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Couture
Launch

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**42 Tribes**Big Chief
Kevin
Goodman



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## **Cover Story**

# **New Orleans Elections and Early Voting**

Early voting is Nov. 3rd -11th (except Sunday, Nov. 5th and Veterans Day holiday, Friday, Nov. 10th) from 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.



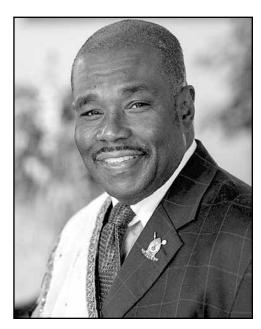
#### **Data News Staff Edited Report**

Beginning Nov. 3, 2017, the polls will again open for early voting in the run-off elections that will be held on Saturday November 18th. Much of the attention has been on the conten-

tious Mayor's Race between Desiree Charbonnet and LaToya Cantrell; where we will have a historic night with the City electing its first woman mayor

But also on the ballot there are several other local races that will be decided on Election Day. We at Data News Weekly wanted to highlight the candidates in the races for the two seats on the City Council in District B and District E and the race for Judge of Orleans Parish Civil District Court Section J.

#### City Council District B



#### Jay Banks

Jay Banks is a candidate who is vying for the seat in District B left vacant by LaToya Cantrell. Banks currently serves as Director, of the Dryades YMCA School of Commerce and has held positions as the Chief of Staff for former City Council Presidents Jim Singleton and Dorothy Mae Taylor. In addition to holding posts in the 2nd Congressional District Democratic Executive Committee, Co-Chair LA Democratic State Central Committee and District 91 Rep. He states because of his work with the YMCA, he's witnessed first-hand that there are paths to success and alternatives that would keep young people out of the Criminal Justice System. Some of which he would work to implement if elected.

He says if elected he would devote resources to mentoring, education, job training and recreational sports. He also says he will work to help citizens obtain a quality standard of living so they will not have to turn to gangs or

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

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### **DATA NEWS WEEKLY**

P.O. Box 57347, New Orleans, LA 70157-7347 | Phone: (504) 821-7421 | Fax: (504) 821-7622

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Terry B. Jones	Contributors	Art Direction &
CEO/Publisher	Stacy M. Brown	Production
Edwin Buggage	Dwight Brown	MainorMedia.com
55 5	Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.	<b>Editorial Submissions</b>
Editor	Delaney George	datanewseditor@
Cheryl Mainor	Alma Gill	bellsouth.net
Managing Editor	Glenn Jones	Advertising Inquiries
Calla Victoria		datanewsad@
Executive Assistant	Terry B. Jones	bellsouth.net
	The City College	Distribution
June Hazeur	of New York	On The Run
Accounting	Oba Lorrius	Courier Services

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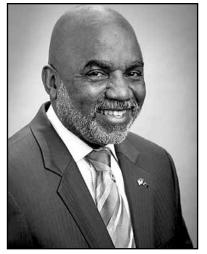
# **Cover Story**

#### Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

drugs. As part of his platform he also is advocating help for single mothers, safe child care, equal pay for women and more effective handling of domestic violence. On the economic front his top agenda item includes a review of the tax system with his priority being current homeowners being able to own homes and supporting moderate income residents in transitioning from renters to homeowners. He is also focusing his campaign on public safety and the recruitment of more officers, and is an advocate of diversion programs that would help reduce the prison population and give people who have committed small offenses a chance to turn their lives around.

as citizens this is the problem of all citizens. And says we must all take up the collective challenge to find solutions. His platform includes dealing with issues around drug addiction and the opioid epidemic. He also feels those who have mental health challenges should be treated as patients and not criminals. Also, he says that his years on the OPSB have taught him that quality education is an important deterrent to crime. Bloom also believes that tax money should be in investing in improving infrastructure in the city including roads and floodwater

# management. City Council District E



### Seth Bloom

Seth Bloom is a local attorney, who has previously served on the Orleans Parish School Board for two terms: 2008-2012 and 2012-2016; serving as its President in his second-term. He's also held a post on Gov. John Bel Edwards' K-12 Education Transition Committee, providing the governor's office with vital information and proposals for continued growth and success in the state's education system.

