

BOSJE marks decade of sound, education, unity

Friday, April 24, 2026



The Botswana Society for Jazz Education is turning 10, and the sound of celebration will rise from Botswana Craft on April 30, 2026. From 6 pm to midnight, the venue will host this year's International Jazz Day, a global event initiated by UNESCO that recognises jazz as a powerful tool for peace, dialogue, and unity among people. For BOSJE, the date carries double weight. It marks a decade of advancing jazz education, performance, and appreciation in Botswana.

Chairperson, Akhutleleng Keikwaletswe, addressed members of the media, partners, sponsors, artists, and guests at a press conference announcing the event. “It is an honour to stand before you today as we announce the upcoming International Jazz Day celebrations here in Botswana, hosted by the Botswana Society for Jazz Education,” he said. “This year is particularly special for us. We are proud to celebrate 10 years of hosting International Jazz Day in Botswana,” he added.

Over the past ten years, BOSJE has stayed committed to promoting jazz music, nurturing young talent, and creating platforms for cultural exchange and artistic excellence. The organisation has provided performance platforms for local and international artists, developed young musicians through workshops, masterclasses, and big band programs, created opportunities for cultural exchange, and built a growing community of jazz lovers and supporters.

Keikwaletswe made it clear that the milestone is not just about looking back. “This milestone is not just about looking back. It is about looking forward,” he said. “We are excited about the future of jazz in Botswana and the role it continues to play in education, youth empowerment, and the creative industry,” he stated.

This year’s celebration promises to be bigger and more impactful. Audiences can expect powerful performances, engaging educational activities, and collaborations that reflect both local identity and global connections. The lineup brings together a vibrant mix of local and international jazz talent. Performances by Sereetsi & The Natives, Mpho Sebina, Simon Wyrsh, WDP, and Sebaga Rabantheng, among others, promise a rich and diverse musical showcase.

Speaking ahead of the celebrations, Keikwaletswe reflected on the journey. “As we celebrate International Jazz Day, we also celebrate a decade of passion, growth, and community,” he said. “BOSJE has remained committed to empowering artists, educating audiences, and preserving the spirit of jazz in Botswana. This milestone is not just about looking back, but about inspiring the future of jazz for generations to come.”

Beyond the performances, the event continues BOSJE’s mission of music education, youth development, and industry collaboration. Those three pillars have defined the organisation over the past decade. For Keikwaletswe, the platform belongs to the next generation. “To the artists, thank you for your dedication to your craft. To the young people, this platform is for you. And to the nation, this is your celebration.”

International Jazz Day is celebrated globally on 30 April. It highlights jazz as a powerful tool for promoting peace, cultural dialogue, and artistic expression. In Botswana, BOSJE has embraced that vision and made it a local mission to ensure jazz continues to grow, inspire, and transform lives.

Keikwaletswe extended gratitude to the people who made ten years possible. “We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to our partners, sponsors, and the media for your continued support. Your contribution has been instrumental in helping us sustain and grow this initiative over the years.”

Members of the public are encouraged to attend and be part of this landmark celebration. Tickets are available at BOSJE offices and Botswana Craft.