The Team Behind the Bayou Classic

Newsmaker
Goo Goo Atkins
Host Scholarship

Style
Four Tips to Rock a ‘Fro
The Organization Behind the Bayou Classic

Eric M Craig
Multimedia Editor

During the last weekend of November, it’s a known fact that the City of New Orleans turns into a state-wide hotspot. On Thanksgiving Weekend, New Orleans becomes home to the Bayou Classic—a week full of festivities and the celebration of the now 44-year-old classic game between the Southern University Jaguars and the Grambling University Tigers. While the next annual classic is over five months away, the team behind the exceptional event is already making plans for one of New Orleans’ most popular events. So, who’s behind the Bayou Classic, anyway?

The Organizers

The Bayou Classic Foundation has contracted The New Orleans Convention Company, Inc., as the official event planner for the Bayou Classic for the last five years. When the company took over, the Classic had a declining reputation, with attendance under 40,000 people. “We took it from the grassroots and...”

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.
built it up. We had to get all the way down and the build the foundation," said Dottie Belletto, president and CEO of NOCCI. “We had to change the perception that Bayou Classic wasn’t dying—it was well alive," Belletto and her team spent countless hours reenergizing and reengineering the the Bayou Classic events. The process started with a full-force campaign to get more youth involved in the Classic. This new model put emphasis on offering scholarships and jobs. “We wanted to expand not only entertainment, but work opportunities for students." Belletto said. In 2016, the Bayou Classic started the Biz Tech Challenge, where students from Louisiana’s six HBCUs competed to create an app to help small businesses recover from national disasters. “We have created incubators on both campuses of their intelligence that is coming forward in technology. We are then creating something that will be continuously sustainable for the Grambling and Southern that open opportunities with students," Belletto said. Passion for the Classic Over the last five years, Belletto has been passionate about discovering new ways to grow the Bayou Classic. “I just had the passion. I don’t see color or race. All I see is green—which is the color of money," Belletto said. Belletto said she cares deeply about Historically Black Colleges and Universities and is committed to making sure HBCU students get employed. “These kids need to have the same opportunity as everyone else. I’ve seen kids from HBCU grow and mature in the workforce," she said. “When you see that, that’s what changes you. When you changed lives like that, you can give that feeling up.” Belletto fights to ensure that Bayou Classic is treated the same as essence and other large events in New Orleans. “The passion she speaks about is real,” said Angela Young, a media relations partner with NOCCI. “It’s not just while we’re planning Bayou Classic in the fall or summer, it’s all-year-around for Dottie and the entire team.”

Changes to Bayou Classic in 2017 Continuing its focus on Louisiana's college students, the 44th annual Bayou Classic will forego its career fair in turn for a larger BirTech challenge. Future Bayou Classics will focus on creating more opportunities for Louisiana’s youth. “We need to continue growing. You’ll never see a static Bayou Classic. It will be chang-
Celebrity Stylist “Goo Goo” Atkins to Host Non-Profit Scholarship Event

Happening during ESSENCE Festival Weekend

Data News Staff Edited Report

Celebrity Stylist Goo Goo Atkins returns to host Le Sanctuary Book Club’s “Stars & Strikes Celebrity Day Soiree and Bowling Bash”, Saturday, July 1st from 1:30pm – 4:30pm on ESSENCE Music Festival weekend, Fulton Alley. Proceeds will benefit Le Sanctuary’s mission to help local college-bound young women purchase books for their freshman year.

A Reality Star and Fashion Stylist, Goo Goo appears on WE TV’s “Mary Mary” television show. Goo Goo has worked as a stylist for her Grammy Award winning sisters as well as celebrities like Morris Chestnut, Niecy Nash and Laila Ali.

“This event is special to me because it fuels the literacy movement. Even with this small gesture, I am contributing to the empowerment of the next generation and helping to raise funds for ladies who perhaps otherwise may not have been to afford books for college,” stated Goo Goo in reference to her continued alignment with Le Sanctuary Book Club’s Scholarship Endeavor.

