

BLACK COLLEGE TODAY

For Today's Black College Students

Volume XXII

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September/October

2023



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BlackCollegeMag

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Contributing Writers:

Carla M. Dickerson

Dr. Felicia Durden

James B. Ewers Jr. Ed. D.

William Jackson

Larry Jones

Robin Kegler

Christopher Mattox

Jessica Miller

Steven M. Mootry, II

Kenneth Mullinax

Bernice Ramey

Crystal Styles

Social Media Coordinators:

Neshaszda Brown Wright

Steven M. Mootry II



HIGHER EDUCATION IS STILL ATTAINABLE FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS DESPITE THE SUPREME COURT DECISION ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION.

By Dr. James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D.



If you are Black like me, struggles and hardships have always been a part of our lives. It is just never easy for us. That is why our achievements and accomplishments are so gratifying.

Hard work, determination and resolve have been hallmarks of our lives. That is what the African American experience is and has always been.

We hear the term, “against all odds”. That longstanding and venerable expression belongs to us. While we didn’t coin the phrase, it certainly is a part of our life story.

Our pathway to greatness has been steeped and solidified in our core values. One of our long-held beliefs is the importance of education.

Having a good education has been an ancestral attribute. Black families understood early on the importance of “book learning”. They knew that once we had it that it couldn’t be taken away from us.

My parents gave me a daily dose about the importance of education and how it could improve the quality of my life. It didn’t matter your possessions, it mattered more that you possessed an education.

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Old school parents realized that possessions were fleeting but an education was permanent.

More African Americans are attending college today, yet the numbers must improve. According to reports, in 2021, there were 2,717,000 African Americans attending college. We made up 15.7 percent of those enrolled in higher education. We can do better, and we must do better.

Recently, the United States Supreme Court said, “Colleges and universities can no longer take race into consideration as a specific basis for granting admission.” Affirmative action as we know it has been sidelined and sidetracked.

Some would say that we have become even more marginalized when it comes to getting a higher education. Critics have weighed in, saying that our quest for higher education has been severely damaged. Even President Biden has decried the Court’s decision.

He said, “In case after case, including recently, just as a few years ago in 2016, the Court affirmed and reaffirmed this view: that colleges could use race not

as a determinative factor for admission, but as one of the factors among many in deciding who to admit from an already qualified pool of applicants.” Now colleges are going to determine what to do about building diverse student bodies.

One strategy already being discussed is having applicants write more about their backgrounds and economic means in their college essays. There is great merit in that approach so we will see if it works.

As affirmative action is being discussed and debated, HBCU,s (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) have grown in popularity. These schools were established because we could not attend White colleges.

I graduated from Johnson C. Smith University, an HBCU located in Charlotte NC. I have always valued and cherished my education there because JCSU gave me the confidence to aspire towards my goals. I suspect if you attended an HBCU, you would echo my sentiments. In HBCU,s we saw the inspiration that gave us the aspiration to succeed and to achieve our goals.

I believe with the Supreme Court’s ruling, it will mean a few strategic moves for African American students and HBCU,s. First, African American students will begin to be more intentional in looking at HBCU,s to attend. They will make campus visits and find out more about their program offerings and campus life.

For Historically Black Colleges and Universities, it will mean developing new programs and enhancing existing programs. HBCU,s are just not competing against themselves, they are also competing against PWI,s (Predominantly White Institutions). These are my opinions.

Students of color should not be in a woe as me mindset, but in a wow as me mindset because of the opportunities that await them.

The decision by the Court, while disheartening, will only be an educational detour, not an educational roadblock.

This column is dedicated to Mrs. Myrna Angelain who served the city of New Orleans for over 40 years in a variety of positions.

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PUBLISHER AND EDITOR

STEVEN MOOTRY

TRAFFIC MANAGER

MARK JACKSON

VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVERTISING

FRED STIMAGE

ROSLYN P. WILLIAMS

**FOR ADVERTISING
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Transform Mid-Atlantic Selects Morgan State University Graduate Student to 2023-2024 Civic Fellowship Program

Simone Robinson to Leverage Leadership Skills and Civic Engagement for Community Transformation

Simone Robinson, a Morgan State University graduate student in the School of Architecture & Planning's (SA+P) Landscape Architecture program, was named a 2023-2024 Transform Mid-Atlantic Civic Fellow. Nominated by Morgan President David K. Wilson, Simone will leverage this esteemed opportunity and platform to strengthen her leadership abilities and engage in civic initiatives. She is one of 16 selected student leaders representing institutions from across Maryland, Washington D.C., and Delaware to participate in the fellowship program.

Transform Mid-Atlantic's Civic Fellowship (TMACF) program offers student leaders from the Mid-Atlantic region high-impact opportunities to develop their leadership skills and understanding of civic and community engagement so that they may better serve as leaders in their communities and collectively create solutions to our region's most urgent problems. The fellowship serves as a key pipeline for developing student leaders that are engaged global citizens, actively contributing to the creation of equitable, healthy, sustainable, and socially just communities. Each year, one student is nominated by the president of each member institution to foster the development of engaged global citizens and equip them with the necessary skills to address the pressing challenges of our region.

