

2017 BPC Conference reveals its guest speakers

The 2017 Beyond Painting Classrooms (BPC) Conference aims to create opportunities for dialogue and engagement in the employee volunteering community. The guest speakers at this year's event includes Piers Cruickshanks, author of *Confluence Beyond the River with Siseko Ntondini* and Siseko Ntondini. The conference is being held at the Wanderer's Club in Johannesburg on 13 and 14 September.



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Now in its third iteration, the conference aims to provide a platform for people who are passionate about corporate employee volunteering to come together to learn more about good practices in the field, share success stories, discuss challenges and build knowledge.

Confluence is the story about how Cruickshanks and Ntondini together won gold in the 2014 Dusi Canoe Marathon, a story of triumph of the human spirit. Cruickshanks, a seasoned multiple gold medal winning paddler, along with Ntondini, a paddler from the Soweto Canoe Club, started training towards their goal of winning gold but in so doing needed to overcome many cultural, personal and physical challenges. The book was released at the same time as *Beyond the River*, a movie based loosely on this story.

Investigative journalist Mandy Weiner will be emceeing the conference.

Beyond Painting Classrooms 2017 will also include the announcement of the winners in the inaugural National Employee Volunteer Programme Awards, an initiative to recognise employee volunteering that creates real value for businesses, employee volunteers, NPOs and communities at large.

For more info, [click here](#) or email beyondpaintingclassrooms@firststrand.co.za.

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