As District “C” Councilmember, Ramsey is dedicated to making the great City of New Orleans a better place to live for all its citizens by focusing on youth empowerment through education and workforce development as well as economic development, blight reduction and infrastructure enhancement.

“It’s an honor and a privilege to be selected as the Honorary Chair for the Annual Stars & Strikes Celebrity Day Soiree and Bowling Bash,” stated Councilmember Ramsey. “I am a strong advocate for uplifting our youth through education, and I firmly believe the love of reading removes boundaries, offering the treasure of knowledge and adventure. This program, aimed towards young women in our community, serves as a catalyst for the positive change in our society. As stated in the African proverb, educate a boy and you educate an individual. Educate a girl and you educate a community.”

Le Sanctuary Book Club offers a scholarship program which provides book scholarships to female high school seniors that will attend a college in Louisiana. To date, the organization has awarded over 50 scholarships to deserving college-bound students. To apply for scholarships, visit www.lesanctuary.org. The scholarship deadline was Friday, June 2, 2017.

“Influencers who give back and help to raise awareness for causes are to be commended, recognized and celebrated. Goo Goo has been a friend of Le Sanctuary Book Club for many years and she’s always been a huge supporter. We appreciate Goo Goo and other high profile influencers who associate themselves with our efforts,” said Angela L. Young, President of the book club.

---

@DataNewsWeek

follow us on

@DataNewsWeek
Big Chief Walter "Sugarbear" Landry

Jordan Lorrius
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Born in New Orleans, Walter "Sugarbear" Landry is Big Chief of the Black Mohawk Indigenous Black Masking Indian Tribe. Known as a "3rd Ward Warrior Jackson Street Soldier," Landry has a four-generation family tribe. Landry has been masking since the 1950's.

TRIBE TIMELINE:
• From 2007-Present /Big Chief Walter "Sugarbear" Landry /Black Mohawk
• From 1956-2006 /Tribe Disbanded
• From 1950-1955 /Big Chief Frank Royal /Black Mohawk.
• From 1945-1950 /Big Chief Eddie "Coonow" Perkins /Shrewsbury Blues.
• From 1938-1945 /Big Chief Chuck Webb /Shrewsbury Blues.

Traditionally Black Masking Culture is passed down from generation to generation. Landry however, took a non-traditional route. "I first saw an Indian suit on my grandmother's friend. It was bright orange and I will never forget it." When Landry was young his family moved from New Orleans to Shrewsbury where he met Spy Boy Uncle Bubble of the Black Mohawk Tribe. Landry said, "I saw all of his intricately designed suits and man I tripped out and said "I saw all of his intricately designed suits and man I tripped out and said "I want to be like that.""

Landry was born, so I needed to go out and find out what was going on. When Landry was a non-traditional route. "I first saw a Black Masking tradition such as song, beading, and beadwork. Landry said, "I was a young boy with a Spy Boy Uncle Bubble of the Black Mohawk Tribe. Landry said, "I saw all of his intricately designed suits and man I tripped out and said "I want to be like that.""

Landry was born, so I needed to go out and find out what was going on. When Landry was a young boy with a Spy Boy Uncle Bubble of the Black Mohawk Tribe. Landry said, "I saw all of his intricately designed suits and man I tripped out and said "I want to be like that.""

Landry was born, so I needed to go out and find out what was going on. When Landry was a young boy with a Spy Boy Uncle Bubble of the Black Mohawk Tribe. Landry said, "I saw all of his intricately designed suits and man I tripped out and said "I want to be like that.""

Big Chief Walter "Sugarbear" Landry

Landry took on a career as a truck driver to support his family as they grew of age to begin masking on their own. "My children first masked with the Cheyenne Hunters in 1996 under Big Chief Curtis Williams. In 1997, they masked with the White Eagles under Big Chief Jake. In 1998, my daughter was Big Queen under Big Chief Bo Dean until 2000. In 2007, I surfaced as Big Chief of the Black Mohawk Tribe and I've been going strong since then."

