



PRESS RELEASE

KENYA MUSIC FESTIVAL NAIROBI May 16, 2016

The Government today launched the 90th Edition of the Kenya Music Festival, 2016.

The Festival, which attracts learners from Early Childhood Development, Primary and Secondary schools, Middle level and Vocational colleges and University students, was launched by the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Dr. Fred Matiang'i, and the Governor of Central Bank of Kenya, Dr. Patrick Njoroge at Jogoo House.

As a co-curricular activity in the Ministry of Education calendar, the Kenya Music Festival helps gifted students develop and showcase their talents on a national platform.

The theme of this year's Festival is "*Nurturing Innovative Competencies for Economic Development*". It is founded on the vision of the Curriculum Reform initiative by the Government, which seeks to introduce a holistic and competence based education.

This theme ties in with the focus of the Central Bank of Kenya as the sponsor of this year's Festival, as it provides a platform to demystify its role and mandate by enhancing engagement and connection with the public in general and the youth in particular. It will also enhance financial literacy and nurture life skills that will empower them to be active participants in Kenya's growth and development agenda.

The Festival will begin with over two million students in the regional levels on June 26, 2016 and culminate at the national level in August 2016.

The Festival is a forum for mentoring and nurturing promising performers of music, dance and elocution to showcase their talents and avail opportunities for career development. It also promotes the preservation and appreciation of the diverse Kenyan cultures to foster national unity, the Kenyan identity and global recognition among other objectives

Present during the ceremony were the Central Bank of Kenya Deputy Governor, Sheila M'Mbijjewe, Principal Secretary for Basic Education, Dr. Belio Kipsang, and his counterparts in Vocational and Technical Education, Dr. Dinah Mwinzi and University (Higher Education), Prof. Collete Suda.

