

#HASHTAG

MAY EDITION, 2025



**CITE YOUTH
NETWORK**

PAGE 4

**NANCIE BRITTNEY
CHAMPIONS
INCLUSIVE
BEAUTY IN ZIMBABWE**

PAGE 6

**LEADING WITH PURPOSE:
JUNIOR MAYOR OF
BULAWAYO SPEAKS
OUT**

PAGE 7

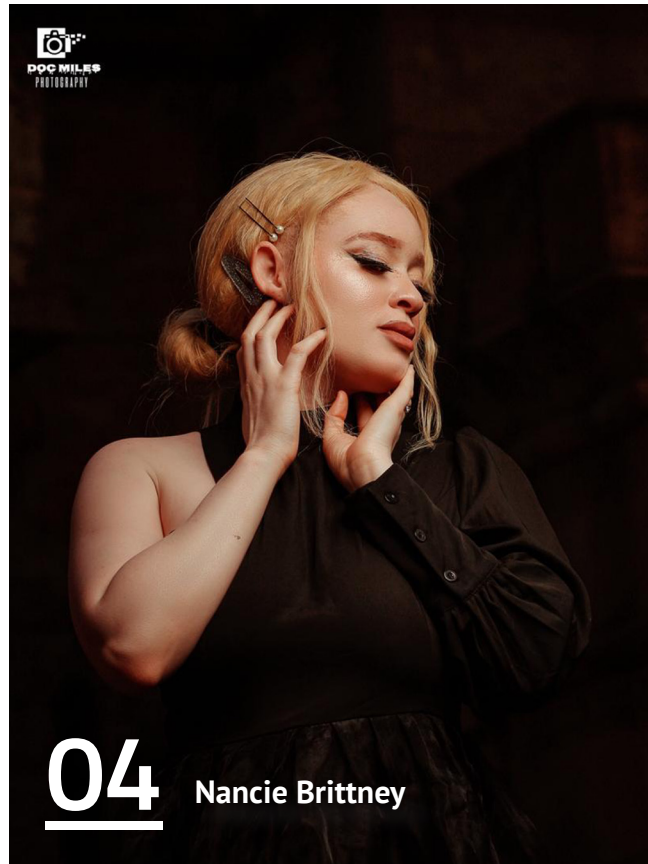
**RISE OF THE YOUNG
CHANGEMAKERS: ZIMBABWE'S
YOUTH LEAD THE WAY IN
REIMAGINING THE FUTURE**

Brot
für die Welt

Contents



03 Editor's Note



13

Unleash your greatness,
rewrite the rules and
unchain your potential

14

The Unseen Struggles
of Fame: When
Glamour Meets
Reality

16

Love without lobola
(bride price)

09 The Global Fight Against Substance Abuse: Reflections on International Day

June 26th marks the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, a significant occasion established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1987.

10 How Zimbabwe's Youth Are Redefining Power and Making Their Voices Heard

Zimbabwe's young people are tired of sitting on the sidelines and they're not afraid to show it.

11 My Story: The Price of Peer Pressure

I still remember the day my friends convinced me to skip school and hit a party. I was hesitant at first, but they promised it would be just that night.



Editor's Note



Melinda Ncube
CITE Youth Network Coordinator

This June, #tag Magazine turns up the volume on youth voices that are bold fearless and impossible to ignore.

In this issue, we spotlight young changemakers who are not waiting for permission to lead. Whether they are taking action in their communities raising awareness on social issues or simply speaking their truth we see them we hear them and we celebrate them.

We take a deep dive into the global fight against substance abuse centering youth led conversations that are raw personal and powerful. It is not just about awareness it is about action. From testimonies to tools for recovery and resistance this feature challenges us all to do better together.

Peer pressure is also under the spotlight what it costs how it hides and the ways it shapes our choices. Through real stories and honest reflections young people open up about the price of fitting in and the freedom that comes with standing out.

In a digital world where clicks matter the youth network is making waves. This month saw the launch of an exciting advocacy campaign on The Screenshot our platform where real talk meets real change. From digital safety to civic rights the conversations are loud informed and unstoppable.

But it is not all serious business because youth culture is also about vibe. We round up the latest box office hits that have us talking dreaming and laughing and we drop the hottest playlists that are soundtracking our moments moods and memories.

Whether you are reading for inspiration information or just good vibes this issue is for you.

So here is to redefining what it means to be young engaged and unapologetically outspoken.

The future is not just coming it is already here and it looks a lot like you.

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Nancie Brittney Champions Inclusive Beauty in Zimbabwe



By
Lethokuhle Mpofu

At just 25, Nancie Brittney is changing the face of beauty in Zimbabwe, not with noise but with intention, bringing something far more lasting to the beauty conversation. “I’m a makeup enthusiast with a passion for empowering others,” she says simply, and yet there’s nothing small about what she’s building.

As the founder of AMOR, a clean, high-quality, and inclusive beauty brand, Nancie is not only offering products. She’s offering perspective that beauty is not one-size-fits-all, and confidence isn’t something we stumble upon, it’s something we cultivate. AMOR wasn’t born out of market research or investor trends. It was born from the experience of not seeing yourself reflected on shelves,

in campaigns, or in the beauty standards around you. “I founded AMOR to provide high-quality, inclusive products that celebrate individuality and beauty,” Nancie shares. “With a focus on clean, effective ingredients and personal expression, my goal is to help people feel confident and beautiful just as they are.”

Born with albinism, Nancie knows what it means to walk into a room and be seen for the surface. But she also knows the power of redefining the narrative not by denying her identity, but by expanding it. “I started AMOR because I wanted to create a space where anyone, any shade, any story could feel seen, heard, and beautiful.” What sets Nancie apart isn’t just her business but that she builds it through her people and her presence. What began as a personal

passion has grown into a movement, touching lives beyond cosmetics and reminding young Zimbabweans that self-love is radical, necessary, and deeply transformative.

“I strive to build a community that values self-expression and self-love,” she adds. And that vision is clear not just in her messaging but in the details, the thoughtful formulations, the bold but wearable palettes, the personal service that reminds each customer that they matter.

