

VALHALLA ARTS

"When the burning flame of spirit is ignited, it will transform any soul - no matter what the circumstances."
(MUSA E. ZULU, 1999)



DISABILITY AMBASSADOR



2005 - MUSA E. ZULU is invited as Guest Speaker at the official opening of the Entabeni Hospital's Rehabilitation Centre for people with spinal cord injuries and other disabilities. Later he is commissioned asked by the Centre to produce artwork that depicts themes and messages for their walls.

2005 - He is invited as Guest Speaker at the FOTIM (Foundation of Tertiary Institutions of the Northern Metropolis) Disability Conference to talk about various methodologies to employ in the creation of disability community outreach programs.

2005 - He is presented with a '*Distinguished Service Award*' for his role as a Disability Ambassador by the Phoenix Light Group in Durban.

2006 - He is invited as Master of Ceremonies and Guest Speaker at the official launch of the KwaMbonambi Computer Centre for people with disabilities. The Guest Speaker, then South Africa's Deputy President Jacob Zuma, in his address, names MUSA E. ZULU 'one of the future stars of Africa - an inspiration to the struggle for the liberation of the disabled mind!'

2006 - MUSA E. ZULU is invited to give a Motivational Talk at the African Renaissance Gala Dinner hosted by then KZN Premier Sbu Ndebele where he communicates his plan to launch a Trust that will give tertiary study bursaries to students with disabilities in KwaZulu-Natal. The Premier pledges One Hundred Thousand Rand (R100 000.00) towards the Trust. A few businessmen and women in the audience also pledge their support with varying contributions.

2006 - MUSA E. ZULU together with his long-time friend Vusi Ndimeni establish INDIMEZULU Trust, a bursary initiative that supports students with disabilities who wish to pursue further study at tertiary level education institutions.

2007 – He is invited by the EtheKwini Municipality to be Master Of Ceremonies at the THISABILITY Summit held on 10 - 11 May 2007 to brief local people with a disability about the Municipality's policy strategies for their empowerment in social development.

2007 – He is announced as the winner of the Black Business Quarterly (BBQ) Awards in the 1) New Entrepreneur Award and 2) Platinum Award Categories. He later` reads out the poem “*Now & Again*” to the audience which he has been commissioned by the BBQ Awards’ organizers to write as a tribute to the winners in various categories of the Gala Event.

2008 – He is awarded the certificate of recognition by QASA (Quadriplegic Association of South Africa) for his contributing in the advancement of awareness for the needs of quadriplegics and paraplegics in South Africa through his “*It's My Space*” initiative.

2009 - Valhalla Arts, INDIMEZULU Trust, The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development and Tourism and the University of KwaZulu-Natal come together to launch the Disability Economic Empowerment Program (DEEP) for the mobilization of people with disabilities. The launch features the first annual KwaZulu Natal Disability Expo.

2009 – Valhalla Arts launches the annual “*Santa Wheels*” initiative which involves visits to hospitals, clinics and homes where Christmas toys and gifts are distributed to children with disabilities.

2011 – Valhalla Arts joins forces with the Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife to launch ‘*Conservation on Wheels*’ an initiative that seeks to promote visits by people with disabilities, especially students from Special Schools, to Game Parks and Nature Conservation areas in KwaZulu- Natal.

2010 – Valhalla Arts launches the annual TRIBUTES Excellence Awards an initiative that identifies and celebrates exceptional South African (and African continent) women with disabilities that have left a lasting mark of excellence in their various work and life fields.

2011 – Valhalla Arts with partners launch the THISABILITY Newspaper publication which seeks to create awareness and accessibility of various disability related initiatives together with communicating their development messages to the wider South African population. This bi-monthly newspaper is distributed to government and private sector HR units, Special Schools for Learners with Disabilities, community/municipality libraries, organizations and events for people with disabilities across South Africa.

2013 – He is invited by the American Embassy in South Africa to participate in the State Department sponsored International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) which seeks to build mutual understanding between the United States and other nations through carefully designed professional visits to the US for current and emerging leaders.

2016 – Valhalla Arts launches the annual TRIBUTES ‘*Soul of Man*’ Awards an initiative that identifies and celebrates exceptional South African (and African continent) men with disabilities that have left a lasting mark of excellence in their various work and life fields.

Link to: **[Oregon USA: MUSA E. ZULU from South Africa speaks about his experience in the International Visitor Program](#)**