

Pratt takes an award at *South Africa's Most Influential Women in Business and Government Awards*

These awards recognise the contribution of South African women across various corporate business industry sectors and within government, throughout the country.

Anne Pratt was announced at a gala function at the Sandton Convention Centre, Gauteng, and among the guests of honour were Devi Sankaree Govender, well known investigative journalist and MC, and keynote speaker, Tina Eboka, former Director: Group Corporate Affairs of Standard Bank, among an audience of top level decision makers in business and government.

Pratt is a multi-awarded business woman and a director of one of South Africa's leading executive search companies, Memela Pratt and Associates. Under Pratt's leadership, Memela Pratt and Associates was featured in the 'Best Companies to work for' in 2003. She has championed research and published the first qualitative research regarding women holding board positions in South Africa and the challenges that lie within. She pioneered and established a world class Executive Search firm in 1998, and has fast tracked a number of Black Executive Search professionals who have gone on to develop their own executive search companies or hold senior positions in industry making a significant contribution to corporate leadership and BEE transformation in SA.

She has been a panellist and judge on a number of surveys and business sessions and conducted numerous interviews on camera with local and international broadcasters as well as in print.

She holds positions as a Director of companies and positions in institutions where she believes she can add value, including; the Black Management Forum, the Business Women's Association, the Institute of Directors and leading business schools. Pratt devotes a great deal of her time to make contributions to South African Business Schools and leading conferences to support the country's upcoming leaders, and to grass root level organisations.

As an entrepreneur, Pratt understands the need to re-engineer the individual in order to sustain growth. She is passionate about exposing the unsung heroes in our country who she says are achieving incredible results.

According to Yvonne Finch, chairperson of the awards' judging panels and independent life coach, "Now in its 10th year, the award acknowledges the successes of a businesswoman who has excelled in her field and celebrates her contribution to the economy and to future generations of businesswomen. Pratt's accomplishments are an inspiration to us and she is a role model for other businesswomen."

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