and a Basket Weaver in co-creating a market-ready product that authentically integrates both traditions, with the process documented in an illustrated booklet. Alongside this, a Filmmaker/Director, a Cinematographer, and a Narrative Facilitator/Community Researcher will produce two micro-films exploring how artistic knowledge is passed between mothers and daughters, capturing the aspirations and challenges that shape whether younger generations continue these practices. A Lead Author and Heritage Researcher, Documentary Photographer/Visual Artist, and Curator and Publication Designer will complete a curated book positioning both crafts within contemporary art discourse. Together, these creative roles preserve, elevate, and share two of the world's most significant Indigenous artistic traditions with local, regional, and international audiences.

Artist Profiles

6.1 Arts and Crafts Product Designer (x1)

Profile description:

The Arts and Crafts Product Designer will lead the development of a joint heritage product created by an ostrich eggshell bead artist and a basket weaver. The role combines product design, artisan collaboration, and cultural documentation to ensure the creation of a market-ready product that authentically integrates basket weaving and ostrich eggshell beadwork..

Artistic orientation and competencies:

The ideal candidate will be a designer, artist, or creative practitioner with experience in artisan-led product development.

- Experience in product design, craft development, or creative direction, with a portfolio demonstrating successful products in regional or international markets.
- Demonstrated experience collaborating with artisans to develop heritage-based products for high-value retail, design, museum, or collector markets.
- Strong understanding of contemporary design trends and the ability to translate traditional techniques into products that appeal to international audiences while maintaining cultural integrity.

Expected contribution:

The Collaborative Design Artist will guide the co-creation process and document the collaboration.

- Facilitate product design and development between the two artisans.
- Support prototyping, testing, and refinement of the final product.
- Produce a brief illustrated booklet describing the artists' heritage traditions and the collaborative journey that resulted in the final work.

6.2 Ostrich Eggshell Artist (x1)

Profile Description

The Ostrich Eggshell Artist will contribute specialised knowledge, skills, and artistic expertise from the San tradition to the creation of a collaborative heritage product developed with a Hambukushu basket weaver. As a custodian of one of the world's oldest artistic traditions, the artist will bring cultural knowledge, technical mastery, and

creative insight to the co-design process, ensuring that the final product authentically reflects the heritage and identity of San communities.

Artistic orientation and competencies:

The ideal candidate will be a practicing ostrich eggshell bead artist with strong roots in Indigenous cultural traditions.

- Demonstrated expertise in ostrich eggshell bead production and design.
- Knowledge of the cultural significance, history, and traditional uses of ostrich eggshell beads.
- Experience creating high-quality products for contemporary markets.
- Ability to participate in collaborative design and product development processes.
- Strong communication skills and willingness to share cultural knowledge and artistic practices.

Expected contribution:

The Ostrich Eggshell Artist will contribute artistic, technical, and cultural expertise throughout the project.

- Co-design and create the ostrich eggshell components of the collaborative product.
- Share traditional knowledge and cultural narratives associated with beadwork.
- Participate in product development, testing, and refinement.
- Contribute to interviews and documentation activities for the project booklet.
- Help ensure the final product authentically represents San heritage and artistic traditions.

6.3 Basket Weaver (x1)

Profile Description

The Basket Weaver will contribute specialist knowledge, skills, and artistic expertise in the creation of a collaborative heritage product developed with a San ostrich eggshell artist. As a practitioner of the Hambukushu basket-weaving tradition, the artist will bring deep cultural knowledge, technical mastery, and creative insight to the co-design process, ensuring that the final product reflects the heritage, aesthetics, and identity embodied in this internationally recognized art form.

Artistic orientation and competencies:

The ideal candidate will be a practicing basket weaver with strong roots in traditional weaving traditions.

- Demonstrated expertise in traditional basket weaving techniques, materials, and patterns.
- Knowledge of the cultural significance, symbolism, and history of basketry.
- Experience producing high-quality woven products for contemporary markets.
- Ability to participate in collaborative design and product development processes.
- Strong communication skills and willingness to share cultural knowledge and artistic practices.

Expected contribution:

The Basket Weaver will contribute artistic, technical, and cultural expertise throughout the project.

- Co-design and create the basketry components of the collaborative product.
- Share traditional knowledge, stories, and symbolism associated with basket weaving.
- Participate in product development, testing, and refinement.
- Contribute to interviews and documentation activities for the project booklet.
- Help ensure the final product authentically represents Hambukushu heritage and weaving traditions.
- Help ensure the final product authentically represents San heritage and artistic traditions

6.4 Profile title: Filmmaker/Director (x1)

Profile Description

The Filmmaker/Director will lead the creative development and production of two micro-films exploring the transmission of artistic knowledge between generations. Through interviews with basket weavers and ostrich eggshell artists and their daughters, the films will examine the challenges, aspirations, and opportunities that influence whether younger generations choose to continue these heritage practices.

Artistic orientation and competencies:

The ideal candidate will be an experienced filmmaker with a strong interest in cultural heritage, community storytelling, and participatory approaches.

- Demonstrated experience directing and editing documentary or oral history films.
- Strong interviewing and narrative development skills.
- Experience working with Indigenous communities, artisans, or cultural heritage projects.
- Ability to create compelling stories from community perspectives.
- Strong project management and collaboration skills.

Expected contribution:

The Filmmaker/Director will oversee the creative and technical production of both films, from concept through final delivery.

- Develop the narrative approach and interview framework.
- Conduct and direct interviews with artisans and their daughters.
- Guide filming and storytelling throughout production.
- Lead post-production, including footage review, story structuring, editing oversight, and final cut approval.
- Ensure the films authentically represent participants' voices and experiences.
- Deliver two completed, fully edited short films suitable for community, educational, and international audiences.

6.5 Cinematographer/Visual Storytelling Artist (x1)

Profile description:

The Cinematographer/Visual Storytelling Artist will be responsible for capturing the visual narrative of the project, documenting both the artistic practices and the personal relationships between mothers and daughters. The role will focus on translating cultural knowledge, creative processes, and everyday experiences into powerful visual stories without taking away the essence/authenticity of the individual.

Artistic orientation and competencies:

The ideal candidate will be a visual artist, cinematographer, or director of photography with experience in documentary production, editing, and community-based storytelling.

- Demonstrated expertise in cinematography and visual composition.
- Experience filming artisans, cultural practices, and community life.
- Ability to capture both interviews and observational footage.

- Understanding of visual storytelling techniques for short-form documentaries.
- Proficiency in video editing software and post-production workflows.
- Sensitivity to cultural protocols and community contexts.

Expected contribution:

The Cinematographer/Visual Storytelling Artist will create the visual language of the films, from production through post-production.

- Film interviews, artistic processes, and community settings.
- Capture high-quality footage of basket weaving and ostrich eggshell beadwork.
- Document interactions between mothers and daughters.
- Select footage, edit, color grade, and refine the visual narrative in post-production.
- Work closely with the director to develop and execute the look and feel of the films across both shooting and editing.
- Help create visually engaging films that celebrate heritage, identity, and creativity.

6.6 Narrative Facilitator/Community Researcher (x1)

Profile Description

The Narrative Facilitator/Community Researcher will support the development of authentic stories by creating a safe and respectful space for dialogue between participants. The role will help uncover the motivations, concerns, and aspirations that influence mothers and daughters in relation to their cultural heritage.

