

# VALHALLA ARTS

*"When the burning flame of spirit is ignited, it will transform any soul - no matter what the circumstances."*  
(MUSA E. ZULU, 1999)

## CONSERVATION ON WHEELS

### *Promoting Disability Accessible Tourism*



The primary objective of the '*Conservation on Wheels*' initiative is to promote accessible tourism in the South African disability sector. Our modern society, with its growing tourism industry, has become increasingly aware of the concept of integration of people with disabilities. Issues such as accessibility, design for all and universal design now feature prominently in our policy formulation, strategy development agenda and even the Constitution.

**Accessible Tourism** is the ongoing endeavor to ensure tourist destinations, products and services are accessible to all people, regardless of their physical limitations, disabilities or age. Accessible tourism enables people with access requirements, including mobility, vision, hearing and cognitive dimensions of access, to function independently and with equity and dignity through the delivery of universally designed tourism products, services and environments.

Since 2010, and through the '*Conservation on Wheels*' project, Valhalla Arts has taken many students and youth with disabilities to various tourism destinations and heritage sites in KwaZulu-Natal and beyond. To ensure that the project is indeed an accessible tourism promotion mechanism, the following standards are met with care and due-diligence:





- **Barrier-free destinations:** Valhalla Arts conducts a comprehensive disability audit to source reliable information about a specific destination's level of accessibility. Results allow us to conclude that all infrastructure and facilities to be used/visited, including accommodation venues, are fully accessible to people with disabilities invited to participate.



- **Transport:** The audit includes ensuring that transport for students and youth with disabilities invited to participate is easy to access and offers a comfortable ride.

- **High quality services:** Trained Staff capable of dealing with accessibility issues are always at hand to ensure that the needs of every person with a disability invited are understood and met accordingly.



- Sign Language Interpreters are enlisted to see to the effective and on-the-spot communications needs of deaf participants so that they also get to know the details and history of all tourist sites and monuments visited during the tours.