

Inspiration Corner



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.

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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