

# e PAPPIES

*A story behind the story*

ENDINGS AND  
BEGINNINGS

Cindy, Sandile,  
Nolo and  
Schelaine

Scandals' **NEW**  
sensations

**#EnoughIsEnough**

Rhythm City's  
fight against  
GENDER BASED  
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**#IAMWOMAN**

A wrap up of Women's Month

GET TO KNOW  
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LELETI KHUMALO

The star who puts  
on a show in style





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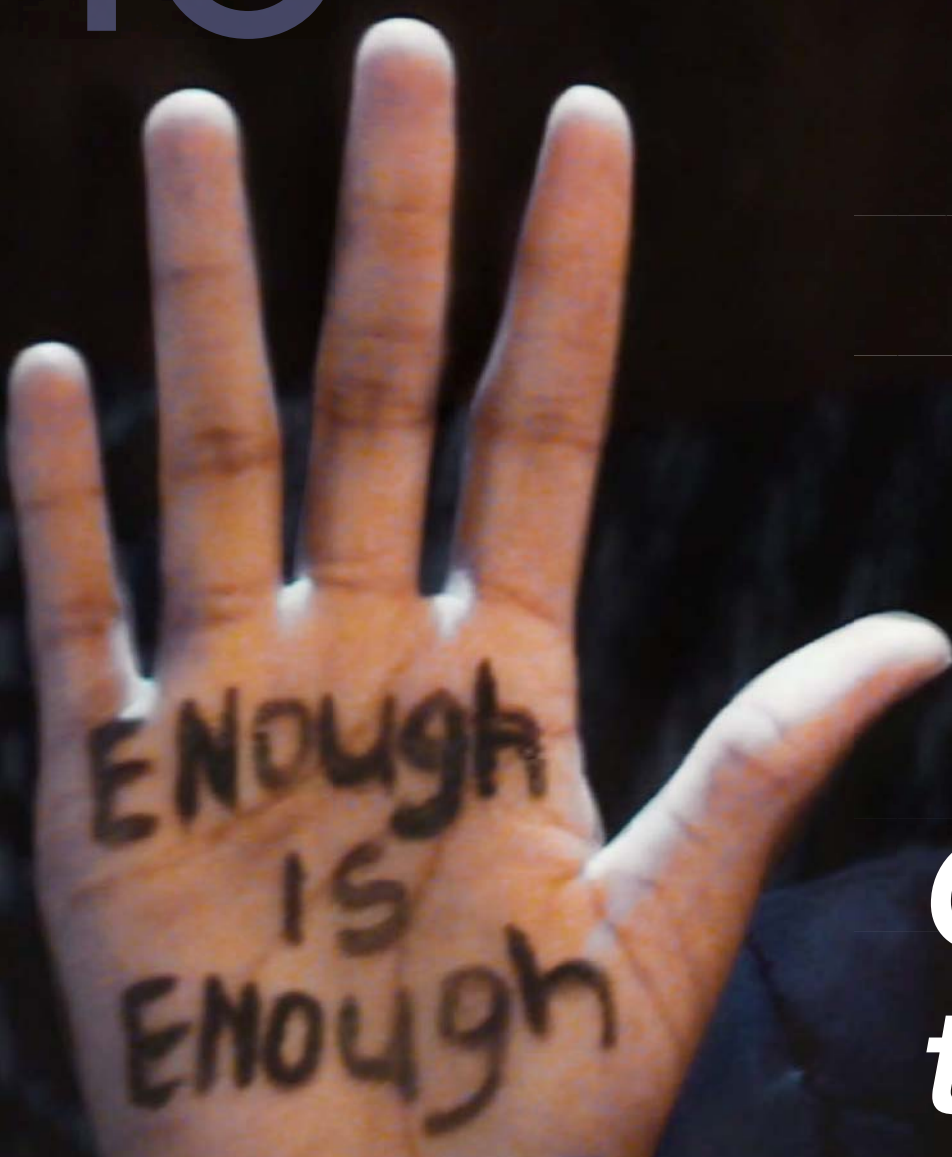


*A glimpse  
into MaZulu's  
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#ENOUGHISENOUGH



*Giving a voice to those who need it*

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**W for Worth It**

"My quest is not to be perfect, as I know of no such person, but to change the things I can and to accept the things I can't about myself. To see myself and to say to myself in the chapter I am living through, that I am worth it."

**Linda Sokhulu  
aka Ziyanda**

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#IAmWoman



#IAMWOMAN Worth it. Overcomer. Mbokodo. Achiever. Nurturer

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# ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS

*“From Ngcolosi’s death on Imbewu, to fresh, new talent joining Scandal, the cycle continues.”*



## From the Editor

Welcome to ePages! e.tv's first digital magazine that aims to take you behind the scenes and give you that extra bit of content from all our local dramas. We're glad you've chosen to start a new journey with us. As 2020 draws towards a close, the year's looming ending is also covered in beautiful beginnings.

This year has thrown everyone a curveball, one that can be felt by even the most resilient individuals. Tragedy and misfortune have lingered in the air as thick as smoke for longer than expected, or wanted.

However, with every ending that shuts a door, a new beginning opens a window, a window of opportunity that must be taken to survive.

Welcome to ePages.

The theme for our first ePages Magazine is all about endings and beginnings, from Ngcolosi's death on Imbewu to fresh, new talent joining Scandal, the cycle continues.

We saw the importance of subjects such as Gender-Based Violence come to the forefront of Rhythm City's storyline in August and the subsequent birth of #EnoughIsEnough. You can read more about the initiative to take a stand against GBV in this issue.

We have an exciting, brand new local drama called Durban Gen coming to the channel in October, and we look forward to the start of a thrilling appointment viewing. We know you're going to love it! And remember, you can share how much you love our shows with us and who knows, you might just have your comment featured in the next issue of ePages.

