

PO Box 1758 Pretoria 0001 South Africa Tel: (012) 392 9300 Fax: (012) 320 7803 Int. Code: +27 12 info@saasta.ac.za

www.saasta.ac.za

Media Release

21 August 2017

For immediate release:

Seeing science through photography

The South Africa Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA) has launched the 2017 SA Science Lens photography competition and there are great prizes up for grabs. The competition is open for anyone with an enthusiasm for science, professional and amateur photographers, professional and amateur scientists, and science communicators to participate.

Ten thousand rands (R10 000) will be awarded to the winner of each of the categories and the runners-up will be awarded R5000. The 2017 SA Science Lens competition has four categories, namely; Science as Art, Science in Action, Science Close-up and a special category, Science of South Africa.

Science as Art is all about capturing images that illustrate the beauty of science or show subjects in abstract ways; **Science in Action** focuses on capturing science as it happens either in the natural world or in the workplace of scientists, doctors, researchers; **Science Close-up** is all about capturing images that reveal aspects of science that cannot be seen with the naked eye and can be taken with macro lenses or by using techniques such as microscopy; and lastly a special category for 2017, **Science of South Africa** aims to shows world-class South African science the country can be proud of.

The competition runs until 10 November and is organised by SAASTA, a business unit of the National Research Foundation.

Through the competition, SAASTA aims to encourage the public to appreciate and find science in their everyday lives, seeing how they view the world around them from a scientific perspective. The competition also aims to encourage scientists to invite the public into their world through inspiring curiosity in beautiful, dramatic or interesting photographs of their research.

To enter, simply:

• Send us your original images of all aspects of science.

- Submit a separate entry form for each image.
- Download an entry form from the web site and send with your photos via email to <u>sciencelens@saasta.ac.za</u>, or upload your photos and enter online at <u>www.saasta.ac.za/competitions/sa-science-lens</u>

For more information, as well as terms and conditions, visit: www.saasta.ac.za/competitions/sa-science-lens



Ends

For more information and interviews contact:

Ms Joanne Riley

SAASTA Science Editor

012 392 9349

joanne@saasta.ac.za

Issued by:

Mr Zamuxolo Matiwana

Media Coordinator at SAASTA

Email: zamuxolo@saasta.ac.za

Telephone number 012 392 9319

About the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA)

SAASTA is a business unit of the National Research Foundation (NRF) with the mandate to advance public awareness, appreciation and engagement of science, engineering and technology in South Africa.

SAASTA's contribution to the NRF's vision is to grow the pool of quality learners today who will become the scientists and innovators of tomorrow.

It aims to be the leading science advancement agency in the country by promoting and communicating the value and impact of science, technology and innovation in a dynamic knowledge economy. It also intends to contribute significantly towards building a science, engineering and technology (SET) human resource base. For more information on the operations and programs within the NRF please visit www.saasta.ac.za

About the NRF: The National Research Foundation (NRF) was established on 1 April 1999 as an independent statutory body in accordance with the National Research Foundation Act. The NRF is a key public entity responsible for supporting the development of human resources for research and innovation in all fields of science and technology. The organisation is one of the major players in educating and training a new generation of scientists able to deal with South African and African needs. The organisation encourages public awareness and appreciation of science, engineering and technology, and facilitates dialogue between science and society. Its vision is to contribute to a prosperous South Africa based on a knowledge economy. For more information on the operations and programs within the NRF please visit www.nrf.ac.za