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NSTF-South32 Awards

Today's research ... tomorrow's innovation

Extended deadline to register nominations: 2020/2021 NSTF-South32 Awards

Register nominations by 8 February 2021
#NSTFAwards2021

You've asked, we agree, so an extended deadline is hereby granted. You have two more weeks to identify worthy candidates to register as nominees for the 23rd NSTF-South32 Awards, the 'Science Oscars' of South Africa.

About the Awards: As the flagship project of the [National Science and Technology Forum \(NSTF\)](#) since 1998, the prestigious NSTF-South32 [Awards](#) recognise, celebrate, profile and promote outstanding contributions in science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation in South Africa.

Sponsor: South32 as the co-branding [sponsor](#), partnered with the NSTF since 2016 in its mandate to promote and profile the critical SET skills and innovations for socio-economic growth in South Africa. Hence the name of the awards is proudly known as the [NSTF-South32 Awards](#).



Contributions awarded: Register [nominations](#) now for **individuals, teams and organisations** for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation in South Africa in the following broad areas:

- Scientific research

- Management of SET and innovation
- Capacity building in engineering research
- Water management solutions
- Data for research
- Innovations and their research and/or development
- Communication and creating awareness of SET and innovation, including work done by **professional science communicators**
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO) activities in SET and innovation, including technology transfer activities, and education and training
- The Creative Economy for Sustainable Development through the 2020/2021 Special Annual Theme Award

2021 Theme and Special Annual Theme Award: The NSTF's theme for 2021 is "Creative Economy for Sustainable Development", aligned with the United Nations (UN) '[International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development](#)'. Aligned with this, the NSTF [Special Annual Theme Award](#) for 2020/2021 will be made for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation towards the creative economy for sustainable development in South Africa.

The concept of creative economy is the income-earning potential of creative activities and ideas. The creative economy encompasses photography, graphic design, fashion design, filmmaking, architecture, publishing, video games and more. The concept of sustainable development is embodied in the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. **As NSTF, we are looking at where these concepts intersect with science and technology.** Candidates entering for this award, should be nominated in one or more of the [other categories](#) and then answer the questions related to the Special Annual Theme Award.

Awards nomination process

This is a two-stage [nomination process](#):

Stage 1 – Register a nominee by the close of business on Monday 8 February 2021

1. Notify the nominee that you intend to nominate him/her/them (individual / team / organisation). *Ensure that you receive their agreement to participate.*
2. Complete and submit the [online registration](#). Both the nominee and nominator will receive an email from the NSTF office with the applicable category nomination document/s as an attachment/s to complete. *Please alert the NSTF at awards@nstf.org.za should you (the nominee and nominator) not receive this notification and the relevant document/s.*
3. Please note that registering a [nominee](#) is only the *beginning* of the two-stage nomination process. When you register a nominee, the NSTF office will respond with the official category nomination document/s, to be completed and submitted by no later than 1 March 2021 (see Stage 2 below).

Stage 2 – Submit completed nomination documents by Monday 01 March 2021

1. Ensure that the fully-completed category [nomination document/s](#) are emailed to the NSTF before the final deadline and that you receive a confirmation from the NSTF office.

2. Please note that planning and time are required to complete the category nomination document/s. Hence there is a 6-week period provided for this preparation.

Awards categories

Full title of categories: All the awards are *‘for an outstanding contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation in South Africa...’* (The complete title of each award starts with this wording in place of “contribution”).

1. Individual Awards	<p>a. Lifetime Award – contribution over 15 years or more</p> <p>b. TW Kambule-NSTF Award: Researcher – contribution through research and its outputs over a period from 6 years up to 15 years of research work from the commencement of the research career, predominantly in South Africa</p> <p>c. TW Kambule-NSTF Awards: Emerging Researcher – contribution through research and its outputs over a period of up to 6 years of research work from the commencement of the research career, predominantly in South Africa</p> <p>d. Management Award – contribution through management of SET and innovation and related activities over the last 5 to 10 years in South Africa</p>
2. Engineering Research Capacity Development Awards	– contribution by an individual over the last 5 to 10 years (Sponsor: Eskom since 2003)
3. NSTF-Water Research Commission (WRC) Award	– contribution by an individual or an organisation to SET in South Africa towards sustainable water management, knowledge generation and solutions over the last 5 to 10 years (Sponsor: WRC since 2017)
4. Data for Research Award	– contribution by an individual or a team for advancing the availability, management and re-use of research data
5. Innovation Awards: Innovations and their research and/or development	<p>a. Corporate Organisation Award – contribution by an individual or a team over the last 5 to 10 years</p> <p>b. Small, medium or micro enterprise (SMME) Award – contribution by an individual or a team over the last 5 to 10 years (Sponsor: National Intellectual Property Management Office – NIPMO since 2019)</p>
6. Communication Award	– contribution for outreach and creating awareness of SET and innovation by a team or individual over the last 5 years (<i>Please take note that for this category, there is a special call to professional science communicators to apply.</i>)
7. Non-governmental Organisation (NGO) Award	– contribution including technology transfer, and education and training activities over the last 5 to 10 years
8. Special Annual Theme Award 2020/2021:	contribution for creative economy for sustainable development (awarded according to criteria in any of the categories mentioned at 1-7 above)

What's new this year?

There are no changes to the [criteria of categories](#), apart from the following:

- **Data for Research Award:** The NSTF under the guidance of a team of experts through the Data Intensive Research Initiative of South Africa (DIRISA) and the Network of Data and Information Curation Communities (NeDICC) has re-modelled this category. The NSTF continues this category introduced in 2017, which is meant to acknowledge the work of an individual or a team (including for example researchers/scientists; data scientists; data stewards; innovators; and repository and data centre managers) to be rewarded for the generation, preservation, sharing and/or re-use of a valuable scientific output – the [research data set](#). Data products, data repositories and data centres are also eligible for team recognition. The intention is to recognise the value of a data set that is of national interest or for the public good, and that is openly available to be re-used and / or re-packaged in products that are of public good and interest, or that could be integrated into products that contribute to the development of South Africa.
- **NSTF-Lewis Foundation Green Economy Research and Innovation Award:** This category was introduced in 2015 under the sponsorship of GreenMatter. In 2018 the sponsorship was taken over by The Lewis Foundation. This year The Lewis Foundation, whilst still associated with the NSTF, has moved its funding to the [NSTF Brilliants Programme](#) (for the top science and mathematics matriculants). The NSTF has decided to discontinue the [NSTF Green Economy Award](#) until a new sponsor comes forward which we hope will be soon.

Partnerships and sponsorships

Organisations are invited to join hands with the NSTF to widen the reach and impact of the NSTF-South32 Awards and youth programmes. Partnerships are available on new and existing [award categories](#) and the [youth outreach programmes](#). Contact Ms Wilna Eksteen at awards@nstf.org.za.

Please forward this email to your colleagues, business contacts and all interested persons. Help to find and acknowledge the who's who in SET and innovation in South Africa!

About the NSTF

The National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF), established in 1995, is a broadly-representative stakeholder body for all science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation organisations in South Africa, which seeks to influence policy formulation and delivery.

The NSTF Awards are unique in SA, recognising the outstanding contributions of individuals and groups to SET and innovation.

The science bursaries page provides information on bursaries and bursary providers for science, engineering and related studies.

Disclaimer

The NSTF has taken all practical measures to ensure that the material contained in this newsletter is correct. The NSTF reserves the right to make changes as it deems necessary.

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