Chairperson
Madam Speaker
Deputy Speaker
Honourable Members of the Legislature
Amakhosi Present
Guests from the Culture, Heritage and Creative Arts Industry
Distinguished Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen
Sanibonani! A Salaam Wailikum! Nemaste! Molweni! Good Day! Goeie Dag!

Preamble
I find it befitting to start the Budget Vote for the KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Department of Arts and Culture by acknowledging that this year coincides with the OR Tambo Centenary. The President of the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency JG Zuma, reminded us during the State of the Nation Address that OR Tambo would have turned 100 this year. We thank President OR Tambo for being a beacon of light that guided South Africa, the ANC and the liberation movement in general during the struggle period. His legacy will continue to play an important role for many years after he departed because of the profound values and principles he stood for.

The Honourable Premier has already directed, through the State of the Province Address, how we should work together as various agencies to roll out the OR Tambo Centenary celebrations. The Department of Arts and Culture has heeded the call and hit the ground running. To date, several artistic genres have been identified and encompassed within the envisaged KZN provincial cultural ensemble, which is made up of the choral fraternity and the theatre ensemble. Within the choral fraternity, we have identified the need for performances dedicated to OR Tambo during the Arts and Culture Provincial Choral Music Competitions in July of this year. Within the theatre fraternity,
we will embark on a talent search across the length and breadth of the province, targeting out-of-school youth, with a view to roping them into musical theatre performances, which will have as its primary goal the celebration of the legacy of OR Tambo as a provincial flagship event.

**Amagugu Esizwe**

In keeping with celebrating our heroes and heroines, the Department has started an annual programme, called Amagugu Esizwe, of celebrating the living legends. We want to promote the valuing of our culture and creative arts practitioners while they are still alive. This year we are celebrating the legendary Prof Joseph Shabalala, the founder of the world-renowned Isicathamiya Group, Ladysmith Black Mambazo. This was done by way of a gala dinner on 31 March 2017 followed by a music festival the following day, 1 April. These celebrations will follow a programmatic approach rather than being once-of events. I do wish to thank my colleague MEC Dlungwane and his department for joining us in the commemoration of this icon by renaming a school in Ladysmith after him.

**Re-engineering the essence of culture and heritage**

Celebrating our prized and proud heritage is one of the pillars of our overall strategy. To this end, we have reviewed the Department’s vision to: Prosperity and Social Cohesion through Arts, Culture and Heritage. Culture and heritage are intertwined, and separating them in whatever way would be superficial and therefore unwise. This new revised vision is also in line with the White Paper on Arts, Culture and Heritage, which refocuses Heritage within the family of Arts and Culture.

**Cultural Thursdays**

I am also proud to launch in this Honourable House, Cultural Thursdays, a programme which has been approved by the Executive Council, aimed at promoting various cultures, identities, nation building and social cohesion through various forms of cultural activities. Monthly themes have been developed and they entail dialogue sessions, traditional cuisine and attire, exhibitions, memorial lectures and presentations, competitions, as well as film and radio shows focusing on various cultures.
We want public servants, cultural activists and the community at large to be at the fore front of this campaign. The programme will be rolled-out in partnership with various stakeholders who include, but not limited to, all government departments, KZN Tourism (that is: the hospitality sector), the Business Chamber and its members, Traditional Leadership and its sphere of influence, cultural institutions and tertiary institutions.

The programme will embrace the emergent popular youth culture and cultural diversity. In essence this is the arts and culture sector contribution to the government-wide Back-to-basics-programme – Azibuye Emasisweni. I urge Members of this House to take a lead in reviving our cultures, promoting our heritage and that which unites us as a nation despite our diverse identities.

**Good governance**

The aforementioned was shared with this Honourable House by way of introduction. I would now like to deal with governance issues before I zoom into the respective departmental programmes.

When I joined the Department, I called for stakeholder participation in formulating departmental plans. The revised Strategic Plan and Annual Performance Plan, which I tabled in this House two weeks ago, are outcomes of the regional and district consultations with our stakeholders.