Q&A
1. How did you develop your style of sewing?
I was involved at the age of 9 and got help from several people throughout my years. In 1953 my family moved out of Orleans Parish into Jefferson Parish where I met Uncle Bubble and he was the Spy Boy of the Black Mohawks. He taught me the basics. Every day after school I'd finish my homework and my father would drop me off at Uncle Bubbles house from 4p-8p, and on Saturday I would go early and stay there all day to learn how to sew. Around 1958 I met Robbie who was Big Chief of the Golden Arrows. Before I met Robbie I was using the traditional second hand materials to create my suit. I was primitive compared to Robbie and the Indians Masking in New Orleans who taught me to use elaborate sequins, beads, and feathers.

2. What are the earliest traditions you remember?
a. I remember using bottle caps, glitter, fish scales, mirrors, fabric off the junkman’s truck, and chicken feathers from the butcher. Back then it wasn't about money it was about finding the stuff and putting the suit together. The suit came out of your creativity. Back then you could do wonders with old turs, fabric dye, mirrors, glitter, fish scales, carnival beads, glue, and number 8 thread that's black or white.

3. What was the Black Masking experience like during Carnival in the 1950s?
a. We would leave Shrewsbury on three school buses and meet with Big Chief Buddy Wilson of the Red, White, and Blue Tribe off Carrollton and unite our tribes to parade together. Then we would get on a bus and head back to Shrewsbury and parade through the streets. I wouldn't do that much walking at gun point these days. We were so tired then, we would sleep for a whole day afterwards. The route was so long and sister’s feet hurt for a year!

4. What major transformation have you seen in your 40+ years of experience masking?
a. When I first got started our neighborhoods came together and we paraded within our communities. Back then you couldn't pay White people to come around us. They thought we were dangerous. There has been a cultural shift, a shift to behold. Now, White people are rubbing shoulders with us, filming the experience, and they even know the Indian songs better than some locals.
100 Black Men of America
31st Annual Conference Luncheon

Harvey Brown
Photographer

On Friday, June 9th, 100 Black Men of America, Inc., held a luncheon celebrating long-time members of the National Chapter, and exemplary leaders of the Local Chapter.

Visit www.ladatanews.com for more photos from these events
ONE DAY SALE

OUR LOWEST PRICES OF THE SEASON—JUST IN TIME FOR FATHER’S DAY!

SHOP 3PM-CLOSING THURS, JUNE 15 & 9AM-11PM FRI & SAT, JUNE 16 & 17

Hours may vary by store. See macys.com & click on stores for local information.

EXCLUSIONS APPLY:


PLUS, ONLINE ONLY: kids’ shoes, Allen Edmonds, Birkenstock, Hurley, Johnston & Murphy, Merrell, PUMA & Tommy Bahama. Cannot be combined with any savings pass/coupon, extra discount or credit offer except opening a new Macy's account. Dollar savings are allocated as discounts off each eligible item, as shown on receipt. When you return an item, you forfeit the savings allocated to that item. This coupon has no cash value and may not be redeemed for cash or applied as payment or credit to your account. Extra savings % applied to reduced prices. Purchase must be $50 or more, exclusive of tax and delivery fees.

USE THIS SAVINGS PASS THURS 3PM-CLOSING OR ‘TIL 2PM FRI OR SAT
EXTRA DOLLARS OFF SELECT SALE CLOTHING & HOME ITEMS
$20 OFF YOUR PURCHASE OF $50 OR MORE, LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER.

EXTRA DOLLARS OFF SELECT SALE CLOTHING & HOME ITEMS
EXTRA 20% OFF SELECT SALE JEWELRY, WATCHES, SHOES, COATS, SUITS, DRESSES, LINGERIE, SWIM FOR HER, MEN’S SUIT SEPARATES & SPORT COATS & HOME ITEMS
USE YOUR CARD & GET AN EXTRA 20% OFF SELECT SALE CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES
EXTRA 15% OFF SELECT SALE JEWELRY, WATCHES, SHOES, COATS, SUITS, DRESSES, LINGERIE, SWIM FOR HER, MEN’S SUIT SEPARATES & SPORT COATS & HOME ITEMS

VALID 3PM-CLOSE 6/15-6/17/2017. EXCLUSIONS APPLY.

