

Report of SAHO Activities

January 2019 – January 2020

Democracy and common values can be achieved through practical efforts to promote history education, and this can be linked to and driven by technological innovation.

Introduction

2018 was a very successful year. Despite our website being down for one week at the end of November due to our security system been compromised, we managed to get our website up and running again.

SAHO success is due to the fact that we have a small dedicated research team, backed up by an It team, a very successful student intern programme and a number of joint research projects with partner tertiary and archive institutions. We continued to produce and publish new content, and daily we update old articles and publish new content across all 11 sections of our website.

SAHO success is due to our small team of administrators, web designers and researchers supported by our student interns, contributions from our partners in local and international universities, teacher training institutions, museums, archives and community based groups.

SAHO has, without a dedicated media budget and with no fulltime marketing team, succeeded in popularising a new history of South Africa. The success of SAHO website is due to the vast content on our website and the daily updating of existing content and adding new content.

Our visitor numbers continue to grow annually by at least 30% plus we have succeeded in using social media to reach out to new audiences. In addition we have built up and attracted a mass audience because local as well as international media houses, blogs and websites use our material daily.

At the end of December 2019, 6.5 million people visited our website. Since the beginning of 2019 on average of 700 000 people visit our website per month. We believe that from January 2020 we will be averaging a million visitors a month. Our social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Blog, Instagram and newsletters) reach close to 300,000 people monthly.

Projects

SAHO Research and Partnership Programme

Glasgow University

We have signed a joint partnership with Dr. Alexandra Ross of University of Glasgow to undertake a joint research project on women.
help us to build SAHO digitisation capacity,
help us rise funding for our Africa project
help us organise a fund raising trip to the UK.

Trip to United Kingdom - Glasgow University partnership.

I and Ms Abegail Sithole (a SAHO intern) travelled to the United Kingdom. We visited Glasgow University (27 February – 10 March) as part of our joint programme with the University. We also visited a number of community based arts and women's programmes, met with members of ACTSA, the former anti apartheid movement, and participated in a very successful workshops held with students and academics at the Glasgow Women's Museum . I also visited academics at New Castle and Lincoln universities. Heather Hughes at Lincoln is keen to work with us in working on the history of Natal Organisation of Women and in helping us to digitise the work of photographers.

University of KwaZulu Natal

The CEO visited UKZN and met with professor Nobuhle Hlongwe Dean, and Head of School of the Arts and we have agreed to continue with our discussion later in November with members of her department to discuss joint projects.

Stellenbosch University

We met with Prof Schoonwinkel Vice Rector Learning and Teaching and Ms Tanya Overmeyer Dean of Students at Stellenbosch University and agreed that we will in 2020 start working with a cross section of departments to begin undertaking joint projects.

Simonstown Museum

We have entered into a partnership with the Simonstown Museum and have submitted proposal to the Western Cape Provincial Government and Arts and Cultural Department for three small grants to build a website for the Museum and to undertake a number of oral history interviews with activists.

Student Internship Programme

Our student internship programme underpins the production of new content on our website.

In 2019 we took on 10 Masters, PhD students, IT, and design students from three universities in the Western Cape (UWC, UCT and CPUT) , and Humanities students based at UKZN and Wits. This programme was funded by CATTSETA and FPM SETA.

In July 2019 7 Interns funded by CATHSETA joined our programme and by end of January 2020 we will taken on another 10 students funded by the FPMSeta

Our short term goal is to take on students interns from the rest of the continent studying at South African universities to help us expand new content for the Africa history section on our website.

International Student programme

SAHO also hosts a very exciting programme with the Southern Methodist University in the United States of America. Since 2014, 45 students from SMU have been part of this programme. The students have worked on a number of focus areas on South African history. The project forms part of their coursework on South Africa. Each year, over the course of three months, the students hold weekly Skype meetings with SAHO researchers. Here, we discuss the students research topics, help them find resources, and connect them with people who they would like to work with. In 2018 we also had a similar project with Bridgewater State University.

On average, we have at least one or two students each year who spend between three to six months in South Africa working on their research and who also work at SAHO on producing new features for our website. We have been fortunate in having visiting students from the USA, Argentina, China, Malawi and Ethiopia.

Summary of our key research projects

Liberation History and Archival Project

One of SAHO's key features is the history of South Africa – particularly its liberation struggle. We have a vast and growing archive of material. We have teamed up with a range of institutions and organisations to help build our website into a leading platform of South African history on the African continent.

