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# HBCU CONNECT

SUMMER 2010

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REAFFIRMING  
HBCUs?

WHO'S  
WHO?

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**EXCLUSIVE**  
INTERVIEW

REFLECTIONS  
ON THE BLACK  
**FAMILY**

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homecoming time





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Its time to book that flight, call your folks, and go home again!!

# It's homecoming time



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TARAJI P. HENSON

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# A Letter from the Publisher

As I think about all of the things that we all go through as HBCU graduates, I wanted to just share some of my personal thoughts in hopes that we all might be inspired to be great!

At HBCU Connect, we work with many organizations that come to us to offer employment opportunities to the thousands of HBCU alums that visit our website on a daily basis. Many of you already have decent jobs and are doing well for yourselves, which is great, but some of us are either unemployed or working jobs that we are not happy with. I just spoke with a friend of mine that was working a job where she felt she was doing excellent work, confirmed by her manager, yet she felt she was not valued and essentially unhappy with her job because of that. She asked for my advice. After thinking about it for a moment, I suggested she do two things. Get her resume together with all of the experience she had gained from her current employer and start looking at some new opportunities.

See, what we all need to understand and internalize is that, despite the constant news about a down economy, there are some excellent career opportunities out here! So start looking out for your own career and put yourself into the mix! One of the main things that HBCU Connect can do for the HBCU audience is help you connect with great opportunities. So the next time you see an advertisement for employment in our magazine, or on our website, take a closer look, send your resume, or reach out to us directly to get some help.

I'll leave you with two of my favorite quotes:

"Figure out what you want and act accordingly"

"You are the master of your own destiny"

Enjoy the rest of your summer and remember to reach out to us if we can help you with your career quest!

*Will Moss*  
Publisher



# It's homecoming time



Black College Homecomings offer the most exciting football games, school reunions and networking events for friends, family and many other college students who have previously attended historically black colleges and universities. Many of the events bring anywhere from 10,000 to 100,000 people to the large scale party weekends.

Its time to book that flight, call your folks, and go home again!! Please let us know of any date changes you are aware of!



## 2010-2011 HBCU homecoming dates

HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	DATE	TIME	PLACE
<b>Alabama A&amp;M University</b>	Grambling State University	<b>10/02/2010</b>	3:00 PM	Louis Crews Stadium (Huntsville, AL)
<b>Albany State University</b>	Miles College	<b>10/09/2010</b>	2:00 PM	(Albany, GA)
<b>Alcorn State University</b>	Texas Southern University	<b>10/09/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Jack Spinks Stadium (Alcorn State, MS)
<b>Benedict College</b>	Concordia College	<b>10/30/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Charlie Johnson Stadium (Columbia, SC)
<b>Bethune-Cookman University</b>	Delaware State University	<b>10/09/2010</b>	4:00 PM	(Daytona Beach, FL)
<b>Bowie State University</b>	Lincoln University – Pennsylvania	<b>10/16/2010</b>	1:00 PM	Bulldog Stadium (Bowie, MD)
<b>Central State University</b>	Kentucky State University	<b>10/09/2010</b>	1:30 PM	(Wilberforce, OH)
<b>Cheyney University</b>	Bloomsburg University	<b>10/09/2010</b>	1:00 PM	(Cheyney, PA)
<b>Clark Atlanta University</b>	Stillman College	<b>10/02/2010</b>	1:30 PM	Panther Stadium (Atlanta, GA)
<b>Delaware State University</b>	North Carolina A&T State University	<b>10/16/2010</b>	1:00 PM	(Dover, DE)
<b>Edward Waters College</b>	Weber International University	<b>10/16/2010</b>	3:00 PM	Earl Kitchings Stadium - Raines High School (Jacksonville, FL)
<b>Elizabeth City State University</b>	Chowan University	<b>10/30/2010</b>	1:30 PM	Roebuck Stadium (Elizabeth City, NC)
<b>Fayetteville State University</b>	Livingstone College	<b>10/23/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Nick Jeralds Stadium (Fayetteville, NC)
<b>Florida A&amp;M University</b>	Morgan State University	<b>10/30/2010</b>	3:00 PM	Bragg Stadium (Tallahassee, FL)
<b>Florida Memorial University</b>	Edward Waters College	<b>02/12/2010</b>	7:00 PM	A. Chester Robinson Athletic Center at Florida Memorial University (Miami, FL)
<b>Fort Valley State University</b>	Benedict College	<b>10/02/2010</b>	1:00 PM	Wildcat Stadium (Fort Valley, GA)
<b>Grambling State University</b>	Concordia College	<b>11/06/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Robinson Stadium (Grambling, LA)
<b>Hampton University</b>	Bethune-Cookman University	<b>11/06/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Armstrong Field (Hampton, VA)
<b>Howard University</b>	Norfolk State University	<b>10/30/2010</b>	1:00 PM	Greene Stadium (Washington, DC)
<b>Jackson State University</b>	Prairie View A&M University	<b>10/30/2010</b>	4:00 PM	Veterans Memorial Stadium (Jackson, MS)
<b>Johnson C. Smith University</b>	Saint Augustine's College	<b>10/23/2010</b>	1:00 PM	Belk Complex (Charlotte, NC)
<b>Kentucky State University</b>	Clark Atlanta University	<b>10/16/2010</b>	1:30 PM	Alumni Stadium (Frankfort, KY)
<b>Knoxville College</b>	TBA	<b>10/16/2010</b>	TBD	Knoxville College (Knoxville, TN)
<b>Lane College</b>	Miles College	<b>10/16/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Lane Field (Jackson, TN)

