## **MISA's** Women to Watch in southern Africa

**PART TWO** 



# Mboni Masimba

## Talk show host from Tanzania,



boni is a Muslim woman born in Handeni, Tanzania and now living in Dar es Salaam.

A gualified professional secretary, she has had many different jobs in her life, including owning fashion boutiques and hairdressing salons.

She is an intrepid traveler, and it was a round the world sailing trip which set her on her current career path. On this trip she first saw the Oprah Winfrey Show, and her crew members

encouraged her to pursue her own talk show in Tanzania. Mboni did just that, fighting her way through many obstacles and self-funding the show during it's first year until she could secure sponsorship.

This year the show has been nominated for the Tanzania Upcoming Talk Show of the Year Award, to be awarded later in the year.

Read more here.

## Who inspires Mboni?

"Like many African women, I was inspired by Oprah Winfrey and similar African women across the world who have progressed in the media world and have made an impact on other people's lives through their success. This is a prime driver for me that I too can achieve this and inspire my fellow Africans."

## Find Mboni online...

#### www.thembonishow.com



🖢 @Thembonishow

Instagram: Thembonishow

Youtube: www.youtube.com/thembonishow

"I would like to see the industry come together to educate and exchange ideas, so that the whole industry can move forward and continue to improve. This would help the whole community to benefit. We can educate the general public through quality productions such as mine."

# Mwiza Zulu

### Radio and television presenter from Zambia,

## 14 years of age



"I am inspired by the many children in Zambia and in the region who are suffering. I want to do something to better their lives and I know I can." fter appearing on live television for the first time at the age of three, Mwiza was hooked and since the age of 10 she has held several presenter roles on Muvi TV, ZNBC and Radio Phoenix in Zambia. Mwiza currently presents a weekly Saturday program on Hot FM radio called Hot Kids 'n' Teens Avenue.

Already in her career, Mwiza has interviewed a number of high profile personalities including the First Lady of the Republic of Zambia, Dr. Christine Kaseba Sata.

Mwiza is passionate about protecting human rights - especially children's rights - and upholding media ethics. She is also an advocate against early marriages and drug abuse among young people.

Read more here.

Mwiza says her first television appareance was at age three, when she appeared on a live programme with her father and stunned the presenters by answering questions, off the cuff, about Zambia's political leadership!

# Nellie Kanyemba

Reporter and assistant district information officer from Malawi,

## 23 years of age

"I would like to see journalists being given the freedom to ask questions of authorities without being intimidated, especially during press conferences where members of political parties are present."



ellie studied journalism at the Malawi Institute of Journalism (MIJ) and worked in radio from 2010 to 2013.

Since then she has been working at the Malawi News Agency in the Mulanje district as a Reporter and Assistant District Information Officer.

In 2012 she was awarded a certificate from the MIJ students' union recognising her as an upcoming female journalist.

#### Read more here.





## Who inspires Nellie?

"I'm inspired by women journalists who started from a humble beginning and now are holding senior positions in their media houses and the corporate world."

Female journalists who inspired her to join the industry include: Eunice Chipangula, Kusali Kubwalo, Suzgo Khunga and Tereza Temweka Ndanga.

# Nontobeko Ishabalala

## Newspaper journalist from Swaziland,

## 25 years of age

"I have an overwhelming desire to contribute to the creation of a world that is comfortable with a woman having autonomy over her life. This hope gives me such kinship with women all over the world.

Our struggles are not unique to ourselves."

oung love made Nontobeko a poet, and a passion for writing and women's issues made her a great journalist. From an early age she recognised the value of passion over profit, and since then has thrown herself into becoming the best journalist she can be.

She studied journalism at the Durban University of Technology, and got her first paid writing job with a magazine in Johannesburg.

In 2011 Nontobeko and three friends founded the online magazine Divas Inc. She now works as a journalist at the Times of Swaziland, where she is able to promote another passion of hers: women's rights.



## Find Nono online...

www.nonointerrupts.blogspot.com

@NonoTsh

www.times.co.sz



## What motivates Nono?

"Until last year in Swaziland women could not own land without the involvement of their husbands. If you do not aspire to marriage you will rent property until you die. My perpetual state of anger over being treated as a sub-human motivates me to keep talking about women's rights."

## Nyasha Chingore-Munazvo

Human rights lawyer from Zimbabwe,

### 33 years of age

"Law is becoming a more open profession and more women are studying it.

However, it still remains difficult for women to climb the corporate ladder.

It appears men are still offered partnerships at younger ages than women and boardroom tables are still largely dominated by males."



yasha is a passionate advocate for human rights, particularly the rights of women and girls.

She holds an LLBS from the University of Zimbabwe and an LLM in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa. She currently works as a Project Lawyer in the Sexual and Reproductive Rights Programme at the Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC) in South Africa.

Prior to joining SALC, Nyasha worked on several HIV projects, including an advice centre providing HIV-related legal services and a project training legal professionals on HIV and the law.

Read more here.

## Songs that motivate Nyasha

Superwoman – Alicia Keys

I was here – Beyonce

"While women can do all they can to create change in their home environment, it is only when we work in the space that challenges structural gender stereotypes, that we can truly make a better place for future generations"

# Solange Dos Santos

### Photographer from Mozambique,

### 39 years of age

"I love life and to celebrate the beauty in diversity in the human race. I believe that we are all here to serve, and that each one of us can make a difference."



olange is a 39 year-old photographer from Beira, Mozambique who is using her art to shine a light on vulnerable groups and social inequity in her country. In her recent exhibition and book, 'Sons of the moon' or 'Filhos da Lua', which has been exhibited in New York, Zurich and Maputo, Solange challenges mainstream ideals of beauty in 90 photos depicting the everyday life of people living with albinism. She was inspired to take on the project after her time as a freelance photographer in Tanzania, where she witnessed people living with albinism being marginalised in their communities and living in fear of being harmed, as their body parts can be sought after for witchcraft.

After 12 years out of Mozambique and armed with a degree in photography from the prestigious New York Institute of Photography, Solange moved back in 2008 and opened Maputo's first photography studio – Magmaphotography.

In May, Solange will launch a photography exhibition and book focusing on another of Mozambique's vulnerable groups, street children. And while Solange was pleased with the success of the Sons of the Moon project, she has co-founded the non-profit humanitarian organisation, Hand in Hand Association, to make sure this and future projects are part of a larger legacy of helping minority groups.

Read more here.



## Quotes that inspire Solange...

"It always seems impossible until it's done." *Nelson Mandela* 

"Whether you believe you can or you cant, you are right." *Henry Ford* 

"No pessimist ever discovered the secret of the stars or sailed to unchartered land or opened a new heaven to the human spirit." *Helen Keller* 

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