

BLACK

AT IT AGAIN

MAGAZINE

1ST EDITION

READ ABOUT
NEW JERSEY FEMALE

RAPPER
ILL.NATA

P.8-9

CHECK OUT
**MOMMY & ME TIME
WITH HAUTEKOKOA**

P.20-21

SHOP
KAPONA BEAUTY

P.18-19

YONKERS COOK & BAKER
MARMARSDLIGHTS

P.64

JOSH BREEZZYY

BBE MARLY

MAKEUP ARTIST
JOSH ALEX
& MUCH MORE

MENTAL HEALTH

The Shani
PROJECT

SPECIAL STORY
**BREAST
CANCER
SURVIVOR**
NATALIE T.
WILSON





LET'S
REMEMBER
THEM ALL!!



**LET'S
REMEMBER
THEM ALL!!**

CONTENTS

BAKERS & COOKS

Chef Corey (pg 4)

MarMars delights (pg 62)

Cakes by Camille (pg 59)

Sugarboss Creations (pg 22)



INSPIRATIONAL BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR:

Natalie. T Wilson (pg 12-14)

**Mental Health the
Shani Project** (pg 8-9)



RAPPERS

Ill Nata (pg 6-7)

Tribemark

Mc Knowledge (pg 42-43)

BBE Marly (pg 50)

Josh Breezyy
(pg 12-13)



SINGERS

Original Hue (pg 52)

Alise (pg 17)

Azha Myna (pg 32)

DreaNicole (pg 38)



MOMMY & ME TIME WITH HAUTEKOKOA

(pg 18-19)



MAKEUP BRANDS & MAKEUP ARTISTS

Josh Alex (pg 10-11)

Kapona Beauty (pg 16-17)

Yap the Makeup Artist (pg 67)

Belshae (pg 42-43)



AUTHORS & WRITERS

Eboney Thompson (pg 26-27)

Jay, she creates (pg 70)



MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER:

Kait Speaks (pg 57)



OTHER OR ORGANIZATIONS

Baddie Brigade (pg 24-25)

PGHcurvappeal (pg 55)

AfroPrincesses (pg 36-37)



CLOTHING BRANDS

Keep it classy (pg 46-47)

Jameelah Creates (pg 68)



EDITOR

Welcome



Thank you for purchasing our very first magazine issue. I'm so excited to start this journey and have my readers and audience with me. The purpose of my magazine is to bring awareness to the black community of those who need to be seen and heard, our very talented people.

I would like to thank everyone who has participated in our first magazine issue. We are so grateful that you have allowed us to tell your stories. We have managed to touch on so many topics, some are very emotional, life changing and challenging, we even have some that are exciting and fun telling. No matter what you have to say, we want to put it out there for everyone to see. There are so many of you that are so talented and you all have given us the opportunity to allow us to show the world what you have.

When I decided to put out this magazine, it was more for me, it started out as an idea for a blog. As I explored the explore section on Instagram and I saw so many people that are so damn talented and not even acknowledged. I said to myself "damn do other people see what I see."

Later on that night it dawned on me exactly what I wanted to do with Black At it Again. I came up with the name pretty easily. We are some colorful people and I was like here we go again, "black at it again" with some new things, different things but amazing things. This is for you guys to also have a voice. I am so happy to have shared this experience with you all. Love each one of you guys. Without you guys i wouldnt have a first issue.

Vaneisha Tyree



*Executive Chef
Shevan Timoll
"Corey"*

Chef Corey

WHO IS CHEF COREY?

Shevan 'Corey' Timoll, proud youth from Old Harbor St. Catherine Jamaica. In an era where food is an obsession, young chefs are not rarities but a growing demographic in our Culture. Chef Corey adds greatly to that demographic as a professional chef and promoter. Chef Corey worked at the prestige Jamaica Pegasus Hotel where he worked full time as a professional chef and applied himself and his skills. He mainly focused on Hors D'oeuvres and main course dishes. Chef Corey migrated to the United States where he currently resides. "The professionalism of myself is what many youths my age are lacking in today's society, but yet I maintain a level of composure and humbleness and also being incredibly self-aware. At the end of it, I am just another young, passionate, food enthusiast to the Culinary World."

WE LOVE TO EAT AND YOU LOVE TO COOK, SUNDAY DINNER WAS SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO

When it comes to good cooking, we all know growing up whether it's our mother's, aunties or grand-ma's we can't wait for that food to get done, so we look to see if any was coming and go in that pot and take some food before we got caught. "As a Jamaican youth, Sunday Dinner was always a Joy to look forward to and I was always dipping into the pot before my mom would be finished, so that alone made me know for sure that I was a foodie. However, I found My passion in high school but took it more seriously after graduating. I then decided to Acquire training at the established Runaway Bay Heart Hotel & training institute in St. Ann Jamaica. I didn't see myself as a practical person and found it difficult to be in an office job, so I strived to become a chef."

CHEF COREY'S FAVORITE CHEF

"My Favorite Chef, I would say is Chef Gordon Ramsay. Reasoning being he is very straight forward, passionate and only wants to see what's best not only for the growth of a person but also for the business and to ensure guests are satisfied and happy."



CHEF COREY'S INSPIRATION WHEN COOKING A MEAL

Sometimes when we prepare a meal we get our inspiration from someone or something, here is where Chef Corey gets his. "Generally I would sit and think of ideas and wonder what combining certain ingredients would be like. Apart from that I read a lot of cook books and gain knowledge and inspiration from those."

DETERMINING FOOD COMBOS AND THE JOY HE GETS WHEN COOKING

"I Personally determine food combos based on a sense of sweet and savory. Also the texture of the food, for me all aspects of a dish must come together to bring of each item that is going on the plate. When cooking the feeling is like no other, it all depends on the environment that you are cooking in. Cooking can give you a various number of feelings from being in a solid adrenaline A La Carte dinner, rush to a smooth calm cold room where your just preparing fruits and salads."

SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS WHEN SOMEONE LOVES YOUR FOOD

When we have cooked a good meal and we know it's good, it's a great feeling to serve it to others, and then they tell you how wonderful the meal was. You know that there palettes are satisfied and that is one of the greatest accomplishments you can have from something that was made from your own hands. This is the same feeling that Chef Corey has after serving his food, they are pleased and have nothing but amazing comments. "I feel a sense of accomplishment to make someone happy with food."

CHEF COREY'S BIGGEST SUPPORTER

It's always a great thing to have supporters by our side whatever we are trying to accomplish in our lives. "My biggest supporter I would definitely say my Mother, she has been from day one."

CHEF COREY'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OPENING A RESTAURANT OF HIS OWN

"I accomplished awards, Best Show Piece in the island of Jamaica and also Winner of the showpiece Competition (Taste Of Jamaica). Also Yellow Pages Chef on the Rise competitor. Something I would want to accomplish as a Chef is Opening My own Restaurant."

FUN FACT ABOUT CHEF COREY

📷 @chefcoreyt

*ill
Mata*



TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF?

Im twenty-four years old. My cultural background is from African descent, Sierra Leone stand up! However, I was born in Harlem, moved back and forth from NY and NJ. Come from a single parent home. Probably have the award for “moved the most” but it made me well rounded (lol).

WHO IS ILL.NATA?

Nata is an abstract energy. Not only do I rap, but I believe that I’m a well rounded artist. I also sing, write and do my own creative direction. But lastly, I’m also just around the way girl up the block who stays as normal as possible.

HOW DID YOU GET INTO RAP?

Man I’ve ALWAYS loved Hip Hop. I was listening to a Tribe Called Quest, Slick Rick and Common since MIDDLE SCHOOL. I’m like a hip hop dictionary. I knew I wanted to be involved in hip hop but never knew how, until now (lol).

WHEN DID YOU REALIZE RAP WAS FOR YOU?

I think I always knew rap was for me for awhile but not in the context of being an MC. Even when I was writing raps in school, I didn’t take it serious because I was like “How can sweet old me be a rapper?” and would people take me serious? But when I got the courage to display it to the world, I suddenly felt a new mist of positive energy in myself and in my life. Plus I can rap pretty good lol so that was a plus to proceed

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE RAPPER AND WHY?

Jay Z , Jay Z, JAY Z! He’s my favorite rapper, because he actually made me take that leap in just the last year of my college career to try rap. He is so confident, very poised with everything bar and so witty. I love witty rappers with underline metaphors for everything. He’s just great, I Stan.

WHO AND WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO RAP?

WHO STILL INSPIRES YOU AND WHY

that person? (if any) Oh, Jay Z once again lol. And also female wise Lauryn Hill and Missy Elliot. Those two just show til this day that there isn’t just ONE kind of genre when it comes to females in the rap game. I can be quirky and fun like Missy and I can be revolutionary and thought provoking like Lauryn. Plus they both sing as well as rap, and I can’t wait to show more of that side.

IS THERE A MESSAGE IN YOUR MUSIC? (IF YES, WHAT IS THE MESSAGE)

Definitely. Message is important to me. Not only do I talk about your daily swag talk but I do shed light on self perseverance. Not having to sell your soul or become something that’s not you for the industry or life in general. Also, I always personally sprinkle my faith in God and Christ in songs, just so the audience can know where I speak from.

DO YOU HAVE A TARGET AUDIENCE FOR YOUR MUSIC? (IF YES, WHO AND WHY THEM)

No specific target artist. I want everyone to be able to listen, even kids! I love boom bap, but I also explore 80’s, soul, and other types of genres of music. I want everyone to feel what I got!

HOW IS IT PERFORMING YOUR MUSIC FOR PEOPLE? HOW DOES IT MAKE YOU FEEL?

Performing is actually one of my favorite things to do! At first I thought, maybe people won’t gravitate to my boom bap style or just overall presence, but the audience proved me wrong. Now I feel like I just bring something different to the table, and always provide a fun set.

AS A RAPPER, WHAT DO YOU FEEL YOU’VE ACCOMPLISHED SO FAR? WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACCOMPLISH?

Crazy that I only been rapping for a year and change, but what I accomplished by far is incredible. I only put out my first batch of music in February, but the reception I’ve got back is amazing. Been able to do so many shows, meet so many people, but most importantly just being fearless was my favorite accomplishment.

WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED IN THE FUTURE FOR ILL.NATA?

I plan to just grow and explore as an artist. Rapping, singing, visual art and every fashion. I just want be to ART! But most importantly an influential person in the rap game. If I could do it, anyone could.

PLEASE SHARE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE US TO KNOW.

The new music this fall of 2019 (By God’s Grace). Thank you for your platform once again! One love.

📷 @ILL.NATA

mental health

The *Shani* **PROJECT**

WHO IS SHANI?

Shani means marvelous and I like to think of myself in that way. My childhood memories stand out and reflect pain, fear, and shame. As I started to move through my adult life with these emotions I realized that I was owning a truth that wasn't mine.

I made a decision in my mid 20's to start living authentically. I'm so weird and I embrace it. I love to laugh because laughter ignites dopamine which makes us feel good, and I'm all for a natural high as I did the work on myself. Analyzing the roles of daughter, wife, mother and friend, I realized that moving out of victimhood is cathartic. As I moved into this new phase of my life, playing the roles, owning my story, and showing up authentically I wanted to share my inspiration with others. That's where The Shani Project was born. I create a safe place for people to own their shit.

WHAT IS THE SHANI PROJECT?

The Shani Project is my company and my baby. My project in this world is to create a safe place for others to own their story. I do this in three ways; storytelling, therapy, and inspiration.

WHY MENTAL HEALTH?

Because my childhood impacted me as an adult more than I realized. At 18 when you leave the house and head into the world with financial aid and no sense of who you are, that leaves you vulnerable, I hated myself and I hated men. I struggle having a relationship with my mother and father. When I went to see a counselor she was white and privileged. I found myself constantly explaining “culture” or why I grew up the way I did. I didn’t go back. Then when I had my first child I tried therapy again and it was again hard to find a black female therapist, so I settled. I never got anywhere. Yes, It was nice to talk it out but I really wanted that strong, loving, culture figure in my life. It’s when I knew I had to be a therapist.

WHEN DID YOU REALIZE THAT HELPING OTHERS WAS FOR YOU?

I’ve always had this sense of wanting to help others. It’s my gift I like to say. I feel that I went through what I went through so that I could help others. I will say It was confirmed that I am meant to help others. When I quit my day treatment job a good handful of my teens clients cried. I thought to myself wait a second, y’all be throwing chairs at me, and saying F you, but low key y’all love me?

They expressed that I listened and they felt safe. I think about them from time to time. Hoping they are out in this world thriving, because had I had a Shani when I was a teenager I wouldn’t have struggled as much in my adulthood.

PEOPLE WHO COME TO SEE YOU, HOW DO YOU WANT THEM TO FEEL AFTER SEEING YOU?

My office is decorated to feel like an apartment. I want clients to feel at home, I want them to feel cozy and safe and I want them to feel like they can tell me anything without judgment. It’s important that they know I’m not just their therapist but that I am also on their side, and rooting for them like crazy. They will cry, they will get mad and they may feel joy. Emotions are normal but having the space to play them out is even more important.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR YOUR PATIENTS?

I never choose goals for my clients. I always ask them what they want to work on and then help them reframe them into realistic attainable goals. I have one request that they are honest with themselves.

WHAT IS THE MOST CHALLENGING PART ABOUT BEING A THERAPIST?

When I think about my clients. Some clients really touch my heart. I can really see their pain. I’m not afraid to show my vulnerability but sometimes I have to hold back because I could lose control of my own emotions. Sometimes getting paid, when clients cancel last minute they don’t realize that it affects my pay. I don’t get an hourly pay regardless if they show up. I have a waitlist and I have people who are more than willing to fill those spots. We can’t forget about insurance. It makes me so upset with how insurance is set up. It’s really expensive, I’ve had many people quit therapy because they can’t afford the deductible, It’s frustrating.

WHAT MAKES SHANI PROJECT DIFFERENT FROM GOING TO ANY OTHER THERAPISTS?

You get more than a therapist. If you ask me about myself I will tell you. I have clients that ask me how my weekends are, do I have kids and what do I like to do. I tell them It’s only natural to want to know about the person who you are vulnerable with. I’m open I want my clients to feel like they know me. That’s how trust is built, it’s both ways, it’s an exchange. Something for something.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH AS A THERAPIST?

To inspire people to own their stories and show up in the world how they want to. Not because “Becca” said do this, not because mom won’t approve and not because they have daddy issues, but because they want to. What is your message for people who is struggling with mental illness in the black community? You don’t have to be in it alone, seek a therapist, and if they aren’t a good fit, keep seeking. Please share any additional you want to share with us regarding yourself and Shani project The name of the company is The Shani Project. Thank you so much for these wonderful questions and opportunity. I’m so excited!!!!

📷 @theshaniproject

WHO IS JOSH BREEZY?



Who is Josh Breezy? What do you stand for?

Josh Breezy is a 22 year old Hip Hop Artist from Long Island, NY. In his 7 year career he has released 3 full length projects, and sold over 250,000 records world wide. What makes him unique is that for every sale of his music or his merchandise, 25% of the profit goes to the Alzheimer's Association through his Fight The iLLness campaign!

What makes you an artist?

I've always loved poetry since I was a kid. I come from a mixed background with my dad being black and my mom being white, so I got to develop a good sense of a lot of music styles. My dad would take me on weekends and I'd hear Run DMC and LL Cool J all the way to the Temptations and the Jackson 5. So it was easy to fall in love with music, but then my brothers introduced me to Eminem, and it was then when I learned every word, every chorus and every adlib that I wanted to be a rapper.

What rapper(if any) inspires you and why?

I draw a lot of inspiration from Eminem and Joe Budden. Weird Pairing some would say, I know, but I LOVE what Em does with the technical work that he puts into every verse, fitting into pockets that shouldn't be there and etc. But, for content man I look at the mood God himself and really find a way to make the pen bleed. My last album was a semi autobiographical in which I told my struggles through a third party character. Underground Hip Hop Blog said it was just shy of a classic, and that's due a lot to me listening to All Love Lost on Repeat

Who is your target audience?

My target audience based on analytics is males and females ages 18-34 mostly in Urban areas. But if you mean who do I make my music for? I make it for the people out there who are going through the same struggles I did, I want people to feel like there's someone they can relate to, whether it's me or not. When I was just getting started in music I released a song called "Let It Go", this is like 2013-14 something like that, sorry my memory is trash. But the song was about overcoming depression and wanting to live and just letting all that hurt go. I got a letter from a girl, she wrote me a full page letter about how she needed to hear that,



and that it saved her life. It was honestly one of the best moments of my career so far.

What message do you want listeners to get listening to you?

Like I said, I want them to relate, and I want them to know

that there's nothing wrong with being who you are, doing what you love. I've been told since I started I wasn't going to be anything, now those same people send me screenshots listening to "All I Ever Wanted" on their way to work. Never give in, never give up. Life is going to take you on a crazy ride but you were out here to win. So why not go out and get your trophy?

Who is your favorite rapper and why?

My favorite rapper has to be Dylan, Dylan... Dylan, Dylan and Dylan hahaha No but seriously, my favorite rapper is Eminem. There hasn't been anyone in my mind that puts words together better than he does. When he drops a song or is featured on someone else's song I still run to listen to it like it's the early 2000's, so I guess it's gotta be him. But a few names come to mind, Joe again, Royce, Logic, And Joyner Lucas for sure. But I listen to a lot of R&B lately, and man the things Chris Brown is doing just is out of this world, plus he raps too, so you can put him in there haha.

What is your technique when writing your music? (with hook, verses etc.)

