



Engaging bio-diverse audiences. See page 8. Collage supplied by Simon van Noort.

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CEO's Message May 2011

Recently, Iziko's Senior Management team had the honour of meeting with representatives from the Department of Arts and Culture to discuss Iziko's role in contributing to the new growth path associated with the Cultural Industries. This discussion took the form of a workshop, which culminated in a report Iziko submitted to DAC.

On 14 and 15 April, a consultative conference called Mzansi's Golden Economy, was held in the New Town Precinct, Johannesburg. Over 500 cultural sector workers participated, under the leadership of the Minister of Arts and Culture, Mr Paul Mashatile and his Deputy Minister, Dr Joseph Phaahla. The conference focused on funding of the arts, fully developing the creative economy, and establishing optimum platforms for the development of cultural industries. The aim of this forum was to stimulate and inspire cultural workers to ensure that they come to the forefront of the South African economy through arts, culture and heritage.

The message that your management received was that as participants within the wider creative, scientific and education realm, it is becoming necessary to ensure that our practices are measured and contribute to our economy at large. Participating in this very broad arts, culture and heritage conference illustrated that as museum workers, complacency will not take us very far. Our focus at Iziko Museums, at all times, has to be how we as museum workers are making a conscious effort to open our museums as spaces of inspiration, economic development and platforms for learning and innovation.

(continued on page 2)

Editorial

In this month's *e-news* our CEO shares her interesting and thought-provoking message, and we see how the simple task of embroidery brought together communities and empowered women.

We go out and about to see how our fellow colleagues represented Iziko at the Scifest and the Toffie Pop Culture Festival, and we fight our fear of spiders in Iziko's creepy crawly corner.

Denise Hamerton keeps us updated on the exciting ISAM courtyard project, we get to know six new staff members, and see what happens behind the scenes once an exhibition closes. Robert Hendricks takes us on a team-building expedition with the CEO's office and HR department. Check out the photographs of the Two Oceans Marathon which took place last month.

As always, we love to hear your stories, so please remember to send your submissions by 15 June to akotze@iziko.org.za

Until next time.

The *e-news* editorial team

CEO's Message (continued from page 1)

The staff at Iziko will have to ensure that we all understand what is expected of our institution to become the catalyst for learning and sustainable development in the sector. Our strategy will have to encompass a diverse number of programmes that will positively contribute to the economy, but still retain the vision of being an inspirational and foremost, African Museum. This must be done in tandem with the broader expectation of a flagship national entity.

The conference declaration that was presented to the Minister of Arts and Culture on 15 April 2011, is shared with you in the attached document.

Ms Rooksana Omar, CEO, Iziko Museums

De-installing Imagining Beauty

Iziko is fortunate to have the enthusiastic and generous contribution of interns and volunteers without whom we could not accomplish the challenges curators face in the flurry and pressure of installing and de-installing exhibitions in a very tight schedule.

Imagining Beauty: Body Adornment including Young SA Designers was a demanding exhibition, but the expertise and care shown by skilled volunteers made it happen. They include Sharon Ballard, an art historian with specialist knowledge of costume; Marnell Kirsten, one of Ballard's former students from the University of Stellenbosch; Nosi Mankqu, an Iziko intern and graduate from the University of Transkei; and Penny Allison, also a recent graduate who hopes to pursue a career in conservation.

Showing contemporary fashion at the Iziko South African National Gallery, has been a first, and included a magnificent tulle creation by the artist Doreen Southwood entitled *Sea Skirt*, and the re-cycled jeans of Supadog, AKA Zavick Botha.

Here are some of the enthusiastic responses from the public:

- "The best presentation of fashion for Iziko. Please do this often and educate the world about SA fashion". Temba.
- "This I would say is the Avant Garde of Africa, breaking away from the Western influence. Carry on representing African identity". Fashion Technology Student from CPUT.
- "Great work! Bring it to the streets!!" Cathall McKee, Irish fashion designer.

