
UKZN STUDENT ATTENDS ARTS AND CULTURE CONFERENCE



UKZN student, Ms Thabile Buthelezi, at the Arts and Culture Trust University of Johannesburg Conference.

A masters student in Applied Ethnomusicology at UKZN, Ms Thabile Buthelezi, attended the Arts and Culture Trust University of Johannesburg Conference as part of a delegation of six from KwaZulu-Natal.

The only UKZN representative, Buthelezi posed questions about improving Arts and Culture in South Africa while working on collaborations with new people involved in the industry.

The highlight for her was listening to different speakers discuss their role and involvement in ensuring sustainability in the Arts becomes a reality.

'Such conferences assist in conversations with other practitioners and individuals in the creative economy and lead to possible collaborations with other artists and delegates,' said Buthelezi. 'What I learned was that the creative economy plays a huge role in the overall economy of South Africa.'

'Therefore generous funding and assistance should be given to the Arts and Culture industry to ensure it boosts the economy. Funding for initiatives such as the 10th Annual African Cultural Calabash and 1st Annual African Music Symposium should be a priority for funding agencies as the events not only develop and sustain the industry but create opportunities and platforms for creativity.'

Buthelezi said such conferences were of vital importance as 'you get to witness what other creative artists are doing, learn, ask questions and collaborate while networking'.