

VOLUME ONE 2008



Oprah's Roots

Missy Elliot
Judge Mathis
Kanye West
Fantasia
Omarion



Sister Pilots
Afro European Sisters Network
Divine Women of Faith

TYRA BANKS

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PROGRAMS AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

A Journey Toward Womanhood

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African American Women Knowledge Cards

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BOOKS AND JOURNALS

Beautiful.

Sister Journal for Girls

JEWELRY

Cowrie Shell Rings

Brass Ankh Rings

Brass Africa Rings

Loc Jewelry for Hair

River Stone Necklaces

T-SHIRTS

KEY CHAINS



Sister Angela's Note

There is Africa in all of us—

look around you and you will see. The shapes, sounds and scents of Africa are everywhere. My surroundings and the food that I eat all remind me of where I came from. But Africa is not just where my ancestors come from. Africa is where we ALL come from. Technically, we are all African because Africa is the birthplace of humankind.

I see the serpent and staff icon on the ambulance in front of me while driving in the street. When I pay for my herb tea at the store, I use a dollar bill with a pyramid on it. In my office, I have African sculptures, paintings, prints and drawings. Today, I am wearing a mudcloth shirt. I listen to the music and the beat of the bass and drum make me move to the rhythm.



Nick P

In this issue, we celebrate Africa and her glory. Although she has gone through many changes over the centuries, she is still the Motherland. Too often, we do not recognize the vast greatness of this mighty continent. But one thing is certain: when people visit Africa, they are transformed. It is not simply the hopeless, primitive place that is presented too often in the media. There is inspiration and magic there, too.

Learn more about Africa and by doing so, we learn more about ourselves. I hear an airplane and I think about sister pilots flying high in the sky. We can soar together and embrace our intelligence, our greatness, our beauty and our culture. Let's celebrate together.

In the Spirit of Sisterhood,

Angela D. Coleman
President, Sisterhood Agenda, Inc.



VOLUME ONE 2008

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Sisterhood Agenda, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) charitable nonprofit organization created in 1994 to uplift and aid in the self-development of women and girls of African descent, a unique population with special needs.

Sisterhood Agenda would like to thank everyone who has ever supported and participated in sisterhood activities, including, but not limited to, this magazine.



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Fabulous magazine! My favorite artist is Chaka Khan.
Michele, North Carolina

I am an African-American student at Fordham University in the Bronx. I absolutely love your magazine!!! I would love to order a lot of copies of your magazine because I live in a large community of color and I think your magazine would appeal to many of the young people in the Bronx. I think *Sisterhood Agenda Magazine* would be a great tool in helping spread the message of self-love. Thanks!
Kathleen, New York



"I think *Sisterhood Agenda Magazine* would be a great tool in helping spread the message of self-love."

I can't wait for the new magazines. The first issue went really well. Many of the youth group coordinators I gave them to used them for their lesson plans, and can't for the next edition.
Erica, Florida

First I would like to express what a wonderful magazine you have related to sisters across the globe. It is very informative, colorful, and interesting. It held my attention from front to back. I was most pleased to read Sister Natasha's name on the list of credits and her poem. I performed at her wedding and I was all so thrilled. Her poem speaks volumes and many sisters can relate. I find it a healing process for many. I'll pick up several and share with my seventh graders. So thank you for your wisdom and all the staff/contributors' input. May COD continue to bless you in your production. Peace.
Zenobia, New Jersey

This is a wonderful magazine with a uplifting and positive message for and about our culture. I hope to see more motivation and continue to be motivated by your positive stand in the community.
Kesha via email

I wanted advise how I felt that you are doing a beautiful thing empowering women. I would love to implement the mission and be a part of your organization.
Dulliane, Florida

Sisterhood T-Shirt Sale

"Sisterhood" is spelled in Egyptian hieroglyphics. Embrace the power of Black Womanhood! Showcase your unique style and spirit of sisterhood in this feminine, fitted baby doll t-shirt with capped sleeves. Metallic gold symbolizes wealth and black symbolizes our ethnicity.

\$9.95 SALE

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Rutgers Women's Basketball Team Honored with Award

BY JAIME MCBETH

THE WOMEN'S SPORTS FOUNDATION RECENTLY PRESENTED THE Wilma Rudolph Courage Award to the Rutgers Women's Basketball Team. The award is given annually to a female athlete(s) who exhibits extraordinary courage, surmounts adversity, contributes to sports and inspires others.

The Rutgers Women's Basketball Team, of mostly freshmen, started off the 2006-2007 season as 2-4 and was faced with the decision to either step up or go home. Although the Scarlet Knights did not clinch the championship in Cleveland, they were the inspiring, come-from-behind story of the season. They were the team that brought Rutgers to the Final Four for only the second time in the school's history.

Days after their historic journey to the Final Four, without provocation, the women of the Rutgers Basketball Team were on the receiving end of a now infamous verbal assault by a so-called shock-jock. At first, it seemed the assault would overshadow the accomplishments of this come-from-behind team. Instead, these determined, plain-spoken athletes captured the hearts of a nation. The Rutgers team became the model for athletic prowess, teamwork and good sportsmanship; and by being themselves, the players managed to make their tormentor look small by comparison. All of which will be what we ultimately remember about the 2006-07 Scarlet Knights.

The Women's Sports Foundation: A Force for Change!

Share your passion — help the Women's Sports Foundation help all girls and women develop physically active, healthy and happy lifestyles. Their lives depend on it! Visit www.womenssportsfoundation.org.

FABULOUS Fantasia

SEASON 3 AMERICAN IDOL WINNER, FANTASIA Barrino, has made quite a name for herself. In the few short years since her win, Fantasia has written a book, starred in a movie, and also debuted on Broadway in the play *The Color Purple*.

She's performed at the Tonys and has been honored at the 2007 World Theater Awards. For the first time, Fantasia was nominated for the 2007 American Music Awards Favorite Female R&B Artist. It's clear that Fantasia has indeed arrived and is here to stay!



Kathy Hutchins

New DVD Series on African Life & Popular Culture

Many complicated and opposing, not to mention controversial, viewpoints are often presented about Africa. Perhaps because of this, Africa is, without a doubt, one of the most fertile grounds in our modern age for new, fresh and exciting exploration. Presented by the National Black Programming Consortium (NBPC) in New York City, the AfroPoP DVD Series is a celebration of the cultural and historical growth that has occurred in the last generation with films tailored to a world audience from filmmakers with insightful, artful and often unique local perspectives. These films are carefully selected to portray a more balanced view of Africa than you'll get on the nightly news and to provide fuel for what must be a global conversation on the present day realities and contemporary lifestyles of Africans, both on the continent and in the Diaspora.

According to NBPC, this DVD is the first volume of a series, so stay tuned! For more information on AfroPoP, and other NBPC initiatives, visit the NBPC website at www.nbpc.tv

WINNER! 2008 BlackWebAwards.com
Best Site for Sistahs

After 650,000 votes from 130 countries in several Black Web Award categories celebrating African, African American and Caribbean excellence online, Sisterhood Agenda is honored to be selected as the 2008 Black Web Award Winner for Best Site for Sistahs! A special thank you to those who voted for Sisterhood Agenda during the competition. Thank you for your support!



FASSO

Arrested Development Returns

In the early 1990's, Arrested Development was a music group with a unique sound. Instead of the gritty rap that was becoming increasingly popular, Arrested Development broke through with a soulful hip-hop that concentrated on positive lyrics. Known for hits such as "Mr. Wendal," and "Tennessee," the group challenged listeners to become more open-minded about what albums they buy.

Almost 15 years later they're back on the scene with, *Since the Last Time*, which was released October 2007. The group had previously split to take up different ventures, but are back again for your listening pleasure. Arrested Development rapper Speech believes that, once again, their time has arrived. "With the Don Imus situation, with the Jena 6, with all the recent sort of awakening that's happening where people are at least starting to talk, maybe it's time for us to start releasing music here again."

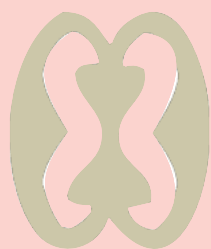
African Burial Ground

Starting October 2007, visitors to the site in lower Manhattan will see a beautiful chamber of gray stone with inscriptions and water elements throughout. Designed by architect Rodney Leon to educate the public, the site is a burial ground where tens of thousands of people of African descent were laid to rest before 1800. When New York City expanded, it was forgotten and buried 20 feet underground only to be rediscovered in 1991 during excavations for a federal building. It was designated a national historic landmark in 1993 and others hope to see it declared a World Heritage Site soon. A visitors' center is scheduled to open by the end of 2008.

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2008



Sister

CONNECTIONS



French-African Girls Trace Their Roots Back to Mali

by Christelle Van Ham

A group of 7 French girls of African descent spent the summer in Mali to better understand what their lives would have been like if they had been born there. They returned with a documentary about women in Mali and Malian women in France, and are now embarking on a journey to help girls in their community get a better grasp of their identity at the crossroads between France and Africa.

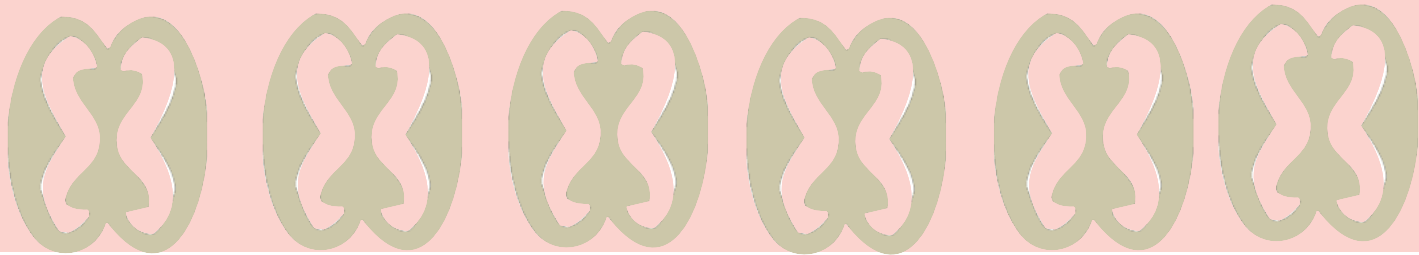
SINCE THE 1960S, WAVES OF IMMIGRANTS from former French African colonies have settled in some suburbs of large French cities, bringing some of their traditions into the French lifestyle. Halimatou, Animatou, Hatouma, Téguéti, Diouma, Madoussa and Assa were born in one of these neighbourhoods, and grew up to the stories and tales of far-away traditions. Their common experiences and identity between France and Africa brought them together in a close friendship, and the group of 7 girls has been inseparable since the primary

school.

A couple years ago, when they were between 15 and 17 years old, one of their Malian friends passed away. Spontaneously, the girls joined their community's effort to raise money to pay for the funeral in Mali by organizing a fundraising event, and soon discovered a passion for sharing their African culture with local communities which oftentimes don't communicate with each other. They decided to form "Afro Tchekani", which means "Black Beauty", an organization promoting the role of the African woman and to change the image of

Black women in their local community through a series of events and cultural exchanges.

They are now going one step further in their exploration: this past summer, they travelled to Mali to discover the daily routine of local women, and filmed a documentary showcasing the life of women in Mali and Malian women in France. They will now show the documentary in local cultural centres and schools to allow younger French-African girls to imagine what their lives could have been like, and better equip them in grasping their own legacy and identity.



NABFEME Founder, Johnnie Walker

The National Association of Black Female Executives in Music & Entertainment

The Mission

The mission of NABFEME is to elevate the awareness of Black women in music and entertainment through activities that foster empowerment, education, mentoring, career development and networking opportunities.

The Purpose

To promote the entry, development and advancement of Black women in music and entertainment.

The Vision

To be recognized as the world's most respected professional organization for women of color in entertainment, while working together to create value and build loyalty one opportunity at a time.

AFTER HIGH PROFILE POSITIONS AT DreamWorks and Def Jam Music Group (Walker was instrumental in developing the careers of some of the biggest names in recorded music) Johnnie Walker founded NABFEME in 1998. Taking time from her NABFEME meetings, communication with corporate sponsors, volunteers, artists and sometimes unpredictable work schedule, she spoke to *Sisterhood Agenda* magazine about her goals and vision for NABFEME.