As the political head of the Department, I have started a process of repositioning the arts, culture and heritage sector together with the associated re-engineering of the departmental business processes. The organisational structure of the Department is being reviewed to ensure it is aligned with our transformation agenda of improved service delivery. The process includes the realignment of sub-programmes to eliminate any duplication and to improve efficiencies.
Sound leadership – five pillars of the strategy

Achieving the government outcomes on radical socio-economic transformation is dependent on good governance, characterised by, among other things, sound leadership, manifesting itself through a clear vision and goals. In this regard, I have articulated the following 5 pillars of our strategy, viz: (1) social transformation; (2) rural development, including infrastructure; (3) strengthening stakeholder engagement; (4) youth and women development; and (5) empowerment of the vulnerable groups. Special attention will be given to these five pillars in all programmes. As proof of our commitment to achieve the above, I have already appointed a Youth Officer, who is located in my office, and the priority for this year is to hold a Youth in Arts and Culture Summit.

Fighting fraud and corruption

The Department also has clear strategies and plans in place to fight fraud and corruption because these deplorable activities continue to undermine the good work that government is doing. I applaud the Honourable Premier for lodging the "I do Right" campaign. The Department continues to implement the laudable objectives of this campaign without fear or favour as we endeavor to restore integrity and sound control measures within our systems. Following this, the Department will be resolute in achieving a clean audit opinion for the 2017/18 financial year. I sincerely believe that we have taken a step in the right direction by migrating from a qualified to an unqualified audit opinion.

Empowering small suppliers

Furthermore, since joining the Department, I have ensured that all payments to suppliers, which had been outstanding for more than 30 days, were paid. The only remaining cases are those where the Department is unable to trace the suppliers to urge them to submit outstanding documentation so that we can effect payments.

The Department has also begun a process of phasing out the out-sourcing of services, which mean that cleaning staff will now be part of our organisational structure. Labour brokers will not be entertained at all. Our commitments are based on the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (PPPFA) and plans include the unbundling of major contracts to empower
lower-graded Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) contractors to gain the
required grading. We have no doubt that these, as well as other, interventions will assist us in
achieving meaningful economic transformation.

**Employment equity**

Achieving equity and women representation at Senior Management Service (SMS) level remains
at the top of our agenda. Currently, women employed at this level stand at 46%, and people with
disabilities stand at 1.99%. We will change this around to achieve the minimum thresholds.
Consequence management for failing to meet our targets and compliance with government
prescripts will be enforced.

I now turn to the core programmes of the Department and will show how we are positioning
ourselves to fight the challenges of inequalities, poverty and unemployment facing our society.

**Programme 2**

**Social cohesion and moral regeneration**

The 1996 Constitution, without directly using the concept "social cohesion", entrenches the
principles of non-racialism and non-discrimination and confirms a quest for reconciliation and
by the Executive Council to investigate the causes of incidents of violence against foreign
nationals, as well as the wave of racist utterances that were in the public domain, show that there
are salient inequalities which, if not attended to, can seriously compromise this ideal. The reports’
main findings are that structural socio-economic inequalities constitute the foundation of threats
to social cohesion. Both reports conclude that colonialism and apartheid lead to the social
engineering of skills, capital and opportunities, thus bequeathing South Africa (SA) with a legacy
of unemployment and inequality.

The reports further maintain that the realisation of a more socially cohesive society is
fundamentally dependent upon how the KZN Province pursues greater socio-economic equality
and how it promotes higher degrees of mutual acceptance within and between its diverse
communities. In response to this, a multi-sectorial provincial social cohesion and moral
regeneration summit will be held from 1 to 3 June 2017 to develop a social cohesion strategy and implementation plan that will see us address these issues collectively with the people of KZN from all walks of life, irrespective of race, religion, gender or disability.

**Build up to summit**
A lot has been done as a build up towards the summit. Since 2014, approximately 48 community dialogues have been hosted in the Province which culminated in a provincial Social Cohesion Summit and two national summits. The Department will continue hosting community dialogues in all districts in the new financial year. These dialogues provide a platform for the citizens of the Province from all sectors of society to express their views and provide the Department with opportunities to implement programmes that will meet the needs and aspirations of the communities they serve. The planned social cohesion summit will allow academics, cultural activists, the business sector, NGO’s and others to work on a strategy geared towards social cohesion and nation building.

**Learn Another Language**
The Learn Another Language programme was initiated by the Department a few years ago, but its main focus was on spoken languages. Now my Department will expand it to also include Sign Language.