**Lerato Maboi**

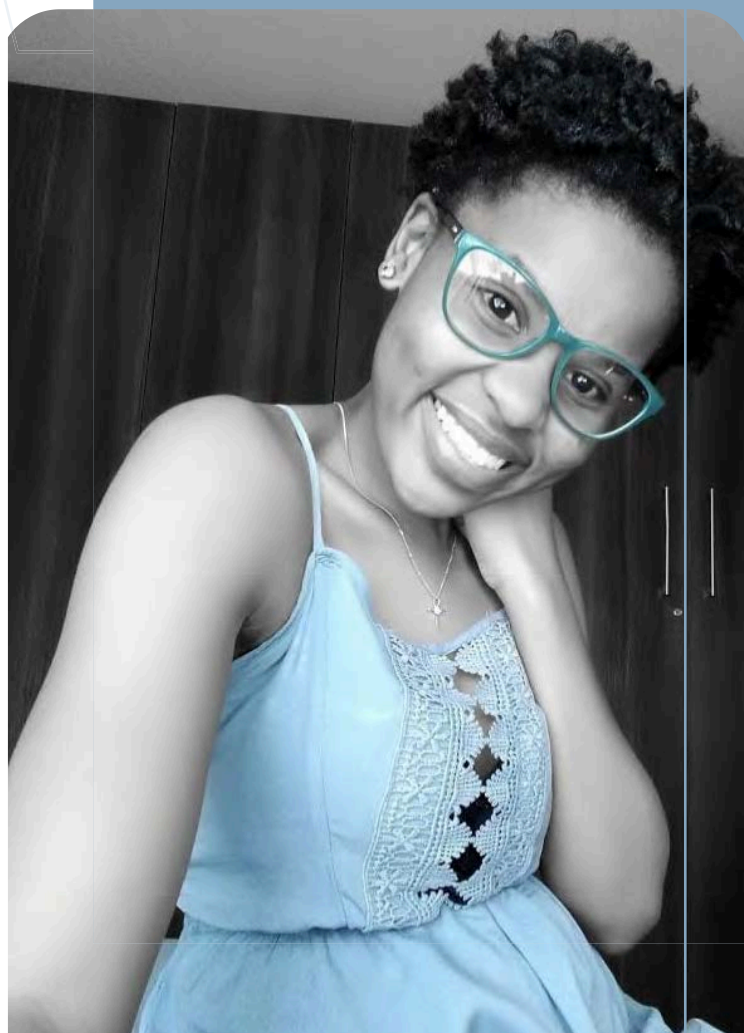


# CONTRIBUTORS



## THAPELO RAMATSUI

Thapelo is currently a PR intern and an integral part of the eMedia Investments Marketing Team. He is from the Eastrand of Gauteng and considers himself a “beverage” and food aficionado, a content creator, liker of things, and a football enthusiast with an infectious smile and a positive “can do” energy.



## TEBOGO MATHOSA

Tebogo is a Marketing intern at eMedia Investments. She enjoys using her skills to contribute to the exciting digital advances that take place daily in the Marketing Department. The movie lover also uses her positive attitude and tireless energy to complete tasks timeously in a fast-paced environment with various deadlines. Her colleagues and her family inspire her. In her free time, Tebogo likes listening to music and reading. She graduated from Damelin in 2018 with a BCom Marketing and Business Management Degree.

## KARABO NKABINDE

Karabo is a Marketing and Communications Specialist at eMedia Investments and has experience from different financial and multimedia industries. He brings a vast wealth of knowledge focusing on integrated marketing strategies for two of South Africa's biggest TV shows, Rhythm City and Imbewu. Karabo's current portfolio includes integrated marketing strategies for e.tv's 10PM international shows.



## CHRIZANE WESSELS

Chrizane is a Digital Specialist at eMedia Investments. She takes care of all things digital, from copywriting for social media to storytelling for the e.tv channel. She ensures that everything is in a top-notch form on the website and all digital platforms alike.

Chrizane has contributed significantly to the growth of the e.tv digital platforms, ensuring that they stay abreast of the latest industry trends. Her most significant achievement is her first piece of writing in 2018 for the channel's website; the rest is her building blocks to achieve her penultimate goals in the industry. She's very family-oriented and not one for the outdoors; perhaps some journalists perform better behind their desks. Chrizane deems integrity as one of the greatest character traits to have, coupled with respect, embracing opportunities to contribute, and being committed. It's quite evident that she carries these along with her wherever she goes.







# Leleti Khumalo

*The Star who puts on a show in style*

## **The world of Imbewu**

With storylines that mirror a raw Zulu culture and society, no one has been at the centre of it all like MaZulu, played by the one and only Leleti Khumalo.

The production is going strong in its third-season and it seems like there is no cap to Leleti's acting capabilities, just like fine wine, both the production and the talent keep getting better. With all that said, we caught up with Leleti to find out all things Imbewu as well as life on and off set.

## **Ngcolosi, the love of MaZulu's life**

On the 14th of August 2020, viewers were in for a shock when Ngcolosi was gunned down, marking the exit of actor Tony Kgoroge from the show, meaning that MaZulu's husband was no more.

MaZulu is now broken, in despair, and grieving a love she always tried to protect. But, in the real world, a different story was being told.

When asked what it was like working alongside Tony, Leleti only had kind words to

offer, "Working with Tony was a journey in itself. It's always a good challenge to work with an experienced professional who's been doing this for years. We got to know each other, and when we had to bring our A-game every day, it became easy for both of us. Working with Tony was beautiful."

## **Down memory lane**

The year 2018 was when the story of Imbewu gripped the nation for the first time and witnessed the character of MaZulu caught in an





***“With just over 30 years in the acting industry, Leleti still keeps viewers glued to their screens with her outstanding performance.”***

entanglement of sorts from the get-go. With just over 30 years in the acting industry, Leleti still keeps viewers glued to their screens with her outstanding performance. In a hospital scene where Ngcolosi is confirmed dead, Leleti delivers a jaw-dropping and heart-wrenching moment that only a seasoned actress can deliver. When asked what type of preparation goes into a hefty scene, the actress had this to say:

“Preparing for a scene, especially an emotional one is hard. I start from the evening before, so fortunately when I have such scenes my family understands because, unfortunately, I go back to thinking about sad things that happened in my life long ago and I relive the moment. What’s more difficult is to come out from that moment. However, you need to, because you’ve got other scenes that require you to be happy. This makes it difficult not to take your work home.”