As the visionary founder, Ms. Walker and her staff strive to definitively represent ethnic women, especially Black women, in the entertainment industry. What keeps her inspired? "The industry that I love so much is in disarray...The future is not with the people who are in it now." Citing an industry that was "completely eroding," the work of NABFEME is simply a part of her, "the job

that was handed to me." Although she has worked with so many celebrities, her proudest accomplishment is seeing students persevere and succeed in the organization's prep program at Benjamin Banneker Academy.

What is the secret of this sister's success?

Persistence, discipline, patience and a non-egotistical approach that stems from her grounded upbringing. "It's the way you treat people," she states, knowingly. Her advice for others: "I LOVE YOU. Following the passing of Dr. Donde West who was very involved with NABFEME, we take so much for granted. Industries and jobs come and go, but take a few minutes to say, "I love you" to your friends, your family, your coworkers..."

With Walker's business savvy, likeable personality and spiritual roots, it is easy to see why NABFEME fever is alive in major cities such as Atlanta, Chicago, Washington, DC, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, New York, Philadelphia and San Francisco. Visit www.nabfeme.org for more information.

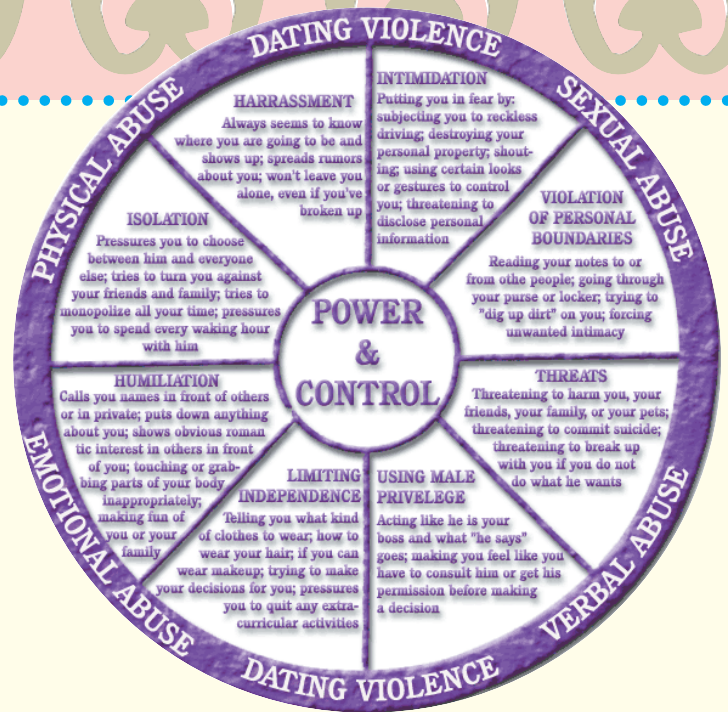


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Strengthen Our Sisters & Prevent Domestic Violence



THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION for Women states that every day 4 women die as a result of domestic violence. Women are also ten times more likely than men to be victimized by an intimate (husband, boyfriend, significant other). This violence is capable of reaching all women, but is more prevalent amongst young women, single low income women, and African American women. Today, this issue is no longer ignored. More and more organizations are beginning to offer assistance to victims of domestic violence, but none more so than Strengthen Our Sisters.

Sandra Ramos opened her home and started the first shelter for battered women in North America thirty-seven years ago. Ramos has since created Strengthen Our Sisters, dedicated to helping people make the transition from violence and abuse

to peace and independence. Their goal has been to "provide safe shelter for women and children fleeing domestic violence and developing programs to assist victims in building the essential life skills toward breaking the cycles of poverty, abuse, and dependence."

Strengthen Our Sisters is currently providing shelter to 177 women and children at 7 locations. Along with providing shelter, they provide food, clothing, furniture, transportation, childcare, self-help legal clinics, and even computer training and literacy programs. The SWAN (Self-sufficiency Women's Action Network) program is comprised of a licensed computer school and also provides job-training and employment opportunities. The Our Cars for Success program was created in 1998 to provide transportation for former

victims of domestic violence. They have provided over 1,000 cars to women attempting to find jobs or attending school to improve their skills for employment.

Strengthen Our Sisters hope for the future? Program Director Karin Westdyk writes, "Hopes for the future for our organization would be that we would not be needed. However, realistically - our hopes would be to receive adequate funding in order to provide the essential services we need to help our clients and their children break the cycles of violence, abuse, poverty, and neglect that brought them to our doors."

The Power and Control Wheel (above) illustrates the many ways that domestic violence can manifest itself.

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- Picture of business

owner/founder

- Business name and logo
- Address
- Telephone number
- Fax number
- Email
- Website with link
- Business description (50 words or less)

GENERATE NEW CUSTOMERS and clients! Uplift and empower yourself and other Black women in the spirit of sisterhood! How can they find you and what you

are selling if you are not listed?

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Sisters around the world unite!

It ain't where you're from.... its where you're at

Social
Network
Black Women in Europe



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BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL

BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL

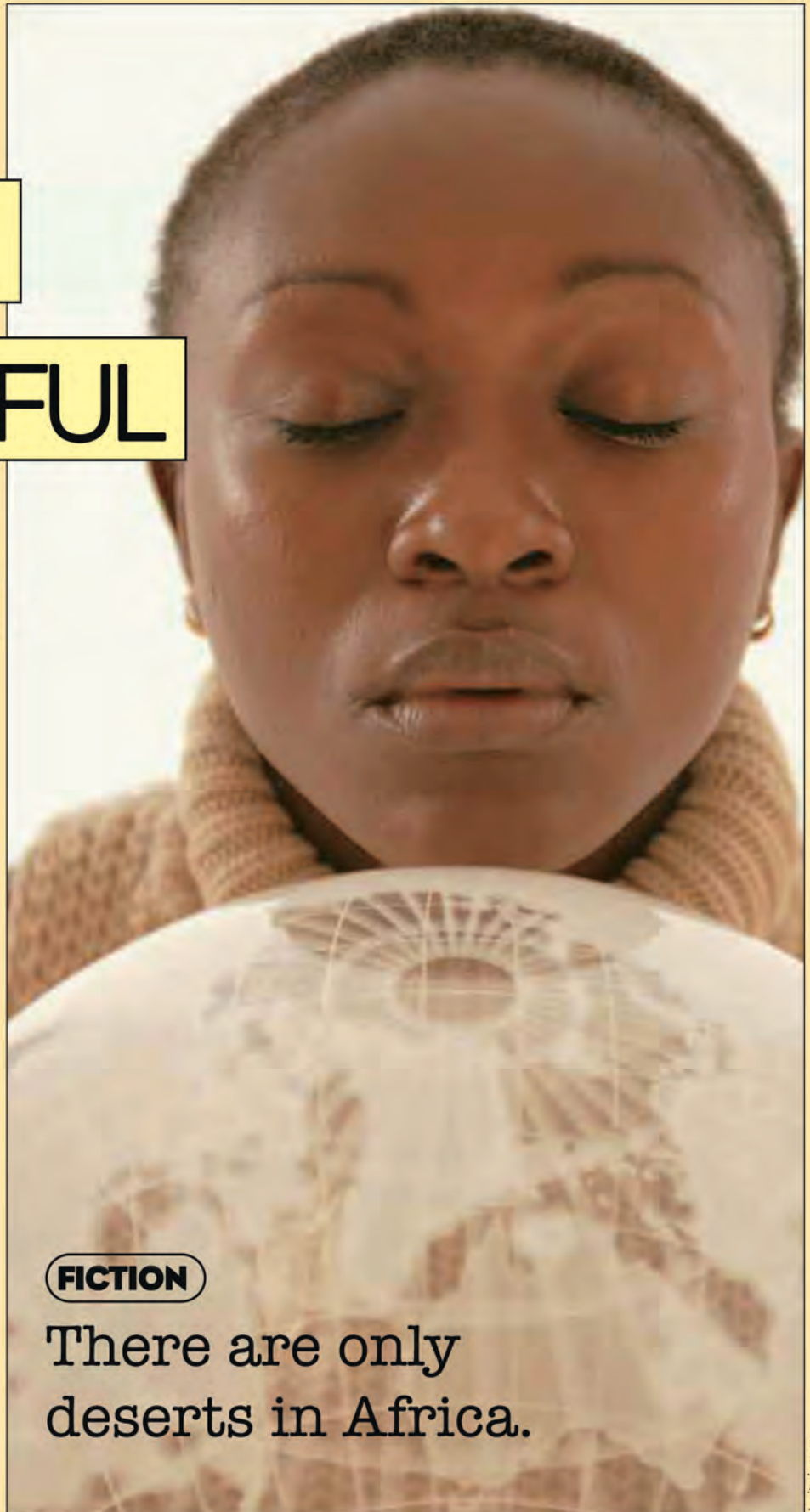
FACTS & FICTION

FACT

AFRICA IS A RICH
CONTINENT FULL
OF BEAUTIFUL
PEOPLE.
AFRICA HAS
A VARIETY OF
GEOGRAPHIC
FEATURES AND
VEGETATION
ZONES.

FICTION

There are only
deserts in Africa.



FACT

MANY AFRICAN CITIES ARE VERY URBAN LIKE NEW YORK OR CHICAGO.

EGYPT'S CAPITAL CITY, CAIRO, IS THE LARGEST CITY IN AFRICA WITH AN ESTIMATED 9.2 MILLION POPULATION.

SISTERHOOD
AGENDA

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FICTION

All cities and townships in Africa are rural.





FACT

AFRICA IS A
LARGE
CONTINENT
WITH MANY
COUNTRIES. IT
IS MORE
THAN 3 X
BIGGER
THAN
THE
UNITED
STATES.

FICTION

Africa is a country.

FICTION

Africans
are all
the same.

FACT

ETHNIC GROUPS
IN AFRICA INCLUDE:
FULANI, MANDE,
ASANTE, MAASAI,
HAUSA, WOODABE,
GA, DOCON,
YORUBA, BAULE,
WOLOF, MALINKE,
BERBER AND
WOODABE,
BUT THERE ARE
OTHERS, TOO.

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Missy Elliott

BY CHARELLE COLLINS

AT 36, RAPPER AND PRODUCER Missy “Misdemeanor” Elliott is the music industry’s top-selling woman rapper. Known for her infectious beats and collaborations with fellow friend and producer Timbaland, Missy has been a leading name in the game since 1997 with the release of her first album, “Supa Dupa Fly.”

Six years before she was signed to Elektra Records as a solo artist, Missy was part of an R&B group called “Sista.” The group however went their separate ways after making an album, but never releasing it.

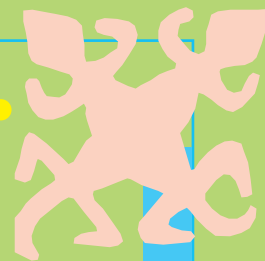
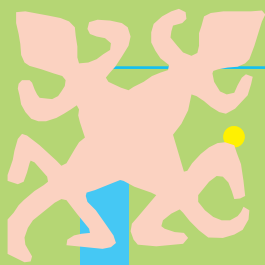
Over the years, Elliott, whose real name is Melissa Arnette Elliott, has collaborated with other huge names in the hip-hop world including the late Aaliyah, Destiny’s Child, Ciara and many more. Around 2002 Missy underwent a dramatic lifestyle change, cutting fast food out of her diet because of her extremely high blood pressure. As a result, she lost over 70 pounds.

In addition to winning five Grammy awards, Elliott also works with several charities, including those that fight domestic abuse.



Russell Einhorn/Splash News

Missy underwent a dramatic lifestyle change, cutting fast food out of her diet because of her extremely high blood pressure. As a result, she lost over 70 pounds.



The Phenomenal Measha

BY BRITTANY HALE

Classical music is rarely thought to have contemporary artists.

This is why *Sisterhood Agenda* Magazine was delighted to discover the phenomenal sounds of Measha (pronounced mee-sha) Brueggergosman (pronounced broo-grr-gose-man). Her new album, *Surprise* is just that.

Measha's smoky soprano breathes new life into classical music.



Paul Eledge/DG

At a mere 20 years of age, she debuted in the opera *Beatrice Chancy*, the compelling tragedy of a slave girl in Nova Scotia who is put to death after murdering her abusive master. Measha has performed for the Prince of Wales, Nelson Mandela, and even Queen Elizabeth II. Outside of singing, Measha is active in many organizations, including the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF), Learning Through the Arts, and the World Wildlife Fund. She supports the idea that children learn better when given an artistic outlet. She is also a firm believer in the rehabilitative qualities music can possess.

