



NEW YEAR OF POSSIBILITIES



The Feature.za

SPECIAL REFLECTION OF OUR MILESTONES



JANUARY 2024





Behind The Magic

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Miriam Dube

CONTENT WRITER
**Olwethu
Mokonenyane**

PHOTOGRAPHER
Stills by Tom

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
**Senyeki "Transformer"
Makola**

The Feature.za
NON-PROFIT DIGITAL MAGAZINE

TO CONTACT US, CLICK ON THE RESPECTIVE ICONS BELOW:



THE FEATURE MAGAZINE IS A NON- PROFIT ORGANIZATION
COPYRIGHT THE FEATURE 2019. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

CONQUERING
HIGHLY
COMPETITIVE
ENVIRONMENT

KEEPING UP WITH
PRETTY
NXUMALO

fifty
MOST
MEMORABLE
WOMEN AWARDS
2023
NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN

FEATURING
JAYLENE
RAMALATSO

LEARNING MORE ABOUT
MAKGOTS
MPHAHLE

PROPERTY & INVESTMENT GURU

WENDY LINDA



2023 DUMP



Cherith
Wareley
EDUCATION IS
KEY

Self-Care
Isn't Selfish
RE-THINKING
RESOLUTIONS



Featuring
BOITUMELO
KEETSE

DIGITAL
MARKETING
TRENDS:
A BUSINESS'S
STRONGEST
LEVERAGE

IMPORTANCE OF
Self-Acceptance

Thando Hlophe
MASTERING THE ART OF CONTENT CREATION



IN
RIDE

PROVEN
STRATEGIES
OF SUCCESS

FEATURING
REFILWE FOSU-
AMOAH

NOMAZIBULO
TSHANGA

⏮ ⏪ ⏩ ⏭





Hello and welcome to the exciting New Year of 2024! Wondering what this year holds for you? Whether 2023 was your best year or if you felt something was missing, The Feature Magazine believes that 2024 is a fertile field where you can plant and nurture numerous seeds of potential. It all depends on your efforts to water those seeds and cultivate a bountiful harvest.

This month, we're doing something a bit different. Instead of pushing content that might not resonate with the unique energy of each year, we're taking a reflective journey back through our past issues. Often, in our eagerness to look forward, we overlook the valuable lessons that the past can teach us. Our experiences and lessons shape us into the individuals we are today. Join us on this retrospective exploration of our journey, hoping it triggers a realization of how far you've come.

As for what's in store for The Feature Magazine this year, while we can't reveal everything just yet, we make one promise: Get ready for content that pushes the boundaries of what you thought we could achieve. Our only limitations are the ones we impose on ourselves. May this year be the one where you level up, grow, and evolve into the person you were always meant to be.

Cheers to an incredible 2024!

Much Love,

THE FEATURE MAGAZINE

Editor's Note



FEB/MARCH ISSUE 2022:

MBALI NKOSI

March is a month dedicated to celebrating women for their diverse contributions, recognizing that every woman deserves acknowledgment. In this issue, we aimed to authentically capture the experiences of women. One notable article delves into the challenge of recognizing the need for a break but hesitating to advocate for oneself when feeling exhausted. Additionally, we addressed the essential nature of gender equality, emphasizing that equality is not a privilege but a necessity that requires deliberate efforts.

Our cover star for this empowering issue is Mbali Nkosi, a true exemplar of female strength. Mbali doesn't just navigate the game; she revolutionizes it. Unconstrained by conventional rules, she tore up the rulebook and crafted her own set of principles that align with her vision. Going beyond boundaries, Mbali, drawing inspiration from her creative background, has become a force in various facets of her life. Her journey serves as an inspiring testament to the potential within every woman to redefine and excel in their own unique ways.

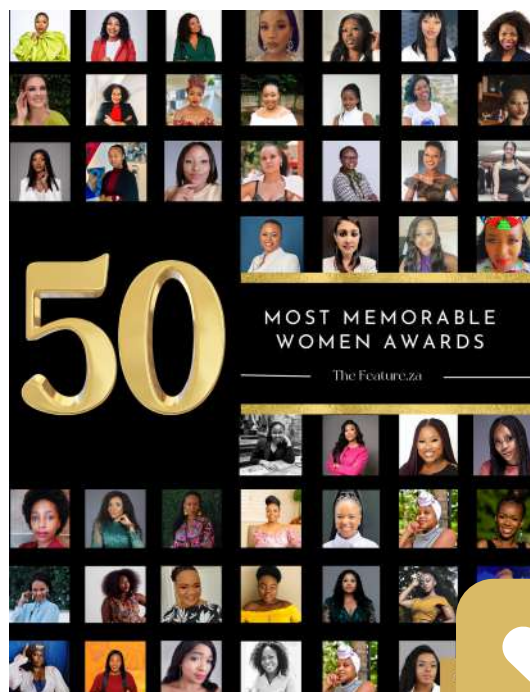


March provided a captivating exploration of relationships, shedding light on their profound impacts. Our articles delved into the complexities of choosing between love and career, offering insights into fostering positive work relationships within competitive industries. The featured individuals of the month emerged as the personifications of the transformative power of cultivated relationships.

