



NEWSLETTER

JUL/AUG 2022



VISION

To be a world-class science centre capacitated to assist in instilling a culture of science and technology, acquiring science knowledge, skills and attitudes; applying this acquired science knowledge, skills and attitudes to develop and innovate new products and services that uplift the quality of life for all South Africans, and using the innovated products and services to compete in the global world of science.

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UPCOMING PROGRAMMES & EVENTS

- **Sci-Weekend:** 6 August - 25 September 2022
- **International Literacy Day:** 8 September 2022
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We are on our way to fulfil our dream of becoming the world class science centre and our programmes are lifting the quality of life for all South Africans. We have started to compete in the global world of science.

The Sci-Bono vision is coming into fruition looking at our ICT programmes the Career Centre programmes and the visit to Senegal for PAN African Robotics Competition.

Since the Covid-19 regulations have been relaxed and that everything has gone back to normal, the centre has been buzzing with exciting activities. This newsletter says it all, it is packed with wonderful news and information on programmes that we have hosted.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please like and follow us (Sci-Bono) on these social media platforms:



@SciBono01



@scibono



@SciBono



@SciBono01

FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Regionals and Nationals

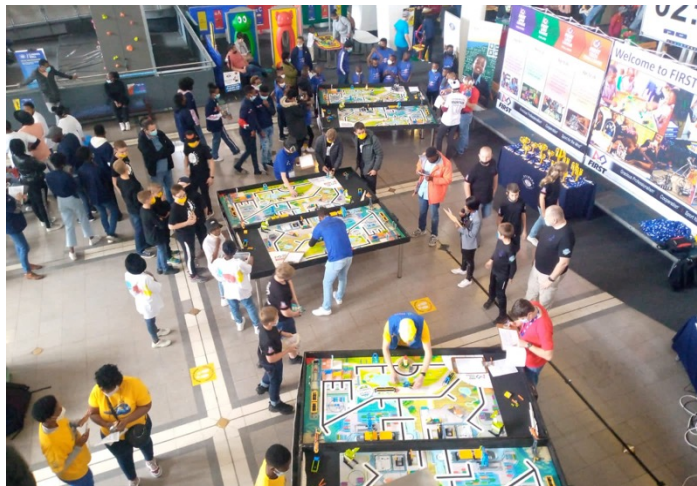
FLL: This annual international robotics competition introduces learners (9 to 16 years old) to the world of robotics and teaches them valuable life skills. Guided by their educators, teams research real-world problems such as food safety, recycling and energy to develop new solutions.

This year's regionals hosted nine qualified teams, which four of them were sponsored by Sci-Bono.

For the FLL finals one of the Sci-Bono teams, SB Legends, won a Core Values Award, and Sagree Moodley, the Coach and Mentor for the SB Decryptors (another Sci-Bono team) won the Coach/Mentor Award during this competition.

Twenty-one teams from across South Africa competed in the finals and four of which were sponsored by Sci-Bono.

Congratulations to the Coach and Mentor Sagree Moodley and the SB Decryptors.



Senegal: Pan-African Robotics Competition

The Willowmoore High School's robotics team, SB Decryptors represented South Africa at the Pan-African Robotics Competition (PARC) 2022 in Senegal in July.

This comes after the team was recognised as having the best mentorship and core values out of 46 robotics teams in South Africa at the FLL South African National Championship. They were then nominated to submit their project research overseas and received two invitations to represent the country at PARC 2022.

SB DECRYPTORS has been participating in robotics since 2017 and we are proud of our robotics superstars!

Well done and congratulations!!





Youth Development Program (YDP) Graduation

The YDP is a programme that equips youth from disadvantaged backgrounds and unemployed with essential skills and qualifications that presents possibilities of employment, learnerships and internships.

We celebrated the first intake of this prestigious programme graduations held in June 2022.

We honor and celebrate this group for their resilience as they have succeeded despite the challenges of the pandemic and the national lockdown.



Virtual Reality Climate Change Experience Launch in the 4IR Space

Have you visited our 4IR Exhibition lately? We have added a new feature to our 4IR exhibition, the Imvelo, (the isiZulu word for nature). The Imvelo feature is aimed at educating and raising awareness of our everyday actions that have contributed to climate change, promoting behavioral change while entertaining at the same time.

