

Samas have a new CEO

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Music industry veteran Nhlanhla Sibisi has replaced Randall Abrahams as CEO of the SA Music Awards. It would appear to be a promotion for both men, with Abrahams' appointment as chairman of the MTN Sama 19 showcase a reward for his work in giving the awards ceremony a much-needed facelift.

Sibisi, qualified as a corporate and media lawyer, said on Monday he had never been comfortable being in the spotlight, something his new job entails.

He has worked for law firm Webber Wentzel, as a legal adviser at Telkom, for the Recording Industry of SA and Sony Music Entertainment SA, and as general manager of business acquisitions at the SABC.

Some people still didn't know who he was, " perhaps because I've always been in the background. That's why it is important for me to engage with everyone, but I'm really an open book".

He said the Samas would be announced on the weekend of May 10 and 11, a return to the old format.

The Samas were moved to a Monday night this year in a bid to capitalise on the millions of viewers drawn by soapie Generations.

Entries open on November 1 and close at the end of that month. Music released between December 1 2011 and November 30 is eligible.

Source: The Times

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