My technique? Well, I do all my own recording, mixing and mastering so first I sit down, light a candle and some incense to get the vibe right. Pull up some beats I've got in the stash and see what sticks. What can I freestyle 8 bars over!, that sounds dope. I'll play with flies and pockets until I like something. If there's a melody from the jump I'm trying to find the hook, if it's the verse I'm rapping. I type everything though. Everything gets typed and saved onto two drives. I had a girl in high school spill her Starbucks onto one of my rhyme books and I lost everything, never again.

Ig @realjoshbreezyy

Who is your biggest supporter? (family, friends, etc)

My biggest supporter is my fiancé. She comes to every show without question, even if she can't make it she buys a ticket. She's bought every Mer-

ch shirt I've put out and then some. She's always bumping my music around her friends or at the gym and really is the reason why I keep going every day. Coming in for a close number 2 is my right hand man St. Droper! We just finished a tour up together and man, the fun me and this guy have is unmatched. We drove to Florida from Jersey to shoot the video for "All I Ever Wanted" and he stayed up with me the whole ride, that's my brother, for sure, wouldn't be here without those two.

What is next for Josh Breezy? What do you have planned in the future?

I'm currently working on an album. It's coming together piece by piece, and I'm just lining everything up for the proper release. By the time this comes out I'll probably have 3-4 music videos ready to go, I've already got the songs ready. Cover Art is done. Right now it's just about setting everything up so that the release is beneficial. The future is bright, even when the shadows creep, so I plan to keep shooting for the stars and never let thesky stop me!



What is the most you like when you perform?

I love the feeling when I do some of these shows, where I open for other acts or I have other acts open for me. Their fans don't know me like that, but after like 30 seconds they've got their phones out nodding their heads along with you. That's great man, a hell of a feeling. To see them go from strangers to fans, it's like wow, I did that! We performed for a packed crowd in Jersey City and it was a great night.



Natalie T. Wilson is a breast cancer survivor who has been battling on and off for eleven years. Her testimony is powerful and is definitely a life-changer for those who need the extra step and encouragement throughout their journey. Her story gives high praise and motivation and an encore of how God can surely spare your life and answer all of your prayers. “I’m that ride or die chick! Lol. I’m very loyal if you earn my respect. Not unlike many other mothers, I will give my life for my three children. There’s nothing more important to me in this world except for them.”

NATALIE’S DIAGNOSIS WITH BREAST CANCER

Natalie found a lump in her breast in February of 2008, five months after her last child was born. She was officially diagnosed in August 2008. “I thought I was going just to get the stitches out and receive confirmation of what the doctor told me post-surgery. She had a hard time telling me herself. I was in shock to say the least, confused, and at a loss for words. My

life and future with my family started playing out in my mind and nothing looked good. I’m a very hands-on parent, and the fact of the thought of not being there to see my children grow or be at their graduations and weddings, or the birth of their own children started to break my heart”

THE TREATMENT PROCESS

Everybody’s process is different, but for Natalie’s, the treatment process was definitely long and arduous to say the least. It began in 2008 after her diagnosis of high grade; aggressive growing Ductal Carcinoma in Situ. With a bilateral double mastectomy (nipple sparing) and 13 surgeries to reconstruct her breasts, she chose to do both breasts even though cancer was only on the right side. She didn’t want to fear for the rest of her life that it would appear on her healthy breast.

“Because of this decision I didn’t need to go on chemo or have radiation, but I was put on an estrogen blocking drug called Tamoxifen for five years. One of the side effects was going into early menopause at the age of 35. On my 13th and supposed last reconstructive surgery, a rare form of nipple cancer (Paget’s disease) was found on the same right breast. I went right back into surgery to have the nipple and areola removed. I was reliving the feelings from almost 10 years prior when the doctor first told me I had breast cancer. However, this time I added the emotion of anger and disappointment because of the lack of information or cautions given to me back in 2008. Nobody told me that I could have nipple cancer, but I guess I had to learn otherwise.”

After a year and a half of living with one breast and a flesh colored prosthetic, Natalie decided to give reconstruction one more go. She took the time during that hiatus to heal herself of all the physical and emotional wounds. She wanted to be sure that if it failed again, that she would be psychologically content with living with one breast. Natalie needed to believe that she was beautiful with or without that part of her female anatomy. There were many obstacles that some had to learn. Her biggest battle at first was coping with the fact that if the cancer reappeared at a stage that was incurable and if her life was not spared, how will her family survive without her?

“One of my most personal struggles was feeling comfortable with my body the way it was. I went through life hiding my body as I have a large scar down the middle of my stomach due to reconstructed muscles after an umbilical hernia. So there was that, and then I lost my breasts.

For the last 4 years I’ve had either no breast or partial breast. The scars are pretty severe to say the least. I

battled with how I looked as I took my clothes off and saw my reflection on the mirror. “I hated how marked up my body was, but yet I stayed steadfast on the track to rebuild my breast as I felt I at least deserved to have “good boobs”. It was like my reward for all the pain I went through physically and emotionally.”

HOW BREAST CANCER CHANGED HER LIFE

While others are suffering and battling with this disease in their own way, breast cancer has most definitely changed Natalie’s life for the better. She has been through 20 surgeries and counting, a tremendous amount of physical and emotional pain, desperation and depression, marital challenges, and on many occasions thoughts of taking her own life. But as stated “I rose above those challenges by the grace of God, and learned from them”. After suffering some serious consequences, Natalie then realized that she couldn’t stay in that dark place forever and had to find a way out. Now that she has learned the tools to move out of the challenging situations she’s chosen to share and inspire others on their path towards healing.

“This wasn’t an easy process and it took faith, counseling and a near divorce to get me there, but if God had to touch me with cancer in order for me to find my purpose, then I say I’m open and I’m ready for any other challenges as long as they continue to make me a better person. My husband is such a gentle and tolerant human being that I didn’t think it possible to become any more tolerant than he already was. When your children have seen you in the hospital so many times, it becomes embedded in their memory, they too have to deal with all the exhaustion and



emotions that comes along with this experience. But as for Natalie, she is a very strong woman who will do anything for her kids no matter what. They are her pride and joy, and look up to her for everything. All her children have learned to be very sincere and compassionate young adults and definitely have a better understanding and appreciation for living life to its fullest, following their dreams and their heart, and loving

each other more than one can stand! Because of her breast cancer experience, her children are now better equipped for anything that life throws at them.

“My three children, Morgan age 19, Paris age 14, and Quinton 11, have had to deal with emotions that most children don’t have to deal with at such young ages. My son has seen me in and out of the hospital all his life. Eventually, as he got older and heard more about cancer, I think he began to associate it with death so I had to sit down and explain to him that mommy will be just fine. My second daughter has been a trooper through it all. She supports me emotionally and physically. She was like my own personal nurse”

A MESSAGE FOR BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS

The message Natalie is trying to get across is for women is that there always is a light at the end of the tunnel and she believes that that God gives His hardest battles to his strongest and bravest warriors. She wants her testimony and experiences to touch other women. She wants women to learn from their own hardships, and turn it into positives for themselves and for others. Natalie knows she is a better person today because of her obstacles and how she overcame that adversity in ways that no one could ever imagine.

HIGH HEAL DIARIES

Natalie started High Heal Diaries in 2016 after she was given her third breast cancer diagnosis, and after her sixteenth surgery. High Heal Diaries is a platform where women who are going through or have gone through their own personal struggles, whether it’s emotional or physical, can share their stories (diaries) with other women in a non-judgmental, unbiased forum and where they are motivated to listen and support others as others have done for them. Natalie believes that by the mere nature of being a woman, we naturally acquire that female struggle, yet have proven time and time again that we can rise above our adversity. Daily we walk standing tall and with our heads held ‘HIGH’ while taking care of businesses, our families, our homes and our partners. The problem arises when we don’t stop to address and ‘HEAL’ our own personal pain and struggles. Women should be able to have that safe outlet where they can open up their personal ‘DIARIES’ and start speaking so they can begin to heal.

As I began speaking more about my journey, I realized that I had so much to share with women, not only about my cancer experiences but all I had learned along the way. I also knew that there’s a good amount of women

that want to talk about their issues but can't find the outlet they need to speak without judgment.”

For High Heal Diaries, the future is looking high! Natalie's goal is to have her talk show turn into a nationally syndicated show where women from all over the world can use her platform as a catalyst to the healing of their spiritual, mental and physical selves. She also wants to take her keynote engagements worldwide and share her story with others. Besides High Heal Diaries, Natalie also runs a breast cancer survivor support event each year called 'Walk A Mile In My Shoes'. The money that is raised helps women that are suffering the financial effects of a breast cancer diagnosis. Proceeds go to support women by paying for grocery bills, utility bills, care packages, transportation expenses, children's expenses, or a day at the spa.

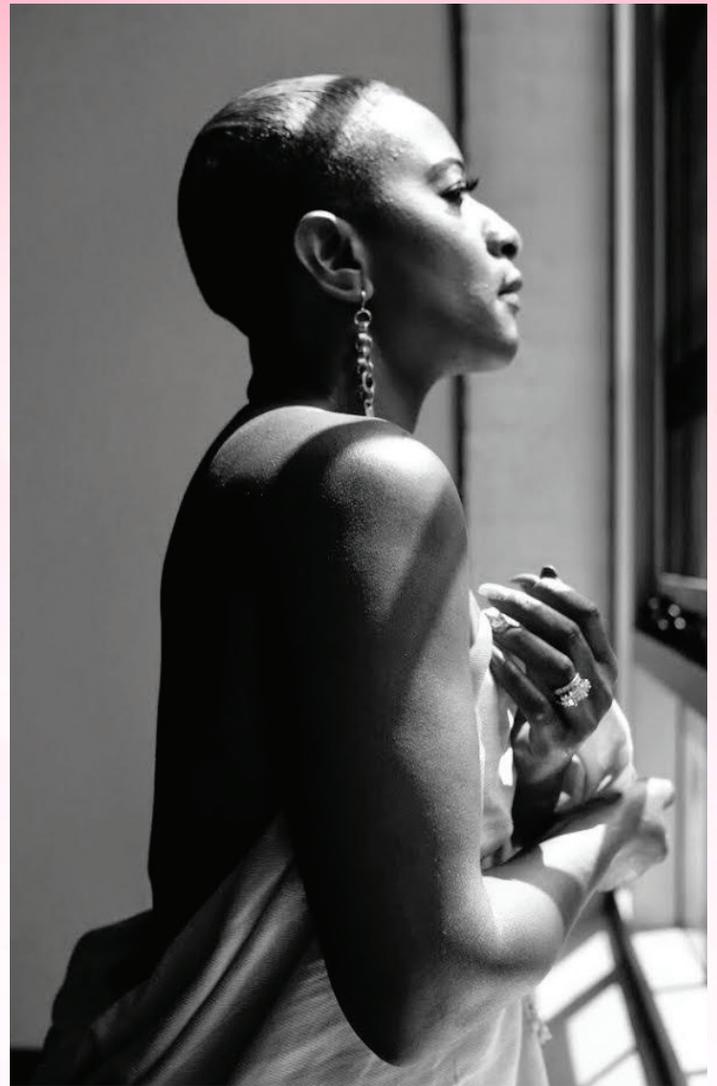
“The reason we walk in high heels is to celebrate all women as we walk through our daily lives with strength, courage and perseverance regardless of our circumstances. My hope for this event is that it grows to be a national event in Canada, and to raise so much awareness about the cause so that hundreds of women are supported, thus increasing their quality of life.”

WHAT A SUPPORTIVE NETWORK CAN DO

In this time of need, a great support system will, and can be very helpful. There is nothing more important than having great friends and family by your side to help you along your journey to recovery. Natalie had a phenomenal support network from social media immediate family, very good friends, and even friends of friends. There are many networks for women who are going through similar circumstances where one can go to get support from other women who have gone through similar circumstances as them. Even the strongest person needs support, and should not go through such hardships alone. Keeping things built up inside of you isn't healthy.

If you are that person that isn't ready to open up to others, then get a diary and put pen to paper.

“Another great source of support was speaking to a counselor about some of my deepest and darkest emotions. Sometimes you just don't want to share those kinds of things with people you know for fear of judgment. With my business now, I definitely emphasize letting it out by finding someone unbiased to talk to. There are a lot of breast cancer support networks here in my hometown, but for me that wasn't my first go to. It is always good to have a sounding board and someone to talk to, or to go to appointments with you when you're dealing with something as serious as a disease that can possibly kill you. More often than not you're not usually in the proper frame of mind to ask



the right questions of doctors or other professionals. Have someone that's knowledgeable enough to ask the right questions, or that can do research on your behalf, and then explain to you later.”



WHO IS ALISE?



I am an artist who represents authenticity and aims to spread truth through my music!

How old were you when you realize you can sing?

About 5 years old

What does singing do for you? How does it make you feel?

Singing literally frees me! It's my most powerful outlet. Singing is like therapy for me. Regardless of how I'm feeling, afterwards I feel like I've laid down a burden or burdens.

Who is your target audience (if any) & why?

My audience includes several types of people.

1. People who love God and feel that he's bigger than our human limitations.
2. Young people with old souls. I am an old soul at my core. I was raised around many older people like my grandparents, and while I'm very current, my soul connects with past generations.

What is something you would say to young people chasing their dreams/passion?

Please be sure that you are being true to yourself and who God has called you to be in your process. There's nothing worse than having double identities trying to please everyone but yourself and God. You'll never have peace until you're authentic.

Who is your favorite singer and why?

Joe Thomas, he connects with everything that he says & sings. His tone is pure.

Who and what motivates you to keep going?

My family are all very hard workers and believe that the most important thing in life is pursuing your purpose. My friends constantly remind me to be who I'm called and that I can do whatever I want.

"Something new something borrowed"

What is that mainly about? What is your message?(if any)

"Something New Something Borrowed" is symbolic of me being young with an old soul. It's an EP of hymns that I redid dedicated to my grandparents and my roots. Many people my age don't really know hymns and I wanted to redo them with a fresh sound and vibe that maintains the richness of the message, but feels good to people my age.

What does the future hold for Alise?

A lot more music! Lol I have a lot of things planned for my people to help uplift and empower us as a collective group. So just stay tuned!!!

FUN FACT: What is something you do that people would consider weird AF? (lol we don't judge)

Hmmm. I listen to my music on shuffle and so I'll go from a jazz number like "The Way You Look Tonight" to a Meek Mill song without skipping.

Lol! I don't make playlist like that for different vibes and sounds.

How does it feel performing for people?

How do you want people to leave feeling?

Liberating. I like that for a few minutes, other people can feel how I feel. I want people to feel the freedom that I experience after releasing myself in a musical moment.

What is something you accomplished as a singer?

I've been afforded the opportunity to sing on The Word Network several times. Additionally work with huge vocal producers such as Eric Dawkins & Pierre Medor

What is something you want to accomplish as a singer?

I want to be multi Grammy award winning!





VISIT [KAPONABEAUTY.COM](https://www.kaponabeauty.com)



SHOP KAPONA BEAUTY



Azure Dailey founder of Kapona Beauty in 2016, is a self taught makeup artist, beauty enthusiast, entrepreneur, and model. Kapona Beauty is a brand for all skin tones and types. Kapona Beauty sells makeup, skincare, and beauty accessories. Kapona (a)

added for some flare, comes from the word Kaponono which means righteous the good of one in Hawaiiin.

All products and colors are handpicked by Azure. Azure always loved playing in beauty products and trying new things. Growing up Azure learned many beauty and makeup tips from family members and that inspired her to want to understand the beauty industry and how it works.

The goal is to provide a memorable beauty experience for any woman, whether you rock bold makeup or love the natural look, they have a product for you. Makeup and skincare products are paraben-free (free from harsh toxins and preservatives), mink lashes are 100% cruelty-free.

Running a business is a dream come true for Azure. When she was younger Azure always knew she wanted to run a boutique of some sort. Little did she know that dream would follow her into adulthood and would allow her to create Kapona Beauty. Being an entrepreneur is not always straightforward, you will have many dents and zigzags in your journey, but it is so worth it. You discover this hidden strength and confidence that pushes you to become a better version of yourself. "I'm so thankful for this opportunity to do what I love every day."

"Pros are learning the business world and you naturally become more knowledgeable about beauty. You also get to meet and connect with so many amazing people. The only con would be that you are always busy. Sometimes you have to take a lot of time for yourself without distraction to get things done. I enjoy what I do so most of the time I don't consider it work. I just get started on something and let the creative juices flow."

Azure wants to let everyone know to trust your gut, do not allow the fears and insecurities of others to stop you from building your brand. Do a lot of research and listen to your buyers. They love to feel like they are a part of the journey. Also, stay true to yourself, your brand, and morals. Remember why you started and never forget the end goal.



MOMMY & ME TIME WITH HAUTEKOKOA

Who is Hautekokoa?

Hautekokoa is a 29 year old Supermom to a beautiful little Princess, an actor, stylist and model. She is spunky, so much fun and is proudly still rocking visible abs after baby! She believes that anything she puts her mind to and works diligently at she can make happen.

How is it being a “supermom?”

Being a Supermom is the best, so often women feel like they have to abandon their dreams, goals and sense of self once they become mothers. That is not at all the case, when my daughter was much younger I definitely put my dreams a bit more on the back burner as I wanted to stay home with her, nurture her and be her first teacher. However, once she started school full time and was much more self sufficient I dived back into the industry head on. I'm doing what I love while also being a rock star single mom and it feels great. I love juggling it all and a more mundane life would not suit me too well. I'm happiest when there are lots of irons in the fire. Mom's can do and have it all just make time for you too! A healthy you is a happy you.

How do you juggle work & being a mom?

