

# BLACK WORLD

February 2004

ONE NATION

Volume XLIII, Issue 4



brett cook - dizney

# blackness



# NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

## February and Beyond

BY DARISE JEAN-BAPTISTE  
MANAGING EDITOR

Welcome back BlackWorld readers! I hope all is well and that this semester will be fulfilling and fun. As we celebrate Black History Month 2004, let us celebrate our accomplishments and reflect on our struggles. I'd like to place special emphasis on the word "our" as the diversity in the Black Community faces the danger of being masked as a division.

In December 2003, the Africana Studies Department hosted a forum to discuss some of the most pressing issues concerning the Black organizations on campus. One of those issues was the lack of collaboration and recognition between organizations. Many of the Black

**"One of those issues was the lack of collaboration and recognition between organizations. Many of the Black organizations at Stony Brook"**

organizations at Stony Brook were built on the basis of cultural difference but have yet to overcome the task of including all Black students regardless of background. The purpose of having several Black organizations on campus is

**"I encourage everyone to use the resources at Stony Brook as a platform and stepping-stone for advancement."**

to build a stronger foundation for the Black student population, not to be used as cultural barriers. Each organization argues that it is open to all students who are interested but where one student might feel welcomed to join HSO for example, because he or she is Haitian, another might not feel as welcome, simply because he or she is not.

In trying to prevent that invisible wall of exclusion, the AFS department in conjunction with BlackWorld, Haitian

Students Organization, Black Womyn's Weekend Committee, Omega Psi Phi, Kappa Alpha Psi, Caribbean Students Organization, and African Students Union, has worked to make Black History Month 2004 and beyond an all-inclusive celebration of differences, similarities, and achievements. Black History Month is not only a time to recognize those who have paved the way; it is also a time to make strides and plans for the future.

Once these 29 days are done, how will your history read? I encourage everyone to use the resources at Stony Brook as a platform and stepping-stone for advancement. Get to know the professors in the AFS department; join a Black organization; introduce yourself to your professors; write for BlackWorld. Be the master of your domain and indulge in the infinite opportunities so that you can create more. Enjoy Black History Month and BlackWorld Spring 2004.

## ATTENTION STUDENTS!!

**A Workshop Entitled: "Preparing for Graduate and Professional Schools" will take place on**

**March 3, 2004 in the AFS Library located on the second floor in the SBS.**

**Underrepresented graduate students and professionals will advise, mentor and provide critical information about applying for admissions and succeeding in graduate and professional schools.**

**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED**

**This program is sponsored by the Turner Fellowship, BLACKWORLD, and the Department of Africana Studies.**

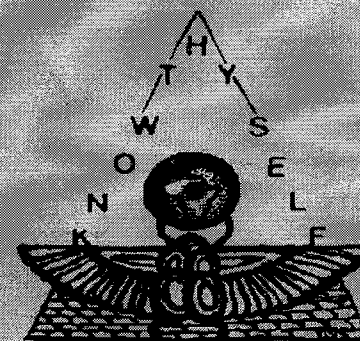
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# Medicine And The Black Community



Physician Examining Patient

**BY ADEKEMI AKINGBOYE**  
BUSINESS MANAGER

During my first session for BIO 318, medical ethics, we discussed the morality of using human embryos for stem cell research. Stem cell research takes a developing human embryo and uses it for gene therapy to repair certain organs and tissues. Stem cell research can be beneficial to some but not to everyone.

Stem cell research could lead to a society in which there are no genetic defects or diseases, but it could also lead to a homogenous community, where parents could choose the skin color, eye

color, or even the profession of their child. Of course these types of services would be highly expensive for many years just as any other new technology, but it made me wonder how ethical was stem cell research?

Given the socio-economic disparities of the African-American community, could an unintended drop or even disappearance of the black population occur? These are arguments and issues that should be addressed in the future if stem cell research is as successful as hoped. This topic is further down the line on the spectrum of issues concerning African Americans and medical ethics,

most pressing is present day medical treatment in the black community.

Today, a good portion of the black community faces a variety of medical issues that are difficult to tackle or control, and because of these issues our black communities suffer from many deaths that better healthcare could help to prevent. According to Dr. Beau White, affiliated with Black Health Care.com and the NAFEO (National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education), African-Americans have twice the infant mortality rate as do white Americans, diabetes in the black community is 70% higher than in the

white community and the cancer survival rate for blacks is 15% less than that of whites. Disparate resources, the rising control of HMOs over treatment, and lower quality treatment some physicians give to African-Americans contribute these lingering issues.

