BLAC[20]

BLACdetroit.com Black Life, Arts & Culture

Warren Evans
A chat with the Wayne County executive

FLASH SALE

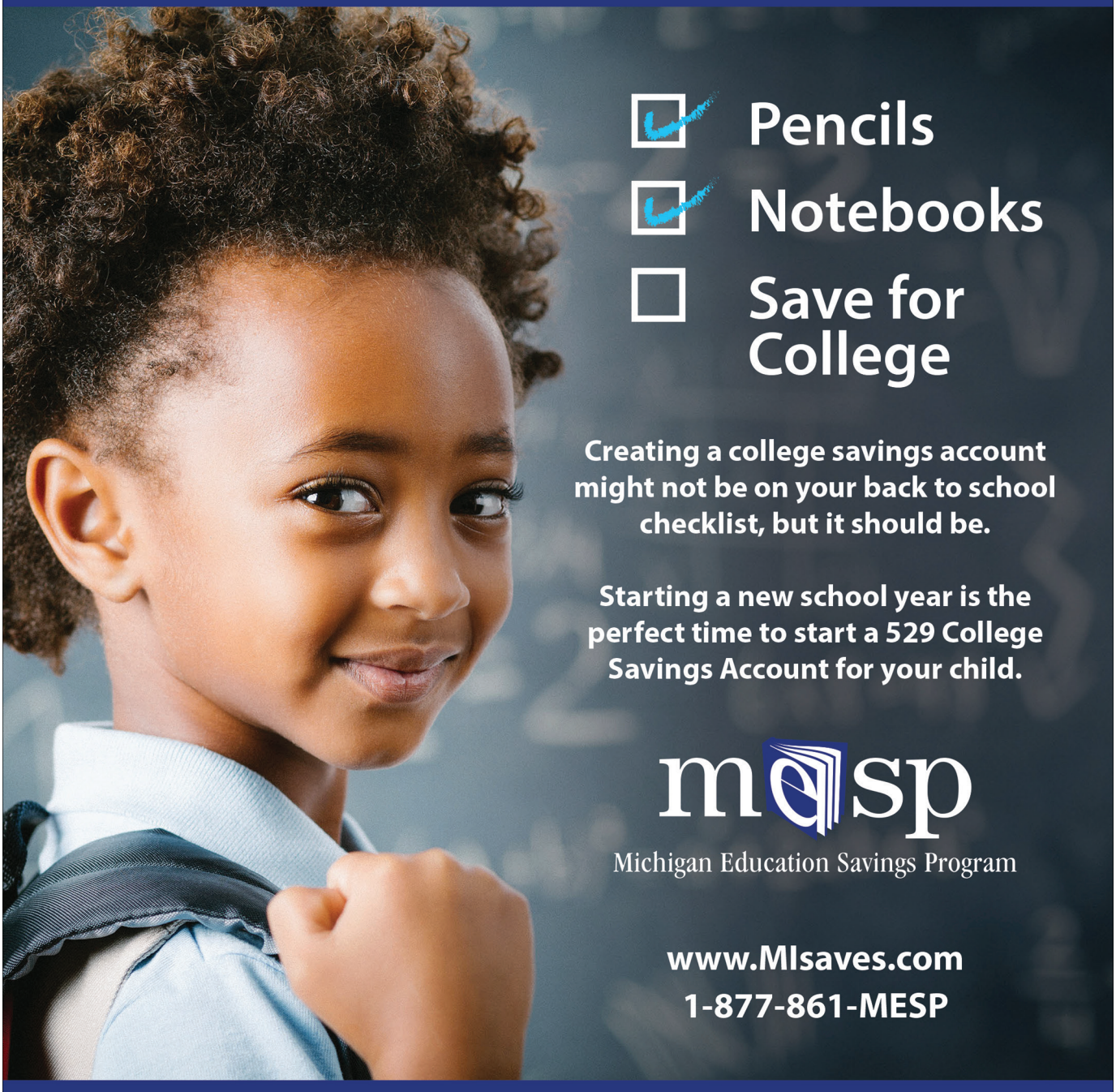
A trend-driven culture makes fast fashion cheap and easy,

but at what cost?



SEPTEMBER 2019 / COMPLIMENTARY

BACK-TO-SCHOOL CHECKLIST:



Michigan's direct-sold 529 College Savings Program

Program Administrator, Michigan Department of Treasury. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, Member FINRA and SIPC, distributor and underwriter for the Michigan Education Savings Program. To learn more about the Michigan Education Savings Program, its investment objectives, tax benefits, risks and costs, please see the Disclosure Booklet at MIsaves.com. Read it carefully. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed and there is the risk of investment loss.

891597

Ask the Expert

HEALTH ADVICE FROM ASCENSION MICHIGAN



Victoria Cohen, D.O.

How can I lower my stress level?

You cannot escape stress. Getting the kids off to school, a ruined meal, taking care of an aging parent, job worries, or any life event can cause your stress level to rise.

"Stress is normal," says Dr. Victoria Cohen, D.O., a family medicine physician with the Ascension Medical Group Greater Mack Primary Care. "We all have stress. We can find comfort in knowing that we are not alone in feeling stressed or overwhelmed."

According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA), anxiety disorders are the most common mental health disorder in the United States. ADAA says that in African American women, anxiety is more chronic and symptoms are more intense than in Caucasian women.

"Stress manifests itself differently between people and we process stress differently," Dr. Cohen says. "It occurs at different times and it can be associated with different triggers."

Untamed stress takes a toll. In fact, stress is linked to higher incidents of heart attack, stroke and other types of cardiovascular disease in African American women, the American Heart Association (AHA) notes.

It's important to identify your "go-to" techniques to relieve stress, Dr. Cohen suggests.

"Unfortunately, many of us use unhealthy techniques," she says, including stress eating, binge-watching Netflix or shopping. Dr. Cohen says some of these methods aren't completely bad, however, "*the* issue is when we are using these for coping and not addressing the main issue."

There are a variety of tools to combat stress – and among them is mindfulness, which Dr. Cohen describes as "being aware of your physical and mental presence in the moment. Practicing mindfulness allows you to assess the things going on around you and determine how they impact you mentally."

Researchers from Johns Hopkins University conclude that using mindfulness meditation can help ease anxiety, as well as help with depression and pain.

In his book *Being Peace*, author Thich Nhat Hanh recommends, "Breathing in, I calm my body. Breathing out, I smile. Dwelling in the present moment, I know this is a "wonderful moment."

Dr. Cohen personally uses mindfulness techniques to change the focus to breathing rather than the stressor.

"In medical school we practiced a mindfulness technique called 'Soft Belly'," she says. "Take a deep breath, saying the word 'soft' and slowly exhale, saying 'belly.' I found this to be so beneficial that I practice this with my family."

There are many benefits to mindfulness. "You can identify stressors on-the-spot and practice mindfulness techniques to address them immediately," Dr. Cohen says.

Increased productivity and enjoyment of activities, improved sleep and reduced muscle tension are just a few of the other dividends.

"Overall, it helps to improve your quality of life," Dr. Cohen says.

Everyone can use mindfulness techniques, she adds. You can get started today by downloading a free app, such as the Breathe app, to your smartphone. Other mindfulness techniques focus on objects in your surroundings or listening to music. Many of them can be incorporated in your daily routine.

"Mental health plays a huge role in how we are able to tackle our day-to-day responsibilities," Dr. Cohen says. "You may not enjoy each moment in life; however, we are given new days to turn things around. We can start the change one moment at a time."

Get more health information and find a doctor near you by visiting ascension.org/michigan or calling 866-501-DOCS (3627)



SEPTEMBER 2019

INSIDE

5 Online at BLACdetroit.com

FEATURES

15 BLAC LEGENDS
Wayne County Executive Warren Evans talks the 2020 census, racism and 'New Detroit'

18 FAST FADS
The true cost of disposable fashion

23 BLAC 20TH ANNIVERSARY THROWBACK
Kicking it back to 2009 and our chat with KEM

DEPARTMENTS

10 DISCOVER
Must-have beauty products, a mini donut takeover, the Michigan Law Enforcement Memorial Monument is unveiled and more

14 DETROIT PROPER
NASA's would-be first black astronaut

26 ACCESS DETROIT
The best September events in and around Detroit

30 SEEN
Fash Bash 2019

SPONSORED

3 HOW CAN I LOWER MY STRESS LEVEL?

7 DR. KISHAWN KOLE-JAMES, SUPERIOR ORTHODONTICS

8 QUAN BLUNT, FARM MANAGER, MICHIGAN URBAN FARMING INITIATIVE

ON THE COVER:

Photo by Lauren Jeziorski taken at SOCCRA Material Recovery Facility in Troy
Model: Bria Larine, @brialarine
Stylist: Marv Neal, marvneal.com, @marvneal
Hair: Genevieve Edwards, @hairlife2you
Makeup: Ashley Valentina, @valentina.mua



Online in September

Follow us on social media and visit BLACdetroit.com to stay in the know



September Happenings

Browse the expanded version of our Access Detroit calendar.



