



Department SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICE of the MEC

## REMARKS BY MEC LERULE RAMAKHANYA AT DR. WINNIE MASHABA'S THE 25 YEARS IN MUSIC CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, 20 May 2023

Dr. Winnie Mashaba, the lady of the night. Members of the provincial legislature Music Icon Rev. Benjamin Dube All our artists present here today Our Clergies

Ladies and gentlemen in Christ.

I stand before you today filled with joy and praise.

A milestone by one of our own has been achieved. 25 years in the music industry.

It has been 25 years of praises- 25 years of breathing life to those who have lost hope. 25 years of singing praises to God and taking along scores of people who follow and love your music.

As we celebrate with you Dr Winnie Mashaba this milestone, allow me to appreciate the kind of development you have been doing in the music industry. You have shared your experience, helped shape young worship and praise artists, and you have done so selflessly. You are truly one remarkable woman.

Music is one of the key cultural industries identified in the Cultural Industrial Growth Strategy Report of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, and government has committed itself to harnessing its potential. In addition to the cultural value that Dr. Mashaba's music brings, it plays an important economic role in the through music gatherings as these, generating significant copyright revenue, and for upcoming artists as well. In this industry, the department has solid foundations on which to build., and that foundation was laid bare by your music Dr. Winnie Mashaba.

The people of Limpopo and the rest of the country can attest to the fact that your soothing Sion gospel music, along with language and speech, has been important to help promote emotional synergy and social cohesion, and foster group-level cooperation and coordination. Your music is trivet over tribal lines.

As I conclude, allow me to utter your own words saying "Ditebogo ke tseo". We indeed give thanks to God for allowing you to share your talent with us, and we will continue supporting you the best way we know how. You remain our star and we would like you to keep shining.

Please do not let go of your love to assist young artists, we would like to see even more Dr Winnie Mashaba's in the near future.

I thank you.