Artistic orientation and competencies:

The ideal candidate will be a cultural practitioner, storyteller, researcher, or arts facilitator with experience working with artisans and rural communities.

- Experience facilitating interviews, discussions, or participatory storytelling processes.
- Strong understanding of cultural heritage and intergenerational differences.
- Experience working with basket weavers, bead artists, or similar artisan groups.
- Excellent communication and relationship-building skills.

- Ability to work across languages and cultural contexts.

Expected contribution:

The Narrative Facilitator/Community Researcher will help shape the stories explored in the films.

- Prepare participants for interviews and filming activities.
- Facilitate discussions with mothers and daughters about heritage, identity, and aspirations.
- Help identify key themes and narratives emerging from the conversations.
- Support culturally appropriate engagement throughout the project.
- Contribute contextual insights that strengthen the authenticity and impact of the films.

6.7 Lead Author and Heritage Researcher (x1)

Profile description

The Lead Author and Heritage Researcher will lead the development of a publication that explores basket weaving and ostrich eggshell beadwork as significant artistic traditions. The role will focus on researching, documenting, and interpreting the cultural, historical, and artistic dimensions of these practices, while developing compelling narratives that position artisans as artists, innovators, and custodians of heritage.

Artistic orientation and competencies:

The ideal candidate will be a writer, researcher, curator, or cultural practitioner with experience in heritage, art, and community-based storytelling.

- Demonstrated experience researching and writing about art, culture, or heritage.
- Strong interviewing and oral history documentation skills.
- Understanding of Indigenous knowledge systems and traditional artistic practices.
- Ability to translate complex cultural concepts into engaging narratives.
- Experience working directly with artisans and community knowledge holders.

Expected contribution:

The Lead Author and Heritage Researcher will provide the intellectual and narrative foundation for the publication.

- Conduct interviews with basket weavers, bead artists, and cultural experts.
- Research the historical, cultural, and artistic significance of both traditions.
- Develop the book's narrative framework and written content.
- Explore themes of creativity, design, identity, innovation, and artistic expression.
- Produce text that demonstrates why these traditions should be recognised as art rather than simply craft.

6.8. Documentary Photographer/Visual Artist (x1)

Profile description

The Documentary Photographer/Visual Artist will create a curated book that captures the artistry, technical mastery, and cultural significance of basket weaving and ostrich eggshell beadwork. Through portraits, illustrations, process documentation, and artisan narratives, the publication will highlight both the creative journey and the finished works, repositioning these traditions within the discourse of contemporary art.

Artistic orientation and competencies:

The ideal candidate will be a professional photographer or visual artist with experience documenting artists, cultural heritage, and creative processes.

- Demonstrated excellence in documentary and portrait photography.
- Experience photographing artworks, artisans, and cultural practices.
- Strong visual storytelling and composition skills.
- Ability to work sensitively within rural and Indigenous communities.
- Understanding of how photography can communicate artistic value and cultural meaning.

Expected contribution:

The Documentary Photographer/Visual Artist will create a compelling visual record for the publication.

- Produce portraits of artisans and their creative environments.
- Document the processes of basket weaving and bead production.
- Photograph finished works as artistic objects.
- Capture images that illustrate creativity, innovation, and technical mastery.
- Contribute to the visual design and storytelling of the publication.

6.9. Curator and Publication Designer (x1)

Profile description

The Curator and Publication Designer will shape the overall artistic vision of the book, integrating text and imagery into a cohesive publication that elevates basket weaving and ostrich eggshell traditions within contemporary discussions of art, heritage, and cultural identity.

Artistic orientation and competencies:

The ideal candidate will be a curator, designer, editor, or creative director with experience producing art books, exhibition catalogues, or heritage publications.

- Experience curating visual and written content for publication.
- Strong graphic design, editorial, and layout skills.
- Understanding of contemporary art, craft discourse, and cultural heritage.
- Ability to synthesise multiple perspectives into a coherent narrative.
- Experience developing publications for local and international audiences.

Expected contribution:

The Curator and Publication Designer will guide the publication from concept to completion.

- Develop the editorial and visual structure of the book.
- Integrate photography, interviews, and research into a compelling narrative.
- Curate themes that challenge distinctions between art and craft.
- Design a visually engaging publication suitable for educational, cultural, and international audiences.
- Ensure the final book effectively demonstrates the artistic value, cultural significance, and contemporary relevance of basket weaving and ostrich eggshell beadwork.

7. Phansi Museum

Project location: Durban, South Africa

Narrative summary

(tri'angulating) kinship is a research-led project convened by Phansi Museum (South Africa) in partnership with Antidote Culture Foundation (eSwatini) and Morija Arts Centre (Lesotho). Grounded in the curatorial principle of *mutual heritage as repair*, the project understands restoration beyond preservation, but as a process of re-membering and generating new forms of relations. Drawing on Phansi Museum's significant collection of Southern African material culture, the project utilises kinship as a framework for understanding the historical, politico-cultural, and aesthetic relationships that connect a people across contemporary borders.

Through archival research, site visits and dialogue; nine artists and cultural practitioners engage with selected artefacts, practices, and traditions as catalysts for new relational narratives. Artists are invited to 'break from tradition' by investigating histories across said peoples, only to reinterpret and reinvent heritage in the present, positioning the archive as a living, evolving corpus from which shared futures can be imagined.

Artist Profiles

7.1. Sound designer/musician/composer (x1)

Profile Description

We invite a sound or sonic led artist, musician or composer with interest in research-led collaborative practice. The practitioner is required to utilise sound as a medium which can fuse folklore, song and field recordings through experimentation.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Sound art, composition, music-making, or experimental sonic practice
- Engagement with oral traditions, musical heritage, and deep listening as a research method.
- Experience working across traditional and contemporary musical forms
- Collaborative and research informed
- Field recordings, sound design, and site-responsive approaches
- Ability to develop public performances, intimate yet immersive listening sessions, or sound installations

Expected Contribution

- Development of new sonic works informed by research and exchange
- Engagement with heritage objects, instruments, songs, and oral traditions
- Participation in collaborative residencies, workshops, and public programmes
- Contribution to performances, listening events, and project documentation

7.2. Dramaturg (with public engagement skill - X1)

Profile Description

We invite a dramaturg/ writer, performance or theatremaker experienced in socially-engaged practice and heritage research with interest in interdisciplinary collaboration.

Their work should operate across artistic forms and is grounded in research, storytelling, and historical inquiry while using contemporary methods to stage work.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Dramaturgical experience and heritage-based performance development
- Oral histories, archival materials, and community narratives
- Facilitation of participatory and dialogic processes
- Experience working across cultural, linguistic, and generational contexts
- Artistic research-led method
- Ability to work with minimal stage scenography

Expected Contribution

- Supporting dialogue between artists, institutions, and communities in the creation of a narrative/ story based output (theatre, audio, or short film/ video)
- Facilitating workshops, conversations, and collaborative processes
- Contributing to narrative framing and interpretation
- Assisting in the translation of research into public-facing outcomes
- Supporting project reflection, documentation, and knowledge-sharing

7.3. Multidisciplinary Artist (X1)

We call upon artists working across multiple disciplines, including visual art, performance, sound, text, moving image, or socially engaged practice, with an interest in heritage, memory, and cultural exchange.

