**For immediate release 7 March 2013**

**Musical Play to Honour Liberation Heroes and Heroines**

The Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation will launch a Musical Play titled, The" Unbreakable Thread" on the 14th of March in eMalahleni Theatre. The Musical was produced as part of the department’s contribution to the National Liberation Heritage Route to regenerate liberation stories which commemorates the Province’s unsung Liberation Struggle heroes and heroines.

The department officially appointed Botebo ba Africa to produce the musical and the service provider conducted workshops and auditions in various key points of the province to identify local artists who form part of the musical play cast. Rehearsal sessions are currently taking place at the eMalahleni Theatre.

“Our aim as the department is to use this musical not only as a platform to teach our people about the contributions of our province to the liberation struggle, but also as a platform to identify and showcase local talent as per our mandate.” Said Ms Sibongile Nkosi, the departmental spokesperson.

The" Unbreakable Thread" is a Musical Production about the history of our selfless struggle in South Africa. It is a production that focuses on the promotion of Ubuntu as the basis for a progressive struggle for peace and equality wedged over the past hundred years. It highlights Ubuntu as a philosophy that demonstrate human solidarity in all spheres of life and a concept that could bring world order. Through a series of dramatic scenes with music and dance, the production portrays a selection of historical events marked as watershed moments from pre- to post-colonial period to illustrate the authenticity of Ubuntu in resolving issues or challenges that affect us as a people or nation.

The South African liberation struggle stands out as one of the most significant events of the 20th Century and Mpumalanga province has also played a role in the liberation struggle of the country. The South African government has initiated the National Liberation Heritage Route to narrate line of events during the liberation struggle as part of preserving of national memory for continuity and national identity. The conceptual origin of The National Liberation Heritage Route was inspired by Resolution 33c/29 of the 33rd UNESCO General Conference which adopted “*Roads to Independence: African Liberation Heritage”*, as a resolution sponsored by SADC countries.

The National Liberation Heritage Route (NHLR) is a complex combination of constitutive sites in different parts of the country representing significant historic moments that characterised the different phases of the liberation struggle.

The Musical will be launched on the 14th March 2013 and run until the 16th March 2013 at the eMalahleni Theatre in eMalahleni Municipality.

**For more information, contact Ms Sibongile Nkosi on (013) 766 5372/ 082 492 4886**