

## EPWP develops capacity at Magnet Theatre

[The Expanded Public Works Programme](#) (EPWP) has been developed to tap into the rare skills within the arts, culture and heritage sectors. It has become an avenue to expose beneficiaries to opportunities in this sector.

[The Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport](#) (DCAS) partnered with the [Magnet Theatre](#) to facilitate work opportunities and capacity building through the theatre skills programmes.



**Yonela  
Sithela  
(2013)**



**Natasha  
Gana  
(2016)**



**Zukisani  
Nongogo  
(2015)**



**Vuyokazi  
Ngemntu  
(Performance  
poet, writer)**



**Lwando  
Magwaca  
(2016)**

Yonela Sithela, Natasha Gana, Zukisani Nongogo, Vuyokazi Ngemntu and Lwando Magwaca applied for the EPWP beneficiary advertisements and are now part of the dynamic team at the Magnet Theatre. They participate fully in all the activities of the theatre, learning skills in arts administration, community arts development work (urban and rural), creation of new performances, stage management, production management and technical theatre skills. These beneficiaries have to work independently and manage projects and productions.

They proudly participated as part of the project management team of the Rocking the Cradle Festival (Fringe Festival of the ASSITEJ World Congress) in 11 productions over three days with audience numbers of 1 247. Their duties included arranging transport and catering, booking school groups, venue management, ticket sales and front of house management for performances.

The team was also involved in Community Arts Development in the Culture Gangs Showcase at the theatre with audience numbers of 250. The showcase featured performances by five groups that were visited by two community arts development EPWP beneficiaries during the year, where they reflected on concerns and stories from their communities. The other interns worked on marketing, invitations, catering and front of house duties for the showcase.

DCAS gives people the opportunity to participate in EPWP activities. Communities should encourage the youth to use these opportunities to reach their full potential. Let us nurture and develop the skills of our youth, BETTER TOGETHER.

### ENQUIRIES:

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