Our cover star, Andiswa Xozwa, embarked on her career in the construction industry during a time when it predominantly functioned as an old boy's club, harboring biases against her gender and race. Nevertheless, she not only carved a space for herself but also established environments within her organizations that fostered solidarity among women rather than encouraging cutthroat competition. Andiswa embodies a personality that wields influence with both silk and humility. Her journey in a male-dominated field marked by racial prejudices serves as a testament that resilience can empower anyone to rise above challenges and emerge stronger from every setback.

MARCH ISSUE 2023: ANDISWA XOZWA

DECEMBER ISSUE 2022: TOP 50 ISSUE



This month presented an opportunity for us to embark on a unique endeavor, contemplating various approaches. Reflecting on our journey throughout 2022, which celebrated the work and experiences of women, sparked the realization that this acknowledgment deserved its own dedicated issue. Consequently, our inaugural Top 50 issue was born.

The overwhelming number of applications we received highlighted the vast array of incredible work undertaken by individuals, often unknown to us. This marked the inception of a series focusing on women who contribute significantly and merit the spotlight. The Top 50 initiative extended beyond businesswomen, encompassing all spheres of influence where remarkable women make a difference. The emphasis was on expressing gratitude to these women, encouraging them not only to be celebrated by their peers but also to celebrate themselves. Recognizing that behind every noteworthy organization or movement stands the person who initiated it, we decided to bring these trailblazers into the spotlight. This decision brought us immense satisfaction, reinforcing the importance of showcasing and celebrating these incredible women.

OCTOBER ISSUE 2022:

THANDEKA MNGOMEZULU



October, recognized as Pride Month, served as an opportunity for us to spotlight our first queer woman on the cover, aiming for a distinctive approach. While Pride emphasizes the acknowledgment that "Love is Love," we delved deeper into the idea that self-love, embracing every facet of oneself, is crucial. In line with fostering a positive life perspective, we chose to focus on financial wellness as a means of self-love.

Our featured personality embodies the essence of self-acceptance, portraying sexuality as an integral part of one's identity. The LGBTQIA+ community has consistently led efforts to reshape societal narratives for the better, advocating for rights and pushing boundaries. Our cover star, Thandeka Mngomezulu, translated these lessons into action, revolutionizing the corporate landscape to embrace inclusivity without reducing individuals to their sexual orientation. With her influence, the heteronormative culture within the corporate realm was dismantled, revealing the true diversity of the workforce.

The issue also delved into a conversation about queer activism, emphasizing that anyone can be an activist in a manner that aligns with their strengths. Furthermore, we explored how the inclusion of diverse sexual identities contributes to a vibrant tapestry, drawing a comparison between South Africa's evolving landscape and its previous, more heteronormative state.

JANUARY ISSUE 2023:

QUEEN MOKONOTO



Queen Mokonoto

FROM HR DIRECTOR TO CEO



Had you informed us that this would become our top-performing issue, we might have found it hard to believe. This particular edition served as a revelation, affirming our proficiency while inspiring us to continuously strive for improvement. We sought to emphasize the importance of self-care, positioning it as a vital elixir for various ailments. Addressing the prevalent tendency to become consumed by relentless goal pursuit, we advocated for the understanding that self-care isn't selfish; rather, it is a crucial means of preventing burnout.

A pivotal element of this issue was the introduction of Queen Mokonoto, a remarkable individual who navigated the challenges of losing her mother at 22. Her journey, transitioning from a social worker to a Human Resources professional and ultimately ascending to the position of CEO at United Ways South Africa, resonated deeply. Her story became emblematic of The Feature Magazine's ethos, prompting a shift in our perspective. We utilized her narrative to reinforce the idea that with dedicated effort, anyone can achieve their goals while also giving back to the community. This issue served as a powerful reminder of the inherent strength within each individual.



This issue underscored the transformative influence of the digital age on our lives and the imperative for organizations to embrace this evolution. Our articles emphasized the importance of digital adaptation for businesses while also exploring the profound growth that arises from self-acceptance in the era of unfiltered social media.