Michigan Fashion Summit

Michigan Fashion Week founder Loren Hicks nurtures emerging talent.



Plug Your Event

Visit BLACdetroit.com/Calendar to upload an event.



Seen Galleries

See the 'who's who' attending top events around you. Did we spot you?

Fb.com/BLACdetroitMagazine

@BLACMagazine

@BLACdetroitMag

BLAC **BOARD MEMBERS**



Paul Riser Jr.
Chairman



Sharon Banks



Alexis Bourkoulas



Marc Hardy



Alyssa Martina

BLAC **EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD**



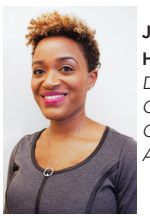
Sharon Banks
President & CEO, Bankable Marketing Strategies



Austin Black II
President, City Living Detroit



Karen Dumas
President, Images & Ideas Inc.



Jacqueline J. Howard
Director of Corporate Citizenship, Ally Financial



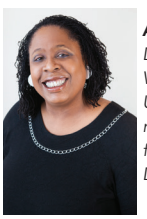
Brandon Jessup
CEO, Michigan Forward Urban Affairs Group



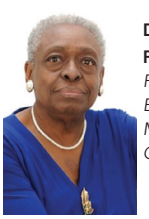
Tiffany Love
Director of Advertising, MGM Grand Detroit



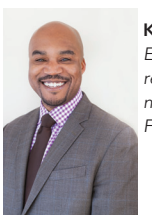
Katrina McCree
Director of Government and Community Affairs, DMC Sinai-Grace Hospital



Alicia Nails
Director, Wayne State University Journalism Institute for Media Diversity



Dr. Glenda Price
President Emeritus, Marygrove College



Khary Turner
Executive Director, Coleman A. Young Foundation



The Power of 20

It's our 20th anniversary, and we're celebrating all year long with special articles and projects in print and online at BLACdetroit.com/ThePowerof20.

And we've got swag! Rock a BLAC T-shirt or hoodie and remind everyone everywhere that you honor Black Life, Arts and Culture. Available in men's and women's cuts and sizes.

For two decades, BLAC has empowered and amplified the voice of the community, taking care to spotlight those oft-forgotten corners. The party can't stop, won't stop.

BLACDETROIT.COM/THEPOWEROF20

B.L.A.C.®
Black Life, Arts & Culture

PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
Alyssa R. Martina, amartina@BLACdetroit.com

VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF REVENUE OFFICER
Alexis Bourkoulas, alexis@BLACdetroit.com

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER
Julia Elliott, julia@BLACdetroit.com

SENIOR EDITOR
Paris Giles, paris@BLACdetroit.com

COPY EDITOR
Jessica Schrader

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Desiree Cooper, Arianna Smith, Darrell Hall

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Kelly Buren, kelly@BLACdetroit.com

PHOTOGRAPHER AND GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Lauren Jeziorski, lauren@BLACdetroit.com

JUNIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Jay Holladay, jay@BLACdetroit.com

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS
Sydney Kispert-Bostick, Genevieve Edwards, Marv Neal, Ashley Valentina

PRINTER
Publication Printers Corp., Denver, Colorado

ADVERTISING/MARKETING
Sales Director, Alexis Bourkoulas,
alexis@BLACdetroit.com
advertise@BLACdetroit.com

SENIOR CLIENT STRATEGISTS
Ben Baker, ben@BLACdetroit.com
Kevin Hayes, kevin@BLACdetroit.com
Linda Holland, linda@BLACdetroit.com

SALES OPERATIONS MANAGER
Jess Chrobak, jess@BLACdetroit.com

SALES AND EVENTS COORDINATOR
Aubrey Knapp, aubrey@BLACdetroit.com

SALES AND DISTRIBUTION COORDINATOR
Meaghan Smith, meaghan@BLACdetroit.com

ACCOUNTING MANAGER
Cathy Mullins, accounting@BLACdetroit.com

CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

How to reach us:
22041 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, MI 48220-2520
Phone: 248-398-3400, Fax: 248-399-3970

Calendar submissions: Access Detroit listings are free and photos are especially welcome. Send email submissions to calendar@BLACdetroit.com.

BLAC Detroit magazine is published 12 times a year. For advertising, call 248-398-3400. Subscription rate is $50/year.

©2019 by BLAC Detroit. All rights reserved. Any reproduction in whole or in part without the express written consent of BLAC magazine is prohibited.



SUPERIOR ORAL CARE YOU DESERVE

DREAMING OF STRAIGHTER TEETH? SUPERIOR ORTHODONTICS OFFERS PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONALIZED ORAL CARE THAT CAN GIVE YOU A SMILE THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE.

By Christina Clark

Dr. Kishawn Kole-James knows what it's like to have crooked teeth. He grew up with them.

"People teased me and I was sort of an introvert, so I hid my smile," he says. When he did laugh or smile, it would come out as a sort of grimace. "It (just) wasn't the smile God intended for me."

But that all changed when he got braces. In fact, once he got his braces taken off, his confidence skyrocketed.

"I've been smiling ever since," he says.

His experience with braces changed his life and from that point on Dr. Kole-James, now a Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS), wanted to give people the same gift, so he opened Superior Orthodontics.

This local practice, which has three convenient locations in Detroit, Harper Woods and West Bloomfield, opened in 2017 and offers every aspect of orthodontic care from clear aligners, to gold and white braces, to more traditional options.

And because Dr. Kole-James worked in general dentistry for eight years prior to furthering his education in orthodontics – coupled with the fact that every patient's lab work is done in-house – he's able to take on more complex dental issues too.

"Most orthodontists go straight to orthodontics school from dental school," he explains. "Having that experience has allowed me to expand the scope of what I offer to my patients."

In addition to this wide array of services, Superior Orthodontics has an excellent and caring staff, beautiful and comfortable facilities and the most state-of-the-art technology. But what really makes this practice stand out is how they tailor their oral care to the needs of each and every patient.

"We customize every aspect of our patient's care," Dr. Kole-James explains. "I'm asking questions and digging to find out who my patients are as individuals."

This includes asking each patient what he or she would change about their teeth and how their smile impacts them day-to-day, in addition to explaining the individual needs that should be taken care of from a medical standpoint.

"I'm very high energy, I'm always running around the clinics and really engaging with patients to find out who they are, so I really get to know what they're going through in life," he adds. "When the smile is done, they're at a new point in life to further goals and be the best them possible."

And it's not just orthodontic care that Dr. Kole-James offers either. A partnership with fellow dentist Dr. Ronald Kitchen brings regular dental care to the West Bloomfield location's Superior Family Smiles.

"It's the dental arm of the Superior brand where we offer general dental services, like hygiene and implants. Any dental problems you have we can treat," he says.

Think you might be ready to work on your smile? Dr. Kole-James says you can call, fill out the contact form online or stop-by your community office to set up an appointment for an evaluation or free consultation.

Anyone as young as seven years old can start working on their smile at Superior Orthodontics, he adds. And no matter how old you are, you're not too old.

"We see patients as early as seven and as old as 80 or 90," he explains. "You're never too late to improve how you look, and a smile is for a lifetime."

SUPERIOR ORTHODONTICS

To learn more about Superior Orthodontics and the services that they offer, visit them online at superiororthodontics.com.

Ford Motor Company Fund

A year-long series featuring Detroiters who are driving positive change in their communities.

Driving Community

Sponsored by Ford Motor Company Fund



Main Photo by Lauren Jeziorski

Quan Blunt, Farm Manager, Michigan Urban Farming Initiative

Experience with food insecurity and a drive to help others inspired this born-and-raised Detroiter to work toward ending hunger in the city.

Achieving your best when you're hungry is hard. Achieving your best when you're hungry and unsure of when and from where your next meal is coming is near impossible. Food insecurity – the lack of reliable access to sufficient, affordable and nutritious food – is a reality for many Detroit families and something Quan Blunt, the farm manager for Michigan Urban Farming Initiative, is working to change.