He says that fighting crime is the highest priority facing the City. Stating that the issue of public safety is not one for only the Council, or the Mayor, or the Police, the courts, or the District Attorney; saying that

### James Gray

Incumbent James Gray is running to retain his seat where he is running on his record of working on increasing economic development, blight reduction and youth recreation in his district. He says, his work as both a private citizen and elected official shows he has dedicated his life to serving his community. Where in addition to being a public elected official and prominent attorney; he's served on many civic boards including the Boys and Girls Club, the local branch of the Urban League as Board Chairman and many others.

He says one can see signs of economic progress and business that

have come to his district including Wal-Mart, a strip mall that includes Planet Fitness, Pizza Hut and other retail outlets. He touts as one of his other accomplishments as working to empowering minorities and African-Americans and minority businesses with his passing of stronger DBE compliance and ban the box for convicted felons and fighting for raising the minimum wage. He also speaks of his work with increasing funding for rebuilding NORDC parks and programs aimed at the youth of New Orleans as to reasons why the people of District E should re-elect him.



### Cyndi Nguyen

Cyndi Nguyen runs a non-profit and is a board member of several organizations including the New Orleans Multicultural Tourism Network, New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, East New Orleans Business Development District, Girls Scout of Southeast Louisiana. She is the co-host of the Good Life with Gumbo Talk on WBOK 1230AM and works with the Louisiana Civil Rights Division as its commissioner.

Her platform includes diversifying and growing the economy in addition to focusing on repairing families and communities. This holistic approach is something she feels will create jobs and curb crimes and rebuild communities. She also believes that the City Government needs to run more efficiently where it serves the needs of the people of her district that she feels has been neglected post-Katrina. Her platform also includes a focus on training and incubators for small businesses.

## Judge Civil District Court Division J



#### **Omar Mason**

He's practiced law for 18 years in the area of civil litigation (representing both plaintiffs and defendants). In addition, Mason has volunteered and taught development of trial skills to law students at Tulane University School of Law since 2004 and at the LSU Law Center since 2013.

Mason says he's handled a wide range of legal matters from personal injury to race discrimination. In addition to representing businesses small and large in litigation involving retailer protests, trade practices and toxic torts. He also volunteers his time to several organizations including the PTO Montessori Representative on the Audubon Charter School Board of Directors. He also serves as Director on the Board of Directors of the New Orleans Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and is the Chief Legal Advisor of the Knights of Peter Claver, Inc. He believes this combination of professional and life experiences has

helped him develop the temperament and balance necessary to be a fair and more than competent jurist.

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#### **Nicole Sheppard**

Nicole Sheppard is an attorney in private practice. Her practice includes estate planning, real estate transactions, corporate litigation, family and domestic matters, families in need of services, children in need of care, contract law, contractor fraud cases, personal injury, medical malpractice, criminal and traffic litigation. She says she has trial experience however, her practice has been settlement driven being able to settle disputes saving her clients cost and time.

Sheppard says her experience and service are extensive and prepares her well to serve as Civil District Court Judge, Division J. She says she is an excellent researcher and have represented clients in federal and state court. Throughout her career she says she's educated aspiring legal professionals and the general public on legal matters. She believes that her work in legal matters and in addition to serving the needs of the community makes her the most qualified candidate in the race.

Early voting is Nov. 3rd -11th (except Sunday, Nov. 5th and Veterans Day holiday, Friday, Nov. 10th) from 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

# Early Voting Sites

City Hall 1300 Perdido Street Room 1W24 New Orleans, LA 70112 Algiers
Courthouse
225 Morgan Street
Room 105
New Orleans, LA 70114

Chef Menteur Voting Machine Warehouse Site 8870 Chef Menteur Hwy New Orleans, LA 70126 Lake Vista
Community
Center
6500 Spanish Fort Blvd.

New Orleans, LA 70124

## Newsmaker

# Bayou Classic Creates Technology Competition to Engage HBCU STEM Students

#### **Data News Staff Report**

Bayou Classic, the annual college football matchup between Grambling State University and Southern University, has engaged talented students from 8 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) from across the southern United States through a business and technology competition created in partnership with NexusLa.