Profile Description

Competencies

- Research-led and interdisciplinary artistic practice
- Ability to work across media and collaborative contexts
- Engagement with archives and contemporary cultural production
- Strong conceptual and experimental approach to making
- Experience working with communities and diverse publics
- Capacity to translate complex ideas into accessible artistic forms

Expected Contribution

- Development of new interdisciplinary artistic outcomes
- Collaboration with artists, makers, and cultural practitioners across the three countries
- Participation in research visits, residencies, and public programmes
- Contribution to exhibitions, performances, installations, or publications

7.4. Visual Artist (x1)

Profile Description

We invite visual artists (may be but not limited to installation, sculpture, ceramics, textiles, photography, drawing, moving image, or related practices) with an interest in material culture and contemporary interpretations of heritage. Particularly interested in artists who while respectful of heritage can intelligently transgress tradition.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong visual and material-based artistic practice
- Experience engaging with archives, collections, and material histories
- Ability to develop site-responsive and research-informed work
- Understanding of exhibition-making and public presentation
- Collaborative and interdisciplinary working methods
- Interest in questions of memory, identity, and cultural transmission

Expected Contribution

- Production of new visual or material-based artworks
- Engagement with selected heritage objects and collections
- Participation in exhibitions, open studios, and public presentations
- Contribution to project publications and documentation

7.5. Artist-Educator (with interest in pedagogy and memory work- X1)

Profile Description

Inviting an artist, educator, or cultural practitioner experienced in facilitating learning workshops, intergenerational exchange, and community engagement through creative

practice. The individual needs to have particular interest in the role of pedagogy in the recollection of the deep past and recent history. Although applicants may have academic or educational credentials, this role is geared towards practitioners who identify first and foremost as artists, who understand the value of artistic practices and processes as a space of learning and exchange.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Participatory arts and learning/educational methodologies within and beyond museums.
- Facilitation of workshops and collective learning environments using museum collections and cultural practice
- Experience working across formal and informal learning/educational contexts
- Knowledge of community-based arts practice
- Ability to translate knowledge into accessible public engagement formats
- Experience working with diverse age groups and communities

Expected Contribution

- Development and facilitation of workshops and learning workshops and activities
- Supporting intergenerational knowledge exchange
- Participation in public programmes and outreach activities
- Contribution to learning/educational resources and project documentation

7.6. Storyteller / Performer (X2)

Profile Description

We call upon performers. poets, storyteller, or cultural practitioner with knowledge or curiosity of surviving traditions, material practices, and folklore of eSwatini, Lesotho and South Africa.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Ability to adopt oral traditions of Southern Africa
- Experience in intergenerational knowledge transmission
- An appreciation of local cultural histories and practices and how these serve a performance

- Ability to work collaboratively with artists and researchers
- To swiftly move between research, script and performance
- Commitment to dialogue, exchange, and collective learning

Expected Contribution

- Sharing specialist knowledge and practice-based expertise
- Participation in collaborative making and research processes
- Supporting cultural contextualisation of project themes
- Contributing to a podcast recording and public performance, workshops, and discussions
- Assisting in connecting heritage objects to living practices and contemporary communities

7.7. Installation Artist / Scenographer (x1)

Profile Description

We seek an Installation artist, exhibition designer, scenographer, or spatial practitioner experienced in translating research, objects, and narratives into immersive spatial experiences and public-facing environments.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience working with pared down sets/ staged environments
- Ability to develop site-responsive and context-sensitive interventions
- Spatial storytelling and audience engagement
- Collaborative work across visual art, performance, sound, and curatorial processes
- Understanding of exhibition production, technical requirements, and public presentation

Expected Contribution

- Development of installation concepts informed by the project's research themes
- Reimagining relationships between heritage objects, contemporary artistic responses, and audiences
- Collaboration with artists, curators, and partner organisations across the three countries

7.8. Post-Production (Audio And Digital) Editor (X1)

- Contribution to spatial interpretation of the research, and public engagement

Profile Description

strategies

We invite an audio, video, digital media, or post-production practitioner experienced in editing and the presentation of research-based creative content across sound and moving images.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Audio recording, editing, sound mixing, digital media production, and postproduction workflows
- Video recording, editing and digital storytelling
- Experience working with documentary, archival, and creative content
- Digital asset management and content organisation
- Collaborative work with artists, researchers, and cultural practitioners

Expected Contribution

- Recording, editing and production of audio, video, and digital documentation generated through the project
- Support for the creation of digital and live material, online content, and public dissemination materials
- Collaboration with artists to realise sound, moving image, and multimedia outputs

8. Poetavango Collective

Project location: Maun, Botswana

Narrative summary

Living Heritage: Resonances Across Generations is a 15-month project that revitalises Botswana's intangible cultural heritage — oral traditions, folk music, storytelling, and craftsmanship — through contemporary artistic co-creation. Led by Poetavango Collective in Maun, the project brings together artists from across Southern Africa,

working in collaboration with local community artists, to co-create four works: a fusion music album featuring traditional instruments (Segaba, Setinkane, Katara), an anthology of reimagined folktales and praise poetry, a short film about pottery, and a public exhibition. These works will be presented at the 'Back to Our Roots Festival' and made available online. The project ensures that living heritage does not fade away but continues to evolve, inspire, and connect communities across generations.

Artist Profiles

8.1 Music Producer/Composer (x1)

Profile description

Producer skilled in bridging traditional folk music -- specifically Setswana four-string guitar (katara), Setinkane and Segaba (Reference folk artists: Ratsie Setlhako and Setampore) -- with contemporary soundscapes and guiding collaborative studio recording sessions.

- Works across folk and contemporary music genres.
- Can coordinate and collaborate with players of live instruments
- Competent in music composition
- Can work with musicians at various skill levels, both in folk and contemporary music.
- Able to oversee all recording processes, including sourcing of studio and rehearsal spaces.

Expected Contribution

The Music Producer/Composer will lead the sonic direction of the 'Resonance' album, guiding folk musicians and contemporary artists through the recording process to create a fusion album that honours tradition while embracing innovation.

Expected Contribution:

- Production of a professionally recorded compilation album blending traditional and contemporary genres
- Sourcing and coordination of studio and rehearsal spaces.
- Guidance and mentorship of participating musicians during studio sessions
- Collaboration with the Music Writer/Analyzer to ensure accurate documentation of traditional elements
- Participation in the narrative retreat and joint working sessions

8.2. Music Writer/Analyzer (1)

Profile description

Musicologist or ethnomusicologist able to transcribe oral folk traditions into standard musical notation and chord diagrams for educational preservation.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Can read and write music in international standard forms
- Can analyse given music and transcribe it into standard notation and chord diagrams
- Can interpret folk music and decipher notes, chords, and other musical elements
- Competent in the history of music, particularly African folk and traditional music

Expected Contribution

The Music Writer/Analyzer will document traditional musical knowledge, creating an educational guidebook that preserves folk instrument techniques for future generations and democratises access to this heritage.

Expected Contribution:

- Transcription of folk music into standard notation and chord diagrams
- Development of a printed and digital educational guidebook for traditional instruments (Segaba, Setinkane, Katara)
- Collaboration with the Music Producer/Composer to ensure accurate representation Participation in the narrative retreat and joint working sessions
- Contribution of historical and contextual notes on African folk music traditions

8.3. Professional Writer/Author of Folk Stories (x1)

Experienced writer capable of facilitating a workshop/residency with a small group of local community writers to reinterpret traditional folktales (Mainane) into contemporary narratives for a modern audience.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Able to facilitate and work with a group of writers to interpret folk stories

- Can guide and direct the creation of writings based on or inspired by traditional stories
- Competent in international and standard storytelling and writing techniques

Expected Contribution:

The Professional Writer/Author will lead the writing residency, guiding a group of local community writers to reimagine traditional folktales for contemporary audiences, resulting in a published anthology.

