



**30 September 2024**

## **Renowned Professor Plaatjies to host final concert at UCT in aid of student funding**

**Prior to his retirement in December 2024, Professor Plaatjies will perform with industry friends and current students in celebration of UCT Day 2024**

A benefit concert, headlined by the renowned Professor Dizu Plaatjies on Thursday, 3 October 2024, will kick off a season of celebration and fundraising at the University of Cape Town (UCT) as part of the UCT Day 2024 season.

Professor Plaatjies, head of African Music at the South African College of Music, will retire in December 2024. He will use his final campus concert to perform with industry friends and current students at the Baxter Theatre Concert Hall in support of the UCT Unlocking Futures Bursary Fund. Tickets start from as little as R75 and are [available online](#).

The Unlocking Futures Bursary Fund was established to alleviate historic fee debt and is one of the two fundraising initiatives supported through the UCT Day 2024 season. The other initiative is the UCT Food Sovereignty Programme, set up to combat food insecurity on campus.

In the spirit of ubuntu, UCT Vice-Chancellor Professor Mosa Moshabela urged members of the university community to rally behind the special events and initiatives in an endeavour to support student funding.

“We are once again taking the time to reflect on our heritage, the legacy of those who came before us and who have left us this world class institution, and the responsibility we have to create a lasting legacy for future generations. Our UCT Day 2024 fundraising celebrations will provide us with an opportunity to reflect on the stature of UCT as a symbol of hope for the nation, the continent and the world; and how our sense of humanity is expressed in the support we provide to our students, the next generation of leaders in society, and our very hope for humanity,” said Professor Moshabela.

Building on the successful inaugural events of 2023, UCT Day 2024 will again be commemorated through a series of fundraising events and initiatives throughout October 2024, during the university's birth month.

These include the UCT Day Book and Film Festival, scheduled for Friday, 25 October, which will showcase established and emerging UCT alumni authors and filmmakers. Tickets are [available online](#) for the 'In Conversation' style discussions and film screenings to take place at the Kramer Law Building precinct, hosted in proud collaboration with Exclusive Books, Sunshine Cinema and the EMS Summer School.

The UCT Day Cycleathon and Rowathon will also take place on Friday, 25 October together with outdoor activities for everyone – alumni, staff, students and friends of UCT.

An ongoing UCT Day Phonathon got underway on 16 September, with 15 UCT student callers running a dedicated call centre to raise funds for both programmes. It will run until 2 October.

"All of these activities provide an opportunity to come together to celebrate the vibrant spirit of UCT, and to unite behind initiatives set up to support our students. UCT Day is for everyone – whether you are a student, staff member, alumnus, donor, contractor or friend of UCT. It is about uniting our diverse, global community around a shared passion and purpose – our students' success," said Professor Moshabela.

He added: "When you purchase a ticket to any of the UCT Day campus fundraising activities, you will change a young person's life. From as little as R50 per ticket, you will become a donor, a supporter and a champion to at least one UCT student in need."

More information on the global series of UCT Day 2024 events will be shared via the university' social media platforms as well as on the [UCT Day website](#), through which the full schedule of activities, including links to event tickets, is available.

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