



**AIP CONGRATULATES ITS MEMBERS FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO BUILDING THE MEDIA INDUSTRY
IN SOUTH AFRICA**

16 SEPTEMBER 2024

The Association of Independent Publishers (AIP) is delighted to announce that our board member, Slindile Khanyile won the prestigious Stephen Wrottesley award at the South African National Editors' Forum's (SANEF) Nat Nakasa Awards for Courageous Journalism held on Saturday, 14 September 2024.

Alongside awards for courageous journalism, the Stephen Wrottesley Award is given annually to a SANEF member for exceptional service to the organisation and the media industry as a whole. The judges stated that Khanyile had shown outstanding dedication to SANEF's goals through her work in strengthening the media industry in her home province, KwaZulu Natal, particularly in promoting community media participation. Khanyile has combined her work on Sanef's Council with her work as an AIP and Advertising Regulatory Board member and a member of the Amplify SA Programme to build both community and mainstream journalism. AIP salutes Khanyile for her dedication. Further, AIP notes that its Limpopo board member, Dunisani Ntsanwisi, won the Stephen Wrottesley award in 2023 for his dedication to building indigenous language media across the industry. We salute our members for their dedication to building our industry

Khanyile, is head of Digital Publications and co-director of Likhanyile Tutoring and Media, as well as the editor of online publications, Umbele and Umkhanyisi. Ntsanwisi is founder of Nhluvuko Media. The company publishes the Tsonga language Titimuleni Nthavela newspaper in rural Giyani, Limpopo Province.

Finally, AIP wishes to congratulate its Gauteng AIP member, Chris Mcinga for his inspirational work in leading Sanef's Community Media Digitisation Drive. This programme was celebrated at SANEF's Council meeting held in Durban before the Nat Nakasa awards ceremony. The Digitisation Drive aims to strengthen community media organisations in South Africa. By implementing a comprehensive digitisation strategy, 15 community media partners gained new tools and platforms, enhancing their content creation and distribution capabilities. A key focus was to support independently owned community publishers and broadcasters in adapting to the shift from traditional media, such as printed newspapers and radio, to digital platforms where readers and listeners are now moving. This was achieved by providing access to both technology and training. Mcinga has now launched a shared services company – Community Support Services – to ensure ongoing support for the digitisation of the community media industry. Further, there is a second phase to this project – Mcinga is now seeking funding to support at least 30 community publishers and broadcasters.

Mcinga is co-founder of MeD8, a media consultancy offering a range of advertising, marketing, publishing and consulting services. Mcinga is the publisher of the online publication, Student Living.

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Directors:

A Mangxaba, D Ntsanwisi, S Mboleka, T Mjiba, S Khanyile, J Makgate, M Dlakude, E Phiri, P Luhanga
K Skinner (Executive Director)



ENDS/

For more information or to arrange interviews, please contact:

AIP Administrator: Valent Shoatja 078 683 3497 / 011 713 9614 / support@aip.org.za

AIP Executive Director: Kate Skinner 082 926 6404 / 011 713 9614 / kate@aip.org.za

AIP Chairperson: Anetta Mangxaba 084 263 9105 / anetta@dizindaba.co.za

AIP Deputy Chairperson: Johannes Makgate 076 173 3161 / glimpse.magazine278@gmail.com

Note to Editors:

The Association of Independent Publishers (AIP) is a vibrant national organisation for advancing the interests of the local grassroots independent print and online media sector in South Africa.

Website: www.aip.org.za

X (Twitter) - <https://twitter.com/AIPSouthAfrica>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/IndependentPublishers/>

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/90829107/admin/feed/posts/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/@AIPSouthAfrica>

Frequently asked question:

Why is community media so critical?

- It is one of the most diverse sectors of the media in terms of language, content and format.
- It covers areas of the country that no other media cover, other than SABC radio.
- It has the closest and most intimate relationship with its audiences.
- It builds communities from the bottom up.
- It holds local power brokers (government, business and civil society organisations) to account.
- It is critical to SA democracy because it ensures that we know what is happening in our country – not just what is happening in the major cities.
- It celebrates and preserves our local culture and history.

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