"In her first year at the illustrious national treasure, Morgan State University, Simone, a current 4.0 student, has illustrated her ability to understand the course content that will inevitably allow her to be an asset to our community," said President Wilson. "We are very proud of her and do not doubt that upon completing her degree, with the skills and knowledge gained in the studios and classrooms at Morgan, she will move on to successfully engage with her community or others, creating safe and pleasant environments to commune, connect, and create."

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M O R G A N . E D U



WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A JOB AND WORK?

By Robin Kegler



Have you ever had a job (paid or volunteer) that gave you experience, a paycheck, or class credits, and met your needs, but wasn't something you enjoyed doing? Is it possible to turn the job you have into the job you want until you find work you love? Yes, it is! There is a process I use and share in a 3-Day Challenge to help others move from having a job to work they love. In this article, the difference between a job and work will be discussed.

In 2010, researchers Dutton and Zesnewski studied patterns of people at work and why some people doing the same job had different perspectives about the tasks they were assigned to do. One group thought that tasks are "what I do." The second group thought that functions are "how I serve." Each choice determined how people went about their daily tasks. The first group saw what they were doing as a job, while the second group viewed it as work. Is there a difference? Yes. Before you can move from having a job that you do because it is your assigned task to work you enjoy, you must understand the difference between the two and the key to making a positive change.

There are many reasons people stay at a job and not move on to work they enjoy. Reasons include lack of job opportunities, fear of taking the step and being wrong, and the salary received. Moving forward requires a mindset change. A mindset is an attitude you hold about your current job, life, and world. It is how you see yourself, your job, and how it makes sense in relationship to things in your world. It is about seeing and doing things you may not have considered before and being open to receiving new things. One new thing is understanding the difference between having a job and working.

A job is either transactional or transitional. A transactional job is one with a mutual exchange. You perform a certain function (task) in exchange for a paycheck. This can also include time on a job. The longer you stay and contribute the more active your benefits become on the job. In addition to being transactional, a job is also transitional. A transitional job is not permanent. It is the vehicle you use to intentionally move toward the work you love. Work is transformational. Your presence and actions inspire others, motivate and challenge you and others to be their best every day. It brings about positive change in your work environment.

It is important to understand that you will go through all three stages to find the work you love. Learn the lessons that a job (transactional and transitional) and work (transformational) can teach you. Then go on to serve others and not be satisfied with just completing an assigned task.

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MADE IN USA



by Dr. Felicia Durden

Many of you may be looking for part-time or full-time employment as you go through school. Finding a job can be daunting, but if you follow the tips I have included in this month's article, you will find that the task will be more manageable and fruitful.

Tip #1: Finding Jobs

When looking for jobs, you can check with your career counseling department or look on Indeed. Still, two other successful ways of finding work are using your LinkedIn profile and walking into businesses with help wanted signs.

Today, many companies look at LinkedIn to find employees. You can update your status as open for employment, and then recruiters do the work of finding jobs for you.

This is a much easier way of job searching as you update your profile and let someone else do the grunt work. Another successful way to find employment is to approach businesses that have help wanted signs posted. I know many employees who have gotten jobs by stopping in and getting an interview on the spot.

Tip #2: Update your resume:

Make sure that your resume is up to date. Check that the phone numbers of your previous employers are up to date, and let your references know that you are applying for jobs and that they might be contacted. I have tried calling references with the wrong phone number, which is frustrating. Be sure to have a friend review the resume and ensure you have no grammar errors or typos. Your resume represents you, so make sure you put your best foot forward.

Tip #3 Consider Jobs That Relate To Your Future Career Goals:

Consider looking for positions that relate to your future career goals. There is a two-fold gain in this. First, you get to gain experience firsthand in the industry you would like to work in. This will help you build your network as you meet people and also will help you determine what type of positions you may be interested in.

Next, you get paid to "try out" your future career path. This is a huge payback as you can get paid, learn, and grow simultaneously.

Tip #4 Lean Into Your Network:

Most jobs are found by networking. Let people know that you are looking for a job. You will be surprised how many people know people looking for employees. Recently, my son was looking for a job. I let my network know, and he had over five interviews in one week. Companies are eager to hire college students as you bring fresh ideas and positive energy to enhance the work environment.

These four tips are meant to provide insight into strategies to help in your job search. Make it fun, and happy job hunting!

Dr. Felicia Durden is an accomplished Educator with over twenty years of experience in Education. She holds her Doctorate of Education degree in Educational Leadership, a Master's Degree in Curriculum & Instruction, and a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature. Dr. Durden has taught grades K-12, served as an Assistant Director of Reading and Writing, Principal, and Associate Superintendent for the Arizona Department of Education, and is currently serving as Executive Director of student services for Arizona State University Prep. In addition, she has taught English Composition at the College level as an adjunct instructor for over eight years. Dr. Durden has a passion for assisting student growth in reading and writing.