Her advice to those interested in the arts? "Know what you want to pursue. Start early, start now. Get as much knowledge as you can." Measha herself is a graduate of the University of Toronto and has also studied in Germany. She also advises young women of color to "Know you are enough, who you are is enough. Know,

acknowledge, and cultivate your skills, as well as your weaknesses. Your weaknesses can become your strengths!" It goes without saying that Measha's immense talent and beauty, both inside and out, is certainly enough, and will leave us begging for more!

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KANYE WEST

By Brittany Hale

Kanye West is considered a musical visionary who has produced a range of diverse hits from Talib Kweli's *Cet By* to a remixed version of Britney Spear's *Me Against the Music*. Born on June 8, 1977, Kanye is 30 years old. His middle name is Omari, which translates to 'God the highest' in Swahili.

In 1987, when he was 10 years old, West lived in China for a brief time with his mother. Unfortunately, West's mother Donda passed away in November 2007 reportedly from surgery complications.

Dr. West was a member of NABFEME, the National Association of Black Female Executives in Music and Entertainment, Inc.

In a statement released by the West family, Kanye "would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of support and kind words that have come in from across the country since the death of his mother, Dr. Donda West."



Kanye's middle name is Omari, which translates to 'God the highest' in Swahili.



All About “O”



Ask any teen her top favorite R&B singers, and Omarion is bound to be at the top of the list. For six years, Omari “Omarion” Grandberry has kept his thousands of fans screaming for more all over the world.

Formerly the lead singer of the R&B group B2K, Omarion decided to embark upon a solo career in 2005. His debut album, *O* went platinum and was #1 on Billboard’s Top 200. He released his second album *21* in 2006, featuring such hits as *Entourage* and *Icebox*. In early December Omarion and Bow Wow are teaming up for the album, *Faceoff*.

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Here are some quick facts about Omarion:

Born on November 12, 1984, Omarion has been performing since age 5.

Omarion has 6 siblings. His younger brother, O’Ryan, also sings.

Before music, Omarion was featured in commercials for Corn Pops and McDonald’s.

Favorite color: Red

Favorite food: Jambalaya

In high school, he was captain of his dance team (surprised, anyone?)



SIZZLA KALONJI



RECORDINGS

Burning up (September 5, 1995)
Black Woman & Child (September 16, 1997)
Praise Ye Jah (October 21, 1997)
Kalonji (Europe) / Freedom Cry (U.S.A.) (November 9, 1998)
Good Ways (December 21, 1998)
Royal Son of Ethiopia (Jun 22, 1999)
Be I Strong (Nov 2, 1999)
Liberate Yourself (February 1, 2000)
Words of Truth (August 29, 2000)
Bobo Ashanti (August 31, 2000)
Taking Over (June 19, 2001)
Rastafari Teach I Everything (September 4, 2001)
Black History (June 26, 2001)
Blaze Up the Chalwa (January 22, 2002)
Ghetto Revolutionary (September 24, 2002)
Up In Fire (October 1, 2002)
Hosanna (November 11, 2002)
Da Real Thing (November 19, 2002)
Rise To The Occasion (September 30, 2003)
Light Of My World (April 22, 2003)
Red Alert (January 27, 2004)
Speak Of Jah (February 24, 2004)
Judgement Yard (April 14, 2004)
Stay Focus (August 24, 2004)
Jah Knows Best (June 8, 2004)
Life (October 12, 2004)
Soul Deep (July 12, 2005)
Brighter Day (March 8, 2005)
Burning Fire (March 29, 2005)
Da Real Live Thing (August 30, 2005)
Jah Protect (March 14, 2006)
Ain't Gonna See Us Fall (April 4, 2006)
Waterhouse Redemption (May 5, 2006)
The Overstanding (October 17, 2006)
Children of Jah (April 3, 2007)
I-Space (June 26, 2007)



Sizzla Kalonji is one of the most prolific leaders of the conscious Reggae dancehall movement. Emerging in the latter half of the 1990's, he helped lead dancehall back to the musical and spiritual influence of roots reggae and heavily Rastafarian subject matter. He was born Miguel Collins on April 17, 1976 in St Mary and was raised in the community of August Town by devout Rastafarian parents.

Securing his position as a top conscious reggae artist, he set about cultivating his role as a spiritual messenger. Sizzla's combination of Rasta principles and up-to-the-minute dancehall rhythms made his hard line approach more palatable. A brilliant and passionate performer, Sizzla broke boundaries, appealing to those looking for something new, music with depth. (www.sizzlakalonjiinc.com)

Sizzla wrote these words for Black women exclusively for *Sisterhood Agenda* :

"Women are always beautiful for they have been designed and created by the Most High, spiritually, physically, and at no time should we look down upon them. They are the other part of my life. They share my joy, my happiness, and they share my pain. They share my blessing and they even want to share my name. I just can't do without them. The Most High put them here for us. As flowers beautifully arrayed in the gardens, so are they to their families. So as the bright sun shines over the mountain, so as their beautiful face shines throughout our lives. As a growing tender, loving mother to their child, at times they are harsh because of their purity. Next time, so loving and calm always filled with sincerity. I am so filled with their love that I can never stop loving them. That's why they are who they are, the Queens of the earth, the mothers of the nation, the desires of the Kings. They've won my admiration and my love for them increases as time goes by. You know why?"

Things that can break your heart:

A sad movie

Diabetes

Your first love

Losing a championship

Your first child leaving home

Diabetes

The complications of diabetes often go undiagnosed, and are far more serious than you might think. Most people with diabetes also have high blood pressure and cholesterol, which can cause severe heart damage. In fact, 2 out of 3 people with diabetes die from heart disease or stroke.

But it's not too late. You can reduce your risk of heart disease and stroke by lowering your blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol. Learn how.

Call 1-800-DIABETES for your free "Diabetes Survival Guide".



www.diabetes.org

SISTER PILOTS

By Charelle Collins

Think about when you're riding on an airplane and you hear the captain's voice over the speakers telling you that you'll be arriving at your destination shortly. Now think about the gender of the pilot. You're thinking male, right? Male pilots have dominated the field of aviation since the invention of the airplane in 1903. Little known, however, are those female pilots that are quietly moving up in the ranks, and even lesser known, are the females that are African American.

Starting with Bessie Coleman in 1921 becoming the first Black female pilot to receive a license, there have been a handful of others making history.



BESSIE COLEMAN

Bessie Coleman was an early 20th century pilot. In fact, she was the first licensed Black female pilot in the world. Her desire to fly came from having big dreams for her life coupled with her brothers' ribbing about female pilots in France. Coleman earned her license from the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale in Lausanne, Switzerland in 1921.



WILLA BROWN CHAPPELL

Willa Brown Chappell is known as the first Black woman to earn her commercial pilot's license in 1937. Chappell married Cornelius Coffey, a member of the Tuskegee airmen. Later in life, Chappell became the coordinator of the Civil Air Patrol, a program which provides training for civilians that want to become aviators.



PATRICE CLARK-WASHINGTON

Patrice Clark-Washington is the first Black woman to become captain of a major American airline. Clark-Washington graduated from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and is featured as one of their "40 Under Forty Rising Stars." She is from Nassau, Bahamas and has dreamed of being a pilot since she was a little girl.



CHRISTINA "THUMPER" HOPPER

Christina Hopper is a Captain in the 63rd Fighter Squadron in Arizona. After the terrorist attacks in America on September 11th, Captain Hopper was a part of a force that helped protect the skies. When she joined the fight of the Iraq war, she became the first African American female fighter pilot to fight in a war.



CHRYSTAL COLE

Chrystal Cole graduated from Kansas State University as a pilot and also achieved a degree from prestigious Tuskegee University after enrolling in a dual program between the schools. Cole is the first woman to graduate from Tuskegee in 60 years. She is concentrating on work in engineering, but hopes to become a commercial pilot in the future.

CAROLE HOPSON

Carole Hopson is a flight instructor at the American Flyers Academy in Morristown, NJ. She enjoys the idea of being able to fly "blind" – or strictly using the plane's tools to navigate the skies when her vision is impaired. On the lack of Black female pilots in the industry, she says, "I feel it's regrettable that you could name [Black female] pilots and I could tell you exactly what company they work for. But we are close. It's a weakness and a strength."

Do you know a sister pilot? Email us at sistermail@sisterhoodagenda.com.

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Book Review:

"Finding Oprah's Roots"

by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

They say that you can't know where you're going until you know where you've been. So where did you come from? Sure, you came from your mom and dad. But where did *they* come from, and their parents, and their parents before them?

A few years back, scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr. decided, with permission and the help of some experienced genealogy experts, to see what might lurk in the ancestry of a few prominent African Americans. In his new book "Finding Oprah's Roots", he writes about Ms. Winfrey's lineage, the search for his own background, and how you can assemble your family tree, too.

Chances are, you grew up hearing stories about your parents' childhoods, their cousins and other extended family, grandparents you might never have known, family legends that were passed down for generations. Maybe you regret that you didn't listen closer then but now you're wondering. Despite slavery's lack of record-keeping and a dearth of hard data, can you get to know your ancestors?

Since no information is too insignificant and nothing can be dismissed when searching for someone's lineage, Gates and two renowned genealogists began to dig into Winfrey's family. By interviewing Oprah herself, they found a thread that took them to courthouses and county records. Chats with Oprah's father led them to other places that gave them more clues. A cousin added a huge wealth of information. Pre- and post-Reconstruction censuses led them to some safe assumptions about

Oprah's slave-born ancestors.

What they found was surprising.

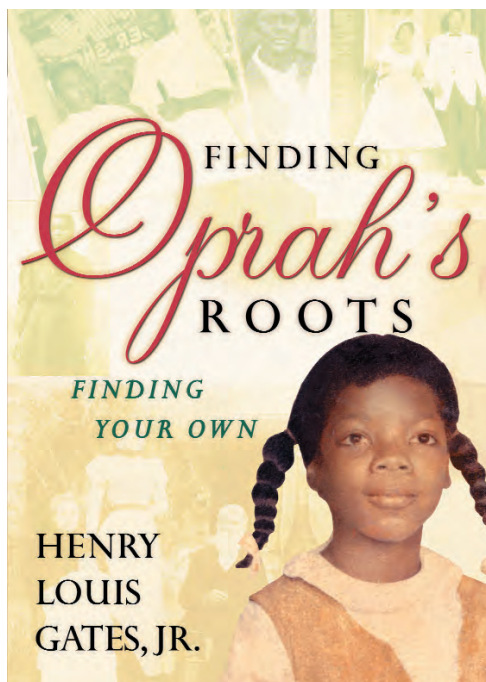
By sleuthing out public documents and records from various government agencies, Gates says he learned what makes Oprah, Oprah. There were several teachers in her family over the years. One of her ancestors went from total illiteracy to complete fluency in a decade. There were landowners in her family when black landowners were extremely rare. And there was a forebear who showed incredible bravery in the face of racism at a time when courage could mean death.

But that's not all. Gates says, when his own DNA was tested, he was surprised to learn that he was 50% white with at least one Irish ancestor. Using a painless swab from the inside of Oprah's cheek, he and his team were able to tell where her family began and to which African people she's most likely related. The answer wasn't the one Oprah was expecting.

When this book crossed my desk, I was expecting yet another effervescent tome about the Queen of Talk, but "Finding Oprah's Roots" was a pleasant surprise. Going backward from today, readers are drawn into the fascinating, detailed

search for Oprah's ancestry, which makes one begin to wonder about one's own lineage. The good news is, author Henry Louis Gates, Jr. offers easy-to-follow advice, encouragement, and tips on how you can play Sherlock Holmes on your own heritage.

If you always wondered where you came from, your local bookstore or library is where you should head. "Finding Oprah's Roots" will make you want to dig up your own roots.



Super Sister TYRA BANKS

WHY IS TYRA BANKS
A SUPER SISTER?

Because she does
so much every day!
Because she affects
millions of people in
a positive way.

Because she is
multi-media mogul.

Because she makes
money but also
makes time for

others. Because
she is an
entrepreneur who
takes calculated
risks, which makes
her fearless,
relentless and
unstoppable!



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“You can’t model for the rest of your life, so it is important to diversify your career.”

