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# Education, economy, and race relations shape strong preference for Hillary Clinton among Black American voters

(WASHINGTON, DC.) With the election only days away, a new national poll shows that Black American voters overwhelmingly plan to vote for Hillary Clinton as their choice for President of the United States. Their choice is influenced by concerns about high quality, affordable education, income inequality, jobs, the economy, race relations and racial justice.

The National Black Voter Poll found a high degree of engagement by registered black voters in the election, with 96% of respondents saying they will cast ballots. The same number said their friends also intend to vote. Nearly all respondents in the survey said they voted in both the 2008 and 2012 elections.

Taken together, the data predict a high voter turnout among Black American voters in the November 8, 2016 election and a strong preference for Hillary Clinton over Donald Trump.

A substantial majority (89%) indicated they will vote for Clinton, and two-thirds (67%) said they strongly favor Clinton. Another 23% declared "moderate support" for her. A slightly higher percent (74%) said they have "overall favorable feelings" for Clinton, compared to 2% who said they had favorable feelings for Trump.



Dr. Benjamin Chavis (NNPA Fred Allen)

When asked "Do you think Donald Trump is a racist?" 84% responded, "Yes."

In contrast to feelings toward the current election year's candidates, 90% of respondents said they have "overall favorable feelings" toward President Barack Obama.

Findings are based on a national random sample of more than 900 voters from 22,000 telephone calls made between Oct. 21 and 30, 2016 by researchers in a joint National Newspaper Publishers Association - Howard University poll. This was the first national-level scientific study focused exclusively on voters who identify as African American, Afro-Hispanic or other black identity.

The goal of the research was to

develop a profile of Black American voters in a year when race is believed to be a defining factor in the outcome of presidential and congressional races.

The vast majority of respondents in the survey identified as Democrats. To the question "In general, do you think of yourself as Democrat, Republican, or something else?" 82% of respondents said "Democrat" and only 2% said Republican. Another 16% said they are either "Independent" or "Other" (9% and 7%, respectively).

A large majority of respondents (87%) identified high quality education as an influence in their decisions, and a nearly equal percent

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## Early Voting ends Friday Election Day is Nov. 8



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COMMENTARY

## Early voting is critical to our democracy

By Glynda C. Carr and Kimberly Peeler-Allen

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - With a few days left until Election Day some are speculating what the overall turnout will be among Black women.

Black women were among the most active voters in the 2008 and 2012 elections. In fact, Black women make up 6.3 percent of the total U.S. voting age population, but

represented 9 percent of the 2012 and 2014 electorate due to their higher voter turnout.

Over the past several election cycles, Black women have demonstrated that their robust involvement is an absolutely essential foundation of any winning coalition.

Black women's participation in the last two Presidential elections tran-

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Osceola Ward



Brooke Ross



Patricia Thomas

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## Osceola Ward

Environmental issues are social justice issues.

Just ask Osceola Ward, a UCLA graduate student who teaches disadvantaged kids to advocate for their communities and their futures.

Ward wanted to be a lawyer, but his plans changed during a class action suit against Chevron. In August 2012, the oil giant's refinery in Richmond, California caught fire, sending a plume of toxic, black smoke into the air. As an intern with the firm that filed the suit, Ward answered calls from people affected by the disaster.

"People complained about



bloody noses and mothers cried on the phone," Ward says. "I had to record them verbatim — six hours per day, for months on end."

Chevron eventually pled no contest and paid \$2 mil-

lion to settle the case, but the experience affected Ward deeply. He refocused his career toward environmental justice.

After finishing up a bachelor's degree from Howard University, he came to UCLA for graduate study. He joined the Leaders in Sustainability certificate program as he worked towards a master's degree in Africana Studies. The sustainability program brings together students from diverse fields of study to focus on environmental problems. Each student devises a leadership project that has measurable outcomes. Ward's project focuses on empowering black communities to advocate on environ-

mental issues.

That's why Ward was at Mono Lake last week with a group of high school kids from Compton and Pasadena. As a certified lead instructor with Outward Bound Adventures, he teaches kids in the Los Angeles area about nature and environmental issues. Importantly for his project, the trips also give him a chance to listen.

"You can't be a leader without ingratiating yourself with the community," Ward says. "I want to see what the needs and demands are, and then mold my project around that."

But first things first — he had to take away their cell phones. It was an unpopular

move, but necessary to make sure the teenagers fully connected with nature and each other. On the road to Mono Lake, Ward and his team made several educational stops to keep the kids engaged. They visited the otherworldly Vasquez Rocks, where Ward described how the unique geological formations were used in movies such as "The Flintstones" and the 2001 version of "Planet of the Apes." They also stopped by a fish hatchery and a solar plant, where they discussed alternative energy sources.

At their Sierra Nevada destination, they toured the lake talking about water supply and the impact of the

drought. Migratory birds use the lake as a pit stop, so what would happen to them if it wasn't there? The kids watched brine shrimp mating in cups. They also learned practical skills for camping and hiking. And they bonded with hands-on activities — cooking food together, removing invasive clover and swimming.

By the end of the trip, the students forgot to ask for their phones back. Instead, they watched a sky painted deep pinks, oranges and maroon by a sunset — through the haze of a nearby wildfire. "The kids have never seen anything like this, even just

See WARD, Page 6

## Brooke Ross

Brooke Nicole Ross was born and raised in Carrollton, Texas. She is a product of the Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD (C-FBISD), McKamy Elementary, Polk Middle School, and is a proud graduate of Newman Smith High School, Class of 2013. Her parents are Bradford and Janet Callahan Ross. Brooke, her parents and her brother Nicholas are members of Bethel Bible Fellowship of Carrollton; Dr. Terrance S. Woodson is the Senior Pastor.

While attending Smith, Brooke took all Pre AP and



AP classes and was inducted into the National Honor Society in 2011. She was a violinist in the symphonic orchestra and was a member of the Lady Trojans basketball and volleyball team as well.

Brooke graduated with honors in the top 5% of her class.

Her brother, Nicholas graduated from Smith in 2009 and is a graduate of University of Texas in Tyler, TX with a BBA.

The C-FBISD provides an exceptional educational experience for each student. Our goal is to provide high achievement for each student. Our District accomplishes this goal through meeting the individual needs of our students. To help each student succeed at high levels, the District provides a wide variety of academic and extra-curricular opportunities and programs which ignite a

passion for learning.

Mr. Joe Pouncy, Smith Principal said, "Brooke Ross, during her four years at Smith lived our campus motto of Honor, Integrity and Achievement!"

"She is respected by the Smith Community for her scholarship, citizenship, character values and ethics."

"Additionally, Brooke is respected for her resilience and work ethic. It was clear during her years at Smith that she was serious about earning the best possible secondary education in preparation to excel at the post-secondary level of study.

Brooke distinguished her-

self by taking a curriculum of rigor and involving herself in worthwhile school activities. She is one of the best and brightest to attend Newman Smith High School." We are proud of her achievements."

Brooke is currently a senior at Spelman College in Atlanta, GA majoring in Chemistry. In 2013, she participated in the WiE-STEM program at Spelman and was selected to be a member of the Ethel Waddell Githii Honors Program.

In 2014, she was inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society and the National Society of Collegiate

Scholars.

Brooke is a member of the American Chemical Society and serves as the Vice-President of the Chemistry Club at Spelman. She is also a mentor and tutor for Helping Our Warrior Women (H.O.W.W.) where she assists high school students with science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects and encourages them to major in STEM fields of study as they enter college.

In May of 2015, Brooke presented her research on The Screening of Human Skin Volatile Organic Com-

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## Patricia Thomas

(BlackNews.com) — A refined technique has been developed for treating members of the military and first responders who have been diagnosed with PTSD. Individuals who have been affected by traumatic life events they either experienced or witnessed can also be positively impacted.

Patricia A. Thomas, an experienced coach and the founder of Thomas Coaching Company Inc., is recruiting life coaches, nurses and others with a heart to serve who are willing to be trained to participate in an important global initiative that provides a life-enhancing intervention for people who have been affected by traumatic events.



According to The National Center for PTSD, "Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) can occur after you have been through a traumatic event." A traumatic event is something terrible and scary that you see, hear about, or that happens to you. For example:

- Combat exposure

- Child sexual or physical abuse

- A terrorist attack
- Sexual or physical assault

- Serious accidents, car wreck

- Fires, tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, or earthquakes

Nanotechnology science has proven that PTSD is not a mental illness and recent discoveries indicate that PTSD can be reversed by tapping into the way the brain works through the use of techniques that are recognized by integrated medicine. A life-enhancing intervention, known as neurokinesis, has been statistically proven to be so effective that it reduces the emotional weight and toll of challenging memories on the person

affected, and can have a positive impact on his or her family and social relationships.

A global project is about to be launched that will help the military and first responders who have given so much to serve the nation and local communities. But the program organizers believe many others who will also benefit from the program. They are actively recruiting life and health coaches, and those interested in becoming certified to participate in the global roll-out of this initiative.