Blunt, who was born on the city's eastside and raised next to the Detroit City Airport, experienced food insecurity as a child. It's what drove him toward his current line of work. "When I was attending Michigan State University, I thought I wanted to be a doctor, but I'm not a competitive person so I realized that wasn't going to work out," says Blunt, who has a degree in food science and minors in both environmental and sustainability studies, and brewing and distilling.

"I was in a family that had a food insecurity, so the issue of food insecurity struck a chord with me," he adds. "I was interested in science and I love food, and then I found out that food science was a major." After earning his degree, Blunt would put his knowledge to work traveling to five continents with the Peace Corps.

"I (joined the Peace Corps) with the hopes that I could bring what I learned back to my city, the food desert that is Detroit," he says. "I got to travel and got some world experience and had some personal growth."

In his travels, he'd spend two years in Nepal teaching different agricultural techniques and working on a program that focused on nutrition-sensitive agriculture – a style that aims to overcome malnutrition with dietary diversity.

After his travels, he returned to Michigan to work as an organic chemist at a cannabis company in Lansing before returning to his hometown and landing his current position with Michigan Urban Farming Initiative a few months ago.

Today, he manages a three-acre farm that sees some 200 volunteers each week and gives out thousands

of pounds of organically grown produce to households near its Brush Street location.

"I'm like a jack-of-all-trades. I wear many hats (and) it can be a challenge, but I love it," Blunt says. He has a hand in overseeing some of the farm's other initiatives such as its high-density fruit orchard, children's sensory garden and retention pond, which uses the basement of a once-blighted home as a rainwater harvesting cistern that automatically supplies water to an adjacent urban farm via a drip line irrigation system. More service projects are in place or forthcoming and all aimed at keeping the community clean and improving access to nutritious food.

"It's not just being able to afford the produce, it's about convenience," he says. "People are working two or three jobs and they may not be able to go to Meijer on Eight Mile or (to) the Whole Foods on Mack. (The farm also) helps beautify the space (and) it builds a greater sense of community."

And when he's not doing work with MUFI, he volunteers with other altruistic organizations like Meals on Wheels and York Project, the "social streetwear" company that donates clothing and other items to homeless Detroiters.

"I came back to my city to help Detroit become the best Detroit it can be," Blunt says. "I want to do more outreach and expand (the farm's) reach to the whole city, if not with our produce then with education. I want everyone in the city to know about the Michigan Urban Farming Initiative – and I want people to be aware of nutrition and what's good to eat."









ENDING HUNGER

For more information on Michigan Urban Farming Initiative and the work this 501-c3 does, visit **miufi.org.**

"It takes a village to raise a child – but just one person to change a community."

Ford congratulates Quan Blunt on his recent position as Farm Manager with Michigan Urban Farming Initiative. Having experienced food insecurity himself as a child raised here in Michigan, his new role allows him to carry out his passion to promote education, sustainability and community in an effort to empower urban communities against food insecurity.

Ford Fund believes that helping people meet their most basic human need is the first step toward strengthening our communities and creating a better city in which we live. Ford Fund works to address hunger in our communities in many ways like through investments that support local food banks as well as a nationwide fleet of Ford Mobile Food Pantries that deliver fresh produce directly to people in need. Ford Fund shares a commitment with local nonprofits year-round to promote healthy food and food security initiatives through various projects with the Detroit Area Agency on Aging's Meals on Wheels program, as well as our two Detroit Ford Resource & Engagement Centers.

Ford is proud to recognize Quan Blunt for being inspired to use his platform to not only feed his passion to end hunger but most important to feed his community with knowledge and assist with food insecurity.

– Pamela Alexander, director of community development for Ford Motor Company



By Paris Giles



BEAUTY Bar



Bronzers and oils and lip stains – oh, bye! It's easy to get overwhelmed by all the beauty products vying for our loyalty, and we got questions. Will it work? Is it worth the money? Is it for us? Or if you're really green – what even is this? Still, there are some great products out there, and we'd hate for you to miss out, so unclench that beautiful jaw. We called in the cosmetic cavalry to help you wade through it all. Beauty artist and BLAC friend Cassandra Ward offers up her makeup bag must-haves.

Cream Blends Lip Balm

Moisturize those kissers with this creamy concoction from a Royal Oak-based brand, made with shea butter, coconut oil, almond oil, vitamin E and beeswax from Detroit Hives, a local nonprofit that turns vacant lots into bee farms.

"I'm a lip balm person. Putting it on (your lips) can be just as relaxing as getting a facial."

creamblends.com



We're still buzzing about Detroit Hives on BLAC's May 2018 cover.

The Lip Bar Fresh Glow Bronzer + Blush Duo

Make sure the light catches all your best angles with this cute little compact, available in five different combo shades with fun names like Girls Night and Just Got Paid. Use the bronzing powder first around your cheek lines, jawline and hairline, then dust the apples of your cheeks with a pop of color.

"They're not such deep tones, but they're correct tones to give that naturally bronzing look. Because everybody has shadows on their face, but you don't want to overshadow."

thelipbar.com



Megababe Bust Dust

If the name alone hasn't won your heart, then maybe it'll be that this talc-free powder promises to absorb sweat in an instant helping to keep your bra and shirt dry. Made with aloe, lavender and chamomile, it stands up to the bustiest of busts on the most sweltering of days.

"This helps us big girls, little girls, all the girls not to chap and not to sweat. Who wants sweaty boobs? #NoOne."

megababebeauty.com

Danessa Myricks Beauty Vision Cream Cover

This lightweight all-in-one concealer and foundation uses texture minimizing technology to cover the peskiest of skin imperfections like hyperpigmentation to leave you looking silky smooth.

"Skin is in and this foundation is awesome! A little goes a long way."

danessamyricksbeauty.com



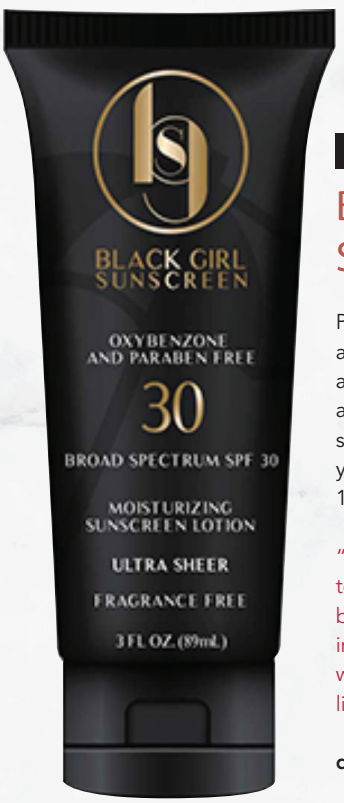


Olive + M Shimmer + Glow Body Oil

This lightweight blend of jasmine, argan, vanilla and sweet orange oils, with just the right amount of sparkle, is perfect for any given spot – or all over.

"You can take it and add a couple drops into your foundation and have a nice dewy look on your face, and go out and catch that sun!"

bamboobeauty.shop



Black Girl Sunscreen

Protect that melanin magic from an increased risk of skin cancer and early aging. This vegan and cruelty-free moisturizing sunscreen lotion goes on before your normal skin care routine and 15 minutes before sun exposure.

"Black people need sunscreen, too, but without the ashy kickback. You won't find harmful ingredients or that annoying off-white residue. Rub it in, and just like lotion, it dries super clear."

detroitbrows.com

By Darrell Hall and Arianna Smith

DREAM CATCHERS



Husband-and-wife team Seun and Omonye Phillips intend to set their inaugural My Dream BIG Club conference apart from other empowerment seminars aimed towards professional millennials by actively working to foster connections past cleanup. "The pre- and post-conference services are what make My Dream BIG a game changer," Omonye says. "Accountability and a strong support group are two of the most important aspects of professional success."

Expect the upcoming conference to be a full day of motivation, organic networking and hands-on workshops like "Fireside Chat - Female Millionaire and the Power of Social Media" and "Maximizing Your Time Wisely." When attendees leave, they'll have access to an active system of supportive equals to keep their dreams on track.

The couple founded My Dream BIG Club in January. Go-getting members of the annually paid program are invited to meetups and parties throughout the year with the specific purpose of encouraging and interacting with their peers. Members also keep in touch through social media.

"We wanted it to have far-reaching effects," Seun says. Wife Omonye adds, "We have a lot of power when we come together to learn and enact change."

An engineer and pharmacist, respectively, Seun and Omonye based the cornerstones of My Dream BIG on their early career experiences and their desire to "share the wealth" of what they've learned.

"The inspiration really came from listening to what our friends had to say and what they wanted to see changed," Seun says. "Some of the speakers we know personally and some we don't, but they all have the same drive and confidence that we want to impart to our audience."

