

## **Congratulations to the Winners of**

### **South Africa's Most Influential Women in Business and Government Awards 2012**

The eleventh annual South Africa's Most Influential Women in Business and Government (MiW) Awards, presented by CEO Communications, took place at a dazzling gala event on 26 July 2012 at Gallagher Convention Centre in Midrand. The awards once again recognised the inspirational women achievers in business and government who are working for the benefit of South Africa and its future generations.

No fewer than 81 finalists in 28 industry sectors, ranging from Aerospace and Defence, to Welfare and Related Community Services, were selected from hundreds of nominees and judged by an independent judging panel consisting of various high-profile industry leaders to ensure a fair and unbiased selection of winners.

In addition to the sector awards, a Lifetime Achievement Award was made to an inspirational woman who, in the judges' opinion, has not only served her respective industry well over the span of her remarkable career, but has left, and indeed is still leaving, a legacy of purposeful achievement.

"Once again, the calibre of the candidates, across all the sectors and in the Lifetime Achievement category, was exceptional, and we are confident that the winners are a true reflection of the talent pool of influential women in South Africa," says Yvonne Finch, Life Coach and founder of Yvonne Finch Consulting, who headed the MiW judging panel.

#### **Judging process**

"The process began by filtering out those nominations that had not been completed correctly to begin with," she explains. "All the successful candidates who passed this initial validation process were then reviewed by the five judges on the first judging panel, reducing their number to a list of semi-finalists."

Worth noting is that each judge received five lever-arch files containing 240 nominee curriculum vitae, with the brief of selecting five nominations in each category as semi-finalists. They also had to ensure that each nominee was represented in the correct category to afford them the best opportunity in the competition.

Following the first round of judging this list of nominees was then whittled down to just over 100 finalist nominations, which were then sent through to the five judges on the second judging panel, who then made their recommendations of finalists, numbering 81 in total.

These finalists participated in a filmed question-and-answer session with Finch, as the facilitator of the judging panels. "Each finalist was asked the same set of questions to ensure that the process was fair. The unedited interview footage then accompanied all the finalists' written nominations to the five judges on the third and final judging panel, who processed the material over a two-day period and chose their winners," she explains.

#### **Winners and finalists**

## **Lifetime Achievement Award**

### *Sister Bucks*

Kediagetse Mosimane is affectionately known as Sister Bucks. Sister Bucks was the first South African black woman to introduce and promote African culture and tradition through clothing and music – leading to Bucks Boutique being born. Bucks Boutique has set up various market places in the Market Theatre, Rosebank and Bruma Lake. Sister Bucks has dressed the likes of Hugh Masekela, Brenda Fassie, Miriam Makeba and Amampondo and introduced the Madiba shirts globally. SABC 2's Culture to Couture Fashion Show showcased Sister Bucks' work and she won a Lifetime Achiever Award on the show. She spread her fashionable wings to Europe, United States of America, South America, United Kingdom and the Caribbean and exports products to Spain regularly. Sister Bucks' humble beginnings started in 1973, operating from home with one seamstress and her two children assisting in the tie and dye process. Sister Bucks' designing academy has two outlets and a workshop with the aim of selling students' creations, encouraging expansion in the industry.

## **Agencies and Regulatory Authorities**

*Winner:* Poppy Khoza (South African Civil Aviation Authority)

*Finalists:* Faranah Osman (National Research Foundation), Hlonela Lupuwana (Small Enterprise Development Agency)

## **Agri-, Aqua-, Mariculture & Agri-processing**

*Winner:* Dr Kerry Sink (South African National Biodiversity Institute)

*Finalists:* Erika Obermeyer (Graham Beck Enterprises), Ntsiki Biyela (Stellakaya)

## **Arts & Culture**

*Winner:* Nianell (Nianell Enterprises)

*Finalists:* Louise Carver (Singer, song writer, jewellery design), Madeleine Wickins (Zanusi Brand Solutions)

## **Automotive**

*Winner:* Dr Lesley Lee (VW Group SA)

*Finalists:* Estelle Gathercole (Automotive Industry Development Centre), Lindsay Pieterse (BMW SA)

## **Aviation, Aerospace & Defence**

*Winner:* Refilwe Ledwaba (Southern African Women in Aviation & Aerospace Industry)

## **Building, Construction and Materials**

*Winner:* Marlene Cronje (Power Construction)

*Finalists:* Gita Goven (ARG Design)

## **Business and Professional Services**

*Finalists:* Dr Antoinette Gmeiner (Orion Group), Ariella Kuper (Alliance Group), Arifa Parker (Cape Chamber of Commerce)

## **Chemical and Petrochemical**

*Finalists:* Bridgitte Backman (ChemCity), Adv Pria Hassan (WOA Fuels and Oils)

## **Clothing and Textile**

*Winner:* Lucilla Booyzen (SA Fashion)  
*Finalist:* Karin Clark (Karma Clothing)

#### **Consumer Business, Wholesale and Retail**

*Winner:* Zyda Rylands (Woolworths)

#### **Containers, Packaging and Manufacturing**

*Winner:* Dr Amber Anderson (Coca Cola)