*Thapelo Ramatsui*

IMBEWU



# STYLE SENSATION

## A glimpse into MaZulu's wardrobe

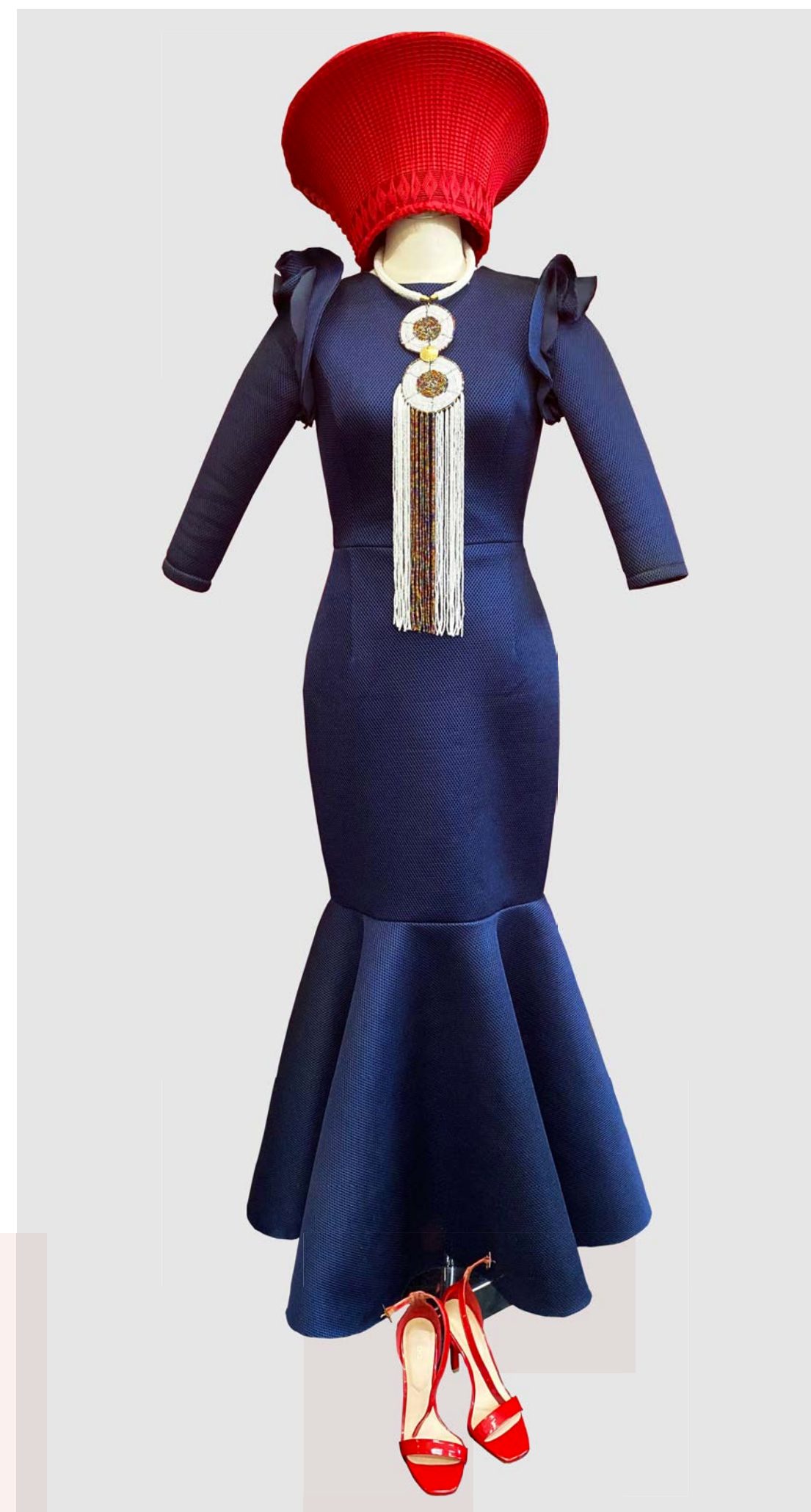
MaZulu's wardrobe is something that one can only glance at with admiration. Leleti describes the character's wardrobe as classy, elegant statement wear.

The process of selecting MaZulu's wardrobe is an involved one. The Creative Director and Wardrobe HOD create a detailed guideline to ensure that the outfits are consistent with the character.

The wardrobe is selected with precision and based on what the character is going through in a particular storyline.

Mood and colour palette are crucial and must blend with the wardrobe choice. It has to match all of the above - especially the character's emotional state.

We caught up with Mercedes De Bruyn, the Wardrobe Mistress on Imbewu's set, and here's what she had to say.



