

# MILLENNIAL WOMAN MAGAZINE

**ANCILLAR  
MANGENA  
NOMBEWU**

A MEDIA AND BUSINESS  
TRAILBLAZER

**Q&A**  
S

WITH

**NICOLATTE MATUKU**

**SANELISIWE ZONDI**

**SINANZIWE NDLOVU**

**LOLO SKAI**

**KELEBOGILE CILO**

SCAN TO FIND US



**Entrepreneur tips**  
WITH **Mukey Tshabalala**

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# EDITOR'S LETTER

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## Hello Millennial Women

I'm writing this letter with so much relief because we are finally here! Millennial Woman magazine was a dream for so many years and we eventually started working on the vision in October 2019. There were delays. There were hurdles. There was procrastination from my side. Basically, life kept on happening and from time to time I lost sight of the goal. So, I will take this opportunity to thank every member of the Millennial Woman magazine team for their patience, their dedication and for believing in the vision. It is because of them that Millennial Woman Magazine is here today.

We kick off our debut issue with a cover feature of non-other than Ancillar Mangena-Nombewu who has had an incredible journey in the journalism field. She has also solidified her name with reputable brands in the world of entrepreneurship. She is a humble soul and her story is indeed inspirational and empowering, which also resonates with the entire theme of this issue which is empowerment. I do hope that you enjoy the stories that we lined you for you in this debut issue of Millennial Woman Magazine. Above all, my hope is that this issue inspires you to get out of your comfort zone, chase your dreams and to continue working on being the best version of yourself.

Until the next one.... Keep swimming, stand tall and conquer.

Lots of love

**Nomakhosazana Ndlovu**  
Editor, Millennial Woman

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Millennial woman magazine



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## THE RISE AND RISE OF

# Ancillar

# Mangena-Nombewu

**A**ncillar Mangena-Nombewu is a media and business trailblazer from a humble background to the top of the cut-throat journalism industry. Born in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second largest city, she is a 29-year old multi-award-winning journalist, entrepreneur, speaker and UN Refugee Agency Ambassador. Her foundations for success were laid at the most unlikely places as some may put it; a government high school in one of the city's oldest high density suburb Mzilikazi. Her passion for journalism and storytelling was ignited at a tender age, after the broadcast of the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001. Her exposure to the journalism world started during her university years, when she worked as an intern for various media houses, accumulating work experience in both print and broadcast journalism. Her turnaround moment came in 2014, when she was about to do her master's degree. She got a referral that resulted in her getting her first official job at a local community newspaper. A year later, she got an even bigger break, bagging a gig as a journalist for Forbes Africa in 2015. Mangena-Nombewu has grown exponentially as a journalist and entrepreneur and has never looked back since then. Millennial Woman Magazine had the opportunity to chat with her:

**Q: Your journalism career spans across nine years. How has your experience as a journalist been?**

A: It has been quite a privilege to be able to do journalism work on the continent. I would not have chosen to be a journalist anywhere else but here in Africa because there is so much opportunities for growth. There is so many stories to tell; stories that stir inspiration especially for young blacks in the continent. As such, I have absolutely loved it. I have loved interacting with different people from

different parts of the continent and understanding what is happening within their economies, understanding what challenges they are facing and how they are mitigating them.

**Q: What has been the highlight of your career?**

A: I would say it has been getting an opportunity to awaken my entrepreneurial side because without my journalism career I probably would have taken longer to start my own business. However, being a journalist that tells stories of other entrepreneurs and millionaires across the continent I was able to identify what opportunities lie in the continent and I was able to quickly figure out what role I could play to better the continent. Thus, I would say using my journalism work to launch my entrepreneurship journey has been my biggest highlight.

**Q: What has been the greatest challenge of your career and how did you overcome it?**

A: I would not say I have faced many challenges in my career per se. I have been so blessed to work for companies and organisations that are really supportive and have senior managers that have been really interested in my career and helping me move forward. The only challenge that comes to mind is attacks from certain sections of the public when I told stories or truths that people did not want to hear. I remember in 2016, I told a story of Prophet Magaya from Zimbabwe, in an article entitled; The prophet of profits in the business of belief and I was questioning how he was basically taking money from poor people who were hungry and yearning for answered prayers. After that article, I got so many death threats on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and all of my social media accounts. The threats were even extended to my mother and my niece to an extent that I had to go off social media completely.



