

# BLACK COLLEGE TODAY

For Today's Black College Students  
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January/February  
2022



2021 - 2022

## Black College Queens



### 2021-2022 BLACK COLLEGE QUEENS

**GOLIN POWELL: HE GAINED RESPECT & ADMIRATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**

**M.S.U: LARGEST DONATION PAVES WAY FOR COLLEGIATE WRESTLING**

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# CONTENTS

# BLACK COLLEGE TODAY



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# FEATURES

## 4 D.Y.D YOU KNOW

Colin Powell  
Gained Respect And Admiration  
Throughout The World  
*by James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D.*

## 6 ECONOMICS

Pioneering Men's Grooming Brand,  
Bump Stopper®, Is Newly Acquired  
By High Time Acquisitions, LLC  
Legacy Product Line Gets a New  
Start in Clarksdale, Mississippi  
*by High Time Acquisitions*

## 10 UNIVERSITIES

Largest Donation In Morgan State  
University Athletics History Paves  
Way For Return Of Division I  
Collegiate Wrestling, Following  
24-Year Hiatus

## 14 SCHOLARSHIPS

"Hot Scholarships For The Month"  
*by Carla M. Dickerson*

## 16 CAREER

Finding Your North Star  
*by Felicia Durden*

## 18 CAREER

Diversity: Show A Little Respect  
*by Robin Kegler*

## 22 HISTORY

Facts! In Black History  
*by Crystal Styles*

## 24 BLACK COLLEGE TODAY PRESENTS:

2021-2022  
Black College Queens

## 42 HEALTHY

Returning Back to our Roots:  
African American Herbalism  
*by Jessica Miller*

## 46 UNIVERSITIES

The National Black MBA  
Association® Honors 30-Year  
Anniversary of Leaders Of  
Tomorrow® Program With  
\$400K Grant From USAA

## 47 UNIVERSITIES

Miss UVI Reigns Supreme At  
National College Queens  
Competition

## 48 UNIVERSITIES

Livingstone Students Earn  
First-Place Awards In  
National Competition

## 50 BLACK COLLEGE TODAY WINTER TOUR

## 54 ENTERTAINMENT

What's Hot On The Net!  
*by Steven M. Mootry, II*

### Contributing Writers:

*Carla M. Dickerson*

*Dr. Felicia Durden*

*James B. Ewers Jr. Ed. D.*

*High Times Acquisitions*

*Dell Jackson*

*Larry Jones*

*Robin Kegler*

*Jessica Miller*

*Steven M. Mootry, II*

*Crystal Styles*

### Social Media Coordinators:

*Neshaszda Brown Wright*

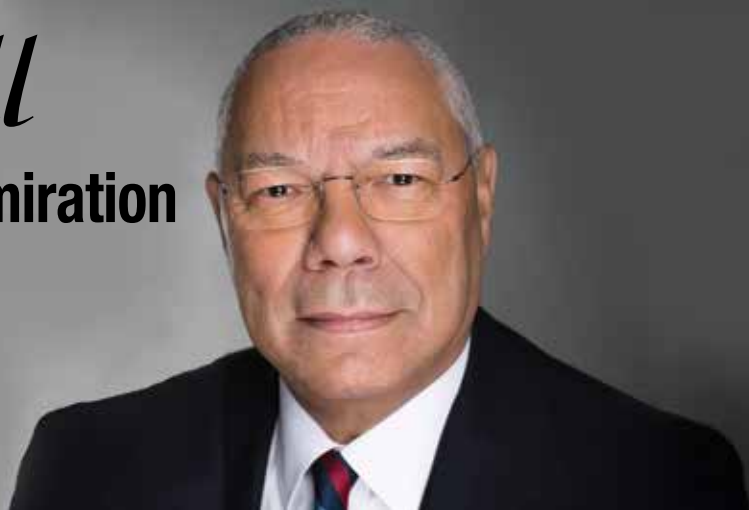
*Steven M. Mootry II*

*Did you know*

# Colin Powell

## Gained Respect And Admiration Throughout The World.

By Dr. James B. Ewers Jr.



*“If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue, or walk with kings nor lose the common touch.”*

That excerpt is a part of the time-honored poem,  
If by Rudyard Kipling.

I believe this poem fits the life and times of Colin Powell. This four-star general passed away from COVID-19 complications on October 18, 2021 at the age of 84. He was vaccinated.

To say that General Powell lived an enriched and successful life is an understatement. His contributions to this nation will live on forever.

While Secretary Powell was an American hero, he was also a world ambassador.

Integrity, high ideals and standards were more than just lofty words to him. He lived them on an everyday basis.

His homegoing celebration was held at the Washington National Cathedral in Washington D.C.

His funeral was attended by former presidents, George W. Bush and Barack Obama. Hillary Clinton, former secretary of state and first lady was also in attendance.

So family, friends and dignitaries were there to say one last and final farewell to this world leader.

Colin Powell's son, Michael in eulogizing his dad said, “Colin Powell was a great leader because he was a great follower. He knew you could not ask your troops to do anything you were unwilling to do yourself.”

He added, “His zest for life was driven by his endless passion for people. He was genuinely interested in everyone he met.”

Colin Powell was of Jamaican heritage. I share proudly this Jamaican heritage with him.