Expected Contribution:

- Facilitation of the writing residency and editorial process
- Guidance of writers in reinterpreting folktales with contemporary relevance
- Contribution of original writing to the 'Storyteller's Fire' anthology
- Participation in the live storytelling event launch

8.4. Proficient Praise Poet (x1)

Master praise poet skilled in Setswana and/or northwest region languages (Seyeyi, Sembukushu, Sesarwa, Seherero, etc.), able to mentor other poets in creating new works rooted in tradition.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Works mainly in Setswana and/or Botswana's northwest region languages
- Can guide and direct other praise poets in the creation of new material based on provided themes
- Deep understanding of oral tradition and praise poetry (Maboko) as a living art form

Expected Contribution

The Proficient Praise Poet will mentor emerging praise poets, guiding the creation of new works in vernacular languages that celebrate and preserve this ancient oral tradition.

Expected Contributions:

- Mentorship of other praise poets during the writing residency
- Creation of original praise poetry in vernacular languages
- Contribution to the 'Storyteller's Fire' anthology

- Performance at the live storytelling event launch

8.5. Profile title: Professional Filmmaker/Cinematographer (x1)

Profile description

Cinematographer experienced in producing broadcast-quality fiction short films, with the ability to work with emerging actors and manage all technical aspects of production in collaboration with a dedicated crew.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Competent in producing international standard quality short films
- Can work with emerging actors to produce quality work
- Able to collaborate with specialists in sound, wardrobe, and make-up
- Expected Contribution to the Project
- The Professional Filmmaker/Cinematographer will lead the technical production of 'The Potter's Song' short film, ensuring high-quality visuals suitable for international film festival submission.

Expected Contribution:

- Cinematography and camera operation for the short film
- Collaboration with the Film Director and Screenwriter to realise the creative vision
- Oversight of lighting and visual style in collaboration with Director.
- Post-production support including colour grading and final export

8.6. Film Director (x1)

Profile description

Director with short film experience, capable of working from a script and leading a collaborative crew to produce a compelling heritage-based narrative.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Can work with provided scripts to direct film production
- Can collaborate with other film crew members to produce a quality short film
- Has experience in short film directing

Expected Contribution:

The Film Director will guide the creative and performative aspects of the short film, working with actors and crew to bring the story of intergenerational pottery learning to life.

Expected Contributions:

- Direction of actors and staging for the short film
- Collaboration with the Screenwriter on script interpretation
- Collaboration with the Filmmaker/Cinematographer on visual style
- Oversight of rehearsals and filming days

8.7. Screenwriter (x1)

Profile description

Scriptwriter experienced in translating themes of heritage, culture, and intergenerational learning into engaging short film screenplays.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Has experience in writing for film and short films
- Can work with provided themes to create a script or screenplay for a short film
- A team player who can work with other members of the comprehensive film team

Expected Contribution to the Project

The Screenwriter will develop the script for 'The Potter's Song,' weaving together themes of pottery, tradition, mentorship, and cultural pride into a compelling narrative suitable for festival audiences.

Expected Contributions:

- Development of the short film script/screenplay based on provided themes
- Collaboration with the Film Director and Filmmaker/Cinematographer during pre-production
- Incorporation of folktales and musical elements from other co-productions into the narrative
- Revisions based on feedback from the creative team

8.8. Master Potter/Ceramist (x1)

Profile description

Master potter proficient in both traditional Setswana techniques and contemporary ceramic art, able to mentor a small group of potters in creating a cohesive exhibition.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Understands both Setswana traditional and modern pottery and ceramics
- Able to work with and direct a small group of potters to create works around a proposed theme
- Proficient in the historical background of pottery, especially in the context of Botswana and Africa

Expected Contribution to the Project

The Master Potter/Ceramist will lead pottery workshop, mentoring a small group of potters to create works for the 'Earth & Fire' exhibition.

Expected Contributions:

- Facilitation of pottery workshops (traditional and contemporary techniques)
- Mentorship of participating potters in creating exhibition pieces
- Contribution to the photographic booklet documenting the process and stories of craftspeople
- Collaboration with the Exhibition Curator on exhibition layout and narrative

8.9. Exhibition Curator (x1)

Profile description

Curator experienced in organising craft and pottery exhibitions, from conceptualisation to installation, including documentation for exhibition catalogues.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Collaborative work with artists toward an exhibition
- Prepping and curation of a crafts and pottery exhibition
- Compilation of documented creation process material for exhibition catalogue/booklet

Expected Contribution to the Project

The Exhibition Curator will design and execute the 'Earth & Fire' exhibition, ensuring that the pottery works are presented in a compelling narrative flow that honours the heritage and contemporary relevance of the craft.

Expected Contributions:

- Curation and design of the 'Earth & Fire' exhibition layout and narrative flow
- Collaboration with the Master Potter/Ceramist and participating potters
- Compilation of documented creation process material for the exhibition catalogue/booklet

- Oversight of exhibition installation at the Nhaba Museum

9. Sustaining Theatre and Dance (STAND) Foundation

Project location: Western Cape, South Africa

Narrative summary

This project explores Khoi-San living heritage through identity and self-recognition, land and memory, language and loss, embodied indigenous knowledge, and living heritage futures. Through a multidisciplinary approach, the project will create three complementary cultural installations: a theatre and dance production, a series of public dialogue discussions, and a virtual heritage archive. Drawing on oral histories, indigenous languages, traditional movement practices, community narratives, and contemporary experiences, the project will engage Khoi-San elders, youth, artists, cultural practitioners, and wider audiences in processes of remembrance, reflection, and renewal. The theatre and dance production will translate heritage narratives into embodied performance, while public discussions will create spaces for intergenerational and cross-cultural dialogue. Simultaneously, a digital archive will document and preserve stories, languages, performances, photographs, and audiovisual materials for future generations. Together, these interventions position contemporary arts as a living platform for indigenous knowledge, cultural continuity, public awareness, and the celebration of Khoi-San heritage.

Artist Profiles

9.1 Documentary Videographer/Cinematographer (x1)

Profile description

We invite one videographer/cinematographer whose practice focuses on documentary storytelling, cultural heritage, indigenous knowledge systems, and community-based narratives. The selected creative should demonstrate the ability to capture oral histories, performances, public dialogues, and cultural practices in visually compelling ways that preserve authenticity while producing high-quality documentary content for public dissemination and digital archiving.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong experience in documentary filmmaking and visual storytelling.
- Ability to capture oral histories, community narratives, and cultural practices with sensitivity and ethical awareness.
- Experience filming live performances, public events, and participatory processes.
- Competency in camera operation, sound recording, lighting, and post-production editing.
- Ability to work collaboratively with communities, artists, elders, and cultural practitioners.
- Understanding of heritage documentation and digital preservation practices.

Expected Contribution to the Project

The videographer/cinematographer will document the creative, dialogue, and heritage preservation processes of the project. They will produce documentary of medium and short-form videos and audiovisual content that preserve Khoi-San stories, languages, practices, and contemporary experiences while contributing to the Living Archives platform.

