

Tuesday, 14 July 2026

Spotlight: Iris Chokwe Recognised for Creating Lasting Impact in the Profession

Iris Chokwe's recognition as the Third-Place recipient in the Impact Award category at the SAIPA Mastery Circle Awards reflects a career built on professional excellence, ethical leadership, and a commitment to empowering others.

A Professional Accountant (SA), General Tax Practitioner and Assistant Director: Management Accounting, Chokwe has dedicated more than 15 years to advancing financial management, governance, taxation, and accountability across the public and private sectors. Alongside her professional responsibilities, she has invested significant time in mentoring aspiring accountants and supporting the development of future finance professionals. For Chokwe, the award serves as recognition of both professional achievement and personal perseverance.

"Receiving the SAIPA Mastery Circle Award is a great honour. It represents resilience, faith, and perseverance, while affirming my contribution to the profession through leadership, governance, financial management, mentorship, and ethical practice," she says.

Throughout her career, Chokwe has remained committed to continuous learning and professional growth. She holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Management and has completed the Executive Leadership Programme offered through Duke CE and FASSET. She is currently pursuing a Master of Business Leadership qualification, further strengthening her ability to contribute to organisational performance and professional development.

While these academic and professional milestones are significant, Chokwe regards her contribution to the growth of others as one of her most meaningful achievements. Through mentorship and coaching, she has helped guide young professionals and students as they navigate their own career journeys.

Central to her success are the values of integrity, accountability, discipline, humility, excellence, and service. These principles have shaped her leadership approach and informed her commitment to maintaining the highest professional standards.

"In accountancy profession, trust is fundamental. Integrity and accountability are essential to building confidence and creating long-term value for organisations and society," she says.

The recognition has strengthened Chokwe's resolve to continue making a positive contribution to the profession. She plans to expand her mentorship initiatives, particularly for young professionals, women in finance, and aspiring accountants from disadvantaged backgrounds. Her long-term vision includes establishing a training office that will create opportunities for accounting graduates while contributing to the development of ethical and competent future leaders.

As the profession continues to evolve, Chokwe believes that accountancy professionals must combine technical expertise with leadership, adaptability, strategic thinking, and emotional intelligence. Continuous learning and a willingness to embrace change remain essential attributes for professionals seeking to remain relevant in a rapidly changing environment. Reflecting on her journey, she encourages young professionals to remain committed to their goals and to approach challenges as opportunities for growth.

"Success is a journey built on consistency, integrity, and a commitment to learning. Professional achievements become even more meaningful when they create opportunities and positive outcomes for others."

The SAIPA Mastery Circle Awards celebrate individuals who demonstrate excellence, leadership, resilience, and meaningful contribution to the profession. Chokwe's recognition in the Impact Award category highlights the important role that professional accountants play in strengthening organisations, developing future talent, and creating lasting value within their communities.

Issued by SAIPA- South African Institute of Professional Accountants

Media Enquiries

Ofentse Letswalo

PR & Communications Coordinator

0769102208 / oletswalo@saipa.co.za