His work ethic was undeniable and contagious. It was universally known he made others around him better.

It was often said that he went out of his way to make sure that Army privates felt valued and needed.

General Powell never let politics get in the way of doing his job. He supported both Democrats and Republicans.

He advocated and believed in the power of people and not in the fleeting power of political parties. His vote was not taken for granted by either party.

Over his lifetime, Secretary Powell held many military positions. He was the first African American Secretary of State and also served as the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Madeleine Albright in her eulogy said, “On policy, the general and I didn't always reach the same conclusions. And in fact, he would later recount that one of my comments almost gave him an aneurysm. But over the past quarter century we also became very close friends.”

It is my belief Colin Powell was always able to provide rational suggestions and solutions to complex problems.

As college students, you should read more

about his life and his leadership. Like some of you, he was undecided about his life's work.

His wise counsel to presidents made for fewer problems and stronger positions for this country] in the world.

The history books will remember General Colin Powell as a statesman and a diplomat. These titles were well earned.

There are untold numbers of military personnel who see him as a role model. They have made an excellent choice.

In the coming months and years, there will be many commemorations in honor of Colin Luther Powell.

Schools, colleges and social justice centers will bear his name. Scholarships and endowments will have his name attached to them. You may want to create an initiative or program that will honor him.

His name will be revered and held in high esteem.

Kipling wrote, “If you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs and blaming it on you; If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you, But make allowances for their doubting too.”

Our hearts are heavy, yet we are thankful and eternally grateful that Colin L. Powell passed this way. His labor was not in vain.

America will miss him. ★



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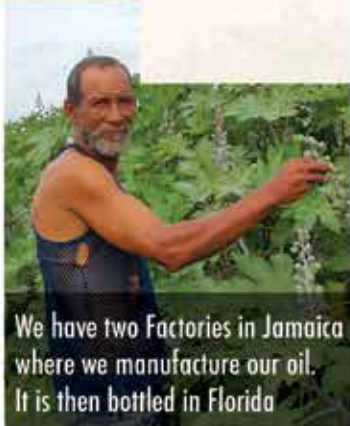


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# Pioneering Men's Grooming Brand, Bump Stopper®, Is Newly Acquired By High Time Acquisitions, LLC

## Legacy Product Line Gets a New Start in Clarksdale, Mississippi

By: High Time Acquisitions, LLC.



High Time Acquisitions, LLC. announces today its recent purchase of High Time Products, Inc. and its legacy Men's grooming brand, Bump Stopper®. The acquisition of Bump Stopper® from its Founder, H.R. Phillips, was led by the Managing Partner of High Time Acquisitions, LLC, Eric Brown, a veteran senior executive in the ethnic haircare industry.

owned company led by Eric Brown, who serves as President and CEO. Eric Brown has over 35+ years of experience leading major ethnic haircare companies such as Pro-Line International and Johnson Products, Mr. Brown also has a proven track record for accomplishing successful mergers and acquisitions, corporate and entrepreneur development that incorporates an extensive international business building experience, and for reviving legacy brands in the ethnic haircare category.

With the acquisition of High Time Products, an economic development opportunity also arose for Mr. Brown and his company. Located along the Sunflower River and known as the birthplace of the "Delta Blues" music, Clarksdale, Mississippi will be the company's new headquarters. With the help of the Chamber of Commerce in Clarksdale, and the state of Mississippi, High Time Acquisitions, LLC. was able to leverage the states' opportunity zone status within the city and move the manufacturing operations of Bump Stopper® and its family of products from Reno, Nevada to Clarksdale. The move was also facilitated by financing made in connection with the Federal and Mississippi State New Markets Tax Credit and programs, which were designed to attract capital investments in low-income communities, spur economic growth, and create new jobs.

Known for revolutionizing the Men's grooming category in 1972, Bump Stopper® and its family of products, was invented by H.R. Phillips because he recognized a need for a product that addressed ingrown hair, razor bumps, and razor rash. Leveraging his vast knowledge in chemistry and pharmaceuticals, Mr. Phillips invented a viable solution for men to achieve healthy skin. Mr. Phillips is also credited for creating an entirely new category in shaving retail sections throughout the world.

"It has been an honor and a pleasure to work with H.R. Phillips and his family over the past several months on the acquisition of Bump Stopper®," states Eric Brown. "Mr. Phillips was a pioneer and a visionary in our industry. My team and I look forward to building upon the strong foundation he laid and taking Bump Stopper® and High Time Products to new heights."

High Time Products, LLC., remains an African American

"We see enormous opportunity for Bump Stopper® in Clarksdale, Mississippi," states Mr. Brown. "From an economic development perspective, we have brought jobs to the community, especially for people of color. We also hope that as the company grows and expands, so will the community and its pride in what we are doing."

Bump Stopper® and its family of products is widely sold at such retailers as Walmart, CVS/pharmacy, Kroger, Family Dollar, and other major retailers. The products are also sold at all major beauty supply stores as well as online at [www.bumpstopper.com](http://www.bumpstopper.com).

The acquisition of High Time Products, LLC by High Times Acquisitions, LLC. was supported by its financial partners Southern Bancorp Bank, OCP Equity Partners, and Plus Factor Brands, LLC. Ferguson, Braswell, Fraser, Kubasta PC served as legal counsel to High Times Acquisitions, LLC.

