

# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

## 2024 UNISA MULTILINGUAL POETRY CONNECT

In celebration of South Africa's 30 years of democracy, the Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages at the University of South Africa (UNISA) invites all undergraduate students enrolled in any qualification to participate in the *Multilingual Poetry Connect 2024*. This annual poetry festival celebrates our nation's rich linguistic and cultural diversity, and this year, it will be held under the theme: *Unity in Diversity*.

The festival is more than just a competition; it offers participants the chance to network and gain valuable insights from well-renowned poets through the *Poetry Connect Masterclass*, which is scheduled for the 28th of November 2024, the day before the main event on the 29th of November 2024. The Masterclass is an invaluable experience for poets, offering them opportunities to explore careers and strategies to refine their craft for economic development.

Submissions for the competition are open to all undergraduate students enrolled in any qualification at South African universities. In line with the National Language Policy (2016), which advocates for the equitable use of all official languages, students are encouraged to submit their poetry in any of the 12 official languages of South Africa.

The competition will take place in three stages:

1. Submission of entry forms along with a short poem in any official South African language.
2. Selected candidates will advance to the next round for further evaluation.
3. Two poets per represented language will be selected as finalists. These finalists will be invited to the Masterclass and will have the opportunity to perform at the final event.

To participate, please ensure that your application form and accompanying documents are submitted by the 25th of September 2024 to the relevant email address below:

**Xitsonga and Tshivenda** – Ms M Shibambu ([shibam@unisa.ac.za](mailto:shibam@unisa.ac.za))

**Sepedi, Setswana and Sesotho** – Dr L Masha ([emashal2@unisa.ac.za](mailto:emashal2@unisa.ac.za))

**isiZulu, isiXhosa, Siswati and isiNdebele** - Ms T Mchunu ([mchuntb@unisa.ac.za](mailto:mchuntb@unisa.ac.za))

**English, Afrikaans, South African Sign Language** – Ms U Ngada ([ngadaun@unisa.ac.za](mailto:ngadaun@unisa.ac.za))

***There are cash prizes to be won!***



<b>SURNAME</b>											<b>Title</b>										
<b>FULL NAMES</b>																					
<b>Home Language</b>											<b>Age</b>										
<b>University</b>											<b>Campus</b>										
<b>Race</b>	B <input type="checkbox"/>	C <input type="checkbox"/>	I <input type="checkbox"/>	W <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Disability	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>												
<b>Do you have a disability?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>							<b>Specify</b>												
<b>Identification number</b>															<b>Date of birth</b>						
<b>Phone number</b>																					
<b>Country of birth</b>											<b>Nationality</b>										
<b>Are you a South African citizen by birth?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	If no indicate the date citizenship was acquired																		
<b>Non-South African Citizen- fill in the information below</b>																					
<b>Passport no</b>				<b>Country of issue</b>				<b>Expiry date</b>													
<b>Work permit no</b>				<b>Type of permit</b>				<b>Expiry date</b>													
<b>Permanent residence status</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Date granted</b>																		
<b>Residential address</b>							<b>Postal address</b>														
<b>Postal code</b>													<b>Postal code</b>								
<b>Telephone numbers</b>			<b>Home</b>								<b>Fax</b>										
			<b>Cell</b>								<b>Email address</b>										
<b>Emergency Contact Details</b>			<b>Relationship</b>		<b>Next of kin</b>		<b>Child</b>		<b>Spouse</b>		<b>Friend</b>										
<b>Initials &amp; Surname</b>									<b>Tel no</b>												
<b>Are you currently an undergrad registered student?</b>				Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>				<b>Student no</b>												
<b>Qualification registered</b> (NB: attach proof of registration)																					
<b>Year</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> )							<b>Are you funded by NSFAS</b>														

**QUESTIONS SECTION**

1. How long have you been writing poetry?


2. What inspired you to start writing poetry?


3. Have you performed your poetry at open mic nights, slams or festivals?


4. Have you collaborated with other poets or artists on performances?


5. Can you discuss your understanding of poetic devices and techniques.


6. Can you share a piece that you are particularly proud of, and explain why it is significant to you (***not more than 2 stanzas***)

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