

## Intaka Island awarded for environmental education, skills development programme

The Intaka Island Environmental Trust for the wetlands at Century City, Cape Town, was recently awarded in the Environmental Education and Skills Development category of the 2020 National Wetland Awards. Sponsored by Mondi, the awards are unique bronze Wattled Crane sculptures designed by sculptor Sarah Richards and are awarded annually to recognise outstanding contributions to wetland work in South Africa.



Image source: Intaka

"We are very honoured to receive this award in recognition of the efforts of not only the Intaka Island Environmental Trust, but many other stakeholders, including the Blouvlei Intaka Island Environmental Committee," said Chris Blackshaw, CEO of the Century City Property Owners' Association (CCPOA).



"Over the past nine years, the trust has developed and implemented a comprehensive environmental education (EE) programme which is linked to various school grades' curriculums. The education programmes are well received and around 190 school groups comprising approximately 8,500 learners visit the facility annually. The trust further finances the ongoing operational costs of running the eco-centre and the EE programme, including the remuneration of the environmental education staff and field rangers, as well as their skills development and training."

The Intaka Eco-Centre implements a range of appropriate eco-tourism, recreational and educational programmes for the Intaka Island Nature Reserve and raises awareness of the ecological and social value of the wetland ecosystem.

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