

MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media

Att: News Editors

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Gauteng hosts fourth annual entrepreneurship and careers youth expo

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The Gauteng Provincial Government is hosting the fourth instalment of the Annual Youth, Jobs, Careers and Entrepreneurship Opportunities Expo, on 9-17 June at the Nasrec Expo Centre. The Youth Expo is a multi-event event with the following elements:

- 140 Exhibitors to provide information and live services to youth on Careers, Jobs and Work Exposure as well as how to start, run and operate a business.
- 30 dialogues and workshops on several topics.
- Local and international movies hosted by the Gauteng Film Commission. The Nelson Mandela Children Fun will host its International Film Festival at the Expo.
- Theatre *Shades of Change* a play written by Dr Wally Serote and produced by veteran actor Mr Jerry Mofokeng will be staged at the Expo.
- Sports activities including daily aerobics, football and Netball. Orlando Pirates and Sundown will also participate at the Expo to interact with young people.
- Cultural activities and performances by up-and-coming and established Artists.
- June 16 Annual Lecture

The expo forms part of commemorating the 42nd anniversary of June 16 which coincides with the centenary of struggle stalwarts, former president Nelson Mandela and Mama Albertina Sisulu. The youth expo is part of the provincial government's commitment to respond to the development of young people in the province.

Gauteng Province will also host the National Youth Day celebrations on the 16 June 2018. The President of the Republic, His Excellence Mr Cyril Ramaphosa will address young people on the 16 June 2018 at the Orlando Stadium. The youth day programme will be divided into three parts, namely:

Part 1: *Thuma Mina Walk* led by the President from Morris Isaacson High School to the Hector Pieterson Memorial. The walk will start at 07:00.

Part 2: Wreath laying ceremony at the Hector Pieterson Museum led by the President and Premier of Gauteng, Mr David Makhura.

Part 3: Mass rally at the Orlando Stadium to be addressed by the President.

We call on all young people in Gauteng to attend the Expo. Gauteng government further encourages families to bring their children, learners in Grade 10 - 12, youth out of school, unemployed youth and graduates, and young people seeking inspiration and opportunities, who are not yet sure about their career choices.

We have line up a very exciting, empowering and developmental programme that seeks to connect young people to real job and business opportunities. Young people will also benefit from career guidance and a whole range of cultural activities.

A full programme of the event is attached for refence. That said, young people attending the Expo can look forward to some of the following services and activities:

- 1. The Tshepo 1 Million Programme will register young people for jobs, skills development and business support. Several exhibitors will also offer careers, work readiness and skills development opportunities.
- 2. The health sector will offer health screening services and male circumcision at the Expo.
- 3. Watch films and engage in a discussion with the cast of some of the movies. Young people will also be exposed to careers in the film industry such as makeup, costume design and acting. Inxeba – The Wound will be screened alongside other local award-winning movies. Black Panther will form part of the international film festival hosted by the Nelson Mandela Children Fund.
- 4. The June 16 Annual Lecture will take place on the 15 June 2018.
- 5. Young writers will be provided with an opportunity to promote their works.
- 6. Veteran Actor and Director, Jerry Mofokeng wa Makhetha will showcase Wally Mongane Serote's *Shades of Change*, a two-hander stage production, featuring up and coming local artists. The play is set in prison against the backdrop of the June 16, 1976 uprisings. It was first performed in Botswana in 1977, then in Amsterdam in 1982. Dr Serote penned a theatrical journey that places a mirror before today's youth whose dreams can be realized under the enabling democratic era. It perhaps opens their eyes to the price that was paid by ordinary students for freedom.
- 7. The Dialogues offer an opportunity for a discussion on a range of socioeconomic topics around youth empowerment and development. Some of the dialogues to be hosted include Premier Makhura interface with young professionals; MEC Lesufi face-to-face engagement with unemployed youth; Backchats session hosted by Deputy Minister Manamela and Deputy Minister Enver Surty.

8. Sports activities will include indoor 5A-side soccer, daily aerobics at the arena and an opportunity for young people to interact with national sports personalities.

We hope that young people will come in their thousands to attend the Expo so that they advantage of the real opportunities offered by government, private sector and Non-governmental organisations.

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