

# 22 YEARS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

**Rustenburg** – The 22nd Kgosi Edward Patrick Lebone I Molotlegi (EPL) annual memorial lecture took place on Saturday 19 October at Lebone II College of the Royal Bafokeng Nation. During his reign, Kgosi Lebone I Molotlegi aspired to improve the lives of his community members and his greatest wish was to improve his community's access to quality education. Since 1997, the queen mother Mmemogolo Semane Molotlegi and her family have hosted the annual EPL memorial lecture. This event honours and recognises both Kgosi Lebone I and Kgosi Lebone II Molotlegi's dedication to public education. To continue their legacy, the queen mother established the Thuto Thebe Educational Trust. From 2005, the funds raised during the trusts' events have sponsored Thuto Thebe initiatives.

After singing a beautiful song herself, the queen mother gave an inspiring speech motivating the attendees to support the cause and to improve the quality of education in the community. In an interview with *Platinum Weekly*, Instill Education school partnership manager Rudi Janse van Vuuren revealed: "Thuto Thebe assisted me with my studies to become a teacher... An opportunity that I will forever be grateful for. I now try to pay it forward by helping other educators in transforming teaching and school leadership across the African continent. By having effective teachers, we will enable African education to have an unparalleled influence on student outcomes." The Thuto Thebe Educational Trust has a few projects lined up for 2020. These include the remuneration of math and science educators, renovating the welding and woodwork workshop at Iteko Special School, upgrading and renovation of the educators' quarters at Nkobong Secondary School, providing after school Setswana reading and math classes to the community.

There was no shortage of entertainment as the guests were greeted by the Lebone II College marimba band, followed by an amazing sextet melody performance by *Resonance*. The Lebone II College lower and upper school choirs dazzled the audience with their musical talents. Professor Victor Pitsoe gave an interesting and informative lecture, noting the love Kgosi Edward had for his community.

For more information or to make a donation, contact Thuto Thebe Educational Trust manager Nthabiseng Thabethe on 014 566 1494.



Royal Bafokeng queen mother Mmemogolo Semane Molotlegi founded the Thuto Thebe Educational Trust.



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