



Press Release

*****For Immediate Release*****

Dates for the 8th Annual SAFTAs announced

The National Film and Video Foundation is proud to announce that the 8th Annual South African Film and Television Awards (SAFTAs) will take place on 4th and 5th of April 2014, in Johannesburg. The nominees for the prestigious awards will take place in March next on a date still to be announced.

The filtration phase of the judging process has already been completed. The judges met for a briefing session on the 28th of November 2013 which also marked the beginning of the final judging process to select the nominees. There was a sparkling atmosphere at the briefing session as industry peers taking part in the judging panels got together. They all demonstrated a very positive spirit and genuine commitment to play their part in making the SAFTAs a success. They also pledged to uphold the integrity of the SAFTAs, as the primary stage for the recognition of excellence in the South African film and television industry.

"The judges understand the critical nature of the process and we are committed to do everything in our power to ensure that the integrity of the SAFTAs is not compromised in any way. Our role is to ensure that the awards deliver on what they stand for, that is to recognise and celebrate excellence in the industry. We are very honoured to have been entrusted with such responsibility and we can assure the industry as well as the SAFTAs committee that this is one responsibility we will carry with so much diligence," said Overall Judges Chairperson Jerry Mofokeng who is also the SAFTAs Lifetime Achievement award recipient. Roberta Durrant, who is also a SAFTAs Lifetime Achievement award recipient, joins Jerry Mofokeng as the Overall Judging Co-Chairperson

The SAFTAs are organized under the custodianship of the NFVF, the statutory body mandated to spearhead the development of the country's film industry. The NFVF's CEO who is also the SAFTAs Chairperson; Zama Mkosi expressed her satisfaction with the progress so far. "I am very happy with the manner in which things are coming together. The final judging process commences at the same time as we announce the dates for the awards ceremonies next year and I think that is a clear indication that the countdown has

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Councillors

Ms Mmabatho Ramagoshi (Chairperson); Mr George Leolo (Deputy Chair); Ms Sandra Gordon; Mr Mohau Mphomela; Adv Rod Solomons
Mr Sello Molefe; Mr Paul Raleigh; Adv Roshan Rai Dehal; Ms Trish Downing; Mr Avhasei Mukoma; Ms Gcina Mhlophe-Becker
Chief Executive Officer: Ms Zamantungwa Mkosi

begun. We are calling upon the industry as well as the nation as a whole to save the dates and look forward to another prestigious industry showpiece," says Mkosi.

She also thanked the judges for their commitment to the SAFTAs. "There would be no awards without the nominees and winners there on behalf of the SAFTAs committee I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the judges, we understand the sacrifice they are putting in from their busy schedules, their contribution is highly appreciated," concludes Mkosi.

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Released on Behalf of the National Film and Video Foundation

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