In many ways, Nancie is doing what every great entrepreneur does: solving a problem she once faced. But more than that, she’s widening the path for those who come next. And in a world still unlearning how to celebrate difference, Nancie Brittney is a voice of clarity, equal parts

grace, grit, and glow.

1. What inspired you to create AMOR, and what was the first product you ever made or fell in love with?

....AMOR is my life, literally. It’s a reality that’s rooted from a younger me’s wildest dreams. As a makeup enthusiast I never felt seen by the beauty industry and you know what they say, if there’s no room for you at the table then build your own table and that’s exactly what I did. My first baby “the ultra waterproof liquid foundation” that’s the first ever product that launched, it wasn’t just a product, but it was the beginning of a movement to say we are here, we are inclusive, and we are going to dominate the beauty industry.

CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE...

2. Growing up, what was your relationship with beauty and self-image — and how has it evolved over the years?

I used to be the kid that would go through her mom's makeup, I loved the idea how a few products on my face would in-still a level of confidence that I didn't know was inside me. I remember Everytime I would put on this hot pink lipstick that I got from God knows where I would change, my demeanour would change and I would become this confident girl who thought she could change the world. I have always been the confident badass I am today and I'm hoping that it stays that way for a long long time.

3. As someone living with albinism, how have you learned to define yourself beyond labels?

I have the most supportive family and friends a girl could ever ask for, it's easy to look past what society says when the people that matter the most always uplift and support my every move.

4. What does "inclusivity" in beauty mean

to you — and how do you ensure AMOR lives up to that vision?

Inclusivity means no one is left behind, no skin tone left behind, no skin type left behind, no skin condition left behind. I aim to provide high quality products that can be accessible to everyone. Before anything AMOR is aimed at educating people on different skin conditions (like albinism) and that's something that will never change. Our goal is to provide educational content on skin care, makeup techniques, and product usage for different skin types. Basically Steering people towards their beauty goal.

5. What's a misconception people often have about you, and what would you say to correct it?

Some people think I'm just a girl having fun with makeup with no real future. But I'm a driven entrepreneur who values relationships and personal growth. I'm building my business to empower others and that's what truly motivates me.

6. How do you handle moments of doubt or pressure, especially as a young entrepreneur in a competitive space?

GOD! That's all I can say , when i feel I can't handle it I just push it to Him , it's easy to sway through life when there's a higher power that's handling business for you. A lot of people always wonder why I'm unbothered about a lot of things and the simple answer is God, that's all. He put this dream in my heart for a reason , the industry might be saturated but there will always be room for me and if there isn'tHe will prepare a table for me!

7. Who are the women (or people) that inspire you most — in business, in life, or in spirit?

It's going to sound so cliché but my mom , she is such a warrior , I watched her grow from practically nothing into the great woman that she is today. She went out of her way to send me to the best schools, and provide a comfortable life for me all so I wouldn't feel belittled by anyone for having albinism, and now she's thriving in corporate while running a successful small business on the side... maybe that's where I get the CEO energy from lol...

8. What's a day in your life like when you're not wearing the founder hat?

Haha the founder hat never comes off but I do like to reward myself every now and then ,midday mimosas and sushi dates with my man that's about as perfect as it can get.

9. If you could tell your 15-year-old self one thing, what would it be?

Don't stop believing because dreams do come true.

10. What's next for you and AMOR — and what legacy do you hope to leave behind?

What's next is introducing more product lines, working on getting a global reach, continuing on the educational track and just allowing the brand to speak for itself. The legacy I'm building is one that will break down beauty standard barriers, empower individualism , creating ground-breaking products that serve a real purpose in the beauty industry and most importantly , set an example for women that are unappreciated in this space letting them know that they are capable of doing anything and everything they set their mind to.



The Screenshot recap for the month of June



By
Melinda Ncube

We kicked off June with an inspiring episode featuring the Junior Mayor of Bulawayo Kian. He shared his vision for the Junior Council's term, touching on youth involvement and leadership development. This episode set the tone for a month centered on youth taking charge of their future and their city.

1. From the City of Kings: What It's Like to Be a Young Person in Bulawayo

Next, we turned the spotlight on CITE Youth Network members who shared personal reflections on growing up in Bulawayo. The episode was honest

and raw from the pride of being raised in a culturally rich city, to the frustrations of being misunderstood or left behind. This episode highlighted the heartbeat of Bulawayo's youth determined, proud, and ready to rewrite the narrative.

Misconceptions About Our Generation In addition to what it's like growing up in Bulawayo we raise the question, What do people get wrong about Gen Z? In this thought provoking segment the youth Cite Youth Network members addressed the labels lazy, depressed, unserious and broke them down with sharp insight and lived experience. The episode served as a powerful clap back to stereotypes and a reminder that young people deserve to be seen for who they really are.

2. Groomed Not Raised: Kicking Off

Men's Mental Health Campaign by The Cite Youth Network

June ended on a powerful note with the launch of Groomed Not Raised, a CITE Youth Network campaign focused on men's mental health. In a candid panel discussion, young people opened up about growing up without emotional support, the dangers of toxic masculinity, and the need to create spaces where boys can be vulnerable and supported.

The campaign calls for a complete shift in how society nurtures boys not to harden them, but to groom them into emotionally intelligent, self aware young men. Keep an eye out for ***The Screenshot every Wednesday at 10am.***

Hotest Playlist in June

By Persistence Nkomo

Music is therapy, hype and storytelling all in one.
This month we're tuning into tracks that gets you.
The playlist is a whole mood. Add these tracks to your rotation and let the music speak for your soul.

1. Isaka (6am)

Grind time energy. Whether you're working out or on your hustle, this beat wake up your ambition.. It's not just a song — it's a mood for those chasing dreams before sunrise.

2. Tyla - Bliss

Tyla takes us on a dreamy ride that feels like floating.
Perfect for when you're lost in thoughts.

3. Davido ft omah lay - with you

A royalty Collab that lifts up your mood instantly.
The duo we didn't know we needed has got us moving to this smooth afrobeat vibe.

4. Hamba Nam – Killapunch S Miano ft Vusinator & SuperMosh

A straight-up groove for lovers of that raw, kasi-flavored sound.
With a mix of amapiano and townshipvibes, *Hamba Nam* is the kind of track that gets the party moving without trying too hard. It's got bounce, attitude, and irresistible energy.

