

Top Women Awards 2008 announces winners from business and Government sectors

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Individuals, companies, and Government attended the Top Women Awards ceremony, held at the Sandton Convention Centre last night (September 4) to celebrate and congratulate the nominees, finalists and winners and acknowledge their achievements.

Hosted by Tumi Makgabo, and musical entertainment by Lira, the 400 guests and VIPs were able to share in acknowledging Epainette Mbeki (Ma'Mbeki) for her lifelong, tireless dedication to bringing empowerment to the rural communities around her in the Eastern Cape, when she was honoured with Top Women's Lifetime Achievement Award.

The two **overall winners** of this year's prestigious awards, were presented as follows:

**TOP GENDER EMPOWERED COMPANY OF THE YEAR
KMPG**

TOP WOMAN OF THE YEAR IN BUSINESS

**Nedbank Group Ltd
Professor Shirley Zinn**

Winners of the nine main categories are as follows:

**TOP GENDER EMPOWERED CORPORATE COMPANY
THE MEDIA SHOP**

**TOP GENDER EMPOWERED COMPANY: ICT
IBM SOUTH AFRICA LTD**

**TOP GENDER EMPOWERED COMPANY: SMALL & MEDIUM BUSINESS
TRAVEL WITH FLAIR**

**TOP COMPANY INVESTING IN WOMEN
KMPG**

**TOP GENDER EMPOWERED GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT**

**TOP GENDER EMPOWERED PARASTATAL
ACSA**

**TOP EXECUTIVE CORPORATE SA
Professor Shirley Zinn
Nedbank Group Ltd**

**TOP ENTREPRENEUR
Kate Shuttleworth
MARVELLOUS MAIDS**

**TOP WOMAN OF THE YEAR IN GOVERNMENT
Helen Zille
Executive Mayor: City of Cape Town**

The Top Women Awards, in association with Top Women in Business & Government encourages the equitable distribution of power among leaders in business and government who have earned the right to be called captains of their industries. The awards are geared to acknowledge dedication, leadership and achievement; inspire women to transcend the 'glass ceiling'; and encourage those companies and institutions that have instituted integration as part of their business models and corporate governance.

Commenting on this year's proceedings, Ilse Pienaar, Associate Publisher of Top Women in Business & Government, said: "The awards always deliver a great networking occasion, but this year both the Top Women in Business & Government publication and the Top Women Awards' ceremony reflect the more significant stance South Africans have developed towards transformation and gender empowerment."

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