**Q: As a storyteller, what is the importance of storytelling for young Africans?**

A: The importance of storytelling is to wake young Africans up! It is to show that nothing is impossible. If we do not tell stories we would not know that it is possible to build from nothing; to start a company from the ground and be recognised worldwide for the impact that you are making. We would not know that there are people who at times come from worse circumstances than ourselves or who have had so many tragedies befalling them yet they have been able to pick themselves up and excel in their chosen paths. Therefore, storytelling really helps build understanding of the world around us and gives inspiration. It is that little push that we need to be able to move forward.

**Q: As an African woman from Bulawayo, what are the challenges that you faced when you migrated to South Africa?**

A: I was absolutely lucky that I am from Bulawayo and I speak IsiNdebele so it was easy for me to integrate within the South African community. It was a matter of re-joining the rest of my family that has been in Cape town for years. It even was easier to learn and understand other languages. Culture is very similar between Bulawayo and South Africa so I did not feel a lot of culture shocks or lack of understanding of what was happening around me because we speak the same languages. I have always spoken proudly about where I come from. Most people lie about their origins for fear of discrimination or because of the belief that their origins would hinder their growth. However, for me, it has actually been the opposite. Telling people where I am from has always been a way to start conversations; an icebreaker! In most cases it has been a way to even earn people's trust for me and my work ethic and what I have to offer because Zimbabweans have a reputation of being determined and hard workers. All of those things have really helped me. I always say it is important to own where you are from because that is part of who you are and it makes you different from

Working at Forbes Africa I had the privilege of interviewing billionaire entrepreneurs from across the continent. The more I spoke to them the more this fire in me to play my role was ignited and grew.

everyone else around you. Me owning who I am helped me not to face many challenges in South Africa and everyone here has accepted me. In most cases I have to remind people that I am Zimbabwean because South Africa has adopted me as their own. Even, in my awards, I am referred to as South African.

**Q: How has being the UN ambassador impacted your views on socio-economic issues facing young people in Africa?**

A: Being a UN refugee agency ambassador has been one of the biggest highlights of my life and career. Being given the opportunity to play such a pivotal role in changing the narrative of the African refugee issues is such a privilege. Being a UN ambassador, I have had the opportunities and honour of visiting refugee camps across the continent. Let me tell you that, this is where I get most of my inspiration from.

The most inspiring entrepreneurs, the most hardworking, the most determined, the most get-up-and-do-it no matter your circumstances are found in refugee camps. In refugee camps people are confined in one space but the amount of trading and innovation that happens in refugee camps is phenomenal. It has really made me see how resilient we are as Africans even in the face of unpleasant circumstances. There are refugees with better businesses than people who are not in refugee camps because they choose to wake up every day and do what they need to do. In refugee camps you find so many things that people have designed and invented to help solve problems they face in refugee camps hence the saying, "necessity is the mother of all invention."

**Q: What initiatives do you believe should be introduced to African youth so that they can be empowered and contribute towards the betterment of their respective economies?**

A: I think we really need to start from the beginning. I believe the reason why most young Africans do not pursue their dreams or live to their full potentials is because of fear. We look at something or think of an idea and it feels so massive and enormous. Sometimes it is things that have not been done before in the community, by your kin or by anyone of your race. As such it feels so far-fetched that one ends up not doing it at all. We need to start from the beginning, where we train youth on basic skills that are not so basic for example just

trusting and believing in themselves because with boosted confidence they could do more. Sometimes I also get tempted to think my dreams are too big, but I always say to myself and everyone around me that if it does not scare you do not do it. I do not do a project or do not go to a job or any initiative if it does not scare me because fear pushes one to be more innovative. Youths need to be taught to be okay with fear and to be confident enough to face their fears head on. We need a lot of leadership courses or initiatives; we need a lot of initiatives that build self-esteem and confidence. With confidence, even if one does not know anyone they can walk into the World Bank and ask for funding and tell people about their business. One can do anything as long as they have confidence and are not afraid. We need to get to a space where youths are just confident and unafraid.

**Q: You are a CEO and founder of your PR company. How did you venture into this business?**

A: Working at Forbes Africa, I had the privilege of interviewing billionaire entrepreneurs from across the continent. The more I spoke to them the more this fire in me to play my role was ignited and grew. I had so many business ideas and as I was going through them, I realised that I had already been doing a service that could be a business. I would get so many entrepreneurs, friends and acquaintances asking me to write press releases for them or get them TV or magazine interviews or help them frame their brands and careers or help them edit this and that. I realised that the reason why they always came to me is because public relations is very expensive and for start-up companies on the continent who are barely surviving it means that they struggle to get public relations or they cannot afford it thus depriving their business of a critical part of starting a business. Hence the thought to start a PR and marketing firm that would help start-ups across the continent build the brands they wanted.

