



National Arts Council of Namibia

Unlocking the creative potential of the Nation

Government Office Park, Luther Street, Education Building, Ground Floor Room 018
P.O. Box 149 Windhoek, Namibia – E-mail: artscouncilnamibia@gmail.com
Tel: +264 61 293 3311 / 3314/ 3363/0811450641

NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL OF NAMIBIA (NACN) GUIDELINES

For activities funded during the implementation of the Arts and Culture Sector COVID 19 Relief Fund during Stage 3 of the State of Emergency on the COVID 19 Pandemic

The National Arts Council of Namibia (NACN) adheres to the Government guidelines aimed at slowing down the spread of COVID 19. These guidelines emphasise social distancing and the maintenance of personal hygiene and hygienic conditions in the conduct of the various art disciplines.

As of the 1st of June 2020, Namibia, all 14 regions with the exception of Walvis Bay Local Authority and subsequently the return to Stage one (1) lock down of the whole Erongo Region, since the 9 June 2020 until 22 June 2020, has entered Stage three (3) for 28 days, until 29 June 2020. It is important to note that the circumstances are subject to change depending on the status quo of the pandemic currently and in the future.

Government has relaxed restrictions in Stage 3, which require increased vigilance and action to prevent infection of COVID-19 on various levels, which include personal, community and organisational levels.

The NACN has embarked on an Arts and Culture COVID-19 Relief Fund to support the sector. Therefore, the Council has adjusted national guidelines on Covid-19 to incorporate the set stipulations with regard to the operations of arts and culture activities that will be funded under the Relief Fund.

Disclosure:

- The normal grant cycle is cancelled for this year (2020), since the Council will be activating the Relief Fund.
- Previous approved projects will be renegotiated to fit the current status quo, or postponed until the Covid-19 situation eases.
- During the COVID 19 State of Emergency period, the National Arts Council of Namibia is waiving the registration fees. This means, any artist or arts organisation may apply for funding without payment of the registration fees, but will have to register with the NACN.
- The Relief Fund Programme encourages non-registered artists to register and apply. This is for data collection purposes
- The NACN Covid-19 Guidelines apply as long as the government's national emergency protocol is active.
- The NACN encourages electronic applications (this means proposals sent via email) but will accept hard copies in the instance that the applicant has little or no access to technology.

Board Members:

Mr. Patrick Sam (**Chairperson**) Ms. Shareen Thude (Vice-Chairperson)
Ms. Dalicia Olivier, Mr. Leitago /Narib, Mr. Immanuel Nashivela, Ms. Sanet Steenkamp, Mr. Ervast Mtota

- Approval of projects during July, August and September are subject to the respective stipulated State of emergency Stage as stipulated on national safety measures. This means, the proposal must be accompanied by safety measures to be enforced in the project that the applicant is applying for during the implementation of the project. **A project is not going to be considered for funding, if no safety measures are included.**
- A sub-committee of 7 individuals (public and council members) will screen, deliberate, and approve proposal requests.
- The Council will communicate in due course whether the bursary cycle will still take place this year.

The NACN COVID-19 Guidelines as per the government protocol in Stage 3 are:

1. All premises/venues to ensure social distancing of at least one (1) to two (2) meters during events to guarantee social distance directives are enforced; No entry allowed into premises/venues in the absence of persons wearing facemasks.
2. All persons attending or participating in public event to wear masks at the premises/venues during the public event;
3. All premises/venues to make provision for hand washing and sanitization mechanisms at all entries of events;
4. Premises/venues to be clean and disinfected prior to the public event, to ensure that the environment is ready and safe for the public, participants and attendees;
5. Events should not exceed more than fifty (50) persons at a time, at premises/venues;
6. Registration of all people gathering at an event should be enforced;
7. For events supported by the NACN held at theatres, galleries, museums and craft centres, and any other relevant businesses venues, to adhere to the Operational Guidelines as provided by the Ministry of Industrialization and Trade, stipulating the number of persons permitted inside an establishment per square meter.

Safety and Hygiene measures per discipline

It is important to note that these are basic guidelines to adhere to. It remains the artist's responsibility to ensure the safety and hygiene measures are applied, based on the circumstances of the project:

The Council strongly recommends online virtual or digital performances, exhibitions and workshops or any other arts and culture activities on social media or other online platforms. However, as some activities might require actual venues, participants and audiences, the following rules will apply:

VENUES

- Venues hosting actual performances and exhibitions must be cleaned and sanitised, prior to use;
- Venues must have wireless hand-held thermometers at all entry points;
- Venues must have hands-off sanitizing devices at all entry points;

- Venues must have ablution facilities equipped with hand washing basins and soap dispensers.
- Nobody should be allowed into a venue without wearing a face-mask.
- A one (1) to (2) meter social distancing must be applied. For a seated audience, at least 3 chairs between 2 seated persons;
- Maximum of fifty (50) people at a time;

VISUAL ARTS

- Compulsory wearing of face masks for all participants and attendees;
- Hands-off (from audience, spectators) presentation of artwork;
- In physical handling of artwork, apply the use of gloves;
- All rules stipulated under sub-heading ‘VENUES’ apply.

MUSIC

- Online virtual or digital performances are strongly recommended;
- A one (1) to (2) meter social distancing should be enforced – this also applies to the actual performers on stage;
- Cleaning and disinfect all instruments and equipment to be used during the performance or activity, if applicable;
- All participants, members of the audience have to wear face masks during the event/activity;
- All rules stipulated under sub-heading ‘VENUES’ apply.

THEATRE/DRAMA

- Cleaning and disinfect all props to be used in an activity, if applicable;
- All participants, members of the audience have to wear face masks during the event/activity;
- The directors and management of establishments must ensure that spacing and hygiene is adhered to by the cast;
- Solo performances such as monologues, dialogues and duets are strongly encouraged during this period;
- All rules stipulated under sub-heading ‘VENUES’ apply.

POETRY

- Virtual performances or display of own work are encouraged.
- For actual events with audience, compulsory wearing of face masks for all participants and attendees;
- A one (1) to (2)1,5 meter social distancing or three (3)seats between two (2) seated people;
- All rules stipulated under sub-heading ‘VENUES’ apply.

DANCE

- Online virtual or digital solo presentations are encouraged and prioritized;
- Choreographer and establishment management need to ensure the stipulated spacing/distancing and hygiene controls are adhered to during activities.
- Physical contact should be responsibly applied between two or more dancers if unavoidable;
- All rules stipulated under sub-heading ‘VENUES’ apply.

CRAFT

- Craft projects consisting of working groups should refrain from gatherings in the creation of their craft and rather work individually to complete their products;
- For exhibition of craft products, all rules stipulated under sub-heading ‘VENUES’ apply.

PHOTOGRAPHY

- For safety prevention methods, the photographer is encouraged to always sanitize all equipment prior and after use;
- For a photographic project or exhibition, all rules stipulated under sub-heading ‘VENUES’ apply.

FASHION

- Online virtual or digital presentations are encouraged;
- For products that requiring physical exchange, hygiene and cleanliness starts at the production process: clean and disinfected machinery, clean/wash and iron/press products prior to their use;
- Avoid handling of products by different hands;
- For exhibition purposes, all rules stipulated under sub-heading ‘VENUES’ apply.

For any enquiries please:

E-mail to:

marcellinus.swartbooi@gmail.com, *or*

Send via:

P.O. Box 149, Windhoek, *or*

Couriered or hand delivered at:

Government Office Park,
Cnr. Robert Mugabe & Luther Street,
Ministry of Education Building,
Ground Floor, Room 018.