To learn more about this project and get information about the coach certification process, contact Patricia A. Thomas at [va@thomas-coaching.com](mailto:va@thomas-coaching.com).

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# North Dallas Gazette

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.com  
Founded 1991

P.O. Box 763866 • Dallas, Texas 75376-3866  
Phone: 972-516-4191 - Fax: 972-509-9058



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# Abolish the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau? Nonsense.

By Ken Goodgames

In a wild and unchecked political election season full of daily insults, allegations, leaked emails, inappropriate behavior and off-the-cuff tweets, something else quite sinister has gone almost completely unnoticed.

One of the two major political parties vying for the White House in 2016 has openly called for abolishing the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau. Considering what I do for a living, I felt compelled to write a passionate defense of this agency, created five years ago under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

As part of any spirited (yet civil) debate, the opposing side should be heard before I lay out my own case. The party wishing to see the CFPB eliminated

sees the agency as a blatant governmental overreach, an additional layer of bloated bureaucracy, limiting access to capital while doling out too many regulatory impositions. Its summary argument is that the CFPB hurts economic growth while stifling small business opportunity.

I couldn't disagree more if I tried.

Before the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau was created, there was no centralized government agency whose primary mission was to watch out for the little guy—consumers like you and me. It was up to individual states to set their own business climate of what banks, payday lenders and credit card companies could do to stack the deck in their financial favor.

Back in 2007, when Sen.

Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) championed the CFPB into existence, she compared it to a regulatory agency already in place that consumers come to depend on for the safety of products, the Consumer Safety Protection Bureau. If you're unsure of what they do on your behalf, be thankful you aren't bringing a Samsung Galaxy Note 7 on your next airline flight. Both of these agencies literally exist to protect consumers from themselves and the poor choices they are sometimes offered in the world of financial transactions, loans and interest rate based-credit.

One of the congressional opponents of the regulatory agency was quoted as saying that the CFPB, "...invites regulatory excess and abuse." So, five years in, let's take a look at this so-

called regulatory excess and abuse committed by the CFPB. To date, on behalf of 25 million consumers, over \$11 billion dollars have been recovered from over 120 financial institutions. Here, I guess I have to agree on one point—\$11 billion sure sounds a lot like excess and abuse to me.

The Consumer Finance Protection Bureau advocates consumer intervention, counseling and coaching on numerous financial literacy initiatives including home mortgages, auto loans, credit cards, prepaid accounts, student debt, saving for retirement, paying for college and household budgeting. And this, according to some of our esteemed politicians, is somehow a bad thing?

You may not have real-

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scended just showing up at the polls and voting. A closer look at our involvement reveals that voting was just the beginning. The Obama for America strategy provided meaningful tools of engagement -from hosting house parties to organizing virtual phone banks and door-knocking opportunities.

The effectiveness of the campaign's engagement, investment and tailored messaging resulted in a surge in Black women's overall engagement. That participation has not only expanded the electorate of first-time voters, but it has also mobilized a record number of first-time political donors and bundlers.

This crucial post-Obama bridge election presents a movement-building opportunity designed for and by Black women, independent of any particular candidate.

The 2016 election provides an opportunity to harness Black women's power by turning out the vote. Fur-

thermore, it gives us the opportunity to leverage that voting strength into the power to shape and inform political debates from equal pay and affordable health care to reproductive rights and community safety.

This November's election results will be determined in large part by the turnout rates among Black women. There are several factors to consider this cycle: Will Black women voters, many who voted for the first time in 2008 and 2012 return to the polls? Is there an enthusiasm gap among Black women voters? What strategies and messages will motivate Black women's engagement?

Can we activate this critical 2008 and 2012 voting bloc, turn them out to the polls and motivate them to organize their communities? The answer is yes!

The late Shirley Chisholm, once said, "You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines, whimpering and complaining. You make

progress by implementing ideas."

This statement rings true today and Black women have a pivotal role to play in helping to move the country forward. But, we must activate our networks.

History has demonstrated that when you fire up a Black woman she does not go to the polls alone. She brings her house, her block, her church, her sorority and her water cooler.

According to Nielson, Black women are one of the largest users of social media. The #BlackWomenVote campaign is tapping into the organizing power of Black women, encouraging them to raise their voices, cast their votes and show their power.

The campaign is engaging Black women vote this election and to mobilize their networks to the polls. The campaign has tools and resources to help everyday Black women organize their networks from shareable graphics and videos, Facebook Live events and 'Share Your Vote Story' opportuni-

ties.

We need you to flex your power and help us move hundreds of thousands of voters to the polls by Nov. 8. Join the campaign and help to register your folks to vote, take them to the polls, and discuss the issues and candidates that matter.

Go to [www.blackwomen-vote.com](http://www.blackwomen-vote.com), where you will find all of the tools, information and planning guides you need to educate yourself and mobilize your network. Some are expecting us to stay home, let's prove them wrong.

*Glynda C. Carr and Kimberly Peeler-Allen are co-founders of Higher Heights for America, a national organization focused on harnessing black women's political power and leadership potential. They have organized #BlackWomenVote, a nonpartisan voter-activism campaign which is the leading, independent and trusted voice for Black women leading up to and beyond Election Day 2016, [www.BlackWomenVote.com](http://www.BlackWomenVote.com).*

# Walgreens, Health Dept. to provide free flu shot vouchers

WASHINGTON, D.C. & DEERFIELD, Ill. – The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in collaboration with Walgreens, will help provide more than \$10 million worth of free flu shot vouchers this flu season to improve flu immunization rates among uninsured Americans. Through the initiative, which is in its seventh year, Walgreens has provided more than \$50 million worth of vouchers to communities



across the country.

HHS and Walgreens are distributing vouchers

through a variety of outreach efforts, local events and community and faith-based

organizations nationwide.

“Since 2010, this partnership has helped us make substantial strides in addressing disparities in flu vaccination coverage by providing free flu shots for more than 1.4 million people,” said J. Nadine Gracia, MD, MSCE, deputy assistant secretary for minority health and director of the HHS Office of Minority Health. “As the flu season approaches, our continued collaboration will help protect hundreds of thousands of

people from influenza, which can make chronic health problems worse or lead to hospitalization or even death.”

Richard Ashworth, Walgreens president of pharmacy and retail operations, said: “We’re proud to continue to grow our collaboration with HHS and to be working together to meet the health care needs of the communities we serve. We know that cost can be a barrier for some people when it comes

to vaccinations and other preventive care. And by providing access to flu shots at no cost for those who are eligible, we can make a significant impact by protecting more people throughout the flu season.”

Individuals who are eligible can call 866-994-6757 to find the nearest location where flu shot vouchers may be available. Each voucher is good for one flu shot at any Walgreens Healthcare Clinic locations.

# Hillary Clinton rolls out mental health care plan

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Contributor

Hillary Clinton said she’s alarmed by the statistics.

Approximately one in five adults in the United States – or 43.8 million Americans – experience mental illness in a given year.

About 18 percent of adults in the country experienced an anxiety disorder such as posttraumatic stress disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder and specific phobias.

Also, one in every four college students experiences a mental illness.

Statistics like these must and will be met head on if Clinton is elected president, she promised during a media call last week to unveil her plan to better incorporate mental health services into general health care settings.

Clinton said this is her way of increasing access to treatment.

The former First Lady and Secretary of State told reporters that among the first order of business she’d undertake in the Oval Of-



fice is to host a White House conference on mental health.

Steps outlined by Clinton include retooling reimbursement systems in Medicare and Medicaid and promoting early diagnosis and intervention, including a national suicide prevention initiative and randomized audits of insurance companies to make it more difficult to conceal when mental health care services are denied.

“Addiction, homelessness and a broken criminal justice system” are byproducts of a poor mental health system, Clinton said. Further, Americans are losing nearly \$200 billion each

year due to a lack of care, understanding and tolerance, she said.

“The human cost is even worse with the suicide levels at the highest in years. People are dying from conditions that go undetected and untreated, too often,” Clinton said.

“I have heard the heartbreaking stories for years about these incredible challenges. During the campaign, it seems like the flood gates have opened,” she said.

Clinton, who leads Republican Presidential nominee Donald Trump by double digits in most national polls, said if she were elected she’d see to it that

state and local governments were fully funded and capable of handling mental health issues.

When there’s been cooperation, there has been success, she noted.

“I’ve heard stories of encouragement, of people who have been able to get help,” Clinton said.

“We have to make clear that mental health is not a personal failing but that right now our country is failing. From launching a suicide prevention initiative to reforming criminal justice so that low-level offenders wind up in treatment and not in jail; we need to start focusing on the whole person. Focus on early detection and treatment and to make sure that mental health is covered by insurance,” she said.

Clinton also cited the need to expand housing and job opportunities as part of the overall remedy for the nation’s mental health crisis.

“We have to expand providers and make sure they have the support and that they deserve. We will make mental health a na-

tional priority if I am elected president,” she said. “We have got to make sure that every community in the country have the information and the resources that they need.”