Accomplishments

Tyra’s beauty has been highlighted on the cover of over 20 magazines. She was the first African American woman to be featured on the covers of *GQ*, the Victoria Secret catalog, and *Sports Illustrated*’s Swimsuit Issue.

With so many new television programs related to modeling, it is hard to believe that it all started with Tyra when she pioneered the concept for *America’s Next Top Model* in 2003. Acting as the show’s creator and host, the show is run on the premise of Tyra’s belief that “Every woman has a story.”

But Tyra did not stop with one show. With “*The Tyra Banks Show*,” which Tyra executive produces and hosts, she “inspires women to take positive action to realize their ambitions.”

Business Savvy

Forced to be more creative because “There has never been a lot of



“I started TZONE with my own money because I feel I have a responsibility to raise awareness of the needs, ambitions and accomplishments of women and girls.”

money for Black models in that world, because all the money was in advertising, in the campaigns and Black models rarely got those so my wages would be... I’d be getting so much less than the other girls and I thought that was just so wrong.” Plus, she adds, “You can’t model for the rest of

your life, so it is important to diversify your career.”

Tyra says simply, “I wanted to be more of a business woman. I wanted to take this name I had made for myself and take it to the next level.”

(continued on next page)

Personality

Growing up as a self-conscious teen who was teased for the way she looked and refused by several modeling agencies when she first began her career, Tyra fully accepts her imperfections and uncovers the often hidden side of the modeling world. Enthusiastic with a lot of positive energy, but also passionate in her concern for others, Tyra shows us her tough love side on television.

“Self-love has very little to do with how you feel about your outer self. It’s about accepting all of yourself. You’ve got to learn to accept the fool in you as well as the part that’s got it goin’ on.”

Does she ever worry about her privacy? While her life is not an open book, Tyra says, “I am prepared to share my life with people.” But she acknowledges those that helped to prepare her—wise elders like her mother and Oprah Winfrey. “Oprah told me, ‘people are going to feel like they

know you because you’re on TV every single day. Get ready for it.”

Plus, she believes that loving yourself is the key, a journey that Tyra and other women can relate to: “Self-love has very little to do with how you feel about your outer self. It’s about accepting all of yourself. You’ve got to learn to accept the fool in you as well as the part that’s got it goin’ on.”

Mentoring

Acting like the quintessential Big Sister, Tyra founded the Tyra Banks TZone Foundation. For many years sent adolescent girls to summer camps to promote activities very similar to Sisterhood Agenda’s *A Journey Toward Womanhood* program: positive body image, self-esteem, goal setting, sound decision making, healthy living and nutrition, positive relationships, life skills and appreciation for diversity. Today, she mentors on her talk show and *American’s Next Top Model*, publicly showing lot of love to her younger sisters by giving motivational talks, advice and guidance that inspires, and serving by example. Her personal motto: “Take responsibility for yourself because no one’s going to take responsibility for you.”

Dreams

Driven, intelligent and determined to make a difference, where will we see Tyra next? “There’s always going to be dreams and goals I have, but I never really tell people what they are,” she stated cryptically. We will just have to wait and see what Super Sister Tyra will do next.

MOVIE CAREER

Higher Learning

Love Stinks

Love and Basketball

Life-Size

Coyote Ugly

Halloween: Resurrection

Love Stinks

FUN FACTS

Tyra played Will Smith’s love interest in “The Fresh Prince of Bel Air.”

Featured in Michael Jackson’s “Black or White” music video.

Featured in George Michael’s “Too Funky” video.

Wrote a book titled *Tyra’s Beauty Inside and Out*.

Established her company, Tyinc.

Was a correspondent for the “Oprah Winfrey Show.”



Beautiful Hair is Healthy Hair

Chanelle Washington & Tasha Ledgister

Women of color have a wide range of hair textures. So celebrate and embrace your tresses! You may wear a simple chic cut, a funky free 'fro, a sophisticated sleek bun or cultivated locks. Whatever style you choose to express your personality or mood, take time to nourish your hair.

Maintaining healthy hair takes dedication and time, so you need to be prepared to take care of your body, mind and spirit. One other thing to note is that beautiful hair starts at the cellular level, so consider your lifestyle:

- Do you hydrate your body? Drinking plenty of water daily helps your body to perform at its highest level.
- Are you active or sedentary? You need to exercise at least two times per week, a regular exercise regiment is essential in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. You should also ensure that you get plenty of rest.
- What kinds of food are you eating? You should ensure that your diet includes lots of fresh fruits and vegetables and whole grain foods.
- Does your hair care ritual include plant-based ingredients? You should ensure that the products that you put on your hair are beneficial to your hair. You want to use plant-based products because these ingredients can be absorbed into the hair and scalp, thus nourishing the hair.

In order to have healthy, beautiful hair you need to have a healthy lifestyle. A healthy lifestyle also helps you to BE RADIANTLY BEAUTIFUL.

Bio

Chanelle Washington is a passionate speaker, author and entrepreneur. She is President of Indigofera, a beauty and wellness company with "treasures for body, mind & soul." She inspires her clients to look and feel their best. For more information, visit www.indigofera.com.

Tasha Ledgister is an Indigofera Beauty Expert at the Natural Hair & Skin Studio in Philadelphia. Her creative lock styles won 1st place at the 13th Annual Lock Conference. Watch & Listen to her Step by Step Tutorials at Indigoferabeauty.blogspot.com

LOC
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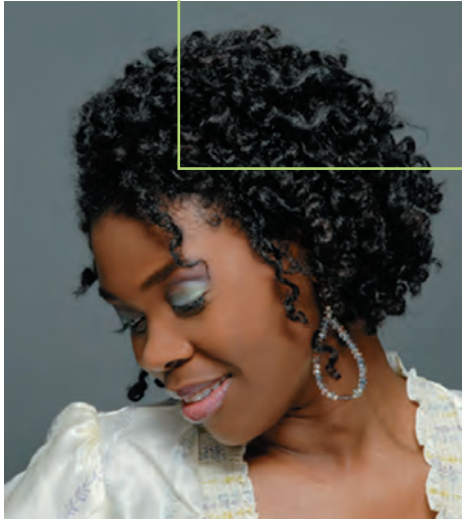
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Waterfall Curls



Basket Weave



Sophisticate Bun

CAMILLE A. BROWN

DANCER, CHOREOGRAPHER



Paul Kolnik

She Dances As Though No One Sees...

BY ANDREA L. DANSBY

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHOREOGRAPHERS AND DANCERS HAVE PLAYED A crucial role in the development of modern dance as an American art form. As a contributor Camille A. Brown is more than just another artist added to the roster of dance. Her productions combine heartfelt passion with haunting realism and take the audience on a journey they won't soon forget. Camille has a unique ability to connect with an audience, regardless of background, utilizing her highly sculpted performances as cohesion. Hers are not your traditional dance arrangements and can be described as nothing less than extraordinary.

"You must have faith in what God has designed for you. For me it began when I was about three years old. I liked watching videos and cartoons and things like that. I'd dance around the house, so my mom put me in dance school. But it wasn't until I went to LaGuardia High School in New York City that I realized that I could actually make money doing this. But as we all know there would be difficulties. There had been times when my body type went against what the dance school was all about. I'd sometimes been made to feel bad because I was shapely. Luckily there were people in my life that supported me and I had my family there whom in-which has been totally encouraging. During that time I also gleaned a lot of my confidence from the women of Jubilation and the Ailey women. They were so beautiful; they confirmed what I wanted to be."

As a student Ms. Brown received her early dance training at both the Bernice Johnson and Carolyn Devore Dance Studios. This led to her acceptance by The High School of Performing Arts. She also attended The Ailey School on scholarship and completed her B.F.A. in Dance at the North Carolina School of the Arts.

Camille so deservedly has been honored with awards and

fellowships that include: The Presidential Scholar of the Arts Award in Dance, a NFAA Young Artists' Award (Level I), The Helen Tamiris Award, A New York Foundation for the Arts Award, two Fund for New York grants (Harlem Stage's E-moves), and a 2006 Princess Grace Award (the first woman to receive this honor in Choreography). Her work has been commissioned by Hubbard Street II, Reflections Dance Company, The Queens Museum of Art/Topaz Arts, Inc., Sidra Bell Dance, Earl Mosley's Diversity of Dance, and The Ailey II. Other performance opportunities include showcases at Dance Theater Workshop, Joyce SoHo, Bric Studio, Dance Now Festival, Dixon Place, The International Association of Blacks in Dance Conference, and This Woman's Work (which resulted in her being acknowledged in Dance Magazine's 25 to Watch article). She is such the woman to watch, that she was commissioned to return to NCSA, The Ailey School, and LaGuardia H.S. to set works on the students of these institutions. Created by Urban Bush Women Dance Company, Ms. Brown is the 2006 recipient of the PROJECT NEXT GENERATION Award. The company premiered her new work "Here We Go...Again!"

Camille recently made a huge impression as the choreographer and performer of her solo, *The Evolution of A Secured Feminine*. Also winning rave reviews for her appearances with Ronald K. Brown/Evidence, and now she's setting an ensemble piece on the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the most celebrated dance troupes, for its upcoming season. In December of 2006, Ms. Brown debuted her company, Camille A. Brown and Dancers, at Joyce SoHo

to a sold out audience. Camille A. Brown and her dancers continue to woo critics and audiences and have assembled quite an impressive following.

It is clearly noted that Brown's eclectic style, variety of dance modes and highly emotional performances propels the steady evolution of her remarkable career. Her works are at once known to be entertaining, enlightening and emboldening. It is as if she dances as though no one sees... Perhaps this is the enchanting beauty behind this young artistic star on the rise.

"Being in the spotlight comes with great responsibility. I never want to be a disappointment. When I'm out there I feel empowered."



Matt Karas Photography

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LL COOL J

COMMITMENT TO FITNESS



LL's Commitment to Fitness

BY TECHELET JEAN

In the *LL Cool J's Platinum Workout* book, the authors (Todd Smith and Dave Honig with Jeff O'Connell), took us on a successful and adventurous fitness journey. The book explores the mechanics on how to sculpt the body into the perfect shape and how to maintain it, as well. "We developed a revolutionary workout system that not only burns away body

fat for good, but also builds muscle at the same time," said LL. The book is broken down into five different stages to help gain that tremendous transformation in the body as one may desire. *LL Cool J's Platinum Workout* will have readers exercising in their minds while reading it. The book is instructive as it keeps the readers cornered into one phase to the next. It is also very easy to read.

The first stage of the Platinum Workout Plan (PWP) is **the Bronze Body** phase. In that first stage, Smith and Honig delivers the strategic steps that will complete a firm foundation. This is a very prominent way that the PWP prescribes to help construct that platinum body. Without a strong base while using the PWP, one will crumble. As a result, the authors demonstrated a systematic approach to ascertain that you arrive successfully at the last phase. As a beginner, going through the first phase carefully will be essentially beneficial. The Bronze stage focuses mainly on taking the appropriate steps to building muscle and scorching fat.

In the Silver Body, the second phase, the authors concentrate on getting the body the strength that it will require to sustain the next phase (**the Cold Body**). Therefore, "muscles, tendons, and ligaments should be strong enough for you to train hard without injuring yourself," said Smith. The second phase offers many useful exercises such as barbell bench pressing, bent-over barbell and dumbbell

rows, decline sit-ups, Romanian dead-lifts, and the explosive push-ups. And many more great exercises that will scorch the fat away and transform the body.

Next is the Gold Phase. During this phase is where you continue to lose body fat and “muscle up.” At this stage, your body should be in a better shape than the previous ones. The Gold phase also provides more useful exercising tips and makes sure that you reach the Platinum Body.

The Platinum Body is where all the satisfaction kicks in and it just feels good that you have made through. However, if the end results did not get you that platinum body, there would be nothing to worry about because the phase supplies quick fix tips to rectify the issue.

Finally is **the Diamond Body** phase, phase five, which is designed specially for women. This phase encourages women to “train like men and vice versa.” This phase offers also a four-week training program which requires Whole-Body Circuit training, Split-System training, and Getting Your Rear Into Gear training.

Once the reader starts reading, he/she will not be able to stop until the reading has ended. It motivates us all to reach to take it to the next level and be our best.