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"HOT Hair?"

We've had some real scorching summer days as the Fall season approaches. And I don't know about you but my hair is requiring a little extra TLC because of it.

Have you experienced more than normal hair shed, breakage, dryness and just overall lackluster-strands possibly caused by the intensity of the sun's rays. Yep, me too.

Because textured hair is very delicate, many times in high temperatures natural hair is left feeling extremely dry.

Ouch My Scalp!

Harsh exposure to super hot UV rays can also cause your scalp to become tender, sore and inflamed. The combination of hair and scalp challenges can also lead to more than usual hair fall, thinning and breakage. When inflammation sets into the scalp, hair follicles have a difficult time working optimally to grow thick, strong, healthy hair. Not to mention scalp sweating which causes the scalp to become ultra dry. Dry scalp and dried out hair - uh! All of these compounding factors make it very easy for your locs to pop and break even with the slightest manipulation while combing or brushing.

Hair help please..

So what on earth can we do to

protect our strands from outside heat damage? Here are a few simple tips to remember:

- (1) Shield your hair from the sun immediately by wearing hats or using an umbrella when temps are extremely rigorous.
- (2) Implement a good hair & scalp cleanse & conditioner regimen once per week or every two weeks. Be sure to coat your hair strands from roots to ends when conditioning.
- (3) Then, place your hair under a plastic shower cap and sit under a warm, not hot, hooded dryer or humidifier for 15-20 minutes allowing your hair to soften as the conditioner penetrates the cuticle layer.
- (4) Finger detangle or comb through with a wide tooth comb from ends to roots using a quality detangling solution.
- (5) Drink lots of water—half your body weight in ounces is a good start to help with body and scalp hydration!