Sometimes physicians who work in underserved areas do not treat their patients properly because they know the patients don't have insurance. Many patients in underserved areas are subject to mistreatment by people who are training to become physicians and physicians who have indifferent attitudes about these patients. Doctors must practice just as medical school students must learn, and understand that their uninsured patients do care what kind of quality treatment they receive.

These plaguing issues are why African-Americans need to lead healthier lives and learn more about their health care providers. The black community needs to mobilize more information about diseases we are more susceptible to such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, coronary heart disease, asthma and Sickle Cell Anemia. We also need to provide and seek training for more minority physicians who are willing to devote their learning, quality care and time to underserved communities throughout the nation.

## Blackness: The Color of Many Words



A Piece From Cook-Dizney's Blackness

**BY OMOLOLA OJO**  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Throughout the month of February, the Gallery in the Student Activities

Center will be providing an exhibition of the numerous art works of Brett Cook-Dizney — collectively entitled "Blackness." As a lattice of diverse images, Blackness includes drawings of

revolutionary figures, Martin Luther King Jr., Bob Marley, Sojourner Truth, Fela Kuti, Gwendolyn Brooks, Nikki Giovanni, and more.

Cook-Dizney started out his art career painting graffiti on walls in San Diego, California. He resorted to creating his works during ungodly hours of the night because this public art is considered illegal. His art candidly spoke of political issues like the beating of Rodney King, communism and Fidel Castro, and the shooting of Amadu Diallo in ways that the media didn't. This challenge fueled Cook-Dizney to continue his public art.

His unauthorized work brought reality to those who walked the streets. Though many of his pieces were torn down or taken away, he still left a mark on those streets and provoked thoughts in everyone who saw them. Cook-Dizney says his main purpose is to influence the masses and stimulate dialogue among the public.

Having never signed any of his pieces, his efforts were anonymous not only because he didn't want to get caught, but mainly because receiving credit was his last intention for his creations.

"Value is not seen in terms of commerce, it's in terms of culture," said Cook-Dizney. Cook-Dizney's art speaks to you. In his case, the cliché of "a picture

is worth a thousand words" is an understatement for the stories behind his pieces. Cook-Dizney makes people think and react by drawing powerful expression and adding words. One painting reads, "Innocence is a liability, Ignorance is a crime, Apathy is Fatal." Many people are brought to a realization of things they were never aware of and others feel a kinship they can relate to.

Cook is a revolutionary painter, one of Vibe Magazine's "100 Most Influential People, Places, and Things" of the year 2000. He said his purpose is to make a

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**"Cook-Dizney started out his art career painting graffiti on walls in San Diego, California."**

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difference, and for most, that difference is made after first sight. Everyone should make time to see his artwork at the Gallery in the SAC because these are accessible words of wisdom.

"The wall is my canvas, the canvas is my message, message is my theory, theory is my life."

- Brett Cook-Dizney



# Communicating As Part Of Curriculum

BY DARISE JEAN-BAPTISTE  
MANAGING EDITOR

The way a teacher or school administrator communicates to a student will probably determine how that student views the importance of school. Structure within the school system and learning curriculum is needed and implemented to help teachers and students operate at a steady pace. In schools where there is overcrowding and teacher shortage, effective communication might be the last remedy to help doubtful and insecure students in need of encouragement in meeting their goals.

Cagney Jean-Baptiste, a senior at Harry S. Truman high-school in the Bronx, was fortunate to have received the encouragement to persevere in advanced placement calculus after failing the first marking period. Cagney was convinced after receiving the failing grade, that she would not pass the advanced placement exam and course, for which she could receive college credit. Cagney was willing to forfeit the college credit in fear of lowering her grade point average, which she thought would work against her in the college applications process.

For high-school seniors, the college admissions process might be one of the most nerve-racking experiences of their teen years. Good grades are no longer the sole-determinant of acceptance to the

college of choice. Students who take advanced placement courses stand out from other students because it shows that they have taken an extra interest in preparing for college and can handle an extra load of work.

Although Cagney was taking two other a.p. courses, she found a.p. calculus extremely difficult because she had little prior knowledge in algebra. Before entering a.p. calculus, Cagney was in the integrated mathematics program or i.m.p., a curriculum that focuses more on word problems and less on algebraic equations, like the sequential mathematics program in which students take different levels of algebra each term.

