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## MEC MABUZA APPLAUDS PARTICIPANTS FOR THE SUCCESS OF MPUCE 2025

The MEC for Culture, Sport and Recreation in Mpumalanga, Ms Leah Mabuza has applauded participants whose contribution made the 2025 Mpumalanga Cultural Xperience (MPUCE 10) a success. This year the province marked the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the annual cultural festival, which showcases a rich heritage, music and culture.

The festivities of the event started from 22 November to 7 December 2025 across the Nkangala, Ehlanzeni and Gert Sibande Districts. They included the Kasi Xperience, the vibrant Carnival Xperience, the Choral Xperience, Soul Session, the 013 Summer Blaze, the Traditional and Marathon Xperience and the Mpumalanga Gospel Music Awards.

The activities attracted hundreds of patrons, including citizens from neighboring countries such as Mozambique and the Kingdom of eSwatini. According to MEC Mabuza the success of the event signifies Mpumalanga's capability to host successful events.

"The success of the Mpumalanga Cultural Xperience is testament to a solid collaboration between the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation (DCSR) and various Departments within the Provincial Government. It signifies our shared vision aimed at repositioning Mpumalanga as a premier cultural and tourism destination in the country," MEC Mabuza expatiated.

She says the success of the 2025 Cultural Experience has reaffirmed Mpumalanga's reputation as the place of the rising sun and the heartbeat of cultural excellence in South Africa. She added that the activities have left a significant legacy economically. "At the core of the Cultural Experience is a strategy to showcase Mpumalanga's tourism attraction sites, for patrons to visit beyond the festivities. This is essential for them to visit and spend money in our accommodation facilities, which in turn contributes towards the province's economic growth trajectory, aimed at job creation and reducing poverty," MEC Mabuza explained.

Mabuza further attributed the success of the cultural experience to the good conduct of the patrons throughout the cultural experience programme. She says the warmth reception of visitors and the world class event management is a legacy that will remain in their memories for them to come back in the future.



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