Though Sign Language has not been declared an official language yet, the Constitution acknowledges it as having the same status as that of the 11 official languages of the country.

It is therefore clear that the Constitution and other legislation and policies such as the Use of Official Languages Act, the PanSALB Act and the KZN Provincial Languages Policy recognise and endeavour to protect and elevate the status of Sign Language.

Deaf people often find it difficult to access services due a lack of understanding of their language by most government officials. It is the aim of my Department to encourage the use and learning of Sign Language to enable the deaf community to be understood and thereby have equal access to services.
This year aggressive steps will be taken to advance the use of Sing language and we will be targeting public servants and the political leadership of the province including members of the executive, members of the legislature and councilors.

**Disability summit**

I find it appropriate at this juncture to report that the Department has held a successful Summit for People with Disabilities which was the first of its kind. The summit was aimed at mainstreaming disability programmes into our core service delivery programmes. We will work with the relevant sister departments, in particular the department of Social Development, among others, and municipalities to ensure that the resolutions taken are implemented. One of the key resolutions is the hosting of the inaugural Sport and Arts Festival for people with disabilities which is planned for November 2017.

**Provincial Language Policy and Bill**

Regarding the KZN Languages Bill and the policy on which it was based, I have called for a review of the KZN Provincial Language Policy. This is to ensure that the policy, as well as the eventual provincial act, is aligned to the provincial language demographics as articulated in the 2011 census results. The revised policy will inform the bill and promote inclusivity and access to government services and information for people with disabilities.

Language coordinating structures such as KWANILAFO, reading and writing clubs, the USIBA Writers Guild and the Centre for Creative Arts will continue to receive financial and administrative support from the Department in recognition of the role they play in developing languages. The focus of literature development this year will be on indigenous languages and the creation of space in public libraries for indigenous literature. All our efforts will be geared towards promoting authorship in indigenous languages.

Notwithstanding the language policy review process I have spoken about earlier, I am glad to announce that the Danhauser, uBuhlebezwe, eZinqoleni, uMngeni, The Big Five, uMvoti and
iMbabazane local municipalities will be assisted in developing their institutional language policies this year.

**Multilingualism**

Multilingual promotion projects such as International Translation Day, International Mother Tongue Day and the Anton Lembede Speech Contest remain key projects of our social transformation agenda.

I am glad to say that despite economic down turn the Department continues to provide free translation and interpreting services to government departments and municipalities. These services are key elements in providing access to information.

**Geographical naming**

Building on the achievements of previous years, the Department will conduct research on the standardization of no less than 100 names this financial year. We will work with municipalities, traditional leadership and other relevant stakeholders in the geographical naming process which is a cumbersome process. The Department has also changed its focus and no longer only concentrates on the orthography and spelling of names. It is now also embarking on public education through public hearings helping communities to initiate the changing of names based on historical considerations, eg Melmoth to Mthonjaneni, which has already started. We will also sign a collaborative agreement with the Department of Transport to ensure that the standardised names are displayed on the road network.

**Significant days**

Our cultural days have grown significantly over the years which augers well for the economy of the Province because these events attract visitors from all over the country. Umkhosi WoMhlanga, Umkhosi WeLembe, Umkhosi Woselwa, Umkhosi Wesivivane, Umkhosi kaNomkhubulwane and Umkhosi Wamaganu are our source of pride as a nation. Eastern Rendezvous and the Afrikaanse Vensterfees have joined the list of significant days in our calendar to show our appreciation of diversity. This year, R23 million will go towards the hosting of these cultural events which will include support we provide for national days such as Freedom Day and Youth Day.
The Umkhosi WeLembe held in Moses Mabhida Stadium last year stood out and showcased the best of Zulu culture. The event which marked the 200 years after King Shaka united the different tribes into a formidable Zulu nation, attracted more than 35 000 spectators in one day. This event also celebrated the 45 years since the current monarch ascended the Zulu throne. The cultural procession was preceded by a religious ceremony conducted by the Nazareth Shembe congregation. Congregants came to congratulate and pay their respects to His Majesty The King on the achievements made to unite the nation and preserve the Zulu culture.

Umkhosi Woselwa has been re-engineered to include a formal sporting programme called Uselwa Challenge. We remain indebted to His Majesty The King for guidance and support in ensuring that our culture is revived and put on the world map.