Book Excerpt:

“When I first committed myself to writing Platinum Workout, I thought, What are people demanding in a fitness book? Forget for a minute about what I want to supply. What are you demanding? From my perspective, I would think that you would want a book that’s truthful, that’s honest, that’s kind of hard-core, and that’s not fluffy. You want the raw.

I’m about enlightenment; I’m talking about a paradigm shift. That’s what I had. Which is why this book is so beautiful: I know for a fact that if you follow these workouts and dietary guidance, you’ll get where you want to go, and your new body will help get you there.

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“Success is guaranteed.”

TOOLS FOR SURVIVAL

JUDGE MATHIS:

Justice That Makes a Difference

JUDGE MATHIS CONTINUES TO be the youngest court show and the most popular judge among women ages 18-49. Judge Greg Mathis is a unique role model and personality, which makes him stand out from other court show judges. Judge Mathis took time from extremely busy schedule to share information about his work and give *Sisterhood Agenda* readers some insight into his interest in social reform.

As a young man, Greg Mathis was involved with gangs, dropped out of school, spent time in jail and then, as a promise to his dying mother, turned his life around. He attended college, earned a law degree, became the youngest judge in Michigan's history and then served as a Superior Court Judge for Michigan's 36th District. Known for running his courtroom with an earnest style and streetwise sensibility, Mathis often uses himself as an example to those who appear before him. His trademark sense of humor distinguishes himself in the very crowded court genre.

Mathis received his Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1983 and received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Detroit School of Law in 1987. Having made the journey from behind bars to passing the bar, Mathis believes rehabilitation is within everyone's

reach if they receive the right guidance, which is what he tries to provide. "It pains me to think of all the hurt that I caused my neighborhood, my community, my family," said Mathis. "That's why I've made a lifetime commitment to redeeming myself and changing my life and helping to inspire other street youth to redeem themselves and change their lives. With "Judge Mathis," I hope to reach even more people with my story and hopefully make an even bigger difference in the lives of others."

In his efforts to reach out to youth both in and outside of the courtroom, Judge Mathis and his wife Linda have assisted thousands of youth with their non-profit agency *Young Adults Asserting Themselves* (Y.A.A.T.), an outreach initiative that provides youth ages 17-25 with job training, college and career assistance. Together, they have also opened five non-profit preschools in the inner city of Detroit, while continuing to raise over \$5 million for a variety of equal justice political and youth causes.

Judge Mathis is an example for at-risk youth everywhere. He is dedicated to offering youth second chances and spreads his message of youth empowerment and equal justice as he travels to speak to audiences all across the country.

Part One of Sisterhood Agenda's Judge Series



"If teenagers are armed with motivation, information and resources, I believe anyone can achieve success, no matter their background or life experience. That was one of the many reasons why I established my own Youth & Education Expo's and why organizations such as *Sisterhood Agenda* are beneficial to today's young teenage girls."

WHY SHOULD I VOTE?

BY YALE C. SMITH



BLACKAMERICANVOTER.COM HAS TAKEN ON THE RESPONSIBILITY to educate African Americans and others through poll results, especially politicians on critical political issues that affect the African American community. In addition, it is the website's intention to uplift the conscientiousness of all Americans with regard to African American views, so that we can be better understood. As a person who is concerned about what happens in the African American community, I understand that there are only two logical ways to get things done in our communities: either you vote or you protest. If you are not willing to do either of these, your communities will not change.



We understand that many African Americans have died for us to have the right to vote but many of us today take this privilege for granted. It is very important for us to vote, in my opinion. If you do not vote, you should not have a reason to complain. That is why I have developed a website called Blackamericanvoter.com to help encourage us as African Americans to want to vote. On the site we have poll questions that you vote on and you can see your results instantly. Then we forward the results to politicians. If you would like to be a person who likes to vote on future polls, add your e-mail address to the contact page.

Many times we complain in the Black community about polls. Now you have a chance to make a difference. If you don't take advantage of this process, you have no one to blame but

yourself. If you are concerned about your community like we are, then vote in the poll questions and tell a friend about Blackamericanvoter.com. In the next two months we will be posting a U.S Congressional report card for all of the African American Congress-people and we look forward to receiving any feedback from the communities that these Congress-people represent. In order to see the congressional progress report you will have to go to Blackamericanvoter.com and hit the tab labeled "Congress". I hope the readers of this article are as serious about holding Congress and the presidential candidates accountable as we are at Blackamericanvoter.com. I am asking you to make sure you vote in the upcoming elections and take your communities back.

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PARTNERS

Club Lady Bug

BY BRITTANY LYNCH

AT THE TIME THAT I CREATED CLUB LADY Bug Girls Social Club, I was 10 years old and the only child. I had a large circle of friends, girls I had known since kindergarten who I considered “*my sisters*”. With these sisters, we would share a bond of sisterhood: our dreams, our fears, our likes, dislikes along with our love of music and fashion. I thought, “*Wouldn’t it be great to come together as a group and open this forum up to other girls— girls of color who also shared similar goals in life.*”

In the summer of 2004 when I told my Mom that I wanted to join a club that offered all those great things that my friends (“*my sisters*”) and I shared, she stated that she didn’t think that there was quite a club out there like that. So I told her that I wanted to create one!

I created and launched Club Lady Bug Girls Social Club as a “Promoter of Unity, Friendship and Sisterhood among Girls of Color.” Club Lady Bug was created especially for girls of color ages 6-16 years-old to equip young girls of various economic backgrounds from the Washington, DC metropolitan area with the tools to adapt into social environments ordinarily not available to them.

Club Lady Bug is about to celebrate its fourth year in 2008! We also celebrate our new partnership as a Sisterhood Agenda Global Partner and look forward to this new extended sisterhood. I am now 13 years-old, an Honor Roll Student and a Big Sister. Through these years, I have experienced many exciting social activities like our Social Balls, Daddy-Daughter Dance, High Tea with our Mothers, baked cookie fundraisers, Easter baskets for the local Ronald McDonald House, “Girl Power Retreats”, etiquette and social grace classes.

Club Lady Bug will debut a new chapter in 2008: Junior Miss Lady Bug which will focus on the needs of our older girls. I hope to start national chapters around the U.S. within the next two years.



Mrs. Antoinette V. Lynch, Co-Founder, Mom/Mentor, Brittany & Dr. Sheila Johnson, an Honorary Lady Bug.



Founders of Divine Women of Faith: Mrs. Cherisse Collins (left)
Mrs. Rashanda Joe (right)

Divine Women of Faith BY CHERISSE COLLINS

I HAVE ALWAYS SHARED A REAL PASSION FOR helping others. I don't feel that you have to be at the 'highest peak' in your life to lend a helping hand or to share words of encouragement to those who are hurting or in need. I do, however, believe that you have to be lead and that you must lead by example. We never really know the impact that we can make on the lives of others until we stand and be counted. It is that desire that inspires me on a daily basis and helped inspire me to start my own ministry, Divine Women of Faith.

Our mission is to inspire women of different ages in different ways. We also provide an insight that heals and facilitates change in individual lives through commitment, mission work, and power shining through from God. It is our hope that the free spirit, voice, and effectiveness of our organization will one day make an impact on those who seek our help and that we become the voice of those who have no voice.

At first, I had mixed feelings of fear and failure. Faith overcame my fear and the support of my husband, church family and the opportunity to grow and empower gave me the confidence to be steadfast. Our new organization has allowed me to share my many testimonies with other women. One of which is, I was a 16-year-old single teenage mother who

could have used guidance from an organization such as ours. We provide a service where women can feel hopeful, alive, connected, and just plain "realness!" Real women want to interact with other real women who have real issues, and knowing the struggles that we sometimes face.

Although in it's infancy, Divine Women of Faith has already been involved in the community with seminars and workshops that have included Gang and Sexual Violence, Sexual Harassment, Drug and Date Rape Drugs and Youth Leadership. This year DWOFF made its first appearance at Women's Empowerment Expo 2006 at the RBC Center in Raleigh, North Carolina. Many of the participants stopped by our booth to view our vision and to offer their encouragement.

Today my vision has become a reality that has been embraced by the community and others who offer their expertise and support. It is our hope that the free spirit, voice, and effectiveness of our organization will one day make an impact on those who seek our help and that we become the voice of those who have no voice. I'm not sure of where this new direction is taking me, but I am willing to go.

www.divinewomenoffaith.org

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Top Ladies of Distinction

WITH SEVERAL NATIONAL CHAPTERS and the goal of "empowering youth and adults to provide exemplary service to youth and adults with passion and purpose," Top Ladies of Distinction members provide service in the following areas: Top Teens, Beautification, Community Partnerships, Senior Citizens and Status of Women. They provide the followings words of encouragement:



Everyone Needs Someone

People need people and friends need friends
 And we all need love, for a full life depends
 Not on vast riches or great acclaim
 Not on success or worldly fame
 But on knowing that some cares
 And holds us close in their thoughts and prayers
 For only the knowledge that we're understood
 Makes everyday living feel wonderfully good
 And we rob ourselves of life's greatest need
 When we lock up our hearts and fail to heed
 The outreached hand reaching to find
 A kindred spirit whose heart and mind
 Are longing to somehow share
 Our joys and sorrows as care and we help
 And make life complete and to others lend
 Our time and love to and gain new friends.



“I challenge you to affirm that you are beautiful everyday.”

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VOLUME ONE
2008

YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL ON THE OUTSIDE WHEN YOU RECOGNIZE YOUR BEAUTY ON THE INSIDE!

by Darlene Aiken

When I was about ten years old there was this little girl named Tanya. I thought that Tanya was the prettiest girl alive and I wanted to look just like her. I used to look forward to sitting on the bus next to her, in hopes that her beautiful looks would rub off on me.

One day during our bus ride, Tanya was very sad and was not as talkative as usual. When I inquired further, I found that she was sad because she was missing her mom. Tanya's mom had died some years ago and she was in foster care as a result. It was at that moment, in time, that I realized that I did not want to be Tanya any longer.

Although I was not happy about my looks or weight, I decided that I would remain as “the fat ugly duckling” because I still had both parents who loved me.

Let's face it, we all have something about ourselves that we wish we could change. For some, it may be facial features, weight, or body. For others, it may be the ability to be pulled into negativity or a tremendous fear of something or someone.

Take a moment to reflect...who confirmed for you that the very thing that you hate about yourself is ugly or abnormal? Take it a step further, what does “normal” mean?

Who is the authority of what is “normal” and do they fit the bill?

I began Inner Beauty Solutions because I wanted to make certain that I send a clear message to girls and young women across the world, that “You're Beautiful On The Outside When You Recognize Your Beauty On The Inside!” I challenge you to affirm that you are beautiful everyday. This means treating yourself and others with kindness and consideration, being able to forgive yourself and others for “not-so-good thoughts and actions, and embracing the new you! See, you're smiling because change is happening right now!

Check out Inner Beauty Solutions at www.innerbeautysolutions.net.

Sista, I love you!

Dear Black Woman,

You are so beautiful! It hurts when people in high places and even in our communities pretend you have no worth. But they know better... they just love money more than the truth about you. While they peddle degrading music and images, you only shine brighter in my eyes.

I see you as a warrior and a winner. They call you names because they don't think you'll fight. But I know you can demand the respect and true love that is your birthright. In our media we need the next Cleopatra Jones and REAL Foxy Browns to stand up to thugs, abusers and 'playas.' I also see real men fearlessly beside you.

I am not alone. There are artists, musicians, writers, directors and others with me. We are the majority, but even if we were outnumbered we would stand by you.

Please accept the bouquet of video roses here as our first gift. More will come soon. Starting today we tell the whole world BLACK WOMEN ARE LOVED.

B. David
Founder, SuperSistas.com



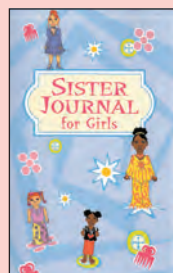
Beautiful. by Jamaica Gilmer & Angela D. Coleman
in partnership with Sisterhood Agenda



NOW
available at the
Sister Store

www.sisterhoodagenda.com

every Black girl is Beautiful.



Sister Journal for Girls

Each Sister Journal is a colorful, spiral notebook that contains lined paper, cultural Adinkra symbols and affirmations created to uplift and guide our girls and young women. Adinkra symbols include those that represent illumination, challenging oneself, avoiding conflicts, sanctity and good fortune, unity and strength. Affirmations are positive thoughts directed at the

self, phrased in the present and include:

"I am worthy of love and respect."