Mental health has been a highlight of the Clinton campaign, particularly after she met last year with individuals at Town Hall forums who said their families were struggling with mental health and other illnesses.

Clinton had earlier announced an initiative to speed up the process for a cure for Alzheimer’s disease, which on Monday claimed the life of actor Gene Wilder.

Clinton’s proposal that

she rolled out during the call with reporters also called for improving law enforcement training in crisis intervention and how to respond to those with mental illness.

“Why do I care so much about mental illness? This is what I’ve been hearing about and I want to take on the issues that both make headlines and that keep families up at night,” Clinton said. “Mental illness is not respective to income, status, race, political affiliation or any other category. I believe together we can make sure that the next generation get quality health care without the stigma, shame or other barriers,” she said.

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# Global HIV/AIDS funding on the decline

By Linda Villarosa  
BAI Daily Contributor

Throughout AIDS 2016, whispers that global funds to fight HIV/AIDS have begun to dry up have turned to shouts. In the crowded hallways of the International

Convention Center, on panels, plenaries and even t-shirts, everybody seems to be worried that The Global Fund to Fight HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria won’t be fully funded and international dollars are fading away. In fact, organizers of Monday’s

march through Durban said they created their event to bring attention to the “massive disconnect” between the promises to end HIV/AIDS by 2030 and the lack of funding to actually make it happen.

But is this a Chicken Little

tactic to create the appearance of need? Or is it real? According to a new report, yes, it’s real.

Donor government funding to support HIV efforts in

See FUND, Page 8

# Dallas ISD high school students among the first to early vote

Early voting began on Oct. 24 and, already, some Dallas ISD students haven't taken to the polls as a first-time voter.

Students from Lincoln High School and Communications/Humanities Magnet received a standing ovation from poll workers as they cast their ballots at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center.

In September and October, a number of women groups from the Lincoln community registered students who would be eligible to vote in



About 20 Carter High School students cast their ballots for the November election where they walked from campus to an early voting location, with their teachers.

Photo courtesy: Dallas ISD

time for the November election.

Sheila Walker, community

liaison at Lincoln, carried out an idea she has long hoped for.

"I not only wanted to make sure they were registered, but I have always had a vision to take students to poll on the school bus," said Walker.

In all, nearly 30 students were bussed to the community center that sits in the heart of Dallas' Fair Park. Dallas ISD Trustee Bernadette Nutall and Principal Johnna Weaver were among the few who accompanied Lincoln's first-time voters, and cast their ballots too.

At Carter High School, nearly 20 students in a social studies class closed out their school week by heading to an early polling site. This time, students walked to their polling place at Friendship West Baptist Church.

Fred Davis, principal at Carter knew other factors play into voting and did not want that to be a deterrent for

his eligible students to vote.

"We knew transportation would be an issue and that some students would not be able to go to a polling site, so we're glad this is available to us this year where we can just walk across the street," Davis said. "It cuts out some of those issues of transportation, that gives people a reason not to vote."

## The Original Pancake House DFW donates \$8,750 for breast cancer research

The Original Pancake House (OPH) DFW recognized Breast Cancer Awareness month in October by donating 10 percent of their sales every Tuesday to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF).

OPH-DFW Associates wore pink ribbons and wrist bands throughout the month to show their support.

\$8,750 was raised during the awareness campaign and BCRF has a donor who is matching donations up to \$65K.

Representatives from the Mary Kay Foundation joined OPH-DFW in their campaign by handing out pink roses to Guests on Tuesdays.

The campaign engaged people throughout North

Texas through social media, in-store posters, email campaigns and public relations.

"We want to thank all of our Associates, Guests and those from the Mary Kay Foundation who gave their time and resources to help support this important cause," said Kevin Payne, OPH-DFW President.

For more information

about the Breast Cancer Research Foundation visit, [www.bcrfcure.org](http://www.bcrfcure.org).



Eco-site doing business as Pyramid Network Services proposes to build a 90-foot monopole Communications Tower at the approx. vicinity of 5214 S R L Thornton Freeway, Dallas, TX 75224. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Andrew, [a.bray@trileaf.com](mailto:a.bray@trileaf.com), 2550 S I-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704.

### SOCIAL MEDIA POSITION

We are seeking an exceptional Christian individual to fill the above position. The successful candidate for this position oversees all aspects of media and communication for the church including web, publications, signs, media and video. Must be creative, organized, and able to multi-task. Will also be responsible for the maintenance of church website as well as the designing of blog and social networking templates.

#### Selected Position Responsibilities:

- Coordinate, edit and produce all regular publications (including, but not limited to worship service bulletins, bulletin inserts, visitor and ministry brochures and posters, etc.) in a timely, accurate and presentable manner consistent with SMBC's vision, ethos and branding;
- The development, maintenance and deployment of SMBC website and related collateral sites and for coordination of efforts to keep information accurate, up-to-date.
- Coordinate the development of the various forms of electronic communication (email, social networking, church message board and marquee, etc.);
- Act in a consulting role and serve as general editor in the production of communications produced by all ministries of the church;
- Act as the church contact for external media seeking information from or about the church;
- Coordinate efforts to advertise church activities, functions, services and general information to the local community;

#### Essential Skills:

- Bachelor's degree (preferably in some aspect of mass communication), or equivalent experience.
- Website portfolio; strong web-site design skills.
- Proficient in use of HTML, Adobe Creative Suite, Flash,
- Experience in website and electronic media design and development.
- Advanced Computer skills with working knowledge of Microsoft Office suite, Microsoft Publisher, InDesign and other desktop publishing software
- Interpersonal and networking skills; Attention to detail and accuracy.
- Ability to plan, organize and multitask in a deadline intensive environment.
- Command of the English language; strong verbal and written communication skills; with excellent editing and proofreading ability.
- Mature, of Christian character; Enthusiastic willingness to serve Christ and His church.

#### Skills Considered Desirable:

- Good listening skills, tact and consensus building skills
- Familiarity with video production software

Will only consider resumes with requisite experience

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# DCCCD students make history earning Los Alamos National Lab award

By Cesar Canizales

When Mountain View College students Emmanuel Ayorinde and JaMein Mason won an “Award of Recognition” for their work during a summer internship at Los Alamos National Laboratory, they had a good

reason to be surprised and elated: they were the first community college students to receive the honor in LANL’s history.

The pair, part of a group of interns from the college who spent the summer at LANL, were chosen among students from the best uni-

versities in the country, according to Dr. Stephen Jones, executive dean of the STEM division at Mountain View.

“They were part of the top 10 percent at LANL, and of that 10 percent, they were number one,” said Jones. “I think this (recog-

niton) validates what we’re doing at Mountain View. Not only did the two do well at LANL, they surprised the lab on how prepared they were. They were ready from day one, and each of them made contributions to the lab.”

See DCCCD, Page 13



Emmanuel Ayorinde and JaMein Mason received the Award of Recognition from LANL (DCCCD)

# As for-profit college enrollment climbs, blacks graduate with more debt

By Charlene Crowell  
NNPA Newswire Columnist

With 44 million consumers owing about \$1.4 trillion in student loans, a new report by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau finds that student loan servicing and debt collection together will boost borrower costs even higher over the next two years.

The Bureau’s recently-released Student Loan Om-

budsman Report termed the nation’s current system as “flawed” and further calls for an “overhaul” to improve conditions for an approximate 8 million distressed and defaulted borrowers. Its findings and conclusions are based on 5,500 private student loan complaints and approximately 2,300 debt collection complaints filed between October 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016. Since February 2016, 3,900 student loan

complaints made concerned loan servicing.

“This report offers further evidence that industry practices and needless red tape can turn a student loan into an unbearable burden,” said CFPB Director Richard Cordray. “Policymakers should work to reform the programs that are failing those borrowers that need help most.”

Complaints filed with CFPB during this reporting period cite:

- Delays and dead ends when applying for income-driven plans that include interest subsidies and loan forgiveness;
- Problems with debt collectors verifying incomes and in turn assigning incorrect monthly payment amounts;
- Loan servicers billing borrowers hundreds of dollars more per month than was arranged with the debt collector; and

- Conflicting information as to where loan payments should be sent and how those payments would be applied to loan balances.
- A few days later, a Brookings’ Economic Studies report found severe racial debt disparities for both Black undergrads and those completing graduate college studies.
- “The moment they earn their bachelor’s degrees, Black college graduates owe

\$7,400 more on average than their White peers (\$23,400 versus \$16,000, including non-borrowers),” wrote Judith Scott-Clayton and Jing Li for Brookings.

As an increasing number of Black students enroll at for-profit colleges for either undergraduate or graduate studies, those who borrow loans are also the most likely to incur heavier debt, carry it

See BLUE, Page 8

# “WHEN THEY GO LOW, WE GO HIGH!”

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~ Michelle Obama

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# Plano trash collector scores big with one trick-or-treater

Sanitation workers are part of the backbone of city infrastructure, and they often do not receive the recognition or appreciation they deserve. But for one family in Plano, that's not the case.