In this virtual reality experience, you will be taken into the heart of a forest to learn about the impact of climate change.



We are growing and expanding our partnerships

The signing of a partnership between Sci-Bono and MICT SETA took place on 22 June. The MoU will align the co-operation of both parties with respect to the delivery of ICT skills and entrepreneurship development programmes, 4IR or future skills training, innovation support particularly within rural and township communities.



Girl Learner: Cell C Career Day

We have been part of the Cell C Take a Girl Child to Work for many years now, when Cell C decided to re-launch the programme we were delighted to be in partnership again to take the new programme to greater heights.

Cell C's flagship programme Take a Girl Child to Work Day (TAGCTWD) was ground-breaking at the time of conception and launch 20 years ago. The objective was to expose young girls to the world of work and careers outside of the conventional e.g. doctor, nurse, social worker, teacher and lawyer. Over the years, the impact has been positive and the programme has touched the lives of more than 5 million girls, some of whom have gone on to lead successful careers in their chosen fields. In 2019, recognising the potential imbalance in the quest for gender equality and the need to include boys as important participants in the empowerment ecosystem, Cell C responded by including the boychild to the programme. Based on learnings from

the TAGCTWD programme and further review against a broader social context Cell C recognised the need to be responsive to the current realities of youth, which go beyond and include more than career considerations. In 2022, Cell C set in motion the development of the re-evolution of Cell C's TAGCTWD; and to move to an inclusive and holistic youth development programme that still includes career but adds much more. The revised programme was launched on 24 June at Sci-Bono.



Rays of Hope Ignition Project Awards Ceremony

Career Centre attended the Rays of Hope Ignition Annual Awards ceremony at the Rosebank Union Church to celebrate the students in the tertiary support programme. It was humbling to be invited as a key partner to the project and hear from learners and mentors sharing their journey with us.

The Ignition programme selects matriculants from Alexandra schools and provides them with a matrix of support to enable each one to study at a tertiary level or complete technical training, with the goal of finding sustainable employment. Support includes career guidance to their first job, applications, mentoring, workshops, peer-to-peer relationships, and some finance.

The Career Centre assists in the career development process of each of these learners with every new intake, starting with a full career assessment. Through the career guidance process, many students make fundamental shifts in their choices, find direction where none existed before or obtain confirmation of their choices.

It was wonderful to see how being a part of the change has resulted in such wonderful success stories, and we look forward to being part of the project for 2023.



Winter Holiday Programme

The focus for this year's winter holiday programme was on sustainability and planet saving.

For years Sci-Bono has been offering youngsters with fun, educational activities and exciting break from what can often be long and tedious days of little to do during the holidays. This time, Sci-Bono turned its edu-fun spotlight onto the eco-sciences: climate change, clean water, understanding greenhouse gases, atmospheric science and the unsung heroes that make life on Earth possible.

"When you engage with natural systems, you understand and appreciate them. When you appreciate them, you want to protect them. We wanted to make sure that every young person who attended the programme became a champion for planet Earth, and for sustainability.

Our programmes are always a fun-filled, hands-on way for young people to get comfortable with the sciences, and the important role science plays in our everyday lives.



Speak to a Scientist

Speak to a Scientist (S2aS) is Sci-Bono's public science communication programme aimed at increasing the accessibility of science and scientific research. The talks create a platform for public engagement with leading local and international scientists, helping them keep abreast of current science while engaging in topical science and technology debates.

We currently hosted a S2aS talk themed "saving our crops from climate change" presented by:

Professor Dave Berger is a "plant doctor", in other words a plant pathologist. He specialises in the molecular biology of maize diseases so calls himself a "molecular plant pathologist". He is based in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences at the University of Pretoria (UP). He leads the Molecular Plant-Pathogen Interactions research group at the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI) at UP. He is recognised by the National Research Foundation as an "internationally acclaimed researcher".

He was the recipient of the 2016 Special Award for Crop Science and Food Security awarded by the National Science and Technology Forum and South 32. He researches crop diseases of economic importance in Africa and globally, focusing on leaf diseases of maize. His main research aim is to develop sustainable management strategies for long-term food security.