Until the next time,
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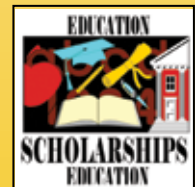
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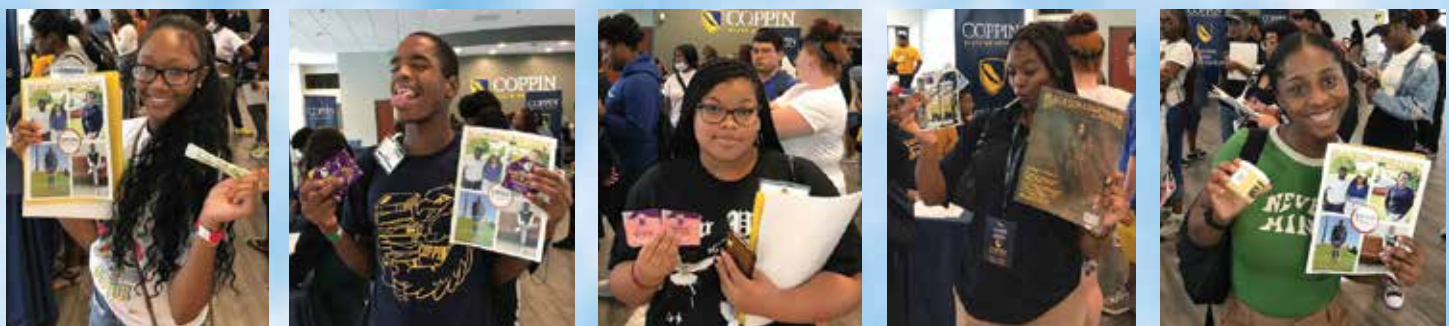
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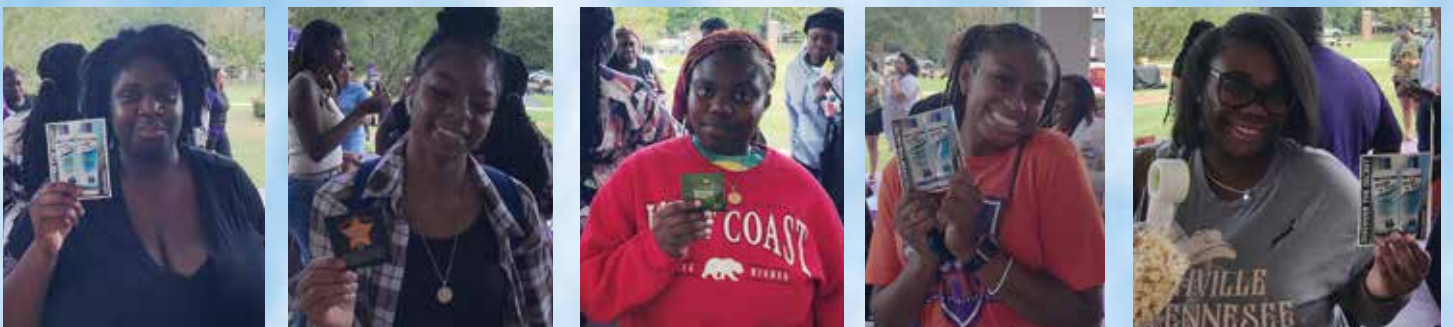
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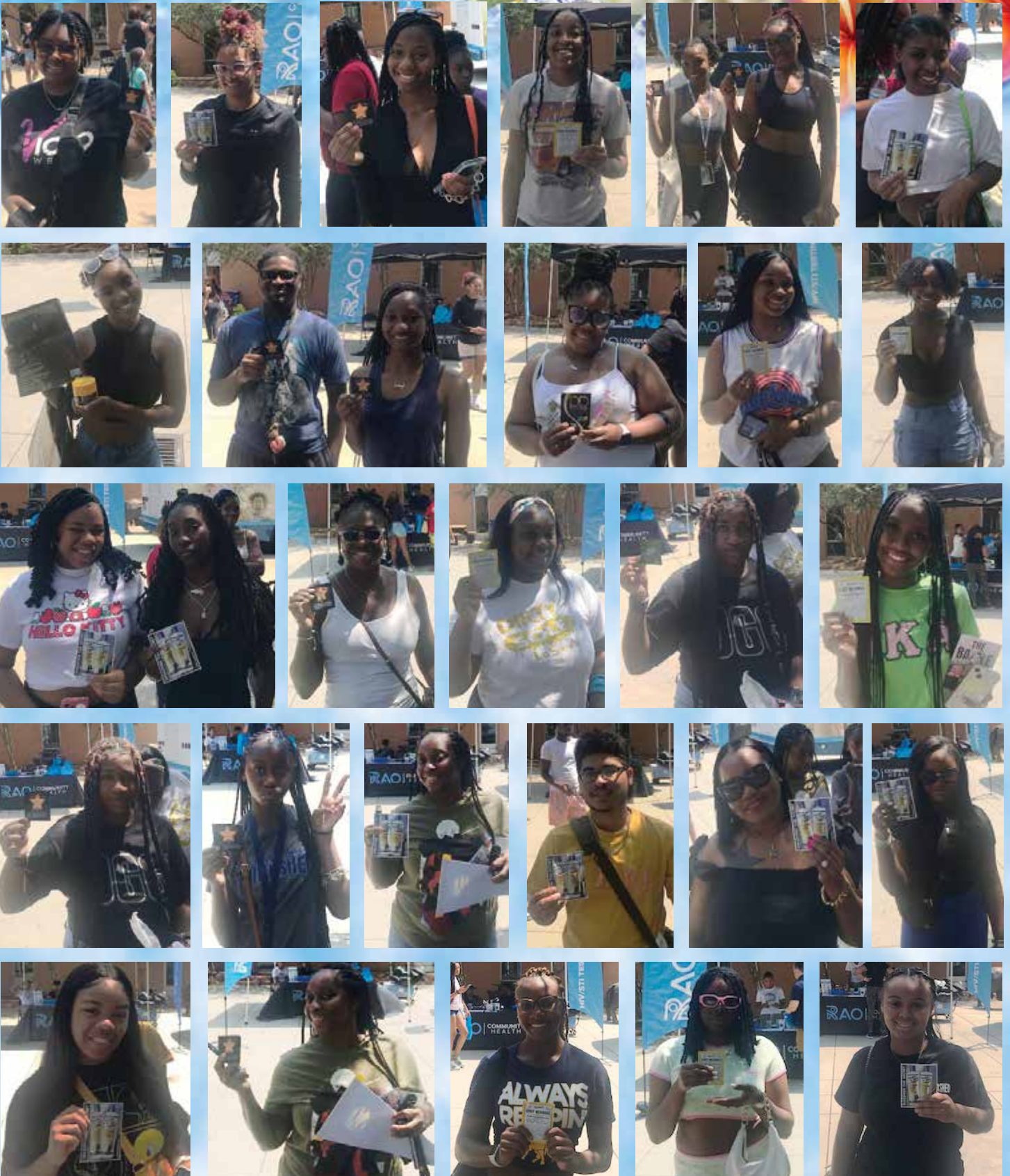
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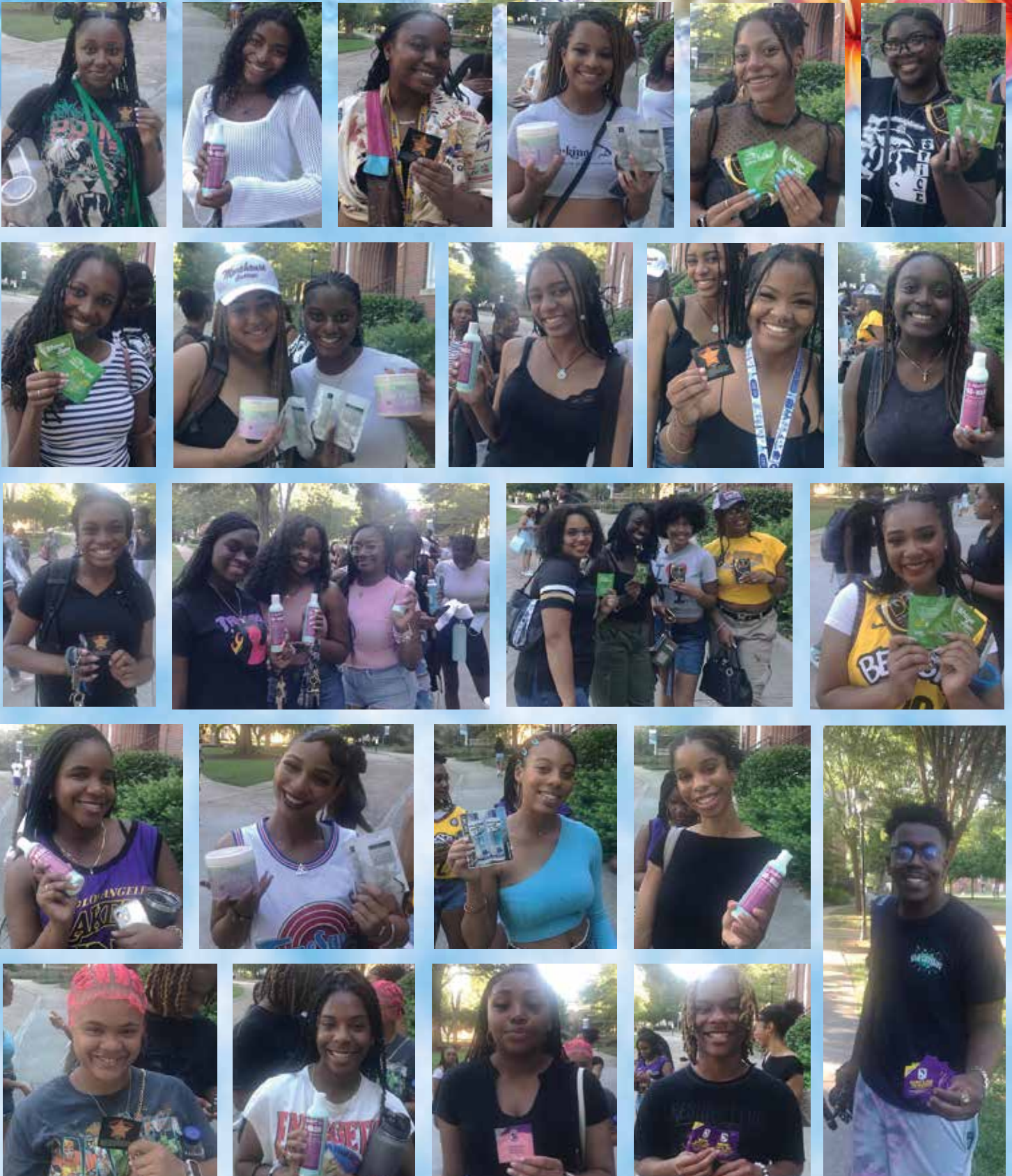
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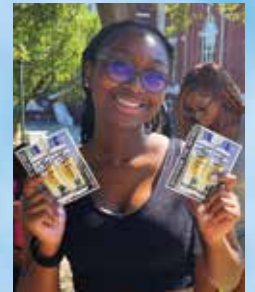
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HEALTH CONSCIOUS 101: BENEFITS OF HAWTHORN BERRY

