Press release

9 October 2020

ROSHDENE RISES UP…TO THE TOP

With her interpretation of Andra Day's R&B hit "Rise Up" 22-year old general agricultural worker, Roshdene Sampson from Sandhoek Farm, De Doorns, won over judges and fans with her incredible voice.

What makes her story even more special is that Roshdene didn't enter herself in the competition. Her mother, Maria, entered her voice note without Roshdene knowing about it. When the Agri's Got Talent team phoned to congratulate her for being part of the Top Ten, Roshdene was flabbergasted.

Today, the AGT team met up with Roshdene at Sandhoek and announced that she won during a live broadcast via Facebook.

"I am so proud of myself and really look forward to what is going to happen next. This is the first time that I win a competition," an overwhelmed Roshdene said. "I am so grateful for AGT and the team, and for everything that they have done for us. In the past weeks I have really developed as a singer and also as a person."

Jenny Maarman from Diemerskraal, Wellington, was in the second place and incredible rapper Bradwin Jonas, from Rietfontein, outside Ceres, a close third.

The finals were recently recorded at Goudini Spa, Worcester, and shared with the judging panel and AGT Facebook fandom. The judges were impressed with the contestants' authentic performances this year.

The Crowd Favourite, according to public vote received via WhatsApp or sms, was Sivenathi Ndzakayi from CRI, Citrus Foundation Block, Uitenhage. Earlier, Sivenathi, said that the competition has changed his life. "I will forever be grateful for this opportunity! I now know that anything is possible."

Agri's Got Talent was hosted for the seventh time this year and the goal is to give workers in the citrus, deciduous fruit, table grapes, and wine industries, respectively, the chance to showcase their singing talents!

Entries opened in March this year and when the COVID-outbreak followed shortly thereafter, the competition was nearly cancelled. The AGT team, supported by the various sponsors, decided on a format change and pushed through with a "new" mostly digital event.

Contestants were partly coached via cell phones with the AGT team visiting them on-farm to complete the training. Logistically it was sometimes a nightmare, but we are immensely proud of this year's contestants and the competition, said Thea van Zyl, AGT Event Coordinator.

"Due to COVID we did not have a Gala Evening and in many ways the contestants were challenged to bring their best game and perform in front of a camera without the support of their fans.

"We would like to acknowledge Hortgro, SATI, VinPro Foundation, Citrus Growers' Association and the Western Cape Department of Agriculture for their support in making this project a reality in 2020 – a year where everybody desperately needs a bit of AGT magic," Van Zyl said.

Join the AGT community and find the latest news and action on Facebook **www.facebook.com/agrisgottalent** or visit **www.agrisgottalent.com**.

ANYTHING ELSE?
Please contact Thea van Zyl at thea@hortgro.co.za
or 021 870 2900 for more information.

Agri's got Talent is a social upliftment project sponsored by HORTGRO, the Citrus Growers' Association, the VinPro Foundation, the South African Table Grape Industry, and the Western Cape Government's Department of Agriculture.

Persverklaring

9 Oktober 2020

ROSHDENE STYG UIT…TOT HEEL BO

Met haar vertolking van Andra Day se R & B-treffer "Rise Up", het die 22-jarige algemene landbouwerker, Roshdene Sampson van Sandhoek, De Doorns, beoordelaars en aanhangers met haar stem betower, en dra sy vanjaar die kroon in Agri's Got Talent (AGT) 2020.

Wat haar verhaal meer spesiaal maak, is dat die jong Roshdene nie self vir die kompetisie ingeskryf het nie. Haar ma, Maria, het namens haar dogter die stemnota ingestuur, want sy het geglo in haar goue stem. Toe die Agri's Got Talent-span haar bel om haar geluk te wens en meedeel dat sy deel uitmaak van die Top Tien, was Roshdene verslae.

Die AGT-span het Roshdene vandag op Sandhoek ingewag en via 'n direkte Facebook-uitsending aangekondig dat sy die wenner is. 'n Oorstelpte Roshdene het gesê dat sy baie trots was op haarself, veral omdat sy nog nooit vantevore 'n kompetisie gewen het nie.

"Ek wil net baie dankie sê vir die AGT-span, en vir alles wat hulle vir ons beteken het. Ek het as sangeres en mens die afgelope paar weke geweldig gegroei en sien uit na wat vorentoe gaan gebeur."