– A.S.

Sept. 14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Greektown Casino-Hotel
conference.mydreambigclub.com



Photo by Lois Marinangeli

MADE – OF – HONOR

Beauty and honor were truly on display at the recent unveiling of the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument. On July 27, hundreds gathered to pay their respects to over 500 law enforcement officers from across the state of Michigan who lost their lives in the line of duty. The monument – named "Sentinel" and designed by David Milling of David Milling & Associates/Architects – features "10 sentinels standing vigil over the memories of those lost" gracefully near the Michigan State Capitol in Lansing.

The unveiling ceremony was "beautiful and extremely pleasing," Detroit Police Department Officer Glenn Doss recalled. Doss lost his son, Glenn Doss Jr., in 2018.

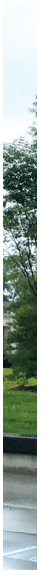
My son was approaching two years of being an officer," he says. "It was an honor to have his name etched in stone but (we) must stop the violence. We need more fathers to be involved, we need more male role models."

The monument is a result of the work of former Gov. Jennifer Granholm's Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument Fund, commissioned in 2004. The names of each fallen officer, along with their departments, are engraved in glossy metal panels that glow at dusk. The state's website says the panels will "provide a sense of strength and stability due to their scale while allowing security and visibility of the adjacent Vietnam Memorial."

Since 2016, nine DPD officers have lost their lives protecting and serving their communities. This public display of reverence is our opportunity to say "thank you."

– D.H.

michigan.gov/mleom





DOUGH *DIZZY*

For the past eight years, Detroit Mini Donut has been a sought-after mobile staple at food truck rallies and catering events, and last month, they opened a storefront in the Merchant's Building right across from Punch Bowl Social. "We got such a good response from being a mobile food truck business, we stopped tossing around the idea of a store to focus on that. But a friend of mine brought us the opportunity to put down roots and we didn't want to pass," says co-owner Karen Hudson.

Hudson wouldn't spill the recipe for their famous cinnamon sugar donuts or the freshly squeezed lemonade, but she did say that quality is the first ingredient. "Everything is fresh and real. We don't want a one-time buy. We want to provide as many incentives as we can for people to come back," she says. With Hudson and Kara Willis at the helm, Detroit Mini Donut is 100% woman- and minority-owned. "We pounded the pavement together for so long," Hudson says. "I look up and I get surprised by how well things are going and how far we've come." They're using the extra space to create new confections for the menu like custard shakes and water-ice slushes.

– A.S.

214 E. Grand River Ave.
Detroit
detroitminidonut.com

Pop a pastry from any of these other miniature donut spots.

The Dapper Donut. Now available for catering and coming soon to 620 Woodward Ave., these guys have over 15 different flavors and combinations for any mood or occasion. thedapperdonut.com

Donut Bar + Coffee. Get your bite-sized donuts from this spot offering flavors like Holi Cannoli, Cookie Monster and Tres Leches. Stop into the Southfield or Troy locations, or have them delivered by way of Uber Eats and Grubhub! donutbardetroit.com

Diane's Mini Donuts. Double-chocolate sprinkled donuts from this setup inside Cobo Center's atrium are guaranteed to make any fall day along the riverfront just that much sweeter. facebook.com



lifejuicecafe.com

DRINKIN' IT IN

Praise be! Split pea green is no longer the official color of health. The juices from Rhondell Love's Life Juice Bar and Cafe are a literal rainbow of nutrition with benefits as varied as the shades in the bottles. "The thing with Life is you actually get 100% raw pressed juice," Love says. "We don't use water because it thins the product out. You get all the nutrients with one bottle of Life, where you might have to drink two from some other company."

Love says he and part-owner Angie Love, his fiancé, shop for all of Life Juice's ingredients themselves. They buy, weigh, ratio, press and package every bottle by hand, with no added preservatives or sugars.

Order online or grab a bottle from recently opened downtown cycle and fitness studio Vibe Ride Detroit. Love says, "I met (Vibe Ride owner Latricia Wilder) at a pop-up shop. I was giving out Life for free then. She was so impressed, she offered to foster Life on the spot."

He adds, "My assistant swore up and down she hated vegetables. She tried the Gazelle flavor" – beets, apples, lemons, carrots and strawberries – "and finished it without knowing it had beets in it. That's what I want Life to do for the city."

– A.S.





BUT FIRST, BRUNCH

Two words: waffle biscuits. It should come as no surprise that this is the best-selling dish on the menu at The Breakfast Loft in Detroit. "Our menu is breakfast- and brunch-centered. It's a hearty American menu with a twist – an upscale plate in a comfortable place," says owner Micah Jenkins.

At 24 years old, Jenkins is one of the youngest restaurant owners in the city. She's built a space in the old Key Lounge that combines "great food, inclusion and societal interaction" for everyone, regardless of dietary restrictions like allergies and intolerances. Expect vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free options.

The Breakfast Loft officially opened to the public Sept. 8. "We're in a predominantly African American community, so it matters that much more to go the extra mile for a unique social experience and interaction."

– A.S.

1440 Franklin St., Detroit
thebreakfastloft.com

Edward Dwight and a Dream Deferred, but Reincarnated



BY DESIREE COOPER

This year, America has been celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. I'll never forget the moment that I sat in front of the television, transfixed. "I want to do that," I thought at age 9. "I'm going to the moon."

My dream, it turns out, was thwarted not by race or gender, but by motion sickness. I can barely get on a plane without barfing. But I also quickly realized that my romance with spaceflight was just that – romance. The notion of space exploration lures me to poetry, not to aerospace engineering. Becoming an astronaut wasn't my destiny.

Edward Dwight got much closer to realizing his dream of becoming the first black man on the moon, but it wasn't the 85-year-old's destiny, either. In 1961, President Kennedy announced that the United States would beat the Russians and put a man on the moon. Edward R. Murrow, the famous journalist who was then the director of the United States Information Agency, asked the administration: "What if we sent a black man to the moon?" The president agreed that the team should be diverse and directed NASA to find a black candidate for the program. That candidate was a young officer who was already in training to be a test pilot: Ed Dwight.

In 1962, Dwight entered the Aerospace Research Pilot School (ARPS) and rocketed into fame in the African American community as NASA's future black astronaut. But there were many hurdles in front of him. Even with the personal backing of the president, who had called his parents to congratulate them on their son's induction into the space program, many whites questioned his qualifications for the program. Dwight told the New York Times earlier this year that there was a concerted effort by the white establishment to break him and "get him out of here in six months."

That didn't happen. At the age of 30, Dwight received his certification from ARPS, putting him in line to be the world's first black astronaut. He didn't lose hope when the first class was announced in 1963 and he was not among the 14 chosen. He felt sure he would be in the second class that would be selected in 1965.

But in the interim, tragedy struck. President Kennedy was assassinated in November 1963. While the nation mourned the loss of a visionary leader, Dwight also mourned the death of a vision. There was no longer someone at the top pushing his candidacy forward. Within months, Dwight was sidelined. He left the Air Force in 1966.

