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To whom it may concern

**Jazz in the Native Yards: Collaboration for Societal Development through live jazz performance**

Jazz in the Native Yards is a social movement that encourages the use of live jazz performances to bring together diverse voices in jazz to be heard, creating work opportunities for musicians with special focus on those from marginalised communities and is integral to the creation of social cohesion amongst communities.

Jazz in the Native Yards (JiNY) started this important work back in 2012 when my then partner Luvuyo Kakaza and I noticed that there were no spaces where musicians were plying their trade, where local residents listened to live music in the townships.

A year after taking on this work JiNY was approached by many musicians, jazz musicians mainly who saw an opportunity to showcase their talent to an appreciative and paying audience. The demand to play from the artists was increasing at a rate higher than the base audience could keep up paying for performances and it was clear then that we needed a funder for our concerts if we were to keep up with the demand from artists. IKSAfrica.com support filled a need from both musicians and jazz appreciators to continue putting this art form on stage. The support filled a human need.

Through the funding we continue to extend our reach to more venues and communities beyond our primary venue in Gugulethu, to kwaLanga township to further at Amazinki in Stellenbosch.

The association that *Jazzinthenativeyards* has with IKSAfrica.com also gives us the gravitas that we need to be taken seriously in the jazz promotion space and also cements the trust we enjoy with many out of town and international artists traveling to SA to play jazz.

Besides the support for the artists, the funding support affords us an opportunity to employ local suppliers of security, food and drink. The funds also offer 1 and 4 temporary staff members a reasonable stipend to continue planning more concerts.

*Jazzinthenativeyards* through the support from IKSAfrica.com has thus far put up concerts for 140 bands (approximately 560 musicians) and 4 staff members (sound, food and drink vendors) about 140 times. Forty two thousand (42 000) people have been exposed to local jazz talent in the 10 years that IKSAfrica.com has supported us.

Sincerely

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