The BizTech Challenge gives students in both STEM and business-related studies the opportunity to partner together and create compelling business ideas that will help benefit their communities. In its first year, the BizTech Challenge was focused on economic recovery, but this year there are 3 specialty categories and one general entrepreneurial category for students to choose from when formulating their teams. The 3 specialty categories



The BizTech Challenge is the perfect opportunity for HBCU students to showcase their talent and capacity for innovation. The winning team will be presented with a cash prize of \$10,000 before the Bayou Classic game.

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ries are Advanced Manufacturing, Clean Energy, and Digital Technologies.

"Society has rallied around stem programming and we deem it important to foster the growth and development of HBCU students that have an interest in the field of technology," said Dottie Belletto, President and CEO of NOCCI, the company that manages Bayou Classic. "Tech experience is a qualification that can open the door to great career opportunities. We are extremely proud of the growth of this program."

Twenty-four teams with a total of 98 students and their faculty advisors have registered to participate in the challenge. The student teams receive entrepreneurial education throughout the program, and are

matched with industry professionals who provide the teams with mentorship, experience-related feedback, and resource connections in their field of study. Five teams will be selected as finalists, which will all present their comprehensive business plans to the public Friday, November 24th at 2 p.m. in the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Bayou Classic BIZTECH Challenge

The winning team will be selected by a panel of expert judges and will be presented with a cash prize of \$10,000 before the Bayou Classic on the field of the Mercedes-Benz Superdome.

"The BizTech Challenge is the perfect opportunity for HBCU students to showcase their talent and capacity for innovation," said Genevieve Silverman, Executive Director of NexusLA. "It provides them with an avenue to success in a field in which they have been historically underrepresented, and that is, at its core, what the BizTech Challenge is all about.

The event has two Gold-Level sponsors, AT&T and Cargill, and five Bronze-Level sponsors, Sparkhound, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana, Business First Bank, Stone Pigman, and The Knobloch, Poche, Burns Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors. It is also presented in partnership with America Makes, HBCU CDAC, and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund. All of the BizTech Challenge's sponsors and partners have a vested interest in growing HBCU talent, and will be an excellent resource for students to find mentors, educational resources, and potentially even future employment.



## **42 Tribes**

WEEK 7

# Big Chief Kevin Goodman Flaming Arrows

By: Glenn Jones Data News Weekly Columnist

TRIBAL TIMELINE: 1959 – 1971 Theodore "Merk" Goodman 1972 – 1977 Nolan Peters 1978 – present Kevin Goodman

#### 7th Ward Culture Bearers

In 1960 Big Chief masked in a stroller as Lil' Chief Flaming Arrows. Staples in his household growing up were Hall of Fame names (so to speak) such as Harold Featherson, Thomas Sparks and Big Chief Clarence "Ba Boy" Gaudete of the Cherokee Hunters. Later being one of the four Lil' Chiefs that would-be cornerstones in preserving the culture of the present day Black Masking Culture. The four Lil' Chiefs Were Clarence Gaudete Jr. of Cherokee Hunters, Lil' Walter Cook of Creole Wild West (week 17) and the late Jerome Smith Jr. of the Yellow Pocahontas tribe. These young chiefs were immersed in the culture and its hierarchy from birth, and their tutelage were sacred stories of the origin of this culture and the people.

Big Chief is in the process of bringing out the 5th Generation of the Flaming Arrows. The Goodman Family has been instrumental in preserving this culture in diverse and much deeper ways. Big Chief's two older brothers didn't mask but were coordinators and designers on many suits. His older brother Theodore "Goody" Goodman started the first children's tribe that many present-day Chiefs and tribes have come out of "The Young Flaming Arrows". To be a part of the Young Flaming Arrows children had to have good grades and conduct to earn the right to mask. The children were the culmination of community pride and education without government grants or assistance from any principalities. This family tribe was in two wards at one time. Big Chief Merk's uncle was Emile



Big Chief Kevin Goodman Flaming Arrows

"Milly" Mercadel who brought a 9th Ward Flaming Arrows, (now known as Black Foot Hunters) out to the streets. As Chief says, "off our family tree we probably turned 5 or 6 Chiefs." Many know of the uptown Indian sound from Bo Dollis Sr. and now Bo Dollis Jr. as well as the Neville Family, but for downtown Indians, Big Chief Kevin Goodman was the first recording artist in 1992. "Here come the Indians now" and latest CD is "live at the Jazzfest 2016".