EXCLUSIONS APPLY:

DEALS OF THE DAY, DOROBUSTERS, EVERYDAY VALUES (EDV), LAST ACT, MACY’S BACKSTAGE, SPECIALS, SUPER BUY, ATHLETIC COOLING/Tech, ACCESSORIES, BABY GEAR, COSMETICS/Fragrances, DESIGNER JEWELRY/watches, DESIGNER SPORTSWEAR, ELECTRONICS, FURNITURE/Mattresses, GIFT CARDS, JEWELRY TRUNK SHOWS, MATERNITY, SELECT LICENSED DEPARTMENTS, SPECIAL ORDERS, SPECIAL PURCHASES, SELECT TECH ACCESSORIES, TOYS, (SELECTION) APPLE PRODUCTS, AAWAY, LES FILLES, BARBOUR, BRAHMIN, BRUMALI, BROS SIBLINGS RED FLEECE, COACH, DWEYRS, ELLEN FISHER, FRYE, FRONY, HANwy PARRY, JACK GRADE, KATE SPADE, KNITWEAR, PRO LINE, LE CHATEAU, LOLE, LITTLEBIG, LOCKER ROOM BY LIDS, MARC JACOBS, SELECT MICHAEL KORS, MICHAEL MICHAEL KORS, MICHAEL KORS WATCHES, MONICA BIRD, NGUYEN, ORIGINAL PENGUIN, RUDSAK, SAM EDELMAN, SHUN, STUART WEITZMAN, TEMPUR-PEDIC, MATTRESSES, THE NORTH FACE, THEORY, T PARTY, TOMS, WACO, VANS, WACOAL, WOLFORD & WÜSTHOF. MACY’S.COM IS EXCLUDED FROM $20 OFF PASS.

PLUS, ONLINE ONLY: KIDS’ SHOES, ALLEN EDMONDS, BIRKENSTOCK, HURLEY, JOHNSTON & MURPHY, MERRELL, PUMA & TOMMY BAHAMA. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY SAVINGS PASS/Coupon, EXTRA DISCOUNT OR CREDIT OFFER EXCEPT OPENING A NEW MACY’S ACCOUNT. DOLLAR SAVINGS ARE ALLOCATED AS DISCOUNTS OFF EACH ELIGIBLE ITEM, AS SHOWN ON RECEIPT. WHEN YOU RETURN AN ITEM, YOU FORFEIT THE SAVINGS ALLOCATED TO THAT ITEM. THIS COUPON HAS NO CASH VALUE AND MAY NOT BE REDEEMED FOR CASH OR APPLIED AS PAYMENT OR CREDIT TO YOUR ACCOUNT. EXTRA SAVINGS % APPLIED TO REDUCED PRICES. PURCHASE MUST BE $50 OR MORE, EXCLUSIVE OF TAX AND DELIVERY FEES.

Criminal Justice Disparities Present Barriers to Re-entry

Rep. Danny K. Davis (D-Ill.)

Austin, Ill., the community where I live, in the heart of the Congressional District I represent, includes the zip code with the largest number of releases from the Illinois Department of Corrections: 90 percent of the individuals released are African-American males.

When these (mostly) young men are released from prison, they find all of the social and economic barriers they faced before incarceration, plus additional barriers to jobs, housing, education, and almost every aspect of daily life. One in every 40 adults is unable to vote because of a current or prior felony conviction. For African-Americans, the rate is one in 13.

Over the past 50 years, our penal system has become an increasingly urgent issue that has reached crisis proportions, especially in the African-American community. There were about 338,000 individuals in prison in 1970. Today, that number is over 2,000,000. That number has grown every decade over the last half century without regard for the falling crime rate. The Federal Bureau of Prisons appropriations increased more than $7.1 billion from FY1980 ($330 million) to FY2016 ($7.479 billion).

Every year in the United States, 641,000 people walk out of prison gates, and, every year, people will go to jail over 11 million times. This is called jail churn. It happens, because most of the people who are jailed have not been convicted. Some will make bail within a short time; some are too poor and will stay in jail until their trial. Some will be convicted of misdemeanors and will receive sentences of under a year.