It is definitely a challenge juggling work and being a mom, especially for me because I am a single mom. However my planner and my cell phone calendar keep me balanced and on task. I make a to do list for the next day every night before bed and cross tasks off as completed. I also give myself a window to complete the task, so for example if I don't complete a task between 9-12 pm that task has to wait until the next day. That way I don't get mentally overwhelmed feeling like nothing gets done. If I simply complete one task from each window of time I feel accomplished and that my day was a success. I make time to work out daily, eat a balanced meal and make sure to spend time with friends. I have a wonderful and supportive village who are willing to lend me a hand at the drop of a hat. Bills have to be paid so work has to happen but don't live to work, work to live.

How is it being a mom?

I absolutely LOVE being a Mom! Yes, it is draining, overwhelming at times and I question if I'm doing it 'right' every single day. However it is also crazy fun,



humbling and so beautiful to have the privilege of molding and shaping this little person that I created, but most importantly I have a built in best friend. I really wouldn't choose to spend my time with anyone but her if I could. We love to shop together, travel, take all the selfies and most importantly have full on kitchen dance parties as often as we can. I taught her the running man this summer so we are currently having random running man dance offs in all kinds of inappropriate places. Most recently we were caught busting a move in the bread aisle at Trader Joes!

What advice can you give to moms on how to juggle work with also spending time with their kid(s)?

Make time for yourself first. I get up at 5 am every day and meditate for 15 minutes. I then shower and get fully dressed before my little one emerges for her morning snuggles. I am a much better mom when I take care of myself. Put yourself at the top of the list. If yoga or a run make you feel whole then make time for those activities at least 3 times a week. Write things down. I find that when lists and calenders are tangible it definitely makes it more real and the goals feel more attainable. When something is stored away in my phone it makes it easy to ignore.

When it comes to the kids schedule date nights with them as well. Don't let homework and the night time routine be the only dedicated time you spend with your kids everyday. Read together, if they are older curl up on the couch with them and read chapter books desperately then discuss them. Go on walks with your little ones, talk about their day and ask open ended versus yes or no questions.

Balance is key, make friends and spend quality time with them, if you are dating or married carve out real time to spend with your partner.

Date nights are great but have a bedtime for your kids and stick to it. Yes it requires you to be on a schedule as well but dedicated time spent to bonding with your spouse every night will keep you loving them, dating them and still enjoying each other's company once the children are gone.

What are some of the things you enjoy doing with your daughter?

Me and my peanut love to go to Palm Springs! It is currently our most favorite thing to do with one another. We have been going twice a year since she was 4 years old, she's 7 now. We get manis and pedis before we leave, we pack our cute suitcases and go! Upon arrival we check into our resort and just pamper ourselves for 4-7 days depending on what time permits. We lay by the pool, order room service, go to a fancy dinner and just really spend time together. We look forward to it every year! I dream of buying a home there one day.

We love to go to concerts. For her 4th birthday I took her to see Beyonce and we had floor seats. She literally had a concert scheduled on her birthday so how could I not take her. We wore matching gold blazers, leather skirts and danced and sang the night away. It was literally a night that she nor I will never forget.

Festivals and Night Markets are our jam! We love to try new foods, have random conversations with vendors, jam to the live music and just explore. My little one is truly my best-friend! We just love spending time together.

Do you see yourself having any more kids?

Well, for a long time I was absolutely one and done. I truly couldn't imagine loving another child as much as I love the one I have now. She is just perfect! However, I have learned that your heart just grows when you have another one and I now believe that there may be at least one more in my future. Sometimes you meet someone and the love you have for them is down right intoxicating. The idea of creating a small version of the two of you is mind blowing and crazy exciting... so I suppose we will just have to wait and see what the future holds.

Please share as much information as you want to share about you and mommy daughter time, parenting advice. :)

Children grow up very fast and so often we rush their little lives away because the very young years are rough! One thing I always remind parents is to cherish every moment. Plan adventures and document them with pictures and in a journal. Do the unexpected! Take them places they never thought Mom would take them. Dinner at 10 pm on a Friday, go to the movies in your pajamas. Just try and make some moment in

every day special because soon they will be older and the relationship that you foster and nurture with them as little one's is the relationship that will carry over to preteen and teenage years. You want them to see you as their secret keeper, advice giver and all the in between. Establishing that bond starts young. Lastly, as a single parent I want to just take a second to speak with other single parents. It is important to establish healthy boundaries with the co other parent.

When I first broke up with my daughters father I did things that I felt I was supposed to do because society said so. I put myself in uncomfortable and awkward situations and tried to co parent with someone who was not even capable of such. Then one day my therapist told me about parallel parenting versus co parenting. I have my daughter the majority of the time but there are still certain occasions where we are forced to be in the same room so I needed something to protect my sanity at those times.

Parallel parenting is when separated/divorced parents are able to co-parent by means of disengaging from each other and having limited direct contact. In situations where one parent has proven they are unable to communicate in a respectful manner you disengage versus using traditional methods of communication. I use to think to be a good parent after separation I had to do things like weekly family dinners and hang out with the other parent, but that is not true and even my little one has observed and learned that Mommy is happier and healthier apart from her Dad. Of course Dad is free to come to events or activities of his choosing we just don't sit together, we limit in person conversation and only engage in when absolutely necessary.

Protecting my mental space is imperative to helping me be the best mother that I can be. I write the rules for my life and I want to encourage other single parents to do the same. Your peace is priceless and you should do whatever it takes to protect it.

"It is impossible to pour from an empty cup. Take care of yourself first."

 [hautekoko](#)





*H*i my name is Madison but my friends call me Maddie. I'm a dedicated dancer and lover of all things glam. I'm only 5 years old but I've realized at a young age that I want to be a boss. So with the help and support from my mommy and teetee I've created Maddie Doll cosmetics. I love lipgloss and wanted to create something that my friends and all girls, young and older would love. Also, since I'm a dancer I wanted something that can be worn during competitions that would last.

IG @maddie_doll_cosmetics

MODEL: Malik Johnson
IG @kilem.zier_





April is the creator of **Sugar Boss Creations**.

SugarBossCreations is a company that specializes in wow-ing their customers with their eyes first then their taste buds with cakes, cupcakes, chocolate covered sweets, candy dessert tables, edible images and much more.

April has been a proud resident of Far Rockaway since the 1970's and attended and graduated from Far Rockaway High School in 1992. Over the years April has attended Queens College and has returned to study Forensics Accounting. She has been in the banking industry for over twenty years and has held almost every position teller, manager, internal audit, and Vice President of Banking Operations. April is currently a Compliance Testing Analyst in Consumer Regulations.

April continues to participate in numerous community outreach events such as feeding the community during Thanksgiving, giving out school supplies and have participated in various Career Day Events. In June 2014, April went on a life changing missionary trip to Cap Haitian, Haiti with her church. For the past six years she has served as treasurer for the Women's Industrial Service League Inc. In May 2018, April was honored and received the "Dedication for Community Service Award" for all of her community service throughout the years. April's son Shaheem, age twenty-five is also following in her footsteps.

As a young girl she always baked with her mother, Cecilia Venable until she was mature enough to have an easy bake oven. April could remember growing up assisting her mom with making cookies and cakes. During her school age years every night after dinner, her mother would always

have special desserts prepared for them. One thing she always remembered was all desserts were in fancy dishes, whether it was pudding, jello, or cupcakes it was always fancy. When April got older she would make bread, pies, cupcakes and cookies with her own family. April's business was birthed out of volunteering to make some sweet potato pies for an event her church was having. The feedback was so overwhelming that she would sell them only twice a year, Valentine's Day and Thanksgiving. From there it was making simple cupcakes for her co-workers. One day someone said, "you really need to start your own business" and that was the birth of Sugar Boss Creations in August of 2016. "Never in a million years did I think my love for baking and making people feel good could have come together."

April says as a baker you don't "reinvent" the cupcake recipe but you change it up to make it your own. She loves taking a banana pudding or peach cobbler recipe and turning them into cupcakes. You may have seen that done before, but she may do something a little different from another baker that makes her cupcakes stand out, like a little drizzle here and there goes a long way.

Out of everything April bakes and decorates, cupcakes are her favorite. Cupcakes give you endless options of flavors, colors, and designs. "Being able to take a simple white batter and turn it into either a strawberry, red velvet or chocolate batter is so amazing. Let's not forget about the buttercreams, whip creams, and cream cheese frostings. And after you have created the ultimate cupcake you get to dress it up. This is the wow factor not only for the customer but myself too."

Here are some fun facts about April. People who are close to her would say that she has the personality similar to Lucille Ball. She always getting herself into little mishaps. For example, she liked taking the first box off the shelf and will reach high for the untouched box way up top which will cause all the other boxes to come tumbling down.... Lol, she has been called Mr. Softy with sprinkles ice cream, Mary Sunshine and even Mary Poppins. April marches to the beat of her own drum, happy birds singing and blue skies everyday. "Although I have only been in business for three years, I am still amazed how God continues to push me further to bake, create and wow my customers of all ages. I am truly grateful for this gift that God blessed me with and the opportunity to share and inspire many."

📍 @sugarbosscreations 📱 @sugarbosscreations



Founded and operated by Kalea Sanders-Wright, KSW Social Media Management, a boutique social marketing company, is the product of a true social media lover and online community builder. Kalea thrives on collaboration, organization, and good relationships and brings a wide range of creative and professional experiences to the table with every client.

Kalea is passionate about helping small businesses achieve their growth goals with marketing solutions that are effective and affordable.

IG: www.instagram.com/kswsocialmedia

FB: www.facebook.com/kswsocialmedia

Twitter: [kswsocial1](https://twitter.com/kswsocial1)

www.kswsocialmedia.com

WHAT IS BADDIEBRIGADE?



THE BADDIE BRIGADE IS BOTH A DIGITAL AND PHYSICAL NETWORK DEDICATED TO CELEBRATING AND PROMOTING BLACK SISTERHOOD.

Who is Jamice Miller?

Jamice Miller is a twenty-five year old raised in Yonkers, NY. The CEO and founder of Baddie Brigade. She is a Leo Sun, Aquarius Moon, and Gemini Rising, so she definitely get a little wild. (lol) She loves to socialize, brunch and really LOVES to travel. She is also a huge technology nerd and foodie so her free time is probably spent on her computer, YouTube, and/or stuffing her face. (Lol)

Jamice has always been drawn to relationships and spirited between two people. More so between her and other Black women. She loves the idea of a #squad.

Just having women who look like you and want to see you win, however, Jamice struggled with that all her life. Once she found her tribe and realized how confident and successful she been with them by her side, I wanted to help other Black women find that feeling, not only with other women, but within themselves.

What is a Baddie?

Society has set out a baddie to be someone that is a "FINE" female someone who is rated on a scale of 1-10, would be considered a ten. But tobaddie brigade.

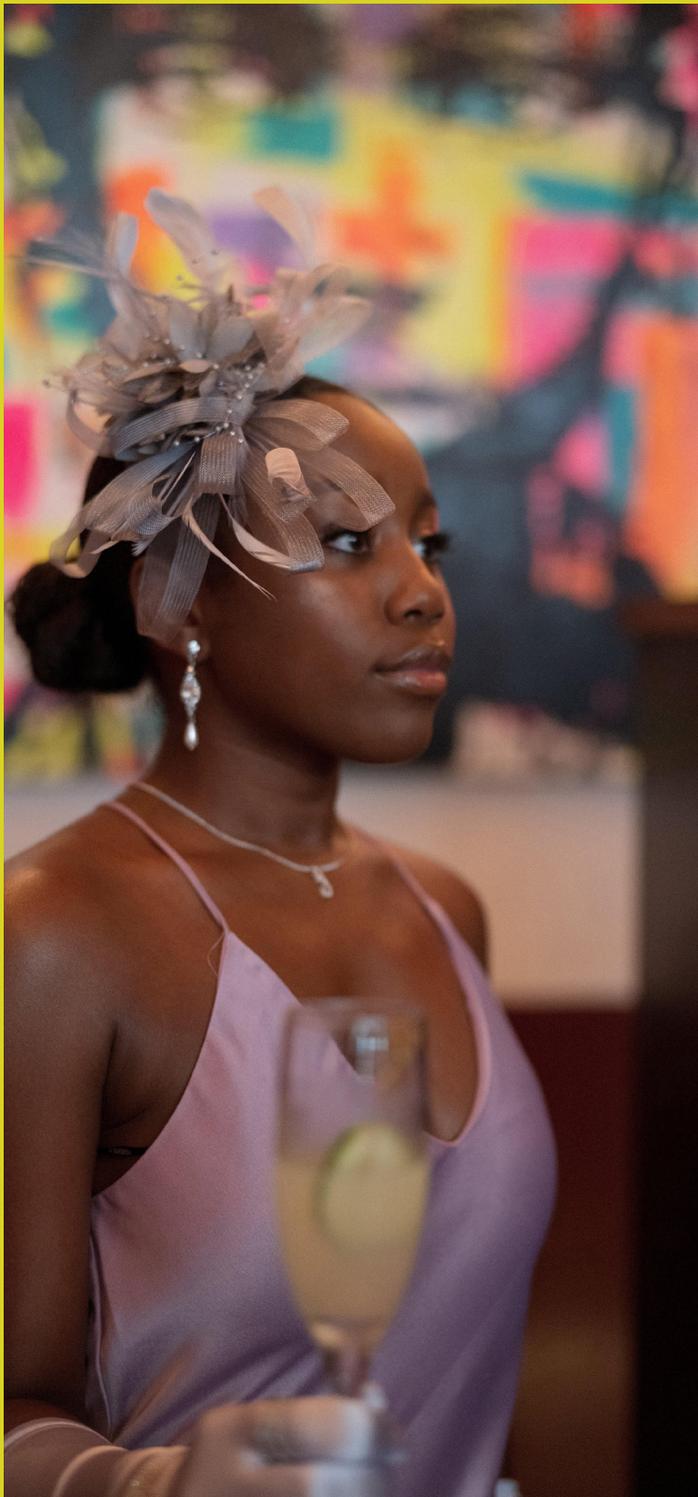
"A Baddie is any Black woman who is just: HERE. She is unapologetic about herself and is not afraid to fill the room with her energy. A Baddie uplifts her sisters around her and stands in her truth, no matter how hard it gets."

My friends and I call each other 'Baddies' all the time and there's usually like a huge group of us when we go out. So I just randomly started calling us the 'Baddie Brigade' and it stuck!

What to expect from Baddie Brigade Instagram:

"When you come on the Baddie Brigade Instagram page, I want you to see yourself. I pride myself on posting our ACTUAL followers, among celebrities, influencers, etc. When we get new followers, I usually will scroll through their page and screenshot anything that matches our color scheme at the time. A little creepy, but when they comment or DM us super hype about being featured, it really makes us happy. Our supporters are also our inspiration and we want ALL our Baddies to feel included."

This year they officially launched their clubhouse, which is a 'Baddies-Only' virtual space for their baddies to interact with each other outside of Instagram and in between their events. They have an actual



chatroom, and a #BaddieWall where they can leave cute messages like how they used to do on Myspace, they also have details of future events and recaps of their past events. They're looking to add Baddie Merchandise soon!

Creating Baddie Brigade has definitely helped Jamice find her own power. Creating these events, having women come out and seeing how much fun they've had with each other is amazing. Some of these women don't even know each other and then they see them interacting with each other on social media a few weeks later and it's just great. To know you are creating spaces for Black women to feel safe and have fun is really all she wants. Running a platform from scratch with no media team and pulling off extravagant events with no budget has really taught Jamice to prioritize her own personal life because for right now, Baddie Brigade is part of her personal life and in a way, always will be; so she is extremely grateful on how much she get from seeing her own posts or experiencing her own events. She feels like the founder AND a loyal member. Having a group that caters to women, black women is amazing and the ability to connect with each other and make friends. Is something we need because

"I want women of color to know that: YOU ARE SEEN. WE SUPPORT YOU. WE LOVE YOU. So many Black women are overlooked despite being the pioneers, the ORIGINATORS. So we do our best to really go UP for y'all because it's hard giving your all and getting literal peanuts back. But we SEE you"

To quote a Baddie Cult Classic: The limit does not exist. I see so much for Baddie Brigade. Not just events, but group trips and retreats, conferences and galas. I see lots of Press and high-status members. As far as my personal life, I definitely see Baddie Brigade being the platform that feeds and fulfills me. I can definitely see me doing Baddie Brigade full time and KILLING it! I really want Baddie Brigade to branch off and become its own conglomerate. Kind of how Rihanna made 'Fenty' an entire household name. I love it!

There is no ONE way to be a Baddie. We welcome you all and we love you.

Thank you for all of your support, it does not go unnoticed!

It's not about
getting to
the end
but getting
through
the process

Available Now on Amazon



WHO IS EBONEY THOMPSON?

Eboney Thompson is a mother of 4 lovely and smart children. She is a Woman of God, a 10 time soon to be an 11 time published author, founder, and CEO of HNH Life & Visual Development, and just a really down to earth woman that many should get to know and her story.

What is the “Hustle Journey”?

The Hustle Journey is my transparent autobiography about my battle with breast cancer. I give people the ends and out of the process that I have had to endure on this journey. I talk about the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and even financial transformation that I went through, all with some other things that many don't realize or talk about that many go through. With this book I hope to empower many. Not just cancer patients are going through it, but people in general that may be dealing with their own battles. This is not a “Whoa” it's my story, but one of inspiration that no matter what comes your way you can get through it, if you just hold on and keep the faith.

How can your book help empower women?

This book can empower other women to look within and know that they can overcome more than they know. Women tend to take care of everyone else first before they take care of themselves in almost all areas of their lives. I let them know that it is ok and very necessary to look after THEMSELVES-first!! I definitely hope that if they don't take anything else from the book, they take away self-care. Get checked, check themselves out and if they feel something else is wrong get a second opinion.