Carol Kaufmann, Curator of African Art



The capable team carefully de-installing *Imagining Beauty*, with painstaking attention, and re-packing the designer garments on loan to Iziko from the Mercedes Benz Fashion Awards Collection in Johannesburg. The exhibition closed in April after a four-month run. L to R: Sharon Ballard, Curator Carol Kaufmann, Penny Allison, Nosi Mankqu and Marnell Kirsten. Photograph by Carina Beyer.

No problems, only challenges

The Kopanang Universe Canticle, a set of 30 embroidered panels, totalling 32.5 metres in length, follows the sensational life story of our universe. Shortly after it began in 2001, the Kopanang Community Trust near Johannesburg received a commission for a piece for World AIDS Day 2002 from a San Francisco organisation for the homeless. Amazingly, it was completed in just three months, with 17 women (who, just a short while before had no experience with sewing) hand embroidering each exquisite stitch.

Kopanang provides many services to its 80 members, including HIV/Aids education, training and support, as well as literacy, numeracy and skills training. Kopanang, a Sotho word meaning "bringing together", includes two previously separated and detached townships, encompassing 12 different cultural groups, and 21 church affiliations. Currently in its tenth year, Kopanang and the Universe Canticle represent a great success story for organisations aiming to achieve similar goals.

On Friday, 15 April, Education and Public Programmes hosted seven women from Kopanang Community Trust, including four of the original 17 artists, to take part in a panel discussion for a group of about 140 people. Sister Sheila Flynn, Kopanang project leaders Nancy and Silindile, and the women involved in creating the work - Marigold, Colleen, Maria, and Jabulile - comprised the panel. The audience included two large groups from similar projects operating locally: the Sakhulwaze Women's Organisation and the Mhani Gingi Social Entrepreneurial Network, as well as representatives from the Department of Social Development.

Following Dr Graham Avery's introduction, the women set the "spirit of the day" with a song they often sang while working on the Canticle, "I will never give up", in the Iziko SA Museum. Their motivation for the work included scientific textbooks, creation stories from African folklore and the *Bible*.

The women spoke about the process and how the experience affected their lives. The entire experience with the Universe Canticle was summed up by Jabulile, who said, "Kopanang opens us up to the world, just as this project has opened up the world we live in to us".

EPP thanked the sponsors and those who helped at the event. They were Golden Arrow Bus Company, Gadi Catering, Denise Crous, Spick 'n Span staff, EPP staff and Caitlin Spangler, Graham Avery for his opening speech, and Sister Sheila and the Kopanang women for their programme.

Caitlin Spangler, EPP intern



Kopanang Universe Workshop. Rosy Mokasa admiring embroidered cloth. Photograph by Carina Beyer.

Taxidermy display: Bringing trendy back

The Toffie Pop Culture Festival & Design Conference, held at City Hall from 24-26 March, drew large crowds of Cape Town's established and emerging designers, young artists, and a fascinated public interested in the festival's edgy approach to Cape Town's pop culture. In addition to the international designers and artists presenting at the conference, the City Hall was full of art installations, innovative clothing items for sale, food, and even a boxing ring with daily matches.

The Toffie Festival organisers approached Iziko's Education and Public Programmes to provide a taxidermy exhibit in the gallery of "Inspiration Tables". Iziko's animals were displayed amongst tables full of books that inspired Andrew Putter as a child; shoes featuring unconventional materials like flower petals, metal and even money; a multitude of different sized pyramids covered in human hair; a fantastical three-metre-high table and chairs reminiscent of Alice's mad tea party from *Elle Decoration*, and many more. Some of the items were zany and bizarre and some were rather ordinary, but what made them creatively inspiring was the context in which they were displayed. By only allowing one table the size of a door to make a statement in the middle of a large empty room, the exhibits could speak to each other and to the viewers in new and exciting ways.

The response to Iziko's table was incredible, as young professionals engaged with the animals like little kids in the Discovery Room: feeling the feathers of the birds and trying to match penguin bones on a diagram of a penguin skeleton. People were very excited by the *Iziko What's On* booklet, and

many confessed that they hadn't been to the museum in years, but that they were very keen to go back. Visitors expressed how impressed they were that Iziko was participating in the Toffie Festival and involved with something so cutting-edge and trendy, despite a common view of museums as stagnant repositories of lifeless collections.

