



• OUR KINGDOM IS YOUR STAGE •

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 4, 2019

## KWAZULU-NATAL FILM COMMISSION ANNOUNCES 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SIMON MABHUNU SABELA FILM AND TELEVISION AWARDS NOMINEES

The stage is set for the 2019 Simon Mabhunu Sabela Film & Television Awards to be held at The Durban Playhouse on 20 July 2019 during the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Durban International Film Festival.

The awards, an initiative of the KZN Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs are implemented by the KZN Film Commission and named in honour of the late South African Film legend and icon Mr Simon Mabhunu Sabela. They are aimed at recognising outstanding achievement and excellence within the province of KwaZulu Natal.

The awards have seen a tremendous growth from just six categories in 2014 to 23 categories this year with only 16 categories making this year's cut. The KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission is pleased with the enthusiasm in which the call for nominations was received by film industry players locally and nationally.

KwaZulu-Natal has begun to see a steady growth in the number of productions filmed in the province with the hugely popular television series Uzalo, Ehostela & Imbewu being entirely filmed in the province as well as recently shot films in the province such as "Keeping up with the Kandasamy's the Wedding", "3 Days to Go" and "Deep End". Local film makers are now taking advantage of the province's diverse and unique locations, good weather as well as talent; a fact that is reflected in the quality of nominees received in various categories of the 2019 Simon "Mabhunu" Sabela Film & Television Awards.

The KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission remains committed to creating an enabling environment that will ensure growth and transformation in the local film industry.

The KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission would like to congratulate all those who have been nominated in the various categories and wish them the best of luck.

The various categories of the Simon Mabhunu Sabela Film & Television awards are:

### Best Television Categories:

- Best actor
  - SIYABONGA SHIBE – UZALO
  - WISEMAN MNCUBE – EHOSTELA
  - THOBANI NZUZA - EHOSTELA

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W. Msomi (Chairman) • N. Malange (Deputy Chairperson) • N. Mthembu • L. Berning • A. Monty • CL. Coetzee



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- Best actress
  - **DUDUZILE NGCOBO – EHOSTELA**
  - **CABANGILE T GUMEDE – MEET THE KHAMBULES**
  - **EHOSTELA – NOXOLO MATHULA**
  - **STHANDWA GAMA - EHOSTELA**
  
- Best supporting actor
  - **ERNEST MSIBI – EHOSTELA**
  - **BHEKI SIBIYA – EHOSTELA**
  - **JOSHUA MBHELE - EHOSTELA**
  
- Best supporting actress
  - **DAWN TANDEKA KING – UZALO**
  - **LUNGELO MPANGASE – EHOSTELA**
  - **ZIMIPHI BIYELA – EHOSTELA**
  - **LINDIWE NDLOVU - EHOSTELA**
  
- Best newcomer actor
  - **SWELIHLE LUTHULI – EHOSTELA**
  - **SMANGA MKHWANAZI – EHOSTELA**
  - **LUNGELO MPANGASE – EHOSTELA**
  - **THOBANI NZUZA - EHOSTELA**

#### **Best Film Categories:**

- Best actress
  - **LEEANDRA REDDY - 3 DAYS TO GO**
  - **SIBONGISENI SHEZI - RUN**
  - **CARISMA BASDAY - DEEP END**
  
- Best supporting actor
  - **RAHUL BRIJNATH - 3 DAYS TO GO**
  - **PRANESH MAHARAJ - 3 DAYS TO GO**
  
- Best supporting actress
  - **JAILOSHINI NAIDOO - 3 DAYS TO GO**
  - **KAJAL BHAGWANDEEN - 3 DAYS TO GO**
  - **LILETTE DUBEY - 3 DAYS TO GO**



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- Best director
  - **3 DAYS TO GO – BIANCA ISAAC**
  - **RED ROOM – SANS MOONNSAMY & KERU KISTEN**
  - **DEEP END – EUBULUS TIMOTHY**
  
- Best screenplay
  - **STRUCK BLIND – LWAZI DUMA**
  - **DRIVE – THABO NYAWUZA**
  - **RED ROOM – SANS MOONSAMY & KERU KISTEN**
  
- Best micro-budget feature film
  - **EMAJUBA - MINENHLE GUMBI**
  - **UMNTWANA - MINENHLE GUMBI**
  - **UKHAMBABA LUKABABA – GASELA & SONS**
  
- Best use of KZN as filming location - national award
  - **DRIVE - THABO NYAWUZA**
  - **3 DAYS TO GO – BIANCA ISAAC**
  - **UMHLOLO – MINENHLE GUMBI**
  
- Best feature film - national award
  - **3 DAYS TO GO – BIANCA ISAAC**
  - **DEEP END – EUBULUS TIMOTHY**
  - **RED ROOM – SANS MOONSAMY & KERU KISTEN**
  
- Best isiZulu film - national award
  - **SAME LOVE – NONHLANHLA PORTIA MNGADI**
  - **UKHAMA LUKABABA – NOXOLO XABA**
  - **ULAHLEKILE – GASELA AND SONS**
  
- Best environmental conservation
  - **BECOMING VISIBLE - JANET SOLLLOMON**
  - **SAVING DRAGONS – SHIVAN PARUSNATH**
  - **THE RIVER GIVES – MLUNGISI NTULI**
  - **SEEKING GIANTS – FIDEL TSHIVHASA & PRAGNA PARSATOM – KOK & NOEL KOK**
  - **RHINO DEHORNING – KHULEKANI MLANGENI**



- Best student film
  - **UBIZO – MZWANDILE MAKHANYA**
  - **SIGNAL – SINESIPHO MAKAULA**
  - **RUN – SINESIPHO MAKAULA**

### **About the KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission**

The KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission is a provincial state entity, under the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal South Africa established in terms of the KwaZulu-Natal Commission Act, 2010 (Act No 3 of 2010). Its mandate is to facilitate support throughout the value chain to the local and international film industry through creating opportunities and also growing the KwaZulu-Natal film industry.

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact

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