How was it battling with breast cancer? *(mental state of mind, thoughts that ran through your mind)*

Well I am currently still going through it. I go to chemo and immunotherapy treatment every two weeks for 3.5 hours each treatment. It can be and has been at times very taxing on the mind. Many thoughts such as not being here for my children and all that comes with that has played many times. I have asked myself, have I truly lived my life and what do I have to show for it and so many other things. But when those thoughts come into play I ward them off with positive and begin saying

my daily living affirmations, such as I am healed, I am a walking miracle, I will overcome this, I will live a long long life and I got this. I will say it until the thought goes away. I don't even want to think those thoughts because you become what you think, and I think and know that I am healed.

Do you think battling with breast cancer caused you to look at life differently? if yes why?

Oh, very much so. Actually people look at me crazy when I say this but I believe this cancer happened for me and not to me. It has redirected me and allowed me to a purpose and put me where I am supposed to be doing, living the life that I am supposed to be living and helping the people that I am supposed to be helping. I have always wanted to make an impact on the world and I believe this is my way. Before this happened I was making strides and doing things to impact people but this is on a greater level. It is greater than me and I am very appreciative of it, I am glad to be one that was chosen. Grant it I wish cancer was not my sit down button lol, but hey it put me where I am supposed to be!!

What is the message you want to convey with your book?

The message I want to convey is, you can get through it. No matter what it may be that you are going through male or female, you can get through your situation and get to the other side of where you want and need to be.

How has your life changed when you found out you had breast cancer?

I have learned to take care of me first and rest. Two things that I didn't really do before. I have learned to live in the moment and enjoy the moment especially with my children. I have always looked at life in the lens of a being a full glass. Now it's just amplified.

What is it like being a mom and a business woman? How do you balance the two? What advice would you give to other women?

It is definitely a balancing act. I have days that I do work the majority of the day, but that is not too often. Those are deadline days. But I have a schedule that I adhere to for work and spending time with my kids, spending me time. When I am working I am concentrating on work. When I am with my kids I am with my kids and don't think or indulge in business. When I am spending me time I am focused on me. Needless to say planners are my best friends. I have 3 on my phone and 3 actual planners, and I color code everything. My advice to Mom's is to get a system that works for them. Implement it and don't feel bad when things don't go according to your schedule, because flexibility is key, but stay consistent.

What is HNH? What motivated you to start it ? Who is it for?

HNH stands for Hustle'N'Heelz. The name of the company is HNH Life & Visual Development. I am a Life and Visual Development coach. My company's goal is to get women to dream again but this time dream. Put a plan into action to execute it and live those dreams out loud in their lives and in their businesses.

What do you have planned in the future for Ebony, HNH and your book?

Definitely working on myself, getting better, getting healed and living my life. As for HNH I am accepting new clients for both life clients and visual branding. Prayerfully opening a physical office next year, so I can do more face to face since I do most of my work via phone and online.

As for the book, I am excited about it. It was released on October 15th. I am having a book release party and also I am going on tour in January. It's a 10 city tour and I will be posting on my website and social media.

Do you plan to write other books? if yes, when and what will they be about?

I do plan on writing another book. It is the follow up to The Hustle Journey. I have a title but I'm not going to release it just yet. I do have some ebooks in the work and some workbooks that deal more with the business than personal stuff. But this is definitely not the last time you guys will hear from me.

What and who motivates and inspires you everyday to keep going?

Hands down my children. They are my life and my reason for living and fighting daily. They have been a sounding board, an inspiration, and so much more on this journey. I have seen so much growth in them. They are my world and I know partly I wouldn't be as far in my healing if it wasn't for them.

Please share any additional information you would like us to know?

I would like to thank you all for the opportunity, I greatly appreciate it. Besides the book coming out which will be available on Amazon. Make sure to be on the lookout for the tour list to see if I am coming to a city near you.

Be sure to follow me on all my social media. On @ **@mzhustlenheelz15**, FB Hustle'N'Heelz and definitely check out the website which is an information hub for everything I have going on from the book to the business.

The website is hnhlifenvision.com. I am super excited about what's to come.





The Stiletto Files

CREATED BY: KAY

SISTERHOOD | WHOLENESS | POWER



WHO IS BEING KAYSHIA?



Being Kayshia is the social media handle that I chose because when people visit my page I want them to know that I am unapologetically who I am created to be. I'm simply a woman on a mission and that mission is to offer help to people across all walks of life, inspire, make lasting impacts and influence good change. Transparency and truth are important to me and so, I want my followers to feel that from my page as well. Being Kayshia is a brand built around my personal life which includes everything that I love such as Christ, art, writing, and content creating. I want people to see and know that it's okay to have multiple interests and talents for different things and want to pursue them all... I wouldn't have my brand any other way.

What is the Christ Effect podcast?

The Christ Effect is a series of various Bible talks and devotions for everyone trying to get and stay connected with Christ. As a host, I break down related topics and teach how one can apply the Bible to their everyday life.

Who and what motivated you to start a podcast?

I felt more confident starting my podcast after being encouraged by a friend who included God in their podcast. I created my podcast because I wanted to know more of the Bible for my own purposes and fortunately, it turned into a message that I could include within my entire brand and something I get to help other people with in their own journey.

What do you want listeners to leave with after listening to your podcast? (message)

Deeper connection and understanding of God, spiritual growth, and self-development are all positive fruits one can take away after experiencing each episode of The Christ Effect Podcast.

What inspired you to do a coloring book?

One reason for creating my coloring book is because I could not afford to buy a similar one that I wanted. I created my coloring book because it was necessary for me to do so and I'm grateful that the Lord gifted me with the ability to bring this book to life. I also created my coloring book as a guide for people to

study the Bible in themes and to encourage meditation and self-esteem, especially in ethnic and black audiences. Growing up, I had never seen a book to feature black people or people with similar features as me. Also, I did not have any tools to help me deal with the stress and anxiety that I had started to experience. I created my coloring book as a tool for people to navigate through such circumstances and realize that they are not alone in their differences.

Is there a certain age group the coloring book is for? (if yes, who and why?)

My coloring book is for all ages, there is not an age limit or restriction. Everyone is included. My blog is composed of short stories, poems, and business-related posts that I am interested in such as entrepreneurship. I try to include things within my blog that I believe would be helpful to my readers which include tips on self-publishing a book, beauty-related tips, and encouragement when it comes to running a personal brand.

Why did you create a blog?

Simply because I love to write. Some of my clearest messages are brought to life through my writing. My blog is also just another way I self-express. What motivates me to continue to write is feeling in-tune with myself, emotions, and thoughts. I want to encourage and inspire others to feel the same way.



What do you have planned in the future for all of your businesses?

I have high hopes for the future of my brand and podcast. I plan to release an eBook version of The First-Afro Native and Ethnic Devotional Coloring Book. I also want to cultivate a community of women that meet regularly and in-person to network, discuss running a faith-based business/ brand, and to inspire and give advice to other women entrepreneurs and content creators. I want others to be excited about this as I am. What advice can you give to young women who wants to start a podcast, blog or even do a coloring book?

My advice to young women wanting to start a blog, podcast, or even publish a book

would be to focus on the things you are really good at and then try to incorporate that into what you want to do. Don't assume that just because you are good at something then it will always be easy. The hard work will take time, but it will pay off, don't give up on it in the rough stages at the beginning. Do your research and know everything there is to know about the industry you want to go into. Be knowledgeable about your field and that includes network and seek wisdom from people that know their stuff and are willing to help you! Even if you are a one-man show continue to go after everything you want, the show must go on!

Please share any additional information you would like us to know. Feel free to connect with me on my socials @beingkayshia and @thechristeffect Also, Google and Amazon. You can also find me within the comment section of my blog!
www.kayshiahaughton.com

RICHELLE



Tell us about yourself. My name is Richelle I'm from NY, I like to think I'm the jolliest person you will ever meet. I mean it takes a special type of person, to get a perfect stranger to feel comfortable and get undressed in a minute of knowing them to perform intimate waxing.

What is waxlife NY?

Wax Life NY is a full service waxing studio for men and women, Intimate (private) waxing at its finest.

Who and what inspired you to get into waxing?

I honestly randomly stumbled upon waxing. I started off as a manager of a big box chain. I was inspired by how the guest loved their waxers. I used to do hair and felt in demand. But with waxing its different, its like I come to work to chat with friends everyday. My guest make me feel great, and I hope even though its an uncomfortable service I make the experience worth it.

What are the pros and cons of doing waxes?

Pros: I would have to say are my guest aka (All My Best Friends) lol they are the best. I realized no matter what walk of life, or social cast we come from we are all going through the same thing.

Cons: My lower back, and feet hurt from my line of work. Sometimes it's a really therapy session In my studio, so I think about my guest alot.

STORY TIME: What is the craziest thing that happened while waxing someone?

OMG! I had this guest when I was working at a big box chain.... I'm just going to say she pooped when I did her butt strip... .

Have you ever waxed a man? if yes, how was it?

I actually wax men all the time, Manzilians and all. It's great they really can't handle pain, so half of my job is a coach walking them through it.

Please share any additional information you would like us to know:

I'm licensed In three states NY/NJ/NC

I have my teaching license as well, and I'm a state board proctor. Soon I will be teaching one on one wax courses in my salon as well. I'm coming out with a product line too.

IG @_waxlifeny_

WHO IS AZHA MYNA?



Azha Myna is a 22-year-old singer/songwriter who grew up in Largo, MD. She recently graduated from the University of Maryland College Park with a B.A. in Communication and now has plans to work on music, expand her creativity, and develop herself as an artist.

When did you realize singing is for you?

I realized singing was for me when I was a child. I've always loved singing, and realized that it's all I really wanted to do for the rest of my life. When I imagine what the "perfect" life would be, I envision myself making music and singing.

Who and what inspired you?

As a child I was inspired by Motown artists like The Temptations. As I grew older I began to get inspired by artists like Alicia Keys. Now, I would say I'm still inspired by those same artists as well as Ariana Grande. My family members also served as a source of inspiration for me as many of them were involved in music and actively encouraged me to keep pursuing it.

What do you like most about singing?

What I like most about singing is how freeing and expressive it can be. Many times, it can be hard for me to express how I'm feeling to others but it gets a bit easier when I'm able to sing those feelings out or put them in a song. I feel like my soul is the most happy when I'm singing.

What is something you accomplished as a singer?

Something I've accomplished as a singer would be making it onto WJLA's Good Morning Washington for winning a "Front Of The Line" pass for their American Idol Auditions in Maryland in 2017. Unfortunately, I didn't make it any farther than that but, for me this was still a huge accomplishment because it was the first time I felt that I could really make it as

a singer once I graduated and figured things out a bit more.

Who is your favorite singer and why?

Currently, my favorite singer is Ariana Grande. She has such a beautiful voice and I love the passion she holds when she sings. You can tell that it's what she really loves doing and I'm able to really relate to her on that level. I love how she's grown over the last couple of years and I look forward to seeing her grow even more. Her vibe is filled with positivity and love for others, which is something I'm also very big on.

What is something you want to accomplish as a singer?

Something I want to accomplish as a singer is being able to make a difference in the lives of others and bring them together via music. My life goal is to make a positive impact on the lives of others and the communities around me- and I'd love to be able to do that through my music.

How is it performing for people pros and cons?

I'd say the pros are:

- I love performing
- I get to express myself
- I get to sing freely without someone telling me to shut up every 5 seconds
- I get to connect with others via music
- I get a little farther out of my comfort zone each time
- My confidence gets a bit better with each performance

Cons:

- I'm always a bit nervous
- I'm always worried I'll forget the lyrics

Besides singing what else do you want to do?

Besides singing I'm really interested in writing a book. I really love reading books that fall under the dystopian, apocalyptic, sci-fi and fiction categories. I'm actually in the process of planning out a book I'd like to write and possibly make into a series. I'm not really sure yet, but I've always loved reading & writing stories so I think it'd be really fun. I'm also interested in trying my hand at acting. I can be pretty dramatic at times, so I'd like to see how that would play out.

Fun Fact: What is your favorite go to “word” no matter what is going on?

I have a habit of saying the word “coolio.” I say it so many times a day whether I’m texting or talking out loud. I also tend to actually say “lol” out loud which EVERYONE judges me for. On my wrist I have a tattoo that says “Will = Way.” I also like to look down and say this to myself a few times a day to keep myself motivated. It helps me remember that every step I take has a purpose and keeps me motivated to take the next one.

Tell us something no one knows about you, that people might think is weird af (lol we won’t judge). I don’t know if this counts because people have observed me do it many times but, sometimes while I’m talking I’ll randomly break into a different accent or voicing (like a cartoon character or something) just to make the conversation a bit more interesting. I also have tried my hand at rapping/singing a few songs in a British accent.

Please share any additional information you would like us to know. In addition to being a solo artist, I am a vocalist in a Contemporary R&B, Jazz and Neo-Soul band named “10 Issues.” We were founded in February of 2018 on campus at the University of Maryland College Park, and yes there are actually 10 people in the band!



PRIA PERKINS



Pria Perkins, how natural hair had an impact on her when growing up Pria Perkins was born and raised in the south, Pensacola, Florida. Growing up in the south she was often exposed to a lot of negativity towards little girls who chose to wear their hair as it naturally grew from their scalps.

Frequently classmates, close friends, and family members would describe it as nappy or unkempt hair. Kinky strands would be straightened into submission, yanked into agonizing headache-inducing buns or chemically altered until they resembled the disillusion of society's standards of beauty.

"So, of course, naturally I began to resent my natural, coarse fro to the point where I forgot my hair could be anything but frayed, dry, and brittle. My senior year in high school was when it all changed. It was the "natural hair movement". "

"The natural hair movement had a massive impact on women of all age ranges and backgrounds and, of course, I was swept in it. I remember following a Facebook page dedicated to natural hair and immediately I experienced love at first sight. Suddenly images of afros, locs, and kinks/curls of all varieties filled my timeline and I was spellbound. From there I big chopped and the rest is history. This is mainly why I started Afro Princesses because I truly want to open other women's eyes just as that natural hair page did for me so long ago and I know that every message, like, comment we receive is a step closer to our goal."

Founder of Afro Princesses Pria Perkins is the founder of Afro Princesses, the social media page is run by Pria alongside her good friend Marisa Rodriguez. Afro Princesses is a natural hair page and clothing line on Instagram founded by two women who initially wanted to change how black women's hair is viewed on social media. Often times we can go onto social media pages and look at these models and not able to find anyone women with natural hair.

Lack of natural hair on social media There is definitely a lack of women with afro hair on social media. Pria said she would scroll through a portfolio for a photography brand and not be

able to find a single model that looked like her. "I yearned for an outlet where not only women with afro hair could thrive but where we could compliment each other rather than bring one another down. Too often there's controversy surrounding if you're truly natural if you wear weave or our sisters who continue to relax their hair. I believe that these women are choosing to do what works best for them and that, ultimately, it should be about uplifting each other and supporting each other no matter how we choose to present our hair."

The goal for Afro Princesses

The goal for Afro Princesses is mainly aimed to empower black women from all walks of life not only rock their tresses but to relish themselves. Seek to let women know that you do not have to succumb to society's standards of beauty to be accepted. To create a platform for black women that's free of judgement and for them to know that their hair doesn't have to be a straighter or looser texture to be defined as beautiful. "Overall though we want women to know that God would not give them their hair without equipping them with the ability to take care of it, that their hair is not difficult, hard to manage, or unattractive. Often we try to refer to afros as their crowns so that they can associate their tresses with regality and formality rather than unprofessional or unappealing."

The Afro Princesses clothing line

Afro Princesses does not stop at natural hair, they have now ventured off into apparel and now we all can rock these afro beauties they have created.

"The clothing line idea was actually a proposal the co-owner of Afro Princesses made when one day she asked herself, what if we rep how we feel about our natural hair on apparel? From there we started to make t-shirts, hoodies, tanks, etc. that resonated with black women and that they wouldn't mind rocking to show their pride in their tresses. You can find our store on Teespring under the name Afro Princesses."

"I definitely have women in my life that empower me and many of them I have met through Afro Princesses. I've been able to connect with many

CHRISTELLE MAKIESE

Let me tell you guys about my girl Christelle Makiese who happens to be an aspiring model. Born and raised in the Republic Democratic of Congo, but currently resides in the U.S. Christelle is twenty-three years old 5'6 tall, honey is working her way to the top as a model. Ever since she was a kid she always loves modeling. From seeing successful models in the magazine christelle always told herself "one day I'll be like them, successful and on the cover of a magazine." Working as a model Christelle accomplished the ability to present herself in front of people, doing a runway and I quote "that moment was the best and very amazing."

Besides pursuing a career as a model Christelle wants to one day be a medical doctor, something she also loves. Christelle will make it very far with her dreams and goals since her family supports her every step of the way. We all know having support from a friend and a family is the best feeling in the world.

Christelle wants everyone to know "black girls are magic and give us a chance to show the world how beautiful our skins are." Let's all wish christelle the best of luck on her journey as a model and as a future medical doctor. Girl you got this.

Instagram @ iamlovmaks
Facebook @ Christelle El Mak's
Snapchat @ sovereign



IG: @iamkaylagree

influencers and content creators who have inspired me not only to continue to hype up and support brown skin women, but to network more and to come out of my shell. One of them I know very well is Kalen. I originally followed her on YouTube and was just amazed at her tenacity and love for natural hair. We've talked a few times and I can definitely say that she is one of the kindest and most inspirational people you could ever meet. She is also the owner of Multistrandz and can be found on IG at @hairnameiskalen."

"You can find us on Instagram at @afroprincesses. We post daily and if you'd like to be featured on our page simply tag us or DM us the photo/video you'd like us to post and we'll respond accordingly."

"You can find Kayla, the lovely lady in the photo, at @iamkaylagreen. She's an avid natural hair influencer and advocate. She's also a very talented actor and established dancer."



Who is Ayanah Hanaya?



