

SPOTLIGHT ON

Entrepreneurs



In a nutshell sum up your business.

An interactive food experience with like minded people, learning new skills while having fun, and eating fabulous food made with love!

Who inspired you to start your business?

It was a combination of Liam Tomlin, (who's cooking school I had frequent flyer miles at) and then my family and friends, who have always encouraged and believed in me and my cooking talent.

What motivates you to succeed?

Happy satisfied guests in my kitchen.....
When all the chairs around the table are full, and chatter and laughter fill the room.....
That just makes me want to give more and more. I still feel like every customer is a personal guest, and treat them as such, wanting them to have the best experience and to love what I do. That makes me happy, and motivates me all the time.

What's your biggest competitive advantage?

I would say our venue is pretty spectacular, and has a good mix of the state of the art modern kitchen studio, with the old world charm of the rest of the house. The PEPPERMINT PALACE, as she is fondly known because of the faded green colour, has been around for many many years, and she is a grand elegant old lady. Guests feel at home here, they feel the warmth, the love and the history here. You cannot buy that, it just is.....

Sum up your business motto/philosophy

We do this FOR THE LOVE OF COOKING, and therefore our passion shines through, and this sets us apart. This is not a business, it is a vocation!

Your top tip for aspiring entrepreneurs?

Just go for it, take that first step, even if you can't see the top of the staircase.

What are some of your all time favourite South African brands?

Oakhurst Olives And Olive Oil, Le Joubert Red Wine, Five Roses Tea And Africolology Products (strange combination but they work for me!)

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La Van

Aesthetic | Skin | Clinic

In a nutshell sum up your business.

My Main business is to supply Laser Machines, equipment and Advance Skin care to the beauty industry. This gets imported from all over the world. I recently started exporting to Saudi Arabia, Seychelles and Australia. We developed a anti-cellulite body gel and home peel kit that has done very well. My second business is an aesthetic skin care clinic only focusing on aesthetics.

Who or what inspired you to start your own business?

I think from a young age I always knew I would be in sales as I loved making things and selling them. Both my parents had their own businesses so I learned entrepreneurship at a young age.

What motivates you to succeed?

I get motivated when I know my customers are satisfied and the feeling I get when I have over delivered. There is so much in store for me.

What's your biggest competitive advantage?

The fact that I have been in everyone's chair, I have been a beauty therapist, spa manager, business owner, supplier and a customer and by having this experience I know what my customers expect and want from me and I can deliver on this.

Sum up your business motto/philosophy

Always go above and beyond your status quo.

Your top tip for aspiring entrepreneurs?

When starting a business keep your overheads low, don't overspend in the beginning and remember you have to spend money to make money, so do it wisely

What are some of your all time favourite South African brands?

Cellabon RX and Vitamin Water.

Lurinda Swanepoel

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Photograph by Kaitlyn de Vries Photography



HERRINGBONE

In a nutshell sum up your business.

Herringbone strives to source fresh and exciting rugs from around the world that are of exceptional quality, well priced and timeless.

Who or what inspired you to start your own business?

My children are now 5 and 7 years old and I felt like it was time to find something creative and fun that would allow me to be flexible with my time and give us the opportunity to travel and be creative.

What motivates you to succeed?

Turning an idea into something tangible and successful is very motivating. The fact that we deal with beautiful products from around the world is also creative, fun and inspiring.

What's your biggest competitive advantage?

I think we offer exceptional quality and style while remaining competitive from a pricing perspective. We also travel and explore in order to find interesting and unique product.

Sum up your business motto/philosophy

The most finite resource we have on this planet is time—so think big and learn by doing.

Give us your top tip for aspiring entrepreneurs?

If you think it, you can do it!

What are some of your all time favourite South African brands?

Woolworths and Trevor Noah

Sarah Craig

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