

## MEDIA ADVISORY

### Unisa to host Multilingual Spelling Bee Competition in Free State (Bloemfontein)

**Approved for public release**

**Date: Monday, 13 September 2024**

The University of South Africa (Unisa)'s College of Human Sciences (CHS) will host a Multilingual Spelling Bee Competition in Free State on the 13th of September 2024 at Unisa Bloemfontein Regional Service Centre, Uni Park. The event is one of the college's celebrations of the Language festival and commemorates Heritage Month.

The Multilingual Spelling Bee is an innovative event that celebrates linguistic diversity and promotes multilingualism in South African communities. This unique competition challenges learners to spell words from different languages, reflecting the rich linguistic tapestry of the nation. Through the incorporation of multiple languages and utilizing language proficiency as a scoring mechanism, this event aims to inspire a love for languages and foster a deeper understanding of the cultural heritage within South Africa.

The Multilingual Spelling Bee is integral to the Language Festival project hosted by the University of South Africa. This event seeks to not only showcase the linguistic prowess of learners but also to enhance multilingualism across the country. With a focus on participants in Grades 8 to 11, the competition encourages young minds to engage with languages beyond their mother tongue and develop a broader perspective on language and culture.

Schools across the Free State will be invited to participate, with each school hosting preliminary elimination rounds to select top performers. These participants will then represent their schools in the final competition. To ensure fair representation and diversity, each school can send a maximum of three participants. To showcase their linguistic abilities, participants must be able to spell words in at least three languages, including their mother tongue.

The competition will comprise of four rounds, designed to progressively challenge and assess participants' language skills.

The Multilingual Spelling Bee aims to make a significant impact on language education and cultural appreciation. The competition encourages learners to embrace various languages and promotes the significance of multilingualism; it also contributes to a more inclusive and diverse society. It showcases the linguistic abilities of young learners, fosters a love for languages, and offers a platform to celebrate the rich heritage of South African communities.

Winners will walk away with R5000 and a Laptop, R3500 and Tablet and 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize is R2500 and Tablet

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover the event as follows:

Date : Friday, 13 September 2024

Time : 08:30 to 17:00

Venue: Unisa Bloemfontein Regional Service Centre, Uni Park, Nobel St, Brandwag. (Exam Hall)

The competition will also be live on Youtube [Click Here](#)



**\\Ends.**

**Issued by Unisa Media Affairs**

For enquiries, please contact Senior Media Officers Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981 / [humatm@unisa.ac.za](mailto:humatm@unisa.ac.za) OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 3981 / [ratheme@unisa.ac.za](mailto:ratheme@unisa.ac.za)