Hi, I'm a Serial Entrepreneur, multiple Business Owner, Podcaster, Blogger, Hair Stylist, Licensed Coach and Girl Boss advocate!

What is Ayanah Hanaya beauty?

Ayanah Hanaya's Beauty Studio is my salon which is located in Snellville GA. This year I won the award for the "Best Salon In The City" for 2019.

Doing hair is not my passion, making women feel beautiful is. It's such a rewarding feeling having someone say "Oh my gosh I look and feel amazing" and knowing that I had a part in that.

Who motivated you and inspired you to create a hair salon?

My mom has been a hair stylist since before I was born. I witnessed her have not only a perfected skill, but an amazing relationship with so many women. I always admired how she was so confident and made everyone around her feel like they were someone special.

How do you want women to feel after leaving your salon?

My goal is to give women a personal experience and leave my salon feeling like I care about how they look and feel when they walk in and when they leave.

What struggles (if any) did you face while opening up a salon? What advice would you give to women who want to open one?

My biggest struggle was honestly my confidence. I was going into a world where it seemed like there are so many people that are better than me and it was intimidating. I was told before by an educator "People will come to you because of who you are first, and then what you can offer." My best piece of advice would be that you don't always attract who you are, you attract who needs you. So be confident in your craft and your ability to succeed in it and start how you want to finish. Also, work on being the best you first, you can always perfect a skill but it's harder to perfect a personality. You would be surprised how many clients I have who said they stuck with me over their previous stylist because they enjoyed my presence.

What is Pryceless Pieces?

Ah, Pryceless Pieces is my baby. I started Pryceless Pieces in 2013 right after I had my son Pryce. It was one of my first online businesses and has taught me so much along the way. Being in the hair field it only made sense to have a hairline.

What motivated and inspired you to create such an affordable hair line?

Well the truth is once I found out how much the hair actually cost I realized how ripped off some people are when they purchase hair at other places. I just felt like getting your hair done to look and feel even more beautiful shouldn't be equivalent to a high end car note. I also wanted other stylists to be able to sell hair affordable through our wholesale platform.

What do you want women to know about your hairline?

That our hair is not from China lol! We offer quality hair at an affordable price and even have an option for women to be able to sell hair on their own or become an ambassador.

What is entrepreneuHer Way?

EntrepreneuHerWay literally is and becoming more everyday, the only thing you will need as a female entrepreneur. We have everything from business cards to laptop cases to coaching and web design. Our goal is to help women start, run and grow their business.

How can it help women who want to start a business?

When I started out working for myself there wasn't anyone who could or would help me. Women are very competitive and secretive and it seemed like every time I met someone who I admired and wanted to get help or advice from they would shut me out. So I took classes, got certifications, taught myself things I needed to know and started a platform where women could get help with their business without competition. 2020 is going to be so exciting. We will have e-books and courses and weekly forum discussions. I can't wait to help women from all over build their business.

What do you want women to leave with or learn about starting a business?

That it starts with you. That sounds so cliché, but if you don't believe in yourself then it's hard to keep going when others don't believe in you. I've been called crazy, told that my ideas wouldn't work and even told I'm too young to have such large dreams. You have to know that when you start your business, you have to start for you and keep going for you, even when you feel like giving up. Don't!

WHO IS DREANICOLE?



Drea Nicole is a singer, songwriter, entrepreneur, philanthropist, mother and daughter from Brooklyn, NYC.

When did you realize singing is for you?

I realized music was for me when I kept being asked to do it, lol. Also when I sang a solo in church and the response from the congregation was like tears and joy and amazement, that is when I said to myself, wow maybe I do have something here.

What does singing do for you?

Singing is a release, because sometimes I can't find the words to speak what I need to say, but I can always find a song.

Who and what inspires you everyday to get up, go out, show out & sing? why?

My kids inspire me to keep going because I don't want them to see me quit. I lead by example, so if I want them to push through adversity and go for what they believe in, then I have to show them how it is done. Additionally, I just genuinely love to sing so not doing it is not an option for me.

What is the hardest part (if any) of being a singer? why?

The hardest part is not being a singer its being a female in this industry. People will try you...alot, lol

How is it performing for people? what is something you want them to take with them after watching you perform?

I love performing for people the look on their face when I say something that hits home for them or the look they give when I hit a certain note is priceless and reassuring.

"Musical Therapy" your album what is that album mainly about?

The album is about the rise and fall of my relationship. I was actually married at one point and I wrote the songs for "Musical Therapy" during the downfall of it. I have songs like "Homecoming" which talks about the love and then you have songs like "No Love No More" which is self explanatory but that speaks to the "I'm done phase." Then it rolls into a song like "Start A War" which is my angry start a revolution phase and then move into "Disclaimer" which is the I am willing to date again but I don't have time for the B.S.

What is something you accomplished and feel GREAT about as a singer?

The completion of my first album, "Musical Therapy" this project was such a labor of love and it helped me get through one of the toughest times in my life. It is proof that I can persevere and keep growing even when it seems like I should stop and fold. I started writing the songs to Musical Therapy when things started to happen in my marriage. When I got to a point where I was ready to be done with the marriage, my mom passed away and that put another layer of emotion that I was completely not ready for. The project was halted for a year until I was able to get my mind right, but I kept writing and practicing and now here we are.

What is your message for women who listens to your music? why that message?

My message is don't let one person or a situation with one person define who you are. Mourn the loss of whatever for a short period of time and then move on and learn from it, get to your life after which may be better than what you lost if you let it be.



Please share any additional information you would like people to know about you.

First, I would like to thank all my supporters, the people at the shows, the DJ's playing my music, my team A-Train

Music, Jackson Enterprises, Empire Stay Building and everyone who has shown they are for the kid. Also please cop "Musical Therapy" it is available on all streaming platforms, Google Play, Spotify, Apple Music, Tidal, CD Baby Everywhere. I also have a beauty business called, Pink Fiya Beauty where I do eyelash extensions and sell mink lashes. I also have spa services such as non-invasive buttlifts, cellulite treatments, and yoni steaming.

You can also follow me on social media for music its [@dreanicolemusic](https://www.instagram.com/dreanicolemusic)

and for Pink Fiya you can follow [@pinkfiyabeauty](https://www.instagram.com/pinkfiyabeauty) that is the handles for Instagram, Facebook, & Twitter. Also the websites are www.dreanicolemusic.com and www.pinkfiya.com





MC Knowledge

IS A MULTIFACETED ARTIST FROM
PHILADELPHIA WITH A STORY TO
INSPIRE

McKnowledge was born in Philadelphia raised by both his mother and father. McKnowledge expressed that he had an interest in music since being in his mother's womb and has a purpose and perspective on people's lives he influences through his music. *"My mom told me that her stomach would always rock back and forth because that was me jamming to whatever it was she listened to. Going to public school in Philly really prepared you for the lifestyle you would want in adult life and finding your fit in society. I was and am always the ambivert. I interact when the energy is right and I focus on self as well. I am an educator I teach hip-hop clubs at various schools and camps such as Gratz, and Royal By Nature. I love good company sharing experiences with other makes for great memories and longevity."*

How the name M.C.Knowledge came to fruition

"My step brother gave me the name Knowledge after hearing me freestyle in the room one day. The MC came from my homie Arnstar we had a convo on Instagram and he was telling me, I should add MC to the beginning of my name, not too many hold that title on their name anymore, it made sense and here we are today."

M.C.Knowledge father teaches him how to write rap and bar structure

"My father was the one who taught me how to rap, since he raps himself. He told me to write my rap the first time we started, it was wack. He then pro-

ceeded to write a rap for myself teaching me the ways of bar structure, punchlines, flow, cadence and so on. He would also tell me to research the history of not only hip hop but music in general and ever since then I've been of and running."

M.C.Knowledge got even more inspired by rap when he started street performing

Having that vulnerability to share his personal thoughts up close with people, can be scary as they walk by to his left and to his right not knowing what they felt. After getting such positive feedback from all his grinding, he realized that rap was for him. "I chose rap because the history and influence made me fall in love. The eargasm of a dope emcee on a fire production is unmatched against any other genre of music in my opinion. The stories people paint, the motivation to be great when you hear certain songs, the energy that hip-hop brings to my life has molded me today honestly. It's educational, it influences a whole world! How can you not want to be apart of something that massive."

M.C.Knowledge's message is to stay motivated and have patience

"Nothing honestly happens overnight everything is work ethic. Especially if you have a story to share the masses loves negativity so you know of the rip that this is going to be a process." Some of us have experience this type of negativity when we are trying to make moves, stay positive and have growth, there is always that one person trying to take that away. Never let that deter you from the big picture. *"That's why you should stay*



hungry and motivated to persuade people that negativity is not the only thing getting shed light on. Use patience with not only your creativity but life. You can't always be right in every situation or want things to go your way you have to understand other perspectives whether you agree or not. Patience is a virtue."

Target audience would be that of teenage to mid 20's along with some 30 year olds

As some of us may know, we are living in the times we there are not only teenagers and 20 year olds listening to the younger rappers music, but you have the older generation as well. "My audience would be the teenage to mid adult range with a sprinkle of 30 and up but in a perfect world I would want my fanbase to bridge the gap, I want to relate to the world."

M.C.Knowledge tells us about his favorite rapper

"A tribe called quest Q-Tip and Pride together is my all time favorite, that high school experience listening to them set it of for me. Phife Dawg RIP always gave me that quiet kid who jumps in a school cypher and straight rips everyone vibe. His energy always made me appreciate him more than any other artist just based of this connection of a real emcee I get from him. But tribe is in a bubble of their own, my #1 would have to be a tie between Nas and Big. My listening has been changing around lately lol."

Inspiration for other talented and creative artists

M.C.Knowledge sees himself on tour traveling

the world very soon, he's in that space where he wants to experience tour life. He wants to create a platform for other inspiring artists to show off their creative talents, while building up the community mentally and physically.

The best part about rapping and performing

"It would have to be between seeing the reaction of a song of yours being performed and freestyling. Those two go hand and hand because being a under-ground artist you're new to a lot of places when performing, so you have to grow a fan base. Seeing the reactions of the crowd going crazy, cry, reciting your words, or just cool bobbing their heads always makes me enjoy what I do even more. Knowing that you put all that time in for it to pay of that is huge."

The best part about performing music and accomplishments as a rapper "Having that synergy with the dj or your partner on stage to snap on crowds is beautiful! The rehearsal work, the improved work, setting up dope track list and creating a dope experience for the listeners." As an accomplished rapper, M.C.Knowledge opened up for Rakim, Slick Rick and Smif N Wessun, that's legendary stuff on his resume.

"Check out my music on all streaming platforms search MC Knowledge and I will appear.

To follow the movement follow me [@mcknowledge215](#) stay updated with ya boy!" photo credit [@darrenburton](#) and [@newportsandnewsportsandnews](#)

SHEADWIGE DORESTY



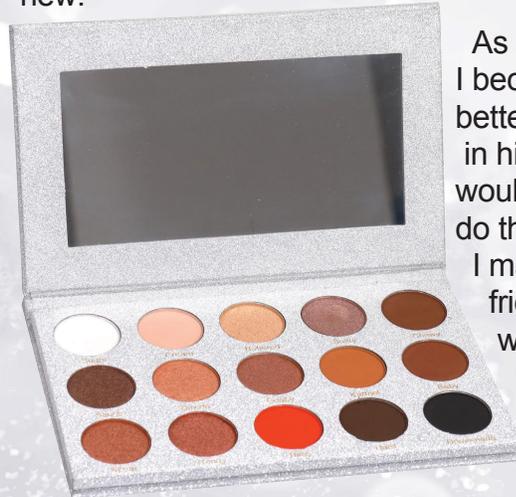
Tell me about yourself

Hi my name is Sheadwige Doresty. I'm 20 years old I was born November 20, 1998 in Haiti. I moved to America with my father at the age of 5, leaving my mother who was pregnant at the time with my little brother behind. My father moved here with me so that I can have a better education, also live in a better place with more opportunities. His goal was to come to America work hard to bring my mother here with my little brother. My dad and I was really close and he always talked about that goal. He also told me if anything ever was to happen to him that I would have to finish what he started.

Long story short, my father passed away two years later leaving me here alone with some money he put aside for me to continue the plan. After the passing of my father everything changed in me. I was very sad, felt lost and outta place. Having leaving my mother behind at five already made me sad, then losing the last person I knew very well at seven, in a country I wasn't really familiar with either. I didn't speak the language, I felt even more not at home.

So my mom sent rights to her family in America to take care of me instead of having me come back to Haiti. She believed I had more opportunities here. I went and stayed with my mothers side of the family. While living with my aunt, I was blessed to have a home & access to education, but I felt as if I didn't belong and everyone else looked out more for their own children than they did for me. I felt isolated, hated and targeted as the child that made everyone else's life miserable. So I became depressed because, it seemed as if no one ever wanted me and there's nothing I can do to make

them love me . I lost parenting love and guidance very young and things only got worse for me. As I dealt with the many obstacles that were thrown at me growing up and dealing with it all alone, I became very independent. At the age of 12 and 13 I became obsessed with makeup. How I dealt with my depression and loneliness all came back to makeup. I would go into my aunts room while she was working and put on her makeup and believe I was someone else, someone who was loved and beautiful. I escaped my reality and I felt new.



As I got older I became way better at it, people in high school would ask me to do their makeup, I made new friends. I finally was doing something that made me feel good. People

were proud of my work and artistry. Except for my family, they thought I was being too grown and was doing makeup for male attention, which wasn't ever the case. I was suffering inside and that was my ticket to actually feeling better. I loved makeup so much, that their opinions or comments when I wore it stopped affecting me. Makeup was my talent, I was naturally good at it.

This helped me fight through my depression, whenever I felt sad I would pick up my brush and all of a sudden, the person I looked back at in the mirror was different, I saw the young lady I inspired to be. Someone that meant something to someone. A young lady that matter and had skills. I gave myself a different identity when I was in a full face and everything that was going on in my life didn't matter anymore. After growing through my self love faze, using makeup as my ultimate tool, I got into skincare. Proper skincare sets the tone for a flawless makeover. As I took care of my skin and being forced to look at myself for who I really was, I started to accept me like no one ever did. I looked at the mirror everyday with a bare face. I stopped hating myself, I started to love and heal the bare face and as my skin cleared up my soul lit up. I be-

came determined to be an inspiring makeup artist. I applied and applied to Sephora but got rejected. Come to find out it was because I was under the age of 18. Once I turned 18, I was officially a makeup artist at Sephora. I was able to perfect my skills there and build a clientele. People loved me but most importantly, I loved the feeling of giving people the satisfaction of feeling beautiful. Loving their self and being comfortable with the makeup look and experience that I was able to give them. Sometimes people go through things and look for something to fill that void, or make them feel better. A lil makeup filled that void for me and helped me grow to be an inspired artist, who was able to help other women feel beautiful as it did the same for me. After perfecting my craft working for Sephora I than completely loved the process of creating these products that made women all around the world jump in joy.

There was a lot of things missing in the industry and I was determined to start my own brand, create and cater to everyone who loves celebrating their own beauty. So I started to save and educate myself on business. I started to motivate myself to grow so I can be the young boss lady I needed to be to hold my own business. I found a great manufacturer who listened to vision and helped create my own cruelty free vegan brand . As we grow we will add to market and give everyone the best quality products to help uplift and make you feel beautiful again.

Do you have a favorite look when doing makeup?

Not really, I love to try everything, but my go to look would definitely be neutral eyes with a glam face. I'm talking full coverage foundation, sharp contour, lots of blush and a blinding highlight (lol). This is the look you'll usually see if I don't have a dramatic eyeshadow look that day.

What makes your products different from any other cosmetics?

Well as my products drop one by one you'll learn more on what we did to that type of product to make it different, but I do wanna say with my first eyeshadow palette is called Karmel Baby. It has lots of different color browns and shimmers that are neutral, perfect for everyday or even a glamorous look. My palette is 24hrs long wear, yes 24hr long wear. Not that you have to wear it for that long, but the goal is to create a palette that has long lasting consistency with high pigmentation, also not overwhelming and I achieve exactly that. All ingredients

are completely natural & vegan. What makes this palette also different is that women of color can put on any shimmer and have it look true to its color. What I mean is the color not looking washed out or even brighter and lighter on their complexion. I feel like sometimes I'll put on a shimmer that's brown and while blending it out it starts to actually look brighter, not giving me that true brown shimmer. I love how my colors doesn't transition or change. It's exactly everything you think you can expect. Don't worry soon we will have way more to share as we grow and develop.

How did you come up with Belshae? What kind of products does it sell?

Coming up with BelShaé was actually pretty fun. I always loved the French brand names so I was inspired to make it sound French. At the beginning the process of starting my own beauty business I decided to get a partner. I chose one of my good friends Bella to join me on my journey, unfortunately it didn't work out and parted ways but still remained good friends. But long story short I took the being of her first name and my name and put it together BelShaé, I just switched the a and e from my name so it sounded better. I got that concept from my grandma, she named me after my father and mother. She used the beginning of my fathers name and the ending of my mother's name and created Sheadwige, which I love because not having them around is hard and my name makes me feel closer to them .

Tell me bout Belshae

BelShaé!! Omg BelShaé means everything to me . It's my way of being creative and hands on the products that I personally use and also use onmy clients face. BelShaé also known as "BelShaé Beauty", is all about empowerment, self love and confidence. I'm striving to create a brand to represent all makeup beginners to makeup savs. Any and everyone will find everything they need right here shopping with BelShaé, as I pride myself in delivering products with high quality , super pigmentation, vegan and cruelty free.