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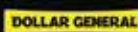
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MARK JACKSON

**VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVERTISING**  
FRED STIMAGE  
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INFORMATION CALL**  
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## LARGEST DONATION IN MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS HISTORY PAVES WAY FOR RETURN OF DIVISION I COLLEGIATE WRESTLING, FOLLOWING 24-YEAR HIATUS

*Endowment Funded by HBCU Wrestling and Billionaire Philanthropist Mike Novogratz Positions Morgan as the Only HBCU to Offer D1 Varsity Program*

During this most recent fall semester, Morgan State University announced the return of competitive collegiate wrestling to its athletic programs, making Morgan the only Historically Black College or University (HBCU) in the country to offer the sport of wrestling at the NCAA Division I Varsity level. Following a 24-year hiatus, the sport's revival comes as the result of the largest donation in history to Morgan's Athletic Department: a \$2.7-million gift from HBCU Wrestling (HBCUW), a new initiative reestablishing wrestling programs on HBCU campuses, in partnership with billionaire philanthropist and former hedge fund manager Mike Novogratz. The University has also been working with Baltimore-based nonprofit Beat the Streets to make the return of wrestling at Maryland's largest HBCU a reality.

The gift, which is among the largest received from a private donor to the University, will provide funding for men's wrestling at Morgan and will support up to nine full scholarships annually. In addition to the re-emergence of Wrestling, Morgan State Department of Athletics is continually assessing the University's sport portfolio to improve the access, equity, and opportunities for current for future Morgan Students.

"The purpose behind this donation is to create access and equity which will serve to further diversify the sport of wrestling by providing opportunities for student-athletes that do not currently exist," said Edward Scott, Ph.D., vice president and director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Morgan. "We are extremely grateful to Mike Novogratz and HBCU Wrestling for this tremendous contribution to Morgan State University Athletics."

The Morgan Bears have a rich and illustrious history in the sport of wrestling that began in the early 1950s. The Bears dominated competition throughout that decade and continued the trend in the '60s, capturing Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) titles in 1963, 1964 and 1965, among many other achievements.

In 1975-76, the legendary coach James Phillips took over and led the Bears to unprecedented success over the next 20 years. Morgan produced four national champions and had more than 75 wrestlers named All-American. Morgan's wrestling program was discontinued at the conclusion of the 1996-97 season, in part because of a lack of resources.

"Morgan as an institution is predicated on expanding opportunities, promoting

equity and creating access, and by way of this generous gift, we will be able to resurrect a program that opened the door for so many young men to bask in the promise and experience the magic of education," said David K. Wilson, Ed.D., president of Morgan. "We embrace this opportunity of being the only HBCU nationwide offering a D1 varsity wrestling program, and we invite those seeking a competitive athletic experience in this sport, and a world-class education, to consider Morgan State University."

There are nearly 400 men's wrestling programs in colleges in the D1, D2, D3, NAIA and NJCAA divisions. For a number of scholar-athletes, the allure of competing at a D1 wrestling college is a huge draw, as the students are presented with the opportunity to compete at the highest level. Scholastic wrestling is now practiced in 49 of the 50 states in the United States.

"Wrestling teaches leadership. Fifteen of our 46 presidents wrestled as well as many important business, political, and community leaders," says Mike Novogratz CEO of Galaxy Investment Partners. "That is what HBCUW is about, it's about growing the sport of wrestling and our bench of future black leaders who will make our nation more justice

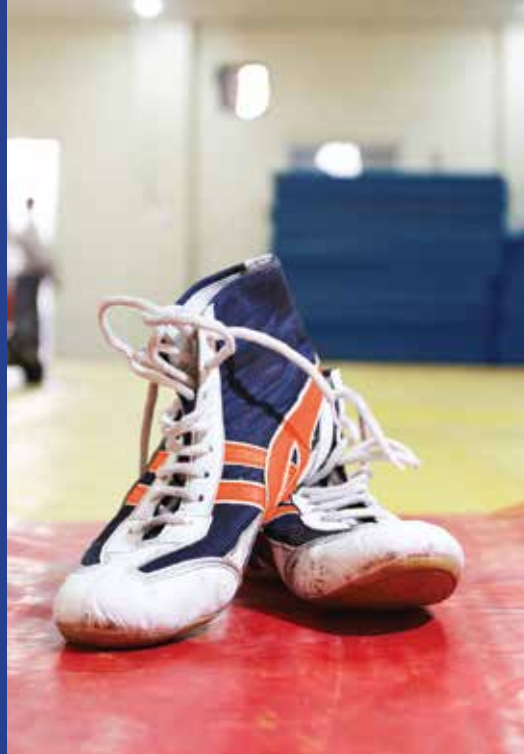
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and prosperous. I fully support the HBCU Wrestling Initiative and hope that many others will help push this endeavor forward.”

In addition to furthering the University’s relationship with Beat the Streets, which works to develop Baltimore’s youth through wrestling and STEM programs, Morgan will also engage the Coaches Association and the Black Wrestling Association as part of a broader effort to increase African-American participation in the sport..