African-Americans are incarcerated at nearly six times the rate of Whites and while they make up 13 percent of the U.S. population, they are 40 percent of the prison population. In some states that rate was 10 times or more. Research from numerous scholars and organizations has been instrumental in developing a growing bipartisan consensus on the forces driving this great disparity and the additional costs this disparity places on the African-American community and society in general.

A recent report by The Sentencing Project notes: “Proposed explanations for disparities range from variations in offending based on race to biased decision-making in the criminal justice system, and also include a range of individual level factors such as poverty, education outcomes, unemployment history, and criminal history.”

During my years in the Congress, I have fought to reduce disparities in our criminal justice system. I believe my “Second Chance Act” and other initiatives, coupled with the fiscal realities that these disparities have imposed on the states and federal government, have helped to create a space for bipartisan debate and consensus about how best to reduce these disparities.

I believe that debate and consensus laid the groundwork for some gains we saw during the Obama-Davis, Continued on page 11.

Civil Rights Groups Ask for Broad Access to Affordable Lending

As the Senate Banking Committee turns its attention to reform the nation’s secondary mortgage market, civil rights leaders recently spoke in a strong and united voice. For these national organizations, the housing finance system must embrace—not abandon—its obligations to provide broad access and affordability in mortgage lending.

In a June 6 letter to Committee Chairman and Ranking Member, Senators Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) and Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), were advised that any emerging legislation that includes requirements for the GSEs to share responsibility in reaching affordable housing goals, as well as access to credit that is free from discrimination.

In a broad sense, today’s public policy housing debate is also an opportunity to learn from the mistakes of the past and craft new policies that will avoid their recurrence.

“The nation’s housing finance system has never worked for people of color,” noted Lisa Rice, Executive Vice President of the National Fair Housing Alliance. “The system has never worked for people of color.”

“Most importantly, part of their business has to be based in low-income communities that have historically been underserved,” Gupta continued. “If Congress decides to overhaul the housing finance system, any entities that take the place of Fannie and Freddie and enjoy the same protections must also meet the same responsibilities.”

As the housing market continues to grapple with historical discrimination that resulted in persistent and growing racial wealth gaps, it must also adapt to new 21st century challenges as well. Many millennials are shunning or delaying home ownership due to heavy student debt. Future policies must find a way to serve a diverse marketplace and protect taxpayers from more financial bailouts.

Read the full story on LANews Daily.com.


Charlene Crowell
NNPA Newswire Columnist

As the Senate Banking Committee turns its attention to reform the nation’s secondary mortgage market, civil rights leaders recently spoke in a strong and united voice. For these national organizations, the housing finance system must embrace—not abandon—its obligations to provide broad access and affordability in mortgage lending.

In a June 6 letter to Committee Chairman and Ranking Member, Senators Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) and Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), were advised that any emerging legislation that includes requirements for the GSEs to share responsibility in reaching affordable housing goals, as well as access to credit that is free from discrimination.

In a broad sense, today’s public policy housing debate is also an opportunity to learn from the mistakes of the past and craft new policies that will avoid their recurrence.

“The nation’s housing finance system has never worked for people of color,” noted Lisa Rice, Executive Vice President of the National Fair Housing Alliance. “The system has never worked for people of color.”

“Most importantly, part of their business has to be based in low-income communities that have historically been underserved,” Gupta continued. “If Congress decides to overhaul the housing finance system, any entities that take the place of Fannie and Freddie and enjoy the same protections must also meet the same responsibilities.”

As the housing market continues to grapple with historical discrimination that resulted in persistent and growing racial wealth gaps, it must also adapt to new 21st century challenges as well. Many millennials are shunning or delaying home ownership due to heavy student debt. Future policies must find a way to serve a diverse marketplace and protect taxpayers from more financial bailouts.

Read the full story on LANewsDaily.com.

As the Senate Banking Committee turns its attention to reform the nation’s secondary mortgage market, civil rights leaders recently spoke in a strong and united voice. For these national organizations, the housing finance system must embrace—not abandon—its obligations to provide broad access and affordability in mortgage lending.

