



9th Floor Media24 Centre
40 Heerengracht St, Foreshore
Cape Town 8001



www.capetowncarnival.com

Whatever floats your boat - there's something for everyone at this year's Cape Town Carnival

A giant Aardvark that bridges the past and the future; a tree symbolising roots and connectedness; a fanciful futuristic dreamscape – these are just some of the incredible floats and installations that will light up the Fan Walk when the Cape Town Carnival makes its way down Somerset Street on the evening of March 18.

A Workshop Tour in Maitland on Wednesday (EDS: Feb 16) gave guests a glimpse of the glittery magic that awaits “carnivalistas” attending the event. While community groups from across Cape Town are perfecting their dance and performance offerings for the street parade, an array of welders, fabricators, spray painters, costume designers and lighting experts are hard at work doing all the behind-the-scenes preparation that is required to bring the Cape Town Carnival to life.

The tour also gave an insight into the Cape Town Carnival's role in creating opportunity, inspiring creativity and fostering connection.

Maluva Gandiwa, who worked his way up from sweeping floors to becoming the CT Carnival's key welder, and Lucky Mcoteli, who has honed his skills at the sewing machine and now has his own clothing label, are just two of many team members who have uncovered hidden talents and developed new business opportunities thanks to their involvement.

“The journey here has been fun, amazing and sometimes stressful,” says Mcoteli, who started working for the Cape Town Carnival in 2012. “I started out assembling headgear but over the years completed Level 1, 2 and 3 sewing courses and it was all financed by Cape Town Carnival.”

A combined dance performance from the groups Gugulethu United We Stand and Ravensmead's Tenacity Movement reflected one of the ways in which Cape Town Carnival fosters social cohesion via the sharing of culture and genres.

“In 2008 the founders of the Cape Town Carnival talked about how this would be a fun way to build social cohesion, and along the way create jobs, help tourism and transfer skills ... but it might well have remained something on paper,” said Cape Town Carnival Board Chair Prof Rachel Jafta.





9th Floor Media24 Centre
40 Heerengracht St, Foreshore
Cape Town 8001



www.capetowncarnival.com

“Instead, when I’m at the carnival workshop, I’m reminded of the many layers of the event and today you will also get a get a sense of the reality of the work that happens behind the scenes that we do not really realise when we’re standing on the Fan Walk and we see these wonderful creations come by.”

Locals and visitors will be able to join in the festivities for free on March 18. The Fan Walk will be closed to vehicle traffic in the afternoon so that spectators can safely enjoy pre-event activities, and the main parade kicks off at 7pm.

Entry to the event is free but tickets will also be available for seats in strategically placed stands along the parade route. Tickets for Cape Town Carnival seats are on sale now on Quicket. For more information see capetowncarnival.com

IMAGE 1: Community groups Guguletu United We Stand and Tenacity Movement joined forces to present a combined dance performance.

IMAGE 2: Performers gave visitors to the Workshop Tour a taste of the spectacle that will be on display on March 18

IMAGE 3: Fantastical and futuristic outfits will be the order of the day on March 18

IMAGE 4: A steel worker crafting the structural component

IMAGE 5: The Lion from the ‘Summon Courage’ Float

IMAGE 6: A lead performer having a fitting with the costume team

IMAGE 7: A lead performer having make-up done during the workshop tour demo