<b>Langston University</b>	SW Assemblies of God University	<b>10/16/2010</b>	2:00 PM	(Langston, OK)
<b>Lincoln University – Missouri</b>	Southwest Baptist University	<b>10/09/2010</b>	2:00 PM	(Jefferson City, MO)
<b>Lincoln University – Pennsylvania</b>	Saint Paul's College	<b>10/30/2010</b>	1:00 PM	Avon Grove High School (Avon Grove, PA)
<b>Livingstone College</b>	Shaw University	<b>10/02/2010</b>	1:30 PM	Memorial Stadium (Salisbury, NC)
<b>Miles College</b>	Benedict College	<b>10/23/2010</b>	1:00 PM	(Fairfield, AL)
<b>Mississippi Valley State University</b>	Prairie View A&M University	<b>10/02/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Charles R. Kerg Field (Greenville, MS)
<b>Morehouse College</b>	Albany State University	<b>10/23/2010</b>	2:00 PM	(Atlanta, GA)
<b>Morgan State University</b>	Delaware State University	<b>10/23/2010</b>	1:00 PM	Hughes Stadium (Baltimore, MD)
<b>Norfolk State University</b>	Florida A&M University	<b>10/23/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Dick Price Stadium (Norfolk, VA)
<b>North Carolina A&amp;T State University</b>	Morgan State University	<b>10/09/2010</b>	1:00 PM	Aggie Stadium (Greensboro, NC)
<b>North Carolina Central University</b>	Edward Waters College	<b>10/30/2010</b>	2:00 PM	O'Kelly-Riddick Stadium (Durham, NC)
<b>Prairie View A&amp;M University</b>	Lincoln University – Missouri	<b>10/16/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Blackshear Stadium (Prairie View, TX)
<b>Saint Augustine's College</b>	Fayetteville State University	<b>10/02/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Broughton High School Stadium (Raleigh, NC)
<b>Saint Paul's College</b>	Chowan University	<b>10/16/2010</b>	1:00 PM	Parkview High School (South Hill, VA)
<b>Savannah State University</b>	Norfolk State University	<b>11/20/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Theodore Wright Stadium (Savannah, GA)
<b>Shaw University</b>	Chowan University	<b>10/23/2010</b>	4:00 PM	Southeast Raleigh High School (Raleigh, NC)
<b>South Carolina State University</b>	Hampton University	<b>10/23/2010</b>	1:30 PM	Oliver C. Dawson Stadium (Orangeburg, SC)
<b>Southern University and A&amp;M College</b>	Mississippi Valley State University	<b>10/09/2010</b>	6:00 PM	A.W. Mumford Stadium (Baton Rouge, LA)
<b>Stillman College</b>	Central State University	<b>11/13/2010</b>	1:30 PM	(Tuscaloosa, AL)
<b>Tennessee State University</b>	Eastern Illinois University	<b>11/06/2010</b>	5:00 PM	LP Field (Nashville, TN)
<b>Texas College</b>	Southern Nazarene University	<b>10/23/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Rose Stadium (Tyler, TX)
<b>Texas Southern University</b>	Mississippi Valley State University	<b>10/30/2010</b>	2:00 PM	Delmar Stadium (Houston, TX)
<b>Tuskegee University</b>	Lane College	<b>11/06/2010</b>	1:00 PM	Abbott Stadium (Tuskegee, AL)
<b>University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff</b>	Mississippi Valley State University	<b>11/06/2010</b>	2:30 PM	Golden Lion Stadium (Pine Bluff, AR)
<b>Virginia State University</b>	Lincoln University – Pennsylvania	<b>10/23/2010</b>	1:30 PM	Rogers Stadium (Ettrick, VA)
<b>Virginia Union University</b>	Johnson C. Smith University	<b>10/16/2010</b>	1:00 PM	Hovey Field (Richmond, VA)
<b>West Virginia State University</b>	West Liberty University	<b>10/16/2010</b>	1:30 PM	(Institute, WV)
<b>Winston-Salem State University</b>	UNC-Pembroke	<b>10/23/2010</b>	1:30 PM	Bowman Gray Stadium (Winston-Salem, NC)





# WHO'S REAFFIRMING HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES?

## Black Community Takes Charge in Reaffirming Historically Black Colleges and Universities

By Joyce Brayboy

Historically Black Colleges, acclaimed for offering Black students an opportunity to develop during an era that afforded little educational options, are still sought out as the "villages" with which many students and their parents feel more comfortable in seeking quality education.

Black college recruits looking for the school that will provide the greatest chance of success often look to one of the 105 HBCUs. These colleges and universities were the ones established prior to 1964 as a way for Black people to get a formal education.

Students have a variety of formal education choices today, but HBCUs are still the place Black students often feel the greatest sense of community, push for students to succeed and see the greatest abundance of Black role models on campus.

In the 80's when Eunice Hill attended Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, AL., her opportunities were still limited. In the small, poor community in Letohatchee, where she grew up, segregation was a blatant reality.

"We didn't think of it as an HBCU back then. It was just where you went. At Stillman, you had to attend chapel. You had to make curfew. You had to learn about Black history. The opportunities were not many, but we learned to work hard with what we had," said Hill, now President/Principal of Hill Motor Company, Inc. in Enterprise, AL.

The state of HBCUs today is not bleak, but hopeful, according to William R. Moss III, President and CEO of HBCUConnect.

com, an online community that connects more than 1,500,000 HBCU students, alumni and friends.

Funding is down for many of these schools, and some are experiencing accreditation and reputation issues, but the reality is that the schools get grouped together. Others are providing an excellent education and leading the way, Moss said.

"Black Americans need to be self reliant in their expectations of the work in keeping HBCUs relevant. As we work to support our schools, help fix our schools and take responsibility for our

schools, then we place ourselves in the position to oversee our schools. We guide the direction of HBCUs and their impact on America," Moss, a Hampton University graduate, said.

Moss believes the education he received was excellent. It empowered him to thrive in corporate America and provided him with the confidence to leave the corporate arena for the work

with HBCUs that he has spent much of his adult life with. He made some lifelong friends that he may not have ever bonded with as closely at a mainstream school, he said.

Moss is not willing to pretend that an HBCU is right for every student. Different students have different needs. All the needs, along with some wants play a factor in educational preference. However, HBCUs are an important piece of America that should be kept available. Keeping these HBCUs relevant requires the work of Americans to preserve and maintain the ones remaining, Moss highlighted.

**...HBCUs are an important piece of America that should be kept available. Keeping these HBCUs relevant requires the work of Americans to preserve and maintain the ones remaining...**



Even today HBCUs enroll 14 percent of all Blacks in higher education although they constitute only three percent of America's 4,084 institutions of higher education.

