

MPENZI

BLACK WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL

HAIRSTORY: A LOC DOC, Director *Laurie Townshend*
(Canada 2008, 14 min.)

On April 2, 2008, Laurie Townshend made a life-altering decision — she would stop chemically treating her hair and let it grow naturally. Armed with her camera and surrounded by both shocked and supportive friends and family, Townshend chronicles her physical transition; a personal journey that speaks to countless other women of colour who wonder why their self-esteem depends on what's going on with their hair!

LAURIE TOWNSHEND

Laurie Townshend is a Toronto-based educator, videographer and writer. She endeavors to teach her middle school students the literacy skills required to decode, decipher and develop meaningful media. When she's not working with students, Laurie can be found behind the lens of her Panasonic DVX 100 capturing live events around Toronto. Laurie is presently working on a screenplay for a full-length dramatic feature film based on her brother's unique experiences as a black hockey player in the NHL.

