**FESTIVAL IN THE HILLS 2017: PRESS RELEASE**

***Songs of our Fathers, Songs of our Youth***

***Featuring Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Durban’s Cultural Ambassadors.***

The Rotary Club of Kloof presents *Festival in The Hills 2017*, hosted by Curro Hillcrest Christian Academy, and this year featuring the multiple Grammy award-winning Ladysmith Black Mambazo. Joining them for a guest slot will be the newly formed Drakondale Girls Choir School from Howick. *Festival in The Hills* is a cultural feast for the whole family and will take place at Curro HCA in Hillcrest on Saturday 26 August from 9am to 4.30pm, with the main event starring Ladysmith Black Mambazo starting at 2pm.

This year’s theme, “Songs of our Fathers, Songs of our Youth” is both an ode to songs old and new, as well as to the generations represented on stage. Lead vocalist of Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Sibongiseni Shabalala’s young daughter, Muhle, is a member of the Drakondale Girls Choir School, and father and daughter will join with their respective groups in some shared songs. This special performance of a famous father who has performed around the world, singing with his teenage daughter in her brand new performing career promises to be an historic moment. Artistic Director of the event, and conductor of the newly formed Drakondale Girls Choir School Judith Hawthorn, will be conducting a massed choir of over 750 primary school children who will perform iconic LBM songs with the group and the new Girls’ Choir School.

In addition to the main event there are parent-child workshops where you can enjoy fun, creative activities with your child. Aimed at 6 - 13yr olds and their parents, professional experts in various creative fields will offer the opportunity for children to explore their creativity with mom or dad in a variety of activities. Places are limited so early booking is essential. Classes include Full of Glee (a singing workshop), canvas painting and various crafts. Tickets start from R60pp.

The event is open to the public with the Opening Parade starting at 9am. Entrance is free, but bookings for workshops and performances must be done through Computicket on 0861 915 8000 before the event. For more information visit [www.festivalinthehills.co.za](http://www.festivalinthehills.co.za)