

NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL OF SEYCHELLES

NEWSLETTER

Edition 2

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New Board of Directors

The National Arts Council (NAC) would like to welcome the new NAC board which comprises of the Chairperson Mr. Martin Kennedy and the Chief Executive Officer of NAC Mr. Jimmy Savy as the ex-officio. The other members include Mrs. Amia Jovanovic-Desir who is Director for the India, Korea & Austral Asia Markets at the Seychelles Tourism Board, local artist Mr. Jean-Marc Volcy, Mr. Pierre Joseph who is Director at the National Conservatoire of Performing Arts, Mrs. Ruth Pool the Senior Finance Analyst at the Department of Finance, Ms. Julienne Barra who is the Director General for Culture and Mrs. Penda Choppy who is the Director for Creole Language and Culture Research Institute at the University of Seychelles.

The new Board had their first official meeting on the 02nd July, 2020 to discuss the way forward on potential new projects. So, we wish them good luck.



Affiliated Arts Associations

Throughout the years various groups were formed to develop the arts in Seychelles, these are called Arts Associations. The arts associations currently affiliated with the National Arts Council (NAC) of Seychelles include;

SEYLAR Federation

The association aims at promoting and defending the rights of Seychellois visual artists, to promote art education and artistic works in Seychelles and internationally and establish a liaison between SEYLAR and government institutions, non-governmental organizations, art associations and individuals nationally or internationally. The association also facilitates the sale of art works and ensures compliance with intellectual property rights.

Seychelles Music Association (SEYMAS)

SEYMAS is aimed at promoting and defending the rights of its members, and improving recognition of importance of musicians in the national work force. The association is also aimed at entering into negotiations with

the state or its agencies with regards to the music industry and ensuring its viability. SEYMAS also facilitates the sale and distribution of original music work, creates and enters into profitable arrangement with the local media and seek international exposure for its member's musical works.

Praslin Artists Federation (pArfe)

This association aims at promoting and defending the artistic rights of Praslin Artists. pArfe also negotiates with the state or its agencies in regards to the artistic industry on Praslin and facilitates the sale and distribution of original artists work. The association also works to increase the international exposure of its members which are from all art forms while also aiming to protect their work and productions.

Bling bling Nod

An association aimed at using poetry as a medium to empower people to tackle different life situations, facilitate collaboration and partnership between poets, other artists and relevant stakeholders, to actively organize activities that will help towards the development of poetry, bringing the people of all ages and communities together to enlighten their knowledge and skills.

Arterial Network

The association aims at promoting local artists and their work, locally and internationally. To also maintain a professional gallery space, host solo and group exhibition for both local and international artists to exhibit and sell their best work. Arterial Network also aims to promote art education and host activities in the gallery space to promote local art and artists and facilitate collaboration with artists and art institutions internationally.

The association also aims to create and maintain an online art gallery which facilitates the selling prints of original Art made in Seychelles, as a virtual complement to the physical gallery. The association also aims to produce an exhibition catalogue for every major exhibition that will serve as an ART archive for Seychelles as a record of our National History.

Seychelles Fashion Association

This fashion association is aimed at promoting the pursuit of artistic, creative and professional excellence in fashion, the educational value of fashion, to assist in the promotion and development of fashion in Seychelles, to encourage research, experimentation and originality in fashion, to foster opportunities for international exchange thus acting as a facilitator with regional world bodies and agencies, to promote and protect the lawful interests, rights and freedom of Seychellois Fashion Designers involved in fashion industry both nationally and internationally, to

help safeguard members against malpractice and infringements of their works and intellectual properties by others.

Car San Frontyer

A literature association aimed at promoting qualitative art related activities, non-discrimination amongst artists of all forms, to support and encourage constructive development of arts with love, peace, unity, dignity and harmony in the country.

Lardwar Association (Poetry)

Support and encourage writers in all literary genres to write and develop professionally, in order to eventually publish their works. Promote the forms of literary works: poetry, storytelling, short stories, novels, plays, memoir and creative nonfiction as well as Children's literature. Promote the artistic, creative and intellectual development of writers through lectures, seminars, symposiums, writing workshops and other means. Contribute to the development of Seychelles Literature in all three National Languages namely Kreol, English and French. Lardwar Association is also aimed at promoting and protecting the intellectual property rights of all writers as well as safeguards the rights and freedoms of all Seychellois writers.

TAS (Theatre association)

This association is aimed at promoting the pursuit of artistic, creative and professional excellence and the educational value of theatre in educational institutions in Seychelles. TAS assists members in the training, encouragement and development of theatre in Seychelles. The association also aims at safeguarding the work and intellectual properties of members through documentation and preservation of their work.



Dance Gael Guichard

Mr. Gael Guichard is a young 22 year old dancer who has been practicing dance for approximately 15 years. He is a member of the dance crew called 'Emergency Crew' who won 'Sesel I annan talan' in 2018. His passion apart from dancing is modeling and costume designing. In the future he plans to integrating these passions and opening up his own Dance and Fashion studio. He is currently spearheading the dance project BEYOND SEYCHELLES which kick-started in 25th July, 2020.

"I want to develop dance projects which would boost dance in Seychelles."

Visual Artist & Sculptor Egbert Marday



Mr Egbert Marday is a Visual Artist, Painter and Sculptor born November 1953. He graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts and went on to work as an Assistant Director for Arts and Crafts at the Ministry of Industry. Presently he is a freelance artist who has had solo exhibitions such as the recent one called "Kokosye 7" and group exhibitions throughout the years 1982 until 2016.

Mr. Marday has gone on to win prizes such as the first prize for the art contest at Festival des Arts of 2002. He was also a 2019 Seychelles Arts Award Laureat winner for best Male achievements. His work in sculpting is also quite celebrated as he has executed great works such as the Giant tortoise for the 2015 *Carnavale de Victoria* and Arts Award Giant Trophy in the 2018 Arts Award.

Music Aaron Jean



Mr. Aaron Jean was born on the 7th July 1990. He is a well known figure on TV for his great appearances as an actor as of 2009 and as a singer in the well known Mahé Chamber Choir where his journey began in 2005. He featured in popular productions such as *Kastor*, *Kreol an anbondans*, *Dan Koulis*, *Romeo and Juliette*, *Zalouzi Mouswar*.

Other TV shows he participated in are the small youth series; *Senaryo Alternativ* and movie entitling "A love like this". Mr. Jean is also the Band Leader for Major Third and the Laureate for the Seychelles Music Award 'Prominent Artist' category.

He says "the youth should never give up, keep pushing and believe in themselves. Nothing comes easy in life but with perseverance you can achieve whatever you set your mind too. Never let anyone tell you otherwise".