For their child, the arrival of the neighborhood sanitation worker is something to look forward to.

Recently the worker gifted the child with an official City of Plano Garbage Can Piggy Bank, and it has

become a prized possession.

With this Halloween season, city administrators got quite the surprise on Facebook as well as a special letter from the child's mother. It seems that while many kids will emulate their favorite superheros, military figures, ghosts, beasts and monsters of all sorts, one child wanted to represent his favorite city employee.

*Hello,  
I want to share a story and recognize one of your*

*great employees.*

*Every Monday when my 2 year old son Lance hears the garbage truck, we have to stop eating breakfast and run to the alley so he can watch the garbage truck.*

*He's obsessed.*

*After several Monday's of seeing my son in the alley, our nice garbage man James, (I haven't gotten his last name), got out to talk to him. Now he frequently stops at our house to say hello. It makes my sons day*

*to see him and his truck. Today he brought my son a City of Plano garbage can piggy bank. He hasn't put it down all day.*

*So for this Halloween, Lance got to dress up as his friend James.*

*I just wanted to acknowledge James for taking the time out of his busy day to make a little two year old boy happy. It is so kind of him.*

*Thanks for reading.  
Chantal Rufus*



## CFPB, continued from Page 3

ized the many ways in which the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau works on your behalf, but I'm more than happy to provide a few examples. Since its creation, the CFPB has:

- Rewritten home mortgage rules to provide for truth-in-lending disclosures and quarterly reporting by lending institutions

• Strengthened the enforcement of unfair debt collection practices

• Proposed sweeping changes to the payday lending business model

• Designed consumer protections for prepaid account cards

• Launched a broad review of nationwide student loan servicers

• Created a database of recorded and published consumer complaints

Activities such as these illustrate the many ways that the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau actively fights on behalf of the little guy, consumers like you and me. Consumers like the ones I see walk through the doors of my nonprofit organization, Transformance, Inc. every day. We have the same goals. We both have a

deep and abiding desire to help people.

Abolish that? Unthink-

able.

Ken Goodgames is the CEO of Dallas-based

Transformance Inc., a fully integrated social services nonprofit.

## WARD, continued from Page 5

being under the stars and seeing constellations," Ward says.

Ward hopes they'll take what they learned home to fight for better conditions in their neighborhoods. "If you're never able to leave your community, you're unable to envision something different," he says. But the excursion was also about opening up new career paths. Due to lack of funding, Ward says, many urban schools lack strong science programs that would allow kids to see a future in environmental fields.

It's a reality he knows too well. Ward grew up in East Palo Alto in a community he calls "wild." He spent much of his childhood indoors, avoiding the street life, reading National Geographic magazines and dreaming of travel. Families in his neighborhood would enter a lottery to go to better schools in neighboring Palo Alto. Ward

was one of the lucky ones who got in, but quickly found himself ostracized on both sides — by the community he wasn't from and by the one he left behind. He focused his attention on his studies, especially history.

Ward says the idea that the black community hasn't been part of the environmental conversation is a misnomer. Organizations like MOVE fought against toxic environments in Philadelphia, and more recently, the community of Flint, Michigan rallied against lead in their water. But part of the misconception is based in historical reality, he says. As the country industrialized from the 1940s to the 1960s, black people were still busy fighting for basic civil rights like voting.

"Toxic waste was really concentrated in black communities," Ward says. "You have to be enfranchised to even begin to say 'we don't want this in our backyard.'

The community Ward grew up in looks very different today — gentrified by the tech industry boom, many residents have been displaced. His original intention was to return home to fight for justice, but instead he's looking to help similar neighborhoods in L.A.

Once Ward understands their environmental needs — this is his first year in L.A. — he plans to unite people from across the region for a summit to inform and empower them. It will be the culmination of his leadership project for UCLA.

"There's this idea that environmental degradation affects everyone, so we don't have to figure out how race and class play into that," Ward says. "Those affected the most are poor and oppressed people. And it's sad that we don't get the attention."

This story appeared on the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability website.



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**DALLAS**  
**Downtown parade planned for Veterans Day**

In 2016 the Veterans Day parade is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 11 with the theme of “Honoring the Military Family.” Downtown Dallas will be alive in patriotic colors at 11 a.m. ceremony in front of City Hall. The parade will commence following the official ceremony (approximately 1 hour). The route will start at Reunion Arena, will proceed north on Houston Street, east on Main Street, south on Ervay Street, west on Young Street, south on Akard Street and pass in review in front of City Hall.

The parade route is similar to prior years. After passing in review, parade units will turn south on Ervay and disperse south of City Hall.

Military vehicles and equipment, veterans organizations, civic and corporate displays will be available for viewing at 9:30 a.m. in front of City Hall and will be dismantled after the parade.

**GARLAND**  
**Free tree giveaway**

Garland residents can help beautify their community by picking up a free tree on Saturday, Nov. 5, at the Haskell L. Roach Garden Center, 1221 Spring Creek Drive.



Garland's Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Department will team up with Garland Power & Light for the annual Tree Power Free Tree giveaway from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (or while supplies last).

One tree will be allowed per household. Learn more about the giveaway at GarlandTX.gov.

**Neighborhood pre-summit mixer**

Before the Neighborhood Summit, get a taste of what's to come at the Pre-Summit Mixer, scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11, at Intrinsic Smokehouse & Brewery, 507 W. State St. in Garland. Mix and mingle with neighborhood leaders and City staff in a casual setting as you enjoy the creation of a street mural by professional artist Anat Ronen. Visit GarlandVital-Neighborhoods.org for details.

**IRVING**  
**Children can explore Irving's parks**

Children have an opportunity to explore nature in Ir-

ving's beautiful parks. Participants team up with an experienced naturalist who will guide them through Champion Trails' Bird's Fort Park to discover different plants and animal species. Light refreshments will be provided.

The event is scheduled at Bird's Fort Trail Park on Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. located at 5756 Riverside Drive in Irving.

Advanced registration will be held at recreation centers.

**SACHSE**  
**Holiday pottery painting**

Saturday, Nov. 12 at the Northwest Park Recreation Center for children ages 6 and older (ages 10 and younger must be accompanied by an adult) can take this opportunity to create a one-of-a-kind gift for a friend or family member. A variety of holiday and housewares will be available for individual purchase, with prices starting at \$6 per piece.

Registration deadline is Nov. 5.

**FUND,** continued from Page 4

low- and middle-income countries fell for the first time in five years in 2015, according to data gathered and analyzed jointly by the Kaiser Family Foundation and UNAIDS. In U.S. currency, over \$1 billion dried up; AIDS money dropped from \$8.6 billion in 2014 to \$7.5 billion in 2015, a 13 percent decline.

Money matters. With the goal of ending AIDS by 2030, the movement has reached a critical moment. As death rates have plummeted, more and more people require life-saving treatment. In essence, the epidemic has become a “victim” of its own success. In 2000 when the AIDS conference was first held in Durban, 1.5 million people died from AIDS around the world; that number dropped to about 1 million in 2015. Sixteen years ago, 770,000 people living with the virus had access to treatment, compared to 17 million currently.

UNAIDS estimates that to reach its “fast track” goals and end AIDS in the next 14 years requires an increase of at least \$7.2 billion by 2020. “Our progress is incredibly fragile,” said Michel Sidibe, executive director of UNAIDS. “If we do not act now, we risk resurgence and resistance.”

The United States contributes the lion's share to global funding—66 percent—and American dollars decreased from \$5.6 billion in 2014 to \$5 billion in 2015. The vast majority of our money funds specific projects and programs, with an additional 14 percent given to The Global Fund. (Overall contributions to the Global Fund dropped by \$305 million.) The U.K. follows the U.S. in donations, supplying 13 percent of AIDS money. With a nod to the disruption occurring in that country, one conference attendee carried a sign that read England—Don't “Brexite” the AIDS Response.

Funding for HIV declined for 13 of 14 donor governments assessed in the analysis, in part because of a technical reason: The U.S. dollar became stronger, resulting in the depreciation of most other donor currencies. Even some of the drop in funding from the U.S. itself can be explained away on paper. The U.S. pushed some of its dollars into the 2016 spread sheet to pay for the new DREAMS project aimed at attacking HIV infections among girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa and to expand male circumcision services in many of the same coun-

tries. Still, in the words of Jen Kates, one of the authors of the report, “it's a real decline.”

In our increasingly complicated and unstable world, a tangle of reasons explain the funding drop off. “We know that governments are facing fiscal austerity measures,” explained Kates, a Kaiser Family Foundation vice president. “We also know that they are faced with competing demands, including refugee and humanitarian emergencies that are affecting their budgets.”

No matter the explanations, activists are worried—and angry. “We can't be silent in the face of hypocrisy and broken promises,” said Nkhensani Mavasa, chair of South Africa's Treatment Action Campaign, during the AIDS 2016 opening ceremony. “Governments are refusing to deliver funding increases and this is unacceptable.”

