



VENDA - ONTWIKKELINGSKORPORASIE BEPERK
VENDA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

MEMORANDUM

AAN / TO: THE VDC BURSARY COMMITTEE
Through: Mr G Cruywagen

VAN / FROM: FIONA NICHOLSON
TOURISM OFFICER

VERW. / REF.:

VERW. / REF.: 24.10.84

DATUM / DATE

VOK/3/4000

H. & W. DRUKKERS, MESS

ONDERWERP / SUBJECT:

Re: BURSARY FOR STUDY IN THE FIELD OF ARTS

1. To date, throughout Southern Africa and the Independent States, the question of further education in the field of art has been almost totally ignored. This is despite the acknowledgement that culture and the arts play an extremely important role in the balanced development of man.
2. The University of Venda has no Faculty of Fine Arts at present, but it is hoped that this will be remedied sometime in the future. Art as a subject is sadly lacking in most Venda schools, and to my knowledge there is no Venda, at least none living in this country, with a Fine Arts degree.
3. The VDC is currently giving priority to the development of arts and crafts, bearing in mind that approx. 73% of the Informal Sector fall into that category. To develop arts and crafts effectively requires professionalism, and to find a VhaVenda with the necessary experience and/or qualifications will be extremely difficult, if not impossible.
4. A conversation with the secretary of the African Institute of Arts (AIA), Ms Sandra Burnett, has revealed that the demand for Black Fine Arts graduates is excessive - both from the commercial sector and in the field of education. Due to the difficulties involved in studying art by correspondence, the AIA in conjunction with Unisa, have established facilities in Diepkloof, which enable students to study under the supervision of Unisa lecturers.
5. A number of VhaVenda artists, who have exhibited successfully over the past 18 months, are extremely anxious to further their studies. One of these artists, Avhashone Mainganye, has been accepted by Unisa through the AIA to study for a Fine Arts degree at Diepkloof. Unless he is able to obtain a bursary to cover both the costs of the course (approx. R800, including materials) and living expenses, he will be unable to attend.
6. In view of the above, the Committee is asked to consider whether this may be an opportune time for the VDC to offer a bursary to enable a VhaVenda student to study for a Fine Arts degree.

Fiona Nicholson

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