



ANNUAL RECONCILIATION AWARD





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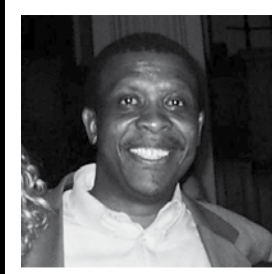
2006: Ouma
Griefie Adams



2003: Dullah &
Farida Omar



2000: Tim Modise



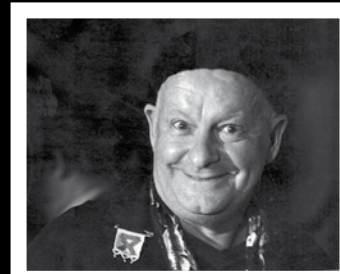
2007: The Community of
Masiphumelele



2004: Mary Burton



2001: Pieter Dirk Uys



2008: Shine



2004: Brigalia Bam



2002: PJ Powers &
Sibongile Khuyalo



Introducing the Annual Reconciliation Award

The IJR Annual Reconciliation Award was initiated in 2000. Its intention has been to honour South Africans who, through the quality of their daily lives and their ongoing engagement in society, have contributed significantly to national reconciliation. In one way or another, each of these recipients has enabled people and communities from diverse backgrounds to begin living together with respect, dignity and in pursuit of the common good.

In previous years, the following recipients have been honoured :

2007: The community of Masiphumelele

2006: Ouma Grietjie Adams

2005: Brigalia Bam

2004: Mary Burton

2003: Dullah and Farieda Omar

2002: PJ Powers and Sibongile Khumalo

2001: Pieter Dirk Uys

2000: Tim Modise

Together, they anticipate and symbolise the kind of society that promotes the right to engage one another in public debate, to laugh at ourselves, to sing one another's songs, to promote truth and reconciliation, to fight for the rights of those who are oppressed, to provide reparation to victims of past abuse, to institutionalise and promote participatory democracy, to bridging cultural divides and unite communities, and to promote tolerance for foreign nationals and dignity and justice for all.

While until now, the Award has been given to an individual, community or organisation from South Africa, in coming years we would like to consider candidates from the entire African continent.

By enabling Africans, particularly those in societies that have been plagued by conflict, to live together constructively, recipients of this award have much to teach us about reconciliation, both in South Africa and elsewhere. Through this award the Institute would like to acknowledge and showcase their approaches and strategies, whether they originate in the spheres of politics, media, business, culture, academia or community service.



shine

2008 Annual Reconciliation Award recipient

The Institute for Justice and Reconciliation is pleased to announce that the 2008 Reconciliation Award has been awarded to Shine, a non-governmental organisation that provides early intervention and support to children in Grade Two and Three who are experiencing difficulties with language and reading, and who would not otherwise have access to this kind of support. The learning is facilitated by a corps of trained volunteers, many of whom are retired teachers and other professionals.

At least 700 children have benefited from the SHINE program to date, with 200 currently enjoying the benefit of one-on-one adult mentoring by the more than 200 trained volunteers ('learning partners') at four centres in primary schools in the Western Cape.

Most immediately, Shine fosters reconciliation through the contact between its volunteers and the learners, as well as between the learners who participate in the programme. In the longer-term it highlights education as an important means to overcome structural inequality and build a more inclusive society, as well as the leading role that community-based initiatives will have to play in this regard.

In honouring this one organisation, the Institute furthermore recognises the many other initiatives, private and public, that share Shine's mission to improve the educational well-being of South African learners, specifically those facing the greatest obstacles to education. These actions represent a vital investment in the future of reconciliation.

Today, fifteen years after the demise of apartheid, many of the structural underpinnings that have bred injustice in the past remain intact. Consequently, inequality continues to reproduce itself. Whether South Africa will overcome this divide between those who are getting richer, and those who are getting more destitute will depend largely on the education system's ability to ensure equal access to quality education for all learners. The education system needs not only to produce skilled individuals to enter and grow the economy, but also to encourage a fairer distribution of wealth. Without the opportunity for all South African youth to be educated well, regardless of background or class, reconciliation will eventually falter.

The signs are discouraging. While access has broadened, the quality of the education system's outputs has remained deeply worrying. It is clear that learners in poorer schools are bearing the brunt of a struggling system, and that the barriers which they face, often without additional support, have a profound impact on their mobility, both inside and outside of the schooling system. Unlike many affluent schools where the system's shortcomings can be compensated for through collaboration with specialist remedial support teachers, occupational therapists, educational psychologists, speech and language therapists, disadvantaged schools are often reliant on the overstretched resources of education district offices for assistance.