Our aim in the next three years is to continue to add to the features we have thus far, expand the scope to include the history of other liberation organisations and their

armed struggle in Southern Africa, as well as the history of the international anti-apartheid movements.

Africa History Project

SAHO still needs to complete the first phase of our programme which is to produce short profiles on all countries across the African continent, as well as to start conversations with African historians and African Studies departments to help us jointly build the African History website.

Art under Apartheid

In 2019 we received funding from the National Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS) for the first phase of the research programme on 'Art Under Apartheid'. This funding has allowed us to get the research off the ground - we have started by publishing new features on 'Art Under Apartheid' on a weekly basis. We have also organised the second 'Mafika Gwala Annual Lecture', at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, and launched three books at the event.

We have been gathering a lot of archival material on a number of organisations in the 1980's, and have expanded considerably to our features, bios, timelines and archives on the 'Art Under Apartheid' project.

In 2019 we signed an agreement for a small grant from the DAC towards the cost of this project.

History of the Fees must Fall Student Movement

We have entered into a partnership with a masters and PHD programme on the history of the contemporary student movement headed by Dr Thierry Luescher at the HSRC which is funded by the Mellon Foundation. The research project is aimed at understanding the history and growth of the contemporary student movement.

We have created a special project on our website which allows for student activists to contribute their experiences and post relevant articles. We believe that by the end of 2019 the material on our website on the new student movement will be the most comprehensive resource of its kind on this subject.

Popular History and partnership with community history groups SAHOs

SAHO's partnership projects with local history groups is central to our goal of building a people-centred history. Our work with local history groups such as Popular Education, Children's Resource Centre, Claremont History, Ekurhuleni, Grahamestown Project continues to make our local history project a powerful platform for both celebrating our diverse histories as well as acting as a powerful instrument to promote tourism and economic growth.

History of Places

After three years, we have completed the first stage of our history of every major city and towns in South Africa. This including information about the origins of a settlement, places of historic and cultural importance, and lists of gardens, parks, and political, artistic, sports and other prominent figures born in the town or city.

The second stage of our project is to mount a major media and social media campaign get people who live in small rural villages and settlement the country to send us histories of their villages, informal settlements and histories of families and other institutions such as schools etc. Finally our aim is to map every town and rural communities which were affected by mass removals under the group areas and other apartheid legislation.

We have mapped 1500 places in South Africa which we have cross reference and link to our biographies of artists and prominent South Africans. Liberation history Features . This project has great potential to enhance our country's tourism industry.

Biographies Project

SAHO in the period under review 1st January 2019 – 30th December 2019 embarked on a accelerated programme to gather and updating e biographical information on the hundreds of South African artists political activists and victims of state induced political violence

SAHO has been working on updating our biographies on our website and in particular developing our on the life and work of several *Photographers, Visual, Performing Arts, Music, Literature* also those artists who were forced to live in exile, since the period of 1960 right up to 1994.

One of our focus areas is the compiling of information on victims of state repression who appeared before the TRC. We have started publishing their testimonies and cross referencing to political events and organisations referred to in the testimonies. Documenting the testimonies and compiling biographies of victims of state violence is a very labour intensive process but when we are finished researchers and generations to come will get a better understanding of what it was to live under apartheid, the impact of state repression and violence on ordinary people and activists. This forms an important part of our ongoing work.

Education & Partnership Programme

Schools History Project: Making History Matter

In 2019, we completed updating all our History curriculum content and lesson plans from Grade 4 to 12 to meet the requirements of the Department of Basic Education's (DBE) Continuous Assessment Programmes (CAPs). For the next three years, we

will be working on producing curriculum material for other learning arts such as Art and History etc.

Exhibition, Publication and annual Lecture Programme

Mafika Gwala Annual Lecture

The 2019 annual Mafika Gwala Annual Lecture was delivered by Mr Fred Khumalo. It was held on 5th October at the University of KwaZulu Natal and was well attended. The audience included a large number of high schools students and community members who travelled from Pietermaritzburg and the township of Hammersdale. SAHO in partnership with UKZN and the National Institute of Humanities and Social Science (NIHSS) hosted this event.