Cagney said she felt like she was shortchanged having to go to a.p. calculus, which is algebra-based, from i.m.p. She said she thought if the teacher would review the bases and teach at a pace conducive to her previous learning, she would do better in the class. After confronting her a.p. calculus teacher about her failing grade and the pace of the class, her teacher slowed down. But Cagney still felt that there was little hope of passing the course or the exam, which she said she had no preparation for.

"There is no foundation for calculus when I come from IMP," she said.

Cagney then went to her guidance counselor, who told her she would have to meet with the assistant principal because students are not allowed to

voluntarily drop a.p. courses.

The assistant principal's reaction was one that could make any student react the way Cagney did. Cagney said the assistant principal told her if she dropped the course she would call every school she applied to and tell the school she didn't complete the course. Cagney said she felt like she was being tormented and threatened. She said she thought the assistant principal was being unprofessional and couldn't see how it could be school policy.

Harry S. Truman high-school has a policy of calling the colleges where students who have dropped a.p. courses have applied so that admissions officers are not misled in believing the student has worked as hard as students who have actually completed the courses and taken the final exam at the end of the school year. But Cagney didn't find that out until after she brought her mother to school to speak to the principal about the situation.

Cagney was fortunate to have had Principal Nasser explain the benefits of completing a.p. courses and the disadvantages of not completing the course. Principal Nasser told her that although the grade she receives in the course may lower her grade point average, colleges value the fact that students made an effort at an advanced curriculum and therefore have refined their study skills for the demanding work

that lies ahead.

After speaking with Principal Nasser, Cagney decided to complete a.p. calculus. She said she was able to understand the importance of being placed in the class because Principal Nasser spoke on a personal level when she told of her own experiences with her college-aged children, who faced the same problems.

Rather than focusing on the aspects of learning that are inevitably difficult, Principal Nasser highlighted the positive returns that students can claim once they have completed their educational tasks. Principal Nasser explained to Cagney that she was at an advantage being in an advanced course. Although Cagney said she thought her issues with math were being ignored, Principal Nasser was able to point out that her talents were actually being acknowledged.

As a result of effective communication, Cagney embraced her responsibilities as a student rather than dismissing the difficulties and allowing herself to become lost in the crowd. Instead of writing school off as a failed institution, Cagney found a positive source of support in her mother and principal.

Cagney will complete advanced placement calculus this year.

## Painting the Town Red



Photo of NYC Graffiti Art.

MAKARIOS AMERICANOS  
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The Pulse of Graffiti, has it ceased? New York City in the 1970s all the way through the 1980s was blowing up in many ways. Groups like Run DMC, Sugar Hill Gang, Funkadelic, Parliament, and rappers like Kurtis Blow were breaking into the mainstream

listening markets. TV networks like MTV were rebelling against the popular genre of music that only middle-aged white people could relate to. It was a radical time and graffiti was thriving in the midst of the changing society.

In Harlem and the South Bronx, buildings were burning down because of the slum laws. But on the other side of the street kids were starting a phenomenon

called graffiti. At one point train yards were getting hit by graffiti artists every night, turning subway trains into displays of creative art. The defiant art goes hand in hand with the times – it gave artists a way to express themselves in a rebellious fashion for all to acknowledge. Graffiti went beyond just art, it turned into an extreme sport; a competition of art wars between Krylon/spray paint athletes that

would take place from the train yards at night to the subways in the morning.

By the end of the decade the economy was on the rise, and the state was cracking down on the art crimes called 'graffiti'. This did not stop the beating pulse of the creative minds that produced these graphic visual concepts of art. The bold colors and wicked graphics moved to the streets, the writing on the wall was everywhere to be seen. The craft of graffiti was producing works of beauty and the high quality of art was employed by artists who illegally exercised their skills late at night.

These graffiti artists and graffiti itself were then acknowledged by hip-hop. The art crime is now introduced as one of the five elements of hip-hop. The other hip hop elements include DJ/b-bop, MC, dance and the understanding and knowledge of the culture.

Although graffiti is not dead, it is not what it once was. There are less art crimes and more people cashing in on the art work. We no longer see the art work on the trains; we are seeing more three-dimensional graffiti art being done on computers and T-shirts.