The synchronicity of these themes became apparent with our cover star, Thando Hlophe, whose journey encapsulates the essence of the issue. In a landscape teeming with diverse content creators, Thando distinguishes herself through her compelling personality, narrative, and the evolution that shaped her digital presence. Initially sharing her experiences as a lesbian navigating the modern world, she pivoted towards a broader focus on the universal human journey of self-discovery and acceptance. Thando has mastered the art of content creation, distilling it into a resonant package that connects with audiences on a profound level, leaving ample room for further growth.

APRIL 2023 ISSUE:

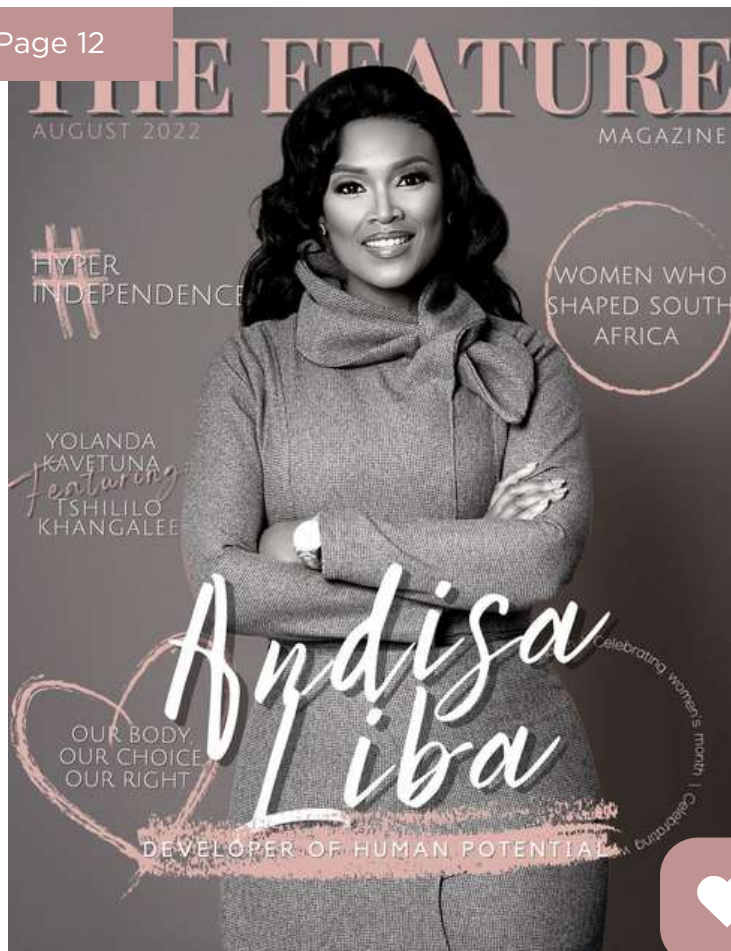
THANDO HLOPHE

OCTOBER ISSUE 2023:
WENDY LINDA



Our October issue delved into the empowering narrative of women rising to power in a manner authentic to their identities. The feature article explored the art of thriving in competitive industries—maintaining one’s edge while preserving the inherent softness that defines us. We sought to impart the notion that it’s not only acceptable to bring empathy and compassion into business but essential for maintaining mental well-being.

The spotlight of the month fell on women entrepreneurs who have carved their paths, demonstrating that success need not come at the expense of one’s true self. From haircare to event management, these women have established businesses that honor their authenticity. Our cover star, Wendy Linda, is a prime example. Revolutionizing the construction industry, Wendy blends innovation with style and grace, challenging stereotypes and leaving an eco-conscious footprint. Formerly rooted in insurance, she embarked on a journey of evolution, recognizing the importance of continuous improvement and sustainability in her field.



AUGUST ISSUE 2022: ANDISA LIBA

This cover received immense praise, and we're thrilled to have brought it to you. August, dedicated to Women's Month, aimed to pay tribute to the triumphs and struggles women experience. Our articles delved into two significant topics. Independence, often prescribed to women, was redefined to show that it's a concept personalized by you. It emphasizes that 'no' can be a complete sentence, and your identity isn't confined to relentless grinding. We also covered abortion, emphasizing that it is healthcare, irrespective of the reasons behind that choice.

Our cover star, Andisa Liba, embodies the strength of women when they embrace their true selves. Andisa's purpose revolves around empowering others with knowledge for self-improvement. Her journey resonates with modern women who seek authenticity over titles, aspiring to be themselves and pursue their dreams. Andisa exemplifies that growth demands challenging oneself, investing in personal development, and engaging in difficult conversations to expand one's perspectives. This is the essence of the evolutionary brand she represents.