IS GRATEFUL FOR HER WONDERFUL BLESSINGS

Shadiqua is currently a student at Temple University studying entrepreneurship and Innovation Management. She loves to dance, talk and research new places to travel, she is very adventurous and loves learning new things. Shadiqua considers herself to be spiritual and thanks God for all of her wonderful blessings. We may sometimes block our own blessings for fear of what others might say or think, we can't let that stop us, just do what you believe is true to yourself. *"I feel like there's so much to life, and I refused to sit in my comfort zone letting the beauty of life pass by me. I love taking risks. It can be both a good and bad thing. Whenever I have an idea I start it right away and teach myself as I go. It makes things stressful, but I keep going until I surround myself with the right people who can push me towards the right direction. I'm an extrovert so I love being around people giving the positive supportive energy God gave me. I'm very spiritual and I can't take all the credit for how blessed I am. Every morning and night I pray God put me in front of the right people, right places at the right time, and he guides me in what to do next. Not only do I pray for guidance but I also pray that God shows me what I need to improved within myself in order for me to fulfill his purpose. A lot of times I feel like we want to be blessed but don't realize we already are. We*

just blocking our own blessing to move forward because of fear, neglection or childhood trauma. I usually ask God to reveal all of the unhealed wounds I still have to work on, so that way I won't be the person blocking my own success. I realized relationships is something I have to still healed from. I also know relationships is something I need in order to grow, and fulfill God's purpose. So I've been praying that I receive healing from my past relationships so I can develop healthy ones."

What is keep it Classy?

Keep It Classy is a brand that was created to help raise money for a community center that will give resources to people, specifically in the African - American community with mental health issues. In order to reach that goal, they currently sell magic coffee mugs and T-shirts.

Motivation and inspiration to help people with mental health

Shadiqua had her own experience with mental health, which motivated her she love going to new places, and learning new things.to help other people. Growing up was hard for her dealing with depression and PTSD. She had been living with her grandma since she was months old, because her parents neglected her due to drugs, since she was a baby. It was hard for her to express her feelings to other family members growing up, she was shut down and ignored and felt like she didn't have a voice.

Depression causes Shadiqua to attempt suicide

"Growing up, it made me develop low self esteem, false perspective on myself, angry, depressed and more. Whenever I tried to express myself to my family about my feelings, I was shut down, i was told I was just a kid. I didn't know what depression was, I didn't even experience life yet. I felt like I didn't have a voice, I felt like my opinions didn't matter. So dealing with all this pain from my parents and family made me feel trapped. I got kicked out of 3 high schools, I tried to attempt suicide numerous of times, I used to cut myself, I was honestly going through it." As Shadiqua got older she started looking at her environment and family history and realized that she wasn't the only one going through mental health struggles. "I realized I no longer can live like this. I'm hurting and I don't know where to heal. So I Start educating myself, I start praying as mentioned above, I changed environment. I got certified as a certified peer specialist and a community health worker. I got certified

so I can give resources I gathered over the years from my experience back into my community.” As Shadiqua continues to help others, she knows that she is not perfectly fine and still has her good and bad days. There are still some days where she has low self esteem and feel lost and disconnected from herself, but she is not alone there are others going through the same experiences. As she starts the healing process, others get inspired and this why she keeps working so hard for change.

How opening up a community center can help others

The community center is a resource where people can feel comfortable without being judged for who they are. Being honest with yourself and each other. Removing the stigma that people place among themselves and just creating a space where they can talk. Talking about experiences being black in america, being black with mental health, being poor, being stereotyped, being angry, being neglected by the system, being lost, being taken away from our roots and history leaving us stranded about who we are as a race. *“Opening up a community center can allow people to come in; get resources, participate in events, and workshops and simply be theirself. I want to create a space where people can come in be open and don’t have to worry about judgement, where they can be accepted for who they are and not who people want them to be.”* That’s the goal for the community center, just allowing people to be who they are and giving them resources so they can heal outside the community center if they choose. It’s all about serving the community in what they need and want.

Helping others with mental illness in the black community.

“We need to have these honest conversations. We need to grow as a community. We can grow individually but what help is it really doing if you’re not changing your environment as you’re growing? Our trauma is bigger than us, and it’s hard to reveal those layers by yourself and I believe that’s why we choose to not deal with it, it hurts. As I’m writing this I feel intense emotions and want to cry, and I am trying to heal. So image what a person goes through who refuse to heal. Image their reaction when something triggers them. if I am hurting writing this I can image the person who’s not healing is feeling about conversation like this. They’re in pain, and I feel like God gave me a purpose to let people know pain is okay, we are human, pain is growth, ex-

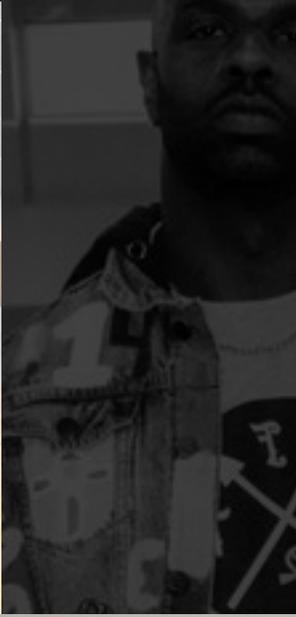
perience pain is an indicator on what we need to heal from, and sometimes a sign showing us our purpose. My pain right now is a reminder of my purpose. Pain can turn into passion and passion turns into purpose.”

Future plans for Shadiqua and providing other services

Other than opening up the community center Shadiqua would like to open a peer-respite center an alternative to behavior health hospital, which is a short term stay for people who are struggling with mental illness. *“They can come to the respite center, where certified peer specialists and psycharitics can be onsite to give them the help they need. I realized, that not all the time does behavioral health hospitals work. I’m a testimony to that, sometimes it can make matters worse, and it’s research based on that statement. With a peer-respite center, people can feel more comfortable expressing themselves with people who have lived experiences. that’s what a certified peer specialist is all about. CPS (certified peer specialists) are people who are diagnosed with mental health struggles and we are peers to those who also suffer from mental health struggles. So having a community with CPS is necessary. Just creating that space where people can come in and spend as many days as needed without judgment, feeling like they’re on lockdown, or something is wrong with them is crucial. That’s where I see Keep it classy in the future. Serving those who are too afraid to go the tradition route.”*

“I recently did an event called Shining the Light on Mental-Health Within The Black Community in celebration of Minority mental - health Awareness Month On July 20th, 2019. The purpose of the event was to let people know it’s okay to go through mental health, and it’s okay to seek out help. There were dif erent workshops, resources, open mic and food. I am planning to make it an annual event,. but I also want to do little events in between. To keep up with my brand and events, you can follow me on instagram @_keepitclassy. Please like,share and comment. “

“Thank you for picking me to be in your first issue. I really appreciate it!”



Journey to Wellness Fashion Show

Designers @scriptts2003 @tfgempire14@pynkpineapple @jameelah_creates

Photographer isaac.armani1

Tarca (Tiny) and her struggles growing up Tarca Jordan (Tiny Jordan) is a plus size BBW model and brand ambassador. Her grandmother named her Tiny because she only weighed 4 pounds and 4 1/2 Ounces. She's thirty-two years old and born in Helena Arkansas, but raised in Marianna Arkansas until she was twelve years old, and now lives in Conway Arkansas. Tarca loves having nice things and traveling. She hasn't always had the privilege, as a child growing up lights were turned off, moving from place to place with her single parent mom, because her dad was not around. At the age of 15 Tarca and her siblings were split up and had to go into foster care temporarily, eventually her mother worked hard to get her children out of foster care.

Tarca's aunt Jackie encourages her

When Tarca (Tiny) was a kid her aunt Jackie always encouraged her by telling her how beautiful she is and uplifting her with positivity and told her she could be whatever she wanted. *"She Always Uplifted Me In Positivity So She's Always Been My Inspiration, But Today I'm A Blessed Individual If I Say So Myself..God Is Good."*

Music before modeling, when Tarca realizes modeling was for her

"Well Before Modeling Was Concrete I Wrote & Recorded Music (Sing/Rap) It Was Good But It Didn't Take Of Like My Modeling Did.And Then I Always Had The Desire To Be In Front Of A Camera Rather It Was Musically Or Just For A Photo."

How Tarca got into modeling

"Well When I Was About 14-15 I Seen An Ad In The Newspaper Of A Modeling Agency Coming To My City, So I Asked My Mom To Take Me And They Got Me A Hotel Did My Hair, Makeup And Wardrobe And That Was My First Gig As A Model.."

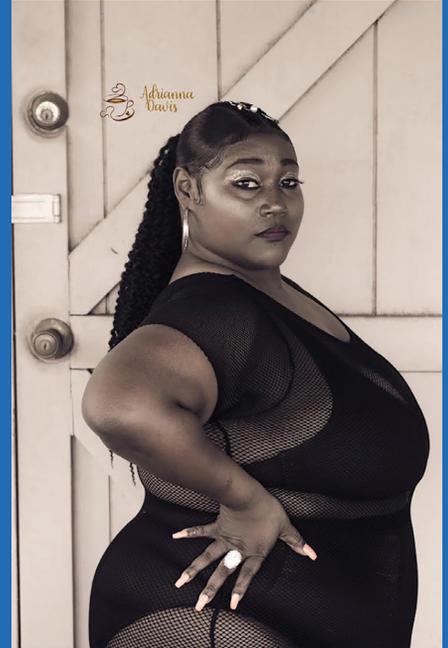
Tarca's daughter keeps her going everyday

Tarca say her daughter Sa'Miyah inspires her everyday to keep going, because there were times she wanted to give up and she didn't. She knew she had to give her daughter a better life than what she had.

Advice that Tarca has for other plus size models

"To Believe In Yourself And Don't Let Society Control Your Life And What You Want To Do.. But Believing In Yourself First Is An Ultimate Must.. To Remain Successful And Strive For Greatness..To Have A Better Tomorrow Than Today..The Fierceness & Sexiness Of It.. .And The Rest Will Only Get Greater Later.."

📷 @tinyjordan



WHO IS MARCEL AS A RAPPER?



MARLY AND IM A HUMBLE ASS PERSON AND CEO OF BBE. SOMETIMES I SIT BACK AND THINK MAN IM REALLY DOING THIS AND IT IS DEFINITELY HUMBLING. IM JUST TRYNA MAKE A WAY FOR THE LABEL

AND MY HOOD HELLS KITCHEN.

What is your stage name? What does it mean? How did you come up with it?

MY STAGE NAME IS BBE MARLY. BBE IS OUR BRAND/MOVEMENT/LABEL. MARLY IS WHAT EVERYONE WHO KNOWS ME KALLS ME I EVEN GOT IT TATTED BBE STANDA FOR BROTHERS BE FORE EVERYTHING. IT WAS IDEA BROUGHT TO ME BY WHITEBOYWEEZY MY BROTHER/ARTIST. WE DECIDED COLLECTIVELY THIS IS OUR MOTTO AND WE WILL LIVE BY IT.

What and who does your brand represent? How do you scout for talent?

OUR BRAND REPRESENTS BROTHERHOOD, LOYALTY, AND GOING UP AND BEYOND FOR YOUR BROTHERS. WE GET ON EACHOTHERS BACK TO MAKE SURE WE ARE HOLDING OUR END OF THE BARGIN. AS FAR AS TALENT, THEY HAVE TO HAVE THE SAME MINDSET. THIS IS A MOVEMENT/LABEL YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE TO PUT YOUR PRIDE TO THE SIDE FOR A BIGGER CAUSE.

I WOULD ALWAYS FREESTYLE FOR FUN. I ACTUALLY MADE MY FIRST REAL SONG CALLED "NO PROBLEMS" THAT KAME OUT AROUND CHRISTMAS 2018. IT RECEIVED GREAT REVIEWS FROM MY CIRCLE/PIERS AS WELL AS SUPPORTS THAT I DIDNT KNOW.

How old were you when you started rapping?

RAP IS EVERYTHING TO ME BUT ITS MORE THAN THAT. I VIEW MYSELF AS AN ARTIST SO I TRYNA TO TAKE ALL ASPECTS OF MUSIC. I DEFINITELY WANT TO TOUCH MANY IF NOT ALL GENRES. I ENJOY THE PROCESS OF MAKING A SONG ,PERFECTING YOUR CRAFT, JUST THE ALL AROUND JOY FROM MUSIC IS AMAZING.

What do you see in the future for you and your brand and artists you have on your team?

AS FAR AS THE FUTURE I SEE MANY BIG THINGS. WE ARE TOO TALENTED AND TO DIVERSE AS A WHOLE. WE TOUCH DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF MUSIC WE ARENT JUST YOU "LOCAL RAPPER " WE KARE ABOUT OUR PRODUCTS. WE ACCOMPLISHED SO MUCH AS FAR AS RADIO PLAY, PERFORMANCES, INTERVIEWS, 2 MIXTAPE RELEASED, AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING.

Who is your audience? what is your message you want people to get listening to your music?

OUR AUDIENCE VARIES. WE MAKE DIFFERENT TYPES OF MUSIC FROM DRILL RAP TO METAL WE TOUCH R&B AND WE GOTTA A LIL OLD SCHOOL IN US TO. SO OUR AUDIENCE RANGES. WE REALLY ARE TRYNA UNITE THE NATION AND DO SOMETHING SPECIAL WITH OUR TALENT. I WANT THE AUDIENCE TO KNOW AND FEEL THAT WE CARE ABOUT OUR CRAFT. I LOVE THE MESSAGES I RECEIVE ABOUT MY SONGS CHANGING SOMEONES MOOD OR MAKING THE DAY BETTER FOR THEM. IF MY MUSIC CAN EFFECT YOU IN ANYWAY POSITIVE THAT IS A BLESSING.

Who inspires you to keep rapping? Who is your favorite rapper and why?

CHIEF KEEF. HE BEEN IN THE GAME FOR ALMOST 10 YEARS WHICH IS IMPORTANT TO ME. LONGEVITY IS EVERYTHING. WE DONT WANT TO BE HERE TODAY GONE TMR. HE INFLUENCED ME TO DO THIS WITH MY BROTHERS BUILD BBE FROM THE GROUND UP LIKE THEY DID WIT GBE. CHIEF KEEF STARTED A MOVEMENT THAT WOULD LATER CHANGE RAP GAME HISTORY AND I ONE DAY HOPE WE CAN DO THE SAME.

Besides being a rapper what else do you wish to pursue?

BUSINESS. INVESTMENTS AND AGAIN LONGEVITY IS KEY. KNOW THE INS AND OUTS OF MUSIC IS SOMETHING THATS IMPORTANT IN GROWING YOUR BRAND.

Tell me about yourself



Hello, My name is La-Shonda Rice but everyone calls me Mrs. Lala. I am a Speaker, Author, actress and Master crocheter with over 500 hours of teaching specializing in baby clothing and dolls,

specifically created in all shades of brown. People are often surprised to discover that I am a US Army Veteran, and retired NYC police officer.

What is the Christian crochet?

The Christian Crochet Addict is a Christian based black business.

Creating dolls in all shades of brown even light, light, light brown. We also create baby items and accessories. Our art dolls are exhibited world-wide. Mrs. Lala travels the world with dolls in tow. She offers classes and tutorials for low to no cost to the public. This isn't your ordinary crochet work. She teaches next-level creativity and often speaks and hosts at various events.

How did you get into crochet, especially dolls?

I started crocheting at around 12 years old, a classmate was crocheting and I thought it was amazing at first sight! My grandmother gave me my first hook. She, as well as my mom showed me a few stitches. By the following week I was making Afghans, pot holders, and scarves galore. More recently in 2012, I wanted to purchase a doll from a crochet doll company. It was important that the doll looked like a dark brown girl with a natural styled hair. There was only one doll maker who's designs I fell in love with. Unfortunately she had a 6 month waiting list. I took my frustration out on my yarn and started to create my own.

What is your message that you are trying to convey with your dolls?

The message I am trying to convey is, how important it is that little girls see themselves in pretend play to love and appreciate who they are from head to toe.

I want to redefine the standard of allurements, by celebrating our children one doll and one children's book at a time! I also create white dolls because my business is a custom art doll company; however my passion is creating dolls in all shades of brown with afro puffs, braids, afros, beads, ponytails and all hairstyles worn by children of color.



Tell us about your book and what it is about

Sunshine's Tangled Tresses was inspired by true events. At the tender age of 3, my daughter told me she didn't like her hair it was too "fwuffy" (fluffy) it wasn't long, straight, or blond so it wasn't nice." I solicited the entire cavalry. Although my husband and I told her daily how beautiful she and her hair were, this wasn't enough. I put a plan into action. I found photos online of little brown girls with hair like hers and taped them to her wall. One night while writing, I decided to set my current project to the side and write Sunshine. The book starts out discussing a little girl who does not like her natural hair. The illustrations and name of the character was inspired by one of my custom made dolls Sunshine! I had my followers vote on their favorite design at that time. In February 2018, I self-published the book. It is currently available at all of the links below.

"SUNSHINE'S TANGLED TRESSES" BARNES AND NOBLE

<https://m.barnesandnoble.com/w/sunshines-tangled-tresses-mrs-lashonda-rice/1128081661?ean=9781985724334>

AMAZON

Sunshine's Tangled Tresses

https://www.amazon.com/dp/1985724332/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_apa_JC5PBbJK0FFET FOR
AUTOGRAPHED COPIES

<https://www.thechristiancrochetaddict.com/product-page/sunshine-s-tangled-tresses>



HUE

Original Hue born and raised in Boston, MA is a singing, rapping, spoken word artist. He's also an entrepreneur second. When he's not creating music his energy is put into "Hues Corner", a showcase platform for upcoming artists to gain exposure.

He's been in music his whole life, he started in the church choir as a tenor (all ranges). He Played piano for nine years (classical focus). His father is a writer so the craft and the ability of storytelling started early. After years of writing short stories he transitioned into spoken word. All of these blessings have now evolved into him making music.