**Q: How did you manage to start and run a business while you were working full time?**

A: I just started. I started the business with no money. I asked my husband to build a website for me, went online and opened social media pages and the journey began. I just had to start so obviously I needed to work a bit before I quit my job to make sure that the business is strong enough to survive on its own. I have been fortunate that I have neither needed to market my business nor struggled to get clients. It has always been through referrals or through friends and family that know my work. I just started working with the



people that I had when I decided to turn my skills into a business. When someone came to me for help with a press release, I just put a price tag on it. It was very difficult because I was still working full-time at Forbes. I would do 13–15-hour shifts at Forbes and then when I got home, I would start work again on my company. I would work for 18-20 hours a day and I did that for about a year. I just had to push myself until I was comfortable enough to leave my job to concentrate on the business because it was important.

**Q:What lessons have you learnt in your journey as an entrepreneur?**

A: So many. Number 1: You need to just keep going. Business is not easy. Starting your own business is the hardest thing because you will be the hardest working person yet underpaid for atleast three years of your business while you are concentrating on its growth and expansion. You need to just to keep going nomatter how difficult it gets; even when you feel entitled to getting more money. I was not earning anything from my business until 2019 and last year I was earning R5000 a month. My employees earned more than I did. That is how things needed to be for me to grow the business. Another thing is that you need to hire the right types of people because the talent that you have within your company can make you or break you. You cannot do everything on your own. Spend a lot of time in creating company culture. I would also advise against working with friends or family or anything like that because that never ends well because some people cannot separate work or social relationships. Find people that you are not directly linked to. Do not hire people out of pity but do so on merit.

**Q:As a multi award winning journalist, what do your achievements mean to you?**

A: They are a sign that hard work pays. Trust me for every one of those awards I worked hard. I spent long nights doing a lot of research so any project that I did not win an award for, I always know I did not put in as much effort and attention as I should have. The awards are just a basic reminder that hard work pays and we need to continue working hard if we want to succeed.

**Q: What keeps you grounded after having achieved so much?**

A: They always say you are as good as your last story or the last thing that you did. I see the awards; I get inspiration and motivation from them and that is it. I have to move on to my next project or my next goal or target.

**Q: What advice would you give to your 21-year-old self?**

A: I would tell the 21-year-old me to have more fun whilst she can because I have always been a person who takes everything, I do in life very seriously and sometimes I feel I should have played a little bit more even when I was at university. Now I have less time to play because as one grows older, they have more responsibilities. I would tell my 21-year-old self that nomatter what it is that you are going through it is okay because tomorrow is going to be a better day so just keep working and excelling in school and in your relationships because it is all going to pay off.

**Q:What advice would you give to young people that are trying to purse their dreams?**

A: Start early. Always be ready and prepared. If somebody calls you now for a random opportunity or that opportunity you are looking for, they must find you ready. Do your best where you are. It does not matter what it is that you are doing now; wherever you are and whatever point or part of your career you are in. Do your best wherever God has placed you right now because you are there for a reason so that you can be elevated to the next level. Do not forget that your life is not your own, it is God's so do not leave him outside your plans.

**Q: How do you balance being an entrepreneur with being a sister, a daughter and a wife?**

A: Knowing myself and having people around me knowing about my boundaries. My niece would even tell you,“I talk to mommy when she is not busy.”Setting boundaries for the different aspects of my life helps people around me to know when I am working and when I am playing. It is not easy to balance especially when you are running a start-up as you find yourself working all the time more than doing anything else but I try my best to balance my time and hopefully I will get good at it one day.

**Fun Q and A**

**Q:** What do you prefer, Print or broadcast journalism?

**A:** Print.

**Q:** Pink or Blue?

**A:** Pink

**Q:** Film or theatre?

**A:** Film

**Q:** Heels or Sneakers?

**A:** Heels

**Q:** Glossy lips or Matte lips?

**A:** Definitely Matte



# TOSH







**Get inspired with**

**Nicolatte  
Matuku**

**Nicolatte Matuku is a social entrepreneur and youth development specialist with over 10 years of working experience in youth marketing, media and business. Millennial Woman Magazine speaks to her about her journey as an entrepreneur who is passionate about empowering African youth.**

**Q: What is your source of inspiration?**

A: My source of inspiration is Africa. I love Africa with my everything. Growing up, I have always had a desire to solve African problems the African way. Thus Africa and the potential that it has is definitely my source of inspiration.

