



**Stellenbosch**

UNIVERSITY  
IYUNIVESITHI  
UNIVERSITEIT

**SRC**

Students' Representative Council  
Ibhunga elimele abaFundi  
Studenteraad



## SRC 2024 TERM 2 REPORT

SRC Arts and Culture Manager

Students' Representative Council

Third Floor, Neelsie Student Centre

Private Bag XI, Matieland, 7602

Tel: +27 21 808 2757 | Email: [sr@sun.ac.za](mailto:sr@sun.ac.za)



## Table of Contents

Constitutional Responsibilities.....	4
Portfolio Overview.....	4
Committees/Task Teams .....	5
Term I Overview .....	5



– SRC Arts and Culture  
Manager –  
[srcculture@sun.ac.za](mailto:srcculture@sun.ac.za)

## Foreword

Hello fellow Maties,

As the first term of the university year draws to a close, it is with great pleasure and a sense of accomplishment that I present this report.

In my second term in office, I am proud to reflect on the progress we have made in fostering a vibrant Arts and Culture scene within our university. This term has been a journey of growth, collaboration, and creativity, as we have worked tirelessly to enrich the cultural landscape of our campus community.

I am deeply grateful for the dedication and enthusiasm of my team members, whose passion for the arts has been the driving force behind our success.

As we look towards the future, I am excited by the prospect of building upon the foundation we have laid during this term. With continued support from our university community, I am confident that we will further cultivate an environment where creativity thrives and cultural exchange flourishes.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed to the success of our endeavours this term, and I invite you to join us in celebrating the arts of our campus. Together, let us continue to inspire, innovate, and elevate the arts within our university and beyond.

Warm Regards,

Jelena Jerling

## Constitutional Responsibilities

---

According to the student constitution by constitutional responsibilities are the following:

KuKo (Arts and Culture) is a compulsory portfolio as set out in the Student Constitution under s28(5)(c), however, no further responsibilities or detail is provided within the Constitution to the specific portfolio. As a SRC manager my duties and responsibilities are provided in s36 which require me to run the KuKo Portfolio which include the organisation and administration function of the portfolio. s36(8) requires a manager to attend at minimum, one SRC Meeting per academic term. In such a meeting, I am required to report all of my activities within the said meeting.

## Portfolio Overview

---

KuKo is required to organise at least the following events:

- Molasseser
- Palesa Festival
- SU Acapella

Furthermore, the portfolio should facilitate intentional transformation in their events.

Keeping this in mind, KuKo is not just an events planning committee. KuKo is in charge of promoting and facilitating arts and cultural projects that not only improve a student's well being but also celebrate their identities, cultures and stories of their journey at Stellenbosch University. As one of the only arts and cultural student body, KuKo has the duty to provide events and projects that follow the SRC mandate of holistic wellness, education and accessibility. KuKo also has to make sure that their events are inclusive and reflect the culture of students of Stellenbosch University. Therefore, KuKo has to ensure that there are opportunities for students to express themselves through various forms of cultural arts such as music, dramatic arts, dance, literature and many other forms.

Let it be known that KuKo aims not to limit themselves solely to the above events but is encouraged to work on projects with other communities on campus as well as promote and design new projects that can help to promote the arts and culture around campus.

## Committees/Task Teams

---

I serve on the following Committees and or Task Teams:

KuKo Committee

Student Achievement Committee

## Term I Overview

---

The term commenced with significant transitions within our executive team, necessitating strategic realignment to ensure continuity and effectiveness in our operations. Our secretary made the difficult decision to step down from their position due to prior commitments, prompting us to appoint them as our strategic advisor. Recognizing their invaluable insights and expertise, this transition allowed us to leverage their experience to inform decision-making and strategic planning within the SRC Arts and Culture portfolio. Additionally, the resignation of our social media committee member prompted our Vice-Chairperson to assume their responsibilities. With support from the committee, our Vice-Chairperson adeptly managed the promotion of events and documentation of activities, ensuring the seamless continuation of our communication efforts.

One of the initial events of the term was the convening of the Culture HC Forum. The Culture HC Forum served as a pivotal platform for dialogue and decision-making regarding our cultural events and initiatives for the term. It provided an opportunity for representatives from all of the residences and CSC's to come together, share perspectives, and collectively shape the direction of our cultural programming. During the forum, we presented our comprehensive plans for the academic year, outlining proposed events, timelines, and logistical requirements. Additionally, we discussed event guidelines, ensuring clarity on expectations and procedures for participation. During deliberations, it was collectively decided not to proceed with the Heritage event due to factors such as limited interest, scheduling constraints, and financial limitations. Furthermore, discussions regarding entry fees sparked meaningful exchanges on the affordability and accessibility of our events. While it was recognized that maintaining entry fees for successful events was essential for sustainability, the forum emphasized the importance of promoting collaboration among cultural communities to mitigate financial burdens on participants. This commitment to inclusivity and affordability remains a guiding principle in our event planning and execution moving forward.