Over the last decade, there has been an influx of African-American students participating in wrestling globally. Approximately 20% of the All-American wrestlers in NCAA Division I, II and III and NAIA are African American or are of mixed race with an African-American parent. In 2021 alone, five of the 10 NCAA Division I wrestling champions were African-American, continuing a tradition of representation and excellence in the sport.



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[Google Scholarships-googlescholarships.com](https://googlescholarships.com)

[Dell Scholar Program-dellscholars.org](https://dellscholars.org)

[Xerox Minority Technical Scholarship-Xerox.com](https://xerox.com)

[The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program:ed.gov/programs/psp](https://ed.gov/programs/psp)

[Princeton Prize in Race Relations:-princeton.edu/pprize](https://princeton.edu/pprize)

[Minority Undergraduate Fellows Program-Napa.org](https://napa.org)

[McDonald House Charities Scholarships-RMHC  
rmhc.org/rmhc-us-scholarships](https://rmhc.org/rmhc-us-scholarships)

[Google Lime Scholarship Program:  
google.com/edu/scholarships/the-google-lime-scholarship](https://google.com/edu/scholarships/the-google-lime-scholarship)

[100 Black Men of America Future Leadership Program  
100blackmen.org/education.aspx](https://100blackmen.org/education.aspx)

[Dennys Hungry for Education Scholarship  
dennyshungryforeducation.com/scholarships](https://dennyshungryforeducation.com/scholarships)

[GEICO Achievement Award Program:  
careers.geico.com/careers/students-and-grads/achievement-  
awards](https://careers.geico.com/careers/students-and-grads/achievement-awards)

[American Chemical Society Scholarships-acs.org](https://acs.org)

[National Association of Black Engineers-nsbe.org](https://nsbe.org)

[Student Inventors Scholarship-invent.org](https://invent.org)

[Ambassadorial Scholarships-rotary.org](https://rotary.org)

[American Legion Scholarships-legion.org](https://legion.org)

[AAU Youth Excel Program Scholarship-ausports.org](https://ausports.org)

[The Sammy Award for Athletes sponsored by Got Milk?  
Sammyapplication.org](https://sammyapplication.org)

[Lowe's Scholarship Program-careers.lowes.com](https://lowes.com)

[ACT High School Poster Concept Contest-actstudent.org](https://actstudent.org)

[The Foundation for Excellence in Education Arts for Life-  
excelined.org](https://excelined.org)

[Buick Achievers Scholarship-buickachievers.com](https://buickachievers.com)

[USA Funds Scholarship-usafunds.org](https://usafunds.org)

[The Thurgood Marshall Scholarship-thurgoodmarshall.org](https://thurgoodmarshall.org)

[GE Reagan Foundation Scholarship-reaganfoundation.org](https://reaganfoundation.org)

[Military Family Support Trust Scholarship-mobconline.org](https://mobconline.org)

[The Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholarship-jackierobinson.org](https://jackierobinson.org)

[Generation Ali Global Citizenship Program:scholarsapply.org/  
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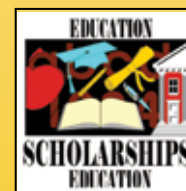
[NAACP Scholarship-NAACP.org](https://naacp.org)

[UNCF Scholarships-uncf.org](https://uncf.org)

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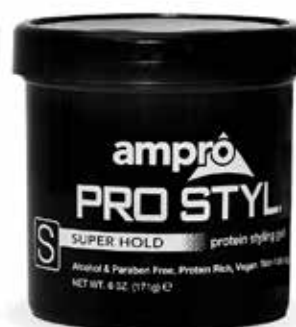
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# Finding Your North Star

by Felicia Durden

“It you’re doing something new you’ve got to have a vision. You’ve got to have a perspective. You’ve got to have some north star you’re aiming for, and you just believe somehow you’ll get there.....”

— Steve Case



Most of us are familiar with the concept of finding our North Star. It refers to living the life you were meant to live. This occurs when we are able to focus on our goals and connect with people and organizations that support those goals. As we start the new year I challenge you to step outside of your comfort zone and go big this year. Find your north star and follow it.

## Tip 1: Set Goals

Goal setting is something we often do at the beginning of a new year, but those goals need to be clear and focused. If you want to accomplish your goals you must start by being specific on what you want to accomplish. This means thinking about the goal and narrowing it down so you know exactly where you want to go. If you do not take this step, you might find yourself with too many goals.

Having too many goals can be overwhelming, and it can be discouraging. Without having a clear understanding of your goals you will not be able to celebrate the steps that are leading up to accomplishing the goal.

For example, let’s say your goal is to be a top executive of a large computer tech company.

To accomplish this goal, you need to be clear on a few more things. What type of computer tech company do you want to lead? How soon do you hope to get into this position? What are some entry-level jobs you will take that will set you on the path to your goal? What steps are you going to take today to get started on the path to accomplishing this goal?

Once you can answer this question and have clarity, you can start creating a plan to accomplish the goal and come closer to your north star.

## Step 2: Find Those Opportunities

Always be on the look out for opportunities. Success stories do not happen over night. It takes hard work, planning and seizing opportunities. As you are on the road to find your north star be ready to take advantage of opportunities that present themselves. Perhaps, there is an opportunity to join a club on campus. Maybe you hear about a summer internship that aligns with your future career goals. These opportunities are all the stepping-stones you can take to get you to your final destination.