**Q: When did you realise your passion for youth development and empowerment?**

A: I realised that I had a passion for youth development and empowerment two years after I left university and I was struggling to get a job and get going with my career and every dream that I thought I would realise in my post-graduation life. As such, after I got my first job which was not the ideal break, I then started trying to help young people with ideas on how to bridge the gap between university and getting into employment. I advised them based on my personal experiences; the problems that I had encountered as a young person and how I had tackled them. At first it was more of professional advice on how young people can bridge the gap and I never stopped from there. I kept digging deeper and deeper and going on and on it became my passion.

**Q: How has your experience as Co-founder of Walking the African Journey been and what has it taught you?**

A: I have learnt a lot. At first we were not selling

a product but a service and we didn't want to be an organisation but a social enterprise because we wanted to make money from the good that we were doing. It was difficult getting the concept right and making sure that the message that we wanted to convey and the objectives that we had were helpful, impactful and effective for young people. It was a long journey. It took my husband and I a while to get the concept right, getting the funding, getting young people that could help and getting them to start believing in the journey. Leveraging the organisation and getting sponsors and potential clients to believe in the vision also took a while but it taught me that everything is a process. Another thing that I learnt was that one has to just start whether they have got inadequate resources or not. Everything will fall in place as you go. Everybody jumps into a moving train. I also learnt that everybody has a story to tell. I never knew how powerful my journey as a young person was until I shared it with other people that people started getting inspiration from it so share your story and let's build a better Africa.

**Q: You were appointed as CEO of the Association of the African Future leaders and you currently sit on 5 boards. What are the steps that you have taken over the years to reach this point in your career?**

A: I have never had it figured out. I just tried it out and I was excited to be appointed a CEO, a process that took two years after I joined AAFL. I just started trying out every passion that I have so when people meet me and say I do a lot of things what I tell them is that I still love my media which I studied. I love youth development. I love agriculture. I am passionate about different things and I am grateful that I was able to put in enough energy in all those passions so that they bring income. I started networking a lot and that was my first step. I started networking with relevant people, attending relevant events so that I meet like-minded people to become part of my network. I used to collect a lot of business cards and people's numbers though I never used some at the time but they have become essential now. Attend conferences and workshops especially those that you have to pay for.

**It does not matter whether you have got the money or not because this is where you get the value and you meet people that stimulate and nurture ideas that you are thinking about in your head and teach you how to put them on paper and implement them.**

Travel also played a role. Travel teaches one a lot of new things; wherever you think of going for holiday look at the monetary value or the inspirational value that place that place brings to you. I did a lot of volunteer and pro-bono work for three years I had a job but I still did so much pro-bono work for me to be visible and out there for people to see what it is that I believed in and what I could do with the capabilities that I had. I volunteered a lot even when there was nothing to do I would go and ask for more work. Another thing that I did is that, with most of the boards that I sit on there was never really a position for me or a vacancy for me. I went there with proposals on how I could bring change and value to their organisations so that's how I got it. I did not wait for opportunities to come to me. I went hunting for them.

**Q: What advice would you give to people who would like to follow the self-employment and entrepreneurship route instead of traditional career paths?**

A: I believe Millennials are just a different breed of people and the economy has evolved into a new economy where entrepreneurship and self-employment is actually a path that most young people have been forced into have not consciously taken because of the circumstances. I would say those who want to start self-employment there are two ways that I always suggest. Even if your dream is to have a mining business or a big business start a business with what you have got in your pocket. If starting a spaza shop is what your pocket allows start with it even if the bigger vision is a mining company. Learn everything about business from the spaza shop. Learn the accounting techniques and all of the challenges and the problems as you build towards your big dreams. Don't wait till you have enough to get that bigger vision that you have. Start where you are. Start in your little corner with what you have and if you can get a job take it. It is very essential to work before you even start a business just work somewhere; whether it is volunteering for you to learn the etiquette of how a business is run and how to speak business language as well be financially literate. All of those things are invaluable and you get them in a setting of a work place environment. You all learn how to relate to other people, leadership and governance from working in a company and working under somebody and this equips one for self-employment and entrepreneurship.

