

# Social Activists

*Refiloe Seseane*

**(31), founder: 18twenty8**

Seseane holds an Honours degree in economics from Unisa; she's played roles in SABC1's *Generations*, e.tv's *Rhythm City* and M-Net's *The Wild* and is the resident voice-over artist for Primedia's Lead SA campaign and the M-Net Magic Channel. After a stint at Allan Gray, then BoE Private Clients as a Business Analyst in the Investments Division, she decided to follow her dream.

In 2008 she launched 18twenty8, which assists young girls in making the transition from matric by offering facilitated workshops, bursaries, scholarships and employment opportunities. The organisation's reached 753 girls at 11 high schools in six townships across Gauteng, leading

Seseane to be selected as a member of the 2011 Young African Women Leaders' Forum with American First Lady Michelle Obama.

She plans to grow 18twenty8 into a national organisation that will finance the higher education of young women and is currently developing the 18twenty8 Green Girls project, which focuses on clean-up campaigns, respect for nature and the basics of climate change. "Environmental degradation is a huge problem and we'd like to encourage our beneficiaries to be more environmentally responsible young women," she says.

With faith, perseverance and resilience – the magic ingredients to which Seseane attributes her success – she'd like to obtain her PhD in economics and groom a young woman to take over the reins at 18twenty8.

**Contact**

**Seseane on**

**email: [info@18twenty8.org](mailto:info@18twenty8.org)**

**or visit:**

**[www.18twenty8.org](http://www.18twenty8.org)**