Jenny Maarman van Diemerskraal, Wellington, was in die tweede plek en die indrukwekkende rymkletser Bradwin Jonas, van Rietfontein, buite Ceres, derde.

Die eindronde is onlangs by Goudini Spa, Worcester, opgeneem en daarna met die beoordelaarspaneel en die AGT Facebook-aanhangers gedeel. Die beoordelaars was vanjaar beïndruk met die deelnemers se outentieke vertonings.

Die *Crowd Favourite*, vir wie die publiek via WhatsApp of sms stem, was Sivenathi Ndzakayi van CRI, Citrus Foundation Block, Uitenhage. Sivenathi, het vroeër gesê dat die kompetisie sy lewe verander het. "Ek sal vir ewig dankbaar wees vir hierdie geleentheid! Ek weet nou dat ek soveel meer met lewe kan maak."

Agri's Got Talent is vanjaar vir die sewende keer aangebied en die doel is om werkers in onderskeidelik die sitrus-, sagtevrugte-, tafedruiwe- en wynbedryf die kans te gee om hul sangtalente ten toon te stel!

Inskrywings het in Maart vanjaar geopen. Met die daaropvolgende uitbreking van die COVID-pandemie, is die kompetisie byna gekanselleer. Die AGT-span ondersteun deur die verskillende bedryfsborge het egter besluit om deur te druk en die kompetisie vanjaar digitaal aan te bied.

Deelnemers is deels via selfone afgerig, terwyl die AGT-span hulle op die plaas besoek en die opleiding só verder voltooi het. "Logisties was dit soms 'n nagmerrie, maar ons is geweldig trots op vanjaar se deelnemers," het Thea van Zyl, AGT se koördineerder gesê.

"Weens COVID het ons nie 'n gala-aand gehad nie. Dit het baie druk op die deelnemers geplaas, wat net voor 'n kamera, sonder 'n gehoor se ondersteuning, moes optree.

"Ons wil Hortgro, SATI, VinPro-stigting, Sitrusprodusentevereniging en die Wes-Kaapse departement van landbou bedank vir hulle ondersteuning om hierdie projek in 2020 te verwesenlik - 'n jaar waarin almal 'n bietjie AGT-paljas nodig het," het Van Zyl gesê.

Sluit aan by ons AGT-gemeenskap en vind meer inligting op ons Facebookblad **www.facebook.com/agrisgottalent** of besoek ons webwerf by **www.agrisgottalent.com**.

WIL JY NOG IETS WEET?

Kontak Thea van Zyl – thea@hortgro.co.za of 021-870-2900 vir enige navrae.

Agri's Got Talent is 'n sosiale-opheffingsprojek vir landbouwerkers en word geborg deur HORTGRO, die Sitrus Produsente Verenging, die VinPro Stigting, die Suid-Afrikaanse Tafeldruifbedryf en die Wes-Kaapse Departement van Landbou.

The AGT 2020 Top Ten contestants during the recording session at Goudini Spa, Worcester. From left: Bradwin Jonas (Rietfontein), Navan Hendricks (Elandsrivier), Eudine van Voigt (Van Loveren), Jenny Maarman (Diemerskraal), Alicia Flink (Haygrove Heaven), Jacintha September (De Grendel), Roshdene Sampson (Sandhoek), Sivenathi Ndzakayi (CRI Citrus Block), Maychen Manuel (Crispy Farming), Francois Willemse (Rietfontein).

Die AGT 2020 Top Tien deelnemers net voor die finale opnames by Goudini Spa, Worcester. Van links: Bradwin Jonas (Rietfontein), Navan Hendricks (Elandsrivier), Eudine van Voigt (Van Loveren), Jenny Maarman (Diemerskraal), Alicia Flink (Haygrove Heaven), Jacintha September (De Grendel), Roshdene Sampson (Sandhoek), Sivenathi Ndzakayi (CRI Citrus Block), Maychen Manuel (Crispy Farming), Francois Willemse (Rietfontein).

Picture/Foto: Carmé Naudé

From left: Jenny Maarman (first runner-up), Bradwin Jonas (third place) and Sivenathi Ndzakayi (Crowd Favourite).

Van links: Jenny Maarman (tweede), Bradwin Jonas (derde) en Sivenathi Ndzakayi die *Crowd Favourite*.