**Q: As an entrepreneur, you are also involved in agriculture and you have launched a brand of mageu and instant porridge. What is the importance of being innovative as African youth?**

A: Firstly, I do all that I do so that I can have multiple streams of income and like I said I have got different passions and I have launched Hutano Foods which is a brand of mageu, instant porridge and an African smoothie. The importance of being innovative is that it enables us to solve the many challenges we face as Africa using local ideas and also make money from them.

**Business is creating a solution for society, and having people pay you for it.**

If water is a problem in your society stop looking at 4IR or technology for solutions. Instead start looking at how you can solve that problem and start making money out of it. With the food business I found out that even though I was teaching entrepreneurship so many countries in Africa are still facing hunger. There is hunger and people would not listen to what you are saying when they are going home to an empty table. Food security is a real thing. That is how we developed the concept of mageu, a cheap food source that is nutritious for young and old people and also using the resources that were within us which is maize and corn which is a favourite delicacy or staple in the southern African region. We then fused that with the need for people to feed as well as flavouring and also it was my passion to see traditional food not go extinct but also to just make them modern and contemporary so that they can compete at global level. Thus I say if you want to make money, identify a problem and start solving it.

**Q: What is the importance of networking and collaboration for African youth?**

A: I cannot stress enough how fundamental networking is and I think it has played a huge role in my success in Africa. The more you are the better and you are able to create a larger footprint and the more your product or service is out there the more people get acquainted to it. Networking is where you build your business associates, colleagues and your trusted business circle. Do not just take everybody on-board. People sell stories. People sell lies. Have the ability to vet people that are crucial, relevant and add value to your network. Look at your passions

and see how each of these people will fulfil that for you in both the long and short term. Collaboration with other African youth means if I win you win and people around you win and before we know it spills over to our communities, districts, cities, towns, countries and regions hence I think collaboration is the only way to get Africa to the next stage.

**Q: As a multifaceted individual who is involved in various projects, how do you manage your time between your various professional commitments?**

A: Believe it or not at 5pm sometimes 3 pm I would be done already with my work for the day. Before I went solo when I was employed, I used to work 50 hours a week that is from 8 am-5pm. I have just taken the same concept and when I was working I had almost 6-8 clients that I was working with so I just took the same concept and I just used it at home. Its 60 hours for me a week and I give each client from different projects two hours a day so that by the end of the week each client or project that I am working on gets an equal of 10 hours each which is essential and enough for me to do. Even when I get into a project I tell them the only hours that I can give you are 6-8 hours a week. That is how I partition my time to be able to complete everything that I do.

**Q: You won a Young Achiever of the year award at the Zimbabwe Achievers Awards ceremony (SA edition). What does this award mean to you?**

A: It means everything for me. It means my work is recognised out there. It is a realisation that everything that I have been working on for the past years is recognised now. I remember in 2019 when I attended the award ceremony I said to myself next year I need to be up that stage grabbing mine. It also pushed me to work hard. The award also means that if I win, my African youth are winning as well; it means everybody that I have been mentoring and helping has also won so the win is not for me but for everyone around me whose lives and professions and business I have impacted. It is our win.

**Q: Where can people find you on social media?**

A: Instagram : Nicky\_matuku  
Facebook : NicolatteBulianiMatuku  
LinkedIn : NicolatteMatuku



Get inspired with

# Sinanziwe Ndlovu

SinanziweNdlovu is an international public speaker, podcaster and youth mentor who uses her personal experiences to inspire the lives of people around her.

**Q:** What is your source of inspiration

**A:** My family background.

**Q:** How do you use your personal life experiences to positively influence and inspire other young people?

**A:** My life is a life of every other young child. My circumstances and background is relatable to many therefore when young people see me they see themselves and are able to believe that they can be successful in life. I use my life as an example that one can achieve anything they set their mind on. Good things belong to everyone who wants them.

**Q:** How has your passion for youth empowerment helped you grow as an individual and in your career?

**A:** We usually get lost in our passions that sometimes we do not realise how following our passion unlocks certain parts of ourselves. As effortless as it is to do what I do, I have most of the time found myself discovering new adventures and mostly knowledge about humanity. This journey has taught me that there is more to people than what meets the eye. It has taught me mostly that hard work can take you far and that your dreams depend only on you. As an individual I have been to places to educate but instead found myself learning from the audience about overcoming struggles and chasing dreams. This has taught me a lot about the power of communication, humility, respect and understanding of diversity in a workplace. All this is what I use today in my career. I must say it is the most powerful tool.