Change will take time. In the interim, however, a significant section of our learner population stand in danger to become part of another lost generation, unable to participate fully as citizens in the economy or the democratic structures at

its disposal. This has profound implications for all of us, and it calls for a civic response, which transcends our historical differences, to compliment official efforts to improve the life chances of our children.

Throughout South Africa many communities and organisations have bravely stepped into this breach. SHINE, to which the 2008 Reconciliation Award goes, has been one of them. Established in 2000, the Shine Centre, in partnership with better-resourced inner city schools in Cape Town, has developed a proven and innovative approach for mentoring second language learners (students) from disadvantaged backgrounds. The challenges that they face are significant, and SHINE's foundation level program helps these children to thrive and learn, rather than fall behind in their schooling at a time when learning the basics is critical. The mentoring helps to facilitate sound, independent learning habits and, according to an independent Western Cape Education Department evaluation, the programme has had a remarkable impact on the literacy levels of learners who have participated in it. The Institute for Justice and Reconciliation salutes such remarkable instances of active citizenship designed to break down the barriers which continue to separate us.

In honouring this organisation, the Institute also pays tribute to the many other initiatives, private and public, that share Shine's mission to improve the educational well-being of South African learners, specifically those facing the greatest obstacles to education. These actions represent a vital investment in the future of reconciliation.



2007: The community of Masiphumelele- 'for setting an example in promoting tolerance towards foreign nationals, and in striving to ensure dignity and justice for all in their community.'

Masiphumelele, meaning 'let us succeed together', was established in the late 1980s. Residents chose to live in the small township in defiance of the apartheid regime's plans to forcibly remove black Africans and coloured residents of the southern Cape peninsula to Khayelitsha, and Ocean View respectively. Despite poverty, lack of resources and an ethnically diverse population, this community has consistently displayed an outstanding approach to overcoming challenges such as poverty, HIV/ Aids and xenophobia.

In 2006, the community established a dialogue forum to resolve emerging conflict between local and Somali- owned businesses. By involving a wide range of representatives, including youth and women's groups, political and faith based structures, street committees and civic associations, the community built up a strong social cohesion that allowed it to respond swiftly to the xenophobic violence of 2008. At that time, Masiphumelele led the country in apologising to foreign nationals affected by the violence, as well as in taking immediate action to restore their stolen property. These efforts serve as an example of good practice for other communities to emulate.



2006: Ouma Grietjie Adams–‘For holding the community together in mourning, conflict and celebration.’

Ouma Grietjie’s exemplary character was forged in the climate of intimacy and interdependency of her hometown, Garies, in Namaqualand, during the harsh years of apartheid.

As a child growing up on Doringkraal farm and later in Garies, Ouma Grietjie was denied a formal education. Instead, she learnt the rieldans, performed with perfection by the small Doringkraal farming community. She also learnt indigenous folktales, rhymes and riddles, and sang blomliedjies while she and her peers collected wood on the farm.

Her first CD, released at the age of 80, was a unique blend of this indigenous Namaqua poetry and song. Through her collaboration with fellow Namaqualander, Zirk Bergh of Afrikaner descent, she bridged daunting racial and cultural divides, to forge a regional identity, thereby making an invaluable contribution to the healing of a people torn apart by apartheid.



2005: Brigalia Bam- 'For her role in enabling peaceful democratic elections'

From 1967 until the late 1980s, Brigalia served as a Programme Director at the World Council of Churches in Switzerland. In 1988, she became General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches. In both these positions, her quiet and dignified commitment to the fight against apartheid stood as an example to all South Africans. Since she began her term of office as Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission of South Africa in 1999, Brigalia has been tireless in her commitment to ensuring the political impartiality of the elections both in South Africa and many other countries. Her groundbreaking efforts in the IEC have made her name synonymous with the institutionalisation of the right to vote, and an unfettered ability to participate in the political process. Such efforts challenge each of us to embrace the opportunity to build a democracy together.

2004: Mary Burton- 'For her work in the Black Sash and elsewhere'

Over many years, Mary Burton has shown her commitment to social justice and reconciliation, both in her personal capacity and through her involvement in various organisations.

She joined the Black Sash in the early 1960s..Her dedication to the organisation was unflagging, and she served as National President from 1986 to 1990. At the time of her receipt of the Annual Reconciliation Award, she was a member of its Board of Trustees.