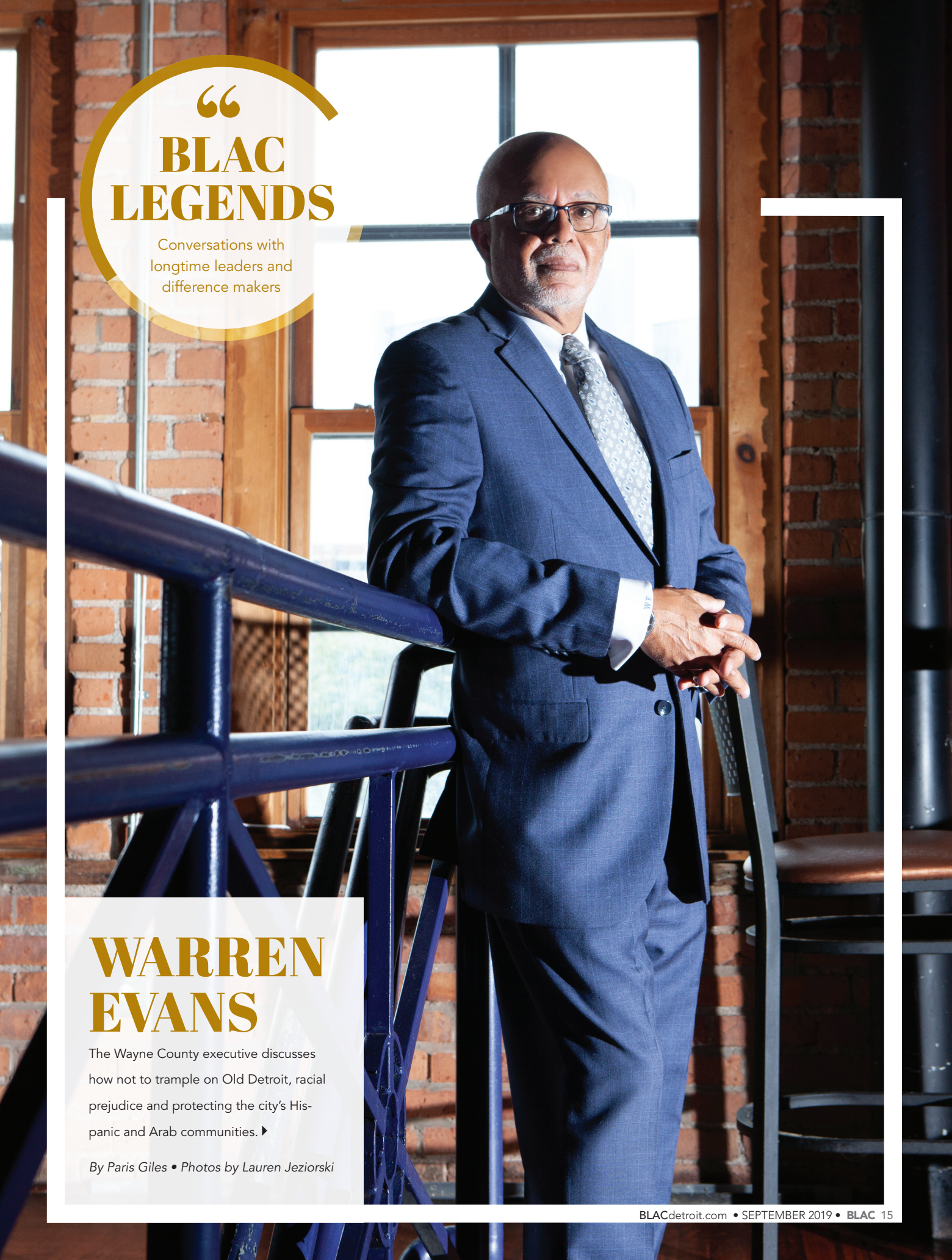
Racism can be a formidable foe. It kept Dwight from reaching the moon, but that didn't stop him from landing among the stars. While forging a new life for himself as an IBM executive and later as a real estate developer in Denver, Dwight remembered the little boy inside himself who had always wanted to be an artist. Nearly a decade after leaving the space program, he received his first commission in 1974 to craft a bronze statue in honor of Colorado's first black lieutenant governor. At 45, Dwight became a professional artist.

Racism can be a formidable foe. It kept Dwight from reaching the moon, but that didn't stop him from landing among the stars.

From that moment, he has dedicated his life to sculpting the often-forgotten history of African Americans, from blacks on the Western frontier to the history of jazz. If you've been to Hart Plaza, you've seen his evocative, emotional work. He was the sculptor of Detroit's powerful Gateway to Freedom International Memorial to the Underground Railroad. The monument, which was commissioned to celebrate our city's 300th birthday, shows runaway slaves about to embark upon freedom in Canada. Across the Detroit River in Windsor, Ontario, stands a companion monument called Tower of Freedom, depicting the former slaves gaining their freedom on foreign shores.

The astronauts on the Apollo 11 team have long retired or passed away. But Dwight is still sculpting the story of the black experience in America, with commissions all over the United States. As Dwight told The Guardian four years ago, "My work is really just about the flow of ironies." The irony being that a people who arrived on these shores in chains were able to transform this nation, nevertheless, and the irony that he may have been denied the opportunity to leave his footprint on the moon, but his footprint on this earth will influence history for generations to come. B

DESIREE COOPER IS THE AUTHOR OF *KNOW THE MOTHER.*



BLAC LEGENDS

Conversations with longtime leaders and difference makers

WARREN EVANS

The Wayne County executive discusses how not to trample on Old Detroit, racial prejudice and protecting the city's Hispanic and Arab communities. ▸

By Paris Giles • Photos by Lauren Jeziorski

On an especially humid morning, we beckon Wayne County Executive Warren Evans to The Breakfast Loft, brand new to Rivertown. Evans is pleasant but there's no chitchat or excessive small talk. Dressed in a classic blue suit and tie, beard trimmed neatly, he's got the stately air of a man here to do a job. In his daily duties, Evans is charged with governing the responsibilities of 43 communities – 34 cities and nine townships. Evans served as Wayne County sheriff from 2003 to 2009 and as Detroit Police Department chief from 2009 to 2010, and since assuming office in 2015 as Wayne County executive, Evans has restored fiscal stability to Wayne County when many thought we were headed toward bankruptcy. Amongst the exposed wood and brick and rustic feel of Detroit's newest brunch spot, Evans and I talk the 2020 census, the war on immigrants and how to stand up to racism.

2020 is a big year with the census and the presidential election. How are you preparing Wayne County – particularly its black residents?

It's huge, and many people don't understand that. They see Detroit as this huge city with a predominantly black population, but they lose sight of cities like Inkster and cities like Romulus and a number of other cities in Wayne County that have a large African American population. And not just African American, but Arab communities, Hispanic communities, those are always the biggest undercount, generally speaking. But, it's much more predominant now because of the administration in Washington and the clear, obvious signals that they send that they want an undercount and they don't want these people coming forward, and to the extent that they do come forward, they want them to feel intimidated like somehow that's going to put them in a position to get deported. We have a number of county operations out now trying to get people motivated with respect to the 2020 census. The reality is they won't come out unless they're comfortable with who they're dealing with. That census counter has got to be able to go to communities where people already trust them, not the census, but them. There's a tremendous amount of revenue that's lost for every undercount – that averages about $1,800 a year for each of the 10 years, for each person that's not accounted for. And quite often, those are the people that need the services more than anyone else.

Why did you and Mrs. Evans take to social media after the racial profiling incident at the Rocket Mortgage Classic?

To clarify, there was an issue where my wife was mistreated by an employee of the golf tournament. We don't know what their motivation is, whatever. I mean, those of us of color certainly have a good idea of what it is. The real reality, to me, is you run a big organization, you're going to have people who don't behave like they ought to, and sometimes, quite frankly, you're going to have fools – that I understand. It's not that you can avoid the problem, it's how you respond to it when it occurs. And 100% of my concern was that they didn't take it seriously enough, they brushed it off. So, the lack of decisive action by them just irritated me to the point that I thought it's just one of those things people ought to be aware of. I don't have a fight with Rocket. I don't have a fight with the golf course. I have a fight with the way this incident was handled.

What do you say to young people of color who are disheartened that this type of racist behavior is still a thing – and feel like it's being fanned by this president?

What you can't do is quietly tolerate it. People have to understand, if you tolerate racism, that is in fact racism. I'm not saying go out in the street and grab somebody by the neck, but don't act like it didn't happen. Don't be shy about making complaints about it. As someone who's run police agencies for years, the end game is if there's a problem, bring the complaint. At some point, the aggregate amount of complaints will force anyone, who's reasonable, to say, 'Look, we have to change some procedures or do something.' Look at New York City and Eric Gardner who was choked to death probably five years ago. It was just a couple days ago that they fired (Daniel Pantaleo). If people hadn't kept up the impetus, do you think five years later anybody would be looking at that case to go back and fire the guy? Now, I'm not saying that's justice, but it's a far sight better than kicking it under the rug and pretending that it wasn't there.

> *"We have to be about understanding that we're not inherently fair, the playing field is not inherently fair, so you have to wake up every morning and say, 'What can I do to create more equity in this process?'"*

Trump seems to be waging war against immigrants. Wayne County has a large Arab and Hispanic population. What are you doing here to make sure those communities feel safe, protected and valued?

It's hard work. The work is forming the relationships with the important groups – the social service groups, the religious communities, the school systems – so that you have some credibility, and to be vocal when things come up that hurt the community. As county executive, I have to go on record as saying that's not right and we're having a problem with that. In many of these communities, both Hispanic and Arab American but more in Hispanic communities, the threat of deportation and threat of immigration is so bad that there are kids who are scared to go to school or another thing, parents are scared to send them to school for fear they're

THE LOCALE

The Breakfast Loft above Steve's Soul Food in Detroit is open for breakfast and brunch daily. 1440 Franklin St., 313-209-8804. thebreakfastloft.com







walking into a trap. People should not live in fear, so it's my job to do whatever I can to push back against that kind of behavior and make sure the community knows it. It's one thing to push back, it's far more important for them to know you're pushing because you get credit for that and that credit can help when you need to mobilize people.