**Q:** What is the importance of mentorship for young people?

**A:** Mentorship is about having conversations with a total stranger that will analyse your life and show you where to improve through constructive criticism which is something we do not find in our circles of friendship. It

is also about learning from those who have been there before you. It is about learning from your mentor's mistakes and improving your life. A mentor becomes the mentee's go-to person who they consult on how to deal with certain situations. In the African black society, speaking from my experience, a lot of young people grow up with parents who did not go to school therefore sometimes it becomes difficult to speak about education, career goals and where to go when looking for assistance towards a certain profession.

“

**as young people we knock on doors and sell our skills and not seek sympathy. We need to self-educate about the industries we want to be in and learn all that there is to learn.**

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Mentorship bridges that gap for these young people and gives them a sense of direction towards their goals.

**Q:** What do you think the youth should do for themselves in order to combat challenges such as unemployment?

**A:** I usually say in most of my talks with young people, 'the world does not owe you anything'. As young people we need to first be determined to achieve our own goals. We need to be fed up with our current situations. A life with no legacy, a life of survival, we need to reach a point where we do not want

this anymore. It is that time that the desire and hunger to succeed begins to grow. I believe that young people need to strengthen their foundation. Everything lies in our foundation, once we understand who we are, it means we are in touch with our purpose and skills. It is through this that we know what kind of businesses we want to open and what kind of careers we want to get into. Now answering the question directly, as young people we knock on doors and sell our skills and not seek sympathy. We need to self-educate about the industries we want to be in and learn all that there is to learn. We need stop making excuses of funding and begin to invest in our own businesses. Most of all its time for young people to collaborate with one another. If you are a young person there is no weekend where you should be sitting at home complaining about your life. We need to go find opportunities with a forceful spirit.

**Q:**You are a founder of a network called Friends with Benefits and an initiative called Brands by Females. Please tell us more about the purpose of these projects.

**A:**One of the biggest contributors to my growth and exposure was through attending events and networking. Some young people only need an opportunity to network and meet new people. It was through attending events and understanding the journeys of other people that I saw my future. I saw young people that were successful and hearing the fact that they started from nothing and built their way up the ladder gave me hope that I can one day fulfil my dreams. I decided to create the same space for entrepreneurs, Friends with Benefits Network is a space where we bring together the beginners in business and the legends into one room to share conversations and learn from one another. In this networking space we bring in critical conversations about business and how to build strong

lasting businesses, and this is over a very chilled dinner. The aim is to one day have a powerful network of professional and business people who can benefit from one another using each other's services and referring each other to bigger opportunities. As the rise in GBV continued with young women being killed left right and centre it then came closer home when a high school friend of ours was killed by her partner and other young women were committing suicide. During the month of August 2020, Brands by Females had to be born. BBF focuses on economically empowering women, this is a group of women who have started their own business and brands of their own. It also consists of women who have the desire to start businesses but they have no idea how to do that. We wish to create a women society where women empower one another and gain inspirations to be independent and emotionally strong.

**Q:**You won a Community Champion of the Year Award at the Zimbabwe Awards Ceremony (SA) edition. What does this award mean to you?

**A:**Truly speaking it is an injection of encouragement to keep doing what you doing even though you think no one is watching. This award showed me how many believed in me and how many people looked at what I do. Serving humanity is every human's purpose.

**Q:** Where can people find you on Social Media?

Instagram : @Ladysnae

Facebook : Sinanziwe Prisca

Linkedin : SinanziweNdlovu

# Entrepreneur Tips

Mukey Tshabalala

Amukelani Tshabalala who is affectionately known as Mukey is a self-made entrepreneur who has created a household name for herself in the entertainment industry as an artist manager and an events coordinator. In this section, she shares five steps that budding entrepreneurs can follow in order to run a successful start-up.

According to Amukelani, the five steps that young entrepreneurs can follow in order to run a successful start-up are as follows:

1. Always advertise your business. Social Media is your best friend.
2. Remain professional at all times.
3. Deliver! Deliver! Deliver! Clients like seeing value in what they are paying for. That's how you grow
4. Make sure your marketing collateral is of good quality (invoices, letterheads, company profile, banners, email, signatures)
5. Register your company's domain.

## **Bonus Point!**

\*Follow up with your old clients for repeated business.





# One on One

with

# Sanelisiwe ZONDI

A former influencer who is now CEO of a company that is in the solar and energy sector. We had the opportunity to talk to her about her journey as a female entrepreneur in a male dominated industry.

