

**PRESS RELEASE: RISING STAR PROGRAMME
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Finalists Announced for 5th annual Standard Bank Rising Star Awards

After receiving hundreds of entries and going through thousands of pages of nominations, motivations and verifications, the finalists for the 5th Annual Standard Bank Rising Star Awards have been announced!

Over the past four years, these awards have been identifying, recognising and celebrating young talents across all industries in South Africa, and the fifth year is no different. “We are delighted to have so many entries from across the country from such a broad range of talent,” says Laura Barker, Managing Director of BlackBark Productions, organisers of the Rising Star Programme. “It is encouraging to see these awards grow year-on-year – it means our goal of recognising and developing talent is coming to fruition.”

The awards are for young, talented individuals in the 28-40 year age category, and form part of a unique platform where winners can go beyond just the recognition for work already done, and participate in a leadership and development programme throughout the year after winning. They also have a unique opportunity to network across industry sectors, with both their fellow winners, and top minds in the country through a mentorship programme.

As headline sponsor, Standard Bank is committed to identifying and celebrating talent across industries. “Every year we are impressed with the calibre of entries from our talented young workforce, and this year is no different,” says Standard Bank’s Global Head of Resourcing, Amelia Muller. “There is another excellent group of finalists going through to the last round, and the judges are going to have their work cut out for them!”

The last round is rigorous, and comprises a three-hour Q&A session in front of a panel of expert judges. The criteria have been developed by USB-ED (University of Stellenbosch Executive Development) from their research into the Future Leader, and USB-ED will also moderate the judging process. The gala dinner announcing the winners will be held at the Sandton Hilton on 22 July 2016.

Judges include HR executives and directors from some of South Africa’s top firms – Zaid Shaik (Standard Bank), Busi Mashiane (African Rainbow Minerals), Lorato Mogaki (AngloAmerican), Melody Lekota (Cell C), Linda Mthenjane (FNB), Shaan Burnill (Standard Bank), Sharmila Govind (HSBC), Brigitte Chetty (Makro), Marc Privett (Media24), Jabu Mahange (Primedia), Shirley Machaba (PwC), Thami Msubo (Telkom) and Bedelia Theunissen (Absa), amongst others.

Because the nomination process and first two rounds are designed to ensure that only the best candidates go through to the final round, regardless of the organisations they represent, this sometimes results in anomalies. This year, one such anomaly is the dominance of Eskom candidates in the Energy & Environment sector, sponsored by Sasol.

“Having five finalists from one company in a sector shows that they are doing something right in appointing and nurturing young talent,” says Barker. “I am pleased that Eskom is showing this kind of investment in its people – it can only mean good things for us as a country going forward.”

Barker concludes with some words of wisdom for the finalists going in to the final round: “They have already proved they are worthy of being finalists in this tough competition. I hope to see them step

up their game a final notch in the face-to-face judging round, and show South Africa why they deserve this personal and professional recognition of their drive and determination.”

The list of finalists is available at: www.risingstarawards.co.za/2016finalists, or see below.

STANDARD BANK RISING STAR AWARDS SPONSORS

Sponsors for the 5th Annual Standard Bank Rising Star Awards include Standard Bank, ArcelorMittal, Sasol, merSETA, Transnet Freight Rail, Hilton Worldwide, AJ Charnaud, Telkom, GradConnection, Vieple and Mulderbosch wines.

ABOUT THE RISING STAR PROGRAMME

The Rising Star Programme is operated by BlackBark Productions, and is now in its fifth year. It recognises, celebrates and connects young talented individuals who have the capacity to excel in their chosen fields, and who contribute to the future of our nation in an inspirational manner.

Rising Stars are more than just top performers with technical expertise – they are polished, brilliant, and show tremendous promise as future leaders.

The Programme is a significant and sustainable vehicle through which organisations, our country and our continent can identify and nurture these “organisational and national assets” who are set to play a key role in shaping the future of our country and our continent.

The Rising Star Programme is establishing a living community of young African talent that will be developed, mentored and provided with platforms for development and communication, therefore enabling them to become role models, opinion leaders and the inspiration for other future African Talent.

Rising Star has successfully recognised over 200 talented young individuals over the past four years in its programme in both South Africa and Kenya.

