



# Consular Corps hosts Ball for charity

The Cape Town Consular Corps is stepping up to make a difference in the lives of local young people.

For the first time ever the Cape Town Consular Corps will be hosting a Charity Ball this year. The Consular Corps consists of 48 countries that are represented in the Mother City by Consuls General and Honorary Consuls.

These consular missions have decided to join hands with four local charities and celebrate what they do for children and young people from disadvantaged communities:

- **Durbanville Children's Home**  
The oldest orphanage in South Africa
- **Cape Times Bursary Fund**  
For underprivileged young people
- **Ons Plek**  
The first treatment centre for female street children in South Africa
- **Proud Partners:**  
An NPO that uses music to help children's development.

## A glittering Consular Ball

The result will be a glittering Consular Ball with High-profile guests that will be held on 17 November 2012 at the brand-new venue at the Waterfront's Clocktower. Premier Helen Zille will be the guest of honour at the formal dinner dance, with Dr Michael Moll as MC and award-winning singer Nianell as guest artist. One of the highlights of the evening will be a fun auction of unconventional items and persons.

## Share in the goodwill

The Consular Corps has decided to give the business community of Cape Town an opportunity to share in the goodwill and to become part of the event by sponsoring various aspects of the evening. There will also be an opportunity to book a few tables or seats and mingle with members of the Consular Corps.

For more information about the benefits for sponsors contact **Johanna Strauss 083 305 0472**  
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**Dr Silviu Rogobete**, Consul General of Romania and Dean of the Cape Town Consular Corps, says:

"The Consular Ball will go way beyond being just another glamorous event. It will, by all accounts, become a yearly milestone in promoting and sustaining social justice and community development. Social engagement is high on our agenda, and the power of over 40 states represented in the Mother City should be able to make a significant contribution."



## Durbanville Children's Home

*This safe haven has nurtured vulnerable children for 129 years and is the oldest orphanage in South Africa.*

The focus of the home is the care, development and rehabilitation of emotionally traumatised children with the aim of re-uniting them with their families where possible. They care for 144 young people between the ages of two and eight years, who are placed with them because of a dysfunctional home environment.

To prevent further disruption in the lives of the children, the home has extended its residential programme from caring for children in one space, with 12 housing units, by adding two satellite houses in the children's own communities. They attend 25 different schools, across communities.

These children are our the future and Durbanville Children's Home offers them a chance to reach for their dreams, and for a better tomorrow.



## Cape Times Bursary Fund

*Give it to education – that's the slogan of this fund which has been doing just that since 1982.*

The Cape Times Bursary Fund believes that educating a country's youth is the only way to secure its future.

In April 1982 the newspaper announced the establishment of a major bursary fund to meet the challenges of education in the Western Cape and to benefit the disadvantaged - to make an investment in youth. It was launched against a background of an urgent growing need for skilled young people in South Africa and a lack of opportunity for higher education among the larger section of the community.

It was created by a small group of well-meaning businessmen most of whom were, at the time, directors of the Cape Times. They all personally contributed R20 000 towards the launch of the fund (a vast amount in those days)



## Ons Plek

*Ons Plek – our own place – opened its doors in 1988 to young female street children, to offer them shelter from their harsh environment.*

It is the only youth care centre in the city to take in girls who have lived, worked and begged on the streets of Cape Town, something no child should have to do.

Crossing over the threshold of Ons Plek, these girls leave street life behind to become children looking for their place in society.

Ons Plek meets their needs for clothing, food, shelter, education and love. Once they have adjusted to a structured life, away from the sometimes compelling ways on the streets, they can move on to Siviwe in Woodstock. Ons Plek has a high record of rehabilitation, with 70 percent of the girls returning to their families and 75 percent of those who remain, going back to school.



## Proud Partners

*Proud Partners encourage co-operation between South Africans of all races. Partnership can start in your home or at work, choosing a partner with whom to walk through life.*

It could be you and your domestic employee, working together both personally and professionally. At another level, schools can work together across the divide of prosperity and disadvantage, each benefiting from each other. Friendship is a universal advantage.

Musical training can unlock the door to a new world for a child and give him or her a gift for life. Proud Partners has donated keyboards and other musical instruments to over 20 schools throughout the Cape Province and sent hundreds of children for weekly music lessons.

Award-winning singer and songwriter Nianell has been proud to stage performances in aid of the organisation's music project.

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