



**ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY  
MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE'S  
MONDAY, 15 MAY 2017**

Councillor Barbra Fortein at UKZN Theatre, Howard College, "Help a Student through Art Student Event Movie Night Association"

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**Programme Director,**

**President of Movie Nights, Mr Vamisa Nzima**

**Members of Movie Nights,**

**Sponsors,**

**Distinguished guests,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**All protocol observed**

Sanibonani,

It is with great pleasure to be a part of tonight's "Help a Student through Art" Student Event Movie Night Association.

Before I go on I would like to share this special quote with you, "Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep" – So I believe you are all here because you've made better of your snags.

As the Municipality we support such initiatives, which is for students by students, that aims to raise funds that will assist academically deserving students who lack the funds to continue with their studies and any other needs

It is no secret that the National Students Financial Aid Scheme rejected more than 50 000 applicants for 2017, either because their academic results were too low or their household income were too high. This has caused uproars within the education department because it has left many with no plan of action. Which is why being a part of this event tonight is a great honour.

As eThekweni Municipality we have set aside monies towards assisting poor students through the office of the Mayor. We have a Mayoral Relief Fund aimed at poor students who are at tertiary institutions. We have set aside about R4,7million and we want to increase this amount to accommodate more students. This is little but it means a lot if you have nothing. This Mayoral Fund has assisted more than 500 students some are studying here. On top of that we offer full bursaries to engineering students and they get a laptop and A R2600.00 allowance from us.

We do this because we are a caring Municipality led by umama – a woman. Our vision as the city, is to become the most caring and liveable city in Africa by 2030. We want to be city that makes life better for thousands of students residing in our city. We are lucky to be a university city with more than three higher education campuses, TVETs, FETs and other private colleges. We have it in our plans to ensure that we create an enabling environment – hence we have libraries and Free WIFI as part of ensuring that you succeed in this city.

We do this because – President OR Tambo warned, a nation that doesn't take care of its youth does not deserve its future.

This year is dedicated to the life of President OR Tambo, who would have turned 100 if he was still alive. We celebrate him and other heroes of our liberation.

Program Director,

Therefore, we urge the youth to emulate the great leadership of our past leaders, who together fought for the greater outcome of South Africa and took it upon themselves to find other means to get by and

not only depend on the governments assistance. Hence we praise you for having such initiatives as young people. This means that you are taking responsibility of your own future.

With those few words, I thank you.