"My skin is a wonderful shade of brown."

"I am a beautiful Black Sister, who only grows more beautiful with time."

Available at the Sister Store: www.sisterhoodagenda.com

Black Infant Mortality

By Marsha Carroll

Black women, regardless of age, education level, income or marital status are losing their babies at an alarming rate. Consequently, in an attempt to educate as many people as possible, the Black Infant Mortality Reduction Resource Center (BIMRRC) has launched a new program designed to get the word out.

The BIMRR Center's newest initiative is entitled "PETALS," which stands for Providing Education Through Advocacy and Learning Strategies. Through the PETALS program, more than 4,000 African American Women of childbearing age, as well as 200 healthcare professionals, will be educated on the risk factors related to Black Infant Mortality over the next two years.

In an effort to get the word out and hear directly from women who are most impacted by this issue, PETALS successfully hosted an essay contest titled "Speaking of Courage." The contest was open to Black women who had triumphed over high-risk pregnancies and/or had experience raising a child with special care needs.

The "Speaking of Courage- Lifting Every Voice" spoken word was the culminating event. In honor of all participants and winners, loved ones were on hand to recognize all of the women who were courageous enough to share their stories. Each participant was also given gifts and prizes, and their stories will be included in a new BIMRR Center publication, titled *Speaking of Courage*. The book will be available by the spring of 2008.

For more information, call 866-665-6242 or visit our website at www.maternalchildhealth.org/bimr.



SISTERHOOD
AGENDA

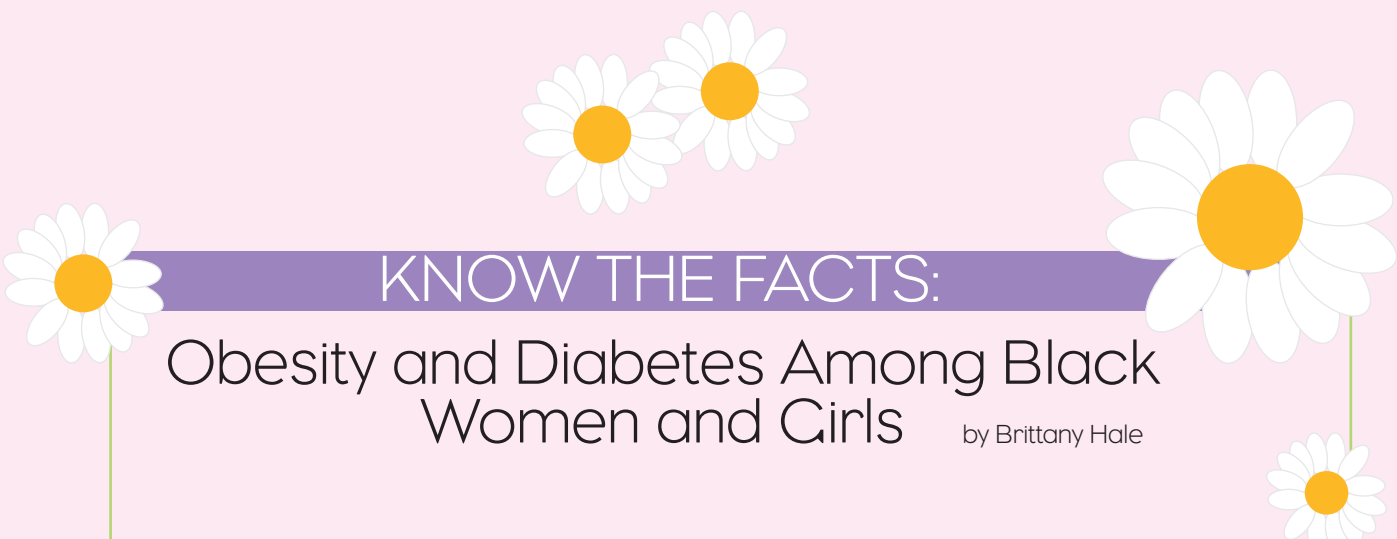
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Marsha Carroll (left) and Kweli Walker (right) of the BIMRR Center present the Speaking of Courage award to Shelly Silverman (middle), who accepts on behalf of 1st place winner, Nakia Williams.



A decorative border of white daisy flowers with yellow centers is placed around the top and sides of the page. One flower is on the top left, two are on the top center, one is on the top right, one is on the middle right, and three are on the bottom (one large on the left, one small in the center, and one on the right).

KNOW THE FACTS:

Obesity and Diabetes Among Black Women and Girls

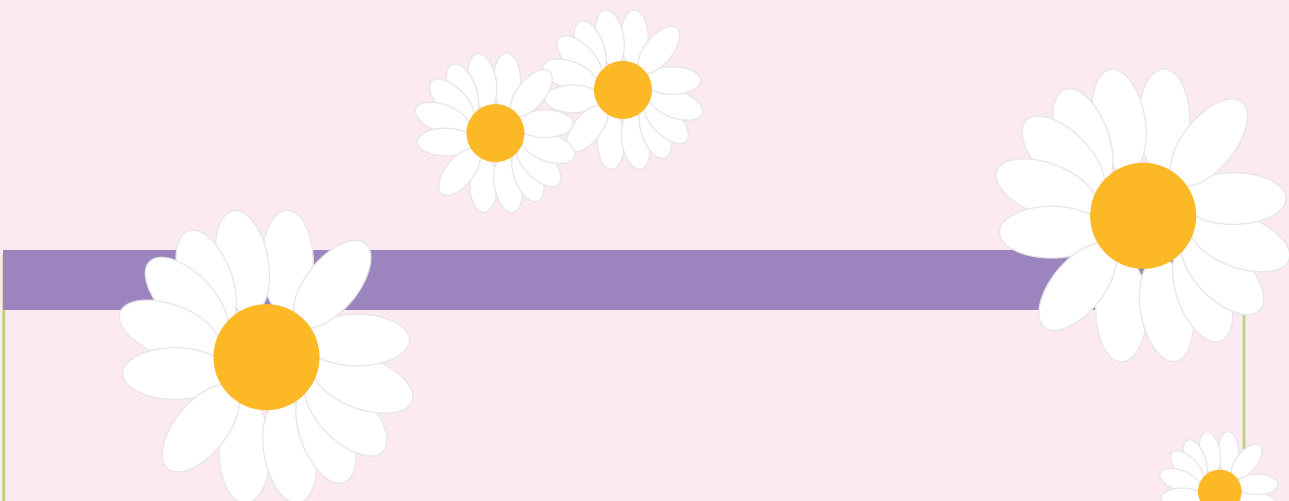
by Brittany Hale

In America today, we have the greatest prevalence of overweight and obese

women. About 78% of all African American women are overweight, and about 50% are obese (obesity results from being at least 30 lbs. overweight). Obesity often serves as a gateway to other medical problems such as high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes. According to recent statistics, 15% of African American women have some form of diabetes. Because of this growing problem, Sisterhood Agenda decided to explore the growing issue of diabetes and obesity among African American women and girls.

According to the Society for the Advancement of Education, the issue of overweight and obese Black women affects all economic classes, however, ethnic minority women with low income have the greatest likelihood of becoming overweight or obese. Diabetes, often developed after obesity, is a disease where the body does not produce or use the hormone insulin properly. Insulin is used to convert sugar, starches, and other food into energy necessary for everyday life. Type 1 diabetes, once known as juvenile diabetes, usually develops in children and young adults who do not produce insulin. Type 2 diabetes is the most common. The body either does not produce enough insulin, or cells simply reject it. Diabetes can result in blindness, kidney disease, heart disease, and even stroke if not managed well.

Many authors, like Roniece Weaver and Fabiola Caines have written books addressing the issues of diabetes and obesity. They've written fitness guides like *Slim Down Sister*, as well as cookbooks like *The New Soul Food Cookbook for People with Diabetes*. When speaking of the prevalence of unhealthy living, Weaver



states, "When you look at the state of many minorities, and the rise in obesity and diabetes — especially African Americans and Hispanics — we excel at dying. That simply can't be ignored."

Young ladies, listen up, this is for you too! Among all racial and ethnic groups, Black girls have the greatest chance of being overweight. A study done by the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey from 2003-2004 found that Black girls showed the greatest increase in the number of overweight and obese girls, from 13.2% to 25.2%, in roughly 10 years. Researchers believe a lack of safe places to play is a major factor in Black girls becoming overweight or obese. Whatever the cause, this issue is one that has the potential to have long-lasting effects not just physically, but mentally as well. The Center for the Advancement of Health recently produced a study proposing that "obese girls were less likely to enter college after high school than were their non-obese peers, especially when they attended schools in which obesity was relatively uncommon."

With all of these statistics and studies, it may seem hard to apply healthy changes to your everyday life. Thankfully, there are many small changes that can help in a big way. Improving your diet can make a big difference. Try eating a new fruit or vegetable each week. Exercise is also very important in obesity and diabetes prevention. Research shows that about 20-30 minutes of activity each day can significantly lower your risk for diabetes and obesity. Girls, try a fun group activity or sport that keeps you moving! We're all capable of maintaining a healthy exercise and diet regimen, all it takes is a little effort. Let's live long, let's live strong!



Listings include Global Partners (marked with an *), Distribution Sites where you can get copies of Sisterhood Agenda magazine and resources for women and girls of African descent. Global Partners receive content, copies of the magazine, website links and a printed Sisterhood Agenda's Global Resource Directory. Sisterhood Agenda welcomes articles, stories, photographs, and graphics for the publication. Sisterhood Agenda receives no compensation for these listings. Listings are added or removed upon request and updated regularly. To add a resource, view updates and find website links to organizations featured in the magazine, visit www.sisterhoodagenda.com.

UNITED STATES

Alabama

Ace Variety Bookstore
Alabama A&M University
Alabama State University
Artistic Braids: 205-342-3085
Birmingham Urban League*
Black Classic Books: 251-476-1060
Lodgestar: 205-328-0144
Hasan Books
Mahogany Books: 205-923-1624
Miles College
Solomon's Books: 205-323-7391
Tuskegee University

Arkansas

Africa Enterprises: 501-735-1212
Arkansas Baptist College
Pyramid Gallery :501-372-5824

Arizona

12th Tribe: 520-620-1810
Greater Phoenix Urban League*
The Black Wives Network*
Tucson Urban League*

California

A.K. Quinn AME Church*
African Heritage Books & Gifts
African Marketplace
Alkebulan Books
African Book Mart: 510-843-3088
Annette's Braids: 323-398-0369
Birthing Project*
Black Spring Books
Blessed Child Entertainment*
Cadajah's Loctician Services
Carol's Books: 916-646-6525
Culture Collection
Eso Won Books
Ethnic Notions Bookstore
Eugene Bowman Economic Empowerment Center*
Greater Sacramento Urban League*
Hair Today Hair Tomorrow:
510-452-0942
Hanna Ethnic Bookseller:909-626-5051
IFBA Institute of Fine Braiderly Arts
IronWood Corner
It is Written Bookstore:619-697-4173
Ivyway Salon
KIPP Schools*
KnewPlanet*
Kongo Square Gallery:213-291-6878
Le Skintique: 310-337-9555
Locsistah.com*
Los Angeles Urban League*
Madu Salon
Malik's Bookstore: 323-294-1319
Marcus Bookstore: 510-652-2344
Mark Style Bookstore Natural Touch
Natural Hair:708-758-2798
Natural Hair Expressions: 909-784-0292
Oh My Nappy Hair

San Diego Urban League*
Select Los Angeles Public Schools*
Select Nail Salons
Select Public Libraries
Shatari Braids
The African Book Mart: 510-843-3088
The Center for Community Health & Well Being*
West of Heaven Studio: 310-842-9744
World of Braids: 510-451-4223
Zahra's Books: 310-330-1300

Colorado

Black and Read
Camp To Belong*
Hueman Experience: 303-293-2665
Urban League of Pikes Peak*
Urban League of Metropolitan Denver*:303-388-5861

Connecticut

All Eyes on Egypt
Blackprint Books
Black Books Galore
Blackprint Heritage Gallery
Dygnyti Books: 203-776-9061
Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault*
Twist & Curves*
Urban League of Greater Hartford*
Urban League of Southwestern Connecticut*

Delaware

Haneef's Bookstore and Gallery:
302-656-4193
Me Jah's Books: 302-798-6658
Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League*

