

Wednesday, 19 August 2026

Media Release: NUST Celebrates Unity in Diversity at 2026 Cultural Festival

The Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) today officially opened the 11th edition of its annual Cultural Festival, bringing together students, staff and stakeholders to celebrate the diversity of cultures represented across the University. Held under the theme “I Am Because We Are: United Global Cultures, One Community,” the festival celebrates cultural diversity through vibrant performances, music, traditional cuisine, fashion, talent showcases and a lively flea market.

Delivering the keynote address, Ms M’Kariko Amagulu, Director of Arts at the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture, highlighted the important role of culture and creativity in Namibia’s development. “I was encouraged to hear the Vice-Chancellor speak this morning about NUST’s commitment to aligning its work with Namibia’s national development priorities,” she said. “Our Sixth National Development Plan makes it clear that culture and creativity have an important role to play in the development of our country.”

Ms Amagulu noted that NDP6 recognises the Cultural and Creative Industries as a contributor to employment and economic development, calling for investment in creative infrastructure, skills development, intellectual property protection and greater market access.

NUST Vice-Chancellor Prof Frednard Gideon highlighted the role of culture in shaping identity and strengthening communities. “Culture tells us who we are, where we come from, and what we value,” he said, emphasising that although the NUST community comes from different regions, countries and cultural backgrounds, members are united as one community. Prof Gideon further highlighted NUST’s commitment to strengthening creative education through the planned establishment of a School of Creative Industries and Innovation under the University’s Integrated Strategic Business Plan 2026–2030. “Education should go beyond lecture halls. We must prepare graduates who know how to listen, collaborate, respect, question, create and lead,” he said.

The festival continues until Friday, 21 August, celebrating culture, creativity and community at NUST.

Issued by:

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