- Q) What is the biggest difference between the pre-90's and now?
- A) In the 60's their heart was more into it, than what it is now. We had more teachers. Everybody now are growing up and seeing the respect the Big Chief had. Everybody wanted to be Big

Chief, it (the culture) got away from its origin. Spy Boy, didn't want to run Spy Boy, Flag don't want to run Flag Boy no more. It's all in respecting your chief. It's all in respecting the ones that were here before you. That's with everything. We were taught that, in just growing up in life, period without the Indian suit. Because you are a man first. You are a man without the Indian suit and you are a man when you put the suit on, all though when you put them feathers on it's a little different. You've got to have a little more heart.

- Q) What would you say is missing from the culture now?
- A) The borrowing (beads, feathers, etc..) was out of the love of the culture to see another

Indian mask. So, you had more Wild Men, Spy Boys and Flag Boys because they would accept whatever you gave them to make their suit. Now they are putting on too much. You've got Spy Boys dressing like Big Chief and they can't run, so they're getting away from their position, they don't even know their position. They don't know "the confrontation" with another Indian. They don't know when you meet (example), Ba Boy and Merk might have been friends 364 days but when they put them suits on Mardi Gras Day they are going at it, like the Saints and the Dallas Cowboys.

- Q) Why do you Black Mask?
- A) This was something I inherited from my father. That was his dream and his legacy. Growing up being a part of it, it grew on me and it became a part of me. I understood the reason why I was putting on that suit and the regalia. Why I masked for Mardi Gras is because I wanted to represent that Indian that helped my ancestors when they got free. St. Joseph's Night is real spiritual. Tootle died trying to get his point across about what St. Joseph's Night meant. How it was, when he masked in the 40's and 50's and how it was in the 90's when the police tried to run the Indians off the street. St. Joseph's Night is just as big as Mardi Gras when we mask.
- Q) In the next three hundred years what do you want said about Big Chief Kevin Goodman of the Flaming Arrows.
- A) Big Chief Merk started a tribe with his family and it was passed down from generation to generation and the Flaming Arrow name never got cut off. That is the one thing I wanted to do all through my life was keep the name going.

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## **Data Zone**

# Don't Miss This Movie Marshall

#### By Dwight Brown Film Critic

Considering all of his major accomplishments, why hasn't someone made a film about Thurgood Marshall's life that was comprehensive? He was the lawyer who won the Brown v. Board of Education United States Supreme Court case, the founder of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, a United States Solicitor General and the first African American Supreme Court associate justice. But that's not what the father/son writing team of Connecticut lawyers Michael Koskoff and Jacob Koskoff had in mind when they wrote this slice of life script. It's a tactic that worked for the movie "Selma," which only focused on one facet of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life.

In 1940, 32-year-old Thurgood Marshall (Chadwick Boseman) heads to tony Greenwich, Conn., to defend Joseph Spell (Sterling K. Brown, NBC's "This Is Us") a Black chauffeur who has been accused of raping and trying to murder his rich, White socialite employer (Kate Hudson). The case is dubbed "The State of Connecticut v. Joseph Spell," and the presiding Judge Foster (James Cromwell) refuses to let an out-of-state lawyer defend Spell. His reluctance is more out of hostility towards the upstart Black lawyer than for procedure's sake. Marshall is forced to partner with a young Jewish insurance lawyer, Samuel Friedman (Josh Gad), who has no experience in criminal law. The judge won't let Marshall speak in court. Friedman is his mouthpiece. The cards are stacked against them.

The good points: Though this is not the bio-film Marshall deserves, this glimpse does offer a view of the inge-



nuity, perseverance and courage that propelled the Howard University law student into becoming a crusading attorney, who was an integral part of the Civil Rights Movement. This case is just one of many that he championed and it serves well as a barometer of the times in regard to how African Americans had to deal with blatant discrimination, racism and segregation.

Boseman is making a career out of bio-films ("Get on Up" and "42"). His interpretation of the civil rights advocate is shrewd and strong. Gad maintains an innocence and naiveté around his character that gives him room to grow. The biggest surprise is Kate Hudson as the duplicitous socialite, whose understated performance may be one of the best of her career. Andra Day plays a chanteuse

and the audience gets to hear her Grammy-nominated voice.