He likes to make music in the genre of Neo Soul. That's the combination of jazz, hip hop and RnB. He considers himself to be both a singer and a rapper. He has been able to create a style of music that incorporates both techniques.

Hue's favorite music artist is Jah Cure. His sound inspires him to write. He's also a heavy listener of reggae. Hue's currently looking for ways to encompass that style into neo soul.

His target audience is any lover of soul, jazz, hip hop and RnB. Statistics from recent promotions that he has done shows that he has a wide spectrum of listeners all over the world.

"I realized music was for me the first time I touched a piano. It was inevitable"

His immediate family inspired him to make music. They have always been his biggest supporters and toughest critics since day one.

His cousin, who is an amazing graphic designer, and his wife who's a brilliant lyricist helped him come up with the name in their kitchen. They were working on designs for his last showcase and the idea just came out.

Hue is currently a senior at Bridgewater State University. In his spare time, he coordinates a personal fitness program. He enjoys living on the edge, his last adventure was skydiving. Original Hue is currently working on an EP for all those Neo Soul lovers

"I thank and will always love my supporters"
Follow him on IG: @original_hue

WHO IS TRIBEMARK?

An artist from Newark, NJ trying to make it.

Who and what inspired you to rap?

My family, my environment, the people and the great's before me.

When did you realize rap was for you?

a year ago

What helped you be such a GREAT! lyricists?

I wouldn't say I'm great lol, but I would definitely say God first and just the great artist that I get to listen to.

What rapper would you say you look up to? Why that person?

I like all of these artists for the obvious reason, them being great at what they do, but also for a couple other reasons. Jay-Z because of his rapping ability of course and because of the things he does for people without seeking any attention for it. Meek Mill because he is from the inner city and made it out, he kept his name and legacy alive when everyone doubted him. J. Cole because he really only cares to be acknowledged for his music only, nothing extra to sway his fans just great music. Drake because he is the first artist to excel while rapping and singing. He is just a rare talent. He's been at the top for a while.

What keeps you motivated to consistently put out music?

The support that I receive from the fans. It's a great feeling, also the acknowledgement from some of the well known artist

Is there a certain time of the day where you just only write your music? If yes, what is it and why?

No, I write whenever

Why "Tribemark"?

How did you come up with that stage name?

Mark is my name and Tribe is my team. Tribe Mark because the team is before me.

What do you feel you have accomplished so far as a rapper?

Just a solid foundation and respect from not only the supporters but also some established artist.

What do you hope to accomplish?

To travel and touch as many people with the music as I can and leave something behind that will live forever.

What do you have planned in the future for "Tribemark"?

Just putting out more music, building a fanbase and eventually touring.

Please share any additional information you would like us to know

Thank so much for having me. I'm super grateful for this opportunity.



THAT RIVERZ GURL BRAND

★ AUTHOR. WRITER. JOURNALIST



**HIRE THAT RIVERZ GURL FOR
WRITING AND EDITING SERVICES!**
EMAIL THERIVERZGURLBRAND@OUTLOOK.COM

CROWNED AQUENE

Tell me about yourself.

Crowned Aquene is a plus size travel model, mother of 3, wife to a USAF Veteran, education advocate, Black business supporter, and entrepreneur. Passionate about dismantling the cradle to prison pipeline, empowering other women, fitness and exploring history while traveling. Aquene is a woman of the people and strives to always use her privilege to give back.

What is PGHcurv Appeal?

Pittsburgh Curve Appeal is a body positive weekend using art and fashion as a means of activism and empowerment. We will be hosting a portfolio building photoshoot, for any models, photographers, designers or really anyone who wants to feel special for a few hours, followed by a body inclusive group fitness class and our main event will be a “No More Body Shaming” Art Installation and Performance show.

We are fundraising for a public arts and science academy in Igbaja, Nigeria so this is just the first of a series that we will be rolling out through the remainder of 2019 into 2020.

What motivated you to help others with body positivism?

I'm a plus size woman and fitness enthusiast, which surprises a lot of people. I'm actually pursuing my personal training certification and have received a lot of criticism from people regarding my body, saying this pursuit is oxymoronic. At that time I developed a feverish desire to show the world that fitness has no size, that these are the only bodies we will get so we've got to fall madly in love with them.

What is the message you want to give women with a lil extra curve? The relationship you have with yourself, with your body is the longest relationship you'll ever have, make it a healthy one. There are enough people in the world that will be unkind to you, be gentle, patient and loving with yourself.

What do you have planned in the future for PGH curvappeal?

We are rolling out a series of fundraisers for the remainder of this year and next to assist the school in Nigeria. I am most excited about our

next trip to Nigeria in May, where we will not only be taking the proceeds directly to Igbaja but also physically assisting the school while there. I'm also super excited about a competition we'll be hosting involving high school students. Without saying too much, the winner will win a trip to Nigeria along with one parent/guardian.

How has your company help women?

We strive to encourage women and all people to love themselves, wholly. We promote fitness as a means of self-care and promote the empowerment of each other as we provide a network of support and opportunities for growth.

Helping other women with themselves, what does that do for you? How does it make you feel?

In a word, amazing! I love using whatever privilege I have to give back to others. Someone recently told me they view me as “a person for the people,” and that was truly one of the greatest compliments I've ever received. Please share any additional information you would like us to know.

Our mission to assist the school in Nigeria will be on-going. We are planning to film a documentary around its development and involve as many positive change-makers from our local community as we travel back and forth to Igbaja to be a benefit to our people there. The project has a

Facebook page, Exposure: Nigeria, so you can stay in tune with all that is happening and even make a donation to our cause if you feel so compelled.



Boasty Mermaid

Sometimes the universe will place us in uncomfortable situations and allow us to experience things that cause hurt and pain. Well, Jenny knows oh so what it means, in fact, going through hardships is what led her to start her own clothing brand: **Boasty Mermaid**. I know the name sounds so dope!

Jenny Promeneur is a New York transplant, born and raised in Paris with French-Caribbean origins. She moved to New York as a way of dealing with her brother's passing as he loved New York and used to live in the city. Jenny eventually found the strength to grow, knowing that her brother's energy will always be by her side. But like any New Yorker, she also had her fair share of city madness, we will come to it in a moment.

CEO and creator of Boasty Mermaid an Eco- friendly, organic and vegan brand designed with all kinds of mermaids. Jenny didn't let any adversity dictate her future. And standing strong against hard times truly is something to be celebrated! When we first heard Jenny's natural approach to clothing, we were like "say what!" it was just something so different to us.

Us, like a breath of fresh air. But when we heard that it also was eco-certified non-toxic, it was a total game changer. Obviously, we've all witnessed the new turn that black businesses are taking, notably when it comes to clean, responsible markets and products made

by black people and for black people. Too many studies can testify of the high amount of dangerous chemicals used in cosmetics and food designed for black people by pushing and advertising unhealthy consumerism. Too many of us are being left out of healthier alternatives.

By choosing this specific line of products and deciding to go all the way green, Boasty Mermaid, is indisputably an indicator of today's culture by responding to a demand of healthy and eco-friendly merchandise, but it also is a matter of lifestyle. Jenny is in fact, a vegetarian and most of her diet consists of vegan food, she also creates her own cosmetics and only uses products with a low impact on nature. It is her respect for the environment that brought her to create a brand in perfect adequation with interviews on health and climate change.

All of this sounds good on paper but how does wearing organic and non-toxic clothes differ from any other regular clothes? Simple, just like food, clothes are mostly made with plants or animals like cotton, silk, leather etc. All those textiles are treated with pesticides that are toxic to humans, fauna and flora. As we buy, eat and wear products sprayed with toxic mixtures, we validate this process and expose our health to dangerous outcomes. It has been proven that the amount of toxicity in clothes are responsible to modern lungs and skin diseases, and even more so when the quality of the product is subpar. It took Jenny months to find a manufacturer: that provided high end organic, vegan and recycled textiles that are nontoxic, and when she finally did, she did not look back.

We are so happy you did not give up and that you found the right connections because we could not imagine how hard it must that have been for you. Jenny came up with the name Boasty Mermaid because she wanted something that would 'pop out'. She initially wanted to call it "Quirky Mermaid" but it all changed when she heard the song "Boasty" from Wiley.

Her mermaid designs represent all types of mermaids (black, brown, Asian, queer, dreadlock) with inclusive and bold statements.

We were just so fascinated with Jenny's designs and the entire atmosphere behind it. Boasty Mermaid is not your typical mermaid like Ariel from The Little Mermaid, Something screamed creativity and uniqueness at its finest.

So, we had to ask Jenny why mermaids? And here is her answer: ". Well for starters I love mermaids, like duh its obvious (lol).

But on a serious note, I was working at a job where sexual harassment and homophobia were as frequent as day and night, as I refused to let this environment break me and some of my co-workers down, I created a mermaid personae to brighten our days a little. Even though our job was somehow more bearable with my impersonation of Queen Mermaid, I still decided to leave this awful environment behind me. So, I grabbed my peace and quit. I also knew there was something to made out of these "feel good" mermaids, so I kept my focus alive and one way leading to another, Boasty Mermaid was born." Jenny's message for her brand to everyone is to "love yourself the way you are, and always be good to yourself and others". To her, Boasty Mermaid represents having a "happy energy and bragging just a lil bit about it (lol)". And as she says: And as she says "No one needs to look a certain way to be and feel valid since we are all humans and part of this world, we are all valid by default., Life is just full of uncertainties and has its fair amount of negativity, but learning how to cope and keeping our focus is the key. So keep going."

Boasty Mermaid is for any and everyone who loves mermaids of course, has a big love for nature and anyone just "seeking positive energy and vibes", should definitely go get their merch from boastymermaid.com.

Anyone who has kids do not worry, you will not be left out for long as Jenny is preparing a kid's collection.

Black at it Again Magazine, is so excited to have Jenny and her brand Boasty Mermaid featured in our first issue. As we love for what her brand represents and respect her hustle to get to where she is today. The fact that Jenny did not get comfortable at a job that stood nowhere near her principles amazing because nowadays there are so many talented people out there unnoticed because they have not found their true purpose yet. Good Luck Jenny! "I am a Mermaid" (those who know Boasty Mermaid's jingle will understand). For more of Jenny be sure to follow her on instagram, Twitter Facebook @boastymermaid



WHO IS DIAMANTELV?

I am a 16 year old aspiring model from London, UK.

Who or what inspired you to pursue modeling?

I am attracted to the idea of being recognized by the most prestigious brands, I can't say I have had any inspiration as I felt a self-motivated push towards the occupation.

When did you realize modeling was for you?

I realized modeling was for me when I had my first photo-shoot...I enjoyed the flash of the camera and how a lot of eyes were on me. There's something about the spotlight that just attracted me to modeling.

Who is your favorite model and why?

I would search up black influential models and add how I loved the way they were motivated. However, they are not my role models. My influence has come from the ladies in my family, from grandmothers to mothers who modeled professionally.

What have you accomplished as a model?

Ask me again in 6 months, LOL.

What would you like to accomplish as a model?

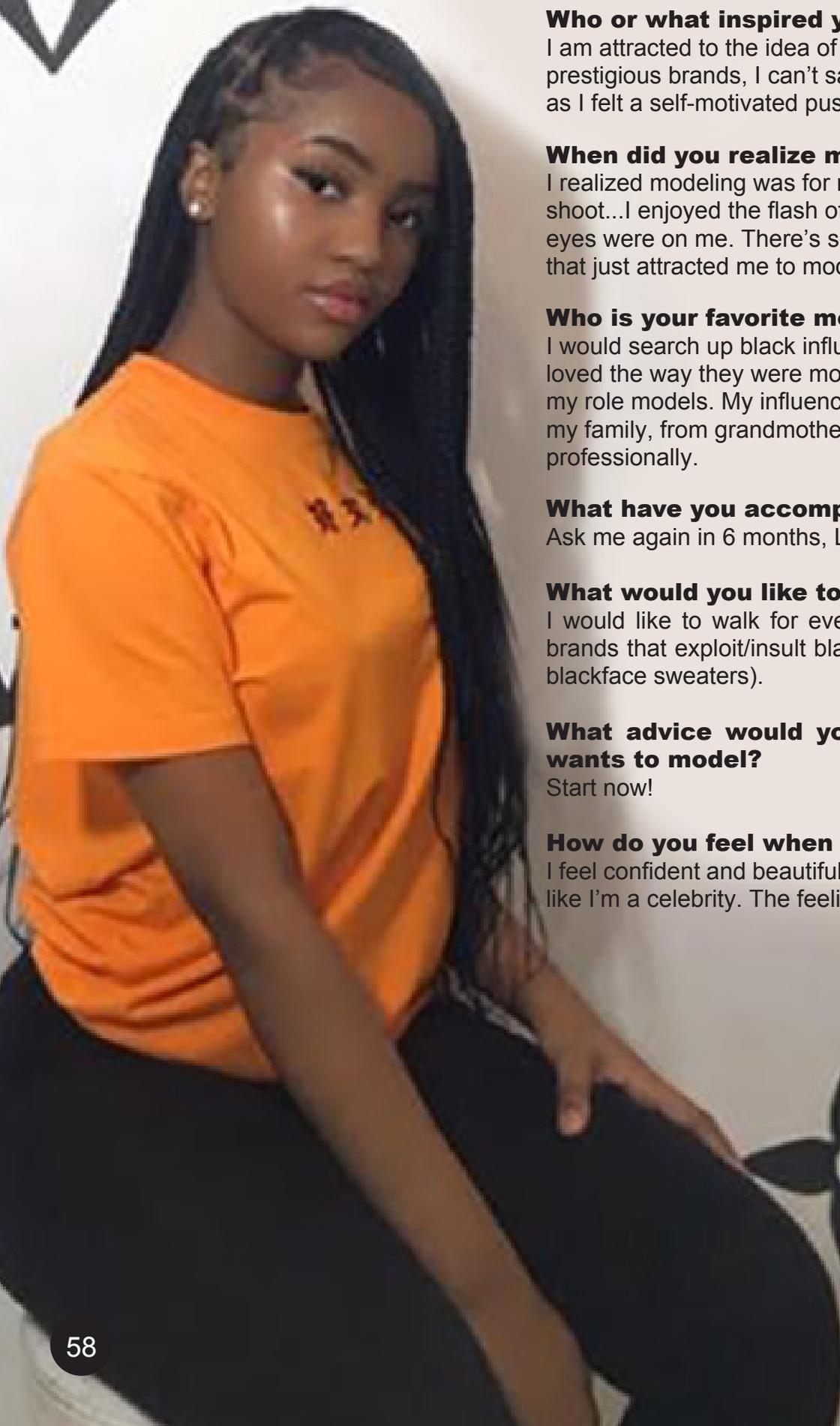
I would like to walk for every A-list brand apart from the brands that exploit/insult black culture in their designs (i.e: blackface sweaters).

What advice would you give to someone who wants to model?

Start now!

How do you feel when you model?

I feel confident and beautiful..When I model I genuinely feel like I'm a celebrity. The feeling never gets old.



KAIT SPEAKS KAIT SPEAKS THE MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

I know sometimes as ladies we feel down, we get depressed, our hormones be all over the damn place. Sometimes life be having us by our lace front wigs (if yall wear them) or our natural hair period. You know shit just be happening bad breakups, kids be acting up (lol) but yall get the point I'm trying to make.

Kait speaks is the best motivational speaker. Her energy, her ability to deliver a message, her whole persona is on point. Kait is a loving person with a genuine heart, she's a mother of two beautiful daughters.(so yall know her hands are full). She began in 2015 coaching herself but at the time she wasn't completely ready. Here we are 2019 and she's ready to change lives. And motivate everyone become the best YOU that YOU can be. At one point in Kait life she lost everything and overcame everything she has lost and realized all the mistakes she has made.

That's when she realized she wanted to help others overcome their mistakes, and become a testimony to those who went through similar things she did. And then she realized motivational speaking was for her. I'm telling you sometimes GOD would put us in certain situations and allow things to happen, for us to realize our calling. I'm so proud of kait that she allowed her pain to help others overcome theirs. Besides being an upcoming successful motivational speaker. Kait also has her own business (Simply kait braiding & weaving LLC) and she's Herbalife distributor. If y'all ever need your hair done Kait is the one to go see. She's doing it all y'all changing lives one speech at a time, saving our scalps. Yes Kait, GOD has so much in store for you. Kait wants everyone who listens to her know and I quote "We are all humans and sometimes we fall short but no one is perfect and we all have flaws. Stay Focused, determine, and be consistent you will reach your goals!" She also has another powerful message: " I am just like you. I took chances and I wasn't afraid to fall. When people told me that I couldn't do it, I did it anyways!"

Yes Kait couldn't have said it any better with all of that being said don't let one mishap in your life stop you from following your goals and dreams but most importantly don't let PEOPLE deter you from what GOD has in store for you.

Want to hear more from Kait follow her on

📷 @ **Kait_speaks** FB: @ **kait_speaks**



*Kait
Speaks*



illegally Black LLC is dedicated to the INJUSTICE in the world that WE are experiencing in OUR everyday life within social and systemic issues. For example racial profiling; discrimination; equal access to education; rights to housings; child welfare; equal opportunities for LBGT; women rights; universal healthcare and police brutality. **illegally** Black is NOT just a brand it's a fight for justice in a fashionable way. **illegally-**Black is who WE are.

TIAJUANA CAMILLE

Tell me about yourself

My name is Tiajuana Camille, I was born and raised in Mount Vernon, New York. I am a self-taught baker, my first Passion is baking and my second passion is cooking.

What is the name of your company?

Cakes by Camille

How did you get into baking?