by Jessica Miller



“Your heart is one of the hardest working organs, so it is exposed to a lot of stress and free radical damage.”

What is Hawthorn berry?

Hawthorn is often called “the heart herb” for its various cardio-protective abilities. Prized for its ability to uplift and strengthen the heart both emotionally and physically, the hawthorn berry has been used for centuries as a natural remedy for all kinds of serious heart concerns. These include angina, high blood pressure, hardening of the arteries, irregular heartbeat and even congestive heart failure.

The hawthorn bush, also called thornapple or May-tree, is a deciduous plant. It is a member of the rose family (Rosaceae) belonging to the genus Crataegus. Hawthorn can come in the form of a thorny hawthorn bush or a hawthorn tree. Most of the time, you can find hawthorn growing along the sides of sunny wooded hills. There are various species of hawthorn, many of which are found in North America.

Hawthorn is also a calming nervine, used much like rose (which helps to support the heart, especially in times of stress and grief). There is documented use for hawthorn to support the nervous system for people that suffer from anxiety, worry, ADHD and irritability.

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- Caffeic acid
- Vitamin B1

- Vitamin B2
- Vitamin C
- Calcium
- Iron
- Phosphorus

What’s next?

Ready to improve your heart health?

- One of the best ways to start adding a moderate amount of hawthorn to a healthy lifestyle is having a cup of hawthorn berry tea.
- Of course, you should not take heart problems lightly. And, you should definitely speak to your doctor before incorporating hawthorn into your treatment plan.