5. I Party – Kamo Mphela

The queen of movement returns! Kamo Mphela delivers another dancefloor anthem that screams fun.
With a beat that won't let you sit still.

6. Uzizwa Kanjani – Jazzworx, Thukuthela & MaWhoo

Reflective and soul-touching. This track asks the big question: "How do you feel?" It mixes smooth production with heartfelt delivery, perfect for deep thoughts.

7. Mali – Dlala Thukzin, Zee Nxumalo ft Sykes

A motivational banger that speaks to the daily hustle.
It's a celebration of getting the bag – and doing it with style.

8. Teymar- penga udzoke

Teymar taps into heartbreak, hope and healing - a song that'll hit deep if you've ever had to let go. Teymar's vocals + raw emotion = goosebumps.

9. Private - I might get it low

Low-key addictive, it sneaks into your mind and stays there cause you relate.

10. Young Gemini - Karma

A warning that is loud and clear but spicy.

11. Jnr Spragga - Marulez

A certified banger that gets you moving before the chorus even hits. A whole vibe.

Rise of the Young Changemakers: Zimbabwe's Youth Lead the Way in Reimagining the Future



By
Tafadzwa Gumunyu

Across Zimbabwe, young people are stepping into leadership roles that were once only for older people. From Victoria Falls to Harare, youth are building solutions: clean energy projects, tech platforms, social programs and proving that age is not a barrier to change.

This wave of energy is part of a global movement called The Age Reimagining, which asks the world to take young people seriously and not just for the future, but right now.

In Bulawayo, a group of students from Eveline High School have been gaining attention for their tech innovation. During the Junior Achievement Zimbabwe National Pitch Day, held in March 2025, the students unveiled an app called VieJobs.

The app helps teenagers

find part-time jobs and small business opportunities, allowing them to earn money while gaining financial literacy and practical work experience.

"We created VieJobs because we saw how hard it was for students to find work or even afford school supplies," one of the co-founders said during an interview with CITE (Centre for Innovation and Technology) following the pitch event. The platform has since attracted support from organisations like Emergination Africa, which praised it as a strategic solution to youth unemployment.

In November 2020, Nkosilathi "Nkosi" Nyathi, who was 17 then, became a UNICEF Youth Climate Advocate during a World Children's Day event. He joined global leaders and President Mnangagwa, speaking for children affected by climate change.

At the African Regional Forum on Sustainable De-

velopment in Victoria Falls (February 2020), Nkosi called for real climate action and sharing how his community suffers from droughts and floods. He also spoke at a COP25 event in Madrid, saying youth must have a place at the decision-making table.

At the Forum, Nkosi said: "I grew up just a few minutes from where we are today... It was the environment!"

Nkosi started his activism at age 10, building Victoria Falls' first biogas stove at his primary school and making videos about environmental problems. He has spoken at COP25 in Madrid, addressed the UN Development Summit in 2020, and met global leaders and earning praise from President Mnangagwa, who said, "You have truly inspired me today".

In the tech and business area, Marvellous Nyongoro started The Housing Hub in 2019 while studying at Midlands State University. Faced with housing problems on campus, he created a digital platform that now helps over 2,000 students find safe places to live. Zimbabwe's young entrepreneurs have recognized Marvellous's work with the Anzisha Prize. His platform now has 30,000 users across many universities.

Marvellous explained in an Anzisha interview: "I fell victim to a bogus accommodation agent... so I created a WhatsApp group to protect others." What started as a group chat grew into a business—employing student agents and building trust in local communities.

These youth stories were the

highlight of the Zimbabwe International Youth Trade Fair and Conference (ZIYTF) held in May 2025 in Harare. The event brought together young creators, artists, policy-makers, and investors under one theme: Youth are leading today. Organisers stressed the need to do more than just include youth, to give them full support, funding, and mentoring.

What links Eveline Students, Nkosi and Marvellous is simple because they saw a problem, took charge, and turned ideas into solutions. Nkosi's biogas project teaches students to use clean energy in drought. Marvellous's platform solves the student housing crisis, an issue across Zimbabwe's campuses.

All over the country, these changemakers are not waiting for permission; they are making things happen. With over 60% of Zimbabwe's people under 25, this youth energy is powerful. But it needs support, money, and attention.

The Age Reimagining is not just a phrase but it's what is happening in every part of Zimbabwe. Whether in rural areas or city labs, young people are showing new kinds of leadership. And the best part is they are only getting started.

In the face of Zimbabwe's economic and social challenges, these youth-led efforts offer hope and real solutions. This is the face of a new Zimbabwe: bold, creative, and unapologetically driven to build a better tomorrow and it's starting today.

The Global Fight Against Substance Abuse: Reflections on International Day



Compiled by:
Nicole Gugulethu Moyo

June 26th marks the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, a significant occasion established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1987.

This day commemorates the historic efforts of Lin Zexu, a Chinese commissioner who led the dismantling of the opium trade in Humen, Guangdong, culminating on June 25, 1839. Lin's courageous actions serve as a powerful reminder of the ongoing global fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

In Zimbabwe, drug abuse has had far-reaching consequences, affecting individuals, families, and communities, particularly the youth. The country faces challenges related to substance abuse, including cannabis, pharmaceuticals, and other illicit drugs.

Lwandile Sibanda's words echo the concerns of many Zimbabweans: "It's so painful to see the country's youth gamble with their future because of drugs." This statement highlights the devastating impact of substance abuse on Zimbabwe's young generation, compromising their potential as future leaders and change-makers.

It's disheartening to see the

impact of substance abuse on Zimbabwe's youth, with many consuming harmful substances in pursuit of "fun." As Lwandile aptly puts it, "I wonder why days like these are not celebrated in Zimbabwe, because drugs are taking over our youth." Raising awareness about the dangers of substance abuse and promoting healthy alternatives is crucial to safeguarding the well-being of Zimbabwe's young generation.