Just a few stuffed animals on a table made a huge impact with a whole new sector of Capetonians, and fostered what looks to be a new relationship with the Iziko SA Museum and the group of forward thinkers creating events like the Toffie Festival that broaden our city's horizons.

Caitlin Spangler, EPP intern



Patrons admiring Iziko's table. Photograph supplied by Lisa Combrink.

Courtyard Project update

In 2005, arising from motivations for additional space for collection storage and other facilities at the Iziko South African Museum building, the architects, Adler Price, were nominated by the Department of Public Works (DPW) to undertake the design work to meet the needs of Iziko Museums. The resulting designs and sketch-plan drawings were approved in April 2009. Phase one, due to start in the last quarter of 2011, has an estimated duration of one to two years.

Initially, the architect thought that the building work would not require the SA Museum to relocate its collections to off-site accommodation. However, as the project developed, discussions with the engineer and quantity surveyor led to a revised opinion and the request that Iziko move the entire contents of the research block (Block C). This was an unexpected development and escalation in terms of the scope of the Courtyard Project. Moving the vast collections at relatively short notice presents a huge challenge to Iziko, and a considerable expense, although the architect assures us that, in relation to the scale of the project, the costs of moving are far smaller than the additional construction costs if the collections remained on site.

After a tender process undertaken by DPW, Iziko inspected three buildings in close proximity to the SA Museum. We await a final decision. Once the lease agreement is signed, the owner of the building will have to spend several months making the

required changes and alterations to meet our requirements. Estimated renovation periods are between three and four months.

The Department of Arts and Culture will be supporting Iziko with the funds for the major Courtyard Construction Project and the move to the temporary accommodation.

Denise Hamerton, Project Manager, ISAM Courtyard Project



Neil Julius, Elgeno Nomdoe and Glen Fouten take a break in the Iziko SA Museum courtyard. Photograph by Carina Beyer.

Planetarium stars shine at Scifest 2011

Iziko Education and Public Programmes Planetarium staff, joined by their EPP Education colleagues, attended the Sasol Scifest 2011 as part of a two-pronged onslaught to fulfill Iziko's mandate as a National Museum. The theme of this year's week-long Scifest was *Science across Culture*. This made it relatively easy for our team of Thuso Simon, Theo Ferreira, and expert in this field, Temba Matomela, to fit in with the theme by relating indigenous African astronomy and folklore, using these stories to introduce the science of astronomy.

In 2010, we were placed at the Albany Science Centre, away from the action, and unfortunately only around 500 visitors attended our exhibition. This year, we were in the 1820 Settlers Monument, the festival's main venue, and were ready to receive the 70 000 plus learners, educators and visitors who attend Scifest annually. From the first morning, we were overwhelmed by huge numbers of learners, making for an enjoyable week of interaction, sharing and exchange of information. Not only were we busy at the exhibition, but Temba was called to assist the South African Astronomical Observatory to give a talk on *Indigenous Knowledge Systems*. Together with some scientists, Thuso and Theo were asked to "speed date". This involved learners seated at a number of tables being given three minutes to ask pertinent questions after we had explained to them how to become astronomers.

The EPP Mobile Museum was given a prime spot at the entrance to the Monument, and colleagues Sthembele Harmans, Faried Basier, and Ntsikilelo Kilimani were literally given no time to unpack the specimens before they were swamped by eager learners. It was refreshing and made me very proud to see the Iziko colours dominating the entrance. Lisa Combrink, assisted by intern Caitlin Spangler, conducted various workshops on Evolution, Systematics and Fossils. They were challenged by some hardy creationists and did well to deal with a very different viewpoint.