The club membership could allow you to connect with someone who will help you get your first job.

The summer internship may turn into your first full-time job. I know of a few

young people who desired to go into politics. They started by taking on summer internships in Washington, DC. Each of them are now working in politics and it started with the connections they made when interning in D.C.

## Tip 3: Don’t Forget to Give Back

One of the best ways to find your north star is to take your eyes off of yourself and reach out to those in need. Those who give of their time and talents are often more successful and happier.

Most celebrities and other people of influence have charitable organizations that they give to and serve in. My favorite example is Oprah Winfrey.

She gives millions of dollars to her charities each year. As you strive to be successful remember to give to others and help out. This is a sure sign of a successful individual. Sign up to volunteer for a youth organization or help with a political campaign. These opportunities may launch you into your destiny. You never know!

I hope that these three tips may help you as you are on your road to finding your north star. Believe me, the journey will be worthwhile once you find your niche in life.



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# Respect

GIVE IT



TO GET IT

## DIVERSITY: Show A Little Respect

By Robin Kegler

Diversity is here to stay. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development defines diversity as “any dimension that can be used to differentiate groups and people from one another.” This is evident in our lifestyles, cultures, school, and work experiences. One genre that consistently demonstrates diversity is music. Aretha Franklin was the “Queen of Soul,” but showed her diversity by singing various music genre, including opera. A skillful musician and arranger, Aretha Franklin’s unique artistry garnered numerous awards and respect around the world. Her signature song, *Respect* is also a key to diversity and building relationships with those who are different from us. The lyrics sung by Ms. Franklin, “R-E-S-P-E-C-T, find out what it means to me...” acknowledges that respect looks different for each of us. The letters in R-E-S-P-E-C-T show how it can build a bridge toward diversity in the workplace.

Below is what R-E-S-P-E-C-T means to Inclusion Specialist, Margaret Spence, in a diversified workplace.

**R = Recognize Me.** Acknowledge and appreciate my similarities and differences as it relates to others in the workplace. See me. Reward me when I make a positive contribution. A reward is as simple as saying, “Good job. We appreciate what you are doing.”

**E = Empowerment.** Empower me to feel connected. How is the organization empowering its people to feel connected and respected?

**S = Support Me.** Invest in me by supporting my growth so that I can make a positive contribution to the organization. Refuse to let me sit, fulfilling less than my potential. Don’t refuse to promote me, or present opportunities for advancement because I smile and can get the work done, or because the promotion makes you uncomfortable.

**P = Protect Me.** I want to feel proud that I work for your organization. I feel aligned with the work I’m doing. We have a common purpose, mission, vision, and values. I will not be emotionally damaged by an emotional leader. You will not allow me to feel psychologically unsafe by the words you say to me. You hear me and validate what I am saying. You may not be able to fix a situation immediately, but you won’t discount it either because you recognize that I have feelings.

**E = Elevate Me.** Hear my voice. I want to feel heard. You acknowledge my emotions and my feelings.

**C = Creativity.** Help me be creative. Don’t put a cap on my possibilities. Give me the ability to be authentic. Allow me to show up as myself without judgment. You don’t know what I’ve been through to get to where I am. You disrespect me by discounting my contribution or my journey.

**T = Transform.** Change how you see me. It can get tiring fighting for you to see me for the full potential I have.

It can get tiring not feeling validated. Transform your lens to create greater respect for me. Transform your lens of equity and build it at the foundation with respect first. Teach your managers and leaders how to respect the teams they have put together.

Diversity, inclusion, and equality cannot exist without respect for each other. Create equitable space. Space to occupy the air you breathe, the foundation you stand on and the life you are. This is showing respect at a fundamental level. Do this so that a space is designed for inclusion that allows you the opportunity to rise to your full potential.

Closing thoughts:

In a world where you can be anything, choose to be respectful. It does not mean you will agree with others or have similar viewpoints. It does not mean others have to feel threatened by you in your current space because they have never seen someone like you in that space.

“Diversity and inclusion are the oxygen that allows all of us to breathe. Respect is the ability to pull that oxygen in and it permeates through us to go back out. Without the ability to pull respect in; to pull in fully and breathe fully in the space we occupy; we miss the opportunity to be our authentic self.” Margaret Spence

**Respect:** Find out what it means to those in your sphere of influence, at work, at school and in your community. Hear them. Acknowledge them and give them space to be their authentic self. Show respect and receive respect. It is a key to understanding diversity.

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In honor of Black History, I thought I would do something a little different with fun trivia about significant cultural contributions. Do you know the answers??? Let's see...

1) I developed techniques to improve the efficiency of soil usage for farmers. Who am I?

- a) George Washington Carver
- b) Booker T. Washington
- c) Rosa Parks

2) Unscramble the words for this prominent and impactful organization, then put the words in the correct order. (Go ahead, write your answer along the margins :) After you unscramble, be sure to look them up online to see what's *new* since 1909!  
ROF VANTEADENCM HET EPOELP  
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3) I filed a patent application for my invention in 1966 which included cameras and a remote unlock mechanism with other advanced technology features. You are probably using some version of it today. What did I invent? And who am I?