More bluntly, she added: “When your house is burning and your family is inside, you don't beg quietly but you shout and you scream. Our house is still burning.”

*Linda Villarosa runs the journalism program at The City College of New York in Harlem. She has covered the biennial International AIDS Conference since 2002.*

**DEBT,** continued from Page 6

longer, and default more often.

Not a favorable scenario when time and studies were meant to bring financial security and a higher quality of life.

“While previous work has documented racial disparities in student borrowing, delinquencies and defaults, in this report we provide new evidence that racial gaps in total debt are far larger than even recent reports have recognized,” the authors continued, “far larger now than in the past, and correlated with troubling trends in the economy and in the for-profit sector.”

Between 2004 and 2008, Brookings noted that Black

enrollment at for-profit institutions increased dramatically. During much of these same years, for-profit colleges have faced regulatory scrutiny and quality of education challenges that led to large institutional closings such as Corinthian Colleges and more recently, ITT Technical College that also lost its accreditation.

“[T]he for-profit sector is by far the fastest-growing sector and the only sector that has seen enrollments grow differentially by race,” states the Brookings report.

Further, both undergrad and graduate students enrolled at for-profits are more likely to suffer from loan interest accumulating faster

than loan payments received, also known as negative amortization.

Earlier this year the Center for Responsible Lending joined with the National Consumer Law Center in calling for the Department of Justice to take actions to ensure racial justice in student loan lending.

“For nearly a decade, the Department of Education has known that student debt impacts borrowers of color differently from white borrowers. Yet in that decade, the Department has failed to take sufficient steps to ameliorate the disproportionately negative impact on borrowers of color, or even to conduct further research to discover the causes or the extent of disparities,” wrote the

advocates.”

“We call on the Department to collect and release the data necessary to learn the true extent of the impact of student debt on communities of color,” the coalition continued, “and to work with borrower and consumer advocates to ensure that student loans are a tool for economic advancement and not economic devastation for borrowers of color.”

Four years after graduating, nearly half of Black graduates – 48 percent – owe more on their federal undergraduate loans than they did at graduation, says Brookings. By comparison, only 17 percent of White undergrads owed more debt.

Federal law, however, provides some recourse.

Borrowers who have defaulted on their student loans are federally guaranteed the right to be given a chance to get out of default and back on track. The process, includes making a series of income-based payments that take into account income and family size.

Secondly, student loan borrowers who have encountered problems with their servicers or related debt collectors can and should bring their concerns to the attention of the CFPB. Complaints may be mailed, faxed or filed online, including all supporting documentation. An advantage to the online filing is that a complaint number will be assigned that enables consumers to check on the status of their com-

plaint at any time.

Beyond the portal to file a student loan complaint, CFPB accepts consumers' questions weekdays from 8am until 8pm Eastern Time at its toll-free number: (855) 411-CFPB (855) 411-2372.

“Federal financial aid policy alone cannot solve these problems,” concludes the Brookings report, “but neither can it ignore the challenges facing students of color who disproportionately bear the burden of student debt.”

*Charlene Crowell is the communications deputy director with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsible-lending.org.*



# Ava DuVernay tackles mass incarceration and more in 'The 13th'

By Dwight Brown  
NNPA Newswire Film Critic

The New York Film Festival celebrated its 54th year by trying something new. For the first time in history, its Opening Night World Premiere was a documentary. Even more noteworthy, this non-fiction film is by director Ava DuVernay (Selma) and it focuses on America's deep problem with its criminal justice/penal system and how it affects the Black community. Screening DuVernay's powerful documentary "The 13th," helped NYFF make a social/political and cultural statement that may resonate for years.

Normally, analyzing racism, inequality, involuntary servitude, prison systems and police brutality is such a vast endeavor it would take a collection of books, a string of college courses or a PBS miniseries to begin to understand such complex subjects and their many ramifications. In one hour and 40 minutes, DuVernay masterfully takes on that arduous task, shares some illuminating analysis and starts a conversation.

With photos, archival footage and interviews, she presents something akin to a condensed post-graduate course that delivers facts, figures, history, parallels, anecdotes, observations and controversial incidents that corroborate her thesis. What's on view is an equal dose of academic study, solid journalism and deep emotion that will provoke anger, sadness and hopefully motivation for change.

DuVernay's mission is aided by scholars (Henry Louis "Skip" Gates Jr.), political commentators (Van Jones), unlikely sympathizers (Newt Gingrich), iconic activists (Angela Davis) and politicians. United States Senator Cory Booker said, "We are a nation that professes freedom yet have this hyper-incarceration system that is grinding into it our most vulnerable citizenry — and is overwhelming biased



Michelle Alexander, author of "The New Jim Crow," talks about the effects of mass incarceration in "The 13th." (Netflix)

towards people of color."

DuVernay connects the dots from the liberation of slaves by the 13th Amendment signed on January 31, 1865, to the convict leasing that followed, then the Jim Crow system of apartheid, the FBI's war against Black activism and today's rampant incarceration of poor, Black men. Over 100 years of systemic oppression, dehumanization and what Jelani Cobb, the director of the Institute for African-American Studies, calls "a mythol-

ogy of Black criminality."

Some of what she points out has been said before, and she is reinforcing it. However, lots of the information she's bringing to light will be alarming news to most viewers i.e., did you know that the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), a nonprofit organization of conservative

state legislators and private sector representatives, drafts and shares model state-level legislation that legally lets businesses take advantage of free labor by prisoners?

The film is a revelation on so many levels. When it ends, the feeling of anger and sorrow is almost overwhelming. There's also a nagging feeling that you wish you had step-by-step instructions on how to help break the cycle and make a change. Even, just as a coda, a list of some actionable steps would empower viewers. It would have been helpful, if the film had mentioned the importance of voting, community activism, joining police departments to make change from within, gun control or even decriminalizing drugs. Problems, like the ones de-

icted in this very observant film, only get solved when someone takes a first step.

Dwight Brown is a film critic and travel writer. As a film critic, he regularly attends international film

festivals including Cannes, Sundance, Toronto and the American Black Film Festival. Read more movie reviews by Dwight Brown here and at [DwightBrown-Ink.com](http://DwightBrown-Ink.com).

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## All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914 scheduled at Eisemann

Eisemann Center Presents All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914 at the Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson, Texas on Tuesday, Nov. 29 at 7:30 pm in the Hill Performance Hall. With words and songs drawn from the era, All Is Calm recalls the remarkable and spontaneous World War I truce between Allied and German forces in No Man's Land over Christmas 1914. This moving ode to peace

was created by Theater Latté Da's acclaimed artistic director Peter Rothstein and features Cantus, one of America's finest vocal ensembles, with musical arrangements by Erick Lichte and Timothy C. Takach.

All Is Calm relives an astounding moment in history when Allied and German soldiers laid down their arms to celebrate the holiday together by trading carols, sharing food and drink,

playing soccer and burying the dead. In some places the truce lasted only a night, in others it endured until New Year's Day. This dramatic re-telling contains actual quotes and excerpts from letters written by thirty World War I figures brought to life by actors and interspersed with song.

Cantus beautifully weaves a tapestry of sound, drawing from patriotic tunes, trench songs, medieval Scottish ballads and

carols from England, Wales, France and Germany which take on new depths in the context of warfare. Music, an important part of life in the trenches, helped create a context that inspired the truce. All Is Calm opens with a set of carols arranged by English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams for his own battalion.

Rothstein, one of the Twin Cities' premier directors, worked five years to develop All Is Calm. He re-

calls, "I wanted to tell the story in their words, so I created the drama primarily through found text including letters, official war documents, autobiographies, World War I poetry, grave stone inscriptions and even an old radio broadcast. I was able to spend time along the Western Front and conduct extensive research in Brussels, Ieper, Paris and London. It was incredibly powerful to stand on the very spot where this ex-

traordinary happening took place. For decades, the Christmas truce was considered a romantic fable, however there is no doubt thousands of courageous men took part."

Tickets are \$38-\$56 and are available for purchase online at [www.eisemann-center.com](http://www.eisemann-center.com) or by calling the Eisemann Center Ticket Office at 972-744-4650 and group discounts are available for 10 or more persons.

## DVR Alert: Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre on KERA

Fans are invited to watch Lincoln Center at the Movies on KERA, Nov. 8 at 8 p.m. as Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre showcases its spectacular range, diversity and artistry in this special presentation, which includes the company's signature work, Revelations, along with three other pieces.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater continues its reign as an American "cultural ambassador to the world," having performed live for an estimated 25 million people in 48 states, 71 countries, and six continents. The gifted and gorgeous Ailey dancers infuse energy and emotion to classics and new works alike. Guided by the visionary artistic director Robert Battle, the Alvin



Ailey American Dance Theater remains the nation's leading modern dance company.

Then local fans will be able to enjoy their artistry in person next Spring. TITAS Presents Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater at 8 p.m. Friday/Saturday, March 31-

April 1, 2017 (3 shows) at Dallas City Performance Hall. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.attpac.org/titas](http://www.attpac.org/titas), by phone at 214-880-0202 or in person at the AT&T Performing Arts Center Winspear Opera House Box Office at 2403 Flora Street.

