

Remarks by the Head of Department, Mrs. Mahlasedi Mhlabane delivered at the occasion of the 2010 Provincial School Choral Eisteddfod on 14 June 2010 at Emalahleni Municipality

Programme Directors, Dr JZM Sambo and Pastor SK Zamisa

Members of Senior Management

Mr. JJ Mabena, hosting Regional Director

Provincial Coordinators, Mrs. Paulinah Mphahlaza

Regional Music Coordinators

Circuit Managers

Choir Conductors

Media

Organized Labour

Representatives from Emalahleni Municipality

Principals

Educators

Parents

Learners

Ladies and Gentleman

I am indeed thrilled to be part of these festivities and to be embraced by the wisdom of the one and only, International MC, Dr Sambo. It is indeed an honour and privilege to be associated with personalities of your caliber.

When I was advised about this event the first question that came to mind was, will it be possible to host this programme in the mist of the 2010 FIFA World Cup Activities?

I was told that it will happen and I stand here to appreciate the commitment, dedication and focus that you are displaying here and now.

These learners are good, the talent that is being displayed here is enormous, and requires a concerted effort to nourish.

We must take pride in what we are being presented by these young children. I wish that their parents could be here to shower them with courage and motivation. Be that as it may, in the absence of parents, that is where we came in to expose the amount of wealth and ability that each child has. That is our course.

The curriculum enrichment programme such as the music competitions must indeed help us to bring meaning to our quest to educate the nation.

These are some of the things we must pride ourselves about. We must walk tall and proud because we are able to ensure that activities aimed at nation building and empowerment are implemented without failure.

I also want to add my voice in expressing my joy and appreciation for the able manner at which the Provincial Schools Choral Eisteddfod is coordinated.

This is a very crucial exercise and needs to be done even beyond the confines of the classroom of significance is that this adds impetus to our quest to improve the delivery of quality teaching and learning.

Music is renowned for its ability to reach the soul and uplift spirit. It is therefore proper that every effort is made to transcend its reach and influence to ensure that our learners are provided the holistic approach in terms of talent development and exposure.

This Provincial School Choral Eisteddfod Programme must provide our schools and learners the opportunity to showcase their talents and abilities and at the same time grow and develop as a result of the experience gathered.

This is just the beginning for our learners. This competition heralds careers for some of you in the music industry. We envisage growth in this industry and hope that in the near future we will have our choirs singing to tunes and compositions of some of our own.

Credit should go to our educators who are doing a sterling job by teaching our learners the basics not just of choral music up to where they can compete and excel at a high level.

It is our understanding that through music the lessons of life are taught in a relaxed and interesting way and thus we are convinced that out of this exercise will emerge better people. Let us all learn and grow from this experience.

I know that most of you present here love music very much. Your presence speaks volume especially because this event competes with the soccer world cup.

Ladies and gentlemen, learners and educators this is a moment to savour. Let us sit back and enjoy the music.