The devastating impact of substance abuse is a global concern, as evident in the recent passing of South African actor Presley Chweneyagae. His friend, Warren Masemola, courageously highlighted the potential link between Presley's death and his strug-

gles with alcohol addiction. Masemola's poignant words, "Strata lebojwala ase maemo," sparked a crucial conversation about the dangers of substance abuse and the importance of seeking help.

Celebrating the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking serves as a crucial reminder of the global fight against substance abuse.

By observing this day, communities worldwide come together to promote prevention, treatment, and harm reduction strategies, ultimately strengthening efforts to create a healthier and safer society for all.

How Zimbabwe's Youth Are Redefining Power and Making Their Voices Heard



By
Hillary P Mpofu

Zimbabwe's young people are tired of sitting on the sidelines and they're not afraid to show it. Across the country (and the world), youth are stepping up, speaking out, and shaking the old rules of who gets to have a say in how things are run.

For a long time, politics and decision-making felt like a grown-ups-only zone but that's changing fast. With over 60% of Zimbabwe's population under 35, the energy, creativity, and impatience for change can no longer be ignored. Young people are demanding transparency, fairness, and leadership that actually listens not

just lectures.

Take the #ZimbabweanLives-Matter campaign, for example. What started as online frustration quickly turned into a powerful digital movement calling out corruption, injustice, and inequality. Powered by Twitter threads, viral TikToks, and shareable Facebook posts, these young activists didn't wait for permission they made their own space and forced the nation (and the world) to pay attention.

And this vibe isn't just local. Globally, youth-led movements are making waves from climate strikes to #EndSARS in Nigeria, and even the Black Lives Matter protests pushing for racial justice.

Young people everywhere are rewriting the rules of civic engagement, proving that you don't need a title or grey hair to make an impact. Of course, it's not all smooth sailing.

In Zimbabwe and other countries where free expression is limited, young activists face real risks, threats, arrests, even violence.

But they're smart and adaptable. When protests are shut down, the music gets louder. When public spaces are blocked, art pops up on walls.

When meetings are banned, TikTok and Instagram Stories do the talking. Behind the scenes, youth-focused organisations are stepping in to support these changemakers,

offering training, digital safety skills, and platforms to grow their advocacy without fear.

These spaces help young people turn passion into power and ideas into action.

What's happening now is bigger than any single campaign. It's a shift in mindset. Young people are done waiting for 'their time' to lead, they're taking the wheel now.

And whether the old guard likes it or not, the future is being shaped by those brave enough to break the rules, question authority, and dream out loud.

This isn't just a moment. It's a movement. And its impact? Generation-defining.

My Story: The Price of Peer Pressure

PEER PRESSURE



By
Lungisani Moyo

I still remember the day my friends convinced me to skip school and hit a party. I was hesitant at first, but they promised it would be just that night. I gave in to the pressure, and it changed everything.

The partying and drinking became a habit, and I started to fall behind in school. My grades slipped, and I lost focus.

I stopped attending classes, and my parents were worried. But I didn't listen. I thought I knew better, and I told them they had lived their old-fashioned life, and

they must let me live my Gen Z life.

One night, things got out of hand. I ended up in a situation that could have been disastrous.

Luckily, everything was somehow resolved, but it was a wake-up call. I realised that my friends weren't looking out for me. They were just looking for a good time.

Before I knew it, the O-level exams were approaching, and I was unprepared. I sat for the exams, but I knew I hadn't done enough to pass. When the results came out, my heart sank.

I had failed. I am struggling

against all odds to get a second chance. I can only wish....!

Looking back, I realise I let peer pressure dictate my choices. I wish I had stood up for myself and made better decisions.

I wish I had prioritised my studies and my well-being. Now, I'm sharing my story to warn others: don't let peer pressure control your life.

Stay true to yourself and make choices that benefit your future and serving other lives too.

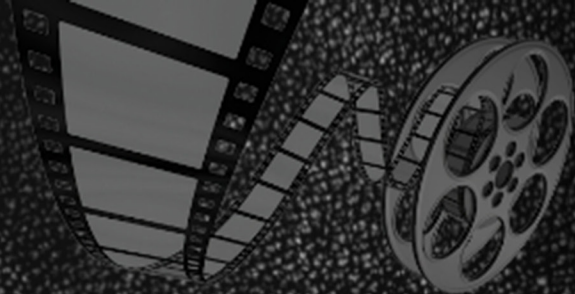
After that experience, I made a change. I started focusing on my myself, and I joined the CITE Youth Network.

I also found new friends who shared my goals and values. It's not easy, but I am working hard to rebuild my academic foundation.

I'm not perfect, and I still face challenges but I've learned to prioritise my goals and make better choices.

If you're facing peer pressure, remember that it's okay to say no. Your future is worth it. Best wishes to you all, forewarned is forearmed.

This isn't just a moment. It's a movement. And its impact? Generation-defining.



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Unleash your greatness, rewrite the rules and unchain your potential



By
Patricia Moyo

Imagine living life on your own terms, where you're free to be yourself and pursue your passions without apology. Sounds amazing, right? But, let's be real, societal expectations and traditional norms can be suffocating. It's time to shake things up and rewrite the rules of your life. Think about it, how often do you feel like you're stuck in a mold that doesn't fit? Maybe you're pressured to follow a certain career path or fit into a specific social circle. But, what if you could break free from these constraints and forge your own path?

The power of self-liberation is real, and it's waiting for you to tap into it. Rewriting the

rules is all about taking control of your life and creating your own destiny. It's about embracing your individuality and celebrating what makes you unique. When you do this, you'll unlock your full potential and live a life that's authentic, exciting, and truly yours. You'll be able to pursue your passions with confidence, build meaningful relationships, and live a life that's true to who you are.

So, where do you start? Begin by questioning the status quo and challenging the norms that feel limiting or outdated. Ask yourself: What do I really want to achieve in life? What are my passions and values? What kind of person do I want to become? By asking these questions, you'll start to gain clarity on what you want and what you need to do to

get there. You'll begin to see the world in a new light, and you'll start to realize that you have the power to create the life you want.

The benefits of rewriting the rules are endless. You'll experience a sense of freedom and empowerment that's hard to describe. You'll be more resilient, adaptable, and open to new experiences. You'll be able to take risks and pursue opportunities that align with your values and passions. And, you'll be living a life that's true to who you are, without apology or pretension.

