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ART and CRAFT PROJECT

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Grahamstown 2 November, 1993.

TO WHOM IT.MAY CONCERN

we, the DAKAWA ART & CRAFT PROJECT, hereby invite applications for our 1994 TRAINING PROGRAMME, which will begin mid-February 1994.

Successful candidates should come from an organisation/institution, which has the need of the type of training we offer and which can commit itself to paying the fees of the training itself (including material costs), as well as the basic supply of equipment and materials needed for the trainee on his/her return to the organisation/institution.

The training is a long term training programme which requires that the trainees have a workshop to return to and/or set up, and where they could do their final six month practical project.

The Dakawa Project is not responsible for the trainees' accommodation while in Grahamstown, but will give assistance where it is possible.

we feel that the course we offer has a special, unique quality in offering high class artistic and technical training to people with art and craft skills and interests, but without the formal basic education needed for training at formal art and craft training institutions in the country.

The successful applicant should have basic literacy, numeracy and a fair command of English.

we hope to be part of the empowerment, upgrading and establishment of art and craft workshops through community organisations /institutions all over Southern Africa.

The training we have planned extends over a 3 year course, with a certificated examination after two and a half years. The last six months are spent on a final project, which can be completed

either at Dakawa or at the trainee's organisation's workshop. Over and above this 3 year course, Dakawa will offer advanced courses of one or two years, which will prepare the trainee for his/her chosen profession.

Our ultimate aim is a training commensurate with a University or Technikon qualification, for those who complete the full course.

On the following pages you will find information relating to the history of Dakawa, the proposed course curriculum, as well as an application form.

If you are interested in our courses, please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

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The Dakawa Art and Craft Project in Grahamstown originated as an African National Congress (ANC) project, in the village of Dakawa, Tanzania, where the ANC had a refugee camp. The aim of this project was to provide basic and advanced artistic and craft skills to members of the organisation, for use in the post apartheid South Africa. The Project began in 1986 with a Textile Printing WORKshop and was half-way through its training and production programme when it was decided to move to Grahamstown in 1991, as a result of political developments that began with the un-banning of the ANC in February 1990.

At the time when the decision was taken to move to South Africa, the project was about to have new buildings in Dakawa, not only for an extended textile printing workshop, but also for the establishment of two new workshops, i.e. for graphic art and weaving. These plans have subsequently been successfully implemented in Grahamstown, where the project comprises three workshops: textile printing, graphics and weaving.

The Dakawa project is funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), Artists' Against Apartheid (Stockholm) and ABF Ostergotland (Wbrkers' Educational Association). This follows a close historical relationship between the Scandinavian countries and the ANC over many years. The Norwegian Foreign Aid has recently given funds for the purchase of a building to be used for an exhibition hall, a shop and is continuing this support by donating funds for the administrative side of the project.

As a result of many political changes in South Africa, SIDA and the ANC agreed that the project should be converted into an independent community-based project, governed by a legally constituted Trust, with the objective of providing training and jobs through production to the people of Grahamstown and the country as a whole.

At the end of June 1992 thirteen trainees were employed at the

project. They had to participate in the renovation of the old run-down buildings by cleaning and painting and by doing carpentry together with Swedish consultants and re-located Coordinators from exile. Subsequently some training could start in the different workshops and by the end of September all the equipment was installed. On 17 October 1992 the project was officially opened by Walter Sisulu and handed over to an independent legally constituted Trust.

At present there are 35 trainees, aged between twenty and forty years old, who have had no previous experience in art. Their training is paid by SIDA with the aim that most of them will work in the project after graduation.

In February 1993 a new course started as the first part of a training programme. To this course the project also invited outside trainees who paid their own fees.

At a seminar in September, organised by the Curriculum Development Project (CDP) which is based in Johannesburg, it was resolved that a new three year course should be offered to trainees, which would incorporate all the necessary skills for a graduate of Dakawa to take back to his/her organisation. A further advanced course of one or two years would allow Dakawa to award certification approximately commensurate with a technikon diploma.

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The Foundation Art Course offers basic art theory, art and design skills and aims to develop individual creativity. The techniques of all three disciplines (weaving, Graphics and Textile Design) are taught, and trainees decide on the one in which they wish to specialise later in the year, after which a major first year project in that discipline is undertaken. Cultural studies, moving towards a relevant Africa-centred culture, are integrated into the Foundation Art Course from the beginning of the year.

Organisation and management skills are introduced and integrated into the foundation art course after a few months. These include costing, sourcing materials, marketing etc.

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The specialised discipline course work will now occupy more time, with a continuing care art course (an extension of the Foundation art course).

There will be continued cultural studies, including independent research.

Organisation and management skills will continue to be integrated into the various disciplines.

A Teacher training component will be introduced in the second year. Trainees will gain experience by teaching art-making to children and/or adults from the community.

At the end of the first six months of Year III, there will be an examination.

In the last six months of Year III, trainees are expected to return to their organisations and set up their own project and/or work on existing production lines, in industry, etc, on an apprenticeship basis. This "project work" will count towards their final assessment.

There is ongoing evaluation throughout the courses. A final evaluation will be made at the end of each course and a certificate awarded to the trainees. Dakawa intends to become its own accreditor, but highly qualified moderators from respected tertiary institutions will be utilized in the certification.

we hope that these and future courses will have relevance for the community and help in the development and enrichment of Southern Africa's culture.

3. ESTIMATED PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ONE "OUTSIDE" TRAINEE ONE YEAR OF TRAINING 5

Tuition (this is paid to Dakawa) R 5 000

Study material costs R 2 500

(any excess will be refunded to trainee)

Remuneration of Trainee

to cover living costs in Grahamstown

(R500/month x 11m : R 5 500) R 5 500

Remuneration for dependents of trainee up to

three dependents and own children only

(R2.5/day/dependant: R75/m/dependent x 3 :

:R225 x 11m : R 2 275 R 2 275

Travel expenses return Grahamstown aprox. R 725

Sub total R 16 000

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(These are roughly estimated costs. Detailed costs will be worked out in close co-operation with the organisation sending the trainee, as consideration will have to be taken of their individual needs.)

Equipment R 10 000

Materials R 10 000

Sub total R 20 000

the organisation of the six months period immediately after the training period, i.e. the practical period of the trainee during which time he/she will train others and start to produce.

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TO: Dakawa Art & craft Project,
P.O. Box 733,
Grahamstown 6140
NAME AND ADDRESS
OF ORGANISATION:
PHONE: EAX:
WHICH SPECIALIST DISCIPLINE ARE YOU INTERESTED IN?
(WEAVING', TEXTILE PRINTING OR GRAPHIC ART)
NAME OF APPLICANT:
DATE OF BIRTH:
MARITAL STATUS:
CHILDREN:
EDUCATIONAL S TANDARD :
OTHER EDUCATION .' :
PROFESSIONAL EHERIENCE :
ORGANISATIONAL EXPERIENCE :
EHERIENCE IN ART AND CRAFT:

WHAT IS YOUR .MAIN INTEREST?

HAVE YOU MADE ANY ART OR WT WORK BEFORE?

(if so what?)

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR OWN DESIGNS?

IS SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY WING ART OR CRAFT WORK?

ARE YOU ACTIVE IN ANY ORGANISATION OUTSIDE SCHOOL OR WORK?

(if so which)

WHY DO YOU WANT TO DO AN ART AND CRAFT TRAINING COURSE?