Interest in our celebrations by neighbouring countries in the region has also shown growth. The Department’s beneficiation programme will translate to local communities benefiting directly from the procurement of infrastructure and other services associated with our events, such as, for example, security and catering. Apart from economic spin-offs, educational programmes will be embedded in these activities with a focus on moral values and career guidance.

**Zidlana Imilala Ingoma festivals**

The Department will be expanding Izingoma this financial year from 67 to 73. The aim is to increase them significantly over the MTEF. Izingoma play a crucial role in social cohesion and nation building. In rolling out this programme, we will endeavour to cater for all cultural groups. I am happy to report that the new entrants in this programme are the Andra Maha Sabha Eisteddfod, the Ilembe Fashion Show, the Durban Diwali festival, and the Senior Citizen event to name but a few. The Kingdom Sport, Arts and Culture Festival is also an activity that we are introducing this year.

It is with satisfaction that I mention that the interconnection and synergies between the Department of Arts and Culture and the Department of Sport and Recreation is growing steadily. It is vital that these two departments, who are closely related and rendering their respective services under one political functionary, should exploit opportunities to work together in the execution of their plans. Thus far, collaboration has yielded positive results.

**Creative industries as commodities**
Our programmes are designed to create economic opportunities and generate income. Realisation of this objective is dependent on the caliber of our artists. As part of our initiatives in 2017/18, a total of 2 040 artists across the province will be part of capacity building programmes in various genres focusing on business skills, quality assurance, pricing, marketing, etc. The aim is to capacitate them and assist them in the production of sellable, high quality products.

The Grahamstown National Arts Festival and the Durban International Film Festival continue to provide a platform for cultural exchange programmes. This year the Department is partnering with the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environment Affairs and its agencies such as Tourism KZN to expose our artists at international world trade and/or business forums. Our artists working in the respective genres that form part of the creative industries will get the opportunity to gain experience and showcase their talent to foreign delegates attending these forums.

This endeavour is inspired by the success story of the Durban Youth Wind Band who recently scooped a Gold Award while participating in the New York Wind Band Festival hosted by World Projects. This remarkable achievement clearly shows that the talent and skills nurtured in the Province is comparable to the best in the world, hence more resources should be made available to develop them.

At a local level, the Department will enter into partnerships with shopping malls to provide artists with platforms and spaces to exhibit and sell their products.

I am also pleased to report that we have taken exhibitions to the next level. Our vision is that people should be able to earn a living from art. To date, the following big-scale craft exhibitions have been held: in Uthukela which was linked to International Translation Day in October 2016; at eDumbe which was linked to a fashion show; in Bulwer linked to International Mother Tongue Day in February 2017; and presentations on indigenous knowledge, in Pongola; at the Cabinet Lekgotla in Mayville in February; and at the official opening of the Legislature. We shall encourage exhibitions at all government events where practically possible. And we shall also
encourage the attendees of these events to buy the products, thereby supporting and sustaining our local artists.

The Beads Festival which was coordinated by Department of Cooperative Government and Traditional Affairs will be integrated in the Department’s calendar of activities. A Crafters Summit will also be held to allow crafters to define and shape the space in which they operate.

**Programmes targeting the youth**
Further to the internship programme which covers a wide range of work areas and which will attract 85 graduates in 2017/18 at a budget of R4.9 million, the Department has set aside R1 million for bursaries for external candidates, specifically in the field of arts and culture such as jewelry design and manufacture, fine art, drama, theatre and performing arts. The aim is to attract the youth and entice them to pursue a career in one or more of the many existing art forms. We will accommodate youth requiring in-service training as part of our commitment to develop skills and prepare the youth for employment opportunities.

**Young Patriots Programme**
The Department is committed to supporting The Young Patriots Programme, one of the flagship programmes of the national Department of Arts and Culture. This innovative programme is aimed at assisting young people to gain work experience and promote patriotism. A total of 35 "young patriots" have been appointed to promote social cohesion and nation building in the Province and to educate the youth about their history, heritage and the role played by young people in the struggle for national liberation to inculcate an appreciation for our democracy.