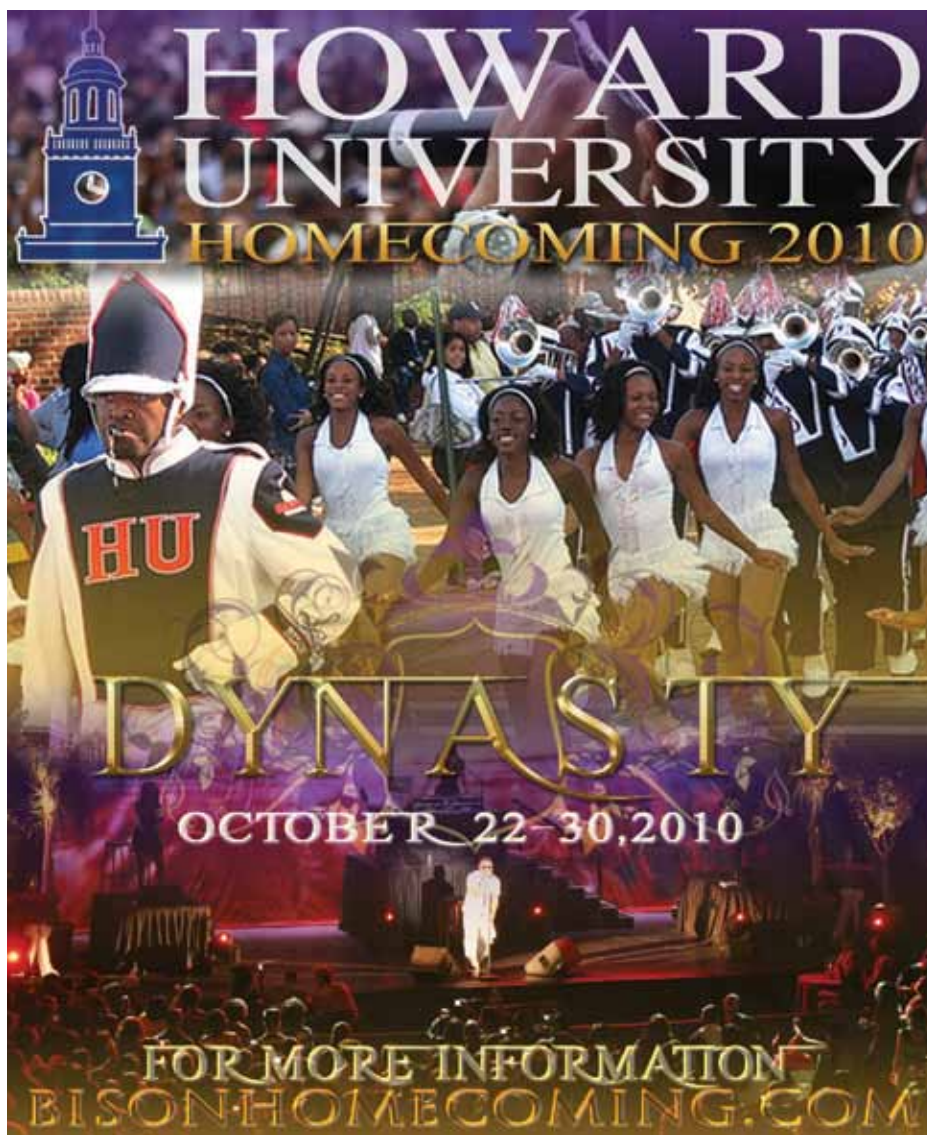
### According to the United Negro College Fund:

- Over half of all African American professionals are graduates of HBCUs.
- Nine of the top ten colleges that graduate the most African Americans who go on to earn Ph.D.s are HBCUs.
- More than 50% of the nation's African American public school teachers and 70% of African American dentists earned degrees at HBCUs.
- UNCF members Spelman College and Bennett College produce over half of the nation's African American female doctorates in all science fields.
- As ranked by Black Enterprise in 2003, seven of the top ten "Top Colleges and Universities for African Americans," including the top six, were HBCUs.
- HBCU Xavier University is #1 nationally in placing African-Americans into medical school.
- The first Time Magazine/Princeton Review "College of the Year", Florida A&M University, is an HBCU. It is the #1 producer of African Americans with baccalaureate degrees.
- Tuskegee University is the only college ever to be designated a national historic site by the U.S. Congress.

If you are interested in making a contribution in support of a specific historically black college or university, please find that school online, or visit [www.hbcuconnect.com](http://www.hbcuconnect.com) to find lists and profiles of all HBCUs. If you are interested in supporting the advancement of HBCUs and the continued effort to keep them a relevant part of the African American community, register as a member of HBCUConnect.com or contact William Moss at 877.864.4446 to coordinate efforts.

### About HBCU Connect:

HBCU Connect is an online based community formed in 1999 to link graduates and students of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The community now consists of HBCU students, alumni, family and friends.





# What's New at HBCUConnect.com

## HBCUConnect Scholarship



HBCUCONNECT.COM is proud to offer the 2010 HBCUCONNECT.COM Scholarship Program for HBCU students. The 2010 program makes available several \$1,000.00 scholarships for up to 4 minority applicants who attend or plan to attend an HBCU college or university. The scholarship can be applied to tuition or books during 2011.

HBCU CONNECT as an organization is the largest student and alumni organization of Historically Black College and University supporters in history. Founded in 1999, we have given away thousands in scholarship dollars to deserving college students. We are dedicated to keeping HBCU students and graduates connected with each other and with opportunities for advancement.

### Who's Eligible:

1. Students enrolled or planning to enroll into any HBCU during 2011.
2. All Graduating High School Seniors or Transfer students, and Current HBCU students must show proof of enrollment.
3. Minorities - African American, Hispanic, and Native American.

### Instructions:

- You, the applicant, are responsible for completing and submitting all information required.
- Submit a 350 word essay answering the following question:  
*Choose a historical figure in Black History and tell what impact that person might have made if they were living in today's society.*
- Carefully review your entire essay before submitting it.
- Notification throughout the application process will be by email.
- Students who fail to use a valid active email address or who fail to check the email account regularly may eliminate themselves from consideration.

**Current Deadline:** November 1st, 2010.



**Questions?  
Want to get started?**

**Visit: [hbcuconnect.com/scholarships](http://hbcuconnect.com/scholarships)**

## HBCU Radio Online



The concept of the radio first came about in 1879 however it was not really perfected until 1922 when the first radio broadcast occurred in 1922 in Pittsburgh. Radio was the first electronic medium of mass entertainment. Its relationship with its audience is based on an emotional and imaginative bond and has been a significant source for news and entertainment around the world. Today, you can find radio stations far and wide as you travel around the globe - from startup mom and pop AM stations to the more popular, conglomerate FM stations. Nowadays, with the rise and popularity of the internet, you can even access radio stations online. That is where we come in.

We would like to introduce you to our online radio talk show, HBCU Radio Online. Listen to our radio webcast as we talk about any and everything especially if it relates to Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The show is for alumni, current students, potential students, faculty, and professional career-minded individuals. Actually anyone can listen and anyone can call in and add to the conversation. For more information about our up-coming and archive shows, please visit [www.hbcuconnect.com/radio](http://www.hbcuconnect.com/radio).