Publications

In 2019 SAHO published the following books and CD's

- **Kora A Lost Khoisan Language of the Early Cape and the Gariep** by Menan Du Plessis which is a joint SAHO, UNISA Press. The book is accompanied by an online publication with sound files of alphabets and words and embedded on the online version of the book. The book came out in December and it will be launched at Stellenbosch University at the end of this month.

We also helped with the editing and layout of the book 'Red in the Rainbow' by Lynn Carnerson and "One in Nine" by Tracy Derrick.

Concert : Insurrection Ensemble

Our most successful public event was the public concert Titled '**Threads of Sorrow**' by the Insurrection Ensemble which was held on the 16th-17 September at the **Centre for the less Good ideas** in Johannesburg. The Ensemble also travelled to India and performed to critical acclaim at the Kochi Biennale and a festival in Goa. The Insurrection Ensemble is scheduled to perform in Cape Town in September at which it will also launch its latest CD.

At the end of September we are launching the fifth concert in the series in Cape Town and also the launch of the '**Threads of Sorrow**' CD at the concert.

SAHO curated the exhibition titled 'South African **The Cordoned Heart**' which formed part of the Francis Wilson farewell function at UCT. The exhibition was main feature at the 10th Jozi Book Festival held in August at Museum Africa.

New Website New Logo

The increase in traffic to the SAHO website has subsequently increased pressure on our team to respond to the number of people requiring assistance. We have had to deal with issues of security, as well as increase our service capacity. In November our website was down for one week after been hacked. Fortunately, we were able to recover all of our content from our backup servers.

In January 2019 we started working with two volunteers, Matthew Blackburn and Chad Rossouw to began the highly complex task of redesign our website so that we can create a website with a more clean look and feel, as well as ensuring that the website is compliant for ease of use by smart phone's and I-pad users. Our new website went live on 3rd September 2019.

Conclusion

Our website and educational programmes continue to reach out to a vast audience. We continue to provide information that helps people better understand our past and the legacy of injustice and inequality, as well as the values of collective responsibility, grassroots democracy and social justice.

We have upgraded our website with its vast online archive, as well as our existing educational programmes. We have continued to produce and publish new features on our website and have found new and novel solutions to make the vast amount of material available and easily accessible. We continue to contribute to the cutting edge of popularising history, setting the standard on history in the digital age, and decolonising the apartheid archives.

Our policy of building partnership with tertiary institutions, museums and archives continues to grow and be strengthened through joint projects. Our successful student internship programme exemplifies this - providing students from our tertiary institutions and colleges with job experiences, experiential learning in the use of new technology to popularise history, and training in digitisation in the aim of building of online archives.

SAHO Budget 2020/1/2/					
ITEM	Rate	Months	2020	2021	2022
CEO	35,000	12	420,000	462,000	508,200
Project Manager	18,000	12	216,000	237,600	261,360
Researcher Historian	22,000	12	264,000	290,400	319,440
Researcher	18,000	12	216,000	237,600	261,360
Training material developer IT	22,000	12	264,000	290,400	319,440
Subject Matter Specialists	TBD				
Teacher Trainer – subject matter specialist	25,000	12	300,000	330,000	363,000
IT Specialist	25,000	12	300,000	330,000	363,000
Web Designer	25,000	12	300,000	330,000	363,000
Interns 10+10		12	0	0	0
Curator	18,000	12	216,000	237,600	261,360
Digital Archivist	10,000	12	120,000	132,000	145,200
Graphic Designer	12,000	12	144,000	158,400	174,240
Digital Video Creator/Editor	12,000	12	144,000	158,400	174,240
Salaries Total	242,000		2,904,000	3,194,400	3,513,840
FIXED OVERHEADS					
Rent including utilities	28,000	12	336,000	369,600	406,560
Cleaning	2,000	12	24,000	26,400	29,040
Telephone incl ADSL, fax & 2 lines	3,000	12	36,000	39,600	43,560
Internet Hosting	8,000	12	96,000	105,600	116,160
Insurance	1,000	12	12,000	13,200	14,520
Travel	10,000	12	120,000	132,000	145,200
Audit fees	9,000	12	108,000	118,800	130,680
Bank Charges	900	12	10,800	11,880	13,068
Stationery	1,000	12	12,000	13,200	14,520
General office supplies (tea, coffee, milk, etc.)	2,500	12	30,000	33,000	36,300
Overheads Total	65,400		784,800	863,280	949,608
Grand Total	307,400		3,688,800	4,057,680	4,463,448