



Peermont Education Trust pays homage to Nelson Mandela

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world" - Nelson Mandela

A fitting tribute to the memory of Nelson Mandela will be held this year by the Peermont Education Trust, (PET) when they hold their graduation ceremony for seven students at Emperors Palace just two days ahead of Mandela Day, on Wednesday 16 July 2014.

Mandela saw education as a basic human right, with his vision for South Africa including, building sustainable education solutions. Peermont has long held the same beliefs, which is why the group takes great pride in giving back to the Ekurhuleni community in a variety of ways, including granting full scholarships for degrees and diplomas from renowned universities such as the University Of Johannesburg (UJ), the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) and the Vaal University of Technology.

The PET trustees are proud that 98 percent of the students go out to secure quality jobs with some of the leading companies around the country. Through the PET, the students who are largely drawn from impoverished backgrounds are given a lifelong learning and an opportunity to permanently improve their economic circumstances and break the poverty cycle that hinders progress in our communities.

"It is only through these initiatives that the gap between rich and poor will narrow", explains Vusi Zwane, Group Corporate Affairs Executive and PET Trustee. "Programmes such as these truly empower young South Africans and enable them to create their own wealth."

Students are able to choose from a wide variety of fields including engineering, finance, biotechnology, physics and computer science. "This project has proved to be extremely successful, with a pass rate of 85 percent compared to the national tertiary pass rate of between 15% and 22%. The success of our students is due to our strict selection criteria and the continued psychological and material support we provide, including individualised mentorship and workshops on life skills and emotional intelligence", adds Zwane.

In addition to the scholarships, the Trustees also encourage beneficiaries to give back to their communities, and as a result, many of them conduct academic support programmes in their respective townships during the holidays.

This year the Peermont Education Trust is proud to announce that Prof Adam Habib, the highly respected Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of the Witwatersrand, will be their key note speaker at the graduation ceremony on Mandela Day.

For further information contact Peermont Education Trust Manager: Jenny Findlay at jfindlay@emperorspalace.com or +27 (011) 9281822 or visit www.peermont.com. Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @peermont.

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About Peermont

Peermont owns and manages 14 casino and hotel properties including: Emperors Palace Hotel Casino Convention and Entertainment Resort, Johannesburg; Graceland Hotel Casino and Country Club, Secunda; Mondazur Hotel at San Lameer, KwaZulu-Natal; Frontier Inn & Casino, Bethlehem; Umfolozi Hotel Casino and Convention Resort, Empangeni; Rio Hotel Casino and Convention Resort, Klerksdorp; Khoroni Hotel Casino and Convention Resort, Thohoyandou; Mmabatho Palms Hotel Casino and Convention Resort in Mafikeng, Thaba Moshate Hotel Casino and Convention Resort (Opens 2015); Burgersfort. In Botswana, Peermont owns and manages The Grand Palm Hotel Casino and Convention Resort, the Gaborone International Convention Centre and the Mondior Hotel in Gaborone; the Metcourt Hotel as well as the Sedibeng Casino in Francistown, and the Syringa Casino in Selebi-Phikwe.

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