



PRESS RELEASE

A Hidden Force appears on Backstage for Youth Day (TX: Thursday 16 June @ 6.30pm)

"...They paid the ultimate price for our freedom and we remember them today..." Duma Mzamo.

Backstage embodies the spirit of Youth Day. This popular daily drama showcases the dreams and aspirations of young people, and the ways and means they employ to attain them.

On June 16th we bring you a Backstage Special. Hidden Force, the popular South African Hip Hop group, will be making a guest appearance on the show. The five members of Hidden Force - Gaoza, Lebza, Hoodlum, Bon Bhutiza and Supremo can be regarded as township narrators with the ability to bring the listener into their worlds. Hidden Force's music highlights the everyday struggles that many South Africans face on a day-to-day basis, and they're a not-to-be-missed class act.

So just what does Youth Day mean to young people, and how have the expectations of today's youth shifted compared to ten years ago? What, specifically, does June 16th mean to the young Backstage actors?

Pam Andrews, who plays sexy Frankie on Backstage, says, "There are so many more opportunities out there today than there were ten years ago. I have so much more to learn, and I want to explore the talent that God has given me."

Talented musician Loyiso Mangena, who plays Chippa, says, "I feel that today's young people are not dealing with the same issues as the youth of ten years ago. Back then, it was a more political era and I think now we're focusing on different matters - the AIDS epidemic, for instance. We're also more focused on career opportunities and are fighting more economical challenges."

Backstage is becoming the "must see" South African youth show, largely because it is rooted in gritty reality. It highlights the difficult issues that young South Africans are dealing with on a daily basis, while at the same time affirming that it is possible to reach for a dream, and that passion and focus can lead to that dream becoming a reality. Watch Backstage every weekday at 6.30pm - where every day is celebrated as Youth Day.

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