



19 June 2026

MACUFE 2026: The Return of Celebration of Cultural Heritage

Following its successful relaunch as a recalibrated programme in 2025, the Mangaung African Cultural Festival (MACUFE), will again be staged from **03 to 13 September 2026**.

Distinct and distinguishable for its multicultural character, and its offering of different arts genres, the festival will continue to be hosted in the month during which the country celebrates our cultural heritage, the month of September. Revellers and patrons of MACUFE are thus implored to save the dates: 03 to 13 September for yet another scintillating and entertaining cultural programme through which our cultural heritage is elevated on the highest pedestal.

A more expanded programme, which will incorporate other arts related platforms such as Divas Music Festival, Comedy and Poetry, will be rolled out as follows:

Date	Event
31 July	<i>Festival Launch</i>
03 and 04 September	<i>Comedy and Poetry</i>
05 – 10 September	<i>Drama</i>
05 – 10 September	<i>Dance Fiesta</i>
05 – 10 September	<i>Theatre Programme</i>

06 – 09 September	<i>Film Festival</i>
09 – 12 September	<i>Literature Exhibition</i>
11 September	<i>Divas Music Festival</i>
11 September	<i>Amapiano vs Hip Hop Music Festival</i>
12 September	<i>Main Music Festival</i>
13 September	<i>Gospel Music Festival</i>

The Department commits itself to keep on making access to various platforms of the festival affordable so as to enable a wider appreciation of our cultural heritage as the primary focus of MACUFE.

“Undoubtedly, the staging of MACUFE in 2026 will escalate the upward trajectory that the festival took with its relaunch in 2025. The benefits derived from this festival should always be at the forefront of its objectives: local economic beneficiation; local artists participation; tourism promotion as well as social cohesion and nation building enhancement”, stated the Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation, Me Ntombizanele Sifuba.

More details in terms of venues, programme contents and ticket prices will follow in not a distant future.

Issued by the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR)

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