



Mogale City

MOGALE CITY ARTS AND CULTURE POLICY

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CHAPTER 1

1. EXECUTIVE STATEMENT

The Mogale City Local Municipality is committed to fostering a vibrant and thriving arts and culture sector within its jurisdiction. Recognizing the integral role that arts and culture play in enriching the community's identity, promoting social cohesion, and stimulating economic development, the municipality is dedicated to creating an enabling environment for the growth and sustainability of artistic and cultural endeavors.

Arts and culture contributes significantly to the vitality of a community, enriching the lives of residents and attracting visitors. A robust arts and culture sector is associated with improved quality of life, increased community engagement, and enhanced social cohesion. This policy recognizes the need for a deliberate and inclusive approach to nurture the creative industries' ecosystem within the municipality.

2. INTRODUCTION

Mogale City Local Municipality recognizes the impact that artistic expression and cultural richness can have on the well-being and dynamism of the local community. The Municipality is committed to fostering a flourishing arts and culture scene for the local community. The introduction of the Arts and Culture Policy serves as a testament to Municipality's dedication to cultivating an environment where creativity thrives, diverse voices are celebrated, and the arts serve as a catalyst for community engagement and development.

The arts are not merely a source of entertainment; they are a powerful force that shapes the soul of a community. Through visual arts, performing arts, literature, and cultural events, we can bridge divides, inspire dialogue, and foster a sense of unity among the residents. As the Municipality embarks on the journey of developing a comprehensive arts and culture policy, we aim to harness the transformative potential of creativity to enhance the quality of life for all Mogale City residents.

The Municipality's commitment to arts and culture extends beyond mere aesthetics; it is a strategic investment in the economic, social, and educational prosperity of our municipality and its people. By supporting local artists, cultural institutions, and creative enterprises, we aim to stimulate economic growth, attract tourism, and create a sense of a place that resonates with residents and visitors alike.

3. VISION AND MISSION

Vision: To cultivate a dynamic and thriving cultural landscape that celebrates diversity, nurtures creativity, and enhances the quality of life for all residents in Mogale City.

Mission: To empower the local community through the promotion and preservation of arts and culture through the following;

- Facilitate access to diverse cultural experiences that inspire and engage residents.
- Support and promote local artists, performers, and cultural organizations to foster a vibrant creative community.
- Preserve and showcase the rich cultural heritage of Mogale City, recognizing its historical significance.
- Foster educational initiatives that promote cultural awareness, inclusivity, and appreciation.
- Collaborate with local stakeholders to develop and implement programmes that prioritize the growth and sustainability of the arts and cultural sector.
- Create spaces and opportunities for artistic expression, innovation, and collaboration within the community.

4. POLICY OBJECTIVES

- To ensure equitable access to cultural resources and opportunities for all residents of Mogale City.
- To ensure an inclusive environment that celebrates diverse cultural expressions within the municipality.
- To ensure investment and maintenance of cultural facilities, public spaces, and venues that support artistic activities and events.
- To encourage partnerships with private entities and cultural organizations to enhance infrastructure for arts and culture development.
- To encourage and facilitate dialogue between local artists, cultural organizations, and residents to identify needs and opportunities within the creative space.
- Encourage community involvement in decision-making processes related to cultural initiatives.
- To unlock the economic potential of the arts sector and leverage it for local economic development.

- To promote cultural tourism through festivals, events, and cultural heritage promotion.
- To promote arts education in schools and community centers.
- To ensure the municipal support for programmes that enhance the skills and professional development of local artists.
- To encourage and support local artists in creating public installations that reflect the community's identity.

5. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act No 108 of 1996
- Revised White Paper on Arts, Culture and Heritage, 2017
- Cultural Institutions Act 119 of 1998
- Cultural Promotion Act 35 of 1983,
- National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999,
- Local Government: Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000,

6. ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

6.1. Abbreviations

| ABBREVIATIONS | |
|---------------|---|
| CDS | Community Development Services |
| DAC | Department of Arts and Culture |
| HAC | Heritage, Arts and Culture |
| MCACF | Mogale City Arts and Culture Forum |
| SACR | Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation |
| SDBIP | Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan |

6.2. Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply:

| TERM | DEFINITIONS |
|-------------------|--|
| Artist | An artist is someone who practices any form of creative expression to produce works of art. This can include visual arts such as painting, sculpture, and photography, as well as performing arts like music, dance, theater, and film. |
| Arts | The term "arts" encompasses a wide range of human creative activities and expressions. It includes various forms of visual, auditory, and performing arts, as well as literary arts. |
| Culture | Culture refers to the shared beliefs, values, customs, traditions, languages, arts, and social practices of a particular group of people. It encompasses the way of life of a society, including its behaviors, attitudes, rituals, and material artifacts. |
| Cultural Heritage | Cultural heritage refers to the tangible and intangible assets inherited from past generations that hold cultural, historical, artistic, or scientific significance. These assets are preserved and passed down through generations, contributing to the identity, collective memory, and cultural richness of a society or community. |
| Craftsmen | A craftsman is an individual who possesses specialized skills, knowledge, and expertise in a particular craft or trade. Craftsmen are often associated with the creation of handmade or artisanal goods, utilizing traditional techniques and tools to produce high-quality, unique, and often custom-made items. |
| Exhibition | Exhibition is a curated presentation or display of objects, artworks, artifacts, or information designed to educate, entertain, and engage visitors in a museum. |

CHAPTER 2

7. STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

Mogale City recognizes that stakeholder involvement plays a pivotal role in shaping the Mogale City Arts and Culture sector. Recognizing the multifaceted nature of the arts and culture sector, the active engagement of stakeholders is essential for fostering a dynamic, inclusive, and sustainable cultural environment. One key local stakeholder in this endeavor is the Mogale City Arts and Culture Forum (MCACF), representing the interests of the local artists and other relevant stakeholders. The importance of stakeholder involvement assists in ensuring the following:

- **Community Representation:** Local Arts stakeholders, including the MCACF, serve as the voice of the local artistic community. Involving these representatives ensures that the sector is reflective of the diverse perspectives, needs, and aspirations of the artists within the entire Mogale City.
- **Enhanced Cultural Sustainability:** Collaboration with stakeholders ensures the long-term sustainability of cultural initiatives. By involving the local arts and culture stakeholders, the Municipality is able to leverage local expertise, fostering an environment where artists are actively engaged in the cultural landscape, contributing to the preservation and evolution of the municipality's cultural heritage.
- **Fostering Creativity and Innovation:** Stakeholders, particularly local artists, are hubs of creativity and innovation. Their involvement in the sectors' decision-making discussions brings fresh perspectives and ideas, sparking initiatives that go beyond traditional boundaries. This infusion of creativity contributes to the vibrancy and dynamism of Mogale City's arts and culture scene.
- **Community Ownership and Engagement:** Involving stakeholders fosters a sense of ownership and pride among the local arts community. When stakeholders, such as the MCACF, and other local arts and culture organizations actively participate in shaping the policy, it promotes a sense of belonging and encourages greater community engagement with cultural events and initiatives.
- **Effective Implementation:** The collaboration with stakeholders ensures that the Arts and Culture Policy is effectively implemented on the ground. The insights and support of the MCACF and other local arts and culture organizations can facilitate the smooth execution of programmes, events, and projects, leading to a more impactful realization of the policy's objectives.

8. FUNDING AND BUDGET ALLOCATION

- **Funding and Budget Allocation for Mogale City Arts and Culture**

The effective promotion and sustenance of local arts and culture in Mogale City are contingent upon budget allocation and strategic funding initiatives. The municipality recognizes the significance of financial support in fostering a thriving cultural ecosystem. The following are some of the key considerations related to funding and budget allocation:

- **Allocation Based on Availability of Funds:** The budget for promoting local arts and culture is contingent upon the availability of funds within the municipality. This flexible approach allows for dynamic adjustments, ensuring that financial resources are allocated in accordance with the prevailing economic conditions and municipal priorities. The budget allocation is guided by the Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003, (MFMA)
- **Inclusion in Mogale City Grant In Aid Policy:** Arts and Culture find a dedicated place within the Mogale City Grant In Aid Policy. This inclusion underscores the municipality's commitment to providing financial assistance to deserving arts and cultural initiatives. Funding through this Grant In Aid is subject to availability of funds, and will be disbursed based on the evaluation of proposals and alignment with the overarching goals of the Municipality.
- **Collaboration with Local Arts and Culture Forum:** The municipality recognizes the importance of collaboration with local stakeholders, including the Mogale City Arts and Culture Forum, in shaping funding priorities. Through ongoing dialogue and partnership, the municipality aims to gain insights into the specific needs of the local arts community, ensuring that budget allocations are responsive to the evolving dynamics of the sector.
- **Sharing Funding Opportunities:** In a spirit of collaboration, the municipality, in coordination with the local Arts and Culture Forum and other relevant organizations, commits to sharing information about funding opportunities from other spheres of government and external organizations including, but not limited to the National Department of Arts and Culture (DAC), and the Provincial Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (SACR). This proactive approach facilitates increased access to diverse funding sources, expanding the financial support available for local arts and cultural initiatives.