The weak points: Every single interior looks like it was shot on a back lot. None of it looks real. The costumes (Ruth E. Carter) represent the times well, but look far too new and not lived in. The direction (Reginald Hudlin, "House Party") doesn't take the story to a higher level. Every plot twist comes at the right time, but lacks the embellishments that take good courtroom dramas to another stratosphere. Director Robert Mulligan found that extra gear with "To Kill a Mockingbird"; Rob Reiner did with "A Few Good Men"; Sidney Lumet accomplished that with both "12 Angry Men" and "The Verdict"; and Jonathan Kaplan succeeded with "The Accused."

What's on view looks and feels like

a made-for-TV movie. That would be a compliment for original programming designed for the smaller screen. Not so much for a theatrically released film that needs a touch more drama, tension and suspense, a higher level of direction and stronger technical elements.

There's a line in the film that says, "If you want your freedom you're going to have to fight for it." Wish someone had fought long and hard to give one of America's most historic lawyers, courageous civil rights pioneers and respected Supreme Court justices his due.

Regardless of the trappings, Thurgood Marshall's spirit prevails and his legacy is being passed on. That makes this film a must-see, even if it doesn't have the epic grandeur and significance of "Selma."



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# St. Stephen Catholic School Annual Harvest Festival

#### Photos by Terry B. Jones Data News Weekly Contributor

On Tuesday, Halloween Day, St. Stephen Catholic School held it's Annual Harvest Festival. The children had the opportunity to trick or treat, wear their costumes, play games and win prizes. What a great way to celebrate the Fall season. And of course, where there is family fun, Data is always there!

















# **Commentary**

# Ford Empowers HBCU Students to Pursue STEAM Careers



Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. President and CEO, NNPA

There is no debate about the continuing historic importance and strategic mission and purpose of the nation's 120-plus Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). During the 2017 homecoming festivities, that are now occurring on HBCU campuses across the nation, I believe it is also important to salute and recognize the companies that financially contribute to the success of HBCUs.

The Ford Motor Company has

had a long track record of contributing to HBCUs that spans more than 30 years. Thus, it was noteworthy when Ford recently launched its "Drive2Greatness" program to support science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM) initiatives at HBCUs.

We concur, that STEAM careers are vital and in high demand in to-day's global economy. The clear majority of African American college students, who complete their course of studies in STEAM fields graduate from HBCUs. Thanks to the Ford Motor Company and the Tom Joyner Morning Show, the "Drive2Greatness" initiative is off to a great start.

According to "Raj" Register at Ford multicultural communications, "For more than three decades, Ford has been committed to implementing and supporting initiatives that encourage and inspire young people to pursue and succeed in STEAM careers...with the launch of our inaugural 'Drive2G-reatness' program, we're excited to extend that commitment to support Historically Black Colleges and Universities and their STEAM programs."

The competition among HBCUs to win prizes in the Drive2Greatness program involves earning points through online voting at the Facebook page of the Tom Joyner Morning Show that includes using a Ford-dedicated hashtag via social media platforms. I just voted for my HBCU, Howard University, using the hashtag #FordHowardU. Howard University has a diverse array of many key STEAM academic disciplines. Make sure that you vote for your HBCU today.

Last year, the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) awarded Tom Joyner our 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding national broadcast leadership and his dedication to our nation's HBCUs. Ford selected the right national radio partner and outstanding leader in Tom Joyner. Our African American college students do need more support, encouragement and engagement, particularly with respect to STEAM careers.

The Ford Motor Company and the Tom Joyner Morning Show deserve our salute and tribute, because, together they are helping to make a positive difference in our communities and with our HBCUs. Driving toward greatness necessitates adequate preparation and attaining a quality education. Drive2Greatness is timely given the increasing demand for STEAM college graduates in the current expanding economy.

Dr. Lezli Baskerville is the President and CEO of the National As-

sociation for Equality Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), the umbrella organization of all of the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Predominantly Black Institutions. Dr. Baskerville stated, "The Drive2Greatness program by the Ford Motor Company and the Tom Joyner Morning Show is an effective model on how to encourage STEAM careers. NAFEO is proud of what our HBCUs are accomplishing in these transformative fields of study."

Our most precious resource in our communities is our youth, who are gifted and talented and also need more opportunities like the Ford Motor Company's initiative on STEAM.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. is President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) based in Washington, D.C. and be contacted at dr.bchavis@nnpa.org.

