

Top job for city museum man

THEMBA KHUMALO

THE city's very own Dr Peter Taylor, Curator of Mammals at the Natural Science Museum, was appointed as one of the directors on the International Federation of Mammalogists.

Taylor joins the 16-member board of directors of international mammalogists after being nominated by the Zoological Society of Southern Africa and was formally voted and appointed as one of the directors of the federation.

This influential position affords not only South Africa, but the entire continent, an authoritative input on the organisation's operations.

Among its activities, the organisation arranges the four-yearly International Mammalogical Congress.

The congress attracts thousands of mammal biologists and conservationists and is acknowledged as the premier meeting place of mammalogists.

The federation includes Australia, China, Japan, Bolivia, Mexico, Spain, Britain, Finland and the United States.

Natural Science Museum Director Guy Redman said Taylor's appointment came as no surprise because of the



HONOURED: The Natural Science Museum's Peter Taylor has been appointed to the board of an international organisation

quality of work he has produced over the years.

"We were, however, thrilled and honored by his appointment," he said.

"This has far-reaching benefits for the disciplines and for raising the identity and work of the Durban Natural Science Museum.

Such international recognition has, in the past, enabled scientists from abroad to tap into the museum's resources and vice

versa, providing greater room for scientific collaboration.

"Taylor's appointment re-energises our efforts to place biodiversity research at the forefront of scientific research in South Africa and the continent, and highlight the value of natural science museums in the conservation of South Africa's biological resources," said Redman.

Redman said biological resources were vital to human survival and the poor people were the most dependant on the services offered by the natural environment.

"It is therefore important that we ensure the sustainability of natural resources through research in museums and other means," he said.

Taylor said: "I am very honoured but at the same time very aware of the responsibility that it brings.

"Being an African on the board means that this will allow Africa to take centre stage with its rich mammalian fauna, in shaping the future scientific research in the field of mammalogy. I want to take full advantage of projects and funding opportunities to enhance the training of African scientists."



AUSPICIOUS OCCASION: Deputy Mayor Logie Naidoo cuts the ribbon to officially open the Durban South Community Computer Centre Picture: MELISSA MARTIN

Computer centre opened

MELISSA MARTIN

A COMPUTER centre and information hub has been opened at the Austerville Library.

The Durban South Community Computer Centre, which was officially opened by Deputy Mayor Logie Naidoo recently, will provide free public internet access.

Volunteers, will be on hand to help users at the centre, from Monday to Saturday,

and also during the evenings.

The project was set up by local non-governmental organisations in partnership with the City and One Global Economy.

One Global Economy is a sister, non-profit organisation to US-based One Economy Corp. Its mission is to provide access to technology and the tools to build and improve lives.

The centre will cater for schoolchildren, young adults

and families in South Durban.

The centre's founders hope it will become a place where the community can find help to create a better life.

A specially developed website, the Beehive, will give users access to information on health, money, jobs, and the law, along with tools and resources to make life easier.

For more information, call Nadine Maharaj on 072 210 0900 or Samantha Schwarer on 072 545 4228.

DURBAN DIARY:

Your guide to entertainment in the city

MUSIC

Live Jazz

Centre for Jazz
UKZN Durban Campus
Every Wednesday
Call: 031 261 8507

Jazz on the Deck

BAT Centre
Every Sunday
Call: 031 332 0451

KZN Philharmonic Orchestra

World Symphony Series
Summer Season Concerts
City Hall
15 and 22 February
Call: 031 369 9453

Mr Price at the Lake

Valentine's Day Concert
Botanic Gardens
14 February
Call: 031 202 5819

Rock the Shepherd's Keep

Playhouse Opera Theatre
24 February
Call: 031 369 9555

Tree63

Northwood Crusaders Sports Club
9 March
Call: 031 564 9074

DANCE, THEATRE AND COMEDY

Comedy Express

Krakatoa, Sibaya
9, 16, 23 February
Tickets: R30

Down with the Brown

Starring Sugar Sammy with
Loyiso Gola as supporting act



GETTIN' WIGGY: A scene from *Rock Me Amadeus*, now showing at the Barnyard

Sibaya
Until 4 March
Call: 031 580 5555

Rock Me Amadeus

Barnyard Theatre
Until 11 March
Call: 031 566 3045

The Chill Boy and Hoot

Starring Matthew Ribnick
Elizabeth Sneddon Theatre
Until March
Call: 031 260 2296

Defending the Planet

Heritage Theatre
Until 25 February
Tel: 031 765 4197

Jamaican Jam

Catalina Theatre
Until 11 March
Tickets: R65 or pay R120 per

person on Valentine's Day. This includes a finger supper, sparkling wine, chocolates and a romantic boat ride around Durban Bay
Call: 031 305 6889

Bee Gee's - A Tribute

DockYard Theatre
Until 24 February
Call: 031 201 9147

CLUB SCENE

Bhangra Bash

Krakatoa, Sibaya
Tonight
Tickets: R60

Valentine's Day Club Night

Krakatoa, Sibaya
14 February
Tickets: R60 per couple

VISUAL ART

Art Amongst the Roses

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

Art Exhibitions

In aid of various charities
The Village Green, Umhlanga
Every Sunday
Call: 031 337 0208

Michelle Silk Paintings

artSPACE
26 February - 10 March
Call: 031 312 0793

The Love We Leave Behind

By Fran Saunders and Peter Machen
artSPACE
Until 24 February
Call: 031 312 0793

A Tribute to Bob Marley

Photographs from the icon's life
Durban Art Gallery
Until 4 March
Call: 031 311 2265

Jurgen Schadeberg

A Retrospective
Durban Art Gallery
18 February - 24 March
Call: 031 311 2265

Solo Exhibition

By Anton Benzon
Crouse Art Gallery
Call: 031 312 2315

OTHERS

A1 Grand Prix



KNOWING LOOK: Beyoncé Knowles in *Dreamgirls*

Durban Beachfront
23 - 25 February
Tickets: R160, R450, R650 and R850
Call: 083 915 8000

Inchanga Choo-Choo

A genuine old-fashioned steam train experience
Trains depart from Kloof
25 February; 4 and 25 March; 1, 8, 9 and 29 April
Tickets: R80 per adult and R50 per child
Call: 031 303 3003

World of Halaal & Lifestyle Expo

Durban Exhibition Centre
15 - 18 February
Call: 031 301 7763

Mind, Body and Soul Fair

Westville Civic Centre
25 February
Call: 072 428 3431

Taiwanese Circus

Gateway, Expo Xplore
13 February
Free
Call: 031 566 2332

ON THE BIG SCREEN

IF MUSICALS are your cup of tea, then the visually extravagant **Dreamgirls** is a must see.

Based on the 1980 Broadway production of the same name, it stars Jamie Foxx, who plays Curtis Taylor Jr, a car salesman aching to make his mark in the music business.

We also meet The Dreamettes - Deena Jones (Beyoncé Knowles), Lorrell Robinson (Anika Noni Rose), and lead singer Effie White (Jennifer Hudson), who are struggling to get into the music industry. When Taylor's path crosses with the Dreamettes the movie really takes off.

This is a story filled with trials, tribulations, deceit, broken promises and broken bonds on the road to stardom.

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.