- **Encouraging Sustainable Partnerships:** To augment the available funds, the municipality will actively seek and encourage sustainable partnerships with private entities, philanthropic organizations, and other government bodies. By diversifying funding sources, Mogale City aims to create a resilient financial foundation for the continual support of local arts and culture.

In essence, the funding and budget allocation outlined above reflect the municipality's commitment to the holistic development of the arts and culture sector in Mogale City. By fostering collaboration, transparency, and adaptability in financial matters, the municipality endeavours to create an environment where the local arts community can thrive and contribute meaningfully to the local cultural identity.

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9. ARTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMMES

The Heritage, Arts, and Culture Section (HAC), under Community Development Department (CDS) is committed to fostering a vibrant cultural landscape through a diverse array of events and programmes that celebrate artistic expression and community engagement. Under this initiative, the municipality hosts a variety of dynamic and inclusive events which are annually contained on the Municipality Service Delivery Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP). The programmes are including but not limited to:

- **Art and Crafts Show:** An annual showcase of local artists and craftsmen, providing a platform for them to display their talent and creativity to the community.
- **Visual Art Exhibitions:** Regular exhibitions featuring the work of emerging and established visual artists, contributing to the enrichment of cultural experiences within the municipality.
- **DJ Programmes:** Vibrant DJ programmes are organized, showcasing the talents of local disc jockeys, and providing opportunities for residents to enjoy diverse musical experiences.
- **Comedy and Poetry Shows:** Entertaining evenings filled with laughter and poetic expression, featuring local comedians and poets, fostering a sense of community and cultural appreciation.
- **Clap and Tap Choir Programmes:** Celebratory performances by local clap and tap choirs, highlighting the rich tradition of this unique musical form and bringing communities together through uplifting melodies and rhythms.

These events and programmes are designed to promote cultural diversity, artistic excellence, and community cohesion within Mogale City Local Municipality. By providing platforms for creative expression and fostering opportunities for engagement, the municipality aims to enrich the lives of its residents and cultivate a thriving arts and culture scene that reflects the vibrancy and diversity of the community.

10. INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Mogale City Local Municipality is committed to fostering a vibrant arts and culture scene through strategic initiatives and partnerships that promote local talent and showcase the municipality as a cultural hub. As part of this commitment, CDS as the mother department will periodically issue Requests for Proposal to engage potential and capable companies to organize and implement the Mogale City Arts and Culture Festival.

The Mogale City Arts and Culture Festival will serve as a signature event, encompassing both buildup programmes and a main music festival designed to attract audiences beyond the borders of the municipality. Through this festival, the municipality aims to provide a platform for developing and showcasing local artists while also promoting cultural exchange and collaboration.

By partnering with experienced event organizers, the municipality seeks to ensure the successful execution of the Mogale City Arts and Culture Festival, enhancing its impact and reach within the community and beyond. This initiative aligns with the municipality's broader goals of nurturing artistic talent, fostering community engagement, and positioning Mogale City as a dynamic cultural destination.

11. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY

The implementation of this policy will begin immediately after approval by Council.

12. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE POLICY

Community Development Services Department, through the Heritage, Arts and Culture Section, shall monitor and evaluate the implementation and compliance of the Mogale City Arts and Culture Policy.

13. POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed to determine its relevancy after every five (5) years from the date of approval by the Council.

14. COMMUNICATION

The Mogale City Arts and Culture Policy will be communicated to all Municipal employees and any relevant stakeholders using the full range of communication methods available to the municipality.

15. APPROVAL

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|--------------------|--|
| Municipal Manager: | |
| Signature: | |
| Date Approved: | |
| Effective Date: | |