*Finalists:* Elizabeth Anderson (Responsible Packaging Management Association of Southern Africa), Mimi Rupp (Smartstone)

#### **Education and Training Partner**

*Winner:* Annemarie Hattingh (University of Cape Town)

*Finalists:* Dr Deidre Joubert (Vaal University of Technology), Irma Eloff (University of Pretoria)

#### **Environment and Waste, Forestry and Paper**

*Winners:* Viv Mc Menamin (Mondi SA), Yolán Friedmann (Endangered Wildlife Trust)

*Finalists:* Claire Janisch (Biomimicry SA)

#### **Financial Services – Insurance**

*Winners:* Brenda Frodsham (Clientele Limited)

*Finalists:* Amanda Thomas (Hippo)

#### **Government**

*Winner:* Lindie Buirski (City of Cape Town)

*Finalists:* Pat Moodley (Department of Justice), Adv Hanlie Linde (Stellenbosch Municipality)

#### **Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals**

*Winners:* Elaine Schorn (Zebra Medical), Gethwana Mahlase (Zimnadizonke)

#### **ICT, Electronics and Telecommunications**

*Winner:* Alex Motshwanetsi Mathole (Siemens)

*Finalists:* Mardia van der Walt-Korsten (T-Systems), Patricia Dlamini (EC Information Technology Initiative)

#### **Investment Companies and Financial Services – General**

*Winner:* Kirshni Totaram (Coronation Asset Management)

*Finalists:* Belinda Sullivan (Alexander Forbes), Zanele Xaba (Ernst & Young)

#### **Legal**

*Finalists:* Deanne Howes (Howes Incorporated Attorneys), Martha Mbhele (Legal Aid SA FS), Susan Abro (Susan Abro Attorney)

#### **Logistics, Shipping and Transportation**

*Finalist:* Sibongile Zikalala (Imperial Logistics)

#### **Media, TV, Radio & Press**

*Winner:* Candice Morgan (Dtv)

*Finalists:* Koo Govender (Mnet), Leanne Manas (Morning Live)

### **Mining, Minerals & Metal**

*Finalist:* Johanna Sibongile Ntsoelengoe (Kumba Iron Ore)

### **Property**

*Winner:* Kim Faclier (GoIndustry DoveBid)

*Finalists:* Xoliswa Daku-Calana (DCI Holdings), Portia Tau-Sekati (Property Sector Charter Council)

### **Public Enterprises/Institutions (SOEs)**

*Winner:* Dr Lebogang Katata (CSIR)

*Finalists:* Dr Linda Makuleni (SA Weather Service), Gaborekwe Khambule (SA Weather Service)

### **SMEs**

*Winners:* Asantha Thompson (Grid Worldwide Branding & Design), Dr Michéle Booysen (Pétanque), Hilda Tod (The Bedroom), Jane Stevenson (Jane Stevenson & Associates), Johannah Moriti (JoM Cosmetics), Robynne Erwin (SmartXchange), Sanet Mey (Miracle Comfrey), Sotse Segoneco (Sonke Pharmaceuticals), Vasi Govinder-Padayachy (TSL Holdings)

*Finalists:* Sandra Netherlands (Die Blikplek), Stephanie Roodt (Diplus), Susan Lombaard (Maroela Media), Nevasha Naidoo (Platinum Public Relations), Reana Rossouw (Next Generation Consultants)

### **Sport**

*Winner:* Dr Debbie Alexander (Triathlon SA)

*Finalists:* Hanli Prinsloo (I am Water Trust), Mignon du Preez (National Women's Cricket Captain)

### **Tourism & Leisure**

*Finalists:* Valerie Pillay (Tsogo Sun), Palesa Pretty Rantsoareng (The President Hotel)

### **Welfare & Related Community Services**

*Winner:* Tina Botha (Sunflower Foundation), Dr Marietjie van der Merwe (ACVV Khayaletu), Gail Johnson (Nkosi's Haven)

### **History of the awards**

The publication *South Africa's Most Influential Women in Business and Government*, was initially launched in 2000 under a different banner, *South Africa's Business Women*, with a view to providing organisations with a platform from which to celebrate their achievements in terms of gender equality, as well as to pay tribute to those women who were consistently making their mark in their organisations, and indeed the country, for their outstanding accomplishments.

As the magazine grew in popularity, CEO Communications decided to go one step further, and implement awards of recognition to complement the publication. These awards would celebrate the achievements of women across our country's industrial sectors. As numerous awards geared to honouring only one woman out of many already existed, we decided the time was right for a fresh approach. Consequently, we set out to design a programme that recognised women in their specialised field. As a result, South Africa's Most Influential Women in Business and Government Awards was born, and the name of the publication changed accordingly.

Since this initial celebration the awards have grown considerably and enjoy increasing eminence in the South African marketplace. The awards are a credible identifier of women in business and government who are willing to put their influence to work for the benefit of South Africa's economy. Each year, the magazine's launch is celebrated at an annual awards function and networking event, which provides the perfect platform for announcing the award winners. In 2003, the event was held at one venue in Johannesburg, but now, nine years later, popular demand has seen the event expand on a nationwide basis to include Durban, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Free State.