

# Top SA ballet competition renamed

The Cape Town International Ballet Competition has been renamed and a new competitor category is also announced.



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The fourth South African International Ballet Competition (SAIBC), supported by the National Lotteries Distribution Trust Fund, takes place at the Artscape Theatre in Cape Town, from 17-23 February 2014.

Formerly known as the Cape Town International Ballet Competition (CTIBC) it is the only event of its kind on the African continent and attracts top dancers from SA and the World.

Dirk Badenhorst, founder and CEO of the competition which has taken place in Cape Town every second year since 2008, has announced that in view of the City of Cape Town's decision to terminate its funding of the competition, the competition will no longer carry the City's name. Consequently, the competition will revert to its original 2008 name of the South African International Ballet Competition.

Since the inaugural SAIBC in 2008, the competition has been hailed by dance enthusiasts as one of the most exciting happenings on the South African dance calendar. It is a tremendous success on a number of levels, attracting top dancers from South Africa and around the world to compete for gold, silver and bronze medals and substantial monetary prizes.

## New category

In unveiling details of SAIBC 2014, Dirk Badenhorst has also announced the addition of a third age division for competitors. The new category, Scholar, will be open to dancers aged 12 to 15 years. Other categories are Junior (16 to 20 years) and Senior (21 to 28 years). This year participants include dancers from Switzerland, Cuba, South Korea, Japan, Brazil, China and the biggest number of South African entrants. The prize money totals R340,000.

In line with the earlier competitions, a panel of judges from around the world has been assembled for SAIBC 2014. The line-up includes: Julio Bocca; Marcia Haydee; Dawn Weller; Hae Shik Kim; Xin Lili; Ramona de Saá; Oliver Matz and

Melanie Person.

The Elimination Rounds take place Tuesday 18 to Thursday 20 February at 6pm; the Finals is on Friday 21 February at 7:30pm and the Awards evening where the top 5 dancers in each category will compete for gold, silver and bronze medal placement and monetary prizes, takes place on Saturday 22 February at 7:30pm. The Gala performances on Sunday 23 February at 3pm and 7:30pm will showcase the competition winners, the Young Korean Ballet Stars from South Korea and top dancers from the National Ballet School of Cuba.

Tickets cost R60 for the Elimination Rounds and from R150 to to R350 for the Finals, Awards and Gala evenings, via Computicket or 0861 915 8000.

The closing date for entries for the South African International Ballet Competition is Monday 13 January 2014.

For more, go to [www.ctibc.com](http://www.ctibc.com)

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