

# ON THE BOX

## NMMU'S SINGING TRAVELS THE WORLD

THE Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University Choir had the audience members at the Feather Market Hall in Port Elizabeth on their feet during the Eastern Cape elimination round, and are favourites to reach the *Varsity Sing* finals.

But it's not only South Africa that can't get enough of this choir. They are also in demand around the world.

In both 2012 and 2014, the choir was invited to represent Africa at the China International Choral Festival (CICF) in Beijing. The choir performed in the People's Great Hall in front of an audience of 14 000.

This year, NMMU choir conductor, Junita Lambrecht-Van Dijk, was a judge at the competition.

"To actually sit in the crowd of 14 000 is such an experience, and I realised what an honour it was to be invited to perform as a guest choir," Lambrecht-Van Dijk said.

"The Chinese realised that one cannot

only be trained in technology and science, but that spiritual welfare is as important.

"They, therefore, chose choral singing as the cultural medium, and are working towards having the entire country singing."

The NMMU Choir has also been invited to perform at a series of concerts in the United States and Canada in November.

"The majority of the tour has been sponsored, but we are still seeking funding towards our flights," Lambrecht-Van Dijk said.

NMMU Choir advanced to the *Varsity Sing* semifinals along with Rhodes University Chamber Choir and will perform with Stellenbosch University Choir and University of the Western Cape Choir in the first semifinal round.

Tickets to the semifinal on September 14 at the Hugo Lambrecht Music Centre in Parow, Cape Town, are now available. They can be purchased through the Varsity Sports app at just R20 per ticket.

**Tune into kykNET (DStv channel 144) at 8.30pm every Thursday. You can also follow all the drama and discussion on social media.**