She was also active in several other prominent civil rights and social justice related organisations, including the Civil Rights League, the SA Institute of Race Relations, the National Council of Women, the Surplus Peoples Project and the Human Rights Commission.

Mary served as Provincial Electoral officer for the Western Cape in 1994, as a Commissioner on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and on the Council of the University of Cape Town.





2003: Dullah and Farieda Omar – ‘For their contribution to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission process’

Minister Dullah Omar was the first Minister of Justice in a democratic South Africa. It was under his watch that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) was born, and his work opened the way for perpetrators – even those who had plotted against his own family – to receive amnesty.

Farieda Omar has always championed initiatives to promote understanding and reconciliation at community and national level. Long before Dullah and Farieda gained public recognition, they were engaged in low-key initiatives to enable South Africans to make peace among themselves in the pursuit of democracy. Despite their prominent place in society, Dullah and Farieda always remained humble and accessible. They prided themselves in being people without airs and graces, who walked in marches to protest injustice and call for change, mourned with the community in times of loss and adversity and conversely wholeheartedly celebrated with the community in times of victory and achievement.



2002: PJ Powers and Sibongile Khumalo - 'For singing one another's songs'

Two of South Africa's most acclaimed and popular female singers, PJ Powers and Sibongile Khumalo, were presented with the award in recognition of their work in transcending cultural barriers through their choice of musical material. By boldly breaching the divides that have separated South Africans for so long, they have exposed the South African population to the songs and music of all its diverse cultures. In the process, they took significant steps to promote tolerance and respect. Antjie Krog, who presented the two divas with the Award, referred to Psibongile and PJ as people "who are crossing boundaries as if they simply have wings."



2001: Pieter Dirk Uys- 'For enabling us to laugh at ourselves'

Pieter Dirk Uys was honoured not only for his significant work in the theatre and on television, but also for his HIV/ Aids awareness raising and educational work in schools.

Not taking ourselves too seriously as a nation is an important part of the reconciliation process, and humour can certainly play a part in healing. Over the years, Pieter Dirk Uys has helped South Africans of all political persuasions to see the tragi- comedy implicit in the lives and attitudes of both the holders of high political office and of ordinary South Africans. His one-person shows played to packed audience in major South African cities and tiny country dorps alike, and were also presented to high acclaim in Britain, Europe and the United States.

Prior to the 1999 elections, he toured the country with the aim of educating South Africans on their democratic responsibilities and opportunities. Understanding HIV/ Aids as the new apartheid, he subsequently used his skills to educate more than 40 000 learners and teachers about the virus in schools around the country.



2000: Tim Modise - 'For getting the nation talking'

Media personality Tim Modise received the very first Reconciliation Award, in recognition of his important role in promoting national reconciliation via his SAfm talk show, the Tim Modise Show.

In contrast to the radio programmes of Saffm before 1994, which catered almost exclusively to an English speaking white audience, the Tim Modise Show boasted a truly non-racial crossover audience, transcending barriers of colour, class and age.

The show, which was profoundly political and issue based, was widely accepted as one of the most informative radio programmes of the time. It was often quoted in the media, and played host to a variety of politicians, leaders and professionals. Yet Modise's immense popularity as a talk show host resulted not from his encyclopaedic knowledge or his probing interviewing style, but from his ability to transcend the racial and ideological differences and prejudices aired by his listeners, promote tolerance and show respect to all.

Reconciliation Award Guidelines

The Institute for Justice and Reconciliation contributes to fair, democratic and inclusive societies in Africa during and after political transition. It does so through interventions which foster conditions for reconciliation that are at once accountable and democratic. These interventions include research and analysis, community engagement, public debate and policy advice as well as education.

Up to now the Institute has given an annual Reconciliation Award to an individual, community or organisation in South Africa that has contributed, in one way or another, towards reconciliation. Given the rapid expansion of its work across Africa over the past decade, it would in coming years like to consider adding a prize for deserving candidates from the entire continent, other than South Africa. By enabling Africans, and particularly those in societies that have been plagued by conflict, to live together constructively, recipients of this award have much to teach us about reconciliation, both in South Africa and elsewhere. Through this award the Institute would like to acknowledge and showcase their approaches and strategies, whether they originate in the spheres of politics, media, business, culture, academia or community service.

Nomination and selection procedure

At the start of February, nomination forms are made available on the website. A call for nominations is sent out to the database, with the form attached. Announcements of the call for nominations are posted on various related websites and in selected newspapers. In order to nominate someone, the nominator will have to fill out the form and write a 300-700 word motivation for their nominee and email or mail both back to the IJR staff member responsible for creating the first shortlist.