In a June 6 letter to Committee Chairman and Ranking Member, Senators Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) and Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), were advised that any emerging legislation that includes requirements for the GSEs to share responsibility in reaching affordable housing goals, as well as access to credit that is free from discrimination.

In a broad sense, today’s public policy housing debate is also an opportunity to learn from the mistakes of the past and craft new policies that will avoid their recurrence.

“The nation’s housing finance system has never worked for people of color,” noted Lisa Rice, Executive Vice President of the National Fair Housing Alliance. “The system has never worked for people of color.”

“Most importantly, part of their business has to be based in low-income communities that have historically been underserved,” Gupta continued. “If Congress decides to overhaul the housing finance system, any entities that take the place of Fannie and Freddie and enjoy the same protections must also meet the same responsibilities.”

As the housing market continues to grapple with historical discrimination that resulted in persistent and growing racial wealth gaps, it must also adapt to new 21st century challenges as well. Many millennials are shunning or delaying home ownership due to heavy student debt. Future policies must find a way to serve a diverse marketplace and protect taxpayers from more financial bailouts.

Read the full story on LANewsDaily.com.
Kaelin Maloid  
Data News Weekly Contributor

While the spectators waited in the auditorium of the People’s Health New Orleans Jazz Market, Che’ “Rhymefest” Smith—an acclaimed songwriter known for his songwriting contributions on Kaye West’s “Jesus Walks” and “New Slaves”—sat in a room upstairs in a white chair. He had performed in front of thousands before, so, of course, an interview didn’t phase him.

Despite acclaimed fame in songwriting and performance, Smith admitted he didn’t always know who he was—which was why he was there, in New Orleans, for a free screening of his Showtime documentary, “In My Father’s House.”

The Discussion

With the help of AARP and 100 Black Men of Metro New Orleans, Smith was able to show the public a documentary, “In My Father’s House,” about his story.

The songwriter’s father was never around, and he blamed Tillman for it. Eventually, Smith became angry, and he might “cuss” his father out if he had the chance.

After forgiving his father, Smith had doubts on his father being alive. In the documentary, Smith’s mother gives him a word of wisdom:

“If you didn’t think he was alive, you wouldn’t be trying to find him,” she said.

So, Smith searched and eventually found Tillman, who was homeless and an alcoholic.

“When I found my father, he didn’t run out on me at all,” Smith said. “My father had been homeless for 35 years. This dude that I was blaming all this time—I never knew his story.”

From there, Smith attempted to rebuild his relationship with his father.

However, restoring his relationship with his alcoholic father was not easy. After their first reunion, in the documentary, Tillman requests Smith to take him to the liquor store, to which Smith refuses. A few meetings later, Smith asks his father would he ever stop drinking.

“You would tell a bird to not fly? A fish not to swim?” Tillman replied, laughing at the absurdity of him drinking.

“I’ve been here for three days and I just found out I could speak,” Smith joked. “They [New Orleans] knew I wasn’t from here because I wasn’t speaking. And when I started speaking, I felt this rumbling in my soul. I felt like a village again.”

From there, Smith gave advice to Black men—to pass on their knowledge to the younger generation. In keeping what they knew, they were preventing the younger generation from growing.

To the younger Black men, Smith told them to take pieces of every positive Black male they looked up to.

“The way he dresses, the way he takes care of his family, the career he has, the way he presents and projects himself—you take all those people and make it into the father you want to be,” Smith said. “Take pieces of those people and build yourself.”
Well known Singer and Fashion Innovator SZA recently dropped her new album titled “Ctrl,” inspiring several NOLA creatives to channel the SZA aesthetic.

Local Photographers Lifeo-Rayno & LanesLense collaborated with Creative Director Tyr-ian Reed and Model Deandra in honor of SZA’s unique style and music.

“She gives off such a carefree vibe and it is inspiring to Black girls everywhere. She is naturally herself and we wanted to portray the natural fashion for others to do the same” Reed said.