Expected Contributions:

- Production of documentary medium and short-form video content for the digital Living Archives platform.
- Documentation of theatre performances and creative development processes.
- Recording of public dialogue discussions and oral history interviews.
- Creation of audiovisual content for the Living Archives platform.
- Contribution to exhibitions, screenings, and digital dissemination activities.

9.2 Video/Film Editor (x1)

Profile description

We invite one experienced Video/Film Editor with a strong background in documentary filmmaking, cultural heritage, and visual storytelling. The ideal candidate should demonstrate the ability to transform raw audiovisual material into compelling documentary films and digital content that authentically reflect indigenous narratives and lived experiences. The editor should be experienced in working with oral histories, archival footage, interviews, performances, and community-based storytelling,

ensuring that the final productions are technically accomplished, culturally respectful, and suitable for public exhibition, educational use, and long-term digital preservation.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Demonstrated experience in documentary film editing and post-production.
- Advanced proficiency in professional editing software (e.g., Adobe Premiere Pro, DaVinci Resolve, Final Cut Pro, or equivalent).
- Strong understanding of narrative structure, pacing, sound design, colour grading, and visual storytelling.
- Experience editing interviews, oral histories, live performances, and community-based documentation.
- Ability to work collaboratively with directors, cinematographers, photographers, cultural practitioners, and community stakeholders.
- Understanding of ethical representation, informed consent, and culturally responsive storytelling practices.
- Experience preparing audiovisual content for digital archives, online platforms, exhibitions, and public screenings.

Expected Contribution to the Project

The Video/Film Editor will lead the post-production process for all audiovisual content generated throughout the project, producing high-quality documentary films, promotional content, and archival resources that preserve and communicate Khoi-San heritage. Working closely with the videographers, theatre director, cultural knowledge custodians, and language specialists, the editor will ensure that the project's visual narratives are engaging, accurate, and accessible to diverse audiences.

Expected Contributions:

- Edit documentary films capturing the project's five heritage themes.
- Produce short-form digital stories and promotional videos for public dissemination.
- Edit recordings of theatre performances, public dialogue discussions, and oral history interviews.
- Integrate subtitles, translations, archival imagery, photographs, and audio recordings where appropriate.

- Prepare audiovisual content for the Living Archives digital heritage platform and public exhibitions.
- Collaborate with the creative team to ensure consistency in visual identity, storytelling quality, and cultural authenticity across all audiovisual outputs.

9.3. Khoi-San and Indigenous Language Specialists (x1)

Profile description

We invite one specialists working in Khoi-San and other underrepresented indigenous languages in Southern Africa to support the integration of indigenous languages into artistic, educational and public discussions and archival outputs while contributing to the safeguarding of linguistic heritage. Their practice should demonstrate experience in language preservation, documentation, revitalisation, oral traditions, and community-based cultural transmission. The specialists will support the integration of indigenous languages into artistic, educational, and archival outputs while contributing to the safeguarding of linguistic heritage.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Expertise in Khoi-San languages and/or other endangered indigenous languages.
- Experience in language documentation, oral history collection, and language revitalisation initiatives.
- Individuals with academic or traditional indigenous cultural knowledge will be considered.
- Strong understanding of indigenous knowledge systems and cultural heritage practices.
- Ability to facilitate intergenerational learning and community engagement.
- Experience developing language resources, glossaries, educational materials, or linguistic archives.
- Capacity to collaborate with artists, researchers, educators, and community members.

Expected Contribution to the Project

The language specialists will guide the preservation and interpretation of indigenous languages across all project components. They will contribute to theatre development,

public dialogues, and digital archiving by ensuring that language is recognised as a vital component of living heritage.

Expected Contributions:

- Oral and written documentation and preservation of indigenous language content.
- Contribution to oral history collection and interpretation.
- Support for multilingual performances, dialogues, and public engagements.
- Creation of glossaries, translations, and archive metadata.
- Collaborate with local cultural knowledge holders.
- Participation in workshops, community engagements, and knowledge-sharing activities.

9.4. Photographers/Visual Heritage Documentarians (x1)

Profile description

We invite one photographer whose practice focuses on documentary photography, visual heritage, community storytelling, and cultural identity. Their work should demonstrate the ability to capture people, places, performances, and cultural practices in ways that create lasting visual records and contribute to heritage preservation and public engagement.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong portfolio in documentary, cultural, heritage, or community-based photography.
- Experience documenting live events, performances, cultural practices, and oral history projects.
- Ability to produce images suitable for exhibitions, publications, archives, and digital platforms.
- Understanding of ethical documentation practices and community consent processes.
- Capacity to work collaboratively within multidisciplinary artistic and heritage projects.
- Experience in visual storytelling and photographic archiving.

- The ability to provide and utilise one's own professional photography and visual documentation equipment, including cameras, lenses, lighting, audio equipment, and related accessories, will be considered an added advantage

Expected Contribution to the Project

The photographer will create a comprehensive visual record of the project, documenting performances, dialogues, landscapes, cultural practices, community interactions, and heritage knowledge holders. Their work will form a significant component of the Living Archives platform and public engagement activities.

Expected Contributions:

- Production of a photographic archive documenting project activities and heritage practices.
- Creation of exhibition-quality photographic works.
- Documentation of theatre productions, dialogue sessions, and community engagements.
- Contribution to publications, educational materials, and digital heritage resources.
- Participation in exhibitions, artist talks, and public dissemination activities.
- Development of visual content for the Living Archives platform.
- Participation in workshops, community engagements, and knowledge-sharing activities.

9.5. Theatre director (x1)

Profile description

We invite one experienced Theatre Director with a demonstrated track record in creating multidisciplinary, community-engaged, and socially responsive theatre. The ideal candidate should possess a strong artistic vision and extensive experience directing devised productions that integrate theatre, movement, music, oral history, and indigenous knowledge systems. The Theatre Director will lead the artistic development of the production, working collaboratively with Khoi-San elders, cultural practitioners, language specialists, performers, and the wider creative team to transform the project's five heritage themes into a compelling theatrical experience that reflects both historical narratives and contemporary indigenous identities.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Minimum five years' professional experience directing theatre productions.
- Demonstrated experience in devised, physical, documentary, or community-based theatre.
- Strong leadership and collaborative artistic practice.
- Experience integrating cultural heritage, oral traditions, and community narratives into performance.
- Ability to facilitate inclusive and participatory creative processes.
- Excellent rehearsal management and production planning skills.
- Strong understanding of indigenous knowledge systems and ethical cultural engagement.
- Ability to mentor emerging artists and facilitate collaborative artistic development.

Expected Contribution to the Project

The Theatre Director will provide the overall artistic leadership for the development and presentation of the theatre and dance production, ensuring that the five Khoi-San heritage themes are translated into a cohesive, high-quality multidisciplinary performance. Working closely with the dramaturg, choreographer, cultural custodians, language specialists, and performers, the director will guide the creative process from concept development through rehearsals to public performances, ensuring artistic excellence, cultural authenticity, and meaningful audience engagement.

Expected Contributions:

- Direct the development and staging of the theatre and dance production based on the five heritage themes.
- Lead rehearsals and coordinate the multidisciplinary creative team.
- Ensure artistic coherence across acting, movement, music, language, and design.
- Guide the integration of community narratives and indigenous knowledge into the performance.
- Support audience engagement through post-performance discussions and reflections.