- a) First anti-theft security system for automobiles; Tia Norfleet
- b) First home security system; Marie Van Brittan Brown
- c) First remote controlled toy; Jill McDowell

4) My invention helps you drive safely and remain courteous to other drivers

along city streets. What did I create and patent? And who am I?

- a) The three-light traffic signal; Garret Morgan
- b) GPS; Jill Scott
- c) In car cameras; Sammy Davis Jr.

5) I had a lot of *firsts* in history, but I was most known for being the first black female physician to receive a medical patent for an integral device that helped reshape a major surgical procedure, highly utilized today. Who am I? And what is the name of the device?

- a) Mae Jemison; The Astronaut device
- b) Marian Croak; The Technical tool
- c) Patricia Bath; The Laserphaco

Did you get them all correct? I hope so :)

There is a multitude of impactful and lasting contributions by Blacks across the globe that have helped shape our world. I hope these few fun facts inspire you to be a contributor to the betterment of society. During the celebration of Black History, take time each day to read about Black inventors and contributors. Share a "did you know?" conversation about your findings with family, friends, classmates, coworkers and colleagues!

Happy Learning! Until the next time...



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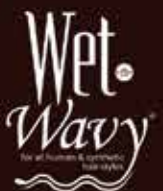
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## Returning Back to our Roots: **AFRICAN AMERICAN HERBALISM**

*by Jessica Miller*

Plants brought more than healing to enslaved Africans; they brought light, flavor, connection, remembrance, and joy into the otherwise dire and cruel living conditions experienced under slavery and subsequent economic and social oppression. Herbalism was a daily practice of empowerment and healing for men and women alike because there were very few other options for healing.

According to Sade Muse of Roots of Resistance, African American herbalism is a rich melange of many cultural traditions with deep origins rooted in African history dating back to ancient Egypt. It includes Arab and Asian practices that crossed paths due to trade and cultural exchange on the African continent. As enslaved African people crossed the Atlantic with the transatlantic slave trade, their herbal knowledge and practices were influenced as well as appropriated by European slavers. Leah Penniman of Soul Fire Farm and the author of *Farming While Black* has noted that enslaved Africans were often selected for their agricultural expertise because Europeans were not used to farming in the warmer climates of the Caribbean islands and the southern United States (Penniman, 2018). In this way, their knowledge of plants as well as their forced labor made them vital to the success of the colonies. After arriving in the Americas, cohabitation and collaboration with Indigenous Americans meant that enslaved Africans were then introduced to knowledge of local plants and their medicinal ways. Therefore, African American herbalism is a hybrid of all the knowledge that enslaved Africans

came into contact with leading up to and throughout their enslavement.

The European colonists observed the herbs and plants used by enslaved Africans who sought more regular contact with Indigenous communities when their medicines weren't working. There was a complex relationship between colonizers and the enslaved when the practice of herbalism was involved. On one hand, colonizers wanted enslaved Africans' healing knowledge, especially when their own remedies were not working or European medicine was too expensive to import. On the other hand, European colonizers also feared African "root medicines" and did not want enslaved people to be empowered in any way. For enslaved Africans, herbal knowledge was a tool for liberation and spiritual, emotional, and physical health. Highly sought-after herbal supports could even be used as bargaining tools for freedom.

European colonizers feared poisonings and uprisings, but also needed the herbalism of the peoples they oppressed, though many forbade the practice of herbalism. As Leah Penniman (2018) explains:

"By the mid 18th century, both Virginia and South Carolina made it a capital offense for enslaved people to teach or learn about herbal medicine and prohibited us from working in apothecaries. Further, European Americans borrowed from African medicinal knowledge, then erased the stories of the originators over time. For example, in

the 1863 edition of Resources of the Southern Fields and Forests, the entry on boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*) includes, 'this plant is extensively employed among the negroes on the plantations in South Carolina as a tonic and diaphoretic on colds and fevers, and in typhoid pneumonia so prevalent among them.' By the time the Peterson Field Guide was published in 1990, boneset was merely described as a 'common home remedy of 19th century America, extensively employed by American Indians and early settlers.' The Black herbalists were erased. (p.190)

Many Black, Indigenous, People Of Color (BIPOC) have been robbed systematically of their connection and access to the land and to herbalism because it was stigmatized and made unsafe for them to practice. This robbed them of the knowledge of their ancestral herbals, folkways, and rich traditions. Today, because of systemic racism and historic erasure, modern African Americans have been cut off even further from the very practices, foodways, and knowledge that helped their ancestors survive and build resiliency during enslavement.

We need to nurture this traditional herbal knowledge back to health. It's time to reclaim our knowledge and to give thanks to our Ancestors who laid the foundation for us to continue herbalism.

*Reclaim.*

*Believe.*

*Rise.*



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# The National Black MBA Association® Honors 30-Year Anniversary of Leaders of Tomorrow® Program with \$400K Grant from USAA

The National Black MBA Association® (NBMBAA®) has been awarded a one-time grant of \$400,000 from USAA to support the Leaders of Tomorrow (LOT) program. Through this generous donation, the association can continue to provide a national network of support and accountability to students that will:

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The USAA grant is the largest one-time donation from a sponsor the LOT program has received. It will be used to support program initiatives, scholarships, financial literacy training and support the National Leadership Summit, a four-day youth leadership event held on a college campus where students engage in a variety of learning experiences and workshops and participate in a national business case competition.