**Q: How did you transition from being an influencer to an entrepreneur?**

A: I'm glad you asked that question. I'll tell you why in a bit, so before I became an influencer I was in business and that was in 2016 to 2018. I co-owned an online fashion boutique which specialised in women's formal and casual clothing. When influencing opportunities came in around 2018, I approached it with an entrepreneur mindset. I built myself as a brand and collaborated with many other brands to fulfil business goals for both parties. I basically see influencing as a business.

Prayer is a huge part of my business strategy, therefore on bad business days I find a quiet place to pray and that brings me peace. I may not find a solution right away but my mind finds peace and I can focus on the things that I can control. Exercise also helps me clear my mind.

**Q: Who is your business mentor?**

A: I have a mentor who runs multiple business and non-profit organisations. She has in-depth knowledge and experience in the corporate industry, therefore being a woman, I found her most suitable and reliable. She is always willing to listen, lend a helping hand and give advice.

**Q: What does empowerment mean to you?**

A: As a woman, having the freedom to make both personal and business decisions without relying on a man. Acquiring knowledge, not just in an educational institution but life in general and daily experiences. Being able to inspire another woman to start their business or get a degree, start exercising or simply be kinder. Empowerment also means financial freedom as a woman.



# SAUMA

SOUTH AFRICAN UPCOMING MUSICIANS AWARDS

The 8th Annual SAUMA awards acknowledge the importance of empowering female musicians

The South African Upcoming Music Awards (SAUMA) were conceptualised with the purpose to recognise upcoming artists across various music genres including RnB, kwaito, amapiano etc. in South Africa. This will be the 8th year that these awards commemorate upcoming musicians. The performance list of the artists at this year's event comprises of mostly female artists with the highlight of the show being Zamajobe. The operations manager of SAUMA group, Lerato Mabuza said, "The importance of empowering and promoting women musicians is quite broad and it's quite big. Women are multipliers. Whenever we see a woman doing something great it multiplies. So, it's quite important for us to empower women because they were previously disadvantaged. Women were never really given that platform to be seen in the limelight. It's important to empower women to show them that they fit the bar to be on the same spot as men". The SAUMA awards will be held on the 11th of December 2021 at Joburg theatre in South Africa.

A woman with dark hair styled in a large afro, wearing a white jumpsuit and white pointed-toe shoes, stands on a paved street. She has her hands in her pockets and is looking towards the camera. The background shows a clear street with trees and buildings under a bright sky.

**ONE ON ONE WITH**

**Kelebogile Cilo**

**A** business Development Executive in the information technology sector and the founder of H.E.G cosmetics which is a beauty business that produces make-up products. Millennial Woman Magazine had the opportunity to chat to Kelebogile about how she finds balance between her full-time job and her business.

**Q:** How do you balance your time between working fulltime and running a business?

**A:** I find myself working around the clock. As soon as I get a break from my day job I work on my business. At times one has to outline their list of priorities on a day-to-day basis. Making sacrifices is a major part of achieving balance between work and business. Instead of taking time to rest I work on my business. Weekends and public holidays are dedicated to my business as well. It is really about keeping the ultimate goal in mind when making decisions of what to do and when it is suitable to do so.

**Q:** What are the steps that one can follow to run a beauty business and produce their own make-up products?

**A:** Research is key. Know your product and make sure it addresses your target market's needs. Like any business one needs to have passion for make-up and also experience in using it. Developing a good brand is also extremely important because ultimately that is what sets you apart from other competitors in the market.

**Q:** How do you cope with your bad business days?

**A:** Personally, God plays a major role in my life and in my business. I draw strength from him when those challenging days present themselves. I also believe in positivity and always having positive affirmations. This trains the mind to never give up when one is faced with challenges. Things do not always go as anticipated and that's okay because that could simply be a much needed redirection. I try to always keep an open mind and not dwell on what may seem like failure. Giving up is never an option but showing up is.

**Q:** What steps did you take to find yourself and become the woman that you are today?

**A:** Having a solid and intimate relationship with God has always been a pivotal part of my journey of self-discovery. As a woman, I have learnt that there is so much power in being authentic and unashamed to own one's mistakes. I have also learnt to appreciate the fact that growth comes with being able to say, 'I do not know' and knowing when to ask for help. It is okay to embrace my emotions without dwelling on them. By embracing my emotions, I am able to grow and ultimately learn from them.