District of Columbia

Advocates for Youth*
All Eyes on Egypt
Asa Natural Hair Boutique:
202-545-9272
Anthony Bowen Elementary School
Clubhouse #4*
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington*
Boys & Girls Club #2*
Cornrows and Company
Digital Sisters*
Drum and Spear Books: 202-722-4758
Elle Braiding Salon: 202-667-0404
Girlfriends Creative Hair Designs
Global Fund for Children*
Greater Washington Urban League*
Howard University
Howard University Bookstore
Langston/Carver Boys & Girls Club
Martin Luther King Library
Mary & Daniel Loughran Clubhouse #10
Mary McLeod Bethune Council House*
Merritt School Boys & Girls Club
National Congress of Black Women*
National Council of Negro Women
Natural Shapes
No Lye
Office of Minority Health*
Oliver Natural Hair Salon: 202-686-9714

Sankofa Video and Books
Select District of Columbia Public Schools*
Select Nail Salons
Select Public Libraries
Shelton's Hair Gallery
Stella bleu
Studio Elan
Soul Day Spa and Salon
Twists & Turns Natural Hair:
202-882-0157
Ujamaa Bookstore African Shop
University of the District of Columbia
Urban Nature Styles
Yawa Books & Gifts:202-483-6805

Florida

African American Heritage:
904-766-3830
African Bookstore:954-584-0460
Amen Ra Books:850-681-2023
Asa Natural Hair Boutique:
202-545-9272
BlackBritsUSA.com*
Books for Thought:813-988-6363
Chambers Park Community Center*
Ethnic Elegance:904-725-0595
Girl Scouts of Gateway*
Heritage Bookstore and More
Jacksonville Urban League*
Montsho BookFairs:407-649-8881
Nefertiti Books:904-766-3830
Njingha African Women's Week*
Nsoromma Youth Entrepreneurs*
Metropolitan Orlando Urban League*
Nahbulunge*
Ngozi Seed*
Nubian Bookstore:
678-422-6120
Pinnellas County Urban League*
Pyramid Books:561-731-4422
Shaheed African:727-867-1338
Shear Essence Salon
Tallahassee Urban League*:
850-222-6111
Tampa/Hillsborough Urban League* :813-229-8117
Tenaj Books and Gift Gallery:
407-468-0520
The Gathering:850-438-4882
Universal Natural Touch
Urban League of Broward County*
Urban League of Greater Miami*:
305-696-4450
Urban League of Palm Beach County*

Georgia

21st Century Boys & Girls Club
A.W. 'Tony'
Mathews Boys & Girls Club
Afrodisiac Natural Hair and Wellness Spa*
All Eyes on Egypt:404-221-9297
Alta's Hair Studio
Angel's Locs: 770-623-3819
Another Look Salon: 404-209-0100
Atlanta Urban League*
Brookhaven Boys & Girls Club
Celebrate

Charis Books & More
Deeply Rooted at Your
770-434-1411
Deeply Rooted Natural
Center
East DeKalb Boys & Girls
Fine Art by Meisha Carter
Franklin Road Boys & Girls
George Washington Carver
Girls Club
Hamilton Books
Harland Discovery Teen
404-758-3612
Headliners Hair: 912-398-1234
Homeland Village Isiah Barber:
912-691-2034
James T. Madison Boys & Girls
Jesse Draper Boys & Girls
John H. Harland Boys & Girls
Joseph B. Whitehead Boys & Girls
Kareem Books:404-588-1234
Khan's Books:404-577-1234
Kinetic Kinks:404-215-5432
Life is a Box of Crayons
Madina Baye Braiding
Mahogany Books & Gifts
Medu Bookstore
Michael A. Grant Boys & Girls
Midtown Hair Studio:404-525-1234
Natural Essence Hair Salon
678-754 -6239
Natural Hair Care Center
Newnan/Coweta Boys & Girls
NFL Youth Education Team
Nubian Bookstore:678-422-6120
Oh My Nappy Hair
PLGK Media*
Peachcrest Boys & Girls
Artistic Home: 404-501-1234
Salon Baptiste
Salon Panache: 404-261-1234
Samuel L. Jones Boys & Girls
Select Atlanta Public Schools
Select Nail Salons
Select Public Libraries
Shrine of the Black Madonna
Southpointe School of Wellness Spa*
Soul Sister Natural Hair
Spelman College
The Crowning Seat of the Queen
706-342-8662
Threshing Floor Academy
Sciences*
Timbuctu International
404-315-6992
Urban League of Greater Atlanta
Warren/Holyfield Boys & Girls
W.W. Woolfolk Boys & Girls
Youth Art Connection*

Illinois

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Anderson Real Estate*
A.Philip Randolph Pullman
Museum Gift Shop*
African American Image
773-445-0322
Afri-Ware:708-524-text

Afrocentric Bookstore 1 and 2:
773-924-3966
Amazon Natural Salon: 312-674-9033
Black Culture Bookstore: 312-263-4514
Camp Butterfly*
Chicago Urban League*
Cultural Bookstore: 302-214-1314
Dianne B. Natural Hair
DuSable Museum Trading Post
Free Your Mind
Full Circle Bookstore: 773-928-8797
Heritage Books
Mothaland Books: 773-955-6969
Native Touch Natural Hair Studio
Knowledge Center Books
Quad County Urban League
Organic Texture
Project Butterfly*
Malcolm X College
Mothaland Books: 773-955-6969
Roots
Select Chicago Public Schools*
Select Nail Salons
Select Public Libraries Serena's
Braids: 708-849-2475
Sirius Books: 773-684-6911
Sistastrong*
Soul Salon Spa
Southern Illinois University
Edwardsville*
Springfield Urban League*
Street-Level Media*
The Forum for Empowerment*
The Hair Source
The Tribesman: 773-268-6900
Tri-County Urban League*
Underground Bookstore
Urban League of Champaign County*
Why Knot Concept Salon:
312-421-6580
Young Women's Empowerment Project*

Indiana

Adaru
Brunette Salon
Delaney Boys & Girls Club
Dorie Miller Homes Boys & Girls Club
East Chicago Katherine House Boys & Girls Club
Fort Wayne Urban League*
Franklin School Boys & Girls Club
Indianapolis Urban League*
John Will Anderson Boys & Girls Club
Select Gary Public Schools*
Select Nail Salons
Select Public Libraries
Urban League of Madison County*: 765-649-7126
Urban League of NW Indiana*: 219-887-9621
Urban League of South Bend & St. Joseph County*: 574-287-2800
X-pressions Bookstores: 317-264-1866

Iowa

Black Ink Bookstore: 319-232-0191

Kansas

Urban League of the MidPlains*
WSU Youth Empowerment Partnership*

Kentucky

CAP Institute*
Louisville Urban League*
Urban League of Lexington-Fayette County*: 859-233-1561

Louisiana

Community Books: 504-948-7323
Select New Orleans Public Schools*
TNT Nubian Express
Urban League of Greater New Orleans*

Maryland

Adenine's Braids and Locs:
301-322-2182
Afrolistics
Anel Natural Hair Studio: 301-595-7108
Arlinda's Place: 401-298-8778
Artistic Expressions Natural Hair:
301-449-3737
Braids Inc.: 301-384-2666
Bowie State University
Boys & Girls Clubs: Silver Spring*
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington*
Caravan Books and Imports:
301-567-8234
Club Lady Bug Girls Social Club*
D.I.S.C Design Hair Studio:
301-622-1880
Dreadz-N-Headz
First Impression: 301-870-7175
Freestyle Natural Hair Design:
301-423-1423
Grassroots: 410-548-7151
Greater Baltimore Urban League*
Institute for Black Charities*
Jaha Hair Studio Karibu Books*
Lions Denn Natural Hair: 410-467-3009
Last Stop Hair Shop: 410-293-3133
Madame Walker Braidery & School:
301-505-5313
My Hairitage: 301-856-0744
Karibu Books 1-6
Kingdom Kare Ministries*
My Sister's Keeper*
NAACP
Natural Blessings
Natural Elements
Natural Locs Hair Salon: 410-728-3388
Office of Minority Health Resource Center*
Select Baltimore Public Schools*
Sepia Sand & Sable: 401-318-8698
Shear XXPoseure—the Salon
Sierra Visions*
Sojourner-Douglass College
Stunin' Hair Designs by Tina*
SuperSistas*
Wisdom Natural Hair Care Salon:
410-664-1946
Tehuti Imhotep Wisdom Natural Hair Care Salon: 410-664-1946

Massachusetts

Black Library
Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts*
Urban League of Springfield*

Michigan

Colored gURL Media*
Detroit Urban League*
Everette's Natural Hair & Beauty School
Fauver-Martin Boys & Girls Club
Ferndale Extension Boys & Girls Club
Grand Rapids Urban League*: 616-245-2207
Gammi Phi Delta Sorority*
Guest Boys & Girls Club
Happy to Be Nappy
Howard B. Bloomer Boys & Girls Club
I'm Naturally Beautiful:

313-341-9005
James & Lynelle Holden
Boys & Girls Club
Jeanette's Unisex Salon: 313-893-9870
Lloyd H. Diel Boys & Girls Club
Locks 4 Life
Mosaic Youth Theatre*
Paul Winfred Owens Memorial*
Pontiac Boys & Girls Club
Select Detroit Public Schools*
Select Nail Salons
Select Public Libraries
Sisters Who Are Powerful*
Southwestern Michigan Urban League*: 269-962-5553
Urban League of Flint*
Urban League of Greater Muskegon*: 231-726-6019
Visions Interpersonal*
Minnesota
Black History Month Store*

Minnesota

St. Paul Urban League*: 651-224-5771
Uhuru Books: 612-721-7113
United Deliverance Temple Church*

Mississippi

Adhiambo Bookstore: 601-922-1184
Urban League of Greater Jackson*: 601-714-4600

Missouri

Afrocentre Books & Cafe: 314-721-8550
Afro World: 314-389-5194
Cultural Essentials: 314-664-4744
:314-291-3433
Left Bank Books: 314-367-6731
Treasures of the Mind Bookstore:
314-862-2777
Ujamaa Unlimited: 314-535-3238
Urban League Kansas City*
Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis*

Nebraska

Aframerican Book Store: 402-455-9200
Urban League of Nebraska*

Nevada

Las Vegas-Clark County Urban League*

New Jersey

A Brand New Touch By Cookie:
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A Cut Above
Academy of Vocational Careers*
Angela Beauty Studio: 242-364-1883
Angels Beauty: 908-353-5988
Banessa Beauty Salon: 973-278-0460
Be Beautiful Parlor: 609-392-6363
Beys Touch Of Class: 973-675-9887
Black Chamber of Commerce
Black Infant Mortality Reduction*
Books 'n Things: 856-740-2395
Boys & Girls Club of Newark*
Braids Galore: 973-743-2410
Braids R Us
Broadway Elementary School*
Carine's Ambience Hair Studio Cee Cut & Quarters: 908-757-9233
Center for Nonprofits*
Central High School*
Connies Beauty Salon: 856-854-9693
Cynthia's Natural Hair Salon*
973-259-9790
Distinctive Image: 856-342-6844
Dixons Hair Affair: 609-695-6525

East Orange Campus High School*
Empower Today's Youth*
Essex County College*
First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens
Get Twisted: 201-833-4890
Hair by Nedjetti*
Horizons Bookstore: 908-355-0773
Just Your Style Too: 609-586-5353
Karen Lynns Salon: 609-581-2150
K R Hair & Co: 609-584-9234
Just Us Books*
La Perfection Nails & Hair:
609-586-0882
Lees Beauty Salon: 609-695-9027
Lisbon Beauty Salon: 973-589-8435
Looking Glass Salon: 908-756-0200
Margos Stylistics Hair Salon:
609-883-3727
Partnership for Children of Essex*
Nail 3000 Nail Plaza Native Essence:
973-375-2080
Newark Day Center*
New Jersey Performing Arts Center*
Netukhisa Bookstore
Newark Community Health Centers*
Nu Loc Hair & Body Spa: 201-833-4003
Mind & Soul Bookstore: 609-695-6606
My Sistahz Keeper Association*
Orange Extended School Day Program*
Oursory Books & Gifts: 908-755-8800
Partnership for Children of Essex*
Top Shelf Plus*: 973-824-5511
Sacred Thoughts Bookstore:
201-418-0100
Select Nail Salons
Select Public Libraries
Select Newark Public Schools*
Serengeti Plains
Sirca Reaction: 973-904-1223
Source of Knowledge: 973-824-2556
St. Philips Academy*
Strengthen Our Sisters*
The Bradford Brown Gallery*
973-395-9200
The College of New Jersey*
The Nubian Queenom*
TropicalClinics*
Tunde Dada House of Africa:
973-673-4446
Urban League of Essex County*
Urban League of Union County*
908-351-7200
Urban League of Bergen County*
201-568-4988
Urban League of Hudson County*
Urban League of Morris County*
Westside High School*
Zion Academy*