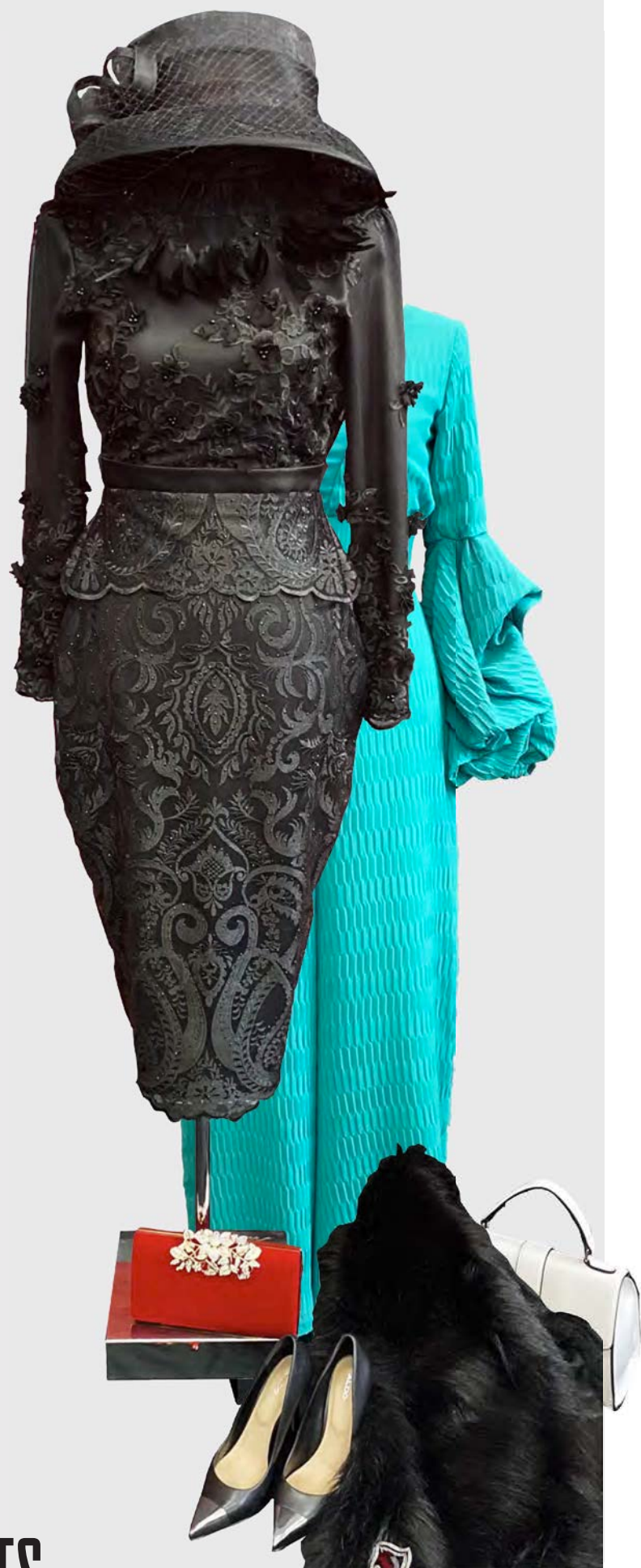


***"We source fabrics across the country and find inspiration for styles while keeping up with fashion shows and trends."***

"I pull out all the scenes for every block to establish what the character would need. We source fabrics across the country and find inspiration for styles while keeping up with fashion shows and trends. We find a style and combine that with the character's traits. Once the fabrics are sourced, Phiwa Goqo (Garment Designer) and I decide which fabric would suit the style we want best."

"Phiwa then draws up a pattern and sews the garment for a first fitting. After adjustments, we do a final fitting and then source accessories to match the new outfit. We look at shoes, bags, earrings, necklaces, and belts to compliment the outfit. The complete garment then gets placed for a particular scene."

***Thapelo Ramatsui***





# A BURST OF NEW TALENT

SCANDAL!

## CINDY MAHLANGU

We caught up with these leading actors and got them to open up about their characters and also give us a sense of how they're feeling since they've joined the eFamily. Cindy Mahlangu, who plays Violetta says that she's extremely grateful to have joined the Scandal! production. "Violetta is a liker of things and that always comes with a lot of drama, so the viewers are in for a treat," she tells ePages. All we know is that we can't wait to discover her true intentions.

## SANDILE MAHLANGU

While Violetta may be the mastermind behind all the plots and scheming, Simo is the man that makes things happen. Played by film enthusiast, Sandile Mahlangu, Simo is the narcissist we all didn't see coming. Sandile feels that "Simo leans more towards being a sociopath and yet leaves a narrow window to being manipulated by the ones he loves i.e. his estranged Dad." Shame Simo, even narcissists get played.



## NOLO SEABI

Tebello's mother has also come into the picture and her name is Seipati. A character portrayed by the ever so lovely Nolo Seabi, who mentions that life on the set of Scandal! has been such a breath of fresh air! "People can definitely expect to relate to the characters' journey as it speaks to many people's realities."

***"Viewers can also expect to be inspired to stand up and try one more time, especially if they have given up"***

## SCHELAINÉ BENNETT

And finally we introduce to you Scheliane Bennet who'll take on the character of Cheyvonne. When asked to describe who Cheyvonne is, Scheliane simply described her as "a girl who's new in Johannesburg, fresh off a bus from Cape Town. She instantly forms a friendship with Stokkies and well, let's just say that the relationship develops to 'more than friends' very quickly, yet beautifully."

Catch all these new faces on your TV screens on Scandal! every night at 7:30 PM and get ready to be rocked.

***Tebogo Mathosa***



# NQOBILE SIPAMLA

## ***South Africa's most loved and hated TV villain***



Marking her debut on the show with only one agenda on her mind, the character of Thokozile was set to be a villain from the get-go. Nqobile Sipamla landed on our screens, and we knew we would have an intense love-hate relationship with her.

Although Nqobile is an actual sweetheart in real life, she plays Thokozile so so well. Let's dive into what it takes to play a villain.

### **How different is the character of Thokozile from Nqobile?**

Well, I can be reserved at times, but those close to me know that I have a quirky and crazy sense of humour and that I'm actually really playful, loving, protective and energetic. Firstly, Thokozile is older than I am, so her life experience differs from mine in many ways, she is far more poised and calculated, she is also a bold extrovert who doesn't let anything stand in her way. Nqobile, on the other hand, has learned to laugh at herself and not take herself too seriously.

I am doing that now more than ever because it hasn't only been liberating, it has also helped me deal with my imperfections and life's ups & downs and helped me grow as a human being and an artist. I always want to impact those around me positively, so I take great pride in my work and am quite protective of my loved ones. I try very hard to remain down to earth, do good, and build genuine relationships and connections.

Something else that makes us different is that music is a very big part of me, of my processes for introspection and healing and so I express a lot in song. I like fast cars; I love animals and I love children. I'm passionate about education and learning new skills.

In a nutshell, I'm an excitable, headstrong person who's passionate about the arts industry, loves to laugh and give my best shot in everything I do.

Another big difference between Thokozile and Nqobile is that I don't, nor do I condone, using any form of dark magic to influence any circumstances of my life. I think Thokozile's storyline helped inform those of us who may not have been aware of the vast difference and necessary distinction between African methods or beliefs behind traditional spirituality, customs and healing and dark magic.

I actually appreciate the lesson this character is teaching about our values, relationships and choices as people.

