



Chris McGregor, who died in self-exile in France last year.

Tribute to jazz pianist Chris McGregor

TYRONE SEALE

A MUSICAL tribute to jazz pianist Chris McGregor, who died in self-exile in France almost a year ago, will be the first major fund raiser for newly launched Rosie's And All That Jazz Musicians Education Trust Fund.

Started by photo-journalists Rashid Lombard and John Rubythorn, who run Rosie's in the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, the musicians education trust fund will finance young performers who wish to study music at tertiary level or at other formal institutions.

The fund was launched with an appeal by Mayor Gordon Oliver for public support to the project. The fund will be administered jointly by lawyer Essa Moosa and Music Action for People's Progress (MAPP), the fledgling, Athlone-based music school.

Lombard and Rubythorn believe individual fund-raising events will not "pull us out of the cultural doldrums".

They said in a statement: "Merely passing the

hat around has limited results and is downright boring.

"South Africans have realised with a vigour that we need to save ourselves from the cultural devastation caused by people whose approach to art will be remembered for its singular lack of enduring talent."

In practice, part of the proceeds of concerts by established performers at Rosie's will be channelled into the trust fund and young musicians, who are supported by the fund or are candidates for scholarships, will be showcased.

On May 26, a year to the day since Chris McGregor's death, top jazz performers will line up for a concert, the entire proceeds of which will go to the education fund.

At future concerts musicians will decide how much of their payment they want to give to the fund.

● The Rosie's management are holding auditions for theatre, dance and comedy acts to fill the Monday and Tuesday slots.

Contact Rashid Lombard or Quadir Khan at ☎ 23 2722, or fax 24 0239.