9.6. Dramaturg (x1)

Profile description

We invite one experienced Dramaturg whose artistic practice centres on research-led performance, indigenous storytelling, documentary theatre and dance, and collaborative creation. The successful candidate will work closely with community knowledge holders, Khoi-San elders, language specialists, performers, and the creative team to develop a dramaturgical framework that authentically represents the project's five heritage themes. The role requires exceptional research, writing, and facilitation skills to translate oral histories, cultural memory, and indigenous knowledge into an engaging theatrical narrative.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong acting and storytelling skills with experience in theatre, oral performance, or devised theatre.
- Exceptional vocal ability, including voice modulation, characterisation, singing, and storytelling techniques.
- Ability to learn, interpret, and accurately reproduce diverse dialects, accents, and indigenous language expressions.
- Experience in multilingual performance environments.
- Strong improvisation and collaborative creation skills.
- Ability to engage with oral histories and community narratives respectfully and authentically.
- Experience in movement-based or physical theatre is advantageous.

Expected Contribution to the Project

The Dramaturg will lead the research, narrative development, and dramaturgical structure of the theatre and dance production, ensuring that the five heritage themes are translated into an authentic and compelling performance. Working with Khoi-San elders, language specialists, cultural custodians, and the creative team, the dramaturg will shape oral histories, indigenous knowledge, and community narratives into a cohesive theatrical work.

Expected Contributions:

- Research and develop the dramaturgical framework for the production.

- Facilitate story development workshops with communities and knowledge holders.
- Translate oral histories and heritage research into performance scripts and narrative structures.
- Collaborate with the director and choreographer throughout the creative process.
- Support the development of the script and interpretive materials linked to the performance.

9.7. Choreographer (x1)

Profile description

We invite one choreographer with expertise in indigenous movement practices, contemporary dance, and collaborative performance-making. The ideal candidate should have experience integrating traditional movement vocabularies with contemporary choreography and be committed to preserving and celebrating embodied cultural knowledge through performance. The choreographer will work closely with cultural custodians, traditional dance practitioners, and performers to create movement language inspired by Khoi-San heritage.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Demonstrated experience in choreography for theatre and dance productions.
- Strong understanding of indigenous movement practices and embodied storytelling.
- Ability to integrate traditional and contemporary dance forms.
- Experience facilitating movement laboratories and community-based creative processes.
- Collaborative approach to multidisciplinary artistic creation.
- Knowledge of culturally responsive and ethical artistic practice.

Expected Contribution to the Project

The choreographer will develop the movement language of the theatre and dance production, translating the project's five heritage themes into expressive physical performance that reflects indigenous knowledge systems, memory, identity, and cultural continuity.

Expected Contributions:

- Creation of choreography for the theatre and dance production.
- Facilitation of movement workshops and creative laboratories.
- Collaboration with traditional dance practitioners and cultural advisors.
- Support performers in developing embodied storytelling techniques.
- Contribution to rehearsals, performances, and public engagement activities.

9.8. Multidisciplinary Performers (x2)

Profile description

We invite two highly skilled multidisciplinary performers with professional experience in acting and movement-based performance. The ideal candidates should possess strong acting abilities, excellent vocal control, and the physical versatility to communicate stories through both text and movement. Working within a devised theatre environment, the performers will collaborate closely with the Theatre Director, Dramaturg, Choreographer, Cultural Knowledge Custodians, and Language Specialists to co-create an original theatre and dance production inspired by the five Khoi-San heritage themes. The performers should demonstrate the ability to embody multiple characters, adapt to diverse performance styles, and integrate indigenous storytelling, physical theatre, contemporary movement, and oral traditions into their artistic practice. Experience working with community-based theatre, heritage performance, multilingual productions, or intercultural collaboration will be highly advantageous

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Minimum five years' professional experience in theatre performance.
- Strong acting ability with excellent character development and emotional range.
- Demonstrated proficiency in movement-based performance, physical theatre, or dance.
- Excellent vocal technique, including projection, storytelling, singing (desirable), and the ability to learn and authentically perform different dialects, accents, and indigenous language expressions.
- Experience in devised theatre, ensemble performance, and collaborative creation processes.
- Ability to integrate movement, voice, and text into cohesive performance.
- Strong improvisation, adaptability, and collaborative problem-solving skills.

- Experience working with oral histories, cultural narratives, or heritage-based performance is desirable.
- Willingness to participate in community engagement, workshops, rehearsals, and post-performance discussions.
- Commitment to culturally respectful and ethical artistic practice.

Expected Contribution to the Project

The performers will form the core ensemble responsible for bringing the project's five heritage themes to life through theatre and dance. Working collaboratively throughout the creative process, they will interpret oral histories, indigenous knowledge, movement traditions, and multilingual narratives to create an engaging and culturally authentic performance that reflects Khoi-San identities, histories, and contemporary realities.

Expected Contributions:

- Co-create and perform the multidisciplinary theatre and dance production.
- Develop characters, movement sequences, and storytelling based on community narratives and oral histories.
- Perform in community, educational, and public performances across the Western Cape.
- Participate in movement laboratories, rehearsals, and creative development workshops.
- Engage in post-performance audience discussions and community dialogue sessions.
- Contribute to documentary recordings, photography sessions, and the Living Archives digital heritage platform through performance documentation.

10. Women and Land in Zimbabwe (WLZ)

Project location: : Makoni District in Manicaland Province

Narrative summary

The Seed Heritage Narrative seeks to strengthen the preservation and visibility of indigenous seed heritage and rural women's cultural knowledge on seed by recognizing indigenous seeds as a living expression of Zimbabwe's ancestral heritage, cultural

identity, and collective memory. For generations, rural women have safeguarded, selected, stored, and exchanged indigenous seeds, preserving knowledge systems that connect communities to their history, land, and traditions. Through intergenerational mentorship, the project creates spaces where elders pass on seed knowledge, cultural practices, and stories to younger generations, ensuring the continuity of this heritage. Seed fairs, community dialogues, cultural exhibitions, and heritage learning encounters will celebrate indigenous seeds as symbols of resilience, pride, and belonging. Creative documentation and cultural expressions will bring these narratives to life through filming and documentary production, oral storytelling and poetry, and music, song, and dance. These creative outputs will increase public awareness, strengthen cultural identity, and amplify rural women's role as custodians of Zimbabwe's indigenous seed heritage for future generations.

Artist Profiles

10.1 Film Director (x1)

Profile description

We invite an experienced documentary director to lead the creative development and production of a documentary that captures indigenous seed heritage, rural women's cultural knowledge, and inter-generational seed stewardship.⁴

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience directing documentary films focused on heritage, culture, communities, or social change.
- Strong visual storytelling and narrative development skills.
- Ability to work ethically with rural communities and indigenous knowledge holders.

Expected Contribution

- Lead documentary concept development and production.
- Direct filming of community stories, seed fairs, and cultural heritage activities.
- Contribute to the final documentary film.

10.2 Videographer (x1)

Profile description

We seek a cinematographer skilled in capturing cultural heritage, landscapes, community interactions, and oral histories.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Professional filming and camera operation skills.
- Experience working in rural and community settings.
- Ability to create visually compelling heritage documentation.

Expected Contribution

- Film project activities and community narratives.
- Capture visual documentation of indigenous seed practices and cultural events.

10.3. Documentary Editor and producer (x1)

Profile description

We invite a creative editor to transform footage, interviews, and cultural documentation into a compelling heritage documentary and short digital stories.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Advanced video editing and storytelling skills.
- Experience producing heritage, cultural, or community-based content.

