Thursday, 20 April 2023

MEC KEKANA CONGRATULATES RENOWNED SCULPTOR, NORIA MABASA FOR BEING AWARDED AN HONORARY DOCTORATE

MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Nakedi Kekana congratulates Renowned Venda sculptor, Dr. Noria Mabasa, for being awarded an honorary Doctorate by the University of Johannesburg (UJ). The award was based on her contributions to society over the past 50 years and her achievements.

Her artworks have been exhibited both locally and internationally.

MEC Kekana appreciates that the University "makes such awards to distinguished individuals whose accomplishments are worthy of academic celebration, who make an exceptional contribution that is innovative, beyond the norm, characteristic of a leader in the field, and is self-directed," as the institution prides itself.

"Vho-Mabasa have played a critical role in breaking the notion that women could not have been artists. Even at the height of the brutal apartheid regime, she stood firm in her work," says the MEC.

The MEC wishes Vho-Mabasa well and urge her to continue doing the good work she does of teaching young ones the art she has been practicing for 5 decades.

When justifying her award, the institution said that it is convinced that "Noria Mabasa has, over a period of 50 years, made and exceptional intellectual and creative contribution to the South African art world over this time, and, through her visionary work, she has caused a paradigm-shift in a discipline relevant to the University".

Vho-Mabasa's unique pottery and exquisite wood sculptures inspires confidence that those learning from her would continue in her footsteps.

At her advanced age, she continues to teach younger generations at her home academy. She has received several awards including a lifetime award from the National Heritage council at Meropa last year. We remain proud of this gentle giant.

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