You can consume hawthorn berry by tea, liquid extract, capsules, powder or raw form. Checkout your local vitamin **and nutrition store to get started on your health journey!**

Jordan Spencer

A graduate student studying Public Administration from Harrisburg, Pa. – served as the Vice President of the 2022-2023 Student Government Association. This summer he worked for Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester through the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, and he currently serves on the Student Affairs Committee of the University's Board of Trustees. He is a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Mr. Spencer was also a White House HBCU Scholar in 2022.

Imani Wulff-Cochrane – a sophomore Pre-Education major from Newark, Del. – serves in a number of student organizations, including Hornets in Motion, the National Coalition of Negro Women, Profound Ladies, and Aspiring Educators. She aspires to be an education equity advocate.

A critical component of the HBCU Scholar Program is a partnership with NASA to foster innovation and opportunity for the cohorts. HBCU Scholars will partner with one another to developing ideas to commercialize technology derived from NASA intellectual property that can improve their campus and surrounding communities. HBCU Scholars will have the opportunity to present their IP ideas in-person at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland during the National HBCU Week Conference in September.

“Our 2023 HBCU Scholars are talented students who embody the culture of excellence and inclusion championed by our nation’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities,” said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. “On behalf of the U.S. Department of Education and everyone across the Biden-Harris Administration, I congratulate each of our 2023 HBCU scholars on this prestigious recognition and thank them for their commitment to serving their communities. I’m thrilled to see the HBCU Scholars program continue to expand its reach and provide such exciting professional development, networking, and educational opportunities to some of our nation’s brightest and most promising young leaders.”

The HBCU Scholars will also be attend the 2023 HBCU Week National Annual Conference on September 24-28 in Crystal City, Va. This year’s conference theme is “Raising the Bar: Forging Excellence Through Innovation and Leadership.” During the conference, they will participate in sessions designed to engage a spirit of innovation, leadership, as well as personal and professional development. Most importantly, scholars will have opportunities to engage with one another and showcase their individual and collective talents.



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Madd Hatta

Announces Scholarship for 10 TSU Students



Madd Hatta, Operations Manager for KTSU 90.9FM The Choice and The Vibe Houston, announces “I Am the Dream” Scholarship Contest

Houston radio legend Madd Hatta is finding ways to give back to the community that gave so much to him throughout his career. The 30 year media vet has influenced culture and dominated Houston airwaves as the host of the city’s #1 morning radio show 97.9 The Box’s Madd Hatta Morning Show for more than 20 years. In this second phase of his career, he has chosen to give back; more specifically, he is giving back to School of Communications students at Texas Southern University. Since 2020, Madd Hatta has rededicated himself to TSU, serving as Content Director for KTSUs 90.9FM The Vibe Houston. Recently, he upped his commitment when he was named Operations Manager over KTSU 90.9FM The Choice and The Vibe Houston. Determined to share his experience and greater opportunities for students following in his footsteps, Madd Hatta is announcing The ‘I Am the Dream’ Scholarship Contest.

“North Carolina Agricultural & State University gave me an education, a sense of pride, a voice and the opportunity to excel. Now, I want to give the same things back while serving in my capacity at this historical black university. “What better way and what better time than the 60th Anniversary (year) of the ‘I Have a Dream’ speech to help students achieve their dreams,” said Madd Hatta.

In honor of the 60th Anniversary of The March on Washington and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech, The Madd Hatta Cares Foundation will award scholarships to 10 Texas Southern University student contest winners from the School of Communications. Selected students will receive \$1,000 each in scholarship money.

Students enrolled part or full-time for the Fall 2023 or Spring 2024 semesters at Texas Southern University are eligible to apply for The ‘I Am the Dream’ Scholarship Contest by creating a 60-second Instagram video demonstrating their interpretation of living “The Dream”. They must include the hashtag #60MLKHATTA to be considered. The visual should be creative, inspiring, and consistent with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s values and principles. The deadline for students to publish their Instagram posts containing the required video and hashtag is September 11, 2023.

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ASU Students Attend 60th Anniversary of March on Washington

ASU students stand in front of the Lincoln Memorial during their trip to D.C. (contributed).

Students with National Society of Leadership & Success (NSLS), National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), National Pan Hellenic Council (NPHC), ASU's Student Government Association (SGA) and others attended the historic event.

By Kenneth Mullinax/ASU

A busload of students, representing several Alabama State University campus organizations, made the 11-hour journey to the nation's capital to attend the 60th Anniversary of the historic March on Washington, which was celebrated this year on August 26. The organizer and leader of the students' pilgrimage to honor freedom, equal rights and liberty was Eldric Coleman, a junior, majoring in Biology and Pre-Health with a goal of becoming a physician.

WHERE HISTORY WAS MADE

"We had this anniversary deeply rooted as a goal for students from the University to attend the 60th anniversary because of a number of reasons that include the fact that we are all involved in the modern civil rights movement, and we thought it was important to represent our historic campus, ASU, at the anniversary event because Alabama State students were at the original event in 1963 and as most people know, the Civil Rights Movement was born in Montgomery with Rosa

Parks' refusal to give up her bus seat and the (community notifications of the) Montgomery Bus Boycott was planned and conceived hours later in the basement of the University's Council Hall administration building," Coleman said.