## DeVon Franklin signs a development deal with 20th Century Fox

LOS ANGELES (BlackNews.com) — Producer, preacher and New York Times Best-Selling author DeVon Franklin has signed an overall deal with 20th Century Fox. Under the multi-year pact, Franklin will produce and develop film content for the studio through his Franklin Entertainment banner.

Franklin most recently developed and produced the hit faith-based film *Mira-*

*cles From Heaven*, which starred Jennifer Garner and Queen Latifah.

Franklin has several projects in the works including the upcoming Sony Pictures Animation film *The Star*, a story about the first Christmas told from the nativity animals' point of view, which is slated for a November 2017 release, and the high-profile reboot of *He-Man And The Masters Of The Universe* franchise.

This year, Franklin released his second book, *The Wait*, which he co-wrote with his wife, actress Meagan Good.

The book quickly became a New York Times best-seller and has sold over 125,000 copies to date. Additionally, Franklin has amassed over 1 million followers on social media through his daily inspirational posts.

## ROSS, continued from Page 2

pounds by GCxGC/TOF-MS under the tutelage of Dr. Jean-Marie Dimandja, Professor at Spelman College (Analytical Chemistry, Chemo-informatics and Environmental Chemistry) at the 39th International Symposium on Capillary Chromatography & 12th GCxGC Symposium in Fort Worth, TX.

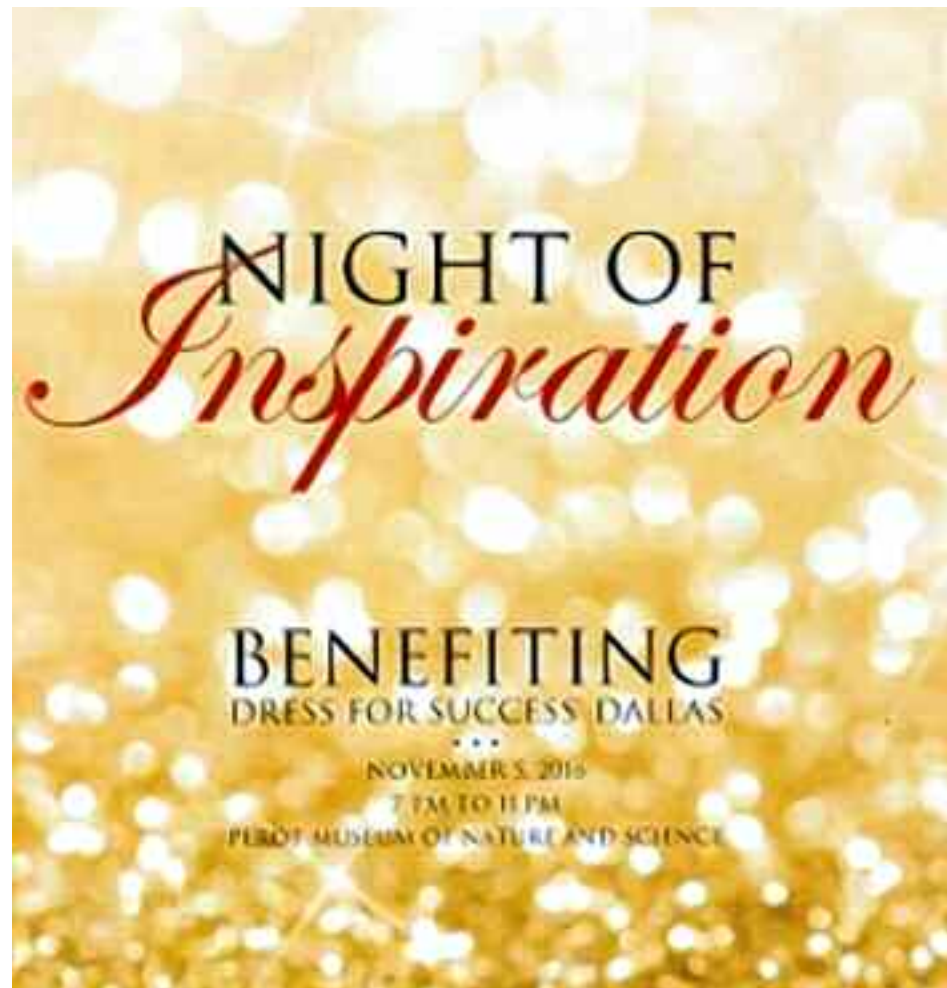
In July of 2015, she com-

pleted a summer internship with Mary Kay cosmetics in Addison, TX.

In July of 2016, Brooke completed additional research on The Prebiotic Synthesis of Nucleobases under the tutelage of Dr. Yassin Jeilani, Assistant Professor at Spelman College (Chemistry and Biochemistry), that resulted in her being selected to present

her findings in October at the 2016 SERMACS (Southeast Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society) Conference in Columbia, S.C.

After graduation, Brooke plans to attend graduate school to attain a Master's Degree in Chemistry. She aspires to work in the research and development field to fulfill her goal of becoming a cosmetic chemist.



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NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Follow North Dallas Gazette on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to keep up on all the latest!!!

# Entrepreneurs grow their companies with the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business program

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Contributor

A growing number of Atlanta businesses are living up to the city's famous nickname: Hotlanta!

More than 20 businesses have entered, thrived and graduated from the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business program, a scholarship-based course that convenes them to learn critical business skills and create growth plans for their companies.

The Goldman Sachs program is an investment to help entrepreneurs create jobs and economic opportunity by providing greater access to

education, capital and business support services.

With 31 sites across the United States and United Kingdom, 10,000 Small Businesses has served over 7,100 small business owners. The program has reached businesses from all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C., and has resulted in immediate and sustained business growth for the alumni of the program.

One of those successful businesses is Atlanta's own Yardstick Learning, which also has locations in Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Illinois, Texas, Colorado and California.

Yardstick Learning is owned and operated by Ebbie Parsons, who has joined thousands of entrepreneurs across the country in an initiative to create jobs.

"Our revenue has grown by 56 percent since participating in the Goldman Sachs program," Parsons said. "Our total employees, including consultants and contractors, grew 109 percent. We have tremendously benefited from the program."

Further, Parsons said he never imagined the program having such a positive influence.

"Frankly, that's all I could do at first was imagine.

We're dreamers but seeing any of this come to fruition is just unbelievable, beyond exciting because you're creating an opportunity for yourself and your team and you're helping others and doing good work by helping our clients solve real issues in their respective communities," he said.

Yardstick Learning is considered a leading global strategic management consultant firm that provides strategy and change management services to mission-driven organizations.

"Our clients include, on

See PROGRAM Page 12

## POLL, continued from Page 1

(84%) pointed to concerns about college affordability as a factor.

Other concerns shaping decisions were the economy and jobs (85%), race relations and racial justice (84%), and income inequality (82%).

When asked about where they obtain their information about political candidates, nearly half (46%) said from local TV news, and another fourth (24%) said from cable stations. Approximately a fifth (18%) said they rely on black newspapers for information about elections.

Revelations of new FBI probes into Hillary Clinton's emails occurred in the midst of the research, prompting researchers to compare participant responses to candidates before and after this news. They found that favorable feelings toward Clinton rose slightly and those toward Trump were cut in half.

The sample of more than 900 registered black voters was 70% female and 30% male. When considered alongside the 96% who said they voted in the previous two elections and also plan to vote on Nov. 8, black women show they are at the forefront of social change

and political history in the United States, by voting to elect the nation's first black and now its first female president.

A majority of respondents said they had attended college (73%), and were 56 years of age or older. Millennials between the ages of 18-35 accounted for 11% of the sample.

Those surveyed were nearly equally split between employed and not-employed (53% and 47%, respectively). Of those employed, 30% said they were federal employees, and 18% said they were union members. Of those not employed, 78% were retired and 22% were unemployed. Nearly half (48%) of respondents said they are married and most (84%) have a religious affiliation (a strong majority of those Christian).

The research was conducted using social science survey methods at Howard University. Research findings, however, do not necessarily reflect the personal views of the researchers, the faculty or administration of Howard University, or the members of the National Newspaper Publishers Association.

Principal investigators on the interdisciplinary

Howard research team included Dr. William Spriggs, Department of Economics; Dr. Terri Adams and Dr. Rubin Patterson, Department of Sociology and Criminology; Dr. Lorenzo Morris, Department of Political Science; and Dr. Carolyn Byerly, Department of Communication, Culture and Media Studies. Principal liaisons from the NNPA included President and CEO Dr. Benjamin Chavis, and Chairman of the Board Denise Rolark Barnes.

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# 'Social Impact Scoring System' spurs a movement of competitive kindness

By Merilee Kern, MBA

Are you using your superpowers for good? One optimistic online community called xocial (pronounced soh-shuhl) is now giving cause-conscious and otherwise kindhearted individuals the ability to do good, see good, feel good and measure good.

