

## NAMAS HEADS BACK TO SWAKOPMUND DOME

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**27 February 2018 – Windhoek** - It is official; the town of Swakopmund will once again host the 2018 Namibian Annual Music Awards. The announcement was jointly made by NAMA Executive members Umbi Karuaihe-Upi, Tim Ekandjo and Her Worship The Mayor of Swakopmund, Councillor Paulina Ndahafa Nashilundo.

Ekandjo explained that the town of Swakopmund ticked all the boxes in terms of requirements and that they look forward to joining forces with such a progressive and forward looking leadership, that understands the impact of such events on their communities, and importantly that it takes sacrifice to make it happen.

Speaking at the official announcement, Her Worship, The Mayor of Swakopmund had this to say:

"It is encouraging to note that since the event took place for the first time in Swakopmund in 2014 and 2015, close to 7 000 people visited our town to watch the NAMA's. Such a high numbers of visitors is indeed positive news – as it means that the visitors will inject much needed capital in our economy, as they will be staying in our accommodation facilities, dine at our restaurants or engage in tourism and leisure activities, thus spending their hard-earned money on improving our economy.

I must also commend to say that it is indeed remarkable considering that the organizers, also as part of their own spending contributed close to N\$1 million dollars in the economy of our town, by making use of the various services providers of our town to support the hosting of the NAMA's in our town. Presented with such figures, it is pleasing to note that the Swakopmund Town Council and Councillors deliberated very thoroughly to see how the town can lure the organizers of the NAMA's back into our beautiful town again. With this short remarks, ladies and gentleman it is now my distinct honour, to hereby accept and duly inform the Namibian nation that Swakopmund has accepted to host the NAMA's 2018 and we are eagerly looking forward to host and welcome you in our incredibly, beautiful town of Swakopmund".

Tanya Doringo, the RadicallyRadz.com lifestyle blogger, Face of Tutaleni as well as the 2014 NAMAs Blue room host; Esperance Luvindao, Miss Grand Namibia 2016, an internationally published Poet, writer, presenter and final year medical student and Odile Gertze, former Miss Namibia, actor and presenter, will be this year's NAMA presenters.

"Selecting the show host is an important decision for the NAMAs because they steer the NAMA ship on the night. Our tradition is to have auditions every year, but this year we are breaking that tradition by having hand selected these 3 phenomenal women to do us proud on the NAMA stage this year. We are confident that they will shine and do us proud and we thus wish them the very best," said Ekandjo.

The 2018 NAMA nominees will be announced on the  $28^{th}$  March 2018 live on NBC TV during the Whatagwan slot at 16h00.

The organizers also announced that ticket sales to the 2018 event has gone live at Webtickets. VIP tickets sell for N\$600 while general tickets sell for N\$250. The first 150 VIP tickets will however sell at a special discount of only N\$450 while general tickets would sell for only N\$150. Once the first 150 tickets are sold out, the prices will go back to normal.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Namibian Annual Music Awards will take place at the Swakopmund Dome on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

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