### **Ask Alma**

# Dealing with an Ungrateful Facebook Friend in Real Life



Alma Gill NNPA Newswire Columnist

Dear Alma:

I have a friend that shares everything in their life on Facebook. This friend's car has broken down on several occasions, with the latest repair costing \$2,700; this friend also seems to have many issues with landlords and significant others. Despite my friend's personal trials, they have risen to become an expert in their field.

Recently, I had the chance to recommend this friend for a freelance assignment, that perfectly fit their expertise. The friend did not thank me directly, but I saw a Facebook post about the job, so I assumed the friend was happy to get it. A week or so later, I saw two more posts about the job; one post said that the job was "difficult," and another that described the job as "boring."

I was a little offended. I wouldn't have cared if this "friend" complained privately about the assignment; journalists complain all the time about a range of things and for different reasons. But putting it out on Facebook seemed a little ungrateful. What should I say to them?

Signed, Just Trying to Help

Dear Trying to Help,

What should you say to your friend? Nothing, nada, zilch. Don't be offended. Honey chil', you can lead a horse to water, but it ain't your place to tell it how to drink. I know. You had good intentions and you also hold this friend in high regard, but, be that as it may,

your friend still lacks basic courtesy and common correctness. You should have received at the very least a "thank you" text. I'm not surprised, though; God doesn't give us everything. I have found that many people, who swim in a well of book knowledge, lack the fundamental nitty-gritties of niceties. Some people feel the need to share everything on social media. What is that about? I think that people who feel compelled to share every "mood cough" and "mind hiccup" on Facebook, are surely exhibiting some sign of mental deficiency. The "cuckoo for cocoa puffs" constant displays of desperation can be mindboggling.

If you don't mind me saying, I think you're a bit disappointed. This friend, as you say "repeatedly runs into personal difficulties." Um, back in the day, we'd call someone like that a leech. Today, you get to view their shenanigans

online, up close and personal. You've placed this person higher on your "ladder of success" than they should have been. Don't fret.

I say, scratch 'em off your Christmas list and keep it moving. You did a nice thing and Ms. Karma will make sure you're blessed for it. Continue to follow your friend on Facebook, but keep your comments and suggestions to a minimum. Here's the bottom line: that nickel had poor home training, which, unfortunately, lasts much longer than any lessons learned in a classroom. Like my mama used to say, "if good manners and common sense were free, some folks still couldn't afford to buy them." LOL.

Alma Gill's newsroom experience spans more than 25 years, including various roles at USA Today, Newsday and The Washington Post. Email questions to: alwaysaskalma@gmail.com. Follow her on Facebook at "Ask Alma" and Twitter @almaaskalma.



# City Launches Season 16 of Midnight Basketball

City Continues Partnership with National Basketball Players Association Foundation to offer Scholarships to Participants

#### **Data News Staff Report**

On Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017, Mayor Mitch Landrieu launched Season 16 of NOLA FOR LIFE Midnight Basketball. Additionally, in partnership with the National Basketball Players Association Foundation (NBPAF), Midnight Basketball will offer scholarship opportunities for Season 16 participants.

"Since 2012, NOLA FOR LIFE Midnight Basketball has impacted the lives of over 13,000 young people across New Orleans providing access to real opportunities," said Mayor Mitch Landrieu. "I am thankful for our strong partners who continue to support the mission of connecting our young men to positive role models, community resources, jobs and educational opportunities. Together, we are helping to change the culture of violence in our city."

The event included remarks from CeaseFire New Orleans participant Tevin Butler. CeaseFire New Orleans is a NOLA FOR LIFE initiative that focuses on changing community norms about violence by mobilizing support services and the larger community to demand a change in behaviors that lead to shootings and killings.

Additionally, Midnight Basketball, in partnership with the NB-PAF, will provide the second round



Since 2012, NOLA FOR LIFE Midnight Basketball has impacted the lives of over 13,000 young people across New Orleans providing access to real opportunities.

of scholarships at the close of Sea-

During the 2017 NBA All-Star Weekend, the NBPA Foundation made a scholarship commitment to Midnight Basketball of \$50,000 per year for the next three years. The NBPA Foundation's commitment will provide select Midnight Basketball participants the opportunity to attend industry-certified job training programs in New Orleans.