**Job creation**
This financial year I have directed that programmes should look beyond the EPWP grant and expand to baseline budget. Job creation requires us to be creative and innovative. Infrastructure, including gardening and maintenance, toy collections, cyber cadets, artists in schools, and performing and non-performing arts continue to be the Department’s major source of job creation opportunities.
**Entities funded by the Department**

Entities funded by the department have a huge potential for job creation and often the work they do is not adequately accounted for except in terms funding transfers. This year we have introduced stringent accountability measures for these entities. Firstly, we will ensure that their business plans and reporting are aligned to the Department’s vision and programmes. Secondly, they will from now on onwards be providing statistics, at least on a quarterly basis, on the creation of job opportunities covering, among others, the youth, women and people with disabilities that benefited from their programmes. Our preliminary survey around February this year indicates that the entities created more than 7 500 short-term job opportunities. I believe that the R36 million that is going to arts and culture organisations, including The Playhouse Company and the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra, this financial year, will yield a significant number of job opportunities if wisely used and accounted for. The Department will engage with these two institutions with a view to embark on collaborative programmes and to tap into the expertise they possess.

**Review of transfers**

The Department has reviewed the financial support given through transfers to arts and culture organisations. Factors that were considered included the extent to which same organisations had received funding in the past as well as the time frame of existing support viewed against limited departmental funds and, to some extent, a need to cater for new entrants. In view of this, the rationalisation of transfers has seen a cut from R48 million to R36 million and this figure has been maintained throughout the MTEF.

**Revitalisation of arts centres**

The poor functioning of arts centres is a cause for concern. To address the challenges, the Department has introduced a turn-around strategy. Consequently, the employment of programme coordinators and other support staff in these centers have started.
Review of funding for arts and culture organisations – KZNACC

A reduction in the number of arts and culture organisations funded through the KZN Arts and Culture Council (KZNACC) from 42 to 18 was necessitated by a review of the funding received by organisations which was in the region of R30 000 to R60 000 per organisation. The primary motivation for this action was the fact that we want our financial injection to be meaningful and to assist in meeting the organisations' objectives.

Artists in schools

The Department has reviewed the MOA (memorandum of agreement) with the Department of Education and has included the Department of Sport and Recreation as part of the Agreement. The agreement aims to promote arts, culture and heritage in order to, in turn, promote social cohesion and nation building, identify and nurture talent through various programmes, and generally assist schools in achieving the learning outcomes. The MOA was signed at the beginning of April 2017 and we will be monitoring implementation. The artists in schools programme – wherein arts legends are twinned with educators – is already yielding positive results. This programme will see more than 180 arts legends placed in schools this financial year.

Database and grading of artists

An electronic data base of artists has been designed and should be up and running by September 2017. This will ensure transparency in the engagement of artists by provincial departments. Artists, including crafters, will be graded to determine in which segment of the market they can participate. This initiative will help the Department of Arts and Culture to give effect to an Executive Council resolution that the Department should be the centre in coordinating the procurement of artists for government events.

Libraries

Our analysis revealed that our building of libraries programme was concentrated in the southern parts of the province. Based on this, going forward, the Departmental will focus on the northern parts and the rural areas being the major beneficiaries.
Current library projects
Continued infrastructure development to ensure access to library resources for information, recreation and life-long learning is a dynamic aspect of this Department's objectives. This year, R82 889 million is being invested in library infrastructure. Currently under construction are the Ingwavuma library in the Jozini Municipality and the Bilanyoni library in the eDumbe Municipality. The Department transferred an initial amount of R10 million to the Newcastle Municipality for the construction of the Charlestown library; the remainder of the funding, estimated at R15 million, will be transferred in 2017/18 to complete the construction of the library. The construction of a new Port Shepstone library comprising three levels commenced in May 2016 and it is due for completion in June 2018.

Completed library projects
The Manyiseni library in the Jozini Municipality was completed in the past financial year, illustrating our commitment to provide services in far-flung rural areas. The Vulamehlo library in the Mdoni Municipality and the upgrade of the Bruntville library was also completed in the past financial year. The libraries at Mzimkhulu and Utrecht at Emadlangeni will be upgraded.

Modular library projects
Nine modular library facilities will be completed in the first quarter of 2017/18; they will serve the (Ibisi) Mzimkhulu; (Bhamshela) Ndwedwe; (Nkwezela) Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma; (KwaSthebe) Mandeni; (KwaMthethwa) Mfolozi; (KwaChwezi) Nkandla; (Ward 17) Nquthu; (Bhekuzulu) Abaqulusi and (Sthembile) eNdumeni municipalities. In this financial year, the Department will also introduce a design of a basic library facility that can be extended as the service grows in order to replace the current modular library structure.