The aesthetic value of the art work has depreciated on the streets of New York. Kids now simply don't have the can-control and skills like the pioneers of

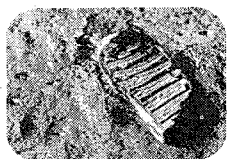
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THERE'S NOT ENOUGH ART IN OUR SCHOOLS.

NO WONDER PEOPLE THINK  
**LOUIS ARMSTRONG**  
 WAS THE FIRST MAN TO  
 WALK ON THE MOON.

It's a long way from the Apollo Theatre to the Apollo program. And while his playing may have been "as lofty as a moon flight," as *Time* magazine once suggested, that would be as close as Louis Daniel Armstrong would ever get to taking "one small step for man."



Armstrong left his footprints all over the jazz world. And he usually did it in lace-up oxfords.

But as the premier jazz musician of the 20th century, giant leaps were a matter of course for Satchmo. No person before or since has ever embodied — and revolutionized — jazz the way Louis Armstrong did.

Take solos, for instance. It's impossible to imagine jazz without them. But they actually didn't become an established part of the jazz vocabulary until Armstrong helped popularize them. Seventy years later, his solos are still revered for their audacity and virtuosity.

In the 1950s, when his popularity became too big to be contained within our borders, he accepted an invitation from the State Department to act as an American goodwill ambassador around the world. And when he



Instead of a giant leap, Louis Armstrong delivered one giant free-form crazy jazz groove for mankind.

became the last jazz musician to hit #1 on the Billboard pop chart, he beat the Beatles to do it.

Not bad for a kid whose first experience with a trumpet was as a guest in a New Orleans correction home for wayward boys. If only today's schools were as enlightened as that reformatory was.

**LOUIS THE FIRST.**

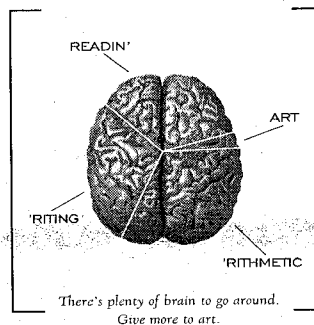
Ask almost any parent, and they'll say arts education is very important to their child's

well-being. Virtually every study shows that moms and dads like the effects the arts have on their children. They like that dance and music and painting and drama teach kids to be more tolerant and open. They like that they allow boys and girls to express themselves creatively. And they appreciate that the arts help promote individuality, bolster self-confidence while also improving overall academic performance.

Which makes it so surprising that the arts have been allowed to virtually disappear from our schools. And our children's lives.

**THIS IS WHAT HORNS ARE FOR.**

A little art is not enough. If you think the hour or so of art your kids are getting each week isn't nearly their fair share, it's time to make some noise. To find out just how to get involved or for more information on the ways your child can benefit from arts education, please visit us on the web at [AmericansForTheArts.org](http://AmericansForTheArts.org). Just like the great Satchmo, all you need is a little brass.



**ART. ASK FOR MORE.**



# RHAPSODIES

**TREAT YOUR GIRL WRONG AND I'LL MAKE YOU PAY...**

**BY TRAXX**

I mean no disrespect by what I'm about to say-  
But it's a wake up call for some of you dudes to change your ways-  
I hear all these females crying to me-  
And they don't sound like their lying to me-  
Seems like there's something really wrong to me-  
But lately your girl has begun to seem all right to me-

So you was at that club late one night-  
Trying to holla at every girl with \_ an ass in sight-  
Bragging to your boys about how you have the right-  
To leave wifey all sad, lonely, and home alone-  
While you get to go out and mess around in another girl's zone-  
Talking real big about how you gonna make so and so moan-  
You really feeling like you the sole owner of the throne-  
When you called your girl, she didn't even pick up the phone-  
"Good she sleeping already" you thought, just another chance for you to roam-  
After you finished your business, only then did you want to go home-

But she wasn't at home that night crying over you-  
In fact I was there doing what you were supposed to do-  
She called me all sad at around twelve-  
Complaining that all you ever think about is your self-  
She asked me to come over because she was all alone-  
It aint take long for the convo to take on a different tone-  
So I get over there, and it's around one-  
Same time you macking to a shorty with a thick round one-  
I'm getting your girl prepared for an intense round one-  
Start off with a massage-  
Aint no need for us to put up a façade-  
At the same time you putting up that typical façade-  
"nah, I don't got a girl" you telling some next chick-  
you thinking about ways to bend her up like some porno flick-  
while you thinking real hard and trying to run your game-  
I'm showing your girl that it's not me who's a lame-  
Something is poking her real hard as she's screaming my name-  
Got her bent in positions she didn't even know existed-  
All the damage you've done, I'm over there to fix it-  
You leaving the club all twisted with that next girl-  
Yapping in her ears that you gonna rock her world-  
It was around that time that the phone rang-  
Your girl didn't hear it because she was with another man-

That man happened to be me... but all of this is your fault-  
Can't you see?

