

**Media Advisory**

**Attention: All Media, Editors and Journalists**

**Wednesday, 19 February 2025**

**NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE OF SOUTH AFRICA TO HOST FRIENDS OF THE ARCHIVES SEMINAR 2025**

Friends of the Archives started in 2015, then it was hosted twise in 2016. The friends of the archives (FoA) programme seeks to support the National Archives and Records Service of South Africa (NARSSA/NASA) and its effort to promote equity on access and collection management processes. The seminar will take place under theme; **Usage of Archives in the 30 years of democracy : Testimonials and Practical’s.**

The Friends of the Archives contributes to the collecting efforts of the NASA by funding the select acquisition of collections that would be unable to acquired by the National Archives as government and the archives holdings to benefit the research options for the public. The FoA plays a leading role. In safeguarding our documentary heritage.

It is anticipated that the 2025 conference will be attended amongst others by delegates from the National Archives of the ESARBICA member states, academic and private archives, academic institutions, record managers etc. to share knowledge. This gathering is also held to deliberate and learn from each other about regional and international standards on proper records keeping practices, archive and related archives legislations, oral history, preservation and promotion of archival records and all other matters related to the preservation of our collective memory.

Speakers were invited for the seminar, the seminar will be physical and virtual. The seminar will take place at number 24 Hamilton Street at the National Archives. The National Archives and Records Service of South Africa is planning to hold meetings with the Gauteng Provincial Archives and various organisations (e.g. South African Society of Archivists (SASA), Oral History Association of South Africa (OHASA), South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), the Nelson Mandela Foundation etc.), academic institutions UNISA, University of Forte, University of Johannesburg, etc. and government departments to look at the possibilities of partnering in hosting this seminar. If these meetings bear positive results in partnering with the aforementioned, this will assist in sharing the costs of hosting this seminar. It is anticipated that the 2025 conference will be attended amongst others by delegates from the academic and private archives, academic institutions, record managers etc. to share knowledge. This gathering is also held to deliberate and learn from each other about regional and international standards on proper records keeping practices, archive and related archives legislations, oral history, preservation and promotion of archival records and all other matters related to the preservation of our collective memory.

**Members of the media are invited as follows**

**Event: Friends of the Archives Seminar**

**Venue: National Archives Building, 24 Hamilton Street, Arcadia**

**Date: 20-21 February 2025**

**Time: 10h00**

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**ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AN CULTURE**