This is Wayne County Parks' 100th anniversary. Why are the county's parks significant to future development?

When I was a kid, it was a basketball hoop and a ball diamond, and that was kind of a park. Now, it's more horseback riding, fishing, hiking, trail stuff, which is motivating people closer to my age more than people understand, but it's certainly what young people want to do if they're going outside to do anything anyway. I really think you've got to get away from the smartphone long enough to do some other sorts of stuff, but you have to make it conducive to what people want to do. This 100th anniversary for us is an opportunity to change the paradigm of what the parks ought to look like in the future and at the same time, we celebrate the parks in the past. I've been a Wayne County resident all my life and I've got to tell you, county parks were not on my list of places to go when I was a kid because I didn't feel welcomed. We want to make these parks welcoming for everybody. We also want to create connectivity so that if you're on one side of the county, you can actually get on your bike and go wherever you go, and that connectivity lets little pockets of small cities that don't have an awful lot, there's still connectivity to communities that have more, at least for the purpose of recreation. I feel the parks are actually health care, because if the exercise is close and the exercise is something you really believe in, then you'll use it.

The revitalization that's happening in Detroit is exciting. But how do we make sure 'Old Detroit' doesn't get trampled as we make way for 'New Detroit'?

That's a real challenge and it's a daily challenge. The best example I can give of it is the Livernois Avenue of Fashion where the road construction over the last 10 years has hurt those businesses. It's all designed to beautify but you're also disrupting. They're killing the oldest area of solid businesses of color in the city of Detroit. There's no place in the city of Detroit where you can start at Eight Mile, where you have Baker's, working on down where you've got shoe shops and clothing stores and art galleries and florists, all of those businesses that support a healthy community. In my opinion, the way this has been handled, it's terrible, and it likens me, certainly to a much lesser scale, when the freeway decided to come through Black Bottom. We lost a whole community. I'm not saying this is intentional, but the result is very much the same. How do we correct this mistake before all of those people that have invested – some of them second-generation – are really catching it? We have to be about understanding that we're not inherently fair, the playing field is not inherently fair, so you have to wake up every morning and say, 'What can I do to create more equity in this process?' And I don't think we do that. If the economy doesn't gobble us all up, we're still in a growth period for the next five or six years in the city of Detroit. If we're really about finding the people and putting them in the pipeline now, they actually get a chance to become a journeyman while there's still an opportunity to make money. B



PARIS GILES IS BLAC DETROIT'S SENIOR EDITOR.



Closet Case

BY **PARIS GILES** • PHOTOS BY **LAUREN JEZIORSKI**

Calculating the true cost of cheap, fast fashion.

The allure of fast fashion doesn't take much explaining. You can skip into a fast fashion retailer – your Forever 21s, H&Ms, Targets – with 50 bucks to blow and walk out with a complete, on-trend look and with change left-over for lunch. And when your outfit is no longer in vogue or wears thin after a few washes or suffers a rip we can't be bothered to have repaired because that'd cost as much as the thing itself, we go back for more. It's intoxicating. As I typed that last sentence, my SZA radio stream was interrupted by an advertisement for women's boots at Meijer, "starting as low as $19.99." A chipper voice asks, "Why pay more?" While we're busy getting drunk on the mass-produced madness, most of us remain blissfully ignorant of the human, creative and environmental costs of cheap, disposable fashion.

"There's some benefits to it," Detroit Garment Group president Karen Buscemi says of fast fashion. Sometimes we just want to be able to buy something cute and not have to think much about it, and it makes us feel good. "That's OK," Buscemi says, "but that should be more of a once in a while thing (rather) than your regular way of making purchases." It's like fast food. Craving a fatty burger, greasy french fries and a pop with more sugar than the daily recommended amount? Fine, treat yo' self. But that meal should be an occasional indulgence and not the routine way in which you feed yourself. ▸



MODEL:
Bria Larine
@brialarine

PHOTOGRAPHER:
Lauren Jeziorski
@laurenjeziorski

STYLIST:
Marv Neal
marvneal.com, @marvneal

HAIR:
Genevieve Edwards
@hairlife2you

MAKEUP:
Ashley Valentina
@valentina.mua

LOCATION:
SOCCRA Material
Recovery Facility, Troy

Visit BLACdetroit.com/FeelGoodFashion for a list of ethical brands.

Revving Up

Gap in the early '90s was a precursor, but it was Zara founder Amancio Ortega who first pioneered the fast fashion model that we've grown to covet. Instead of new designs dropping into stores seasonally, as was customary 25 years ago, Spanish brand Zara gets fresh styles into its stores year-round. Forever 21 and H&M receive new shipments daily, and London-based Top Shop's website gets updated with 400 new designs weekly, according to New York-based author and journalist Elizabeth Cline's 2012 exposé-style book *Overdressed: The Shockingly High Cost of Cheap Fashion*.

Fast fashion retailers are delivering the eye-pleasing goods quickly and selling them for far cheaper than their traditional competitors, while still remaining profitable. However, *RetailDetail* reported in January that H&M's profits plummeted by 21.8% in 2018, down for the third year in a row. The brand sited "logistical expenses" and has planned 175 new stores throughout 2019. "It's hard to compete with pricing when oftentimes we're doing short runs on styles and not as much volume, so we can't get the bulk discounts and quantity discounts that big businesses get," says Détroit is the New Black owner Roslyn Karamoko, whose store recently reopened touting a new sustainable model. The savings that fast fashion retailers enjoy get passed on to the customers. Forever 21 can afford to sell a shirt for $14.50 because of cheap materials and cheap labor, but also because they sell such a brain-numbing amount of them that they can afford to spread profits. It's the dollar slice effect. In an expensive city like New York, how can pizzerias exist selling $1 slices of pie? Volume.

But when it comes to cheap fashion, make no mistake: somebody's paying for it. According to PayScale, a sewing machine operator in the United States can expect to make $11.69 per hour on average, $8.96 on the low end and $15.21 at the high point. A shoddy income in American standards, for sure, but compare that to "starvation wages" paid to workers in countries where the majority of our clothes are being made. According to UK labor rights group Labour Behind the Label, garment workers – 80% of them women – can earn as little as $21 a month in countries like India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, and be subjected to long hours, forced overtime, unsafe conditions and sexual, physical and verbal abuse.

"It's all yellow, brown and black people that are in semislavery making fast fashion, and we really have to consider that," Detroit-bred designer Tracy Reese said when we spoke about her recently released, responsibly designed collection, Hope for Flowers, available at DITNB and Anthropologie. On Nov. 24, 2012, a fire whirled around the Tazreen Fashions factory outside Dhaka, Bangladesh, killing 117 garment workers. It took firefighters all night to extinguish the blaze at the factory that made clothes for global retailers like Walmart and Sears, The New York Times reported.

Scott Nova, executive director of the Workers Rights Consortium, told the The Times, "Regardless of what sparked the fire, it is clear that the unsafe nature of this factory and the actions taken by management once the fire started were the primary contributors to the horrendous death toll." Karen Buscemi, who also owns garment manufacturing facility Detroit Sewn, says she makes it clear to her clients that Detroit Sewn does not intend to compete with foreign manufacturers – that's not their game. "When we hear some of the prices that are being charged for these pieces, we tell our clients, 'How much money do you think their employees are making? Just imagine how they are living so that you're able to have a cheaper piece,'" she says.

Plus, for the small- to mid-sized, mostly Michigan-based brands that she works with, Buscemi says, the headaches that can come from working with foreign manufacturers just aren't worth the savings. She remembers an incident where an Asian manufacturer didn't sew care and content labels on a clients' garments, and so the order wasn't allowed through Customs. Instead, agents stuck the batch in a warehouse near the airport. "We had to go down there with machinery and sew labels onto thousands of pieces," Buscemi says. "And every single day that that was sitting in that warehouse, the warehouse was charging them."

Nearly three-fifths of all clothing ends up in landfills or incinerators within a year of being produced, according to Forbes; every second, one garbage truck's worth of textiles is landfilled or burned. Fast fashion has created this trend-driven utopia where one day you're in and the next day you're out. The accessibility and disposability of cheap, fashionable, decent-enough stuff means that we buy without much thought and toss aside with little concern. I've bought the same pair of $20 jeans from H&M four or five times. I fell in love with the fit so I wear them until they start to break down, which doesn't take long, and then I throw them away and buy new ones. No harm, no foul, right? Wrong. It takes 1,800 gallons of water to grow enough cotton to make *one* pair of jeans, and the toxic dyes used to color the denim creates chemical runoff that pollutes our water supplies. According to the United Nations Environment Programme, the fashion industry produces 20% of global wastewater and 8-10% of the planet's carbon emissions.

