

## Gauteng Carnival

Gauteng Carnival is an expression of telling the South African story. It is a process where community history and stories are shared and conceptualised into a street parade and training takes place in carnival camps and communities by artists and artisans across the province. Carnival builds cohesiveness by bringing people of different cultures together into one parade to showcase, dance and celebrate diverse cultures. The height of the process is the street procession or parade that showcases month's long preparations and trainings. The Gauteng Carnival procession was officially launched in 2005 as part of the Heritage Month festivities.

As part of our contribution to Radical Transformation, the Carnival will present an opportunity to tell our stories and as a gift to future generations. On the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2016 the World will witness the true character of Gauteng. We will bring in the new flavour and approach in order to showcase a truly united African Continent. Gauteng Carnival. Gauteng Carnival is based on choreography guided by a storyline consulted with participants from different communities. The 2016 Gauteng "*Social Cohesion*" Carnival will be celebrated under the theme: "Human Treasures and Legends: Our Living Heritage" noting some of the developments we have seen around Xenophobia to showcase the Legends and Heritage sites telling a story of historical events. The Legends to be showcased from 5 regions are the late Lucky Dube, the Late Mahlathini and The Mahotella Queens, Johnny Clegg, Richard Maponya, Baby Jake Matlala.

One of the Gauteng Carnival objectives is to identify talent in schools and communities that will later be developed into skills and mainstreamed towards the career pathing in the Arts and Culture Sector. The carnival creates job opportunities for young South Africans on a yearly basis. The artists contracted in the production of costumes, floats, and dance moves are either qualified or skilled based. Most of the artist use their skills as a means of job creation.

The Department and the Gauteng Department of Education selected 108 schools that will participate in the Gauteng Carnival parade, 60 highs schools and 48 primary schools will be learners from grades 5-12. The selected schools represent 15 districts that were divided from the following GDE demarcation: Joburg 1, Joburg 2, Sedibeng, Tshwane, Ekurhuleni and West Rand. This year, the Gauteng carnival will be held in partnership with Department of Arts and Culture, Gauteng Department of Education, City of Tshwane, The Carnival Company and sponsors to bring vibrant entertainment to the communities of Tshwane.

The Gauteng "Social Cohesion" Carnival media launch is scheduled to take place as follows:

**Date:** Tuesday, 13 September 2016

**Time:** 14h30

**Venue:** Turbine Hall, Johannesburg

You may visit our Facebook page for more information on the parade and the route.

[@gautengcarniva](#)