Designs for new library projects
The final designs for the Mzumbe, Dannhauser, Nquthu, uLundi and Nongoma libraries will be completed by the end of the financial year and will then be ready for tender. All these libraries will be situated in the northern parts of the province as per our commitment with the exception of uMzumbe, which is the only local municipality currently without a library.
Internet access and e-learning kiosks

All these libraries, as well as the existing ones, will have free internet access so that community members can use computer terminals for job searches, compiling business plans and CVs; all of them will also be provided with e-learning kiosks to access information in libraries. E-learning kiosks were introduced in three libraries in 2016/17 and more will be added in several libraries in 2017/18. These kiosks have touch screen facilities which, among others, provide for the downloading of learner support and small business information.

Library resources catering for the blind

In 2017/18, an amount of R35 million will be used by new and existing libraries to purchase new library resources, including books, audio-visual materials, magazines, newspapers, toys and gaming facilities. The e-book subscription service will continue, illustrating the drive within the Department to keep up-to-date with current trends regarding reading and the provision of information to meet the needs of the community. The special services for the blind, which is currently available in 23 libraries, will be expanded by providing it in four more libraries this year with the emphasis on advocacy and marketing initiatives.

Promotional initiatives

Promotional initiatives will be implemented this year in a drive to boost the reading culture among children in support of the current initiatives of the national Department of Basic Education.

All new libraries will have a play and recreational space, for example: chess boards and indigenous games to promote healthy lifestyles. And we will continue to attract the youth through our "gaming @ your library" initiative.

Job opportunities will be created through the allocation of funding to municipalities for staffing, infrastructure projects, toy collections, book processors and cleaning.

Also, it is common knowledge that early childhood development (ECD) is in an integral part of the education support the Department provides. This is done through the provision of toy libraries, and materials, in 38 libraries, as well the distribution of 86 tubby toys to ECD centres.
The Department will transfer R198 923 million this financial year to local municipalities in support of staffing costs associated with rendering public library services. This funding allows us to set high standards of service capacity to the communities they serve.

**Archives**
As part of social transformation, the Archives and Records Management Service will continue to roll out campaigns promoting national symbols and orders. School visits to explain the meaning of symbols and the provision of flags and memory boxes will be undertaken to promote nation building and patriotism among school-going learners.

**Records management**
The Records Management Unit within Archives Service continues to work with the Auditor General of South Africa to strengthen record keeping practices within all provincial government departments and municipalities. As the provincial Department of Arts and Culture, we believe that a sound record-keeping culture facilitates easy access to government information, enhances service delivery and can improve citizen satisfaction.

**Preserving heritage**
The Oral History Unit of Archives Service continues to interview senior citizens and marginalised groups in our society, thus contributing to KZN Archives Service efforts to ensure that the social memory and history of the Province reflect the diversity of its people, culture and heritage.

**Provincial Archives Repository**
Good progress has been made with regard to establishing the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Archives Repository. A pre-feasibility study was conducted and a report was compiled in this regard. A full feasibility study is currently being undertaken and will be completed in the first quarter of 2017/18. An amount of R20 881 356 has been budgeted for this year for the design of the building.

**OR Tambo seminars**
The Department will hold five seminars as part of celebrating the OR Tambo centenary. Four of the seminars will be held in the four regions of the Department and the fifth one will be part of the annual Archives Public Lecture.

**Museums**

**Transforming museums**

The Department’s transformation of museums and their artifacts in particular, is gaining momentum. In 2016/17, the Department targeted the Howick and East Griqualand (Kokstad) museums. In 2017/18, the focus will be on the Lucas Meijer (Vryheid), Howick (Phase 2), Greytown, KwaDukuza and Maritime (Port Shepstone) museums. Transformation includes ensuring that artifacts depict the history and culture of the local people. The board of directors of museums will also be engaged to ensure their staff component reflect the demographics of the Province.

**Awareness campaigns**

Museum Service in its outreach programme will incorporate an increased awareness of museology careers to previously marginalised communities, which includes institutions for people living with disabilities, such as: the physically challenged, the hearing impaired or deaf, the visually-impaired or totally blind, and autistic persons.

