

# All the Standard Bank Sikuvile Journalism Awards 2017 winners!

The Standard Bank Sikuvile Journalism Awards 2017 winners have been announced, with Investigative Journalism category winner, **Suzanne Venter** from *Rapport* winning the SA Story of the Year for *Life Esidimeni* and *City Press'* **Sipho Masondo** crowned Journalist of the Year. Masondo was also a finalist in the Investigative Journalism category for *Watergate*.



The night's big winners - Journalist of the year, Siphon Masondo of City Press; SA story of the Year, Suzanne Venter of Rapport; Upcoming/Rising Star of the Year, Botshilo Maahe of City Press; and Lifetime achiever, Jubu Mayet.

The Allan Kirkland Soga Lifetime Achiever Award went to 80-year-old **Juby Mayet**, who has outlived all the journalists she worked with, while the Upcoming/Rising Star of the Year went to **Botshilo Maahe** for *A body of work, Graphics 24* for *City Press*.

The Sikuvile Awards are a recognition of excellence in South African journalism, hosted by the Publishers Support Services (PSS) and sponsored by Standard Bank. The event took place on 19 October, at The Venue Greenpark (also known as Johannesburg World Trade Centre) in Sandton, Gauteng.



## Sikuvile Awards set to honour top journalists

18 Oct 2017



The judging panel was headed by convener, Judge Mathatha Tsedu and included Dinesh Balliah, Gus Silber, Henry Jeffreys, Mike Siluma, Tyrone August, Phil Mtimkulu, Pippa Green, Tim du Plessis, Latiefa Mobara, Thabo Leshilo, Mary Papayya, Ryland Fisher, and Neo Ntsoma.

The list of winners includes:

Category winners			
Hard news winner	Frank Mponya and Sandile Ndlovu	<i>School of horrors</i>	<i>Sowetan</i>
Columns/editorial winner	Phillip de Wet	<i>Winegum racism</i>	<i>Mail &amp; Guardian</i>
Enterprise news winner	Laura Lopez Gonzalez	<i>The big chill: Health posts freeze threatens services</i>	<i>Health-E News/Daily Maverick</i>
Feature writing winner	Estelle Ellis	<i>Shock closure of frail care centres and Toxic river spill</i>	<i>The Herald</i>
Investigative journalism winner	Suzanne Venter	<i>Life Esidimeni</i>	<i>Rapport</i>
Editorial cartoons winner	Brandan Eugene Reynolds	<i>Body of work</i>	<i>Rapport and Business Day</i>
Graphic journalism winner	Lebohang Elvin Nethononda	<i>Soweto uprising 1976</i>	<i>The Star</i>
Popular journalism winner	Stephen Mlobi	<i>Pastor Doom</i>	<i>Daily Sun</i>
News photographs winner	Alon Skuy	<i>Cliff/Dali/Oscar</i>	<i>The Times</i>
Feature photographs winner	Phandulwazi Jikelo	<i>Blind and in despair amid hardship</i>	<i>Cape Times</i>
Sports photographs winner	Alon Skuy	<i>Caleb's quest for the stage</i>	<i>The Times</i>
Presentation winner	Vuyo Singiswa and Sarah Buitenbach	<i>FMcovers 2016</i>	<i>Financial Mail</i>
Multiplatform winner	Athandiwe Saba, Delwyn Verasamy and Malcolm Sekgothe	<i>Unitrans stall over vital back pay</i>	<i>Mail &amp; Guardian</i>
Multimedia winner	Le Roux Schoeman	<i>Kan jy van snoek alleen oorleef</i>	<i>Netwerk24.com</i>

## SA Story of the Year shows tenacity

This year's winner of the Sikuvile Journalism Awards' SA Story of the Year as well as Investigative Journalism category winner, **Suzanne Venter**, led to the Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, ordering an investigation into the whole saga.

Venter's investigation of the decision by the Gauteng Health Department to remove mentally ill patients from a secure and comfortable place where they were being cared for, to unlicensed and poorly maintained facilities without any financial assistance, fitted the criteria for this category; in-depth journalism resulting in scoops, arising from research, perseverance, courage and determination.

She was determined not only to expose wrong-doing by the authorities, but as she puts it: “to know that I played a part in exposing the culprits who are responsible for the agonising death of the most vulnerable citizens of society.”

## Newspaper production, advertising, graphics award winners

*The Daily Sun* won the Frewin Award. This Award recognises urban daily newspapers with a circulation above 50,000. A number of newspapers had to withdraw after their circulations fell under 50,000 during the Awards period.

The McCall Award, which honours urban daily newspapers with a circulation of 50,000 or less, was won by *Volksblad*. The Joel Mervis Award, recognising urban weekly newspapers irrespective of their circulation, was won by *Mail & Guardian*.

Convener of judges, Clive Loxton, Creative faculty head of the AAA School of Advertising, says ‘The competition was very fierce in all three categories. We congratulate the winners whose quest for excellence has paid off. Their attention to detail is the factor that sets them apart. We encourage the runners – up to persevere in their efforts to win.

## Enduring power of journalism

Hoosain Karjieker, CEO, *Mail & Guardian* and a PSS director also paid tribute to all the winners. “Your work is a testimony to the enduring power of journalists to hold the most powerful accountable. Long, long may you continue to do so.”

Karjieker also thanked Standard Bank for their sponsorship of the Awards.



### Sikuvile Journalism Awards recognises excellence in journalism

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Standard Bank sponsor representative, Ross Linstrom, Standard Bank Media Relations, says “Once again this year’s Sikuvile Awards honours journalists who have given us the kinds of stories and photographs that have enabled all of us to exercise our freedom, to judge ideas for ourselves, and to make sense of the world based on objective, comprehensive, and credible reporting.”

Click [here](#) to view gallery of 2017 Standard Bank Sikuvile Journalism Awards.

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