## **SEED Statement in honor of Professor Tesfaye Gessesse**



Society of Ethiopians Established in the Diaspora (SEED), together with all Ethiopians in the Diaspora is saddened by the passing away of Professor Tesfaye Gessesse. SEED joins the many friends and fans of Professor Gessesse in extending its deepest condolence to his family and the performing arts community mourning the void of a legendary icon in the history of Ethiopia's modern theater.

Professor Tesfaye Gessesse is one of the modernizers of Ethiopian theater. He served his country as a director, writer and managing director in different institutions. He has performed and acted successfully in a number of plays. Above and beyond, he has written and directed scores of plays which have immense significance in the modern history of our culture.

Through his unparalleled academic and administrative efforts, Prof. Gessesse has developed a number of famous actors and actresses.

On May 24th 2015, SEED honored Professor Tesfaye Gessesse in acknowledgment of his outstanding life-long contributions to the preservation of our culture through his prolific writings, theatrical and poetic talents. He will be remembered, as a venerated artist whose work has inspired many followers, as a founder of Orchestra Ethiopia, as a distinguished role model to the countless young artists in Ethiopia and Ethiopians around the globe.

On the 16th of December 2020, the arts and entertainment family lost a truly loveable and courageous legend. Professor Tesfaye will surely be missed by many Ethiopians around the globe. The Society of Ethiopians Established in Diaspora (SEED) prays for the comfort of his family and wish him a blissful eternal rest in his new home.

Society of Ethiopians Established in Diaspora (SEED)

December 22, 2020