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Thobile Zwane



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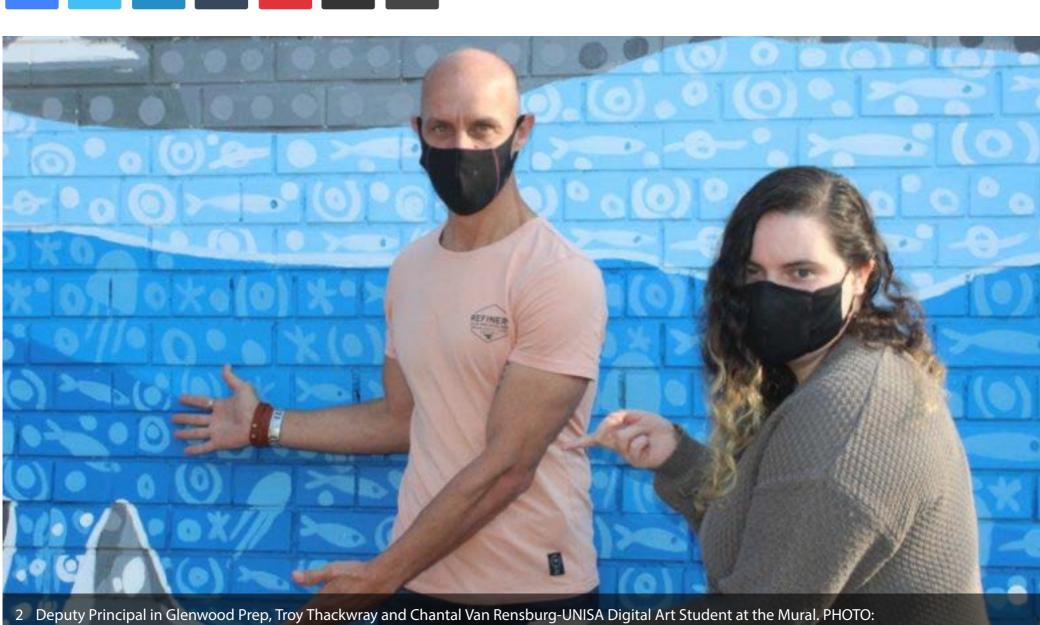
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DRIVEN by their passion to beautify their area, the Glenwood Urban Improvement Precinct (GUIP) is continuing with its mission and recently celebrated the completion of a mural project.

The mural, which was created in collaboration with Umcebo Design, can be seen on the wall of Glenwood Preparatory School on Bulwer Road.

Commenting on the mural, University of South Africa Digital Art second-year student Chantal Van Rensburg, who has helped with painting the mural said, she is glad that the mural is complete.

"It's really exciting to be part of such a big project that is not only about me. It's bigger than me and it's about the community and a way for us to give back to the community by using our skills as artists. This is also creating opportunities for younger artists like myself to work in a community project," said Van Rensburg.

Troy Thackwray, deputy principal of Glenwood Prep School said, "As a Durban school, this mural is fantastic, just picking up the ocean, and the sea themes. As a primary school it's double and it wows anyone who drives past the institution and artistic aspect to it. We are happy as a school and we are 100% behind the wonderful initiative."



Manager of Glenwood UIP Vernon Stokes, Community Artist Ansa Liebenberg, Unisa student Chantal Van Rensburg and Glenwood Deputy Principal, Troy Thackwray at the mural.

Speaking to Berea Mail, creative director of Umcebo Designs, Robin Opperman thanked the Glenwood Urban Improvement Precinct who assisted in organising the project.

"We are proud of the mural, not only for the things that the mural contains, it is an uplifting mural. We are exceptionally proud that the community feels ownership of the mural. The community are bringing their kids for a photograph with the mural. We had very positive feedback and also segmenting our relationship with the Glenwood UIP which is very important to us because we hope to do future murals and we also enjoy working with them."

Vernon Stokes, manager of Glenwood UIP, said the GUIP is also continuing with other initiatives which include the identification of illegal dumpers for prosecution and the lobbying for trimming of trees that are obscuring streetlights and encroaching on business premises.

"Our security contingent is fully operational and in this field, we are trying to make an impact in the prevention of crime. Additionally, day-to-day cleaning in the precinct continues unabated," he concluded.