So, what are you waiting for? It's time to take control of your life and start rewriting the rules. Don't be afraid to make mistakes or try new things, it's all part of the journey. Remember, your life

is yours to live, and you have the power to create the future you want. You got this! Rewriting the rules isn't always easy, but it's worth it. You'll face challenges and obstacles along the way, but don't let that stop you. Keep pushing forward, and remember that you're not alone. There are people who believe in you and want to see you succeed.

In the end, rewriting the rules of your life is a journey, not a destination. It's a process of discovery, growth, and transformation. It's about becoming the best version of yourself and living a life that's authentic, meaningful, and fulfilling. So, go ahead and take the first step. Rewrite the rules of your life and start living the life you deserve.

The Unseen Struggles of Fame: When Glamour Meets Reality



By
Nomhlelezi Valentine

The world of entertainment is often seen as glamorous and exciting, with celebrities gracing magazine covers and red carpets. However, behind the spotlight, many artists face intense pressure, scrutiny, and personal sacrifices that can take a toll on their mental health and well-being. Public figures such as South African singer Cassper Nyovest are real-life examples that life in the entertainment industry is not as glamorous as it's often perceived to be.

The Dark Side of Fame

Artists like Suga from K-pop group BTS, wrestler and actor Dwayne Johnson, also known as "The Rock," actress and singer Selena Gomez, and son to actor Will Smith, Jaden Smith, face the same challenges in this industry. These challenges gradually affect their public

and personal lives. Criticism, judgment, constant involvement in personal affairs by fans, and pressure from the industry have not only caused mental health issues for artists but have also gone as far as to chase some off to leave the industry.

"Life in the entertainment industry is exhausting," and real-life situations of artists like Cassper Nyovest, Suga, Dwayne Johnson, Selena Gomez, and Jaden Smith prove how unfabricated and true this statement is.

Pressure to Perform

Jaden Smith has talked about the pressures of growing up in the public eye as the son of Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith, and the scrutiny that comes with being a celebrity. He's also spoken about his experiences with anxiety and depression, and the importance of prioritizing his mental health. Maintaining a stable personal life while navigating the demanding world of entertainment can be a significant

challenge, especially for young celebrities like Jaden.

After the initial buzz surrounding "The Karate Kid," Jaden's film career didn't quite reach the same heights, leading some to question his sustained mainstream success. He has diversified his interests, exploring music and business ventures, which can sometimes lead to fluctuations in career focus and public perception. Being the son of Will Smith, a major Hollywood star, could lead to the perception of him being a "nepo baby" (nepotism baby), which can be a barrier to some casting directors.

Jaden Smith has openly discussed dealing with depression and anxiety, potentially stemming from the pressures of fame and the expectations placed upon him. The media attention and public scrutiny surrounding his health have also impacted his public image. While some fans expressed concern, others criticized his fashion choices and lifestyle.

When Jaden Smith came out as gay, life became more challenging for him as he continued to face similar criticism from fans. Some critics have questioned whether Jaden is simply using his sexuality or gender expression for attention, suggesting that it's a calculated move to stand out.

Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson has spoken about the sacrifices he's made for his career, including time away from his family and dealing with intense scrutiny from the media. Despite his immense popularity, he has faced challenges in the entertainment industry, including negative press regarding his work ethic and perceived difficulties in collaborating with others.

Dwayne Johnson has faced backlash and criticism from fans, leading to a decline in his social media following and some questioning of his persona. This backlash is attributed to controversies surrounding his actions, statements, and professional

choices. While he remains successful, his reputation has suffered, with some fans calling him "no longer the People's Champion."

The Weight of Scrutiny

Selena Gomez has faced challenges related to early fame, mental health, and the pressures of being a public figure in the entertainment industry, including the impact of social media and body shaming. She's also navigated typecasting and the desire to break out of that mold, while simultaneously managing the scrutiny surrounding her personal life and relationships.

Gomez has openly discussed her struggles with mental health, including depression, anxiety, and panic attacks, and how her lupus diagnosis has impacted her well-being. Negative fan comments have significantly impacted Selena Gomez's life, work, and health, leading to depression, low self-esteem, and even mental health breakdowns.



Cassper Nyovest like many entertainers, faces challenges including staying relevant, navigating public scrutiny, and the impact of external factors like the pandemic on the entertainment industry. He's also grappled with personal struggles related to mental health and the weight of public opinion.

Nyovest has publicly spoken about his struggles with depression and anxiety, highlighting the significant mental health challenges that can be part of the entertainment industry. He has faced backlash for clapping back at a critic, sparking debate over online criticism.

The Cost of Fame

Suga (BTS) has faced challenges related to public image and reputation, specifically concerning a recent drunk driving incident. This led to widespread backlash and debate, including calls for his removal from the group. Suga was arrested and charged with drunk driving while operating an electric scooter, leading to a public apology and a loss of his driver's license.

The incident highlighted the strict standards and expectations placed on K-pop idols, who are often held to a higher standard than other celebrities. Suga has talked about the immense pressure and scrutiny his position brings, stating that idols

A More Nuanced View

These stories highlight the complexities of fame and the entertainment industry, showcasing how the constant scrutiny and pressure can impact artists' mental health, relationships, and overall well-being. The industry and fans often overlook artists' personal boundaries, neglecting the fact that they're human beings subjected to the same vulnerabilities as everyone else.

While success can bring many rewards, it also comes with significant challenges. Recognizing that celebrities are human beings with their own struggles and challenges can help create a more supportive and understanding environment for artists. By acknowledging the unseen struggles of fame, we can work towards a more nuanced understanding of the entertainment industry and its impact on those who bring it to life.

Love without lobola (bride price)



By
Alice Mbewe

Love knows no bounds, not even those of tradition. In many cultures, lobola (also known as bride price) is a long-standing custom where the groom's family pays a certain amount to the bride's family as a sign of respect and appreciation. However, in modern times, the concept of love and marriage has evolved, and many couples are choosing to forego this tradition.

