

Big, better events plan

DERRICK DLAMINI and THEMBA KHUMALO

ONE could be forgiven for assuming Durban was content to rest on the laurels it has earned for successively hosting big events, such as the A1 Grand Prix and Indaba. But nothing could be further from the truth.

In its endeavours to exceed expectations in the hospitality sector, the city recently hosted a two-day events management workshop at the Botanic Gardens as part of a workplace-training plan. Enhancing the skills of the people involved in managing events was the focus of the training.

The initiative was also intended to develop a policy document that would form the basis for an events management service centre, where all event co-ordinators and organisers could acquire support to run successful events in the city.

The city's Head of International and Governance Relations, Eric Apelgren, said: "We want to be a leading events city in the manner we manage and do our logistics. Also in the pipeline, we intend to develop event management software for municipalities.

"We can even sell this to other municipalities in South Africa and beyond," he said.

Apelgren said the city was committed to helping other African cities enhance their events management.

Project Officer of International and Governance Relations, Ravi Moodley, said the workshop also looked at safety and security at public events.

"We studied and discussed case studies, watched videos and held group sessions. For some, it was their first exposure to this kind of training, although they are already involved in events management," he said.

Moodley said a resolution to streamline events in the city was reached. "The need for a logistics team to meet weekly, to do post mortems on events and discuss other events for the week ahead, was also identified," said Moodley.

The workshop was attended by fundis from the hospitality industry, including representatives from Durban's International Convention Centre and Exhibition Centre.

Their participation was described as a crucial attempt to develop strong relations between them and other municipal departments.

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GREAT OPPORTUNITY: Art teacher Nozipho Mbhele (centre) shows her students how it's done

Picture: THEMBA KHUMALO

Calling all budding artists

SAMANTHA MOODLEY

IN AN EFFORT to nurture young talent and promote a passion for visual arts, the Durban Art Gallery hosts classes for children every Saturday.

The classes were started in 1985 by Pat Khoza, and have since produced some of the city's best artists. It also continues to encourage young people to develop their talents.

The classes aim to bridge the social divide by providing children from rural areas with insight into the world of art and offering them oppor-

tunities not ordinarily given to the youth in these areas, due to a lack of facilities.

Under the present guidance of artist and teacher, Musa Mncwabe, children learn the finer techniques of drawing and painting as well as craftwork including beading and papier-mâché. And the classes are soon to include more modern techniques such as digital imagery.

"Everyone has a creative side and developing children's talent and steering them towards the arts is not only beneficial to their minds but to their souls," said Mncwabe.

Despite its two decade run,

Mncwabe said there were still many who find the classes inaccessible, so the gallery is looking at taking the programme to other parts of eThekweni, such as Lamontville, Umlazi and Tongaat.

Classes are from 9am until noon every Saturday at the gallery and are open to children aged eight to 18.

Classes cost R75 for the year and this covers materials.

For more information, or if you have a special skill that you think children could benefit from, contact Musa Mncwabe on 031 311 2275 or the Durban Art Gallery on 031 311 2269/64.

Firefighter with a head for heights

FINOLA QUARSINGH

MUNICIPAL firefighter Gladstone Gcabashe is to climb Mt Kilimanjaro with a group of teens in support of the charity, Children of Fire.

The charity helps severely burned children to get surgery, therapy, food, shelter, clothing and education and to lead a normal life.

On 23 June, the group of teenage burn survivors will climb Africa's highest peak to raise awareness of burn injuries and prevention, and to increase tolerance of discrimination and disability.

When the Fire Department was approached to support the initiative, they knew the individual needed to accompany the teens would have to be a mature, physically strong person with an understanding nature – Gcabashe was the perfect candidate.

"I am happy to be part of this expedition. I was also burned when I was younger, and this gives me the opportunity to help motivate others and let them know a burn injury does not mean the end of the world, that life can go on," said Gcabashe.

Bronwen Jones, Director of the Children of Fire Trust, said the climb would hopefully inspire people to better accept burn survivors as they strove to reach their personal "highest heights".