As the week progressed, it was apparent that our exhibition was very popular, leaving us very little time to experience some of the interesting talks and lectures. Fortunately, in the

evenings we were able to attend lectures by leading scientists, amongst which were the keynote "Brian Wilmot lecture", *The Square Kilometre Array in Africa: Searching for the origins of the Universe*, *The Secrets of facial beauty* (Thuso's favourite!), and of course the every popular "laser show". Our very own Graham Avery also presented a lecture entitled, *The Cape coastal region: Five million years of changing animals, people and environments*.

Undoubtedly, one of the highlights of the trip, and totally unexpected (making it sweeter than ever), was at the closing party. Iziko Planetarium was, in the face of stiff competition from over 50 other exhibitors, awarded 3rd best exhibition stand at Scifest 2011. The award is based on the appearance of the stand (concept designed by Margie Walter), willingness to engage with visitors, how an exhibitor fits in with the theme, and the value of the information given to the audience. I am still wondering if it was all of the above, or just Temba's charm and coy smile (more so for the ladies), which might have swung the decision?

A huge round of thanks to Thuso and Temba. Well done guys, you can take a lunch break now!

Theo Ferreira, Manager: Planetarium/ AV Coordinator



Theo Ferreira and Temba Matomela anxiously await the daily rush at the Iziko Planetarium exhibition stand. Photograph from Sci-Enza.

Hot & Happening

- The exciting exhibition, "**Finding Meermin**" will be starting on **7 June** at the Maritime Centre. It tells the story of the Dutch slave ship *Meermin*, that wrecked off the Cape South coast in 1766 after a slave rebellion on board.
- Take your kids to the Planetarium this holiday to watch **Davy Dragon Goes to the Moon** starting **5 June**, and **15 Billion BC**, starting **27 June**.
- EPP Natural History Programmes will host a **Taxidermy Course** from **27 June** to **1 July** at the ISAM Workshop from 08h00-16h00.
- June is also Youth Month, so look out for events hosted by EPP.

Join the **Friends of Iziko South African National Gallery**:

- The **lecture series on Picasso by Lloyd Pollak** continues on **7 June**, A Spaniard in the works: Picasso and the Surrealist Movement (1925-1937); and, Between the sheets: Picasso's paintings of his mistresses (1931-1946) on **21 June**.
- Visit **Montebello Design Centre** on **22 June**.
- On **28 June**, **Friends of the Iziko SA Museum** hosts Conservation Manager of Limietberg Nature Reserve, Deon Rossouw for a **lecture** entitled, **Managing the Boland mountains for water and biodiversity**.

For details about these and other Iziko events, please visit the Iziko website, or check the current edition of *Iziko What's On*.

Iziko Stars

Even though Jonia Coerte is a contract worker at Iziko for Spic 'n Span, I think she deserves this accolade and special mention as she is a brilliant worker!

Jonia improves our lives, and protects our valuable collections through her meticulous housekeeping skills. Quietly, methodically and thoroughly, Jonia ensures that our museum is as pristine as Buckingham Palace and a pleasant place to receive visitors. She is most helpful and obliging and her presence is always welcome because we know she is busily making our workspace tidy, comfortable and clean!

Thank you Jonia, we really appreciate it in the ISANG Wing. You are a star!

Carol Kaufmann, Curator of African Art



Jonia Coerte, proud housekeeper of the historic Iziko South African National Gallery. Photograph supplied by Pam Warne.

I would like to nominate the Spic 'n Span staff, Prescila Tsizakalo, Florence Ntunuka, Gladyse Nhanha, Amiena Karriem and Nontsikelelo Alam, for their tremendous assistance at the Kopanang Universe workshop.

They went out of their way to set up the luncheon venues and to wash and sort out all the crockery and cutlery afterwards. On behalf of EPP and Natural History Collections, we would like to acknowledge and thank them for their help that day. They are all stars.

Lisa Combrink, Senior Educator for Natural History Collections



L to R: Prescila Tsizakalo, Nontsikelelo Alam, Gladyse Nhanha, Amiena Karriem. One of the stars, Florence, is on leave. Photograph supplied by Lisa Combrink.