Visit www.risingstarawards.co.za for more information or contact:

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5TH ANNUAL STANDARD BANK RISING STAR AWARDS FINALISTS (2016)

Banking & Financial Services – sponsored by Standard Bank

Amy Bricker	Analyst, Security Project & Process	Standard Bank
Brian Mahlangu	Retail & BB	Nedbank
Johan De Beer	Head of Business Support	FNB International
Dr Marco Lotz	EGC	Nedbank
Sharmila Mungal	Group Risk	Nedbank

Construction & Engineering – sponsored by ArcelorMittal South Africa

Byron Jefferys	Vertical Sales Professional	Siemens
Cameron Brauns	Construction Manager	Murray & Roberts Power & Energy
Charlene Joseph	HR Manager	Liviero Group
Lazarus Makgalemane	Senior Systems Engineer	Siemens
Mark Schonrock	Senior Estimator	Murray & Roberts Infrastructure and Building

Energy & Environment – sponsored by Sasol

Bianca Wernecke	Environmental Officer, Air Quality	Eskom Holdings SOC
Jana Breedt	Senior Advisor - Demand Forecasting	Eskom Holdings SOC
Leon van Wyk	Air Quality Manager	Eskom Holdings SOC
Lungile Malaza	Electrical Design Application Manager	Eskom Holdings SOC
Pieter Rosslee	Commissioning Engineer	Eskom Holdings SOC

Entrepreneur

Boitumelo Liese	Co-Founder/Business Development	SL Diamond Tools
Grant Gavin	CEO	RE/MAX Panache
Lona Mnguni	Managing Director	Gracenet Logistics
Sean Ammon	Managing Director	Cebisile Investments & Business Advisory
Dr Terrence Kommal	CEO	Ayush Healthcare Medical Experts & Brain Medicine Neuro diagnostics Institute

ICT (Telecoms & Technology)

Gareth Kingston	SAP Change Management Specialist	Britehouse, a Division of Dimension Data
Heidi Duvenage	Head of Sage Talent Solutions	Sage
Rashika Ramlal	Executive: SMB Converged Prod & Bundling	Telkom
Riaan Cronje	Senior Manager: Operations	Centracom
Tanya Pieterse	Project Manager	Centracom

Manufacturing, Retail & FMCG – sponsored by merSETA

Genevieve Keshwar	Business Development Analyst	Cipla Pharmaceuticals
Lerato Legoale	Local Tenders Manager	Aberdare Cables
Lorraine Naidu	Manager: Statutory Reporting	ArcelorMittal South Africa
Natasha Eddie	Senior Manager: Advertising &	

Pieter Van Gent	Digital Marketing Warehouse Manager & Responsible Pharmacist	Toyota South Africa Cipla Pharmaceuticals
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Media & Marketing

Eduardo Pelembe	Digital Media Strategist	The MediaShop
Linda Chimvumbo-Bindura	HR Manager	Okuhle Media
Louise Hefer	Media Strategist	The MediaShop
Noleen Nagel	Producer	Okuhle Media
Tsoku Johnson Maela	Scriptwriter	Okuhle Media

Mining & Minerals

Ashina Buddu	Concentrator Manager	Anglo American
Cornelius Ollewagen	Drill Shop Foreman	African Rainbow Minerals
Hermann Hollhumer	Section Engineering Manager Operations	Anglo American
Poppy Molapo	Utility Technician	Anglo American
Rousseau Jooste	Senior Engineering Manager Operations	Anglo American

Professional Services

Angie Doyle	Consultant	IQ Business
Biase De Gregorio	Relationship Leader	IQ Business
Dapo Adeyemo	Head of Finance – Partner	Khonology
Luyanda Mngadi	Associate Director	PricewaterhouseCoopers
Regan Stemmers	Employer Relationship Manager: Africa	CIMA

Service: Public & Private

Dr Henriëtte Hobbs	Post-Doctoral Student	CSIR-Biosciences
Jianwei Ren	Senior Researcher	CSIR-Biosciences
Melanie Pretorius	Customer Relations & Quality Manager	CSIR-Biosciences
Nomthandazo Dlanga	Administration Support	Johannesburg Property Company
Shaakira Chohan	Development Manager	Johannesburg Development Agency

Tourism, Leisure & Hospitality – sponsored by Hilton Worldwide

Ashley Smit	Front Office Manager	Hilton Durban
Beauty Lebelo	Assistant Front Office Manager	Hilton Sandton
Denver Appalsamy	Lead Technician - Slots Technical	Tsogo Sun, Suncoast Casino, Hotel & Entertainment World
Driaan Jordaan	Assistant Executive Housekeeper	Hilton CT City Centre Hotel
Thabo Ngoepe	Banqueting Assistant Floor Manager	Peermont Global, Emperors Palace

Transport, Logistics & Security – sponsored by Transnet Freight Rail

Dikeledi Moche	Senior Manager: Business Process Re-engineering	Transnet Freight Rail
James Jackson	Manager: Reconciliations and Cash Operations	G4S Deposita
Mellody Kleingeld	Call Centre Manager	G4S Deposita

Ntsako Nukeri
Sally Mieny

Depot Engineering Manager
Projects Supervisor

Transnet Freight Rail
Bolloré Logistics SA