Expected Contribution

- Edit the documentary film.
- Produce short digital stories and promotional materials.
- Support the achievement of project content.
- One documentary film on indigenous seed heritage and rural women's cultural knowledge

10.4. Oral Storyteller or Heritage Narrator (x1)

Profile description

We seek an accomplished storyteller to document and present indigenous seed histories, cultural memories, and rural women's lived experiences.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Knowledge of oral traditions research and indigenous storytelling

- Experience facilitating inter-generational dialogue.

Expected Contribution

- Collect and present oral histories.
- Facilitate storytelling sessions during community engagements and seed fairs.
- A collection of oral stories and spoken-word documenting seed heritage narratives.

10.5. Poet and Spoken Word Artist (x1)

Profile description

We invite a poet who is passionate about cultural heritage and biodiversity conservation to contribute to the seed heritage narrative.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong creative writing and poetry skills.
- Ability to transform community narratives, research finding and oral history into compelling poetry works.

Expected Contribution

- Create original poems inspired by seed heritage.
Participate and collect content at multiple seed heritage narrative events and contribute to narrative content.
- Use poetry to raise awareness about seed conservation, and ancestry pride
- Poetry contributions for publications, exhibitions and digital platforms.

10.6. Traditional music composer (song and dance) (x1)

Profile description

We invite a traditional musician capable of composing original heritage music that celebrates indigenous seeds, cultural identity, and rural women's knowledge.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in traditional and contemporary music composition.
- Knowledge of indigenous musical traditions.
- Strong Knowledge of traditional music forms, rhythms, instruments and cultural practices

- Creativity in blending traditional musical elements with contemporary approaches where appropriate
- Experience with working with local communities, rural women and traditional performers

Expected Contribution

- Compose original heritage songs.
- Develop music for documentary soundtracks.
- Collaborate with community members, leaders to ensure authenticity
- Audio Recordings for Educational promotional and archival purposes
- Musical Performances at community events festival and archival purposes

10.7. Traditional singer and vocalist artist (x1)

Profile description

We invite a vocalist with experience in traditional and community music practices to bring seed heritage narratives to life through song.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong vocal performance skills.
- Knowledge of traditional songs and cultural performance practices.

Expected Contribution

- Perform original and adapted heritage songs.
- Participate in recordings and live performances.
- Produce original songs, music, and dance performances celebrating indigenous seeds as living heritage

10.8. Traditional dance choreographer (x1)

Profile description

We seek a choreographer to create dance pieces inspired by indigenous seed heritage, cultural identity, and intergenerational knowledge transfer.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in traditional and contemporary dance.
- Ability to translate cultural narratives into movement.

Expected Contribution

- Develop dance performances for community and public events.
Support cultural interpretation through movement.

10.9. Traditional dancer and cultural performer (x1)

Profile description

We invite a cultural performer with expertise in traditional dance and community performance to participate in heritage productions and public engagements.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in traditional dance and cultural performance.
- Ability to engage diverse audiences.

Expected Contribution

- Perform during seed fairs, exhibitions, and heritage events.
- Participate in documentary filming and cultural showcases.
- Public performances and community heritage engagements that strengthen the preservation and visibility of indigenous seed heritage and rural women's cultural knowledge.

11. Youth Advocates

Project location: Harare, Zimbabwe

Narrative summary

Echoes of Tomorrow: Youth Reimagining Southern African Heritage is a interdisciplinary cultural initiative that brings together nine artists to reinterpret Southern African intangible cultural heritage through contemporary artistic practice. The project explores ecological knowledge systems, rites of passage and gendered traditions, and communal healing practices as living heritage relevant to today's challenges of climate resilience, gender equity, and youth mental health. Through collaboration with community elders and cultural knowledge holders, artists will co-create innovative works that bridge tradition and contemporary expression. The project will culminate in three major co-productions: a digital installation/augmented reality experience, an interdisciplinary live

performance, and a podcast/short film series. These works will be presented through heritage festivals, community engagements, and digital platforms to foster intergenerational dialogue and regional cultural exchange across Southern Africa.

Artist Profiles

11.1. Animator (x1)

Profile description

We invite an animator to bring indigenous knowledge systems and cultural narratives to life through 3D animation and character-driven storytelling. Your work will form the foundational visual layer of the digital installation, translating ecological heritage including sacred landscapes, traditional agricultural practices, and indigenous weather systems into animated sequences that make this knowledge accessible to contemporary youth audiences.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in 3D animation, motion graphics, or character animation;
- Strong visual storytelling and design skills rooted in or responsive to African cultural and visual traditions;
- Ability to transform oral histories, elder testimonies, and cultural narratives into animated sequences;
- Experience in or openness to collaborative and interdisciplinary creation processes.

Expected Contribution

- Animated sequences 3D depicting indigenous ecological knowledge systems and heritage figures for the digital installation;
- Character animation and motion graphics assets developed collaboratively with the AR/VR Visualiser and Digital Installation Artist;
- Visual documentation of community elder sessions and heritage field inputs, translated into animated form;
- Exhibition-ready animated content suitable for projection and mobile display, delivered by Month 6.

11.2. AR/VR Visualiser (x1)

Profile description

We invite an AR/VR visualiser to design interactive augmented and virtual reality environments that allow audiences to physically engage with living heritage narratives on climate resilience and ecological knowledge. The experience will be designed for mobile AR platforms and interactive projection, ensuring accessibility to audiences without specialist equipment.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in AR/VR development, interactive design, or immersive storytelling using mobile or projection-based platforms;
- Ability to build accessible, youth-centred interactive digital experiences without requiring specialist audience equipment;
- Familiarity with spatial and interactive design principles for exhibition contexts;
- Experience working with communities, cultural archives, or heritage content is a strong advantage.

Applications from women and young artists are strongly encouraged for this role

Expected Contribution

- Interactive AR/VR environments built around the project's ecological knowledge heritage narrative, accessible via mobile AR platforms;
- Spatial and interactive design frameworks that integrate the animator's visual assets and the installation artist's exhibition components;
- User-tested, youth-centred digital engagement pathways, refined through community testing sessions (Months 9 and 12);
- Final AR/VR experience delivered exhibition-ready by Month 13 for Heritage Festival premiere.

11.3. Digital Installation Artist (x1)

Profile description

We invite a digital installation artist to conceptualise and produce the exhibition-facing components of the experience, translating ecological knowledge systems, sacred landscapes, and intergenerational climate wisdom into immersive, exhibition-ready

spatial installations. You will lead the physical and spatial design of the installation, working closely with the Animator and AR/VR Visualiser to unify the production.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in digital installation, interactive exhibition design, or multimedia spatial storytelling;
- Strong technical and spatial design skills with experience producing exhibition-ready work for public audiences;
- Ability to translate heritage narratives including oral histories, sacred landscapes, and ecological knowledge into spatial and visual form;
- Interest in collaborative and interdisciplinary creation processes and community engagement.

Expected Deliverables

- Exhibition-ready spatial installation components translating ecological and sacred landscape narratives into immersive physical form;
- Site-responsive installation design suitable for indoor and outdoor Heritage Festival settings;
- Interactive audience engagement elements integrated with the AR/VR experience and animated sequences;
- Installation documentation and community engagement materials for public presentation (Months 6-9).