“Knowledge is of no value unless you put it into practice.” Anton Chekhov

As the new Programmes Manager for Iziko Museums, Fahrnaaz Johadien joins us with a wealth of knowledge at her disposal which she aims to put into practice in all spheres of the organisation. When I met her, Fahrnaaz had only been working at Iziko for four days, but was already finding her feet here quickly, with poise and confidence.

A mom of two hailing from the northern suburbs, Fahrnaaz previously worked from offices at the University of the Western Cape. She studied at the University of Cape Town and has a bachelor's degree in Social Science as well as a postgraduate degree in project management. She has worked in various disciplines of project management. Before coming to Iziko, Fahrnaaz was part of the Carnegie Foundation of New York Information and Communication Technology programme, that developed a new Masters programme at UWC and the Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

Johadien's job requires her to evaluate the logistics of all programmes across Iziko. She has to make sure that all programmes are collaborative, observe all the departments and give recommendations where it is needed, facilitate and make sure things are easier for programme staff. She is there to assist and make sure that all projects run smoothly and that they are well executed.

Having to work with all the various departments, Johadien admits that having 12 museums and many staff members to get to know can be a bit intimidating when one first starts here. But she assures those just starting, as well as herself, “Don't worry, you will get to know them”.

We look forward to getting to know you more as well, Fahrnaaz.

Annelize Kotze, IA



Fahrnaaz Johadien. Photograph by Carina Beyer.

Assisting staff with a smile

When you walk into the offices at Human Resources and look for former staff member, Adorable Lackay, you will find another face smiling back from behind the desk. It is that of Greta Johnstone, the newly appointed HR Employment Coordinator.

Born and raised in Mitchell's Plain, Greta said she always wanted to be in HR because she enjoys working with the diverse personalities one finds in an organisation. Before coming to Iziko, she worked at Edcon for six years. Her first job, however, was at Sirdicks Uniforms. There she started working as a receptionist, but also did the wages and salaries. After a short stint on the factory floor, she started working as a wage clerk. It was here that she literally invented an HR department as there was no structure of the kind there. Being self taught, she decided to formalise her knowledge base by studying HR at the University of the Western Cape. She is now completing an Honours degree in Business Administration, also at UWC, and plans to do her Masters degree in HR.

Her job here will entail mainly dealing with current staff, as well as recruitment and administration of new staff. In fact, when I got to her office, she was busy working on an orientation/induction policy document for all new Iziko staff. She says that people don't know Iziko - the 'who', 'what' and the 'how' of it. The document is very important to her because it is something that she would have liked to have had when she started here. While working with the document, she not only considers new staff, but those who have recently started, faced with the challenge of taking in all that is Iziko, and trying to find out who is who in the organisation.

Greta says that HR is the heart of the business, and her heart is definitely in her work. Her goal here is to identify any gaps that

need to be taken care of. She also wants to make clear that she is not here to re-invent the wheel, but rather to improve on and enhance it. At the moment she is still finding her feet, but looks forward to growing in and with the company.

We wish you all the best, Greta.

Annelize Kotze, IA



Greta Johnstone. Photograph by Carina Beyer.

Getting artsy with Anthea

Anthea Buys has only been at Iziko for short while, yet is already feeling right at home. Originally from Johannesburg, the Fine Arts major not only has an Honours degree in English Literature, but is also in the process of finishing a History of Fine Arts Masters degree.

Anthea worked as a journalist, writing as an art critic for the *Mail & Guardian* newspaper, and numerous other South African publications before applying for the post of Curator of Contemporary Paintings & Sculpture at the Iziko South African National Gallery. She will be responsible for looking after the Contemporary Art collection, organising exhibitions and purchasing new pieces for the Gallery.

As curator, Anthea plans to take Iziko by storm. She looks forward to growing at Iziko, as well as creating excellent exhibitions that add lasting value to peoples' understanding of art. Anthea revealed that she is lucky to be working with a team of competent and experienced colleagues.

Chantelle Ova, IA intern



Anthea Buys. Photograph by Carina Beyer.