**Some Past Topics:** The Importance of HBCUs, What Does "Acting White" mean?, Why It Is Important For You To Travel.



**Listen: [blogtalkradio.com/hbcuconnect](http://blogtalkradio.com/hbcuconnect)**

## HBCU Dating



HBCU Singles – Help Us Test Out HBCULove.com & Get Free Access! HBCUConnect.com just relaunched the very popular Free dating service HBCULove.com exclusively for the students and graduates of Historically Black Colleges & Universities.

As some of you may already know, the site used to be online from 2006 to 2008 and was wildly popular, because it was free for HBCUConnect.com members and also because most of the members on the dating site were students and graduates specifically from black colleges.

For those of you in our audience that are single and over 18 years of age, you can log-in to HBCULove.com and get a free account with access to browse and send messages to other single members. To gain free access to the newly launched dating site, you can log-in using your email and password from HBCUConnect.com and create your dating profile then start browsing singles right away!



**Find love: [www.HBCULove.com](http://www.HBCULove.com)**

**About HBCULove.com:** Find love and compatibility with HBCULove.com online dating personals. Meet quality highly compatible singles that attend or graduated from HBCUs who are typically high achieving, financially stable African American professionals! HBCULove.com is powered by ConnectPlatform.com.



# The Obamas, The Huxtables, & Us

## REFLECTIONS ON THE BLACK FAMILY

By Jonathan Carter

We are now in the captivated trance of "America's new Kennedys" — a First Family which seems to embody the American ideals we all strive for. What does this mean for Blacks in America?

Since Obama first took center stage in the political media frenzy, I've been waiting for the comparisons to come out between the Obamas' and the Huxtables', and now they're here. After years and years of Black families being stereotypical (read: dysfunctional) families or comic relief, we have a rare moment in the sun for a Black family gone right.

I grew up watching *The Cosby Show* with my own family, and my mother always seemed to have a certain reverence for this show that I didn't quite understand as a 10-year-old. I did, however, notice a lot of similarities between this family and ours. It wasn't until I grew older that I realized that the Huxtables' lifestyle was a much different experience than many of our real-life counterparts.

There are those who say that the *Cosby Show* was unrealistic, and that it was an insult to Blacks who struggle to keep their families intact. I disagree. I've known countless Black families with good manners, strong morals, hardworking parents, and a loving home; not all of them have a doctor's or lawyer's salary but the foundation is still the same. Unfortunately, there are no camera crews following to broadcast those achievements.

The buzz surrounding the Obamas' is that they are the new sign of the times... a successful Black

family to counteract some of the old stereotypes. I'm definitely glad to finally get some exposure for this rarely-seen side of our community, but I'm worried that the enthusiasm will distract us from the bigger lesson in this: taking action to ensure that more African American children can prosper in the way Barack Obama did.

Seeing a positive figure on TV is great... but seeing one next door is infinitely better. Getting Obama into office is a big step... but one step won't get us far in the long run; we've got to keep walking.

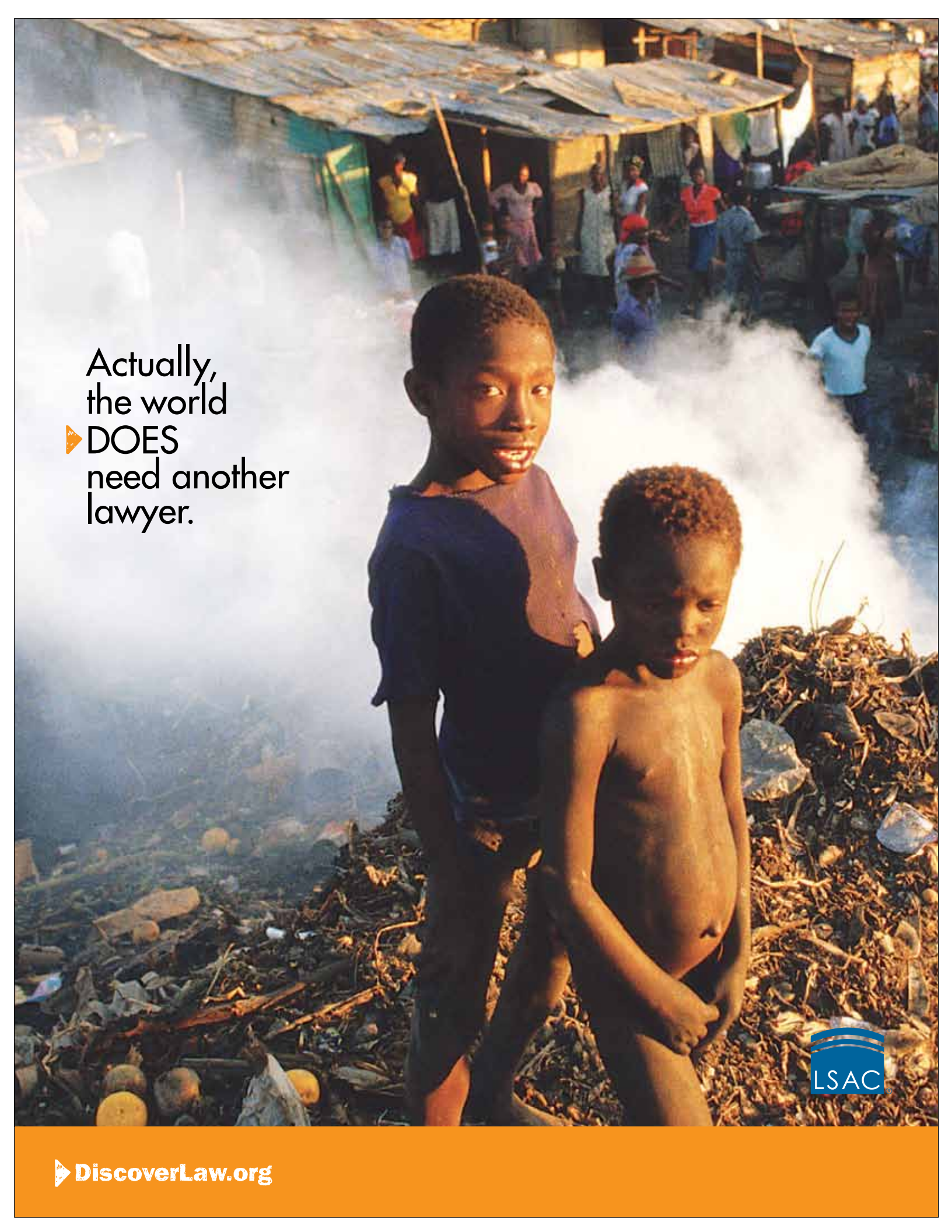
I have a great deal of respect for President Obama and his family. I hope that one day, people will be able to look at my family and see those same characteristics. This is the real change we need. Not just being inspired, but being inspired enough to hold ourselves to higher standards. We may not be able to control what happens outside of our homes, but inside our four walls, we hold the key.