"As the University's new slogan state's, 'ASU, Where History is Made,' we chose to bring it to action and to follow history's pathway back 60 years to Washington and to the sight of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s iconic 'I Have a Dream' speech to let folks know that Alabama State students are still part of the dream team."

Coleman, a native of Albany, Ga., is a leader of a number of campus organizations, including the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the University's National Society of Leadership & Success (president), and ASU's NAACP (vice president). He is a candidate for president of the NAACP's state Youth and College Division, with elections scheduled for September. Coleman stated that while he was motivated by Dr. King, he was equally motivated by the courage and determination of his mother, Tanjaneka Lester and his grandparents, John and Joycelyn Lester, who taught him to love all people, just as Dr. King did during his life.

Among the approximately 30 Bama State students who made the round trip to Washington in one day were

members of the National Society of Leadership & Success (NSLS), National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), National Pan Hellenic Council (NPHC), ASU's Student Government Association (SGA) and others.

ASU OFFICIAL PROUD OF STUDENTS

Among staff who were engaged in encouraging the students to attend was Dr. Sabrina L. Crowder, assistant vice president for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

"As a Student Affairs officer, I am always encouraged and excited to see our students get involved in events both on and off campus; however, these particular students planned the trip, made a very long journey in the course of driving to and from the District of Columbia on the very same day — not to get involved in so-called sightseeing, but to honor an event, a movement and a cause," Crowder said. "This speaks to the high caliber, care, dedication and leadership of our students and to the spirit of the Hornet Nation, in general. Here at our ASU, we teach both world-class academics and caring, or as President Quinton Ross has made popular, CommUniversity — and the two combined create an Alabama State student that makes one proud and who can change the world for good as so many others did before these young people."

MY SISTAHHOOD

by Bernice Ramey
Bowie State University
Communications & Journalism - B. S.

*We are our destiny. For our voices to be heard and treated with dignity and liberty.
Justice and equality are what we seek! Don't misjudge us, we are not weak!
We stand tall and fight for our ancestors; brothers and sisters who were killed.
They died for what is right and fought a good fight.*

Congressman John Lewis said, "Good trouble is what we'll find."

We're not blind to racism; prejudice, bias and you just don't like us because of the color of our skin.

*This isn't a game. My sexual orientation does not give you license to practice discrimination.
You don't like my natural hair. I swear, you've been bleach blonde for so long it's just downright
wrong. You belittle and mock my degree and the intelligence God gave me.*

My sir title of President and Vice president threatens you to aim a rifle.

The more things change, the more they stay the same. You're insane!!

My sons: brothers, fathers and uncles' hoodie are not to blame.

I pray one day you will claim your century's old shame.

When you look in the mirror, who do you see? The devil is a liar.

I am God's child and you. You are not my unfinished story.

You see, my father, mother, and grandparents told me I will rise to glory!

This beautiful queen is the epitome of what it means to be strong in the face of adversity!

Security, I carry it with me everywhere I go. I walk by faith and not by sight.

The double edge sword you choose to cut me with is no match for my Lord and protector.

He gave me thick skin: rich and colorful like bright stars and the midnight sky.

He formed my backbone with the determination and resilience of many warriors.

My heart beats loud and fast from the bloodshed of my kin.

*When you attack me or my beautiful Sistahs, you have called
for the battle cry of my Sistahhood to rally.*

You have unearthed a valley deep like none other of women adorned with armor.

We will not turn around cause we are justice bound!!

We are a Sistahhood not to be taken for granted!

I speak for all of us; not just myself. Persecuting us is detrimental to your health.



WHAT'S HOT ON THE NET!

Mark your calendars for October 14th, when the **Academy Museum Gala** is scheduled to take center stage, promising an evening of prestige and recognition!

Michael B. Jordan and Oprah Winfrey are set to join an esteemed assembly of industry luminaries at the upcoming third annual fundraising gala hosted by the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures.

Michael B. Jordan will be the distinguished recipient of the **Vantage Award**, a recognition that spotlights burgeoning artists and scholars contributing to the recontextualization and challenge of prevailing narratives within the realm of cinema. The illustrious **Pillar Award** will be bestowed upon Oprah Winfrey, lauding her exceptional leadership and steadfast backing of the Academy Museum's endeavors!

Paramount Global has decided to abandon the auction of **Black Entertainment Group (BET)** due to lower bids from potential

buyers, including media mogul **Tyler Perry**. The auction for BET, which encompasses cable channels VH1, BET, and streaming service BET+, was initiated earlier this summer. However, it encountered a setback when Tyler Perry, the creator of the "Madea" franchise, declined to increase his \$2 billion bid to match Paramount's asking price of \$3 billion. Paramount Global, the current owner of BET, discreetly informed bidders that the sale had been called off.