For some, lobola is seen as a financial burden, while others view it as a outdated practice that commodifies women. In contrast, love without lobola is about focusing on the emotional connection, mutual respect, and trust between two people.

Couples who choose not to follow the lobola tradition often prioritize building a

strong foundation of love, understanding, and communication. They believe that their relationship should be based on shared values, compatibility, and a deep emotional connection, rather than financial transactions.

Ultimately, love is a personal choice, and every couple should be free to define their own path. Whether or not to include lobola in their union is a decision that should be made by the couple themselves, without external pressure or expectation.

Love without lobola is about embracing the true essence of love, a bond between two people that makes material considerations. It's about building a life together based on mutual respect, trust, and understanding.



The Age of Aquarius: A New Dawn of Consciousness



By
Nomathemba Mpofu

The age of Aquarius, often heralded as a time of enlightenment and transformation, marks a significant shift in human consciousness and societal structures. Astrologically, the transition from the

Age of Pisces to Aquarius signifies a move from the realm of emotion and sacrifice to one of intellect and humanitarianism. Coupled with the rise of technology and global connectivity, this new era invites us to reevaluate our place in the universe and our relationships with one another.

Rewind : WTF is the age of Aquiries?

Astrologically speaking, we're stepping into the Age of Aquarius—a powerful transformation that ushers in a break from old, rigid traditions (bye-bye Capricorn vibes!). This new era is all about embracing technology, fostering community, and

celebrating individuality. In plain terms: we're shaking off the past and crafting futures that truly resonate with us. And if you're Gen Z? Consider the old world officially unsubscribed. Welcome to our experimental journey, where the possibilities are endless!

CAREERS : FROM DOCTOR - LAWYER -ENGINEER TO "CONTENT CREATOR - DJ - PART-TIME THERAPIST

Young grandparents have had their singular focus for a lifetime. Meanwhile, we dominate with three income streams, a side hustle, and a podcast—all before lunch. Being just one thing is outdated; we embrace our multifaceted identities and wear them proudly, Kwanele expresses surprise at Brendon's unique combination of interests, asking, "You're a dancer and a coder?" Brendon beams with pride as he responds, "Absolutely! On weekends, I immerse myself in creating digital art with AI during our catch-up sessions."

Welcome to a new era where

work is reimagined! Imagine freelancers soaking up the sun on the beach while getting their tasks done, and remote teams connecting over positive vibes and captivating Zoom backgrounds. The old burnout culture is fading away, replaced by a strong emphasis on setting boundaries. Let's celebrate this exciting transformation!

IDENTITY: No Boxes, just Vibes

Gender? It flows like a river, never confined.

Fashion? It's a daily mood—wear what makes your heart sing!

Personality? Think of it as a playlist that evolves just like your Spotify Wrapped.

We're breaking free from outdated norms; this moment is all about blending identities to reveal our true selves. Gen Z isn't wandering aimlessly; we're just choosing to thrive in spaces where we truly belong.

CULTURE + JOY = Our New Revolution

Joy is a powerful political statement. In a world where

rest has become an act of resistance, memes are ushering in a fresh philosophy. Culture is now being co-created through TikToks, indie artists, heartfelt mental health conversations, and vibrant underground scenes.

Today, it's perfectly okay to cry—emotional intelligence is the new sexy. Therapy memes? They're not just funny; they're actually a form of healing. Think of recovery as a collective journey, where self-love isn't selfishness but a crucial part of survival. We're redefining what it means to thrive in this era!

The influence of Aquarius inspires us to embrace our individuality and authenticity, encouraging each of us to celebrate our unique contributions to the community. This beautiful duality fosters a harmonious existence, reminding us to balance our desires with the greater good.

Moreover, the Age of Aquarius invites us to perceive technology as a powerful extension of our collective consciousness. Innovations in communication spark collaboration across borders, nurturing empathy and understanding. As we advance, it is vital to cultivate wisdom alongside our technological progress.

So What Now?

This isn't about rebuilding for Chaos; it's about clarity. We're not running from tradition; we're curating and reimagining it like designers in god mode. So when change feels overwhelming, remember: You're not behind; you're evolving.

It's not just Hustle it's my life work



By Tsepo Nyathi and
Privilege Mathema

Nowadays, especially in Bulawayo, most young people have turned to hustling to make ends meet. Take Thabo Khumalo, for example, a former student at Phumula High.

He didn't manage to complete school due to lack of funds, so he chose to start a *samosa* (*amasamusa*) business just to survive, cover his basic needs, and escape the tough reality of trying, and failing, to land a decent job without qualifications.

Another real, eye-opening story is that of my close friend, **Privilege**, also known as *Stufuza*. Like Khumalo, her school journey faced financial barriers, but at a different stage.

She managed to finish her A-Levels at Townsend High and took a gap year to figure

out her next move: which course to apply for, what job to take. But soon, money problems hit hard, leaving her stuck. With support from her parents, she opened a small stall, *umsika*, to keep herself busy and make some money.

At first, things looked promising. But then came the challenge of the municipal police (*aboMaKokoba*). Because she operated on unlicensed ground, her goods were confiscated.

The experience was disheartening; it meant starting all over again. But *Stufuza* didn't give up. She changed her strategy, selling from the comfort of her home and advertising online.

This switch worked. She attracted customers and kept her hustle alive, all while pursuing her other passions like acting and public speaking. From *Stufuza*'s story, the big takeaway is this: strategy matters when you hustle. You

must find smart ways to avoid trouble and still make your money.

As a hustler, patience and consistency are key. Sales won't always be the same, especially mid-month when most people are broke and not buying impulsively. Think about the vendors who walk the streets selling *amapatapata* (flip-flops).

They know that while convenience sells, some days customers just don't feel like buying. But they mark their territory — using familiar routes where loyal customers expect them. They greet people, offer good service, suggest helpful options — all part of building trust and showing true dedication to their hustle.

Challenges are inevitable, but the hustle culture will never die. It breaks down the barriers that try to stop it and sharpens young people into powerful, reliable service pro-

viders, directly and indirectly. Another example is **Tsepo**. He left school because his parents couldn't afford the fees. To survive, he took up piece jobs until he finally opened a small shoe shop. Tsepo inspired many in the hood, younger kids started looking up to him, seeing what real hustle looks like.