Not only does xocial connect people and organizations to causes they care about and inspire them to take action amid friendly competition, the xocial platform also actually measures the impact of their efforts to make the world a better place. For this, participants continually build their XO score, representing their social impact. "Your XO score is a representation of your overall positive social



impact," says CEO Colin Duetta. "You build your score by completing challenges and engaging with others in the xocial community. It's a credit score for your soul."

Duetta goes on to explain that the XO score methodology provides a benchmark

that helps spur the spirit of competition — the favorable kind where everyone ultimately wins. The numerical measurements allow users to compete with each other to see who can do the most good. The XO score also puts the phenomenon of social media to more productive

use. Instead of measuring popularity, xocial measures an individual's or organization's positive social impact. "We want technology to make people better parents, friends, coworkers, bosses and citizens, and also help enable businesses to promote the greater good," says Duetta.

"We want the competitive kindness movement to inspire the next generation of social responsibility," Duetta continued. "xocial's goal is to channel the universal human drive to 'compete' into actions that benefit the causes an individual cares about." He further explains that, while traditional philanthropy focuses on financial giving or attending singular or one-off events, the xocial platform engages both first-

time and lifestyle do-gooders in supporting social causes regardless of their level of skill, special interest or financial donation.

The bottom line? xocial allows anyone to become a superhero (cape not required). Simple campaigns can be built online for free, and anyone can create one: moms, dads, grandparents, kids, companies, charities, schools, teachers, hospitals, offices and neighborhood groups — there are no limitations on who can organize a campaign or join one already underway.

Just search for a cause you care about, click to join and compete in challenges to earn points.

It's up to each campaign organizer whether they want to offer prizes or special recognition for top-scoring

participants. But, when the competition is about compassion, all participants are winners, right?

Individuals can revel in the knowledge they are making a real difference; families can be brought closer together; teamwork can be improved; businesses can establish a new hub of corporate social responsibility and amplify existing efforts; employers can create a more positive workplace culture; charities can increase fundraising, create more buzz and attract, engage and retain the next generation of do-gooders; and teachers can instill real-world character-building lessons using technology to help others...not just for "selfies." Thanks to xocial, good vs.

See IMPACT, Page 13

## PROGRAM, continued from Page 11

the education side, K-12 school districts, charter school management, parochial schools, private schools, colleges and universities," Parsons said.

"On the corporation side, we work with several Fortune 500 companies on their social responsibility foundation and we work with international nonprofits," he said.

Parsons' story isn't unique. The Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses curriculum is designed by Babson College, the leading business school for entrepreneurship. Just six months after their graduation, 68.7 percent of all alumni see revenue growth.

Also, 47.9 percent of the alumni create new jobs within that same timeframe.

As a comparison, 23 percent of U.S. Small Businesses added new jobs in 2015.

For Parsons, the program was a key step to understanding growth opportunities for his business.

"What was interesting for us, and me is that the program helped me to understand that we can't solve every problem and that was difficult for me," Parsons

said.

"I am an African-American business man and an alum of the nation's largest HBCU and our goal was to expand our services to work with so many more HBCUs and help them with any challenge they may have," he said.

"One of the things I learned the hard way is that we have to connect with clients who can afford our services. As a small business owner, there

are some challenges that you can't fix at the time. I had to realize that you just can't tackle every issue," Parsons said.

While participants in 10,000 Small Businesses hail from a wide array of industries, they engage in the program from their shared experience as entrepreneurs.

Georgia alumni include firms focused on staffing, health and fitness, security, childhood education, senior care, and other industries.

Through the peer-to-peer

learning environment, the participants focus on overcoming universal business challenges — like human resources, access to finance, and leadership.

"I learned that my gift was in nurturing relationships," Parsons said. "But, I also learned that my weakness was that I needed to be a better master of the financials. I did not know initially that it was my weakness until I went through the program and it was a skill set that was honed in the Goldman Sachs pro-

gram," he said.

With an eye to the future, Parsons is ready to keep growing his business.

"After the sobering realization that we don't have the financial strength to tackle every issue that I'd love to, I look forward to building our assets to the point where we can help solve some of the problems that currently we cannot."

Business owners are invited to apply to the next cohort of Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small

Businesses before their upcoming deadline on November 2. Learn more at [www.10ksbapply.com](http://www.10ksbapply.com).

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**DCCCD,** continued from Page 6

The two students, who worked on a drone that uses a hammer to tap bridges to test their structural quality, were thrilled about their accomplishment.

Mason, who is majoring in electrical engineering, said, "This is super-surprising! I can't believe I did this. It was an amazing experience!" He added that he's planning to transfer to the University of North Texas and eventually earn a master's degree. "It was really cool to see how our progress paid off. We worked so hard, and we saw how our project worked. It's inspiring!"

"It's unbelievable! All I can do is thank God. This will make my mama proud," Ayorinde exclaimed. He added that he hopes to transfer to a four-year university after he earns his associate degree in mechanical engineering at Mountain View.

The interns' experience at the lab provided a window into the world of scientific research and its importance in national history.

Ian Grey spent his internship at Bradbury Science Museum, LANL's public facility which displays some of the lab's work. As a physics major, Grey's fundamental understanding of the subject helped him convey to the public the kind of

research that is conducted at LANL.

"The museum tells the whole story of the lab, and I like explaining how different things connect," Grey said. "They use so many scientific methods and disciplines, and to see how they all come together to work on a single project is one of the things that I enjoyed."

Grey said visiting the magnetic lab was one the highlights of his internship. That lab houses one of the strongest, non-destructive magnets in the world, and it is used for high-level energy and superconductor research. "When it's in operation, the whole building hums and the floor vibrates," he said. "You don't hear it, but you feel it in your feet. It's eerie!"

For these Mountain View students, their experience at Los Alamos was only the beginning.

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**IMPACT,**

continued from Page 12

good is a better equation that benefits us all.

*Branding, business and entrepreneurship success pundit, Merilee Kern, MBA, is an influential media voice and lauded Communications Strategist. She also serves as the Executive Editor of "The Luxe List" through which she spotlights noteworthy brand endeavors. Merilee may be reached online at [www.TheLuxeList.com](http://www.TheLuxeList.com). Follow her on Twitter here: [twitter.com/LuxeListEditor](https://twitter.com/LuxeListEditor) and Facebook here: [www.Facebook.com/TheLuxeList](https://www.Facebook.com/TheLuxeList).*

**BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, CARROLLTON (A PLACE TO BELONG)**

*NOTICE: Pastor Woodson serves the community by providing "Professional Therapy and Counseling Services" NOT FREE, but on a sliding scale of charge. To schedule an appointment call the Pastoral Counseling Center at 972-526-4525 or email the church.*

**November 6, 9:45 a.m.**

You're invited to our Sunday Morning "Prayer and Meditation" followed by Morning Worship Service at 10 a.m. See what God is doing through and with us; you will be blessed.

**November 9, 7 p.m.**

Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson and Pastor Brenda Patterson teaching a series on "Design for Discipleship, Book 5, Chapter 2." Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you. It's Time to Grow; Ephesians 4:12 & 13.

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**November 6, 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.**

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**November 9**

Join us at 12 Noon with Rev. Viveca Potter teaching on the Word of God; come back at 6:45 p.m. for Corporate Prayer and stay for Senior Pastor Autry at 7:30 p.m. teaching the Word of God. Our youth will come for Food and Fellowship at 7 p.m. followed by Bible Study at 7:30 p.m.

**November 11, 7 p.m.**

You are invited to our FREE Leadership Retreat with renowned speaker Tru Pettigrew, Author, Life Coach, Consultant, Marketing Exec-

utive and more.

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**FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "THE SHIP"**

**November 6, 8 a.m.**

You're invited to our main campus at 200 West Belmont Drive for morning service and a blessing from God; followed by our Sunday Worship Services at Bolin Elementary School in Allen, Texas 75002 and bring someone with you and see them blessed by God.

**November 9, 12 p.m.**

Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word at the Joyce Turner Fellowship Hall, 200 West Belmont Drive in Allen. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all, be prepared to grow.

**November, 8 a.m. Every 4th Sunday**

Calling All Youth! Join our Hype Sunday Worship (first service only) on our main campus at 200 West Belmont Drive and be blessed; followed by our Sunday Worship Services at Bolin Elementary School in Allen, Texas 75002 and bring someone with you, you will be blessed.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D. Senior Pastor  
5705 Cheyenne Drive at Bolin Elementary School in Allen 75002 for Sunday Morning Worship and the Admin. Building Address is 200 W. Belmont Drive Allen, TX 75013  
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**November 6, 7:30 and/or 11:30 a.m.**

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**November 7, 7 p.m.**

Join us in Monday School as we grow in God's Word and learn what God has to say to us.