DURBAN DIARY:

Your guide to entertainment in the city

MUSIC

UB40 – Live in concert

ICC Arena
4 July
Call: 083 915 8000

Amore Vittone, Heinz Winckler and Anke in concert for Highway Hospice

Le Domaine Amphitheatre, Hillcrest
16 June
Call: 031 208 6110
Tickets: R120

Mary J Blige – Live in concert

Westridge Park Tennis Stadium
19 October
Tickets: R160 to R280
Call: 083 915 8000

Live Jazz

Centre for Jazz
University of KwaZulu-Natal
Durban Campus
Every Wednesday
Call: 031 260 3385

A Dolphin Salute to the Oscars

uShaka, Dolphinarium
28 – 30 June
Tickets: R90 (adults), R65 for children under 12
Call: 083 627 7249

Jazz on the Deck

Bat Centre
Every Sunday
Call: 031 332 0451

Live entertainment by Murphy (Music Unlimited)

The Deck at Badgers
Davenport Square



GOOD TURN: Amore Vittone and Heinz Winckler will be performing at Le Domaine in Hillcrest tomorrow in aid of Highway Hospice

Every Friday
Call: 082 259 3743
New Light International
Every Saturday
Call: 082 259 3743

DANCE, THEATRE AND COMEDY

The Boys are Back in Town
Barnyard Theatre
14 August – 23 September
Call: 031 566 3045

The Buddy Holly Story
Barnyard Theatre
Until 12 August
Call: 031 566 3045

Master's of Rock Volume 3
Dockyard Theatre
Until 4 August
Tickets: R170 (includes a two-course meal and show)
Specials on Sunday



Call: 031 201 9147

Chicks Rock
Heritage Theatre
Until 8 July
Call: 031 765 4197

Main Ou's
Catalina Theatre
Until 8 July
Call: 031 305 6889

The Jungle Book
Playhouse Opera
Until 15 July
Call: 031 369 9555

VISUAL ART

Ceramics SA
artSPACE
Until 16 June
Call: 031 312 0793

Durban South Project

Photographs of the South Durban Basin
Durban Art Gallery
July – August
Call: 031 311 2265

Animal Tales
African Art center
4 July
Call: 031 309 7915

Malleable
ArtSpace Durban
9 – 28 July
Call: 031 312 0793

Gcina Mhlope
Durban Art Gallery
Until July
Call: 031 311 2265

Photographer by Clinton Friedman
artSPACE Durban
Until 16 June
Call: 031 312 0793

Viva l'artiste art showcase

Le Domaine, Hillcrest
Until 17 June
Call: 031 566 1777

Art Amongst the Roses

Off the Wall Gallery, Heritage Market
Every Sunday
Call: 031 765 7606

Art exhibitions for charity

The Village Green, Umhlanga
Every Sunday
Call: 031 337 0208

Solo exhibition

By Anton Benzon
Crouse Art Gallery KZN
Call: 031 312 2315

OTHERS

Inchanga Choo-Choo
Steam trains depart from Kloof 22 June, 1 and 29 July
Tickets: R80 per adult and R50 per child
Call: 031 303 3003

KZN Conservation Services guided walks

Krantzkloof Nature Reserve
First and third Sunday of the month
Call: 031 764 3515

Singles night

Krakatoa
27 June
Tickets: R40
Call: 083 480 7661

28th Durban International Film Festival

20 June – 1 July
Call: 031 260 2506

East Coast Radio House & Garden Show

Durban Exhibition Centre
29 June – 8 July
Call: 031 201 1650

Meditation Course

The Future in our Hands
Krantzkloof Nature Reserve
24 June
Call: 031 464 0984

Live Poet Society

Point Yacht Club
31 July
Call: 031 266 4762

Tala Bridal Fair Extravaganza

Tala Game Reserve
23 – 24 June
Call: 031 781 8000

South African Women's Arts Festival Conference

Playhouse Drama Theatre
31 July

Durban Beach Festival

Durban Beachfront
Until 8 July
Call: 031 304 1007

Brians Boswell's Circus

Circus Site next to Drive Inn
19 June – 15 July
Call: 083 629 7799

Floral Art Workshop

Botanic Gardens
5 July and 2 August
Call: 082 854 0344

□ Compiled by Premilla Hariganesh. To have your show or event included in the Durban Diary, e-mail hariganeshp@durban.gov.za or fax 306 4603.