New York

Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center*
African American Women in Cinema*
African Hair Braiding
Afrigenix
Aids Community Research Initiative of Amercia*
Antekqua's Hair
BillHodges Gallery
Black Hair: 212-862-0789
Broome County Urban League*
Brownstone Books
Buffalo Urban League*
Caribbean Women's Health Association
Designer Braids & Trade: 718-783-2964
Dyaspura Salon & Day Spa:
212-265-9292
Gay Men's Health Crisis*

Girls Inc.*
Hair Fashions East
Health Department of New York*
Hue-man Bookstore
Indigo Cafe and Bookstore
Inner Beauty Solutions*
Khamit Kinks
Langston Hughes Community Library
& Community Center
Lil SISTA*
Marta Valle Secondary After School
Boys & Girls Club Merrick Park Baptist
Church*
National Association of Black Female
Executives in Music & Entertainment*
National Coalition of 100 Black Women*
National Council for Research on
Women*
NBA/WNBA
Navy Yard Boys & Girls Club
New York Urban League*
Nubian Heritage Bookstore:
212-427-8999 Rueban's:(212) 944-8970
Select Nail Salons
Select New York City Public Schools*
Select Public Libraries
Sirca Designs
Sisters Making a Difference*
Sisters Uptown
Society of Neith Street*
Soulistic NYC: 646-729-3165
Tendrils Hair Spa
The Educational Alliance Boys & Girls
Club-Edgies
The Brotherhood/Sister Sol*
The Educational Alliance Boys & Girls
Club-H.S. of Economics & Finance
The Educational Alliance Boys & Girls
Club-PS 142
The Schomburg Center*
Tulani's Regal Movement: 718-953-573
Turning Heads Salon & Spa
Urban League of Long Island*
Urban League of Rochester*
Urban League of Westchester County*:
914-428-6300
Women's HIV Collaborative of
NewYork*
Wosa's Natural Hair
WNBA*
Yisrael School of Learning*

North Carolina

A Difference Bookstore: 704-392-9399
AIDS Community Res. Association*:
800-227-8922
African Land*
Ayana's Glory Locs
Bamar Courts Boys & Girls Club*
Bennett College
Blacknificent
Birchwood Heights Boys & Girls Club
Conduit*
Braids R Beautiful: 919-934-0009
Coastal Carolina Horsense*
Creative Interchange*
Cultural Freedom
Divine Women of Faith*
Durham County Social Services*
Girls Club of Wake County*
Glory Locs: 336-922-0723
God Given Beauty
Hatyi Heritage Center*
Families Living Violence Free*:
919-693-1511

Hayti Heritage Center*
Hickory City Schools*
John Avery Boys & Girls Club*
Johnson C. Smith University
Lockstar Upscale Natural Hair Salon
Mocha Moms*
Mt. Vernon Christian Church*
Neighbors in Ministry*
North Carolina A&T State University
North Carolina Central University
Numbers Child Care*
Raleigh Girls Club*
S. Estes Family Resource*
Saint Augustine's College
Schatzi's Design Gallery and Spa:
919-844-2867
Shaw University
Select Durham Public Schools*
Select Public Libraries
Sophia Sunflower Salon*
The Hair Source
The Queens Beautique: 336-788-8446
The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club*
McDougle Terrace*
Triangle Urban League*
Triple S*
Urban League of Central Carolinas*
Winston-Salem University
Winston-Salem Urban League*:
336-725-5614
World of Flowers*:919-688-4231
Young Women of Promise*

Ohio

Abdul's African Art: 937-277-6010
Africentric Personal Development*
Akron Urban League*
Black Art Plus
Canton Urban League*
Crown Point Christian Bookstore:
937-262-8446
Columbus Urban League*
Dayton Urban League*: 937-220-6650
Greater Toledo Urban League*
Kiso Books: 614-257-0744
Lorain County Urban League*
Maryam Booksellers*: 513-221-7323
Massillon Urban League*:
330-833-2804
Select Cleveland Schools*
The Harambee Leadership Academy*
The PanAfrican Institute*
Urban League of Greater Cincinnati*
Urban League of Greater Cleveland*
Warren-Trumbull Urban League*:
330-394-4316

Oklahoma

Urban League of Oklahoma City*
Metropolitan Tulsa Urban League*:
918-584-0001

Oregon

Reflection Cofee & Books
503-288-9008
Urban League of Portland*

Pennsylvania

African American Museum
African Expressions: 215-924-0444
Alkebulan Bookstore: 215-266-3240
Atajmil Salon: 215-627-3693
Au Naturelle
Basic Black: 215-922-4417
Beauty Colliseum: 215-592-1982

Brownstone Natural Hair:

Dana Styling Salon
Duafet Holistic Hair Care
Haneef's On South: 215-629-2665
Endless Creations: 610-352-3625
Exavia's Locks & Twist
Indigofera*
It's A Mystery to Me Bookstore:
610-623-1166
Malika Kambe Umfazi Sorority*
Million Women March*
Robin's Bookstore
Select Nail Salons
Select Philadelphia Public Schools*
Select Public Libraries
Stable of Books & Stuff: 215-473-1667
The Nile
Xquisite Hair Design
Urban League of Shenango Valley*:
724-981-5310
Urban League of Lancaster County*:
717-394-1966
Urban League of Philadelphia*
Urban League of Pittsburgh*
Woman Wisdom Corp*
Young Women's Leadership School*
Zulene Creative Touch Design

Rhode Island

Urban League of Rhode Island*

South Carolina

Ancestral Vision: 803-779-6288
Doretha's African American Books:
803-782-9833
The Kwanzaa House: 803-931-0436
Trident Urban League*
Columbia Urban League*
Urban League of the Upstate*

Tennessee

Afro Books:901-396-3490
Knoxville Urban League*
Memphis Urban League*
Select Memphis Public Schools*
Urban League of Greater Chattanooga*
Urban League of Middle Tennessee*

Texas

African Imports
Austin Area Urban League*
Black Images Book Bazaar
Black Book Worm: 817-923-9661
Cush City
Ebony Hair Expressions:713-440-8000
Emeth Books and Gifts: 409-935-0706
Exhale African American Books:
281-240-2962
Houston Area Urban League*
Knappi by Nature:
Komen Breast Cancer Foundation*
440-8000
Lock Shoppe Hair Salon*:
713-440-8000
MainStreet Books: 713-524-2524
Mocha Sisters Organization*
Nu World Books: 409-838-2242
NyAHsia Sistahood*
Owu books
Roots N Kulture: 817-536-8414
Sankofa Books: 214-421-0013
Scircles of Hair Studio: 713-918-9845
Select Nail Salons
Select Public Libraries
Select Houston Public Schools*
Shrine of the Black Madonna
Soul Scissors:713-739-7685
Soul Sister Natural Haircare*

Super Star Stylists Beauty Spa
Uncle Funky's Daughter Natural Hair
Salon
Urban League of Greater Dallas and
No. Ctrl TX*

Utah

Sam Weller Books

Virginia

Ancient Techniques Natural Hair
Braiding Service*
American Diabetes Assciation*
Ashoka*
African Attractions
Ashanti Village*
Atlantic Bookpost
Boys & Girls Club in Prince William*
Boys & Girls Club-Hylton Branch*
Boys & Girls Club Heiser Branch*
Boys & Girls Club-Carteret
Mortgage Branch*
Happily Natural Day*
Karibu Books
National Society of Black Engineers*
Norfolk State University
Northern Virginia Urban League*
Nubian Village Academy*
Respect for Life Daycare*
Positive Vibes
Respect for Life Daycare*
Self-improvement: 757-623-4910
The Girls & Co.*
The Literary Boutique:804-377-8560
Urban League of Greater Richmond*
Words of Wisdom Books and Gifts
Urban League of Hampton Roads*
Vision for Victory*

Washington

Carol's Essential Ethnic Gifts and Books
OneWorld Now!*
Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle*
Tacoma Urban League*

Wisconsin

The Cultural Connection Bookstore:
414-461-6160
The Readers Choice:414-265-2003
Milwaukee Urban League*
Urban League of Greater Madison*
Urban League of Racine & Kenosha*:
262-637-8532

AFRICA

Cameroon

SOWEDA*
Mbesa Women Bamenda*
Struggling Youths Common Initiative
Group*

Ethiopia

YWCA of Ethiopia*

Ghana

Charismatic Faith Chapel*
Tomorrow Pioneers Foundaton*
Forces of Light*
Hope for Africa Network*
Global Nourishing Organization*
Network of Women in Growth*

Kenya

Ability International*
East Africa Institute of Certified Studies*
Gender Empowerment*
TropicalClinics*

Lesotho

Less AIDS Lesotho*

Nigeria

African Christian Youth Development
Foundation
Community Child Education &
Development*
Ameh's Ventures*
Diamond Girls Club*
Echoes*
Jadeas Trust*
Schoolsng.com*
Silver Quill Nigeria*
Nitz Ventures*

Senegal

Case des Jeunes Femmes*
Sierra Leone
Jesus For All Nation*

South Africa

Conquest for Life*
Masimanyane Women's Support Centre*
South African Fisherwomen's
Association*
South African Youth Ministries*
Tsa-Botsogo Re-Awakening*
Youth Empowerment Network*

The Gambia

The Organization for Women
Advancement*

Uganda

Kibugambaata Girl Child Empowerment
Project*
Mango Tree*
MVU Orphanage Centre*
Rugendabara Foundatoin for Health &
Rural Development*
The Kids League*
Theo Life Ministry*
Tuungane Children's Foundation*
Uganda Muslim Women Association for
Daawa & Development*

Zambia

Christian est. Trust of Zambia*

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe Women Finance Trust*

CANADA

Ford Publicity*
Images Barber Shop & Beauty Salon*
Young Women for Life*

CARIBBEAN

Bahamas

Alma's Hair Care Center
Beauty Loft
Council for Women in the Bahamas
Crisis Centre
Donavan's Hair & Nail Salon
Elite
Free National Movements Women's
Hair International Skin and Day Spa
Jackie's Vogue Hair & Nail Salon
La-Tee's Nail and Beauty Salon
Lyford Cay Beauty Salon
National Women's Movement

New Beginning Beauty Salon
Palmer's Beauty Salon
Shelly's Beauty Salon
Sojourner-Douglass College
Style Unisex Salon
Tropical Heatt Beauty Salon
Trinity Beauty Salon
Ultimate Image

Barbados

Barbados Council of Women
Caribbean Women's International
Network
Centre for Gender and Development
Studies
Development Alternatives*
Institute of Social and Economic
Research-University of the West Indies
Select Beauty Salons
Women and Development Unit

Jamaica

Bureau of Women's Affairs Center for
Gender & Development Studies
Select Beauty Salons
Sistren Theatre Collective*:
876-929-2457
YMCA of Kingston: 876-928-3023
Woman Inc.*: 876-929-9038

St. Lucia

Caribbean Federation of Youth
National Youth Council of St. Lucia:
809-452-2626
National Youth Council of St. Vincent
and the Grenadines
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Trinidad and Tobago

Allison Hair Place
Annie Professional Hair Service
Beauty By Design
Beauty Perfection Limited
Caribbean Association for Feminist
Research and Action
Select Beauty Salons

U.S. Virgin Islands

Education Central-St. Croix
Select Beauty Salons
University of the Virgin Islands-St. Croix,
St. Thomas

EUROPE

AfroEuropean Sisters Network*
Black Women in Europe*

United Kingdom

Bermuda

G & M Beauty & Barber
Kafu Hair & Gallery
Select Beauty Salons
Women's Resource Centre

London

Aman Holistic Therapy Center
Blaque 2 Naturals: 020 8556 8141
Foundationz
Kamai*
Maarifa Books Masimanyane Women's
Support Centre*
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