

TITLE: [EC-OC] Colours of Kenya Tour

ORIGIN:

Community & Cultural Services

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Council is advised that “world jazz” ensemble *Mosaic, Colours of Kenya* will be staging a production at Murwillumbah Civic Centre on Friday 23 February 2007. The production provides a synergy with Council’s Tweed Community-Kenya Mentoring Project (TKMP) and presents an excellent opportunity to link the Mentoring Project with the arts, education and cultural development.

As Council was unable to provide the necessary production fee and accommodation costs for the performance, an agreement has been made wherein Council will support the production with a \$1,000 Guarantee Against Loss in the event of poor ticket sales. These funds have been allocated from the Cultural Development Officer’s Seed Funding budget. Mosaic has offered to donate 20% (\$5) of all CD sales (throughout the 6-week tour) to the Tweed Community-Kenya Mentoring Project.

The Kenyan High Commissioner and Deputy High Commissioner have been formally invited by Tweed Shire Council to attend the production, and we currently await their response. It is envisaged that should the Commissioners attend, a formal civic reception should take place, including a presentation by a TKMP spokesperson.

RECOMMENDATION:

That this report be received and noted.

REPORT:

Council is advised that “world jazz” ensemble *Mosaic, Colours of Kenya* will be staging a production at Murwillumbah Civic Centre on Friday 23 February, 2007.

The performance, featuring Kenyan master percussionist Bandika Ngao brings together accomplished musicians from Australia and overseas to present a unique multicultural and contemporary jazz experience.

Judy Campbell, lead vocalist and composer for the Mosaic troupe, contacted Council in late 2006 after discussions with Agnes Madi, the Kenyan Deputy High Commissioner from Canberra who was aware of the Tweed’s innovative Tweed Community-Kenya Mentoring project. Ms. Campbell and Bandika Ngao are members of KATA, the newly formed Kenya Australia Trade Association, which is also involved in a number of projects related to delivery of clean water. They were thrilled to learn more about the Tweed’s mentoring project.

The *Colours of Kenya* production provides an obvious synergy with Council’s Tweed Community-Kenya Mentoring Project and presents an excellent opportunity to connect the Mentoring Project with the arts, education and cultural development.

Council’s Cultural Development Officer has been assisting with the negotiations and liaising with high schools to promote a workshop program on African Percussion and Vocal Blend Technique - offering students a cross-cultural experience and an opportunity to learn new approaches to group vocals and rhythm. The workshops are scheduled from 9.30am - 1.30pm on Friday 23 February.

The production has also gained the support of the Tweed Valley Jazz Club, with members supplying billets for the eleven cast and crew.

The Kenyan High Commissioner and Deputy High Commissioner have been formally invited by Tweed Shire Council to attend the production, and we currently await their response. Ms. Campbell has also recently met with the Deputy High Commissioner in Canberra and extended a personal invitation. It is envisaged that should the Commissioners attend, a formal civic reception should take place, including a presentation by a TKMP spokesperson.

It is envisaged that although this production does not present as a major fund raising exercise for the TKMP, it will in turn provide a very beneficial advocacy and promotional tool, such as:

- Mosaic have recently launched a new CD, aptly titled *Colours of Kenya* and will promote the CD during their Australian tour. Mosaic will donate 20% (\$5) of all CD sales, to the Tweed Community – Kenya Mentoring Project
- Mosaic will distribute information on the TKMP throughout their Australian tour
- Mosaic will acknowledge Council’s support, and promote the TKMP in all media promotions including radio and television

- In the event that the High Commissioner and Deputy High commissioner are able to attend, Mosaic will take part in a Reception or Pre-show drinks and a presentation by a TKMP spokesperson
- TKMP Information table and Donation Box to be displayed in foyer

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These funds have been allocated from the Cultural Development Officer's Seed Funding budget.

LEGAL/RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

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Nil.