Pastor Rickie Rush  
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972-372-4262  
www.lbocchurch.org

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**November 6, 10 a.m.**

Join us for Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory; and don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

**November 9, 7 p.m.**

You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

Pastor Sam Fenceroy Senior Pastor and Pastor Gloria Fenceroy  
300 Chisholm Place  
Plano, TX 75075  
972-633-5511  
www.mocop.org

**SHILOH MBC IN PLANO (WHERE COMMUNITY BECOMES FAMILY)**

**November 6, 8 a.m. And 11 a.m.**

Join us for Worship Services

and fellowship as we give God all glory, honor and praise.

**November 9, 7 p.m.**

You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word. Come and be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and growth; it's all for His glory and His honor. We are, "Growing in Christ through the study of His Word."

Our AWANA (Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed from 2 Timothy 2:15) is held from 6:30 - 8:15 pm, now through May. Kick-off was September 7th. There is no charge for registration for

new participants! This is a Bible-based program for children and youth, ages three years old through the 12th grade. The emphasis is on memorizing the Word of God and developing a personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ in a structured, safe and fun environment.

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# Take time to listen



Send email to: [businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com) to sign up for Sister Tarpley's weekly electronic newsletter.

When you're facing a problem, the very first thing you should ask God for is His wisdom; not money, not power, not even healing, but His wisdom.

God's wisdom is the key that will unlock every door in your life. It will turn your every failure into success.

Stop wasting prayers begging God for things you think you need and spend some time instead listening to what He has to say about your situation.

If you've never tried that before, practically speaking, here's what you need to do.

First, you must lay the entire problem before the Lord, not because He doesn't know what you're going through but because laying out your problems helps

you. It helps you see things from a more objective point of view.

I remember when I used to take my problems to my father. Somehow, when I was explaining them to him, they began to look different to me.

I would get a new perspective and as I talked, he would point out areas I hadn't considered yet.

Explaining your problems to God, point by point will help you accomplish the same thing.

Second, listen for the Spirit of God to advise you. Pay particular attention to what He says through His written Word.

Most likely, the cares of your problems have choked the Word of God right out of your heart. Mark 18-19.

What you need to do is get the Bible and begin to put that Word back in again. Then the Holy Spirit will begin to speak to you through it.

As you are listening, be sure to remain teachable. Be ready to accept rebuke if

necessary. Be very honest with God. Look for ways in which you've been wrong and confess them to Him. It's alright.

Those sins won't come as

any surprise to Him. He already knows about them. Confession just gives you the opportunity to get rid of them.

Third, act on the wisdom

that God gives you. Let go of your own methods and put His methods into operation. Be obedient. If you don't, that wonderful wisdom won't do you any good at all.

As you pray today, set aside your own ideas and start seeking the wisdom of God. It's the only thing that can permanently solve the problems you've been facing. It's truly the most precious gift God has to give. Seek God's Wisdom!

Ponder This. Some Christians do not like to read the Bible for themselves; they prefer to listen

to a speaker read when he or she is bringing the message of the hour; they are just not that discipline.

But, if the Christian will not commit to knowing what is in God's Word and then following it, they will fail to know and experience God for themselves.

God's Word is life to the Christian's soul. It provides knowledge that leads to life. The prophet Hosea tells us, "My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject

See TARPLEY, Page 16



Brooke Ross and her college professor and mentor Dr. Jean-Marie Dimandja, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, Analytical Chemistry, Chemo-informatics and Environmental Chemistry, with her poster presentation of her research on, "The Screening of Human Skin Volatile Organic Compounds by GCxGC/TOF-MS"

**NDGtv** North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with **Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley**. Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.

Look for NDGTV at [NorthDallasGazette.com](http://NorthDallasGazette.com)

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# NDG Book Review: *We Gon' Be Alright* offers glimpses of grace

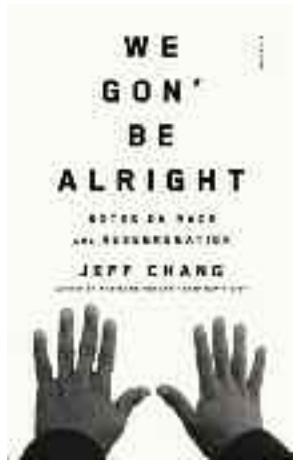
By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You had hope that things might be better.

We elected a Black man as President, and there was a minute where you could almost see a bit of racial optimism. And then: Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, #BlackLivesMatter, and are we back to where we started? Did we ever really make any progress at all? In the new book “We Gon’ Be Alright” by Jeff Chang, the answer is maybe – and it’s fixable.

The last four years have been rough.

Every time you turn on the TV or grab a newspaper, it seems as though another



Black life has been lost and “the list never seems to cease,” says Chang. It’s a trend that’s escalated to the point that it’s now “blown into white America as well,” which should coalesce us but which actually

seems to divide us all the more. We seem, as Chang says, to have “slid back toward segregation.”

The current political climate isn’t helping.

Over the past 12 months, Whites who felt “undone” by wage gaps and who had “fears of falling” flocked to a candidate that understood how to gain their support by pointing accusing fingers at Mexicans, the Chinese, and Muslims. When demonstrations were held to protest this, violence broke out, which only fueled the fires.

Diversity, says Chang, has become a “buzzword.” Schools strive for it but often do it wrong. Hollywood is still “overwhelm-

ingly white,” as are the CSuites of most major corporations. Colleges struggle with issues of Affirmative Action, while Black students make the same demands of their administrations that they’ve been making “for three decades now.”

And then there’s housing.

Chang uses San Francisco as an example: as the tech industry grows, formerly-Black neighborhoods with affordable rents have been taken over by new, elite, mostly-White residents. Overall, “cities are becoming wealthier and whiter,” they’re becoming divided largely by income, and housing projects are

being torn down, bringing us full-circle back to resegregation.

“The revolution is never complete,” Chang says. “But redemption is out there for us if we are always in the process of finding love and grace.”

So what can be done?

I didn’t think author Jeff Chang had many concrete solutions here, but in “We Gon’ Be Alright,” he offers an ocean of hope.

In the meantime – long before you get to that – Chang’s provocative essays are wide and quite discouraging. Here, he writes of all that’s wrong in an effort to show how we might feel like we’ve made occasional

progress but that nothing’s really changed. Through resegregation, our “progress” is just a problem, rearranged. Most assuredly, that doesn’t make this an eager read.

And yet, there’s grace inside Chang’s observations – grace, which is exactly what he advocates in the end, in a stunning chapter that brings this whole book to a pinnacle.

I wondered if perhaps this book is pocket-sized on purpose: it seems like something you might want to tuck away close and consume in short bursts, in order to ponder. With “We Gon’ Be Alright,” that kind of reading might be better.

## Fans accuse Starbucks of taking Jesus out of Christmas again

By Ruth Ferguson  
NDG Editor

Apparently, it is now an annual tradition to rail against the new Starbucks holiday cup. There is just one problem; the cup that debuted Nov. 1 is not intended for the holiday edition. It is intended to celebrate diversity. However, in keeping with the tone of American discourse, the company was accused again of brainwashing customers and trying to take Jesus out of Christmas holiday celebration.

The cup features the artwork of Shogo Ota and it is a green cup with an image creating from one continuous line representing 100 different people. The limited edition cup is intended to celebrate American diversity.

“The green cup and the design represent the connections Starbucks has as a community with its partners (employees) and customers. During a divisive time in our country, Starbucks wanted to create a symbol of unity as a reminder of our shared values, and the need to be good to each other,”



said Howard Schultz, Chairman, and CEO.

The social media reaction included suggestions that Starbucks was going too far to be politically correct, frustration over the lack of holiday cheer and not even a single snowflake. One angry Instagram user demanded that others retweet her post “if you think @Starbucks is trying to take Jesus out of Christmas with

the new cup. Make this go viral so Starbucks makes cups red again.”

If your Christianity is dependent upon Starbucks leading the way – the problem is with your faith. Starbucks has never professed to be a faith-based organization. While they certainly tout their efforts to help the environment and those in the community where they harvest the coffee beans as

well as their local charitable activities. But they are not in the business of promoting religion.

Well, you could make the argument that suggesting we treat one another as brother and sister is in the right spirit. But like so many other things about 2016 and how we celebrate holidays period: if it is not the right color, it is not acceptable.

## TARPLEY, continued from Page 15

thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thy hast forgotten the law of God, I will also forget thy children.” Hosea 4:6

God has given His Word to us and His Word has specific laws and principles that must be followed if we expect His blessing.

King David forgot to follow one of those laws related to the ark. “And when Aaron and his sons have made an end of covering the sanctuary, and

all the vessels of the sanctuary, as the camp is to set forward; after that, the sons of Kohath shall come to bear it: but they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die.

When the sons of Kohath were transporting the ark, Uzza innocently reached to steady the ark but was immediately stricken dead when his hands touched the ark of God. Did David know this law or did he simply forget?



## TOWN HALL MEETING Dec. 6

Representative Eric Johnson's Legislative Town Hall will be held on Tuesday, December 6th from 6:00pm - 8:00pm at the Dallas County Schools Building. (5151 Samuell Blvd. Dallas, TX 75228)

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