

# Bizcommunity - celebrating our sisters

Issued by [Bizcommunity.com](http://Bizcommunity.com)

3 Aug 2015

Many people may be unaware of the origins of celebrating Women during the month of August in South Africa. This Women's Day, 9 August 2015, will mark 59 years since an estimated 10,000 to 20,000 mass gathering of women marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria to hand over their thousands of signed petitions, protesting the laws requiring the carrying of passes by [women](#), organised by The South African Federation of Women, FSAW. By all accounts women from all parts of the country arrived in Pretoria, from as far afield as Cape Town and Port Elizabeth, to foregather in the amphitheatre of the Union Buildings in a moving demonstration of sisterhood, solidarity and plain old girl power.



Image sourced from [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)

There are other Women's Days. International Women's Day has been observed since around 1977 when the UN proclaimed March 8 the day for spotlighting gender equality issues and general women's rights issues around the world.

2013 marked 100 years since the Women's Suffrage Movement in the USA had staged the massive parade in Washington DC, which led to the granting of the first voting rights for women seven years later.

In February 1907 in the UK, over 3,000 women had taken part in the National Union for Women's Suffrage Societies march, which succeeded in getting women admitted to the register to vote in and stand for government elections.

This year the aspirational Cannes Lions Advertising Festival introduced a controversial Glass Lion award, recognising female creatives in the advertising business. The 'See It Be It' initiative aims to help accelerate the careers of talented female creatives and to draw attention to the thorny issue of the lack of female creative directors in the ad industry. In addition, last year the New York-based Clio Awards changed their policy to ensure that all awards juries would consist of a 50/50 male/female mix.

Bizcommunity is honoured to be celebrating and promoting the achievements, sung and unsung, of all our amazing South African Women in Business and from all walks of life, during the month of August.

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