Slowing Down

In July, Zara's parent company Inditex pledged that, by 2025, all of its eight brands would use only cotton, linen and polyester that's organic, sustainable or recycled. An August article by Teen Vogue questioned whether that will be enough. A commitment to natural fabrics sounds like a great first step toward sustainability, but again, it takes a ridiculous amount of water to grow cotton, and if the plan is to continue to produce trend-focused clothing that's designed to be expendable, fabric aside, can that ever really be sustainable?

"With cotton, even when it's organic, I still don't think you're solving the water usage that comes with cotton. That's such a major issue," Buscemi says, but she applauds the effort. She says it's about loving what you buy and consistently finding new ways to use it. "We have so many things in our closet, and it's funny, if you just go back into your closet, just start trying things on and start looking at things again, you will find that there are pieces that you just consistently overlook that ▸

you actually really like and still want to wear."

Karamoko, who also lectures at Wayne State University in its fashion design and merchandising department says, "(Fashion) just wasn't available to us at the prices that's it's available. We got here through the advancements in technology and the drive of the overall social culture toward consumption, and money- and celebrity-driven lifestyle." She says to move away from this will take "a mental shift more than anything." Karamoko adds, "I think we have to start thinking about uniform. What does the daily uniform sort of look like for us. It doesn't necessarily mean it has to be boring, but there has to be a few staple pieces that are in our closets that we've invested in."

The short of it is this: Well-made clothing is not cheap. Ethically-produced clothing is not cheap. Few of us can afford a $2,000 dress, but most of us can swing one for $200 if we prioritize quality over quantity and people over things. I followed *Overdressed* author Cline's example and took inventory of my closet and of my own overconsumption, something she did at the start of her book. I have 32 dresses. And of those 32 dresses, if I'm honest with you and myself, I real-deal love only about five or six of them. If I averaged the cost for each, I figure that'd work out to be about $40. So, that means I've got roughly $1,300 worth of dresses – that's *just* dresses – hanging in my wardrobe. Instead of throwing out $30 here and $50 there for dresses I feel meh about just to be able to say I've got something new, what if I put a little money aside and shopped just once or twice a year for a few dresses that are well-made, responsibly-sourced and ones that I'll truly cherish for years and not weeks?

If we start to demand better, and refuse to be OK with poorly and cheaply made garments that are harmful to us, the people who make them and to the planet, then fast fashion retailers will respond in kind. It's true that we can't point a finger at the fast fashion machine without also turning one on ourselves. Still, we can't absolve the industry of the responsibility of cooking up the cheap dope that got us hooked in the first place. B

PARIS GILES IS BLAC DETROIT'S SENIOR EDITOR.



2009

BLAC's 20th Anniversary Throwback

A year-long series on where we've been

2009



Big things were happening in 2009 for the magazine, the culture and for the country. First, as you of course remember, Barack Obama made history by being sworn in as the United States' first African American president. Yes we can. It should come as no surprise that the new president graced our January cover, and inside: photos from the campaign trail that ushered the Obamas into the White House. For each of the succeeding cover stories, save the December gift guide, we profiled a person. We must've thought it fitting, after spotlighting a man at the center of the world's stage, to pay homage to some other greats that were a little closer to home. And in September, we got our Puff Daddy/Puffy/P. Diddy/Diddy/Brother Love on and changed our name. Yes, African American Family would then and thereafter be known as BLAC.

Still a Thing

We regularly summon strangers from an internet app to drive us around and corned beef egg rolls are a thing, but these topics featured in BLAC back in 2009 are still relevant today:

1. **Black feminism**
2. **The importance of black teachers**
3. **Financial literacy**
4. **Urban farming**
5. **The state of hip-hop**



August '09

Out and Proud



October is National Coming Out Month. To commemorate, we spoke to members and leaders of Detroit's black LGBTQ community and peeked inside a world where simply to be meant a continuous confrontation with harassment, discrimination and violence. Queer black people are in a uniquely suffocating position as it's not unusual to be shunned by both the black, heterosexual folks and by the white LGBTQ community. BLAC recalled the murders and suicides of several LGBTQ children and teens, in Detroit and around the country, and we commended the push for anti-bullying and anti-discrimination legislation. In the decade since, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down all state bans on same-sex marriage, Chicago got its first openly lesbian mayor, Lori Lightfoot, and transgender actress Laverne Cox is quickly becoming a household name. Have we inched closer toward acceptance? In short: we have.

In '09



NASA discovers water on the moon



Drake releases **"Best I Ever Had"** off his first EP



Kanye West interrupts Taylor Swift at the VMAs because, **"Beyoncé had one of the best videos of all time"**



"My fellow citizens: I stand here today humbled by the task before us ... " – President Barack Obama

Love Calls

Ahead of his third studio album, *Album III: Intimacy*, Detroit's beloved singer-songwriter KEM sat down with BLAC for our September cover story. At the same time, he was preparing for a benefit concert in the Cass Corridor, admission for which was a canned food item to go to an area shelter. In BLAC's debut issue under our new moniker, KEM talked candidly about divine destiny, his sobriety and the love he has for the city that made him.

On his principle of giving…
"It's probably one of my greatest acts of service to be able to get in front of a group of people, and not only entertain, but to speak from the heart and share what I have learned and what works for me."

On why hitting his rock bottom was a blessing…
"There were a lot of low points for me, sleeping outside, right down at the Rescue, being estranged from family and friends and having all kinds of legal problems. But at the same time, that was also one of the best periods of my life. When we are at our most vulnerable is when we grow the most and we learn the most. I want to help people understand that we are overcomers. What you see today is not necessarily the truth or all that there is. Everything is always in divine order, whether we feel like it is or not. The goal is to know we're constantly growing."

On what he hoped fans would take away from his upcoming album, *Album III: Intimacy*…
"The word intimacy is usually associated with the sensual side of romance. There is some of that on this album, but it's really about relationships, about sharing in every way."



On his dream for Detroit…
"I want to be a light for what is going on right in this city. Detroit gets a bad rep, but there is good. There is hope, if people can just relax and put all of the garbage thinking on pause for a minute to be encouraged. When we come out of this climate of economic struggle, it's going to be tremendous. This is not the end of Detroit's story."

Remember the Time

The world over stood still on June 25, 2009 when the "King of Pop" Michael Jackson was found dead of an apparent cardiac arrest in his Los Angeles mansion. Rumors and speculation ensued, legal battles over his estate swirled, and after two-and-a-half years and a circus of a trial, Jackson's doctor Conrad Murray would be convicted of involuntary manslaughter and sentenced to four years in prison for administering a deadly dose of propofol.







First Dog Bo moves into the White House

Disney introduces its first black princess, Tiana, with the release of ***The Princess and the Frog***

History Highlight

Cap'n Sully gained the world's respect when, on Jan. 15, 2009, he landed a US Airways flight in the Hudson River off Manhattan when both engines blew after takeoff. Thanks to Captain Chesley Sullenberger III, all 155 souls on board survived. B

access

DETROIT | SEPTEMBER 2019

Compiled by Paris Giles



15 SUNDAY
LEELA JAMES

WWW.WCCCD.EDU

WCCCD EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION.



26 THURSDAY
D.L. HUGHLEY

BLACdetroit.com

For a complete list of events,
visit our online calendar.

5 THURSDAY

SOUL CIRCUS. The UniverSoul Circus is back and celebrating the culture with familiar and exciting acrobatics, dance, extreme tricks and more family fun. $16-$95. Times vary, today-Sept. 29. The Aretha Franklin Amphitheatre, 2600 Atwater St., Detroit. universoulcircus.com/detroit.

10 TUESDAY

LIL WAYNE. The rapper stops in with Blink-182 during their co-headlining tour, with special guest Neck Deep. $44.50-$127.50. 7 p.m. DTE Energy Music Theatre, 7774 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston. 313presents.com.

12 THURSDAY

BLACK MILK. The Detroit-born rapper-songwriter takes the stage with the Nat Turner band. $20-$25. 7 p.m. El Club, 4114 W. Vernor Highway, Detroit. elclubdetroit.com.

13 FRIDAY

JEFFREY OSBORNE. The Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter takes the stage. $35-$48. 8 p.m. Sound Board at MotorCity Casino Hotel, 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit. soundboarddetroit.com.

