

Esau, Sandy

INSTITUUT VIR EIETDSE GESKIEDENIS

Die Universiteit van die Oranje-Vrystaat



Bron nr.
0 3 3 7

Datum
87 05 23 1 43

Onderwerp nr.

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Weekend Argus

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Readers rally round to help Sandy realise his art dream

by KAREN STANDER
Weekend Argus Reporter

TODAY Sandy Esau is much closer to attaining his dream than a week ago.

Offers of help have streamed in following an article published in Weekend Argus last week about the young artist from Darling who desperately needed help to achieve his dream of attending art school in Cape Town.

Several people have offered to help towards Sandy's fees. A Rondebosch man, who asked to remain anonymous, has offered him free board and lodging while he attends school, an artist has offered materials and advice and a gallery has offered to exhibit his works free of charge.

The Southern Life Association is investigating ways of helping Sandy, while an attorney, Mr Sam Gross, has offered to contribute towards his school fees.

Shocked by poverty

Mr J van Heerde of Camps Bay, who said he had visited Darling recently and had been shocked by the level of poverty in the community, has offered to help either Sandy or his family.

Hout Bay artist Kevin Brigg said he knew what it was like to struggle and offered to help Sandy with materials and advice once he had enrolled in school.

He said it appeared from the photograph in Weekend Argus of Sandy and one of his paintings that the teenager was talented, but needed guidance and tuition.

The manager of the Sun Art Gallery, Miss Hilary Webb, said they would exhibit and sell Sandy's work — and, they were prepared to do this for any unknown struggling artists with no place to go.

She said the gallery also had a branch in Sandton, Johannesburg, and were prepared to offer the same service there.

Mr D B Reid, of Tokai, has offered financial aid and a gift of several art books. Weekend Argus received an anonymous donation of R2 from "a Christian".

Mr August J Engelbrecht, principal of Vooruitsig Primary, the school which

Sandy, 18, attended until recently, said he was delighted.

He said Sandy was very dedicated to his art and would grasp any opportunity he was offered.

Sandy's family is poverty-stricken, but they are determined he should have the opportunity to use his unusual talent. His mother, Mrs Maria Esau, does not work any more and only one of the six children still in the home has a job.

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