I made love to her that night like she never had it before-  
It was real sexy, intense, and extra hardcore-  
She kept getting rug burns-  
But she just wanted more- so I gave her more-  
Positions, loud screaming, and orgasms galore-  
Right then it was around three-  
And about that time your girl had to pee-  
You know how they say after good sex girls want to pee-  
But the girl you was with didn't want to pee-  
She couldn't believe the size of your below average wee wee-  
That your girl had put up with for all those years- but she had:  
Overlooked it-  
Because she loved you-  
And only you-  
But you had driven her to do her and you didn't have a clue-  
Around four we had a nice conversation-  
See, you have the sex, and then some relaxation-  
But you always turned over and went to sleep-  
You have to love a girl in more ways than between the sheets-  
She told me she never laughed this way in years-  
And half way through she busted in tears-  
Because you're her man and she still cares-  
But she sees the way I treat her and she's started to care-  
About someone else-  
And that's myself-  
I leave your girl at around five-  
You have no idea that I've just changed her life-  
So you come in with your swagger at around six-  
Feeling like the man cause you always come in around six-  
Your girl's there like she's always been-  
But something's wrong and you can feel it in-  
The atmosphere-  
And you somehow know that another dude has been there-  
You have nothing to say because it's not like you're ever there-  
And when she needed you...you were.... where? Exactly?

I'll repeat it one more time-  
So you can get the full effect of the line-  
Treat your girl wrong and I'll make you pay-  
It's a wake up call for some of you dudes to change your bad ways-

## Question of Week?

**Do you believe African Americans have been progressing, digressing or have remained too comfortable since the civil rights movement? Why?**

I believe African Americans have made tremendous improvement and achievements within a few decades. Within the past two decades a large number of African Americans have succeeded in areas of America once seen as closed to us and only open to white men. Today African Americans own four of the world's largest corporations. Many areas of mainstream America, which were once closed, are becoming open. We barely notice those who have made it, because we often don't know they exist and therefore begin to believe there is no hope. The key to further empowerment of our people is through education. We should know where we are coming from and where we are

going in what I believe to be the next phase of the civil rights movement.

**Racquel R.**

African Americans have been separated by the three. Many are progressing, several are digressing and the remainder are too comfortable with the few rights blacks gained during the civil rights movement. We all must unify and unite as African Americans to ensure that the rights gained (like the rights they may try to take from us in 2007) are not only kept but improved and elaborated on as well. UNITY WILL BE OUR KEY FOR PROGRESSION.

**Shannyn**

I believe that African-Americans are too comfortable. My generation

takes everything lightly and we don't realize how hard past generations fought for freedom and equal rights. Sometimes I think we don't appreciate everything we have today. It's more like we take things for granted.

**LaToya**

I believe they have been digressing due to the fact that they are too comfortable believing that they are all equals. When in actuality we are far from and move further away due to laws and such being passed daily in senate/congress etc.

**Theneshia Dixon, Senior Psy**

We have progressed but at the same time we have become too comfortable

in society since we've gained a "little rights". We have so much more to overcome and we shouldn't just sit back and let things happen. We have progressed in our rights as a whole such as voting and have also made advancements in the working field but we can always do more to move further ahead.

**Precious**



# Words that Inspire: Quotations by Notable African Americans

**KENDRA EDWARDS**  
STAFF WRITER

Many of us have either heard or read the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s memorable "I Have a Dream" speech. This speech inspired a generation to succeed and dream for a better life, not only for themselves, but also for their descendants. While we can never forget Dr. King's words or the meanings behind them, it is important to recognize that other African-American leaders have conveyed feelings, thoughts and visions through their words. The names of these leaders may not be as familiar to you; you may not have even heard of some of them. Leaders such as Marian Wright-Edelman, Colin Powell, Hank Aaron, and Booker T. Washington are all pioneers and visionaries who dreamed, along with Dr. King of a better America and a better way of life for us all.