Museum Service will also erect displays and conduct talks during disability summits and also during disability orientation programmes for students of institutions of higher learning (UNISA and UKZN). There will be an increased sensitisation of museum curators and officials with regard to access to museums by people living with disabilities. Museum Service is also in the process of translating each artifact in the mobile museum into Braille so that this museum can also serve as mobile library for the visually-impaired and totally blind communities.

**Heritage Preservation Initiative**

Since its launch in 2016, the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Preservation Initiative (KZNHPI) has made more than 10 000 museum and cultural artifacts available online, which will allow future generations to understand and appreciate their history and learn about this province's rich heritage.
Currently, more than 750 people access this valuable online resource daily, with a monthly growth of 30%. This financial year the Department will focus on making more content available which has its origin in our struggle for liberation and democracy, as well as our socio-economic development, by uploading a further 20 000 entries onto the kznheritage.org portal. This will make the heritage resource more inclusive.

**OR Tambo celebrations**
This year marks the centenary of the late Oliver Reginald Tambo, a national icon and hero of the liberation struggle, who shaped the country’s vision, mission and value system. We will celebrate his legacy by creating an educational section on the kznheritage.org portal that will highlight the life and ideology of OR Tambo.

Cultural heritage is unique and irreplaceable, and the current generation has the responsibility of preserving it for the benefit and understanding of future generations.

**Port Shepstone museum – maritime economy**
I am pleased to announce that the construction of the new R17 million Port Shepstone museum was completed in March 2017. I am very excited because we will construct an exhibition to the value of R1.4 million this year depicting the maritime economy. This will be done as part of our contribution towards making our citizens aware of the potential of the Blue Economy as envisioned by the Presidential Operation Pakisa Programme. The museum will be officially opened later this year.

**Transfers to municipalities and non-profit institutions**
The Department will transfer R12.984 million to local municipalities and non-profit institutions as support for staffing and other operational costs associated with running museums. This is part of our job creation initiatives. In the case of non-profit institutions, the funding will be used for the appointment of curators.
Also, this year the Department will be supporting the Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi Museum and Documentation Centre, which has been incorporated into the list of affiliated museums. This shows our commitment to work with different sectors of our communities.

These transfers will be followed by stringent monitoring mechanisms through the signing of MOAs and implementation plans with clear timelines and measurable deliverables.

**War Room Intervention Package**

We continuously strive to improve ways of reaching out to the communities on the ground and to make an impact that will change the lives of the people. To this end, the War Room Intervention Package continues to be the Department’s best service delivery model. The model is aligned to the Province’s Operation Sukuma Sakhe. The basket of services on offer to the communities at ward level through this Package, includes musical instruments to assist emerging musicians with rehearsals and performances; stipend payments to legends to train artists; training the members of reading and writing clubs; assisting young people to trace their origins through the Family Tree Project; and employing researchers to conduct oral history interviews.

It is now my pleasure to table the Vote 15 budget for 2017/18 as follows:

Programme 1: R149 387m  
Programme 2: R263 350m  
Programme 3: R461 331m  
Total: R 874 068m

**Tribute to artists who have passed on**

Before I take leave, madam Chairperson, allow me to invite this Honourable House to pay tribute and observe a moment of silence for all those who have passed on leaving an indelible mark in the arts and culture industry – the most recent ones being Sifiso Ncwane (Gospel), Lundi Tyamara (Gospel), Thandi Klaasen (Jazz), Ngane Ziyamfisa Ntuli (Maskandi) and Joe Mafela (theatre) – an international icon who has contributed immensely to the industry. May their souls rest in peace.

**Conclusion**
I shall fail in my duty if I do not thank the Honourable Premier and the ruling party for the trust they have shown in me by giving me an opportunity to lead this Department. I also wish to thank the Portfolio Committees on Arts and Culture and Finance for the constant guidance and support they give us, as well as my family which is my daily pillar of strength. Last but not least, the support which I received from the acting Head of Department, Mr MB Mnguni, management and staff in general has been outstanding.

*Let’s move with speed towards building a United, Socially Cohesive and Prosperous Society through Arts, Culture and Heritage.*

I now formally table before the Legislature a total budget of R874 068 million for Vote 15.

I thank you.