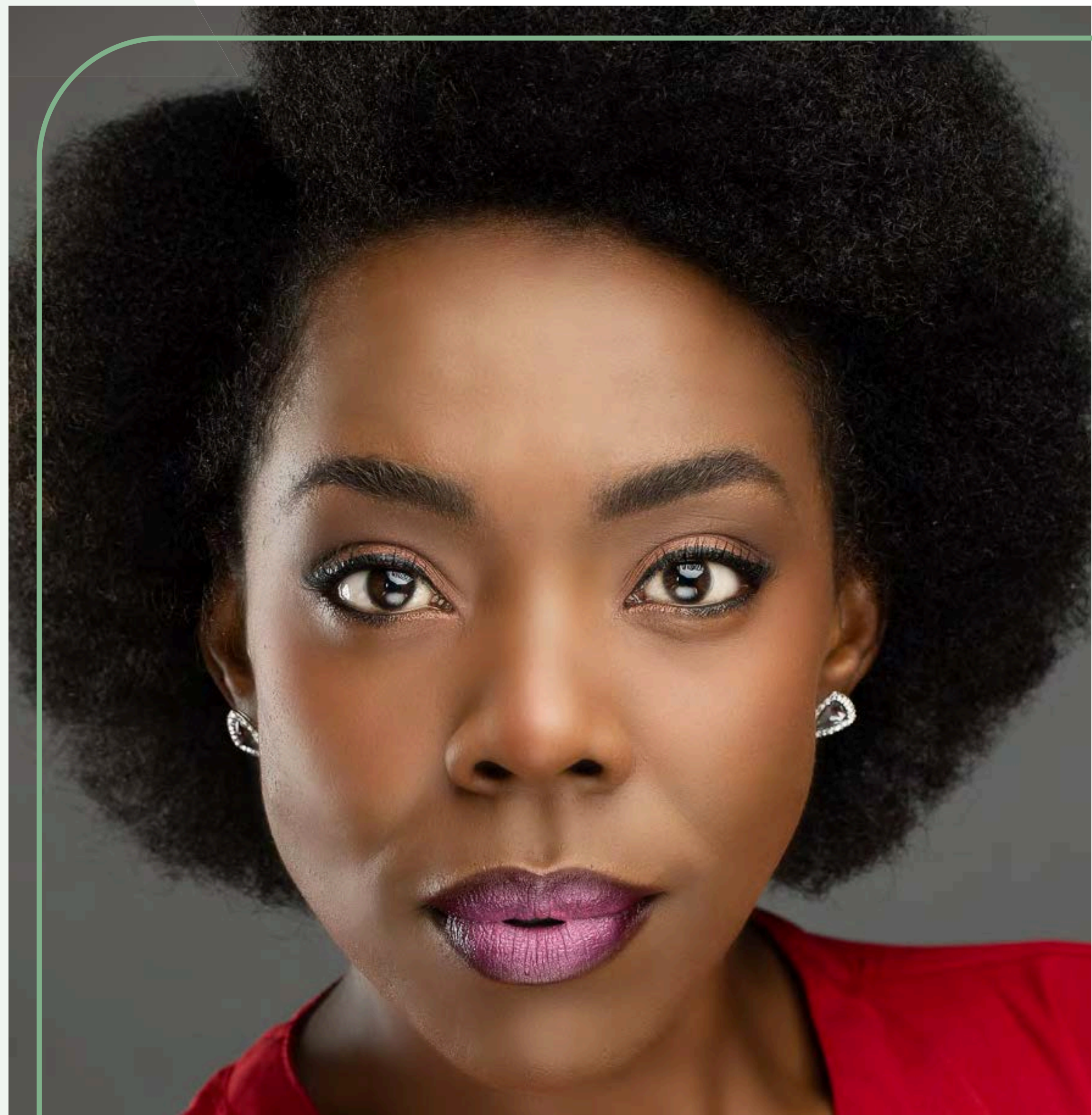


***“Well, I can be reserved at times, but those close to me know that I have a quirky and crazy sense of humour and that I'm actually really playful...”***

**How have you found playing the role of a villain?**

Thokozile is a complex character, she's nothing short of a storm. She requires a totally different kind of presence and performance delivery, which I haven't really tapped into before. With her background and introduction being so loaded, it requires precision from me mentally, emotionally and physically in preparation, so I've been learning a lot about detail and I'm also trying to make brave choices as an actor. One of the other things Thokozile's character is teaching me is how to master my emotions on a whole new level in order to be able to portray her as the villain she is.

That has involved me absorbing new information at a pretty fast pace. Then finding ways to interpret and use it most believably and authentically to serve the story and the character. I have gained much inspiration from conversations with my own loved ones, my family, our team of directors, my generous cast members and even people I have met previously, because I really hoped to make Thokozile as well rounded a character as possible (as I do with every role I play).



I am also fortunate to be surrounded by some powerful TV & film practitioners behind the scenes, so I have found this journey to be a collaborative effort that has been so enriching and fun in its own way. I am grateful to Grapevine and e.tv for their faith in me.”

**What are your lockdown diaries? How do you keep yourself busy from home?**

“Being a freelance performer automatically pushed me into doing a lot of work and preparation from home from the very beginning of my career. Establishing work routines and finding myself in different working environments and conditions became a norm for me.

This period has allowed me to be even more innovative with my space, which is always an exciting exercise.