We get by with a little help

IA recently gained a fresh addition to the team in the form of the newly appointed Administration Assistant, Wendy Jones. Before joining Iziko, she worked at Northlink Bellville Campus for almost two years, also as an AA. Her impression prior to coming here was that a museum is quiet and uninteresting. Now, however, she realises that it is anything but. She loves the diverse and creative side of her work here.

Wendy, who resides in Bellville, did her tertiary training at Tygerberg College, now part of Northlink FET Colleges, where she studied to become a legal secretary. Following this, she worked a series of administration jobs through which she gained valuable experience.

Wendy believes that one has to be able to adapt to new environments and most of all, make the most of any situation. When asked about where her interest for the job developed, she said "Where would a company be without admin assistants?"

Msizo Dlambulo, IA intern.



Wendy Jones. Photograph by Carina Beyer.

On-the-job training

Chantelle Ova and Msizo Dlambulo, both third year Public Relations students at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, recently joined the staff at IA as interns.

Their experience so far has been interesting, fun and informative. Chantelle notes that most people associate museums with being boring, but having been here for a while, she's seen that the museum is far from being it. They find the work here to be different and new, yet interesting and pertinent to their studies. Both like the fact that the staff have faith in their abilities.

During their time here, they want to experience as much as possible, to learn more and to understand all the different departments of Iziko Museums. Good luck ladies.

Annelize Kotze, IA



Msizo Dlambulo and Chantelle Ova. Photograph by Carina Beyer.

CEO's Office and HR Teambuilding

Rooksana Omar, Denise Crous, Amanda Mars, Olga Jeffries, Elizabeth Louw, Cincia Sardine, Ardeelah Batchelor, Nomthandazo Mkonjiswa, Adorable Lackay and Robert Hendricks, left in high spirits on a Friday morning in two Iziko vehicles, looking forward to an afternoon and evening of fun and games.

Arriving at our destination at *Around the Bend* on the Breede River near Swellendam, we were enthusiastically greeted by their staff who immediately took us on our first activity, which was river rafting. After explaining the rules (and us also having signed indemnity forms), we set off down the river, in pairs, on inflatable canoes. Immediately you could see who the experienced pairs were because very soon huge gaps developed between the six or so canoes, with my partner and I struggling to keep up with the rest. Despite the odd spill at some of the small rapids en route, we finally made it to the halfway stage - a bit damp, but in need of the liquid refreshment provided. Soon afterwards, we set off on the final leg. This seemed longer than the first stage, but most of the teams coped well. We finally reached our destination after what felt to some more like days than the hour or two it took! The exhilaration of having finished, and the camaraderie that was experienced by all, was clearly visible on the ride back to the camp.

After a brief rest, we were off to our second activity - wall climbing - which the young ones (note this category included Adorable) in the group embraced. There were some stunning performances with one participant confronting and overcoming her fear of heights by making it to the top, as her team-mates cheered her on. A long and pleasurable braai followed where we enjoyed each other's company, with some dancing thrown in for good measure. Before we knew it, it was time for bed, which proves the saying that 'time flies when you have fun'.

The next morning we drove back to Cape Town with the consensus that a good time was had by all - and with renewed vigour to tackle our various responsibilities.

Robert Hendricks, HR Manager



L to R: Amanda Mars, Nonthandazo Mkonjiswa (Thandi), Adorable Lackay, Robert Hendricks, Ardeelah Batchelor and Olga Jeffries. Photograph supplied by Amanda Mars.

Ukoyika Grillerige Creepy-Crawlies

For those suffering from arachnophobia, the annual four-day Biodiversity Expo, held at Kirstenbosch (5-8 May) was a good opportunity to cure any innate or learned fears of those things that go crawling in the night.