**Hank Aaron (1934- )**  
"I never doubted my ability, but when you hear all your life you're inferior, it makes you wonder if the other guys have something you've never seen before. If they do, I'm still looking for it." Hank Aaron, African American baseball player and record holder Henry (Hank) Aaron was born on Feb. 5, 1934 in Alabama. As a child, he was able to stay out of trouble by playing baseball. Aaron's family, however, was too poor to buy a bat so he had to make one out of a broomstick. In the 1940s, Aaron began to play for the Minor League Baseball team,

the Mobile Black Bears. He played with the Bears for \$10 a game until he turned 18, and he then signed with the Negro League's, Indianapolis Clowns to play for \$200 per month. After only playing 18 games with the Clowns, Aaron made the All-Star team. In the mid-1950s, Aaron began playing for the National baseball team, the Atlanta Braves. By 1957, he was the fifth best hitter in the National League. It was also this year that Aaron would be one of the key forces in helping the Braves win the World Series. In May 1970, Hank reached the milestone of 3000 hits. At the end of his career, Hank Aaron held the major league record for most career home runs at 755. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1982.

**Marian Wright Edelman (1939- )**  
"People who don't vote have no line of credit with people who are elected and thus pose no threat to those who act against our interests." Marian Wright Edelman, African American Attorney, Activist, and Reformer Marian Wright Edelman is the founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund (CDF). The mission of the Children's Defense Fund is to make sure that every child gets an equal chance to succeed in life. Edelman is a graduate of Spelman College and Yale Law School. She began her career in the mid-60s after being the first black woman admitted to the Mississippi Bar. It was at this time that she directed the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund office in Jackson, Mississippi. Edelman also worked as a counsel for the

Poor People's March that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. began organizing before his death in 1968. She also served as the Director of the Center for Law and Education at Harvard University and in 1973 began the Children's Defense Fund. Edelman was also the first woman elected by alumni as a member of the Yale University Corporation on which she served from 1971 to 1977. She has received many honorary degrees and awards including the Albert Schweitzer Humanitarian Prize, the Heinz Award, and a MacArthur Foundation Prize Fellowship. In 2000, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award, and the Robert F. Kennedy Lifetime Achievement Award for her writings, which include seven books. "I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed."

**Booker T. Washington, (1856-1915)**  
African-American Leader and Educator Booker T. Washington was born a slave in 1865 in Roanoke, Virginia. At the end of the Civil War, Washington's family moved to Malden, West Virginia to work in salt packing mines. Washington, who was only nine years old at the time, spent long, exhausting days packing salt. However, he wanted more from life and longed for an education and used his free time to go to school. In 1872, Washington entered the Hampton Institute, where he met General Samuel Chapman Armstrong, the founder of the institution. Armstrong became a great

influence in Washington's life. Armstrong strongly believed in work, study, hygiene, morality, self-discipline, and self-reliance. His purpose was to train black teachers, but he believed every student should have a trade as well. Washington's trade was being a janitor but later developed the Tuskegee Institute. The Tuskegee Institute emphasized the same qualities and convictions that Washington and Armstrong promoted. Tuskegee Institute was also an institution where blacks could learn a trade; the institution later became one of the leading facilities for black education in the United States.

By the 1890s, Washington was the most prominent African-American in the country and a number of Presidents, including Theodore Roosevelt as well as business leaders, relied on Washington as an advisor. Other African-American leaders and intellectuals, however, such as W. E. B. DuBois, resented Washington's message of political accommodation in favor of economic progress. He also disapproved Washington's reliance on wealthy white Northerners for assistance.

Washington's autobiography, *Up From Slavery*, was published in 1901. It was a huge success and much of the funds generated from the book were given to the Tuskegee Institute. Washington died in 1915, but left a legacy of hard work and determination.



*Graffiti, One of the five Elements of Hip Hop.*

*Continued From Page 5*

back in the days. Some of these scribble writers ruin the game of graffiti art and are referred to as "toyz".

The graffiti legends of yesterday have retired their drawings to notebooks and drawing pads and also many have become tattoo artists. The new wave of graffiti has taken us into an era of legal exhibitions set up in museums and walls that are legal to write on. However, this has taken away the adrenalin rush and true crime of the art, which has become a global element of hip-hop.

But there is hope for the preservation

of the true form of the art and its expression. Today, there are still die hard graffiti writers who hold true to the traditions of illegally painting the town. The art wars have been taken to new heights above ground, on the streets breaking all rules and taking it to the next level. Water towers, army tanks, bill boards, walls and roof tops have been hit off. There are no boundaries. The bigger and better receive more respect.