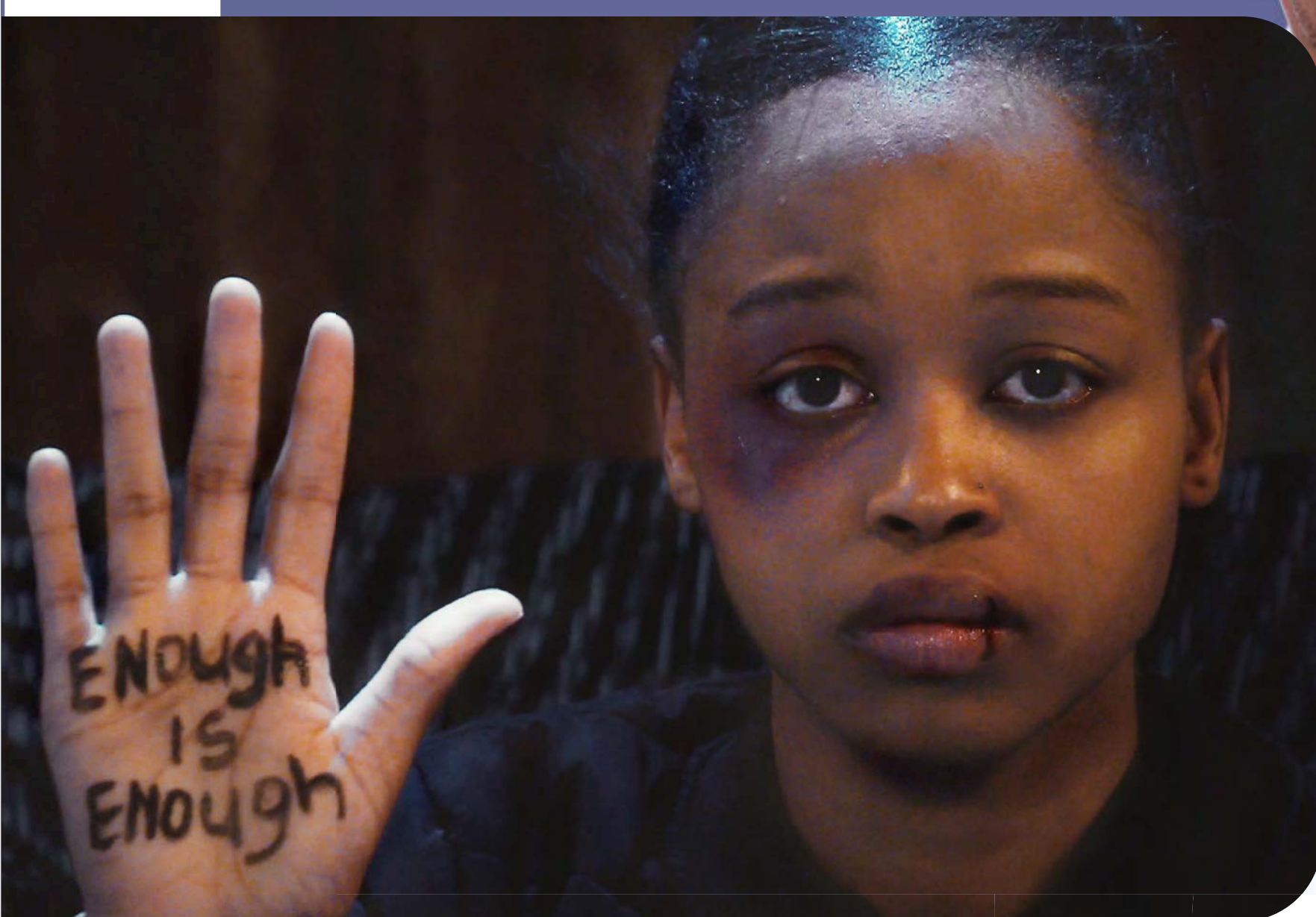
Lockdown has allowed me to re-evaluate and improve on my time management, becoming proactive about goals that I set out for myself. Although I am a carefree spirit, I have learned how important it is to love myself and be kind to myself. So I have become more precious with my privacy, emotional, mental/spiritual and physical health than I was before because choosing what I allow into my life is part of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

**Thapelo Ramatsui**



# #ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

***Rhythm City - giving a voice to those who need it***



South Africa is rated amongst the nations with the highest number of reported Gender-Based Violence (GBV) cases. These statistics are similar to that of countries at war. Given the importance of this social matter, Rhythm City took a stand and joined the conversation to help draw awareness to this issue through its storyline. #EnoughIsEnough is an initiative that aims to empower victims of GBV to stand up against the actions of their perpetrators. The campaign aims to educate abusers by showing them that their actions are wrong, unlawful and should not be deemed or accepted as normal.

Rhythm City showcased a storyline centered on domestic violence and gained insight into how the story unfolded on air. We take a look at the talent that portrayed the characters involved. Reshoketšwe Kekana who plays Dikeledi (the abused) on the show stated that "In order to play Dikeledi to her truest form, I had to have an open mind and not have a biased perception of GBV, which would cloud my judgement on Dikeledi's journey with abuse. I've learnt so much about GBV itself through this storyline.

"I've also learned that we as women need to find our voice and be confident in it, once you notice the signs of GBV my sister, mother, and aunt, as hard as it is, leave before it's too late."

Playing the part of the abuser, Abe Pupunyane aka Hammer noted, "I have learned that it is a sad reality, that women are being abused. It has also helped me to appreciate women more and to highlight that the problem lies with us men. Furthermore, I also learned that women are stuck in these situations and that it's a constant struggle for them to leave.

We need to take a stand to prevent this from continuing. We are hoping that this initiative will educate people of all genders that any physical violence is unlawful and wrong and one should never be afraid to stand up and leave. There is help out there, organisations like the Tears Foundation are always willing to assist."

Visit our social media pages and join the conversation against Gender-Based Violence #EnoughIsEnough.