“We commend the National Black MBA Association for developing a program that supports the growth and development of multiple generations of high school students,” said Justin Schmitt, AVP, Corporate Responsibility, USAA. “We are proud to support this impactful program that will provide essential leadership development skills for high school students as they advance to successful collegiate and professional careers.”

Since its inception in 1991, the NBMBAA® Leaders of Tomorrow® Program has mentored nearly 10,000 talented youth aspiring to leadership roles in professional fields. The LOT program is a comprehensive programmatic approach driven by mentoring across five developmental areas: leadership, financial literacy, college preparation, career preparation and life skills.

“This is a huge accomplishment and honor for one of our most treasured programs,” said Paula Fontana, vice president, strategic programming initiatives, NBMBAA. “Through LOT, we are able to help mold young minds, equip them with the life skills and professional skills, while exposing them to the various educational opportunities that lie in their future. We are so thankful to LOT supporters, including for their generous contribution and supporting the cause of uplifting Black students and positioning them for success.”

To learn more about LOT, or to donate to the fund, visit <http://www.nbmbaa.org/donate-form>.

# Miss UVI Reigns Supreme at National College Queens Competition



University of the Virgin Islands student ambassador, Miss UVI Jackeima Flemming, was crowned Miss National Black College Alumni (NBCA) Hall of Fame 2021-2022, in Atlanta, Ga. Flemming competed among 19 other contestants from other Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and is the third UVI queen to bring the coveted crown and title home.

“I am happy that I achieved my ultimate goal of making UVI proud as a goodwill ambassador and Student Government Association president,” said Flemming. “I hope that I have inspired my student peers to remain resilient and rooted in the legacy of those before us. Despite the adversities, I am proud to say that UVI with its culture of student care and support made this happen.”

Contestants vying for the NBCA Hall of Fame title were judged in the following segments: personal interview; oratory, poise and projection, which included the evening gown segment; talent and question and answer. Flemming was selected as a top ten finalists and then as a top five finalists before being crowned Miss NBCA Hall of Fame. “I am proud that my HBCU prepared me to excel, and I can now use what was instilled in me, as a national ambassador for all HBCU’s,” added Flemming.

*Jackeima Flemming returning home*

“On behalf of the Office of Student Affairs, we are exceedingly proud of Jackeima Flemming for representing our university with poise, grace and intelligence,” said Verna Rivers, dean of Students Affairs on the Orville E. Kean Campus. “As an institution of higher education dedicated to student success and committed to excellence, we stand confident in the University’s ability to produce leaders, innovators, trailblazers and global ambassadors.” Rivers also expressed her thanks to the student affairs team on both campuses which included: Hedda Finch-Simpson, dean of Student Affairs on the Albert A. Sheen Campus and her staff Jana Austric, Orngel Erksine, Trudi Golphin and eight UVI students who traveled with and supported Flemming throughout the competition. In addition to support from UVI, Flemming also received support and coaching from Cresida Reid and Shayla Solomon.

“We are so proud of Jackeima Flemming,” said Finch-Simpson. “Her intellect and poise were reflected in every segment of the show. The student affairs staff on St. Croix did an amazing job providing our reigning NBCA Queen the much-needed support

emotionally, spiritually and technically,” added Finch-Simpson. “The students who traveled with Flemming celebrated and brought our UVI Bucs Pride across the waters and we are grateful for everyone’s support.”

The four-day Miss NBCA Hall of Fame queen’s competition schedule consisted of: a Queen’s Welcome tea and orientation, interview and oratory preliminaries, talent preliminaries, “Call to Womanhood Symposium,” the Miss NBCA Hall of Fame competition, and a farewell breakfast.

The focus of competition is to provide great opportunities for young women attending the nation’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities and help to better prepare them for the future, as well as gain self-awareness, self-confidence, individual pride, pride for their institution and a greater social awareness overall.

The National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc. hosts the Competition of Black College Queens as part of its Annual NBCA Hall of Fame Weekend

# LIVINGSTONE STUDENTS EARN FIRST-PLACE AWARDS IN NATIONAL COMPETITION



*Award Winners:  
Justin E. Wade  
and Emile  
Dogbe-Gakpetor*

Livingstone College continues to be among the best in academia and student competitions as two students won first-place awards in a nationwide competition.

Honors' students participated in the 30th National Association of African American Honors Programs (NAAHP) Conference, held virtually Oct. 20-24 and hosted by Alabama State University under the theme, "Embracing a Legacy of Love, Tolerance and Diversity."

Livingstone College senior and Student Government Association President, Justin E. Wade, a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., competed in the oratorical competition that challenged students to discuss the triumphant strides of academic progress, economic gains and cultural dignity regarding the historical plight and current state of HBCUs, with a focus of why it is important to embrace an indefatigable spirit in America. The scholar's 10-minute oration granted him first place in the competition and a monetary award.