Only time will tell whether African Americans will be participants or spectators in the progress of our people and our nation... whether we'll simply talk to our friends about how good it is to have a strong First Family, or whether we'll work and sacrifice every day to make sure their values are reflected in our own homes and communities.

It may be a long time before we have another "Cosby Show" to showcase what Black families are really about. Let's bring the message to America's doorsteps ourselves... in our schools, our neighborhoods, our churches, and our professions.

Remember... The revolution will not be televised!





Actually,  
the world  
▶ DOES  
need another  
lawyer.







*My role model is not just one particular person, but anyone and everyone who has made a way out of no way.*

**HBCUConnect.com would like to introduce to you Ms. I'na Saulsbery, an HBCU graduate who is the founder and owner of "The Starfire Group" based in Atlanta, Georgia!**

I'na can be found planning events for people you may have heard of like, Howard Alum, Sean "Diddy" Combs, or Monica!

**HC:** Hi I'na! Why did you choose to attend an HBCU?

**I'na:** Initially, I hadn't thought that much about it, but I went on a college tour with my church, Rhema Christian Center, when I was in the 11th grade and it was then that I was introduced to the HBCU experience. I knew at that moment that I had to pick one of these schools. But which one, was going to be tricky. (SMILES) I ended up selecting CAU, because that's where FREAK-NIK was (SIKE, I'M JUST KIDDING-LOL)! I selected CAU, because after visiting all of the other schools, it just seemed like I would be most comfortable there, not to mention it wasn't too far for my mom to drive down and visit with me and it didn't hurt that my father lived in Atlanta as well.

**HC:** What Historically Black College did you attend? And what was your major?

**I'na:** Clark Atlanta University, C-A-U! Political Science.

**HC:** Who was your favorite professor and why?

**I'na:** My favorite professor, I

would have to say was Carol Mitchell Leon, although she didn't know it. She was my acting teacher. I really enjoyed her class because it gave me a break from having to think about the seriousness of college and life. I could not wait to go to her class to see what we were going to do that

day. It was in her class and under her guidance that I really discovered that I liked to act.

**HC:** What is your current profession?

**I'na:** I am an entrepreneur. I own an event planning firm called The Starfire Group. [www.thestarfiregroup.us](http://www.thestarfiregroup.us) Follow us on Twitter @starfiregroup

**HC:** What is the most rewarding part of your career?

**I'na:** The most rewarding part of my career, is being able to make other people's dreams come true. From the initial meeting to seeing their vision come together at the end is EXPLOSIVE! I love to see people happy.

**HC:** What is your typical workday like?

**I'na:** Typically, I get up in the morning and check all of my emails, then spend some time returning emails and phone calls. Sometimes I am creating proposals or off to do site visits or meeting with a new client to discuss their upcoming event. Some days I can spend a lot of time in the car or in front of my computer, it all just depends what I currently have going on.

**HC:** Which super power would you like to have and why?

**I'na:** I would like to be able to see into the future, so all of my clients would have SUNNY days for outdoor events! (SMILES) I would LOVE to be able to give them that guarantee that it isn't going to rain and then say, "I PROMISE!" (SMILES)

**HC:** What is the key to your success?

**I'na:** I believe the key to my success, is knowing that I didn't do this all by myself. That this is what God has intended for me to do. I am just doing my best to keep up with all of the blessings he is providing me. (SMILES)



**HC:** Who is your role model(s)?

**I'na:** My role model is not just one particular person, but anyone and everyone who has made a way out of no way. The individual who did it, when they were told they couldn't. The individual that did everything they said they were going to do, the individual that is constantly reinventing themselves time after time and getting better and better. Those individuals are my role models.

**HC:** If you could tell students one reason why they should attend your alma mater what would you say?

**I'na:** I would tell them that Clark-Atlanta University offers you an experience like none-other. You will meet people from all over the world, literally. Atlanta, has grown and developed so much more since when I was in school, the possibilities and opportunities are endless. Just by attending CAU, so many doors will open for you as well as you will meet many exciting and self-motivated people, that you will know and love forever.

To reach I'na to plan your next event, or to network with her, visit [http://hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/show\\_member.cgi?registry\\_id=937934](http://hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/show_member.cgi?registry_id=937934) and [www.thestarfiregroup.us](http://www.thestarfiregroup.us).

Thank you I'na for sharing your HBCU and Entrepreneur experience with us.

Photo Credits: Danita Hawkins-Murphy Alana Irving Photography



## I HAD A FRIEND

who shall remain anonymous. Actually, this person was a very close friend, almost like family. He decided to enter into an alternative profession called "drug dealing." I didn't judge his decisions, but I had to keep away from him. As many of us know, the life and livelihood of a drug dealer are not meant to last long.

So, upon hearing the news of my friend's death (he was shot in the head in broad daylight), I was then asked to look into his financial situation. Like many other men across America, he'd lived long enough to have several kids, a few baby's mamas, a wife and a girlfriend. His "family" seemed to love him very much, given all the howling and screaming we heard at the funeral. You'd almost think that they were surprised that a notorious drug dealer was murdered,

All of the people who loved him in life were emotionally body slammed by the double-whammy of seeing their primary bread winner in a casket and also realizing that he'd done nothing to prepare for the day he died. I was incredibly disappointed; it's one thing for a man to engage in illegal activity, but another thing for a man to not think about his family. I was even more disappointed to see his family members scrambling to pay the costs for funeral expenses they couldn't afford.

The lesson we can all learn from my friend's untimely death is that we are all going to die (yes, I know most of us already know that, but some of us seem to forget). Death doesn't make an appointment, it doesn't care if your calendar is full, it doesn't care how many people depend on you to be alive. When it arrives, many of us have not done what we need to do to make sure that those we love are

attorneys don't eat through whatever assets you leave behind.

Third, it doesn't hurt to have some money saved up. Raising your children to be independent can be a very important part of helping them into adulthood. So, even if you can't save as much as you'd hoped, you're not leaving behind adults who've become heavily dependent upon you. In fact, raising independent children can be an important part of your retirement plan: My mother has three kids who will always be willing to help supplement her income in the event that she were to ever run into financial hardship. This is the return on her investment of love and instilling (well, beating) the value of education into her kids. I'm not an advocate of beating your kids, but I have to keep it real about my parents' old school child rearing tactics.