**Karabo Nkabinde**



# #IAmWoman

## Reflecting on Women's Month and paying homage to exceptional women

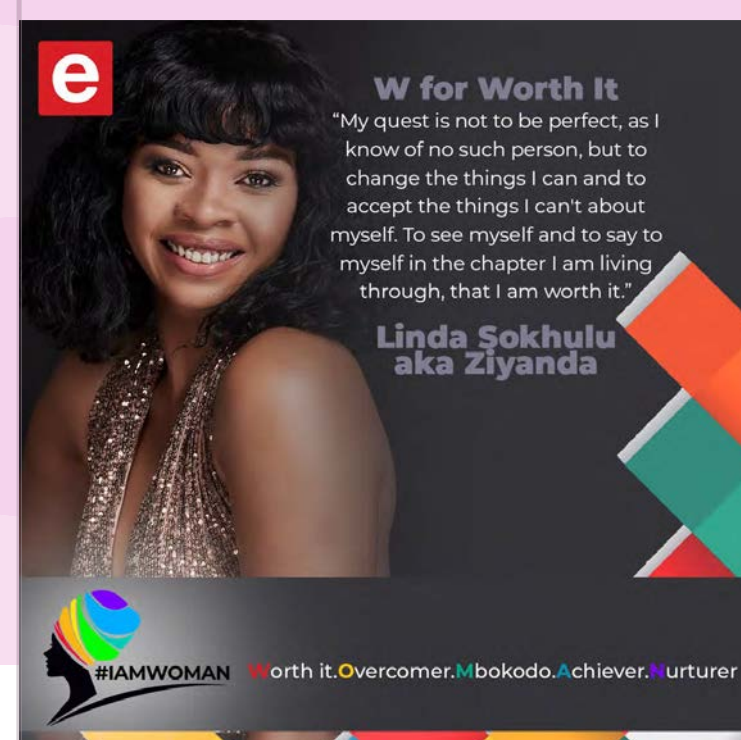
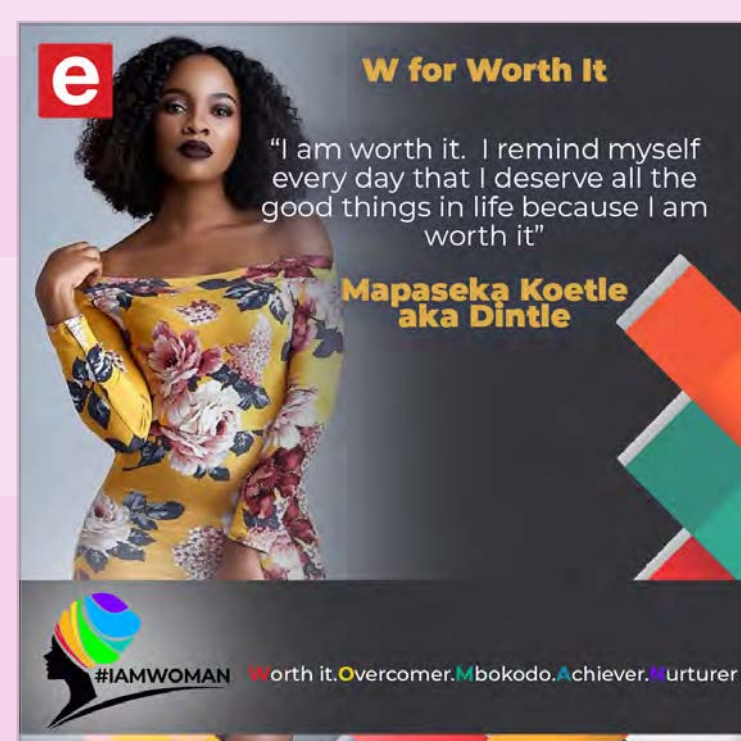
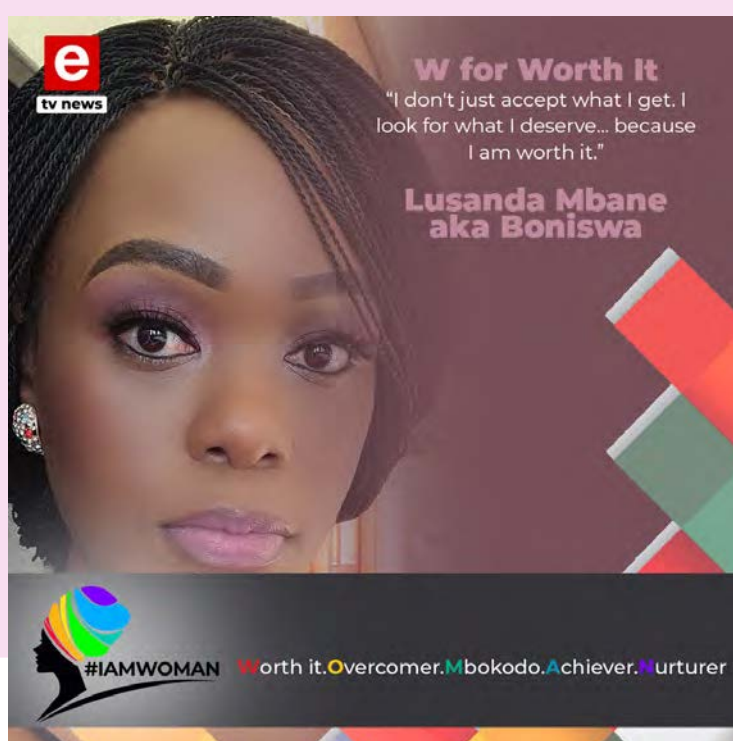
The #IAmWoman campaign speaks to the many beautiful characteristics that describe women.

Women are not defined by one word. They are progressive, talented, and multi-layered. This year, we looked for a way to pay homage to our talented eMedia women by honouring them in 5 different ways.

***"They speak words of wisdom and are of noble character."***

Through their worth, ability to move past negative experiences, strength, achievements, and need to nurture.

Women are **worth it**. They carry so much value from their innermost being to their outward beauty, delicate nature, and dignity. They speak words of wisdom and are of noble character.