**Q:** What does women empowerment mean to you?

**A:** Women empowerment means creating opportunities that will positively impact and improve the lives of women from all walks of life. It means creating equal opportunities and remuneration structures that bridge the gap between the inequalities we face against men. Women empowerment is extremely important because I believe that by investing in a woman you have invested in a nation. We are born nurturers and teachers which makes it effortless for us to effect the change that is required in our communities and places of impact.

Meet  
**Lolo Skai**  
Singer/ Songwriter



Zimbabwean born 26-year-old singer/ song writer who fuses her music with poetry and storytelling. Millennial woman magazine had an opportunity to chat with her about music, storytelling and her vision for the brand Lolo Skai.

**Q: WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME A MUSICIAN?**

A: Pure love for music and how it makes me feel. It's a universal language. I love it.

**Q: WHAT IS THE IMPACT, OF MUSIC, POETRY AND STORYTELLING IN THE MILLENNIAL WORLD?**

A: Storytelling and poetry has been a big part of the music industry from blues, to hip hop, to spoken word and it has worked as more of an escape and a way to bring people together but in this millennial world I would say it has definitely become more of a language as it fuels the freedom of expression.

**Q: PLEASE TELL US ABOUT THE WORK YOU PUT ON PRODUCING YOUR LATEST SINGLE, COLOURFUL LIFE.**

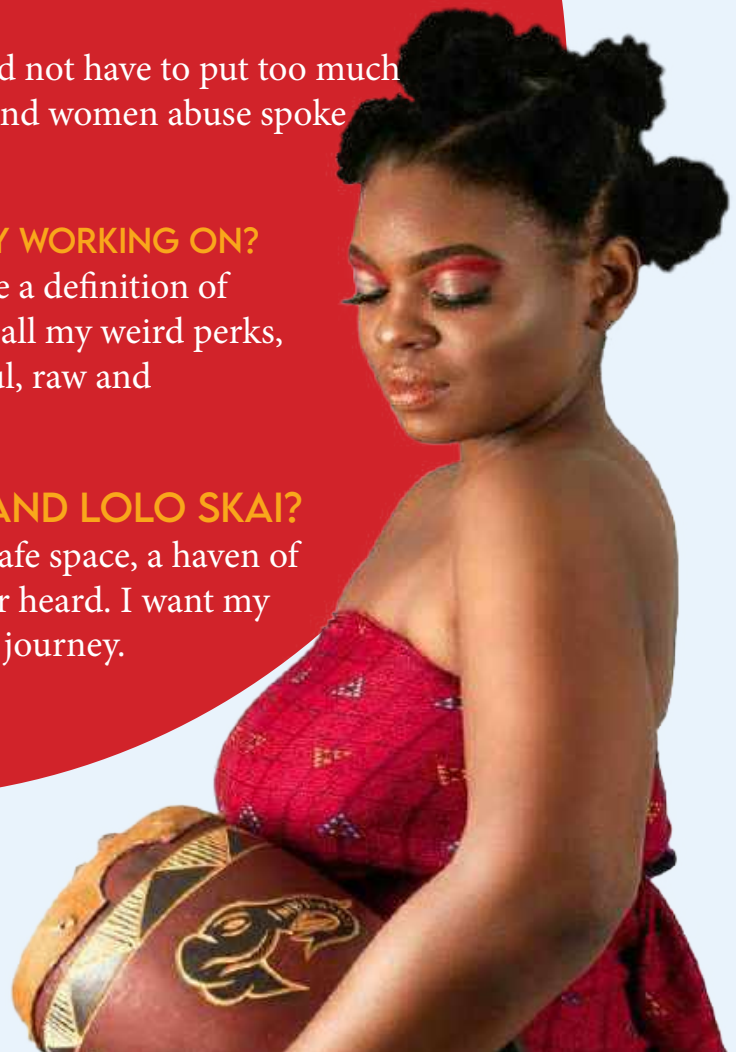
A: That song was emotionally based and driven so I did not have to put too much work, I guess the drive to stop gender based violence and women abuse spoke for itself. It was written and produced in two days.

**Q: WHAT OTHER PROJECTS ARE YOU CURRENTLY WORKING ON?**

A: I am working on my first album. It is going to be a definition of Lolo Skai, everything that drives me, inspires me, all my weird perks, how I see and experience love. It will be colourful, raw and unapologetically me.

**Q: WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR BRAND LOLO SKAI?**

A: My vision for my brand is to create a safe space, a haven of bliss where people can go to be seen or heard. I want my music to be relevant to the human journey.



# Miss Mogul 2021

IN PICTURES