The Biodiversity Expo is a major outreach initiative with on-hand experience of biodiversity being afforded to a vast array of learners from a diversity of backgrounds. Once again, the Iziko exhibition on insects and spiders was a major drawcard. Norman Larsen (Iziko's associate arachnologist) was on hand with his live spiders to get goosebumps running up the backs of unsuspecting visitors. Shrieks of horror were elicited when large Baboon spiders were brought out of their cages, but many a young learner's fear of creepy crawlies was soon cured. After digging deep for inner courage, a process that was often assisted by large doses of peer pressure, numerous learners had the profound life-changing experience of allowing a very large, hairy spider to crawl up their arms!

Visitors were also challenged to find insects in all their guises of camouflage and mimicry, and had the opportunity to experience the magnificence and detail of brightly coloured and bizarre insects under the microscope. Over the weekend, the clientele metamorphosed into curious members of the public, with many of the adults being subtly pressurised to follow their children's brave example of going through the ritual of desensitisation to creepy-crawlies. A perfect Mother's Day present!

Many thanks to Dawn Larsen, Aisha Mayekiso, Nokuthula Mbandyana (Entomology department) and Norman Larsen for the time and effort that they once again put into making the Iziko stand at the Biodiversity Expo a success.

Dr Simon van Noort, Curator of Entomology



Nokuthula Mbandyana assisting a learner. Photograph supplied by Pamela Court.

The Biodiversity Expo was held for people of all ages, but was also used as an opportunity for learners to experience the concepts learnt in class. Arriving at the Expo, an air of excitement filled the venue as school children ran from stall to stall energetically trying to experience everything simultaneously. The Iziko "Creepy Crawly Corner" was buzzing with children lining up to see the wide variety of bugs, plants and other exciting, interactive and visual displays our stall had to offer.

One of the main attractions was the display of larger-than-life-sized spiders. Norman Larsen, an expert on spiders, had the audience captivated as a couple of brave school children got to hold and pet the spiders. Amidst all the excitement, one of the larger spiders shed its skin and managed to escape from its cage. The whereabouts of the spider remain unknown...

Chantelle Ova, IA intern

Two Oceans Marafun

The annual Old Mutual Two Oceans Marathon took place on Saturday, 23 April. Iziko refreshment station volunteers were up and ready in the early hours of the morning to serve the tired runners with a source of hydration during the gruelling race.

Staff and their families joined in the occasion, and a fun time was definitely had by all. Hope to see you there next year.

Annelize Kotze, IA



Photographs supplied by Martha Fortuin.

MZANZI'S GOLDEN ECONOMY CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE - 14 TO 15 APRIL 2011 CONFERENCE DECLARATION

1. We, representatives of government, business, labour and civil society; managers and practitioners in the arts, culture and heritage sector, gathered in the Newtown Cultural Precinct on 14 and 15 April 2011 submit that:
 - The arts, culture and heritage sector is of immeasurable value, both tangible and intangible.
 - Government, together with society at large, has a responsibility to conserve, protect, transmit and present our culture and heritage.
 - Our culture and heritage are key to nation building and social cohesion, and these are the ingredients for creating a climate of social stability and economic growth.
 - The creative economy in South Africa has the potential to be a leading sector in generating economic growth, employment and trade as is the case in many advanced economies.

2. We note that the arts, culture and heritage sector contributes to economic growth and employment in significant ways, for example:
 - Our **natural heritage**, measured by the value of ecotourism, contributes R21 billion per annum to the economy.
 - The **music industry** was worth around R1.7 billion in sales, and ranked 17th in the world in 2007.
 - The **craft sector** contributes R1.1 billion annually to GDP, and employs approximately 38 062 people.
 - The **visual arts** sector has a turnover of nearly R2 billion and gross value added of R1 billion per annum. There are an estimated 17 700 people working in the sector.
 - The total net turnover of the **book publishing industry** in 2007 was estimated to be worth R3.2 billion, with 13 769 authors and 818 other entities received royalties.
 - The **film industry** generates over R5.5 billion in economic activity annually, and employs an estimated 30 000 people.
 - The gross advertising revenue for the **broadcasting industry** was close to R8.5 billion in 2006.

3. We recognise that:
 - The arts, culture and heritage sector is creative and innovative.
 - Many successful initiatives contribute immensely to human, social and economic development.

