

Choir Name: Rearabetswe Choral Society

Province: Free State

Town: Botshabelo in Bloemfontein

The Rearabetswe Choral Society, a choir based in Botshabelo [Free State region], has developed into one of the cornerstones of choral and classical music of all times. The choir is now under the baton of Mr. Pule Radebe, but before him the choir worked with **Mr. Tom Sitsholwane** who is the founder of the choral society, **Mr. Moqhoishi** and **Mr. Mahlae**. They are still here as part of our advisors.

This choir was formed in 1995 by few individuals who recognized the need for a choral choir in Botshabelo, mainly because of the talent they've seen around the area. The choir comprises of residents of Botshabelo and surrounding towns (Thaba Nchu, Bloemfontein, Koffiefontein, Kroonstad, Welkom) as well as neighbouring country (Lesotho) with different socio-economic backgrounds.

They choir has won numerous awards over the years: ATKV, NICRO musical, Sing to Vista, they also participate in DSACR and National Choir Festival competitions. Above all, they've also made history in 2017, when they toured African Continent and becoming the first choir from Botshabelo to perform outside the country.

During 2010, besides focus in music only, they started to partake in community based projects because they understood that, before its members became their choristers they were part of the community and the choir also recognized a need for them to be in partnership with the community that they are around.

Rearabetswe Choral Society takes the development of young people very seriously, especially those who are in music. Many of the choristers are studying in higher institutions across the country pursuing their dreams not only in music but in many career choices they prefer.

In 2018, Rearabetswe Choral Society was fully registered as **Non-Profit-Organization (203-807)**, mainly because its membership was growing very fast and they had

different objectives they need to achieve. We now have 67 fully registered members, and would like to see our membership growing year on year.