

MORATWE MASIMA – SANDTON, GAUTENG

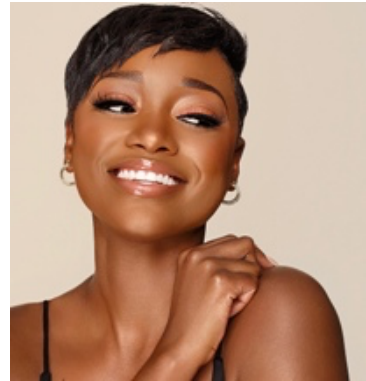
Name: Moratwe Masima

Region: Atholl, Sandton, Gauteng

Age: 24 (July 29, 1996)

Occupation:

I am a qualified medical doctor and graduated from the University of Stellenbosch. I am currently doing my first year of internship at Charlotte Maxeke Hospital and I am an aspiring plastic and reconstructive surgeon.



Previous beauty competitions or pageants you have entered:

Miss Teen Western Cape, First Princess; Miss Earth Water 2019.

Why did you decide to enter Miss South Africa 2021 and why do you deserve to win this title?

I believe that a Miss South Africa is a woman that is not afraid to stand up for the social issues that face this country. She is a woman that champions equality and empowerment of women and children and that is exactly who I am. I want to use the platform to amplify my voice as a young woman to inspire change in young boys' and girls' hearts to know that they can achieve anything they set their mind to, regardless of the circumstances that they come from. I want to utilise my skills and talents I have acquired as a medical doctor to help South African women get access to safe healthcare.

Tell us about your biggest disappointment and how you bounced back from it.

When I failed an exam in medical school. I bounced back by remembering why I started and that failure does not define me

What do you think is the biggest problem facing young people today?

Unemployment. We are currently in a global pandemic that has changed the trajectory of our economy and unfortunately the youth is currently facing the brunt of it. It is imperative that the conversation is had between the youth and the leaders of our country to help bridge the gap between graduation and employment and provide opportunities where whole communities can be uplifted.

Who are your role models?

Oprah Winfrey, because I love how she has been able to completely change the course of her life through self-affirmation and knowing her purpose, which is to serve people.

Tell us a bit more about your family?

My mother Hopolang (50) is a high school teacher and my father Tebello (51) is an entrepreneur in distribution and marketing in the food industry. My brother Morapedi (23) works at an insurance company as a junior developer in coding and my sister Reabetswe (15) wants to go into robotics.

What do you do in your spare time?

I absolutely love being in nature, it keeps me calm especially dealing with such a highly stressful job. I love hiking, going to the beach and going on picnics. If I'm not outside then I'm reading, learning a new skill and making videos for my YouTube channel.

What is your single biggest achievement?

When I was chosen as one of the four young South Africans to represent South Africa at the Johnson and Johnson youth conference in Leiden, Netherlands in 2013. It was an amazing opportunity where I got to interact with ambassadors from different countries around the world and developed so much confidence in myself and represented South Africa on a global stage.

In what way do you think beauty pageants are still relevant today?

Pageants are women empowerment platforms where women are given the voice to be leaders. Look at the calibre of women and how they have changed their communities

What is your message to young girls and young women in South Africa?

That we are powerful and worthy. Now more than ever we need to be leaders and embrace our femininity because it does not make us weak, it makes us authentic to our innate purpose

What do you love about South Africa?

I love how friendly we are and how we are so ready to embrace our cultures

What is one thing you would like to change about South Africa?

I would change how complacent we are regarding the issue of Gender Based Violence. We need to have actionable change.

2020 and 2021 have been extraordinary years and difficult for people around the globe. Do you see any positives in what has happened in the past 18 months?

I think that we have all gone through a collective hurt that has inevitably brought us together. We have realised just how short life is and how living a life full of purpose should be our standpoint. The small things in life like spending time with loved ones are now what people value the most.

If you won the Miss South Africa crown and was able to meet one person, who would it be and why?

I would love to meet the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Arden. I am in awe of how she handles the global pandemic and how she always put the livelihood of her citizens first. She leads with her heart and with conviction.

What is the one thing people would be surprised to know about you?

That I was a tomboy growing up and have the scars to prove it.

What is the No 1 piece of advice that you would give to your younger self?

I would tell myself to always stay true to myself. I was a shy and insecure young girl and allowed outside factors to determine my self-worth. As a result, I shrunk myself and my potential. I would tell myself to be proud of who I am and where I come from because it is my story and will add to the success of my life.

QUICKFIRE QUESTIONS**Describe yourself in three words:**

Powerful, ambitious, compassionate

What's the best advice you can give in exactly four words?

Stay true to yourself

Who's your favourite designer and why?

Gert Johan Coetzee, I love how he merges high fashion with elegance and especially how he styles Bonang.

You have to give up one of these? Handbags or shoes?

Handbags, I absolutely love shoes! Especially trying on different heels

What is one thing that we would not know about you just by looking at you?

I walked into a wall when I was 13 and cracked one of my front teeth. I cried so much because I loved smiling so much as a child.

What would be your dream holiday?

Brazil. I love the vibrancy of the culture and would love to experience the festivals there.

If you could have any superhuman power, what would it be?

To fly. I would fly to any country in the world because I want to see as many cultures and countries as possible.

What are you reading?

Start with Why by Simon Sinek

What music are you listening to?

Maverick City. I love how much their music relates to the youth of today

What are your favourite TV shows?

Game of Thrones and anything Marvel related.

What is your favourite meal?

Stew and oven baked bread

Who is your local and international celeb crush?

My local celeb crush is Maps Maponyane. My international crush is Chris Evans

What's your guilty pleasure?

Ice cream and cake!

Social media tags:

- Facebook: Moratwe Masima
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- Twitter: @moratwe_masima