BEST FRIEND. Join one of the nation's largest off-site pet adoption events, a collaboration between the Detroit Zoological Society and the Michigan Humane Society. Adoption fees apply. Noon-6 p.m. today, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 14. Detroit Zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile Road, Royal Oak. detroitzoo.org.

To list an event in Access Detroit, send facts and photos two months prior to calendar@BLACdetroit.com. You also may upload information at BLACdetroit.com/calendar or mail to Metro Parent Media Group, BLAC Calendar, 22041 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, MI 48220. Submissions may be edited or omitted.

Be sure to call before attending events in case of changes. For an expanded version of the calendar, visit BLACdetroit.com/calendar.

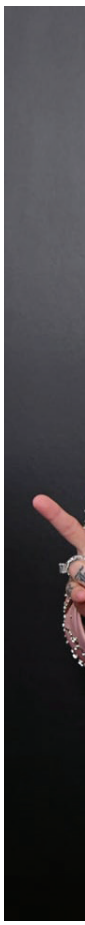
6 CAMPUSES SERVING 32 COMMUNITIES
110 CERTIFICATE AND DEGREE PROGRAMS
70,000 STUDENTS
WCCCD
WWW.WCCCD.EDU

10 TUESDAY
LIL WAYNE





5 THURSDAY
SOUL CIRCUS



14 SATURDAY

SOUND LAB. Join 100: Centenary Sound Lab, an interactive sound lab featuring a panel discussion and demonstrations that explores how sound, science and history intersect to provide communal value. Free. 5-7:30 p.m. Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. dso.org.

15 SUNDAY

LEELA JAMES. The singer-songwriter performs. $28-$40. 7:30 p.m. Sound Board at MotorCity Casino Hotel, 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit. soundboarddetroit.com.

20 FRIDAY

DIY STREET FAIR. The 12th annual event is back with art, food, music and more. Free. 6 p.m.-midnight today, 11 a.m.-midnight Sept. 21, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sept. 22. Woodward Avenue and Troy Street, Ferndale. ferndalediy.com.

ZOO BREW. Take advantage of unique beer, cider and wine from select Michigan craft breweries, live music, exclusive access to the zoo's award-winning habitats until twilight and zookeeper talks. $45-$50/general admission, $85/VIP. 6-10 p.m. Detroit Zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile Road, Royal Oak. detroitzoo.org.

TWISTED STORYTELLERS. The Secret Society of Twisted Storytellers presents *Rebellion: Latinx Detroit*, featuring Dr. Esperanza Cintrón, Adonis Flores and others. $20-$25. 8 p.m. Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren Ave., Detroit. twistedtellers.org.

21 SATURDAY

LIVE, LIT, LAUGHTER. Lil Duval, Michael Blackson, Tony Roberts, Karlous Miller and Benji Brown stop through for the *Live, Lit, Laughter Comedy Jam*, hosted by Rickey Smiley. $59-$105. 8 p.m. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313presents.com.

26 THURSDAY

D.L. HUGHLEY. The famed comedian performs. $37-$50. 8 p.m. Sound Board at MotorCity Casino Hotel, 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit. soundboarddetroit.com.

27 FRIDAY

TWO MARTINS. Legendary comedians Steve Martin and Martin Short take the stage for their *Now You See Them, Soon You Won't* tour. $75-$155 (Canadian). 9 p.m. The Colosseum at Caesars Windsor, 377 Riverside Drive, Windsor, Ontario. caesars.com/caesars-windsor.

29 SUNDAY

POST MALONE. The Grammy-nominated rapper brings his *Runaway Tour* to town with special guests Swae Lee and Tyla Yaweh. $109.50-$229.50. 8 p.m. Little Caesars Arena, 2645 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313presents.com.

30 MONDAY

SUMMER JAMZ. Chris Brown headlines Hot 107.5's Summer Jamz 22, also featuring Tory Lanez, Ty Dolla $ign, Joyner Lucas and Yella Beezy. $43.50-$203.50. 6:30 p.m. Little Caesars Arena, 2645 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313presents.com.

29 SUNDAY
POST MALONE



5 SATURDAY

OKTOBEER FEST. Enjoy this weekend-long Bavarian-themed festival celebrating fall barbecue, fall-inspired local food, live music, games, contests, beer and more. Free. 4 p.m.-midnight today, noon-midnight Oct. 6, noon-9 p.m. Oct. 7. Downtown Ferndale. oktobeerfestival.com.

WENDY WILLIAMS. The media personality and friends stop through for the *For The Record…Um Hmmm! Tour*. $49.75-$125. 8 p.m. Music Hall Center, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. musichall.org.

SARA BAREILLES. The singer-songwriter stops through on her *Amidst The Chaos Tour*. $65-$85. 8 p.m. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313presents.com.



Motown 60 Weekend

Join these events and celebrate Motown's 60th birthday

12th Annual Friends of Fuller Gordy Strikefest – Sept. 20

Fuller, the eldest of the Gordy siblings, was a former Motown vice president, humanitarian and pro bowler. He died in 1991. Meant to be a casual precursor to the official Motown 60 Weekend, remember Fuller and honor Motown at this fundraising bowling event led by daughter Iris Gordy and granddaughter Karla Gordy Bristol. Enjoy bowling, karaoke, dinner, a silent auction and, of course, Motown music. $150-$175. 6 p.m. Thunderbowl Lanes, 4200 Allen Road, Allen Park. friendsoffuller.org.

Motown Gospel Concert – Sept. 21

Enjoy traditional gospel music along with spiritually-enhanced Motown favorites. Grammy Award-winning artist Regina Belle, Motown artists Tye Tribbet & G.A., Tasha Page-Lockhart, Detroit's own Kierra "Kiki" Sheard, a 125-person choir and others will perform. Free. 6-8 p.m. Detroit World Outreach, 23800 W. Chicago Road, Redford. motownmuseum.org.

Hitsville Honors: Celebrating Berry Gordy & 60 Years of Motown – Sept. 22

Highlights include a tribute to Berry Gordy Jr. and performances by Motown favorites like The Temptations, Four Tops, Martha Reeves & the Vandellas and Mary Wilson. Also check out more recent Motown artists Ne-Yo and KEM, who will be joined by Detroit's own Big Sean and others. $50-$1,000. 7:30-10:30 p.m. Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. motownmuseum.org.

Soul in One Celebrity Golf Classic – Sept. 23

Guests will join Motown alumni and celebrities for an afternoon tee time and a gourmet lunch and dinner. $350-plus. 12:30 p.m. Tam-O-Shanter Country Club, 5051 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. motownmuseum.org

Fash Bash 2019

On Aug. 15, the Detroit Institute of Arts invited the city's most stylish and philanthropic to its annual fundraiser, organized in collaboration with Neiman Marcus and presented by the Founders Junior Council.

Photos by Sydney Kispert-Bostick







Sabra Evans, Leigh Chandler, Marchelle Costa



Jeannette Dickens, Phyllis Hurks



Andrew Colom, Imani Day, David Alade



Kristina Beaty



Pamela Locke, Corinne Copeland



Tiffany Mitchell, Tamiko Thurman, Tai-Kenya Harvey



Dee Dee McKinney Odom, Amina Bell

MGM GRAND DETROIT

MGM Grand Detroit, Touching Communities. Touching Lives™

MGM Grand Detroit takes pride in being a sponsor of some of the most anticipated events in our community. Providing fun and excitement to diverse audiences is one of the ways we fulfill our mission to "engage, entertain and inspire our world!"



ALL-NEW
EDUCATION EVENT
SEPT. 28, 2019!

STEAM & LEARNING FAIR

Back by popular demand:
STEAM & ED TALKS!
Metro Parent's New and Improved STEAM + Learning Fair
TROY COMMUNITY CENTER
SATURDAY, SEPT. 28

Discover the best local schools and boarding schools; enrichment, tutoring and extracurricular programs; financial planners; children's health and safety experts; and much more.

New this year: STEAM-centric programming!

REGISTER NOW
METROPARENT.COM/STEAMFAIR
FOR DETAILS

Our Partners:

msp Michigan Education Savings Program

MET MICHIGAN EDUCATION TRUST

WCCCD Wayne County Community College District

CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS

INTERESTED IN BEING AN EXHIBITOR? CONTACT EVENTS@METROPARENT.COM


MONEYLINE
SPORTS LOUNGE
With wall to wall coverage of all the days big plays, it's Detroit's new and best place to catch all your favorite sports.
FALL 2019
If you bet more than you can afford to lose, you've got a problem. Call 1-800-270-7117 for confidential help.
MDHHS
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
Excludes Michigan Disassociated Persons. 21+
MGM GRAND
DETROIT