But the road wasn't easy. ZIM-RA demanded stock clearance at the border, making the process tough. But as Tsepo says, "As a man, you have to make a way out if you want to survive. Out there, it's hard. You feel like the world has turned its back on you."

The best advice I can give to the youth out there is simple: never stop until you fulfill your dream. Don't let other people make you lose confidence. If you hustle with the right intention and stay true to your story, you won't go wrong.

THE NEW AGE OF FASHION: Owning your look, owning your story



By
Amanda Ndlovu

Welcome to the new era where fashion isn't just about trends or labels, it's about you. Young people are breaking all the rules: flipping the script on outdated norms, tossing beauty standards in the trash and showing up exactly how they want.

Whether you are expressing your identity, exploring your vibe, or just wearing what feels good, fashion has officially become personal. Especially for women and queer folks, its loud and proud declaration of self-love, freedom and rebellion.

It's Not Just an Outfit, It's a Whole Mood

To the casual observer, some of today's most popular fashion trends might seem puzzling, even provocative.

Critics often dismiss these looks as "dressing funny" or accuse young people of simply trying to "attract attention" with skin-baring outfits. But let's be real, when someone rocks a crop top, sheer fabrics, oversized blazers, miniskirts, baggy jeans, and gender fluid silhouettes, it's not about seeking approval, it's about "owning the space". These look to challenge expectations and reclaim power. They're not just stylish, they're statements of identity; resistance, creativity, and even healing. Clothing isn't just what you wear; it's how you speak when words aren't enough.

From Feeds to Fits: Style goes digital

Unlike previous generations who turned to fashion magazines and runways for inspiration, today's youth curate wardrobes through a blend of digital sources. From your TikTok "For You" page to aesthetic Pinterest boards. The

democratisation of fashion through social media allows for a far more diverse representation of bodies, styles and aesthetics. Whether you're into Y2K throwbacks, genderless street wear, soft glamour or afro-inspired looks, the internet's got you. GRWM (get ready with me) videos mix fashion with real-life vulnerability. Thrift hauls and DIY fit flips flood IG reels. Creators are remixing vintage with new drops and proving that "style belongs to everyone", not just the elite. ***"Pinterest and other social media platforms usually inspire my daily outfits", says Princess N Mhlanga, a recent graduate from the National University of Science and Technology.*** These platforms serve not only as inspiration but as education. Young people learn to experiment, mix vintage with high street and embrace aesthetics once relegated to the fashion fringes.

Dismantling Dress Codes: A Style Revolution

For many young individuals, fashion is a way to confront systems that have long tried to control how they present themselves. Dress codes in schools, the workplace and public spaces often disproportionately target certain bodies and gender expressions. What may be considered "appropriate" for one person can be deemed "inappropriate" or "distracting" for another based solely on body type, race or gender identity. By reclaiming unconventional styles, many are actively pushing back against this double standard. The very act of wearing what feels right, whether that's a sheer top, a chest binder, or bold makeup, is a way the youth are saying ***I deserve to be seen as I am.***

Every unexpected outfit is resistance. Every daring accessory is a middle finger to judgment.

Wear the Liberation

Fashion today is liberation in motion. It's freedom from toxic beauty ideals, rigid gender boxes, and the pressure to blend in. It's about celebrating one's body, embracing individuality and rejecting the notion that respectably requires conformity. Yes, many outfits are inspired by trending aesthetics. But more often than not, they're deeply personal, every baggy jean, mesh-top, long dresses, miniskirts or gender fluid suit jacket represents a small revolution: a refusal to apologise for existing exactly as one is. As this movement continues to grow, it's clear that the future of fashion lies not in strict rules but in radical self-expression. ***The youth aren't just changing what we wear; they are changing why we wear it.***



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June Big Screens & Stream Dreams



By
Mayibongweinkosi Dingani

Grab your popcorn, fam—June 2025 is dishing out pure cinema heat! From AI dolls to dragon riders and space misfits, this month's movie lineup is stacked with blockbusters and binge-worthy gems. Whether you're hitting the cinema in your freshest fit or vibing from your couch, here's what's lighting up the screen:

In Theaters

1. How to Train Your Dragon (Live-Action)

Release: June 13

It's back—but real. The beloved animated classic returns with fire-breathing

visuals and a fresh cast. Hiccup and Toothless soar in a tale of unlikely friendship and challenging tradition. A must-watch for both OG fans and new dreamers.

2. Elio

Release: June 20

Disney and Pixar bring heart and humour with Elio—a shy kid mistaken for Earth's ambassador by aliens. Voice stars Yonas Kibreab and Zoe Saldaña bring the charm in this intergalactic misadventure that's all about finding your voice.

3. 28 Years Later

Release: June 20

The rage virus resurfaces. Cillian Murphy returns. London's burning again. This chilling sequel promises more horror,

more heartbreak, and high stakes.

4. M3GAN 2.0

June 27

She's upgraded, unhinged, and unforgettable. M3GAN's back with smarter tech and deadlier moves. Hide your passwords!

5. F1

June 27

Brad Pitt races back into action in this high-octane Formula One drama. Real F1 footage, real adrenaline. A racing film with serious horsepower.

Streaming Gold

Netflix

•Straw

Tyler Perry switches gears with this emotional drama exploring generational struggles, redemption, and resilience. It's raw, real, and rooted in truth.

•Titan: The OceanGate Disaster

A gripping documentary retelling the tragic Titanic submersible incident. Powerful, haunting, unforgettable.

•Squid Game: Season 3

The final round is here. Who survives? Who wins? And at what cost? One last deadly game.

Amazon Prime

•Deep Cover

Imagine improv actors pretending to be agents in a real op. Chaos meets comedy in this British action-laugh-fest.

Disney+

•Snow White (2025)

Streaming from June 11. The live-action classic is back with magic, music, and a new-age twist on the fairest of them all.

From tearjerkers to thrillers, this June is vibing on every level. Hit the cinema, stream at home—just don't miss out. So... what's first on your watchlist?

Empowering youth through the CITE Youth Network

The CITE Youth Network is dedicated to empowering young people both in rural and urban communities and amplifying their voices through media, digital storytelling, and community engagement.

