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**IN THE NEWS**

**Leadership Training For Deaf Youth  
Worcester: 22nd to 26th February 2016**

DeafNET hosted a Leadership Training for Deaf Youth from 22-26 February 2016 at Ukwanda Rural Campus, University of Stellenbosch in Worcester.

14 Deaf persons, from Deaf organisations in the Worcester area, attended the training which was facilitated in partnership with CEFA (Continuing Education for Africa) and DeafNET. Dr Patrick Smith from CEFA was the main facilitator together with Sanjay Beepat and Suzette Willemse from DeafNET.

Purpose of training:

- Equip Deaf youth leaders with leadership and management skills.
- Build and maintain relevant and effective organisations to serve Deaf communities.
- Promote and support equal education and opportunities for Deaf persons.
- Empower Deaf persons with social competence and self-representing skills.
- Facilitate improvement of the health and wellbeing of Deaf persons and their families through advocacy and partnerships.
- Promote the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



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**DeafNET participates in Cape Town Cycle Tour  
Cape Town: 6 March 2016**

Three cyclists assisted DeafNET to raise funds for the education of Deaf children in Africa. This was the first time that DeafNET participated in the Cape Town Cycle Tour.

Jacques Matthee and Stefan Boschoff from Worcester and Darrel Slambee from Bloemfontein took on the Cape Town Cycle Tour on 6 March 2016. They raised an amount of R30 000-00.



**109km**      **6 MARCH 2016**  
Cape Town Cycle Tour logo and sponsors: Cape Argus, Cape Town Momentum, Rotary - Pedal Power Association

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**DeafNET Ambassadors Banquet  
Rawsonville, Western Cape: 12 March 2016**

The DeafNET Ambassadors Banquet was held on 12 March 2016 at the Goudini Spa, where guests were treated to top-notch entertainment, scrumptious food but also stunning views of the mountains surrounding Rawsonville.

This was a special evening as DeafNET celebrates its 10th anniversary, the funds raised were for the purpose of education and to place DeafNET as a world-class network of knowledge and expertise in the interest of people in Africa who experience hearing loss and associated related communication barriers.

This is the 2nd Banquet that was held by DeafNET and they managed to raise a fabulous R120 000 for the centres' 2 main programmes. The first being a scholarship programme for young Deaf girls that provides an opportunity for their tertiary education and the second programme being the Red Star Training Method which empowers Deaf students with numeracy and literacy skills. This Training method is a collaboration between DeafNET and De La Bat School for the Deaf, where Ina Senekal gives teachers experiential training in this method.

Idols Finalist, Elwira Standili and her band welcomed guests with a scintillating performance, followed by a prayer in SL from Zimbabwean student student, Mary Chipoka. Zane Meas (former 7de Laan) and Martelize Brink (RSG) were the joint MC's and kept the audience completely entertained and engaged.

The DeafNET Ambassadors arranged the whole evening and Deafnet thanks each and every person who made this evening such a success. DeafNET is humbled by the generous sponsorships received and appreciate the contributions made by sponsors to ensure the success of our fundraiser.



**In celebration of DeafNET's 2nd annual Banquet, we want to thank the following sponsors:**

www.deafnet.org

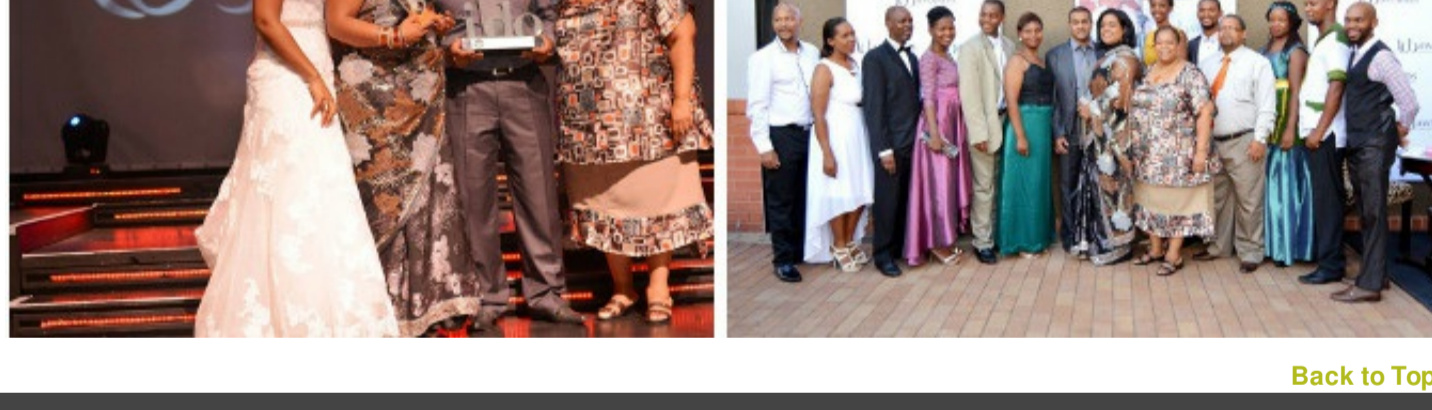
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**Simon Ndaba (Artist)**  
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**Ido Awards 2016  
Johannesburg: 13 February 2016**

Deaf couples from Africa attended the Ido Awards 2016 at the Barnyard Theatre in Johannesburg on 13 February. Rajesh and Nazereen Bhana were awarded the "Against all Odds Award 2016" and were nominated by DeafNET. We are very proud of them and would like to thank Ambassador Felicia Buthelezi and the Ido Magazine for providing this platform for our Deaf community. The Ido Awards focus on "Healthy relationships! Happy Homes!"



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**UPCOMING EVENTS 2016**

**DeafNET Africa Conference 2016  
Johannesburg: 26th to 30th September 2016**

The 4th DeafNET Africa Conference is planned to coincide with DeafNET's 10th year celebrations. The conference is scheduled from 26 to 30 September 2016. We expect 300-400 participants from 44 African countries to attend the conference.

The aim of the conference is to:

- network and establish partnerships
- provide an opportunity to share knowledge and expertise on an international level
- group discussions are part of the conference that allow an in-depth investigation on issues relating to Deaf Education in Africa on all levels of education:
  - Early Childhood Development
  - General / Basic Education
  - Higher Education
  - Further Education and Training



The Theme for this 4th DeafNET Africa Conference is: "Deaf Education - Empowering Deaf persons in Africa through Knowledge"

Tusk Events Management is assisting DeafNET with the arrangements of the conference. Please contact Celeste Gaskin for registration and enquiries at [celeste@tuskevents.co.za](mailto:celeste@tuskevents.co.za) or [conference@deafnet.org](mailto:conference@deafnet.org); cell: +27 76 551 7115/25.

Call for Abstracts queries: Dr Martha Geiger at [mgeiger@sun.ac.za](mailto:mgeiger@sun.ac.za)

Call for Interpreters: Natasha Maliko at [npmaliko@gmail.com](mailto:npmaliko@gmail.com)

Any general enquiries: [conference@deafnet.org](mailto:conference@deafnet.org)

Sponsorships: Suzette Willemse at [ceo@deafnet.org](mailto:ceo@deafnet.org)

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