The International Clubhouse Network Summit

Our Clubhouse hosted The International Clubhouse Network for 19 Regional Teen Summits in Gauteng on opportunities for youth from different Clubhouses across the globe to come together for an in-person event that fosters community building, cross-clubhouse collaboration, leadership development, technology skill building, and college/career pathways.

The members, who participated in the summit, had different programmes that included videography, graphic design, music production and more. This was the South African leg of the Africa Clubhouse Mini-Summit that took place on a four day period.

“Reigniting the spirit of creation” was the theme for this Summit.



Celebrating Mandela Day

In commemoration of what would have been Madiba's 104th birthday this year, we partnered with Ticket to The Moon Youth Theatre Company and presented the stage production: Mr Hare meets Mr Mandela on 18 July with the theme **“What would you do if you picked up something you thought belonged to Nelson Mandela?”**



Umlambo Foundation Visit to Sci-Bono

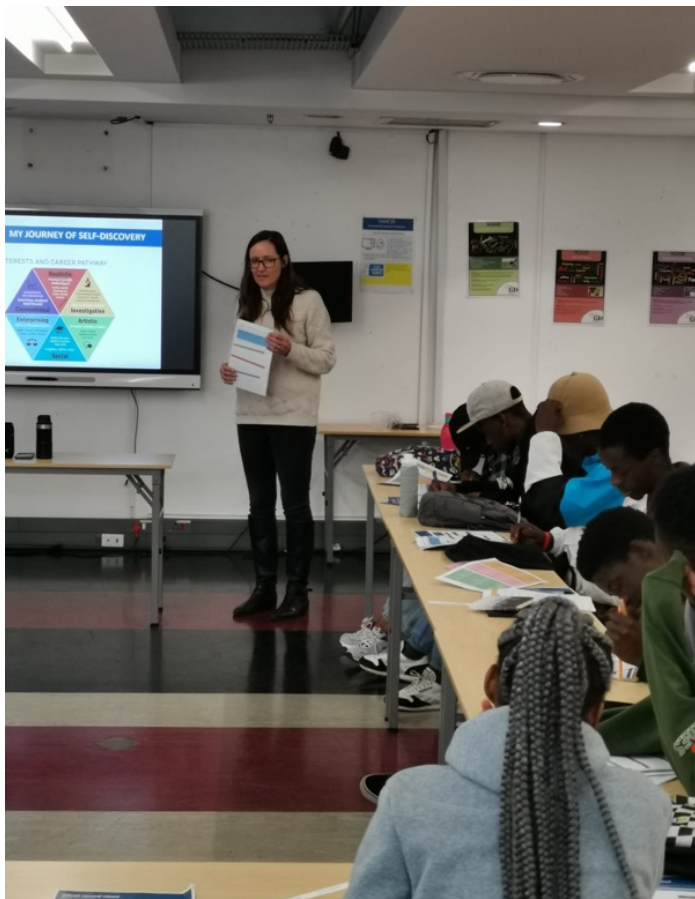
Sci-Bono team was delighted to host the former Deputy President, Honorable Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka from the Umlambo Foundation for a tour. We were honoured to host her with her team and indeed this was a great opportunity for us to show-case our variety of interactive exhibitions, educational programmes and activities run at the centre.



MES Joshuas Career Workshop

On 27 July, 13 Joshua's from MES and their programme "mother" and "father" joined the psychometry team for an interactive career workshop focusing on their "Journey to Self-Discovery". MES is a Christian integrated social development organisation that has been changing the heart of the city since 1986 and has been actively working towards providing sustainable solutions to pervasive poverty in the inner cities of Johannesburg, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Kempton Park. The Joshua Youth Volunteer Programme, in particular, is a servant leadership programme. Annually 14 youth are offered the opportunity to enroll for a service year of 12 months. They play a key role within the learner and pre-school activities. They become mentors to the learners in the after-school programmes.

It was a pleasure to host such a vibrant and fun group of individuals. We laughed, we shared, and we all learnt! We look forward to a continued partnership with the MES programme.



New Colleagues Joining the Sci-Bono Team

Sci-Bono welcomes new Interns who will be learning and contributing their knowledge to the psychological services team:

- Hayley Sturgess
- Deon Knoetze

As well as the the new Finance Manager:

- Ewart Rambawu who has joined the Sci-Bono team.

We welcome them and hope they will enjoy their stay with us and take Sci-Bono to greater heights!



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