Since the beginning there have been crews like AOK, SOF, IMK and the Krylon Kings. But the crew wars are not what they used to be. No one crew stands

out and is really professes to be the true Krylon kings. However, there are artists running solo missions holding it down solo and representing for everyone that ever picked up a can of paint to write. In addition to that I have to give my shout-outs to SKAM, DASE, PAUSE, BEZ, DOVE, ECKO, RACKUS, SEV, CASE, SPARK, ADVISE, SANE, KRISSE, MAS, SECE, ARNI, and INKSPOT just to name a few artist that represent graffiti.

Now that the history is out of the way, it has to be known that graffiti is everywhere, it is alive and kicking and can be found all over the world.

Technology is improving and the art from all over the world is being displayed on numerous internet sites. There are also sites that have the postings of schedules of upcoming graffiti events.

Graffiti supplies have never been crazier. Everything is out there from markers to color mixing caps, fan caps, NYC fat caps, German fat caps and more. There is even a law in New York that says in order to purchase spray paint you have to be 18 years of age or over, which was passed because the law officials blamed minors for the majority of graffiti crimes. This has made it difficult for some younger kids to buy paint, but that's only a small obstacle.

The only thing spray paint laws mean is that graffiti is a live and some people do not appreciate it. The art supplies can be found at little stores in the city and at many different shops on the Internet. Some places don't even recognize the law. And other places lock spray paint in a separate area. The reason for the separate locking of the paint is because as part of the old school traditions of graffiti, everything was done illegally from boosting of the paint to the actual crime in action.

To come full circle, graffiti is a part of the hip-hop culture and as long as the culture of hip-hop doesn't abandon all of its roots and history, then graffiti will live through the hip-hop culture forever.



# ANNUAL AFRICAN HISTORY MONTH COMMEMORATION

## “Out of Many One People”

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

**5:30 P.M., 3RD FLOOR GALLERIA, HSC**



**Tribute to Dr. Bill McAdoo,  
Former Director of the Africana Center**

**Keynote Speaker**

**Honorable Council Member Charles Barron**  
Representative from District 42 in Brooklyn on the  
New York City Council  
Founder and Former CEO of Dynamic Leadership Inc.  
Former Black Panther  
*The role of future Physicians of Color in our Communities*

**Special Musical Guest**

**Dolce**  
Act 2 Records and former Tommy Boy recording artist  
Performing the Black National Anthem

**Spoken Word**

**Deborah La'Sassier**  
Author of "Healing Through Poetry"

**Traditional African Dance Performance**

**Maimouna Keita School of African Dance**  
The school is dedicated to preserving and sharing African  
culture and history with all whom embrace the culture.

**DJ Dan**

Spinning till you drop!  
If you need to make your way to the hospital directions to the  
emergency room will be provided as needed.

**"Racial Profiling"**

Photo Exhibition entitled by Jonel Daphnis  
Co-Founder of Melanin Body Photography,  
Second Year Medical Student  
Political Advocacy Liaison for SNMA's Region IX (NY/NJ)

**Voters Registration Drive**

conducted by Minorities in Medicine and the New York  
Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)

**"Our success is rooted in our continual strengthening of and community"**

This event is Free and open to the public.

Refreshments will be provided by provided by Junior's Trinidadian Restaurant and Raymond's Dominican Restaurant.



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For more information contact Jonel Daphnis at [jonel.daphnis@mail.hsc.sunysb.edu](mailto:jonel.daphnis@mail.hsc.sunysb.edu), Ijeoma Anosike at [snma\\_sb@yahoo.co](mailto:snma_sb@yahoo.co), brenda.anosike@mail.hsc.sunysb.edu AA/EOE



# National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.....Who Knew?

BY JOAN GUMBS

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Feb. 7 was National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD). In its fourth year, the event is a joint effort of the Community Capacity Building Coalition and a group composed of diverse national organizations from across the country and the Office of Minority Health. The event is funded by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Interestingly, it seemed that not many people were aware of this day and those who were, were so misinformed about the event that they sent out press releases and newsletters with inaccurate and misleading information. On the various websites promoting the event, the information was even outdated. Here at Stony Brook University, we fared no better. The day came and went with nary a sigh! No one seemed to remember, or care. What was ironic about the whole situation is the fact that NBHAAD fell in a month in which we are celebrating Black history. Clearly, there is a need for knowledge, not only of black heritage, but for knowledge of the social issues affecting African Americans daily.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc, a

predominantly black fraternity celebrated the day with their fourth Annual Miss Black and Gold Pageant. The day before Malik Fraternity, another black fraternity, had a Star Search. However, to be fair to the Maliks, on Feb. 18, in association with Gamma Ce Upsilon, sponsored an AIDS benefit banquet. Needless to say, for the awareness day, it's a day late and a dollar short.