The bottom line is this: Loving your kids means preparing for

# HOW TO FINANCIALLY DESTROY YOUR CHILDREN RIGHT BEFORE YOU DIE

By Dr. Boyce Watkins

but isn't that part of the risk of the job? Don't get me wrong, for I, too, was saddened by his sudden death. But I certainly wasn't surprised when I received the phone call I'd been waiting for over the past 10 years. Really, I was only surprised that the call had not come sooner.

One would imagine that a man who went out of his way to have so many children, make so much money, engage in such a risky profession, and buy so many cars, jewels, clothes, etc. would plan for his seemingly inevitable death. Nope. There was nothing:

- No stash of money for the kids to get them through college.
- No life insurance to pay off his beneficiaries and the cost of his burial.
- No will to help his survivors determine how to distribute his assets.

provided for in the event that we are no longer here to provide for them.

First, everyone should have an insurance policy. If your children are adults, you only need a small one. If they are young, you need one that will cover them through college and also provide for your spouse as if you were here still bringing home the bacon. Another important role of the insurance policy is to pay for your burial expenses. Don't leave these on the backs of your relatives.

Second, you should have a last will and testament, or some kind of document which describes how you'd like your estate to be divided. This ensures that your loved ones don't stop speaking to each other because they are fighting over money. It also helps to make sure that Uncle Sam and a pack of

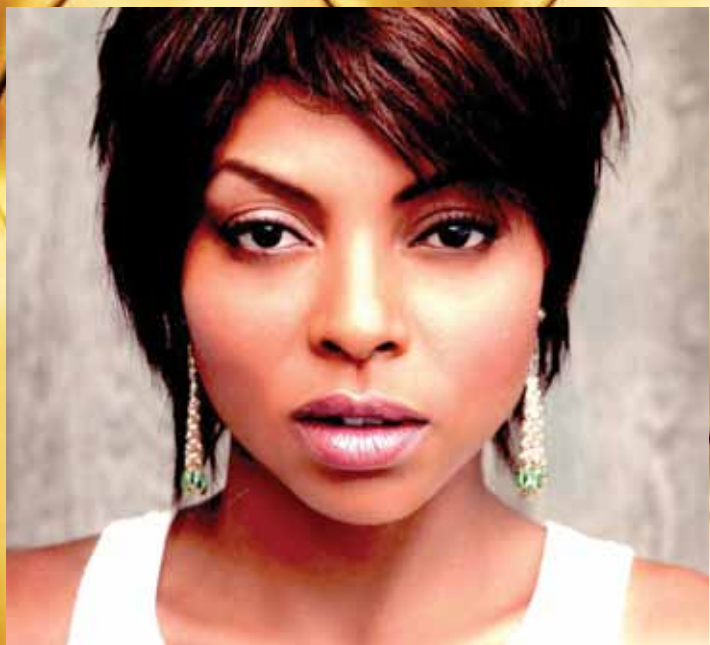
your death.

Many funerals are already dramatic enough without adding financial fuel to an already chaotic fire. There is certainly life after death, but that life is going to be lived by others and impacted by the consequences of the choices you make. In fact, our entire life is nothing more than a series of choices and consequences, so each decision we make must be carefully considered.

*Dr. Boyce Watkins is the founder of the Your Black World Coalition and a Scholarship in Action resident of the Institute for Black Public Policy. To have Dr. Boyce's commentary delivered to your e-mail, visit: [greatblackspeakers.wufoo.com/forms/dr-boyce-watkins-on-aol-black-voices/](http://greatblackspeakers.wufoo.com/forms/dr-boyce-watkins-on-aol-black-voices/)*



# Who's Who



## Taraji P. Henson

Academy Award-nominated Actress  
Howard University Alumni

She first attended NC A&T, where she started a major in Electrical Engineering. She later transferred to Howard University. She worked two jobs: in the morning as a secretary at the Pentagon and in the night as a singing and dancing waitress on a dinner cruise ship, The Spirit of Washington, to pay for Howard University. She won the Triple Threat Award and graduated with a degree in Theater Arts.

Taraji P. Henson was named as the 2009 Homecoming Ambassador and Grand Marshal. "Howard and the Theatre Department has played an integral role in my development as an actress and for that I am grateful," Henson said.

Taraji P. Henson achieved instant recognition from Hollywood with her portrayal of Brad Pitt's devoted adoptive mother in The Curious Case of Benjamin Button.

Henson (B.F.A. '95) continues to shine on the big screen including her current lead role in which she plays the mother of Jaden Smith's character in the new Karate Kid movie.

Henson has been cast to star in the upcoming Lifetime movie "Taken from Me: The Tiffany Rubin Story." The movie is based upon the true story of Tiffany Rubin who took her son back from her estranged husband half a world away. Stay connected to Taraji P. Henson by visiting: <http://twitter.com/therealtaraji>

Henson has said that her philosophy in life is: "Love as often as you can. Dance like nobody's watching. Travel. Eat. Try new foods because, like my character says, you never know what's coming for you and when it's time to let go, you got to let go."



## Omari J. Henderson, & Onaje M. Henderson

Partner and Managing Partner  
Premier Art, LLC  
Tuskegee University Alumni

Omari J. Henderson and Onaje M. Henderson grew up playing in their father's art studio, where they watched their father bring ideas to life on canvas. While most kids' wealth of knowledge consist of Tonka trucks and Nintendo games, Omari and Onaje learned about acrylic and oil paints, abstract and figurative compositions and the business of producing, selling and collecting art.

As the boys grew into men, they continued to take after their father. When it came time to go to college, the Henderson brothers chose their father's alma mater, Tuskegee University. Both Omari and Onaje graduated with engineering degrees – in chemical and mechanical engineering, respectively. In 2000, the Henderson brothers joined their father as partners in Premier Art, LLC, bringing a new generation of leadership and entrepreneurial skills to the business. In their first year, Omari and Onaje increased sales of their father's work by 50 percent. As they brainstormed about how to continue to grow the company, Omari and Onaje thought back to their childhood, remembering how they would ask their father about color-mixing techniques, his thinking behind selecting one paintbrush over another, and the creative process.

This insight led Omari and Onaje to redefine the relationship between artist and enthusiast by revolutionizing the experience of viewing fine art. Their breakthrough idea – Art Tastings™ by Premier Art – introduced an entirely new approach to learning about art and art collecting. As Art Tastings™ by Premier Art began attracting young professionals with limited budgets but strong future earning potential, the Henderson brothers' expanded Premier Art offerings to include payment plans.

