



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
SPORT, ARTS & CULTURE

DSAC TO HOST THE 'U LUMA MUKUMBI' AS PART OF MARULA FESTIVAL

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture will host the annual official opening of the First Fruit Season 2013, to honour the cultural heritage of the Marula- **'U LUMA MUKUMBI'**. It is celebrated annually aimed at promoting knowledge and awareness about the African Tradition of the cultural heritage associated with the golden fruit of Africa to promote the tourism potential and economic development with regard to Marula.

'U LUMA MUKUMBI', which serves as a build-up towards the annual Marula Festival, is also aimed at marketing Limpopo's cultural and natural heritage, promoting conservation and protection of this national asset and promoting greater awareness, respect, appreciation and acceptance of indigenous knowledge, through museums.

The event will be held as follows:

Date : 16 February 2013

**Venue : Dzata Museum, Makhado Municipality
Vhembe District Municipality**

Time : 10h00

The Limpopo people call Marula the "food of kings and ancestors," and celebrate the "Feast of First Fruits" by pouring offerings of fresh juice over the tombs of their dead chiefs and family. The event has been celebrated since 2005. It is also celebrated through culture and dance. Throughout Southern Africa, the ripening of the Marula fruits from December to March is celebrated. The "great harvest" begins in February/March, which also marks planting season.

Legends about marula abound - from its use as relaxation tree, traditional beer, a place of worship, and a food source, magical qualities as a healing ingredient, and the many uses of its bark, leaves, fruit, nut and kernels.

For more information please contact the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture on (015) 284 – 4000.

End.

Olympic Towers, 21 Biccard Street, POLOKWANE, 0700
Private Bag X9549, POLOKWANE, 0700

Tel: (015) 284-4000, Fax: (015) 284-4510 Website: <http://www.sac.limpopo.gov.za>

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