The first round of scholarships were awarded at the close of Season 15 to three participants: Cornell Parquet, Narvin Reed and Trenton Anderson. Parquet is using the scholarship funds to help pay for his tuition at Southern University of New Orleans. Reed is applying his scholarship toward acquiring his Information Technology credentials. Lastly, Anderson is using his scholarship toward his tuition at the University of New Orleans.

Executive Director of the NBPA Foundation Sherrie Deans said, "The three scholarship recipients from last season are such inspiring examples of how young men can

benefit from Midnight Basketball and other NOLA FOR LIFE pro-

grams. We are so proud to continue our support of these programs, and we look forward to being part of the new season."

Deputy Mayor Judy Reese Morse said, "We are grateful for the support of our Midnight Basketball partners. The program's continued success would not be possible without their commitment to creating access to opportunities for our young people."

The winning team will earn Domino's Pizza gift cards and tickets to an upcoming New Orleans Pelicans game.

Again this year, Midnight Basketball is partnering with New Orleans' radio personality DJ Wild Wayne and PlayNOLA. The free seven-week season will continue Saturday nights, from Oct. 28 -Dec. 16, excluding Nov. 25, from 8 p.m. to midnight.

## Walmart and Sam's Club Extend Annual Giving Campaign for Children's Hospital – New Orleans through Friday, Nov. 3rd.

Donations fund life-saving equipment, research, charitable care and other pediatric patient needs

Walmart and Sam's Club today announced fundraising for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, including Children's Hospital -New Orleans will continue through Friday, Nov. 3.

Over the last 30 years, Walmart and Sam's Club associates, cus-forts to help kids live better." tomers and members have helped raise nearly \$1 billion for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals in the U.S. and Canada. Money is raised primarily through a register campaign where customers and members donate \$1 or more when they checkout. Associates also fundraise in other creative ways including bake sales, contests and events.

"We love Walmart and Sam's

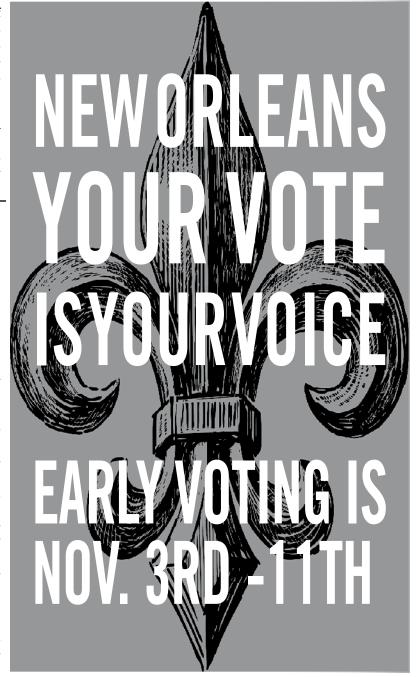
Club associates," said John Lauck, president and CEO, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. "Their passion for their local CMN Hospital and asking customers and members to donate has made all the difference in our ef-

The nearly \$1 billion raised by Walmart and Sam's Club marks the biggest amount ever raised by a company for Children's Miracle Network hospitals. The money raised at local stores is directed to a local CMN Hospital to help sick and injured kids get the care they need. Funds are used to pay for equipment, research, charitable care and a variety of other needs children's hospitals have.

Walmart and Sam's Club joined the CMN Hospitals fundraising family in 1987 with Sam Walton himself being personally involved in the beginning of the relationship between the organizations.

A new addition to the 2017 camaign is the ability of customers and members to donate directly from the screens at self-checkout kiosks. Once they have completed scanning their items customers simply tap "Finish and Pay" and are then prompted on-screen with a donation request.

Customers and members are encouraged to spread the word about the campaign on social media using the hashtag #Help-KidsLiveBetter.



## **National News**

# **Educating Black Students in the New Jim Crow Era**

Policy Experts Discuss Educating Black Students in the New Jim Crow Era

#### By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Contributor

After decades of desegregation efforts, federal civil rights laws, and other attempts to close the achievement gap, a high quality education remains an elusive goal for most Black children.

In an effort to engage Black parents around reaching that elusive goal, educators and community stakeholders tackled leadership, educational equity and policy in urban schools, during a recent panel discussion.