Although among the youngest brokers in the art collecting industry the Henderson brothers are earning the respect and business from seasoned collectors throughout the visual arts community for their creativity, knowledge, and passion. To connect to Premier Art, LLC visit: [www.premierart.net](http://www.premierart.net)



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# Get Connected to HBCUConnect.com's Featured Employer



HBCUConnect.com would like to connect you with one of the best employers to work for—General Dynamics C4 Systems! General Dynamics C4 Systems has engaged HBCUConnect.com to recruit HBCU graduates and students since 2007 and ranks #5 on our Top 50 Employers of HBCU talent. Learn more about General Dynamics C4 Systems and opportunities available at the company by reading our interview below.

## GENERAL DYNAMICS C4 Systems

Scottsdale, Arizona

Bernadette Phillips-Garcia, manager of Diversity and Global Mobility for General Dynamics C4 Systems sat down with us to talk about the company.

### **Q) Who is General Dynamics C4 Systems and what type of products and services do you offer?**

**A)** Scottsdale, Arizona-based General Dynamics C4 Systems is a leading integrator of secure communication and information systems and technology. With approximately 11,000 employees worldwide, the company specializes in command and control, communications networking, computing and information assurance for defense, government and select commercial customers in the United States and abroad.

### **Q) Does General Dynamics C4 Systems have a commitment to diversity?**

**A)** The company has a strong commitment to diversity that is best described as 'diversity through inclusion.' Diversity of thought, experience and culture blend to produce a high level of creativity and innovation that delivers results to our customers and our business.

### **Q) General Dynamics C4 Systems is ranked 5th place on the HBCUConnect.com "Top 50 Employer of HBCU students and alumni" list. How does that impact your companies ability to recruit new employees and retain existing employees?**

**A)** In addition to the HCBU ranking, General Dynamics C4 Systems continues to be

identified as an 'employer of choice' for science and technology professionals. This helps us to achieve our goal to maintain a highly motivated, balanced and diverse workforce.

### **Q) Why is it important, to General Dynamics C4 Systems, for the public to know that your company is a Top 50 Employer of HBCU Students & Graduates?**

**A)** Recognition and rankings are an invitation for a conversation with prospective candidates.

### **Q) Over the past 3 years General Dynamics C4 Systems has used HBCUConnect.com for Diversity Recruiting. What other HBCU colleges or organizations do you work with in the hiring or educational capacity?**

**A)** In addition to HBCUconnect.com, we actively recruit from organizations such as the National Society for Black Engineers (NSBE), Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), Society of Women Engineers (SWE), Black Engineer of the Year award (BEYA) and Women of Color (WOC).

### **Q) What areas of Diversity recruitment/ management is your company more focused on and why?**

**A)** Diversity is an integral part of our overall

recruitment and branding strategy.

### **Q) How do you measure the success of your diversity initiatives?**

**A)** The best way to measure the results of our diversity initiatives is to walk the halls, attend meetings and sit in the cafeteria so see the rich tapestry of employees. There is an enthusiasm in our culture that emanates from full-participation and inclusion of different points of view.

### **Q) Are there any programs or social activities that help integrate new employees into the workplace culture?**

**A)** In addition to our new employee orientation program, General Dynamics C4 Systems offers the On-Boarding program that includes 'Quick-Start' guides for the new hire and their manager, a website that guides new employees to internal resources like the IT helpdesk, travel services, human resources and others. There is also an informal mentoring program that pairs them with colleagues as they work together to fully integrate into the way General Dynamics C4 Systems does business.

### **Q) What events have been successful for you in your efforts to hire HBCU talent?**

**A)** Each year, the company's talent acquisition team visits a number of universities and colleges focused on



## General Dynamics 2010 CAREER EVENTS CALENDAR

finding the brightest and the best professionals. We also host technical hiring fairs and participate in events sponsored by various diversity focused groups.

### Q) What type of Internships, and Full-Time positions are currently available for the students and graduates?

**A)** The best way to locate internship and employment opportunities is to go to the General Dynamics C4 Systems careers website [www.gdc4s.com/jobs](http://www.gdc4s.com/jobs).

### Q) What is the best advice you can offer hired diverse talent for succeeding in their career or internship at General Dynamics C4 Systems?

**A)** At General Dynamics C4 Systems, the pace is fast and the work is exciting. You have to be at the very top of your game every day. This is a diverse professional environment where individual capabilities and performance are developed, valued and recognized by both peers and management.

This concludes our interview with our Featured Employer. Please visit their Employer Showcase to obtain further details on how to connect and work for General Dynamics C4 Systems: [hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/jobs/employerShowcase.cgi?showcase\\_id=254](http://hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/jobs/employerShowcase.cgi?showcase_id=254).

We thank you General Dynamics C4 Systems for your outstanding dedication to hiring HBCU talent and forming partnerships with Historically Black Colleges & Universities.

### Date

### Event

### Location

#### Coming Events

Sep 16	Career Expos for minorities, women, & people with disabilities in all STEM career disciplines	New York
Oct 27–31	SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers)	Cincinnati, OH
Oct 28–30	WOC (Women of Color in Technology Awards Conference)	Dallas, TX
Nov 4–6	SWE (Society of Women Engineers)	Miami, FL
Nov 19	Career Expos For People with Disabilities	Washington, D.C.

#### Past Events

May 7	Career Expo-EOP - Sheraton Boston Hotel	Boston, MA
May 11	Fort Sam Houston	Houston, TX
May 12	Technical Hiring Event	Ft. Hood, TX
May 12	Technical Hiring Event	Annapolis Junction, MD
May 13	WOC (Women of Color in Technology Awards Conference)	Dallas, TX
May 13	Technical Hiring Event	San Antonio, TX
May 13	Technical Hiring Event	Linthicum, MD
Feb 2–3	ACAP	Fort Hood, TX
Feb 18–20	BEYA (Black Engineer of the Year Awards)	Baltimore, MD
Mar 1	Expo Experts	Orlando, FL
Mar 9	ACAP Job Fair	Ft. Campbell, KY
Mar 9	Fort Sam Houston, TX	Houston, TX
Mar 15	Expo Experts Job Fair	Burlington, MA
Mar 17	ACAP Job Fair	Fredericksburg VA
Mar 19	University Relations Event	Scottsdale, AZ
Mar 22	Expo Experts Job Fair	Vienna, VA
Mar 23	ACAP	Fort Jackson SC
Mar 23	Maguire AFB Hiring Event	New Jersey
Mar 23	NCOA and Military.com Job Fair - McGuire AFB	Allentown, PA
Mar 23–24	Burlington MA Hiring Event	Burlington, MA
Mar 24	ACAP Job Fair	San Antonio, TX
Mar 26	University Relations Event	Scottsdale, AZ
Mar 30–31	Ft. Wayne Hiring Event	Ft. Wayne, IN
Mar 31–Apr 4	NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers)	Toronto, Canada
Apr 2	University Relations Event	Scottsdale, AZ
Apr 6	AOC Technical Hiring Event	Hampton, VA
Apr 10	SWE (Society of Women Engineers)	
July 12	Expo Experts LLC Engineering, technology, and Security Clearance Career Expo	Washington DC



# HBCU Career Center Hiring Tips

By Will Moss

Hiring Tips

Center

Career

HBCU

## Tip #1 Easily Submit Your Resume to Companies Hiring African Americans!

We made an enhancement to the HBCUConnect.com site in the "Careers" section. Just click on the Careers link at the top of the page, then go to the link on the right under "Job Seekers" and click on "Hiring Companies".