My love for baking started at the age of 10 years old. I used to watch my grandmother Rose Lee Venable bake everything mostly cakes, and dinner rolls. I remember my grandmother baked me a birthday cake and she let me icing the cake, it was a yellow cake with chocolate frosting. I was so proud that day. As I got older I began making table cakes the usual chocolate and vanilla with buttercream. My true passion for baking started in 2013 where I began working with fondant and it took off from there, I began teaching myself different techniques.

What is the best/fun part when making a cake?

When I finish a cake I have to step back and look at the beautiful creation that I created. I never judge my cakes until they are completely finished.

The best part is when the customer is truly happy and amazed with their cake.

Who do you go to for inspiration when designing cakes?

Ron Ben-Israel, Peggy Porshchen and McGreevy cakes.

What do you have planned in the future for your business?

I plan to open up a storefront in the future bakery / restaurant.

Please share any additional information you would like to share in the magazine.

Baking cakes for people is truly fulfilling for me, because I love making people happy through my baking and my cooking.



REET GREEN



Contact Information:

WEB: www.ladideclare.org

EMAIL: reetgreen@ladideclare.org
info@ladideclare.org

MOBILE: 215.251.1748

LINKEDIN: [@reetgreen](#)

INSTAGRAM: [@reetgreen](#)

FACEBOOK: [@yagirlreet](#)

Reet Green is the CEO/Founder of the charitable organization; LADIDeclare. Her goal when developing LADIDeclare was to embody healthier and industrious women to become dominant members of our society by setting the precedents for future feminine ambassadors through evoking, guiding and encouraging positive outcomes. She was told by several she was not doing anything that hasn't been done already. Because of fear she placed her passion to BUILD and EMPOWER women into a box. BUT, after hearing her first born utter the words; while in deep thought.... "See Mommy, all you have to do is DREAM" changed her forever. Over eleven years ago she started putting her thoughts into action. Taking all of her personal and professional experience from elementary education teacher, case manager, foster care worker, stage manager, set designer and entrepreneur; owner of an event planning company, owning her own spa, cosmetologist of over 20 year, to being a single mother, oldest daughter of four and mentor to several, she slowly began to strategically place herself in places she felt would help build her vision. She used all what she knew to catapult her foundation. Today the lid is removed from that box of fear and all of her dreams have been placed onto a buffet of MUST HAVES. In pursuit of her legacy she left her profession as an Executive Director of over 6 years, to venture out to step into her destiny of DECLARING herself a five year plan of becoming one of The World's Top Transformational Speakers while simultaneously building LADIDeclare. Every day, she pushes to make GREAT strides towards understanding and loving her calling. She looks at each speaking engagement as an opportunity to communicate, teach, inspire and ignite change. Her seminars focus on discovering one's inner talents, independence and diminishing self-doubt and expansion of self-pride and determination. She says her success holds no weight to her becoming significant. She's determined to be used as a vessel to change lives of all she comes encounter with.

Leo's Scents

Rashina Bond, born in Philadelphia in 1985. She is a mother, wife and business owner. Rashina loves all natural, vegan and cruelty free products. She started this organic company with her sister Zipporah Brooks.

Leo's Scent is an organic company that specializes in handmade scented soy candles and shea butter. The company uses all natural essential oils and no chemicals are used in their products.

Rashina has been making candles and shea butter for years now. The candles are her pride and joy. Rashina realized she wanted to make scents and candles when she had a party and everyone talked about the candles all night. The only thing everyone could remember besides having a good time was how good the candles smelled.

After a recent tragedy with the loss of her brother, Rashina decided to take things seriously and turn it into a business. Days before her brother's passing Rashina and her brother Leo Zipporah Brooks talked about starting their own business. Rashina just knew she had to make it happen.

Surprisingly enough the response and support has been so overwhelming, that Rashina just knows her brother is smiling down.

Leo's Scents have something for everyone, young, old, female and male. If you want a fruity scent, light scent, strong scent or natural scent they make them all. They try to make scents that when you smell it while out it will trigger a memory or make you think of Leo's Scent. Their scents are very unique because they make it themselves and cannot be duplicated or bought in stores.

"We dedicate our business to our brother" Leo", a marine, Rodney J Bond Jr.



MARMARS DELIGHTS



With just the right amount of colorful sprinkles, a good amount of frosting not too sweet but sweet. Spongy feel as you bite into a moist cupcake or cake. With the perfect amount of seasoning with his

food. Oh how I love to eat desserts and food, like come on who doesn't love to eat? Especially having a dessert right after you eat, my mouth feels like it's in heaven just thinking about eating and biting into a cupcake or cake even a cookie. (lol)

"I don't bake I simply create"

Lemar Lewis is a twenty five year old male from Yonkers, NY, he is the CEO and owner of MarMars Delights Corporation. It is a small catering company that doesn't just bake but he simply creates. With all of his ingredients being made from scratch and using one-hundred percent fresh fruit. With just a mixture of spices and flavors Lemar can create the perfect dish and bake the perfect dessert. He specializes in making delights that look and taste different, more creative and that stands out from any other business out there. Lemar was just seven years old when he got into baking and cooking, being that he loves to eat and his mom wasn't really a cooker and eating take-out everyday wasn't cutting it for Lemar. At that point Lemar decided to learn to cook and bake. Looking up to chef Gordon Ramsey we know that Lemar dishes have an eventful taste, an everlasting taste, that you can't just have one bite. The only way to perfect any craft that you do is to practice and correct your mistakes. That is exactly what Lemar does, he learns from Chef Gordon Ramsey and studies how Gordon corrects other chef's mistakes. Lemar makes sure he doesn't make the same mistakes the other chefs make.

Eating from MarMars delights expect to have that "I need you" feeling, something that you can't live without. A dessert where you are going to want more, and that "Oh My Gosh I ate this too fast, where did it go?" I know when I eat something so good I scrape the bottom of my bowl or plate because it is just that good and I can NOT believe it's gone. That is the same feeling Lemar wants you all to get when eating his desserts and his food.

Deaquan Harris (aka Dea- Dea) is Lemar youngest brother and is his biggest supporter. He has been there for Lemar from when he was very young and to this day. He has seen Lemar at his beginning stages, through all of his trials and tribulations. Dea- Dea always told Lemar to keep moving forward.

Lemar hopes to open his own storefront where people can come in and sit and enjoy their MarMars Delights. He would also like to thank everyone who has supported him and his company for the past three years.

More of **MARMARS DELIGHTS:**

  @marmarsdelights

Email: marmarsdelights23@gmail.com



Creole ROUGE



Inspiring you to become the Queen you were meant to be.

- MATTE LIQUID LIPSTICK
- LIPGLOSS
- LOOSE GLAM PIGMENTS
- EYE PALETTES

CREOLE ROUGE



Creole Rouge Beauty



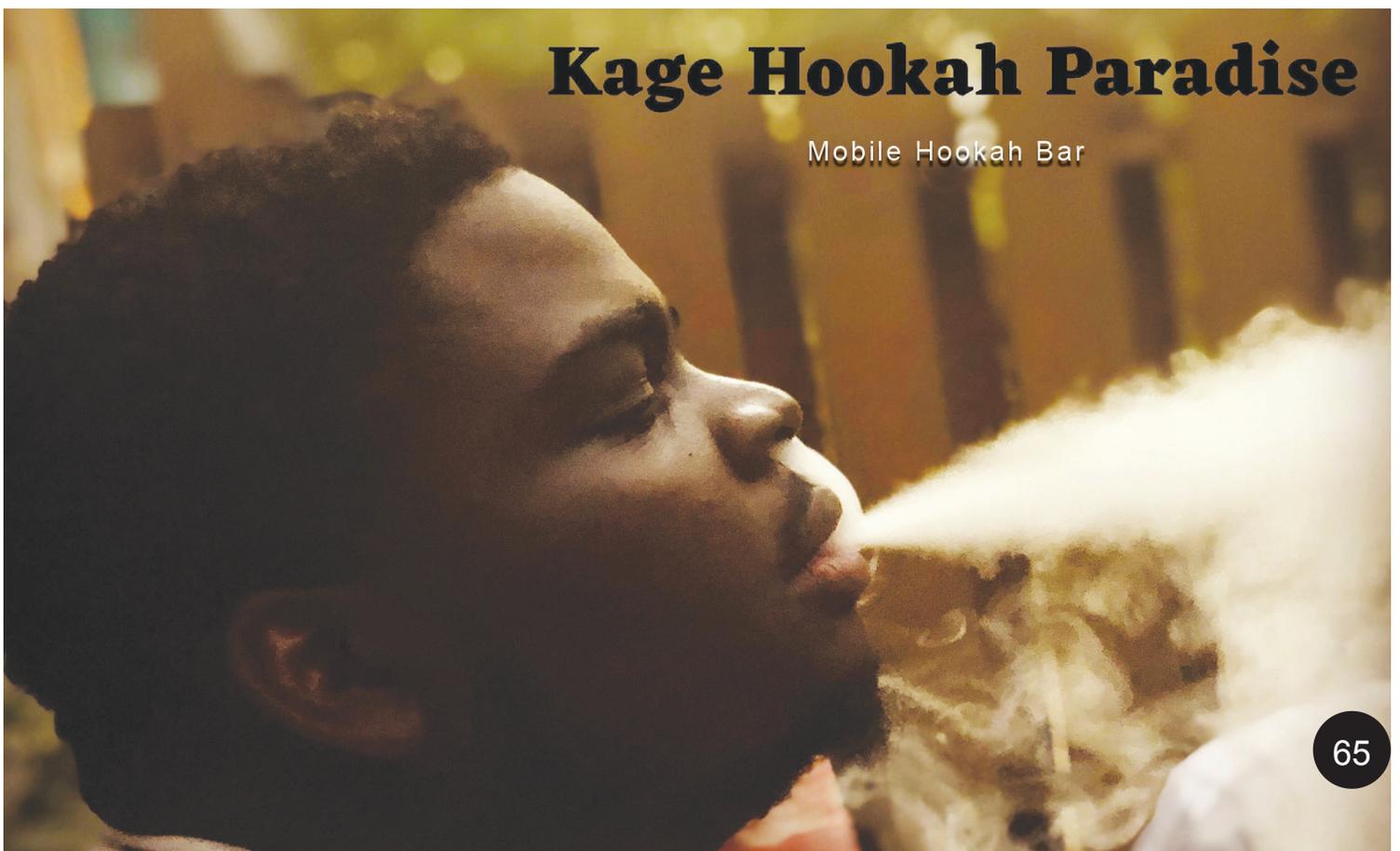
@creolerougebeauty

www.creolerougebeauty.com



Kage Hookah Paradise

Mobile Hookah Bar



Oshun Yoni Care



I provide holistic ways to heal oneself from the inside out. My products are hand crafted and created for a healthy lifestyle. Boasting ingredients sourced from Africa, Asia, South America, and other continents, each product has been specially formulated for quick and lasting results.

From Yoni detox pearls to specialty herbal blends to soaps, everything is cleansed and charged for their intended purposes. Custom orders are always welcome. Confidential and free consultations are always available via DM, email, call and/or text.



FOR MORE INFO OR TO BUY PRODUCTS NOW:

WWW.OSHUNYONICARE.COM | OSHUNYONICARE@GMAIL.COM



POETS UNASHAMED



JAMEELAH

Jameelah Creates is a Brand, that was created to inspire others as well as herself. Jameelah has a love for fashion and loves to put things together. She is a one woman show, Jameelah is self taught and with continual prayer, patients and perseverance, she can create and purchase products and provide services divinely inspired to her.

Jameelah Creates is a business that sells a little bit of everything. Handmade design clothing, retail clothing, shoes, accessories and housewares. Jameelah creates clothing for the bold, the unique, the fierce, the underdog, the victim, the victor and the free, all of these things are her.

Jameelah provide services by collaborating with established youth, women, and children organization by encouraging, uplifting and teaching them entrepreneurial skills and concepts. With her personal experience and platform Jameelah would love to gift the world with her knowledge and help them make a profit doing it.

God willing Jameelah plans to get another brick and mortar space and continually uplift and inspire her community and abroad by keeping on pushing. Jameelah soul lights up just to even think that her gift, her pain, her struggle and her vision is not just a fleeting thought.

Everything that you get to see from her business and brand did not happen overnight. Jameelah has gone to jail, hate, humiliation, harm and hell to getto loving and trusting God and herself to push forward with her dreams. Jameelah wouldn't want to change anything because it made her strong, anything worth having is not without work.

"Thank you for giving me a shot I appreciate you."

📷 @Jameelahshecreates



*Jameelah
Creates*

WHO IS YAP THE MUA?

What do you like most about doing makeup?

I love the fact that makeup has no rules. You can be as creative as you want without any restrictions and guidelines. To add on, makeup is a great escape and very therapeutic. Whenever I'm stressed, I play in makeup and listen to music and it always puts me at ease.

What is your go to look?

My go to look is a very bronzed natural glam with very bold lashes. I am very extra and over the top and I love my makeup to stand out. But due to the fact that I can't wear a glitter beat everywhere I go, I settle for a "natural" glam.

What do you like most about doing your clients makeup?

I love my clients reaction to their makeup when the process is complete. The smile on their faces and the joy they have when they see the finished result, is what pushes me to keep doing what I do.

Do you plan to come out with a makeup line? I do eventually plan on coming out with a makeup line, but I'm not sure as to what product I want to sell yet.

What are the cons (if any) when doing makeup on yourself & other people?

I have no cons when doing makeup on myself, but the only negative thing I can say about doing makeup on other people, is dealing with people's attitude or unprofessional clients. Whether that be people trying to negotiate prices or people having attitudes when I do their makeup. However, I just ignore the negative and dwell on positivity.

Please share any additional information you would like to share.

Since many people don't have time to take one on one classes, I made a YouTube channel that is not only entertaining but very helpful. The name of my channel is "Call Me Yap". My videos are full of great tips and tricks on how to be a baddie on a budget, especially for dark skin women like myself.



*Y*ap the mua is a Brooklyn native, 19 year old, self taught makeup artist, and full time college student.

Who would you say inspired you to do makeup?

I wouldn't say I was inspired by someone to do makeup, I think I was born to be very artistic. Since, I was extremely young I was always creative and I went through different artistic phases in my life (painting, culinary art, etc) but makeup is the only phase that stuck with me. Once I found out that I can use art to make people and myself look absolutely stunning I became obsessed with makeup.

Poetry

Love poetry, the art of it, the ability to express oneself through words and depict a story by looking at the pictures, it takes talent, practice and skill. Jay she creates is the most talented poet I have come across on Instagram. She is originally from Kingston, Jamaica, she moved to the United States at the age of seventeen to go to college. Where she pursued her bachelors and MBA. Jay currently works in special education and information technology.

Writing poems is something she always had a passion for. From writing in journals, writing stories and even writing songs. Her love for interacting with people and the joy of meeting new people she then discovered her passion for writing poetry. Being inspired by life experiences, and writing to express her emotions and get things off her mind, she also uses imagery to tell stories through poems. I mean that takes some type of level of talent to do that. Like I'm so impressed, I'm like in an awe phase. Having Maya Angelou as her favorite poet will get anyone who reads her work to work hard and learn how to use their words in such a profound manner. Jay she creates poems are for everyone and I encourage everyone to read her work. Even though her poems feature imagery about black love in the black community it speaks to her more as a black woman because she speaks from experiences that people and women can all relate to.

As a writer we all have certain times of the day where we feel mostly inspired. For me personally it's a night because my mind is more in a relaxed state. Jay she creates would also agree because that's when she does most of her writing. Her mind is more calm, clear thinking and her thoughts are able to recollect itself. Jay she creates hopes to share her talent and passion with people that appreciates it and hope to grow a community of poets. Jay she creates would like everyone to know and I quote "Although I use the written form to express myself I have also performed my poems locally at my college showcase and the local festivals. More popularly the poem entitled "Unapologetically Caribbean" that expresses my Caribbean roots. Many of my poems are also featured on the Youtube channel "The lovely Sisters" that I share with my friends where we all showcase our talents."

Be sure to follow her on Instagram: [@jayshecreates](https://www.instagram.com/jayshecreates)



We all love our makeup, yes the men do too. Ladies, don't let them say they like natural. That's is when you give them that side eye for looking at someone else with makeup on while you took yours off for him.

"When I was eighteen years old. I fell in love with the artistic aspect of applying makeup and was receiving compliments and a lot of attention for my work, it was then that I realized that I found my calling."

Josh Alex he is such a beautiful person inside and out. I know some of you guys heard of him he is big on instagram and youtube, he can also beat a face with the capital B. He got into makeup when he was just sixteen years old from a friend who at the time was living with him and his family. His friend used to wear makeup all the time, mainly to cover up the acne he had on his face. That is when josh was like," ok i like how he put his foundation on, his eye liner and his brows." From that point on Josh started practicing makeup on his little sister and her friends. Josh best friend at the time inspired him to do makeup, from him showing him the basics to apply makeup. He was the first person to encourage Josh to keep on working at it. Besides Josh friend inspiring him to do make up. He also gets inspired by other makeup artists, his family and of course by other people that see his work and loves what he does.

For Josh doing makeup makes him feel glamorous, confident and you know extra AF! (As F**k). When he does it on other people it makes him feel good and grateful that people are giving him the opportunity to bring out the beauty he sees in all women. We all know how it is when we have dreams and goals that we want to achieve and not have no one supporting us, it could easily make someone give up. Thanks to Josh mom being his biggest supporter of everything he has done and accomplished so far. Everybody, know wants ya mama approves, then there ain't shit nobody can say. And that's; that on that!

Ladies and men too if yall ever need a fun night out need a good ass laugh or good jokes, go call or see Josh Alex because that is what he is all about besides beating that face(lol). I am so proud of Josh to be working with over thirty-five makeup and clothing companies. His end goal is to show other young men in makeup that they can overcome the stereotypes and challenges and keep following that dream.





Josh Alex