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## Chicago Market to Showcase Handcrafted, Socially Responsible Products from South Africa

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**CHICAGO, IL** -The [Chicago Market: Living and Giving®](#) announces the addition of South African Consulate artists to its January Market. The South African Consulate will be featuring over 12 artists in booth, 8-9100 and 8-9111. Exclusive South African handmade products offered include hand-blown glass, wood carvings, wire and bead products, basket weaving, jewelry, clothing accessories and much more.

"The Chicago Market is excited to welcome the South African Consulate and its artists to the January Market," said Joan Ulrich, senior vice president, MMPI. "In addition to the Beckman's™ Handcrafted Show and the Fair Trade Federation Pavilion, the inclusion of the South African artists is just one more way that the Chicago Market offers buyers and retailers high-end, quality and socially conscience handmade products."

"This project is the result of the collaborative efforts of the South African Consulate General in Chicago, The Chicago Market: Living and Giving, Tradepoint KwaZulu-Natal and the Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency," said Valentina Tomov, marketing officer South African Consulate General. "We are very pleased to introduce an exceptionally talented group of South African artisans, who will be exhibiting unique handmade products from South Africa for the very first time at the Chicago Market."

"The South African government has long recognized the enormous potential of the craft industry for job creation and generation of income for peri urban and rural communities in South Africa. That is why our work focuses on exposing South African artisans to new markets and assisting crafters to grow their businesses via trade shows such as The Chicago Market," said Amb. Nomvume P. Magaqa, Consul General, South African Consulate General in Chicago.

The South African Consulate artist program promotes the fusion of heritage with the future, tradition with the imagination, creativity with business know-how. The South

African Consulate booth at The Chicago Market will be featuring artists from KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga, both provinces in South Africa.

The Chicago Market: Living and Giving runs Thursday, January 20th to Tuesday, January 25th (Temporaries and Beckman's Handcrafted Show® run Saturday, January 22 to Tuesday, January 25). For more information visit [www.shopchicagomarket.com](http://www.shopchicagomarket.com). For more information about the TradePoint South Africa Durban (TPSA Durban), visit [www.durban.tradepoint.org](http://www.durban.tradepoint.org).