The four creatives captured the essence of SZA’s laid back, nonchalant style with a New Or-leans twist. Local locations such as Gene’s Po-Boys and Bywater homes were used to promote col-

or and fun.

The inspiration for the shoot stems from research of SZA’s fashion on social media and popu-
lar song lyrics. The creatives plan to release the photos on their so-
cial medias to gain the attention of the pop star and promote each song on the album by captioning each photo with a different song title. For more on SZA visit https://szactrl.com and for more on the SZA in-
spired photoshoot follow @TheLifeo-
Rayno @tdom or @laneslense on In-

stagram.

For more on Delaney visit https://delaneygeorge.com and for more on the SZA inspired photoshoot follow @DelaneyGeorge on Instagram.
4 Tips for Wearing Your Hair in a ‘Fro

The afro is possibly the easiest style to sport when you have officially run out of ideas. Sometimes you just want your hair to be free and proudly show off every curl you were blessed with.

1. Always moisturize your hair — Afros can increase dryness in your hair because your curls are exposed to the elements. Reduce dryness by using a deep conditioner, a leave-in, and an oil to seal your ends. I use Jamaican Black Castor Oil to seal my ends to counteract the exposure to the air and clothes.

2. Keep your hands out of your hair — An afro is best left untouched. This will keep you from unnecessarily pulling and possibly breaking your hair strands. This is especially important for fine hair.

3. Keep your scalp moisturized — Along with moisturizing your actual hair, your scalp can get dry as well. Use a deep conditioner that contains moisturizing oils for your scalp. Also, do not use shampoos with sulfates as they might dry out your scalp. I like to use shea butter and tea tree oil to increase moisture.

4. Comb out the hair — Free your afro of tangles by gently combing them out and then sporting your afro. An afro full of tangles will only create more problems so it’s much better to wear a tangle-free unfined look than a tangled ‘fro full of curl definition.

Happy Growing!

Destiny Johnson
Natural Hair Columnist

An afro requires a little TLC from time to time. Source: ecstasyymodel.com

The Curly Corner

The Curly Corner

The afro is possibly the easiest style to sport when you have officially run out of ideas. Sometimes you just want your hair to be free and proudly show off every curl you were blessed with.

However, you can risk dryness and tangles with this style because your hair is not bound to move in a specific way as it would in twists or braids. If you’re thinking about letting your curls roam free this summer, try these important tips:

1. Always moisturize your hair — Afros can increase dryness in your hair because your curls are exposed to the elements. Reduce dryness by using a deep conditioner, a leave-in, and an oil to seal your ends. I use Jamaican Black Castor Oil to seal my ends to counteract the exposure to the air and clothes.

2. Keep your hands out of your hair — An afro is best left untouched. This will keep you from unnecessarily pulling and possibly breaking your hair strands. This is especially important for fine hair.

3. Keep your scalp moisturized — Along with moisturizing your actual hair, your scalp can get dry as well. Use a deep conditioner that contains moisturizing oils for your scalp. Also, do not use shampoos with sulfates as they might dry out your scalp. I like to use shea butter and tea tree oil to increase moisture.

4. Comb out the hair — Free your afro of tangles by gently combing them out and then sporting your afro. An afro full of tangles will only create more problems so it’s much better to wear a tangle-free unfined look than a tangled ‘fro full of curl definition.

Happy Growing!

Destiny Johnson
Natural Hair Columnist

An afro requires a little TLC from time to time. Source: ecstasyymodel.com
CONGRATULATIONS
DISCOVER THE UNEXPECTED
FELLOWS!

Discover the Unexpected is back! This year’s DTU journalism fellowship presented by the all-new 2018 Chevrolet Equinox in partnership with the National Newspaper Publishers Association has expanded beyond Howard University to include students from Spelman College, Morehouse College and Clark Atlanta University. Our 8 DTU Fellows will share stories from Atlanta, Washington D.C., Raleigh and New Orleans. Our young journalists will explore and share stories from these rich strongholds of African American history and culture. Join them as they embark on this exciting journey of inspiration, education and discovery.

#discovertheunexpected

DISCOVER MORE OF THEIR STORY AT NNPA.ORG/DTU