Livingstone College junior, Emile Dogbe-Gakpetor, a native of Ghana, West Africa, earned the first-place Pearl Award for his essay response to the conference theme with a focus on "Surviving the Pandemic." Additionally, Dogbe-Gakpetor and teammates Juliet Makena, Varvara Papakonstantinou and Darion Graham competed in the quiz bowl competition.

Faculty member, Dr. Da'Tarvia Parrish, presented on the National Endowment of the Arts and "The Big Read" grant application while the college's library director, Laura Johnson, served as chair for the Model African Union.

"We are Blue Bear proud of these students for demonstrating excellence on this national platform," said Livingstone President Dr. Jimmy R. Jenkins, Sr. "To win an oratorical award and a writing award speaks volumes to the success of our quality enhancement program, 'Write for Life.' Thanks, also, to Dr. Parrish for her consistent leadership with our Honors Program."

The virtual experience hosted more than 30 HBCUs as students engaged in research presentations, STEM poster presentations, Model African Union, debate, quiz bowl and oratorical competitions, while faculty delved into workshops underlining best practices in honors programs, grant writing and publication opportunities.

The conference included seminars from notable graduate programs to include Harvard, Notre Dame and Emory universities. Among companies and organizations represented were INROADS, the National Science Foundation and Wells Fargo.

The NAAHP began in May 1990 when a group of Honors directors from approximately 20 Historically and Predominantly Black Colleges and Universities met at Morehouse College in Atlanta to discuss plans for a national organization of honors programs designed to address the specific needs of honors education for African-American students. The following year, the NAAHP was formally established and a set of goals was designed to promote the continued empowerment of its constituents (students) through enhanced cognitive and affective experiences.

The conference will be hosted next year by Morgan State University in Baltimore, Md.

## About Livingstone College

Livingstone College is a private historically black college that is secured by a strong commitment to quality instruction, academic excellence and student success. Through a Christian-based environment suitable for holistic learning, Livingstone provides excellent business, liberal arts, STEAM, teacher education and workforce development programs for students from all ethnic backgrounds designed to promote lifelong learning, and to develop student potential for leadership and service to a global community. For more information, visit [www.livingstone.edu](http://www.livingstone.edu).



# BLACK COLLEGE TODAY

Apologies for the misspellings of the names  
in the S.G.A. Presidents Issue.



# BLACK COLLEGE TODAY

PROUDLY PRESENTS

# 2021-2022 STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS



**TYRESE PERRY**  
*Major: Elementary Education*  
SHAW UNIVERSITY



**LADARRYL HARDY**  
*Major: Mass Communications*  
WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY

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# WHAT'S HOT ON THE NET!

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! WELCOME BACK TO BCT'S WHAT'S HOT ON THE NET!!! WE'RE BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS ON CELEBRITIES ACROSS THE WORLD SO LET'S GET INTO IT!!!**

As we begin 2022, we need to give credit where credit is due! Congrats to **Megan Thee Stallion** for graduating last month from **Texas Southern University** with her Bachelor's in Health Administration!!! Megan started at **Prairie View A&M University** as a nursing major but eventually changed majors and universities. Shout out to both HBCUs!!! Balancing a successful music career, entrepreneurial efforts, being a global superstar and a student at the same time seem nearly impossible but Megan did it! We can't wait to see what she has in store for 2022!

We cannot look back at 2022 without giving a shout out to **J.R. Smith!** The former **NBA** player is currently enrolled at **North Carolina A&T State University**. J.R. met his fall semester goal of achieving a 4.0 GPA!!! This is not an easy task! Smith, who is also a member of the golf team, will look to do it again this semester!

In other college news, **Saweetie** will begin teaching a branding and marketing course at her alma mater, USC!!! In a recent interview, Saweetie stated, "It's important for businesses to evolve with modern consumers, generations Z, the millennials. They are the people spending the money." We're looking forward to seeing how **Professor Saweetie's** class goes along with hearing new music on the way from the superstar!

We are all eagerly awaiting a sequel to the **Marvel** classic, **Black Panther**. The passing of **Chadwick Boseman** halted plans and now the late actor's brother wants the role of **T'Challa** to be recast. **Derrick Boseman** believes his brother would want the role of T'Challa to live on. A petition on Change.org currently has over 40,000 signatures from fans also wanting Marvel to recast T'Challa. Previously, Marvel indicated they would not recast T'Challa. We will keep you posted on how this one plays out!

Be on the lookout for an autobiography from Brooklyn's own, **Bobby Shmurda!** The rapper stated last month on **Twitter** that he just started writing it. He wrote, "I Just Started Writing My Autobiography & My First Page More Lit Than Yo Daddy's Daddy Whole Life #Shmurda #DontPlayWithThatBoy."

Ok Bobby! We see you! We've been put on notice and hope he finishes the book ASAP! Bobby has been through a lot since jumping to fame so we can't wait to read it!!!

As far as new music goes, here's what we're currently listening to.

**Alicia Keys - KEYS**

**Birdman & Youngboy – From The Bayou**

**Khalid – Scenic Drive**

**Polo G – Hall of Fame 2.0**

**Roddy Rich – Live Life Fast**

**THAT'S IT FOR THIS EDITION OF WHAT'S HOT ON THE NET!!! BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR MORE CELEBRITY NEWS NEXT TIME IN BCT!!!**

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