The staff member, assisted by an intern, sifts through nominations and selects the five best candidates. The Reconciliation Award Committee reviews the shortlist, and selects one 'best' candidate, as well as two 'runners up' as a contingency in case it should be discovered that there are strong objections to 'best' candidate.

Committee members are each to take one shortlisted nominee, research and verify the activities for which they were nominated, their background and anything they may have done or said in the past that excludes them from being a nominee. After two weeks of research, the committee is to reconvene where committee members present their candidate and provide their personal recommendation. If there is no

consensus on the best candidate, the committee votes on the most appropriate nominee, and the successful candidate is then presented to the board, along with a short motivation, by the committee member who researched him/her/them. If the board is unwilling to accept the proposed candidate, the top candidate in the other category is then presented, and then the third and fourth nominee, until one is agreed on as appropriate.

Criteria for nominees

- The nominee's achievements should be done in the 12 months preceding his/her nomination.
- The nominee must have made a significant difference in terms of reconciliation in the context where he/she is active.
- The achievement or work of the nominee must be extra-ordinary/outstanding/exceptional above and beyond regular activities of people.
- The nominee should not have said nor done anything in his/her public or private life that goes against the IJR's institutional principles, particularly those of inclusivity, respect for democratic values, and non-violence.
- The chosen candidate must be able to attend an award ceremony and be photographed.

The South African Reconciliation Barometer newsletter is a quarterly publication produced by the IJR since 2003. The newsletter features expert analysis of socio-political trends, with particular focus on issues of national reconciliation, democracy and political transformation, and socioeconomic rights. Through the newsletter, the IJR also publishes the findings of the annual SA Reconciliation Barometer survey, as well as profiling work carried out within the Institute.

Volume 7 Issue 1, June 2009



Volume 7 Issue 1 focuses on the twin challenges of justice and reconciliation in South Africa, immediately following on April elections. Contributions focus on presidential pardons for perpetrators of apartheid-era crimes, prospects for reconciliation in the new administration, and the implications of President Zuma's corruption trial. Issue 1 also features

analysis of government's decision to deny the Dalai Lama a visa to enter South Africa, and the critical importance of the Comprehensive Peace agreement for the future of Sudan.

Keywords: presidential pardons; reconciliation and the Zuma presidency; Zuma trial; Dalai Lama debacle; peace in Sudan

Volume 7 Issue 2, August 2009



In Volume 7 Issue 2, newsletter articles address the social capital of liberation movements and processes of political transformation, voter behaviour at the ballot box, declining trust in government and public institutions, and the importance of developing new national symbols for South Africa. Contributions also address issues of participation in national reconciliation discourses, and the standoff

between the African Union and the International Criminal Court over the arrest warrant issued for Sudanese president Omar al-Bashir.

Keywords: liberation movements; voter behaviour; trust in institutions; new symbols for South Africa; AU-ICC standoff; reconciliation discourses

Volume 7 Issue 3, October 2009



Volume 7 Issue 3 speaks to the opportunities and risks facing South Africa in 2009, including the challenge of overcoming increasing inequality. Contributions address the questions of what citizens need from a public broadcaster, whether progress has been made in justice for victims of the 2008 xenophobic attacks, judicial transformation and constitutional court appointments, and prospects for social cohesion in a changing climate. Issue 3 also

features analysis of current reconstruction programmes in the DRC.

Keywords: inequality; public broadcaster; xenophobia victims; judicial transformation; social cohesion and climate change; reconstruction in the DRC

Volume 7 Issue 4, forthcoming, December 2009



Volume 7 Issue 4 focuses on progress in national reconciliation, including analysis of the public response to University of the Free State Vice-Chancellor Jonathan Jansen's inaugural address. Contributions also feature analysis of developments in the Khulamani lawsuit, the challenges of public participation and active citizenship, and opportunities for a shared future in the community of Cradock. This issue also profiles the Shine Centre – winners of the 2009 IJR

Reconciliation Award.

Keywords: presidential pardons; Jonathan Jansen; Khulamani lawsuit; public participation; future of Cradock; Shine Centre

Application for Nomination

Nominee	
Nominator:	
Contact Details of nominee: <i>(Physical and email address as well telephone/cell phone details)</i>	
Contact Details of nominator: <i>(Physical and email address as well telephone/cell phone details)</i>	
Motivation	



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