Following the Culture HC Forum, applications were opened for the formation of a general committee comprising ten members. This subcommittee plays a crucial role in supporting the logistical aspects of events, ensuring their smooth execution and success. Selected through a rigorous process, committee members bring diverse skills and perspectives to their roles, contributing to the overall effectiveness and efficiency of our operations.

*saam vorentoe · masiye phambili · forward together*

The highlight of the term was undoubtedly Mollasseser, hosted from 11 to 15 March. We had a total of 16 groups partake, with two nights of prelims and one night of finals. The first night of prelims was hosted at the Tygerberg campus in the sports hall. We had three of the Stellenbosch groups go through to Tygerberg to perform there with the Tygerberg groups. The preliminary rounds held at Tygerberg campus and Heemstede proceeded smoothly, with significant support from the respective campus communities. Tygerberg was very successful with the sports hall being packed and extra seating needing to be brought in. My one recommendation for a future event there would be to arrange a later start time, as the busses arrived late, thus making our whole program run late and the communities having to come back at a later time than expected. The second day of prelims was hosted at Heemstede. This was a successful evening that concluded with very limited hiccups along the way. The finals, held in the iconic Dagbreek quad, served as the culmination of weeks of preparation and anticipation. Drawing a diverse audience of students, faculty, and staff, the finals showcased the best performances from across cultural communities, uniting attendees in a shared appreciation for the arts. However, despite the resounding success of Mollasseser, the event was not without its challenges. Accessibility issues encountered during the finals highlighted the need for meticulous venue planning and coordination to ensure an inclusive experience for all participants and attendees. We had been informed beforehand that there was an accessible entrance, but then on the day it was discovered that this entrance would not be able to allow for the participants or supporters to directly access the performance area. Thus we had to make special arrangements on the day, but these arrangements were sadly not able to accommodate everyone. For future references it would be recommended to check beforehand what the accessible entrances look like, and if there is not one then to ensure either a plan is made beforehand so that an entrance can be made accessible (such as renting a ramp), or choosing to use a different venue instead. While communication gaps within the team were identified as areas for improvement, overall, Mollasseser received positive feedback, affirming its success as a cornerstone event in our cultural calendar. I extend heartfelt gratitude to all participants, supporters, and venue hosts for their invaluable contributions to the success of Mollasseser.

The winners for Molasseser were:

Mixed: Enkanhoff

Women: Huis Francie van Zijl

Men: Hippokrates Men

We also spent the last weeks of the term having people go to the Stellenbosch University Museum to select artworks for a future exhibition. The museum has joined the student leadership to create a student focused curation of works based on the theme "Where are we now? 30 Years of Transformation". The aim of the exhibition is to disrupt the curatorial convention of exhibitions curated by experts in the field of the visual arts. In this exhibition the curatorial authority has been transferred to the students by involving them in the selection of the works to be exhibited.

Through the exhibition the University Museum intends to generate public discourse on the meaning of transformation, democracy, and curatorial practice, and how the arts could provide a backdrop for conversations about democratic practice and transformation in South Africa and Stellenbosch University. The exhibition plans to run from early May, and I hope to have you join us in exploring the thought-provoking artworks selected by our student curators. As we reflect on the past 30 years of transformation, this exhibition serves as a poignant reminder of the power of art to inspire dialogue, challenge perceptions, and foster understanding. Your presence and engagement are vital in enriching the discourse surrounding these important themes, and I invite you to join us in this immersive and enlightening experience.

As we conclude this term, we look forward to the continued engagement of our communities in future events and are committed to enhancing communication and operational efficiency to ensure even greater success in the semesters ahead.

## Plans for Next Term

---

As we look ahead to the next term, our focus remains steadfast on securing funding opportunities to further enhance the scope and impact of our cultural events. With sustainable financial support, we aim to elevate the quality and reach of our initiatives, ensuring memorable experiences for our university community.

A highlight of the upcoming term will be the eagerly anticipated Palesa Theatre Festival, a celebration of theatrical excellence and creativity. This flagship event promises to showcase the talent and innovation of our student performers, offering a platform for diverse voices and narratives to be shared and celebrated.

In addition to the Palesa Theatre Festival, we are excited to announce a collaboration with other societies within the institution for a culture evening in town. This collaborative effort seeks to extend the reach of our cultural programming beyond campus borders, fostering community engagement and dialogue in the broader Stellenbosch community.

I invite you to mark your calendars and join us for these enriching events, where you can show your support for your communities and contribute to the vibrant cultural environment on campus. Your presence and participation are instrumental in nurturing a sense of belonging and collective pride in our shared cultural heritage.