

March/April 2017

SA ECD Awards finalists gather in Johannesburg for ECD week

he SA ECD Awards Workshop Week took place in Johannesburg for 33 provincial finalists who will be representing their respective provinces in the national leg of the South African Early Childhood Development Awards. Hosted by the National Development Agency, the week activities include training and workshop session on various policies that guide their work in their spaces within ECD. The week also allows for networking, pampering and a day excursion for the finalists. The final adjudication also took place for selection of national winners that will be announced on the 6th of April at a gala event that will be hosted by the Minister of Social Development, Bathabile Dlamini. The finalists are competing for R90 000, 00 in each category.

Finalists were workshopped by the Department of Social Development on the ECD Policy, Minimum Norms & Standards for Partial Care (ECD); Department of Health on Nutrition Guidelines and the importance and usage of the Road to Health Booklet; Sunshine Centre Organisation on child disability management interventions; Toys with Roots on alternative toy solutions. Senso presented on technology in ECD, zooming on devices that can assist deaf parents and deaf children. They received media training and were also trained on presentation and branding skills. On the fun side, the finalists

took a Gautrain excursion to Pretoria – a first time for almost all of them.

The idea for this workshop is to further develop the knowledge of the finalists, who are already professionals in their field but the collaboration with various partners allows them an opportunity to engage with critical issues and with the relevant departments. We also take the time to pamper them as they are dedicated to the welfare of children any other day of the year – during this time, we want them to feel special and spoilt", Mr Nkhensani Mthembi, Chairman of the SA ECD Awards Steering Committee at the National Development Agency.



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SA ECD Awards national finalists revealed

Provincial events were held in all provinces and national adjudications are complete. The finalists that will compete for the national awards are presented below:

2016/17 BEST ECD PROGRAMME THAT SUPPORTS BABIES AND CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES



Christinah Mahlangu Ntuthuko Stimulation Centre Soshanguve, Gauteng



Esmeralda Yolandi Matiso Masixole ECD Beaufort West, Western Cape



Mduduzi Dube Cape Mental Health Cape Town, Western Cape

2016/17 BEST ECD TRAINER OF THE YEAR



Ntombikayise Gama Masakhane ECD Training Centre Standerton, Mpumalanga



Ethel Koeberg Ebenezer Kimberley, Northern Cape



Lindisa Ruth Nombewu Centre for Social Development Grahamstown, Eastern Cape

2016/17 BEST ECD NUTRITION PROGRAMME OF THE YEAR



Ncamisile Mchunu Sigcawu Crèche Kwa-Ximba, KwaZulu-Natal



Julia Mthimunye Tokyo Gardens Pre-School Tsakane, Gauteng



Simie Shezi The Good Shepherd Sizanani Crèche Pinetown, KwaZulu-Natal

2016/17 BEST ECD NON-CENTRE BASED PROGRAMME OF THE YEAR



Maria Monama Katlehong Early Learning Resource Unit Vosloorus, Gauteng



Thembeka Nxesi Emthonjeni Outreach Programme eMfuleni, Western Cape



Bonga Masina Ntataise Lowveld Nelspruit, Mpumalanga

2016/17 BEST ECD EMERGING AUTHOR OF THE YEAR



Kgaogelo Modiga Amakati Amancane Amabili Tsakane, Gauteng



Louisa Buthelezi Different Friends <u>uMlazi, K</u>waZulu-Natal



Leah Thokozile Nhlabathi Umhlangano We Zilwane Tsakane, Gauteng

2016/17 BEST ECD CENTRE OF THE YEAR



Kgangwe Gogobe Keatlaretswe Early Learning Centre Mufutso Village, North West



Norah Phumani Makukhanye Crèche Mdantsane, Eastern Cape



Katrina van Wyk Kwiksstertjie Speelgroep Kuruman, Northern Cape



Patience McKay Little Big Crèche Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal



Caren Blaauw White Dove Centre Veldrif, Western Cape



Mmaphuthi Dina Manyama Boledi B Crèche Mahwelereng, Limpopo



Princess ZwaneLittle Stars Educare
Kempton Park, Gauteng



Betty Mahlangu Khayelihle Pre-School Siyabuswa, Mpumalanga



Joyce MthombeniPaballo Day Care Centre
Odendalsrus, Free State

2016/17 BEST ECD PRACTITIONER OF THE YEAR



Nomalanga Rebecca Mahlatsi Ntataise Edu Care Centre Kroonstad, Free State



Nozipho Ralarala Blooming Stars Educare Mfuleni, Western Cape



Ditaba Monicca Marota Bakwena Crèche Ga-Molapo, Limpopo



Margareth Ntombi Mtsweni Progress Day Care Centre Embalenhle, Mpumalanga



Eldrodene Solomons Morning Star Mdantsane, Eastern Cape



Rogeni Jacobs Rainbow Nation ECD Springs, Gauteng



Pauline Matlapeng Leratong Early Learning Centre Rustenburg, North West



Mpho MmotongBahentse
Kuruman, Northern Cape



Siphindile Mahlaba Entokozweni Hammasdale, KwaZulu-Natal

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