



## GAUTENG YOUTH EXCELLENCE AND SERVICE AWARDS 2018

Gauteng Provincial Government invites individuals and organisations within both the private and public sector to enter for the Youth Excellence Awards. The purpose of these awards is to celebrate the positive contribution made by youth to improve their life and those of others. These awards recognise inspiring young people whose development has had a significant impact on people and communities in Gauteng. The awards aim to identify and reward most creative and developmental projects intended to affirm individuals from disadvantaged groups, honour dedicated creative and effective youth. It also encourages self-empowerment and best practice amongst youth.

### CATEGORIES

A call for entries and nomination is requested in these categories:

- Community Safety
- Health
- Economic Development (job creation and placement, entrepreneurship)
- Sports, arts and culture including social cohesion
- Education (Skills Development, Career Guidance, Mentoring Programme and Tutoring)
- Innovation, ICT, Science and Technology

### ELIGIBILITY

- The Awards are open to individuals and organisations who are making a difference in the life of youth particularly in disadvantaged communities,
- The nominated individuals should be between 15 and 35 years and no age restriction for the nominator;
- The individual should be a South African citizen and a resident of Gauteng Province,
- The projects should be developmental of the youth ,
- The initiative requires a minimum of one year of implementation to qualify for evaluation,
- The project must demonstrate direct benefits to citizens in Gauteng Province, The project must demonstrate innovation, New applications only.

### ENTRY GUIDELINES AND RULES

- A project may only be entered for one category.
- Self – nomination is accepted.
- All questions should be completed in full, in sequence and with as much information as possible, in line with the prescribed maximum words.

- Hand written entries, typed and email submission are welcome. However, hand written entries should be legibly.
- Hard copy entries and supporting documents should be stapled.
- Supporting evidence such as CD/DVD, publications, brochures, newspaper clippings should be submitted.

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

### 1. Innovation

- The project has to demonstrate the newness of the solution in addressing youth issues.
- The projects should not have been acknowledged before.

### 2. Impact

- The project should demonstrate the tangible improvements in the life of young person.
- Affirm individuals from disadvantaged group.
- There should be evidence of individuals satisfied with the initiatives.

### 3. Sustainability

- The programme or project should have been implemented for at least a year.
- The extent in which the project could be replicable.

## AWARDS CATEGORIES

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

### 1. Community Safety

This category identifies young people who have acted in roles of leadership and responsibility in their school and/or local community to promote safety. Young people will be celebrated for their efforts and determination to bring about positive and progressive change within their communities that improve safety. Nominees will have shown efforts to challenge injustice within the community and overcome it through campaigning or volunteering to address issue like crime, substance abuse etc. Nominees will have demonstrated hard work in trying to improve the lives and safety of others.

### 2. Health (Healthy Lifestyle, fitness, balanced diet and nutrition, healthcare, medical treatment)

This category is about physical wellbeing and helping young people with health conditions to lead happy, fulfilled lives. This could be achieved by encouraging community to engage in various activities such as fitness, an active lifestyle or a balanced diet, access to medical treatment for those infected or affected by diseases, raise awareness for neglected diseases and physical exercise among communities.

### **3. Economic Development (job creation and placement, entrepreneurship)**

This category looks for solutions that enhance economic understanding, fight poverty and help young people to make a decent living. On average, post 2010, the unemployment rate seems to have stabilised to around 24% and later 25% before increasing to 26.2%. The unemployment rate among youth aged 15 to 34 increased from 32, 7% to 36, 1% between 2008 and 2014. Also with slow economic growths, many young people are struggling to be absorbed in formal working environment. Therefore any innovations that create opportunities for youth to engage in social entrepreneurship, reduce unemployment or illustrate how money works, innovative career counselling, promote responsible spending as well as initiatives that create and support a start-up friendly economic environment should be submitted in this category.

### **4. Sports, arts and connecting culture, language, diversity including social cohesion**

The Projects or programmes submitted in this category may promote and support e.g. multilingualism, understanding and knowledge of different cultures and communities, creation of new contemporary forms of culture but also the preservation of indigenous knowledge and traditions. The category is also open for encouraging youth to participate in sports and creative arts including music, theatre, dance, film or visual arts (painting, photography). The nominee is committed to helping others understand the importance of arts in their community through acts like mentoring, teaching, fundraising and raising awareness. This award recognises a young person who has demonstrated a significant level of achievement in the arts or has used the arts to effect change in their community.

Applicants must either:

- Demonstrate a significant level of achievement in the arts, or
- Show how they have used the arts to effect change in their community by facilitating, organising or providing coaching techniques.

### **5. Education (Skills Development, Career Guidance, Mentoring Programme and Tutoring)**

Many high schools and universities report tremendous drop-out rates and a social education-gap remains reality. This category is about finding new, creative approaches to encourage youth to pursue their secondary and tertiary education. This category may include, for example, career guidance to youth, mentoring and tutoring programme to improve learner performance and graduation rate of the youth from disadvantaged youth.

### **6. Innovation, ICT, Science and Technology**

This award will identify the young people in Gauteng who are excelling in the science. This category recognises a young person for significant academic achievement or work in one of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subject areas and/or who has a track record of supporting the learning of others.

Applicants must:

- Show how they have demonstrated significant academic achievement or work in one of the STEM subject areas
- And / or show how they have supported the learning of others

This also includes tools boosting learners' motivation to study STEM, create scientific understanding, support knowledge exchange, foster ICT competence, infotainment games, and platforms for open-access education or other digital solutions for making scientific progress beneficial to the youth. This category will further recognise innovation that comprises of environmentally friendly solutions for the benefit of our world. This includes for example, finding digital solutions for the community, sustainable agriculture or the "greening" of societies and economies that have a positive impact on our environment or foster a responsible and sustainable attitude towards nature.

## VERIFICATION AND ADJUDICATION

- All entries received before or on the closing date will be acknowledged.
- Shortlisted entries will be verified through either an email, telephonic or individual interviews with relevant stakeholders and or site visits.
- Verified projects and / or individuals will be judged by a panel of adjudicators.
- The adjudicators retain the right to move an entry to a category they deem more appropriate,
- The adjudicators' decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into

## SUBMIT ENTRY FORM AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

To enter the award, please complete the entry form electronically or by hand and send to Gauteng Provincial Treasury by post, email or hand delivery. The contact person is Ntombenhle Msomi, Gauteng Provincial Treasury, Gender, Youth and Disability (GEYODI). Cell No: 064 825 9774, Email: [Ntombenhle.msomi@gauteng.gov.za](mailto:Ntombenhle.msomi@gauteng.gov.za)

### **Physical Address**

75 Fox Street  
Imbumba House  
Johannesburg, 2001

### **Postal Address**

Private Bag X 112  
Johannesburg  
2107