From there, you can sort through and view companies that are working with us to hiring African American professionals, so please spread the word. Once you view a company you are interested in, on their profile page, you can submit your resume. If you are logged into the site, it will automatically pull up your info so all you have to do is click once to submit your resume!

➡ [hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/jobs/employerShowcase.cgi](http://hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/jobs/employerShowcase.cgi)

## Tip #2 Receive New Job Opportunities by Email

Sign up now to receive new job listings from companies that are working with us specifically to target and reach African American professionals! Please share the opportunities with your colleagues! You may opt out at anytime.

➡➡ [Sign Up: hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/jobs/signup.cgi](http://hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/jobs/signup.cgi)

## Tip #3 BE SMART – Keep your Facebook / Twitter / HBCUConnect Pages Clean!

Tip of the day: Don't put FOUL stuff out there on your facebook/ twitter/HBCUConnect pages! One thing people don't realize is that employers (like us) will check you out before bringing you in for an interview, and then when we see in your favorite quotes a bunch of foul language or stuff that just makes you look like a foul person, nobody wants to hire you, much less be around you working on a day to day basis! Clean it up black people!

True story: We have some internship opportunities for folks in our office here in Columbus, Ohio this summer, so we sent out an email

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

announcement to our members looking for resumes. We got quite a few good resumes but man, being the internet company that we are, we did some research on some of the folks we wanted to bring in for interviews.

Needless to say, we found some pretty foul stuff out there on people's profile pages and twitter feeds and whatnot. You never know who is looking at you online and trying to get to know who you are. But ok, I know a lot of people are like "I don't want or need any strangers looking at my profile or business online, blah blah blah" sorry but whether you like it or not, if you put yourself out there online, people will see it. So it should not be anything you have to worry about if you keep it positive and make a conscious effort not to be a foul person!

I know, Will Moss lecture... But really, be smart and represent yourself well in all circles, it just pays off much better than doing stuff you know your mama would not approve of! Ha-Ha

➡ **For more tips and career opportunities visit:**  
[www.HBCUCareerCenter.com](http://www.HBCUCareerCenter.com)



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**User Name:** Multiplicity28  
**Location:** New Hampshire  
**Height:** 6'0"  
**My Age:** 33  
**College:** North Carolina A&T State University  
**Who I'm Looking For:**  
 The type of person that I would like to meet is a person with sensitivity, charm, intelligence, a sense of humor, an open-mind, an adventurous spirit, sensuality, faithfulness and one who carries herself well. You do not have to be academically ambitious, but rather motivated to achieve more in life.  
**Contact Me:** [hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=285590](http://hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=285590)



**User Name:** Solomon1  
**Height:** 5'10"  
**My Age:** 29  
**Location:** Virginia  
**College:** Tuskegee University  
**Who I'm Looking For:**  
 I'm looking for a woman who is able to just cut loose and enjoy herself. Who can be adaptable in any situation. Beautiful, intelligent, goal-orientated and honest. Any body can be beautiful, but I want a real show-stopper that makes me think about all the reasons why I'm love this woman. Also a smile that lights up a room.  
**Contact Me:** [hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=272915](http://hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=272915)



**User Name:** Mokakream2002  
**Location:** Ohio  
**Height:** 6'0"  
**My Age:** 46  
**College:** Hampton University  
**Who I'm Looking For:**  
 I know she is out there. God just hasn't had our paths cross until now. She is intelligent, confident, attractive, goal oriented with her head on straight. She prides herself on her physical fitness and abhors smoking with a passion.  
**Contact Me:** [hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=5059](http://hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=5059)



**User Name:** Beezy333  
**Location:** Maryland  
**Height:** 5'10"  
**My Age:** 22  
**College:** Bowie State University  
**Who I'm Looking For:**  
 Real chill female, knows what she wants out of life, good head on her shoulders outgoing, likes to joke have fun etc, and enjoys life.  
**Contact Me:** [hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=379481](http://hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=379481)



**User Name:** Ms Phenomenal  
**College:** Clark Atlanta University  
**Location:** New York  
**Age:** 24  
**Height:** 5'3"  
**College:** Virginia State University  
**Who I'm Looking For:**  
 A man that knows how to treat a woman!  
**Contact Me:** [hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=1169494](http://hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=1169494)



**User Name:** ShowMeDiva  
**College:** Lincoln University – Missouri  
**Location:** Missouri  
**Height:** 5'2"  
**My Age:** 30  
**Who I'm Looking For:**  
 I will be honest, I am picky about guys I date....that's probably why I'm still single. I am interested in a nice looking, caring, honest guy with a decent job, own car, apt/house, no kids and most important... very independent. Someone who is open-minded, knows when to play, knows when to be serious. All I ask is just be honest... I will respect you more if you are honest!!!  
**Contact Me:** [hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=1595607](http://hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=1595607)



**User Name:** gray62bcg  
**College:** Jackson State University  
**Location:** Jackson, MS  
**Height:** 5'10"  
**My Age:** 47  
**Who I'm Looking For:**  
 Honest, open, good communicator, intelligent, confident, ambitious, leadership  
**Contact Me:** [hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=484976](http://hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=484976)



**User Name:** Chanee  
**College:** Bethune Cookman University  
**Location:** Florida  
**Height:** 5'6"  
**My Age:** 25  
**Who I'm Looking For:**  
 I'm looking a strong male who knows how to treat a woman, such as great respect, devotion, protective mechanism and so forth. Goal oriented, with great ambition and who wants something out of life. A God Fearing man who knows who we owe the credit to. A prince charming.  
**Contact Me:** [hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=1595569](http://hbculove.com/cgi-bin/singles/profile.cgi?id=1595569)





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