Led by moderator Linda Tillman, professor emeritus of education leadership at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the panel discussed the challenges faced by African American teachers and leaders, as they work to educate Black children and young adults in urban communities.

"We are here to revisit old discussions and bring fresh ideas," Tillman said. "Jim Crow has affect-



Panelist Terri Watson, an educator at CCNY, said that there's a need for safer communities for Black students. (The City College of New York)

ed Blacks in so many ways. Black education is a right [that's] not solely based on White norms."

Panelist Terri Watson, a City College of New York (CCNY) educator and co-creator of the CCNY-based "Growing Our Own Doctor's Proj-

ect," said that there's not only a need for better education, but that there's also a need for safer communities for Black students.

"We have to focus on creating space where kids are informed and active, that's important," Watson said. "We have to let the kids know that the world is waiting for them, they're up next and we have to change their mindset that the world views them as disposable."

Rodney Hopson, a professor and associate dean of education psychology at George Mason University, Sonya Douglass Horsford, an associate professor of education leadership at the Teachers College at Columbia University, and M. Christopher Brown II, the president of Kentucky State University also participated in the panel that took place during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's annual legislative conference.

Both Brown and Horsford, longtime friends, said the majority of public schools are now non-White. The proliferation of charter and alternative schools has also chipped away at the effectiveness of public schools.

The federal government has played such a major role in shaping education policy and schools now mostly prepare African Americans for prison, not college, Brown said.

"The school's structure that's used is that they teach our kids how to stand in a straight line, to raise

their hands when they have to go to the bathroom...you do that in prison, so that's the training they're getting," Brown said.

He then quoted what he said was a prophetic statement made by W.E.B. Du Bois 57 years ago.

"[African American] teachers will become rarer and in many cases will disappear," Brown said quoting Du Bois, noting that the prediction has come to pass.

Brown continued, quoting Du Bois: "[African American] children will be instructed in public schools and taught under unpleasant if not discouraging circumstances. Even more largely than today, they will fall out of school, cease to enter high school, and fewer and fewer will go to college."

Horsford, like the other panelists, said no one should be surprised, because, after all, resegregation has occurred and education is the "new civil rights in the new Iim Crow."

"We shouldn't operate from the assumption that our schools are broken," she said. "They are doing exactly what they were designed to do, which is to sift and sort children into different categories for economic reasons."

Horsford added that African Americans must tap the potential, possibilities and gifts of the young people who truly hold the answers to society's pressing problems.

Even educators have suffered and are poorly valued in a system guided by high-stakes testing and performance-based accountability, Horsford said.

"We have to engage in parallel efforts...we need to reimagine schools and school systems that support everyone," said Horsford. "We also have to make sure that, in the meantime, we are preparing students to not only survive, but also thrive in an era of extreme inequality."



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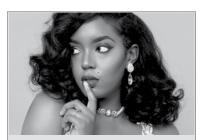
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**Fashion** 

# JWS Couture Launch



**Delaney George** Data Fashion & Style Columnist

This past Sunday, local Designer and Visionary Justice Williams launched her debut collection of couture designs to the public. Guests were greeted with wine, champagne and delightful hors d'oeuvres upon arrival. Vendors such as Bold Holds, Goddess Elusions, and Shop with Pink were all in attendance for the fashion filled premiere. Everyone indulged in merriment and fashion but more importantly saw what the millennial fashionista had up her sleeve for her very first line.

Since age nine, Williams has had an eye for fashion and style. Some of her inspirations such as Chanel and Gucci played a big role not only in her life, but in her own designs as well. Williams' Couture is nothing short of high fashion and elegance. Her brand gives off a clean-cut chic style with a hint of 90's nostalgia.

"I want people to experience a



Designer Justice Williams holds 2 of her favorite pieces from her line, including the orange pants she is wearing.



The Designs of Justice Williams Couture displayed at the launch event.



Williams strikes a pose in items from her haute couture designs.

All photos by Delaney George

very sophisticated look from my designs, such as the 90's Channel looks" Williams said.

Williams had been working on her designs for some time before their release. She went on to say that between sketching, designing and bringing everything to life, the process was not an easy one, but it was worth it. Since the premiere of her designs, Williams is now accepting consultations and pre-orders for

the various ensembles shown at her event. For more information on the high-end couture, Williams and her future projects and designs visit www.jwscouture.com or her social media @Justicewms.

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