The network focuses on equipping youth with digital skills and fostering a

sense of community among them.

One of the network's notable initiatives includes a six-month training and mentoring program on digital skills, aimed at building capacity among young individuals.

Additionally, the CITE Youth Network

produces media content such as "The Screenshot" show and the "#Tag" magazine, providing platforms for youth to share their stories and perspectives.

To join the network get in touch with Melinda Ncube on +263 77 413 6186



The Screenshot Podcast: The unfiltered voice of a digital generation



The podcast cover features a blue background with a yellow banner at the bottom. On the right is a portrait of Melinda Ncube, a Black woman with short hair, wearing a red jacket. On the left, the CITE logo is at the top, followed by the title 'THE SCREENSHOT' in large white and yellow letters. Below the title is 'Asakhe Online', then 'WEDNESDAY @ 10:00C.A.T' in white. The yellow banner at the bottom says 'with Melinda Ncube'.

CITE

THE SCREENSHOT

Asakhe Online

**WEDNESDAY
@ 10:00C.A.T**

with Melinda Ncube

By
Melinda Ncube

The Screenshot Podcast, produced by the Centre for Innovation and Technology (CITEZW) and hosted by Melinda Ncube, is a powerful platform where young Zimbabweans take centre stage.

The podcast dives into the issues that matter most to the youth from everyday struggles to cultural identity, drug use, digital trends, and social change.

More than just conversations, The Screenshot Podcast is a space where the voices of young people are not only heard but celebrated.

It's raw, real, and rooted in the lived experiences of Zimbabwe's youth both in the country and across the diaspora.

Tune in every Wednesday at 10 am on YouTube: CITEZW, Facebook: @CITEZW and Instagram: @CITEZW. You can also follow the host Melinda Ncube on X @joey_melly.



Redefining Disability: Young, Bold & Breaking Limits in Zimbabwe



By
Shelton Sibanda

For way too long, disability has been boxed in as a “limitation” but that old thinking is crumbling fast. Across Zimbabwe and beyond, young people are rising to smash stereotypes, fight myths, and show the world that disability is not a weakness, it’s a different kind of strength.

Leading this shift is the **National Council of Disabled Persons of Zimbabwe (NCDPZ)** a movement that’s all about inclusion, representation, and possibility. Born in 1975 and run by persons with disabilities themselves, NCDPZ has over 85 branches across the country. Their mission? Simple, but

powerful: make sure no one gets left behind no matter their ability.

Turning Ability Into Action

From sex education to livelihoods, disaster relief to education access, NCDPZ runs programs that cover it all. But here’s the real twist: they don’t treat people with disabilities as “recipients” who need saving. Instead, they put them at the front of the line, as leaders, as decision-makers, as creators of change.

Through youth advocacy events, awareness campaigns, and partnerships with groups like Plan International and INTWASA, NCDPZ proves that when young people with disabilities are given the right tools, they can change their world and everyone else’s.

Breaking Myths, Changing Minds

But there’s still a mountain to climb. In Zimbabwe, too many old-school beliefs linger, like the idea that disability is a curse or that people with disabilities can’t have relationships, families, or careers. Spoiler alert: they can and they do.

That’s why NCDPZ runs tough but needed community talks, home visits, and media campaigns that shake these harmful views. They push for real change, like better access to education, small business support, and public spaces built for everyone.

Disability = Diversity

“Having a disability isn’t a choice,” says one NCDPZ youth leader. “But what we do with our time, our voice,

our skills that’s where our power is.”

Whether it’s a young woman running community workshops or a former student leader using his story to inspire change, the message is loud and clear: People with disabilities are not to be pitied.

Not to be silenced. Not to be sidelined. They are leaders. Creators. Innovators.

And through this growing movement, Zimbabwe is redefining disability not as something to “fix” but as a natural, valuable part of human diversity. This is what the “Age Reimagining” is all about: a future where every person, regardless of ability, can dream, lead, and thrive.

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Meet the Change-Makers: Chichi & Methembe

Methembe Sithole: "They call me The Phoenix"

Methembe isn't letting his disability define him, but he's not hiding it either. Growing up in Bulawayo as the fourth child in a family of six, he dreamed of flying planes, practising law, or becoming a journalist. But life had other plans.

In his final school year, Methembe was chosen as a Junior Councillor, and something clicked. "I kept hearing other young people with disabilities saying they felt invisible, ignored. I couldn't just stand by anymore."

So he jumped into community dialogues and youth empowerment workshops, learning, speaking out, and building confidence. Today, he volunteers with NCDPZ, turning passion into real action.

He's also not shy about relationships. "I started dating in Form 2!" he laughs. "And

no, I've never dated someone else with a disability, not because I wouldn't, but it just hasn't happened." For Methembe, love is like life: real, honest, and limitless.

His message to other youth with disabilities? "You are not less. You are not a burden. You are powerful. You matter. Stand up. Speak out. Don't let anyone make you small."

Chichi: Leading With Power, Not Pity

For Chichi, change starts with words. "We're not living with disabilities – we are people with disabilities," she insists. It may sound small, but for her, this language shift is everything. It means rejecting pity and pushing for dignity.

Chichi's life is a balancing act, school, work, leadership. "One of the three always suffers," she admits. But the struggle isn't because of her disability, it's because being a young woman leader in Zimbabwe is tough. "People doubt your vision," she says. "You have to push twice as hard to be heard."

What does the world need to learn? "We are not all the same. Young people with disabilities are as different as anyone else, with dreams, skills, and unique stories. We are not charity cases. We are not helpless."

Chichi knows her worth. "Being a young woman leader is my personal victory," she smiles. But it's also part of something bigger, a new generation rewriting what leadership, power, and ability truly mean.

The Future: Reimagined, Unstoppable, and Inclusive

Chichi and Methembe aren't exceptions, they are examples. Examples of young Zimbabweans proving that disability isn't about limits, it's about difference. About power. About perspective.

Their voices and those of thousands more are reshaping Zimbabwe and the world. As they rise, the old stereotypes fall. And what's left is something new: a future where every ability, every dream, every young leader has space to shine.



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