DECEMBER ISSUE 2023:

TOP 50 2023



The Top 50 edition opened our eyes to the overwhelming support you have for what we do. Let's break down the numbers – despite featuring only 50 women, we received over 500 entries this year. That's a substantial increase compared to when we first introduced the Top 50. Take a moment to absorb this number – the Feature Family nominated 500 powerful women, recognizing their impactful contributions. The beauty of the Top 50 lies in uncovering numerous women whose remarkable work often goes unnoticed until we sift through the entries. Women deserve acknowledgment for their contributions because, to someone else, they have made a significant impact.

It's essential to convey that the size of one's impact isn't the sole measure of significance; it's the strength of that impact that truly matters. Each woman featured in this Top 50 exudes strength, and we want you to witness it. Furthermore, we promise to continue improving and showcasing the immense power that women possess – a power that is anything but fragile or soft. It's a force that sparks revolutions and transforms the way we perceive the world.



JULY ISSUE 2022:

PEARL MAAKE KA NCUBE

This issue was dedicated to breaking barriers – dismantling preconceived notions and challenging established narratives. We tackled the misconception that disabilities should be an insult and emphasized the importance of treating differently-abled individuals with the same respect as anyone else. We delved into the necessity for companies to adapt to the digital age, highlighting that a company's true wealth lies in the well-being of its employees. For unmarried women, we conveyed the message that the decision of when to get married should be a personal one, not dictated by societal norms.

Reflecting on this issue, our cover star, Pearl MaaKe KaNcube, perfectly embodied the themes explored within. She shattered internal barriers on her path to becoming an entrepreneur, demonstrating that one's obstacles are often internal, and it's within our power to overcome them. Despite her background, Pearl attained an MBA, advocating the idea that internal barriers can be transcended with determination and resilience. She serves as a testament to the notion that our experiences can be the driving force to break through barriers and achieve our goals.

APRIL ISSUE 2022:
LEBOGANG
CHAKA



In our perspective, this issue centres around the themes of love and self-belief. We strongly advocate for self-love, recognizing it as a revolutionary act in a world that often discourages such sentiments. This edition aimed to address our relationship with physical appearance, emphasizing that true happiness is an internal journey. Additionally, we offered insights on introducing your partner to your children, focusing on creating a positive and conducive process.

Our cover star for this month, Lebogang Chaka, embodies the profound power of love. Lebogang serves as an inspiration for those who hold a deep love for Africa, recognizing the continent as the womb of the world. She passionately shares insights into remarkable women in African history, celebrating figures like Yaa Asantewaa of Ghana, and expresses her love for her heritage. Lebogang believes that true self-love involves embracing every aspect of oneself without shame. Balancing regality with humility, she stands as a queen and a proud member of the African nation. Her love for Africa is not just a sentiment; it extends into her business endeavors, making her a truly admirable figure.



JUNE ISSUE 2023:

NOMAZIBULO TSHANGA

If there's a resounding message this issue aims to convey, it's about pride – pride in oneself, in capabilities, and in accomplishments. We believe everyone has something to take pride in, irrespective of external perceptions. The articles in this edition stress the idea that while having pride in our businesses is important, there's always room for improvement and growth.

Nomazibulo Tshanga serves as a prime example, leveraging her business acumen and a deep sense of personal pride. Her commitment to philanthropy reflects her passion for making the world better, drawing from her own community experiences. Beyond mere charity, Nomazibulo's philanthropic efforts through the Ziyana Foundation exemplify the notion that pride in one's actions should extend to building a lasting positive legacy.

The interview segments featured in this issue further underscore the significance of taking pride in oneself without veering into arrogance. It's about recognizing and celebrating your worth and accomplishments.

SEPTEMBER ISSUE 2022: _____

NOMA MASIKO-MPAKA



Our team believes that this particular issue marked the inception of the magazine's transformation into the publication you recognize today, and it's intriguing how it coincided with Heritage Month. This edition laid the groundwork for the magazine's current identity, a realization that dawned upon us only upon reflection. Heritage, especially during Heritage Month, sparks significant conversations as we all hail from diverse backgrounds. The richness of human experience lies in the interplay of heritage and culture on a global scale.

We featured an article addressing the sensitive topic of cultural appropriation without consent, emphasizing that heritage encompasses more than just culture. It extends to the lessons learned, the wealth generated, and the legacies passed down through generations. This issue prompted an understanding that, despite the mandate for equality in our heritage, instances of exclusion occur, necessitating our collective effort to combat such trends. Our cover star for this impactful issue, Noma Masiko-Mpaka, served as a perfect link to these themes. Noma embodies a unique brand of feminism that redefines the narrative, asserting that feminism is not a derogatory term. Through her activism, she advocates for rights and equality for all. Noma's example teaches us that the fight for rights is an ongoing process, transcending generational boundaries. From her inspiring activism, we convey the message that justice is achieved through a series of small, continuous acts, reinforcing our commitment to building a better world.