Joining the celebration of hip-hop's 50th anniversary, the **Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA)** in New York City has partnered with **Universal Music Enterprises** to produce a series of exclusive limited-edition MetroCards, showcasing prominent figures of the genre. Among these featured artists are **LL Cool J, Pop Smoke, Rakim, and Cam'ron**, all of whom hail from the vibrant New York scene. The MetroCards, which have become symbolic collector's items, not only honor these iconic artists but also amplify the cultural significance of

hip-hop within the city's landscape.

In a unique collaboration with **Roc Nation**, the entertainment enterprise established by none other than **Jay-Z**, the **Brooklyn Public Library** is commemorating the illustrious 50-year journey of hip-hop. This celebration takes form in the issuance of exclusive limited-edition library cards adorned with the image of the iconic rapper himself. Jay-Z, a native son of the New York borough, stands as a testament to the culture's vibrant heritage. The issuance of these unique cards has led to a surge of 14,000 new accounts joining the library!!!

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

ASAP Rocky – Don't Be Dumb

CiCi – Ciara

Jorja Smith – Falling or Flying

Polo G – Hood Poet

Trippie Redd – A Love Letter to You 5

**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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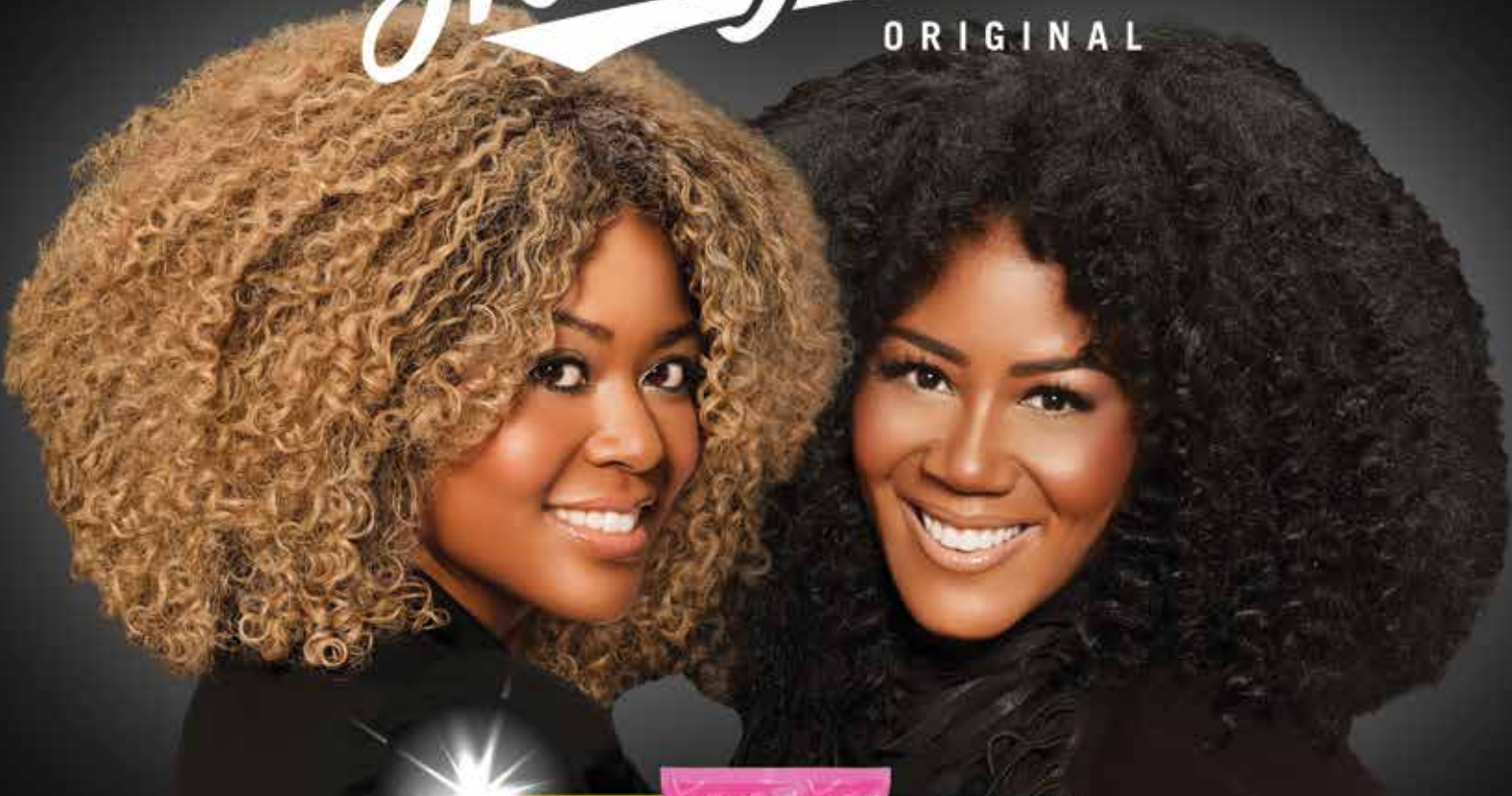
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