4. We, therefore, resolve that we will work collectively to:
 - Identify and develop talent and excellence through ensuring appropriate skills development throughout the education system.
 - Facilitate the expansion and growth of existing initiatives in the cultural and creative industries to create large scale and high impact programmes, maximizing the growth and employment potential of the sector.
 - Better co-ordinate supply and demand in the sector.
 - Enhance existing production and create new business opportunities to match demand.
 - Monitor and evaluate the performance of the sector to guide policy development, strategic direction and allocation of resources to the sector.

5. We further resolve that we will participate actively in **multi-stakeholder** project task teams appointed by the Minister, **building on existing initiatives, working through existing institutions**, to complete detailed plans for implementation, with financial and human resource implications for a variety of strategic programmes:
 - 5.1 Education and skills academy
The development of interventions throughout the education system to ensure measures to provide basic resources in schools; support and develop the skills of educators; ensure access for learners to all that the sector has to offer; identify and develop talent; influence choice of career path; develop appreciation and therefore audiences. We will also establish a National Skills Academy.

 - 5.2 Establishment of a sourcing enterprise
A virtual enterprise will be established to give access to markets and support product development, to increase demand and consumption in the sector. In addition an enterprise will be established to supply local goods and services for government conferences and events.

 - 5.3 Cultural precincts and events
Based on experience to date of establishing cultural precincts, nationally supported and locally implemented cultural precincts will be established. These precincts will be linked to places and sites throughout the country. A programme of cultural events / extravaganzas will be developed to animate the sector, encourage audience development and visitation to every corner of the country.

5.4 Information centres

Information centres will be established at cultural precincts and elsewhere to provide information about what the sector has to offer, including virtual experiences, to encourage audience development and encourage circulation to sites and places.

5.5 A touring venture

A venture will be established to ensure that exhibitions and performances are supported to tour domestically and internationally, including touring to remote areas of the country to provide access to marginalised audiences and to sustain jobs.

5.6 Heritage

Heritage Legacy Projects proposed in 1998 will be reviewed and reconsidered with a view to progressive implementation over time. Planning for the National Liberation Heritage Route will be taken forward and implemented with a focus on both the tangible and intangible elements of the struggles for liberation. Other elements of our diverse heritage will be explored and developed.

5.7 Public Art Programme

A public art programme will be designed focusing on beautification and storytelling through art in communities and showcasing artistic talent. The public art programme will involve practitioners through community work programmes.

5.8 An art bank

An art bank will be established to curate and display artworks in public buildings. These works will be made available for sale and refreshed annually.

5.9 Establishment of a cultural observatory

A cultural observatory will be established, in collaboration with existing initiatives, with the purpose of developing key indicators, working to collect cultural statistics and analysing trends to allow global comparability and to inform future policy and resource allocation decisions. This observatory will serve as a library for all reports pertaining to the sector.

6. We further commit ourselves to working collectively in task teams to co-ordinate and optimise the funding opportunities, including a small grants programme implemented through an agreed funding model by different institutions, to incentivise performance in all areas of the creative and cultural industries:

- Cultural and natural heritage
- Performance and celebration, including music and dance
- Visual arts and crafts
- Books, publishing and archives
- Audiovisual and interactive media, including film
- Design and creative services

7. Informed by our public responsibility to protect and conserve our heritage, including archives and heraldry, for current and future generations, for both its tangible and intangible value, we will initiate a consultative process to discuss our policy and strategic approach to heritage.

8. Likewise, informed by our constitutional responsibility to promote and create conditions for the development and use of language, we will initiate a consultative process to discuss our policy and strategic approach to the development and use of indigenous languages.

9. We will, in addition, within the next six months, initiate a consultative process which will culminate in a summit of government, business and labour to develop a charter for the sector addressing ownership and transformation.

10. Finally, we commit ourselves to convening a follow up consultative conference, for the sector in its entirety, in 2012 as part of a process of continuous assessment of progress, review of policy and strategic direction.