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## PRESS RELEASE

Join the staff of the Nelson Mandela Art Museum in celebrating art from the museum's collection in an exhibition titled "Art our Passion – Museum our Home". The exhibition is curated by all members of the Art Museum team and will run from mid-September to mid-October in the Arts Hall of the Art Museum.

The Art Museum front of house team, admin support team, conservator, framer, educator and Director got to pick an artwork. Next to the selected artworks are quotes and stories, which share with the public staff experiences or observations about the artwork each member of staff has selected.

Front of House Staff Member, Noluthando Skweyiya comments on her selection that "In SA we have so much violence, we need peace."

The Art Museum Accountant, Sandra Oberholster reflects on the value of women in her comment, "I saw every woman in this picture...every woman is a queen."

South African's are encouraged to celebrate and share their culture and the diversity of their beliefs and traditions on Heritage day. This year the Art Museum staff used the theme ' museums our heritage – we are our own voices' to express what, why and how they feel about the artworks that they chose and how the Art Museum is an important part of Nelson Mandela Bay's heritage.

Front of House Staff Member, Lithemba Ntlele selected beadwork saying, "As black people we are people who love our culture, I chose this beadwork because it reminds me of my culture." While her colleague on the Front of House team, Melisizwe Boloti chose a work celebrating the winning South African 1995 rugby team in commemoration of the late Chester Williams.

The Art Museum Secretary, Perusha Puckree reflected on how her artwork expressed the happiness we can get from family life and Roxanne Bowers who gives admin support to the Art Museum looked at how art is like a poem without words.

With this initiative, the Art Museum staff want to share the collection with the public and demonstrate that it does not necessarily mean you have to be an art student, art graduate or creative in order to be an art lover.

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