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**Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum**

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**PRESS RELEASE:**

**GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL CRAFTERS IN NELSON MANDELA BAY**

**Call for experienced crafters to exhibit their top local products at the STANDARD BANK IRONMAN AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2018 competition in April 2018**

The Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Arts, Culture and Heritage Sub Directorate invites all professional crafters living and working in Nelson Mandela Bay to submit entries to exhibit at the STANDARD BANK IRONMAN AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2018 top craft exhibition.

The Iron Man competition is about outstanding excellence and we are challenging local crafters to present their top products to be presented for sale to participants and visitors to the STANDARD BANK IRONMAN AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2018 on 14 and 15 April 2018. The Craft Village will run from the 13<sup>th</sup> April (Friday) to the 15<sup>th</sup> April (Sunday).

The competition will be tight as only 20 crafters will be selected for the exhibition. Entries will be accepted in all craft categories including locally produced attire, homeware, accessories (both traditional and contemporary), leatherwork, woodwork, beadwork, ceramics, recycled material, textiles and any pioneering new mediums.

Crafters must present a display of their top wears at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum on 23 of March 2018 for selection by craft and art experts. Entrants to the craft selection must arrive at the Art Museum promptly at 9:00. Participants will be given half an hour to setup up for the selection. Tables will be made available for display. The selection will take place between 10:00 – 12:00 on 23 March. Entry forms will be available at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum, the Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture buildings in St Georges Park and at local galleries. They will also be available to download from the NMM Art Museum and NMBM websites.

Crafters will be judged on the following criteria:

- Quality of workmanship
- Diversity of products
- Readiness for exhibition (crafters must demonstrate that they have enough products to fill the 3m x 2m exhibition space)
- Craft that represents the spirit of Nelson Mandela Bay
- Presentation and display of craft

Individual crafters and collectives are welcome to enter. Selected crafters or craft collectives will receive R 3,000.00 prize money.

This craft extravaganza is designed to showcase spirit of Nelson Mandela Bay and will form part of the lead up presentations for the IRON MAN 70.3 World Championship to be hosted by Nelson Mandela Bay in September 2018.

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