



Mariah Carey



Nicki Minaj



Lionel Richie

STAR POWER: International superstars like Mariah Carey, Lionel Richie and Nicki Minaj are billed to perform in Durban this year as the City's popularity as a destination of choice grows.

INTERNATIONAL STARS FLOCK TO DURBAN

NONDUMISO MATHOMANE AND CHARMEL PAYET

THE growth in the interest of international stars to perform in Durban has proved that the City is a destination of choice. Not only has the influx of top international acts injected money into the City's coffers, but it has also led to job creation. This is the official word from City officials, including City Manager Sibusiso Sithole and Moses Mabhida Stadium General Manager Vusi Mazibuko as a host of international stars, including top-selling songbird Mariah Carey prepare to make their way to Durban this year. Sithole said based on the number of international artists visiting our shores, it

was clear that Durban has been marketed as a choice destination for artists. "We have also received positive feedback from them (artists) about our beautiful country and vibrant culture. They have also noted the multi-racial audience that comes out to enjoy their shows and how lively the audience is," he said. Mazibuko said the influx of international artists was not happening by chance, saying it was the results of the City's two-year plan to lure international artists to Durban. "Durban has previously been seen as a soft market where people don't buy tickets. As the stadium management and the City we knew we had to change this," said Mazibuko. In partnership with

event organisers, the City approached the biggest international artists and also ensured that the stars were well looked after by catering to their requests and providing them with best facilities and infrastructure, said Mazibuko, adding that the City's efforts yielded the desired results with a growing willingness by artists to perform in Durban. Impressed with the crop of artists Durban was roping in, and sold-out ticket sales, Mazibuko said the stadium management was subsequently approached by other event organisers wanting to stage huge concerts in the City. "What we're seeing in Durban has never happened before. To have so many big stars coming to perform in our City is a first

and we're extremely pleased," he said. Artists that are billed to perform in Durban this year include the best-selling female artist of all time, Mariah Carey, who will be performing in South Africa for the first time with her "Sweet Sweet Fantasy" tour. The global superstar will be taking her fans on a thrilling journey as she performs her biggest hits including Hero, Always Be My Baby and We Belong Together. She will be performing at Moses Mabhida Stadium on 29 April 2016. Another international superstar making his way to Durban this year is US comedian and actor Kevin Hart who will be performing at Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre on March 28. Durbanites can also look forward to a performance by four-time Grammy Award winner Lionel Richie, whose many chart toppers include All Night Long and Hello. Richie's All The Hits All Night Long tour will be at the Moses Mabhida Stadium on Sunday, March 13. US female rapper Nicki Minaj will also be performing in Durban in March. Other artists who recently performed in Durban include, RnB group Boyz II Men, soul singer Joe Thomas, US Rapper and Hip Hop Mogul Rick Ross, RnB star John Legend and Chris Brown. Mazibuko said the stadium and City had made economic spin-offs while promoting the City as tourist destination. "We've also proved that Moses Mabhida Stadium is not just football venue, but it's a multi-purpose venue," he said. The influx of artists, said Mazibuko, had also helped create job employment with 8 000 jobs created last year. Sithole echoed his sentiments. "There is also economic benefit for the City as people travel from outside the City to attend the events. Every time there is an event there is economic spinoff for the City," Sithole added.

HR DISABILITY WORKSHOP

TO UPDATE staff on HR matters and other relevant issues concerning Corporate and HR Community, the HR Trading Services and Infrastructure team hosted a quarterly workshop in December 2015 at the Amanzimtoti Hall. The purpose of the workshop was to brainstorm ideas that HR staff can use to assist the Municipality with its disability empowerment programmes and strategies. Creative director of Valhalla Arts, published author, artist, poet and motivational speaker Musa Zulu was the keynote speaker on the day. He gave a detailed presentation on how Municipal staff can assist the City with formalising its participation in the educational and socio-economic empowerment of people with disabilities at both



HR Trading Services and Infrastructure staff during their quarterly workshop where they discussed in details the City's disability empowerment programmes and strategies.

community and workplace level. This, said Zulu, would go a long way in positioning the

Municipality as a driving force in the integration of disability in the workplace. Other speakers on the day

included Bhekumusa Hlela of Hlela Attorney who spoke on disciplinary processes. Source:HR Unit

RETIREMENT REFORM UPDATE

THE information in this note is a summary of how the new tax legislation applies to KZN Municipal Pension Fund. The tax changes will take place on 1 March 2016. One of the aims of retirement reform is to create a uniform tax system for all types of retirement savings vehicles, such as pension, provident and retirement annuity funds. Because pension, provident and retirement annuity funds are currently treated differently, a uniform system would make these simpler to understand.

The changes are beneficial for most retirement fund members.

Tax Treatment of Contributions

Currently, the contribution that your employer makes to

your Pension Fund and your medical aid scheme is tax deductible for the employer. You do not pay any tax on these contributions. In terms of the new tax laws, you will now be allowed to make contributions towards retirement funding, that are tax deductible (this could include your company Pension Fund and any other retirement policies that you pay towards, such as a retirement annuity) up to 27.5 per cent of your salary (subject to a maximum of R350 000 per year).

The employer contributions to your Pension Fund will attract fringe benefit tax, but you will then qualify for the 27.5 per cent tax deduction as indicated above. The tax deduction will therefore offset the tax payable on

the fringe benefit, i.e. there will be no tax payable on the monthly contributions unless the total contribution (employer and employee) is more than R350 000 per annum or you contribute at a rate of more than 27.5% of your salary.

What happens if you leave before Retirement?

You can still elect to receive your Fund Credit as a cash lump sum. However it is important to note that National Treasury has a concern that most members don't have enough at retirement because they take the cash on withdrawal instead of preserving their benefits until retirement. They are therefore encouraging members to preserve their benefits on

withdrawal rather than taking the lump sum.

What happens on Retirement?

You can still take a maximum of one-third of your Fund Credit as a cash lump sum and you must use at least two-thirds of your Fund Credit to buy a pension or annuity. The new legislation does make a concession from 1 March 2016 that if your Fund Credit is R247 500 or less (prior to this the amount was R75 000), you can elect to receive the full amount as a cash lump sum. All transfers between approved funds, including transfers from pension to provident funds will be tax free from 1 March 2016.

Source:www.treasury.gov.za