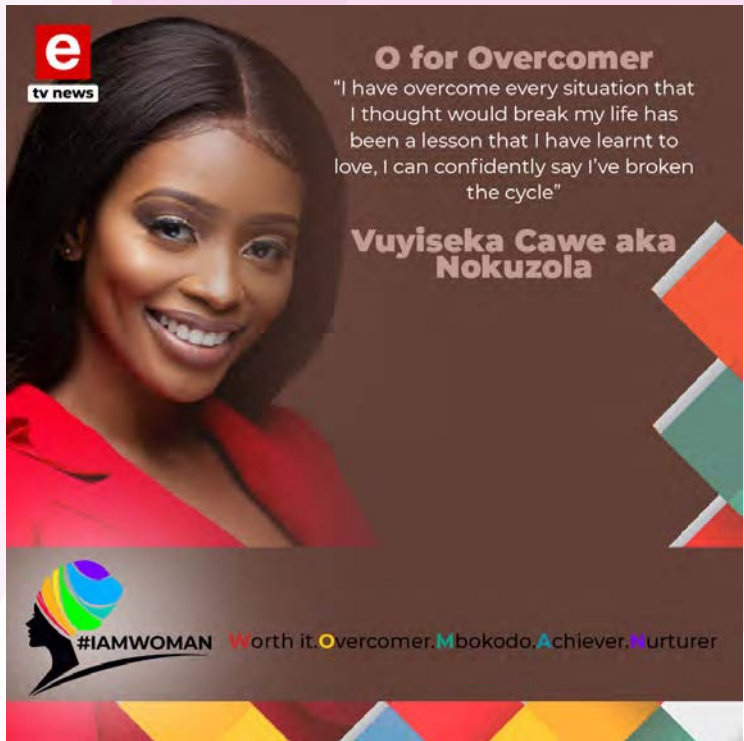
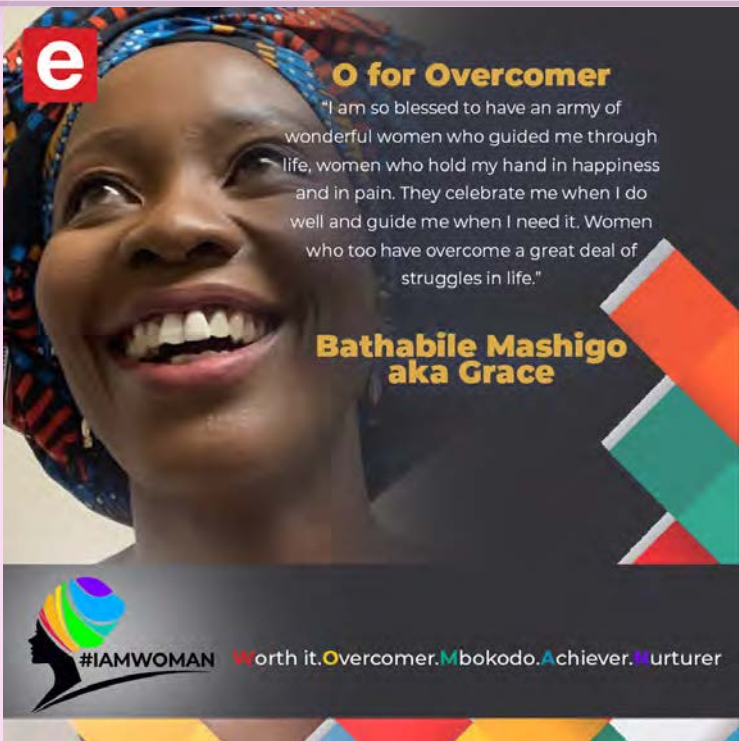




# #IAmWoman

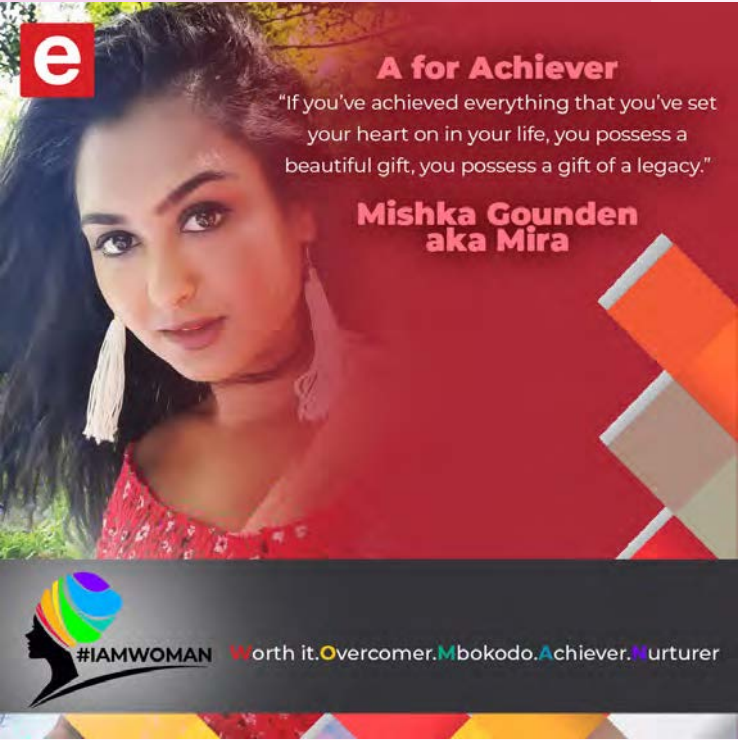
“Overcome just about anything.”

Women are clothed in a strength that can bare just about anything, a power that's unfathomable and aids them to endure and **overcome** just about anything.



“Women are tough.”

Women are tough. And so just like **iMbokodo**, they can crack, but they don't crumble or break. Women have a resilience that can give men a run for their money. They can **achieve** anything they set their minds to.

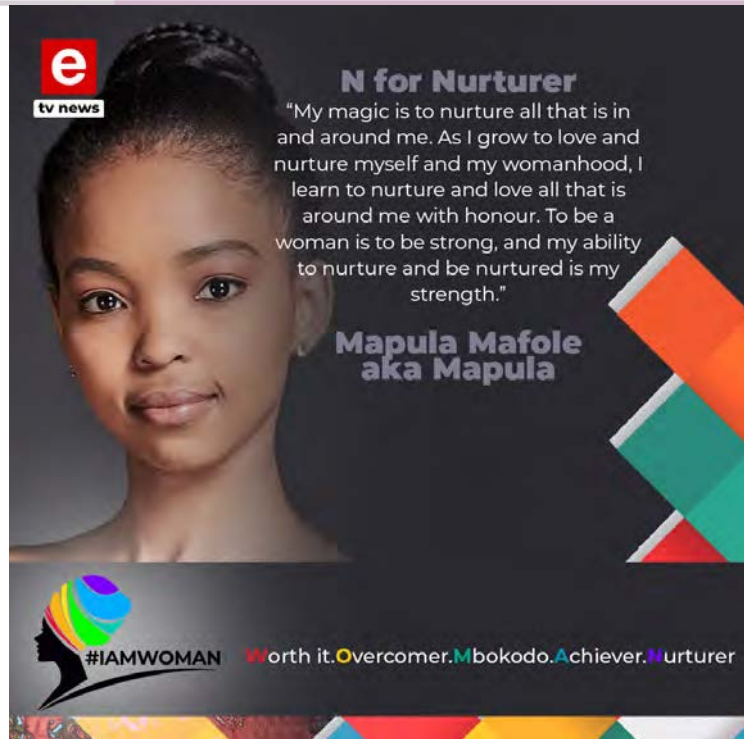


Finally, they are nurturers, caretakers, and givers of life to almost everything around them and anything that comes their way.

#IAmWoman  
Worth it. Overcomer. Mbokodo. Achiever. Nurturer.

We hope all of you have had a wonderful Women's Month.

Chrizane Wessels







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# FREE SATELLITE TV



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*NO* FEES