Applications from women and young artists are strongly encouraged for this role

11.4. Musician (x1)

Profile description

We invite a musician whose practice is rooted in African cultural expression and contemporary innovation to compose and perform original music for the interdisciplinary live production. Your music will draw from indigenous musical traditions of the project countries — including Shona, Ndebele, Tswana, Swati, and Sotho folk forms — and reinterpret them through a contemporary lens that speaks to themes of gender equity, identity, and communal healing.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong musicianship grounded in indigenous musical traditions from the project countries (Shona, Ndebele, Tswana, Swati, or Sotho folk music and oral musical traditions);
- Experience in live performance, collaborative composition, and cross-cultural musical dialogue;
- Ability to engage audiences through music tied to themes of identity, gender equity, communal healing, and intergenerational transmission;
- Willingness to work closely and collaboratively with artists from different countries, disciplines, and cultural backgrounds.

Expected Contribution

- Original composed and performed musical work for a full-length interdisciplinary live production, integrating traditional African musical forms with contemporary arrangement;
- Musical scores and performance materials collaboratively developed with the Dancer, Storyteller, Theatre Artist, and Artistic Director;
- Live performance at community testing sessions (Months 9 and 12) and Heritage Activation Festivals (Months 10-12);
- Audio documentation of the musical work for dissemination and archival purposes.

11.5. Dancer (x1)

Profile description

We invite a dancer whose practice bridges traditional ceremonial movement and contemporary performance to co-create and perform movement sequences for the interdisciplinary live production. Your work will draw from rites of passage and communal healing dance traditions from the project countries — including Swati, Sotho, Shona, or Tswana dance and ceremonial movement forms — reinterpreting them as a living, embodied language for youth audiences.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong performance practice in traditional ceremonial or community dance from Southern African heritage traditions (Swati, Sotho, Shona, Tswana, or Ndebele dance forms are a strong advantage);
- Experience in collaborative, cross-disciplinary creation with practitioners from other artistic fields;

- Ability to engage audiences through movement, embodied storytelling, and physical expression rooted in cultural heritage;
- Willingness to work collaboratively with artists from different countries and cultural backgrounds.

Expected Contribution

- Choreographed and performed movement sequences for a full-length interdisciplinary live production, drawing from traditional ceremonial and rites of passage dance traditions;
- Co-developed movement vocabulary created collaboratively with the Musician, Storyteller, Theatre Artist, and Artistic Director;
- Live performance at community testing sessions (Months 9 and 12) and Heritage Activation Festivals (Months 14–15);
- Contribution to embodied heritage documentation activities at the Narrative Development Retreat (Month 5).

11.6. Storyteller / Spoken Word Artist (x1)

Profile description

We invite a storyteller or spoken word artist whose practice is grounded in oral tradition, praise poetry, or multilingual narrative performance to co-create and perform for the interdisciplinary live production. You will engage audiences through language, rhythm, and narrative rooted in the living oral heritage of Southern Africa, bringing gender equity, identity, and communal memory themes to the forefront of the production.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong practice in oral tradition, storytelling, spoken word, or performance poetry, with demonstrated engagement with Southern African cultural narratives;
- Multilingual storytelling ability or experience with praise poetry traditions is a strong advantage;
- Ability to engage audiences particularly youth through language, rhythm, call-and-response, and narrative;
- Experience facilitating participatory or community-based artistic and dialogue processes is highly desirable.

Expected Contribution

- Original storytelling or spoken word performance pieces woven into the full-length interdisciplinary live production;
- Multilingual narrative contributions — in English and at least one Southern African language (Shona, Ndebele, Setswana, Swati, Sesotho, or other regional languages) — developed collaboratively with the cluster;
- Facilitation of participatory storytelling interactions with community elders and youth audiences during community testing and festival events;
- Textual documentation of oral heritage narratives gathered during the Retreat for archival and dissemination purposes.

11.7. Theatre / Physical Performance Artist (x1)

Profile description

We invite a theatre practitioner or actor-deviser with experience working in ensemble or physical theatre to co-create and perform within the interdisciplinary live production. Your role is to embody heritage narratives through physical theatre and devised performance, working within the ensemble to translate rites of passage and communal healing traditions into dramatic, visceral performance language accessible to youth audiences.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Strong theatre practice as a performer and collaborator, with experience in ensemble, devised, or physical theatre;
- Experience translating cultural narratives, oral histories, or heritage source material into performance;
- Interest in themes of gender, identity, mental well-being, and cultural continuity as explored through embodied practice;
- Willingness to work across disciplines — integrating music, movement, and text — in a collaborative ensemble environment.

Expected Contribution:

- Physical theatre and devised performance contributions woven into the full-length interdisciplinary live production;

- Ensemble-developed dramatic scenes and performance sequences rooted in rites of passage and healing heritage narratives;
- Active collaboration with the Musician, Dancer, Storyteller, and Artistic Director throughout residencies, rehearsals, and community testing;
- Live performance at community testing sessions (Months 9 and 12) and Heritage Activation Festivals (Months 10-12).

11.8. Documentary Filmmaker / Content Creator (x1)

Profile description

We invite a documentary filmmaker or short film content creator to produce a series of short documentary films documenting the project's creative journey while producing original stories on living heritage across Southern Africa. Your films will amplify youth voices and intergenerational dialogue and will be distributed to digital and community audiences across the region.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in short documentary filmmaking or ethnographic video practice, with a demonstrable portfolio of documentary or community-based film work;
- Strong interviewing, narrative development, and video editing skills;
- Ability to work sensitively and ethically with community knowledge holders and intergenerational participants;
- Understanding of ethical storytelling, informed consent, and culturally sensitive representation in documentary contexts.

Expected Contribution

- A minimum of 3 short documentary films (each 8-15 minutes) documenting the project's heritage narrative and creative process, for digital and community distribution;
- Video content for project digital campaigns, including trailers, behind-the-scenes clips, and social media cut-downs;
- Documentary interviews with community elders, artists, and young people conducted during the Retreat and community testing sessions;
- All films delivered in export-ready formats by Month 13 for distribution on YouTube and community screening at Heritage Festivals (Months 14-15).

11.9. Audio Storyteller / Animation Producer (x1)

Profile description

We invite an audio animation producer to develop and produce a multi-episode animation series exploring living heritage across Southern Africa. The series will document the cluster's creative journey, amplify the voices of community elders and young artists, and produce original heritage storytelling for broadcast on digital and radio platforms reaching youth audiences across the region.

Artistic Orientation and Competencies

- Experience in animation production and audio storytelling, with a demonstrable portfolio of produced and published animation content;
- Strong interviewing, narrative structuring, and animation and audio editing skills suitable for broadcast-quality output;
- Understanding of ethical storytelling and respectful representation of community voices and intergenerational knowledge;
- Interest in and knowledge of Southern African heritage, youth development, climate resilience, gender equity, or mental health and well-being themes.

Expected Contribution to the Project

- A minimum of 3 animation episodes (each 20–30 minutes) exploring living heritage, the project's creative process, and youth perspectives on ancestral knowledge, distributed on Spotify, regional radio partner stations, and YAZ digital channels;
- Audio interviews with community elders, cluster artists, and young people conducted during the Retreat, working sessions, and community testing sessions;
- Edited, mixed, and mastered visual and audio ready for platform upload, with at least 3 episodes published by Month 10 and the full series live by Month 13;
- Contribution to project visibility and outreach by supporting radio broadcast partnerships and social audio dissemination.