

Malta Television Awards for February 27

January 15
deadline for
submissions

Duncan Barry

The deadline for the submissions for the Malta Television Awards is January 15, Mermaid Media Entertainment Ltd, the organisers, announced yesterday during a press conference held at Heat, The Waterfront in Valletta.

The nominations will be held at Heat on February 12 and the awards night will take place on February 27 at the MFCC, Ta' Qali.

Noelene Miggiani, director of Mermaid Media Entertainment Ltd, said: "Due to the delay in the date in announcing the nominations, in order to polish up the organisation of the awards, calls from industry players have been flowing in to enquire if the awards were taking place this year.

This is a great satisfaction for us organisers and shows that those involved appreciate these awards and they mean a lot to them."

"There's an aim for those involved in television. It's not just about presenting a programme but it's also about looking forward to see how much the time spent on organising it is really appreciated by viewers. It is a fact that those participating in the awards are inspired by the awards to start off a programme on a television station," Ms Miggiani added.

Meanwhile, Mermaid Media Entertainment Ltd director Silvio Scerri said: "The quality of this year's



Rennie Schembri (left) and Heinrich Camilleri star in the thrilling police drama series *Dellijiet*. The programme, screened on TVM every Tuesday, is one of the many programmes which may be nominated for the awards.

programmes is so good that the winners of these awards are just unpredictable. The competition is extremely tight, all stations are close."

There are many good programmes currently being screened including Bonaci Media's 108 Live, Generation, Xpress, Don't Stop Me Now, the breakfast show *Žveljarin*

and *Seba' Telef* (7,000 stories on Malta presented by Joe Vella).

Dellijiet by V-Squared is a highly popular police drama also being submitted this year.

John Bundy currently holds the Best Daily Magazine Programme of the Year and Best Presenter of the Year awards.

He is currently hosting a breakfast show called *Bongu Bundy* on One TV. The awards night last year attracted around 148,000 viewers and the awards are aimed at the whole spectrum of local TV broadcasting.

The organisers have appealed to station managers and programme

presenters and producers to bring forward any suggestions to be considered by the organisers which may have been overlooked during the organisation stage. The awards will be screened on all local television stations.

For more information visit www.themaltatelevisionawards.com.

PN praises Franco Debono

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However, the explanation being suggested within some circles is that Dr Debono was angry at a rumour that Speaker Louis Galea, who contests the same hotly fought district, might be reappointed to Cabinet to fill the seat of soon-to-be European Commissioner John Dalli.

However, in the first official statement about the affair since Monday, PN secretary general Paul Borg Olivier indirectly denied that Dr Debono was angered at the prospect of competition in his district. "More than a year ago, upon his personal

initiative, he suggested that the party should put in all its efforts to consolidate the team on the fifth district at all levels of the party structures, and therefore any comments to the contrary are untrue."

He went on to praise the MP: "Franco Debono is a Member of Parliament who has brought new ideas to the party particularly in the field of justice and the environment.

"His legal expertise and experience as a lawyer have led him from the grass-roots to the benches of Parliament and he has always served his constituents in their best interest both before and after being elected

as Member of Parliament throughout the past 12 years of political activity with the Nationalist Party.

"He is particularly and positively vociferous on environmental issues and on the need of a better quality of life through improved amenities in his community with a deep sense of justice towards his electors.

"The party is more than confident that in his recent election by his colleague Nationalist Members of Parliament to chair the Parliamentary Committee on the Codification of the Laws of Malta, Dr Debono will best serve the post in the national interest," said Dr Borg Olivier.

Change: The only constant

The good news about 2010 is that the global economy will start picking up again.

Next year, however, will bring a lot more change than an economic one. It will be a metamorphosis for many young people, who will want to leave their mothers' homes way before they get married. Many will actually go abroad to study. And others will find that post-secondary studying, and studying in general, is cool.

Issue eight of Phase magazine, out with the Times tomorrow - and all its past issues that have been put together young non-conformists and opinion-influencers - is for those who are thirsty for inspiration; for those who need something challenging to tickle their creativeness; for those who aren't afraid of change, and mostly for those who want to be ahead in the race.

The year 2010 will also witness a re-birth of the capital of Valletta. Thanks to many young artists and people with a broad spectrum of vision, it will rise up from the dust and transform into a hub of art and culture. There will be many more book reading events, exhibitions, talented musicians' live performances and plays. With its breathtaking views, and history whispering out of every stone, and with the old university building opening up for full-time courses, Valletta will attract more young (and art-loving) people to go and live there.

Nevertheless, the biggest miracle in 2010 will begin with young people - Generation Y, the iPhone, Twitter,



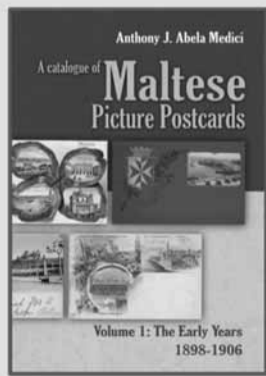
and Facebook generation and its determination to change - to learn more and move to a next phase.

Phase's career and education sections have taken a break in issue eight. What with the upcoming exams and the festivities before that, big talk on studying and professions would have been a bore. For that reason tomorrow's issue has dedicated its pages to local talent again. Phase features not only painters and sculptors this time, but also fashion designers, 3D designers and cooking wizards.

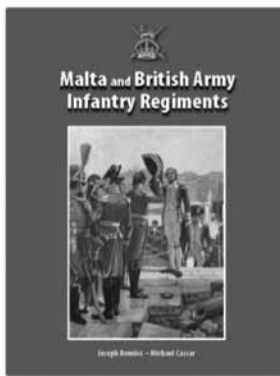
Some articles in tomorrow's issue have now been extended with audio-visual material which can be viewed on phase.com.mt. For more information about phase e-mail editor@phase.com.mt.



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