In a statement regarding the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness and Information Day, Tommy G. Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services, said that minority communities are disproportionately hit by this epidemic. He stated that approximately 900,000 Americans are living with HIV/AIDS and many unknowingly and some 40,000 are newly infected with HIV every year. He said, though African Americans comprise 12 percent of the U.S. population, they comprised 51.7 percent of all estimated AIDS cases diagnosed in 2002. HIV/AIDS is one of the top three leading causes of death for African-American women ages 25-44, and men ages 25-54. Appalling statistics, but verifiable by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

who have also stated that blacks accounted for 38 percent of total AIDS cases in the United States.

According to Thompson, the Bush Administration has increased overall HIV/AIDS federal spending 28 percent, from \$14.2 billion in fiscal year 2001 to \$18.5 billion in fiscal year 2004...includes \$53 million for programs that support innovative approaches to HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment in minority communities.

With such resources, and with the help of noted entertainers, such as rapper Nelly, gospel recording artist Vanessa Bell Armstrong and U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.), who have all signed on to be spokespersons for the National Black Awareness, it is expected that 2005 will report a reduction in the number of reported cases.

Dr. John Robertson, Executive Director of National Black Alcoholism and Addictions Council, one of the organizations that make up the Community Capacity Building Coalition, said, if we increase the dialogue and get everyone involved, we will be able to galvanize our communities to take action and stop the spread of HIV/AIDS. A very optimistic

prediction. Nevertheless, the fourth annual observance was meant to mobilize African Americans to get educated about the disease, to get tested and get involved in advocating for the resources to fight AIDS.

Indicators suggest we haven't made much progress by way of education. So, my question is, are we really becoming more aware? If so, why does the statistics say otherwise? Sir Francis Bacon once said, 'Knowledge is power' - a popular PSA added, 'Information is how you get it.'

The National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day targeted 16 major cities where HIV/AIDS is most prevalent. Cities included Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, N.J., among others. In each of the 16 cities, community-based organizations held events, such as press conferences, prayer breakfasts, and memorial services to bring attention to the seriousness of the HIV/AIDS epidemic among African Americans. Some even offered free HIV testing. What did we do and more importantly, what are we doing? For more information on the NBHAAD visit their website at [www.blackaidsday.org](http://www.blackaidsday.org)

## WANTED!!!

### Creative, Articulate, Motivated Writers

**BLACKWORLD** seeks writers for the Spring 2004 semester

**BLACKWORLD** is a student publication dedicated to the expression and growth of the underrepresented campus community.

**BLACKWORLD** is an alternative voice for students to express their thoughts and opinions about the issues that affect them on and off campus.

**BLACKWORLD** welcomes news articles, poetry, short stories, commentaries, and art.

**BLACKWORLD** is also seeking assistance with its photography department from expressive individuals who have a genuine interest in film and photography and are willing to learn and dedicate time.

## DID YOU KNOW...

BY JENNIFER JACQUES

SECRETARY

Granville T. Woods invented the first telegraph that allowed moving trains to communicate with other trains and train stations, which in turn improved railway efficiency and safety. He was then awarded more than 60 patents.

Emmett W. Chappelle served as a biochemist for Hazelton Laboratories, then as an exobiologist and astrochemist. He went to work as a biochemist for the division of Research Center for Space Exploration before joining the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as a remote sensing scientist in 1977. Among Chappelle's discoveries is a method (developed with Grace Picciolo) of instantly detecting bacteria in water, which led to improved diagnoses of urinary tract infections. He retired from NASA in 2001.

Lewis Howard Latimer learned mechanical drawing while working for a Boston patent attorney. He later invented an electric lamp and a carbon filament for light bulbs (patented 1881, 1882). Latimer was the only African-American member of Thomas Edison's engineering laboratory.

Sarah Breedlove Walker also known as (Madame C. J. Walker) invented a process for straightening the hair of African-Americans. In 1910 she

formed Madame C. J. Walker Laboratories in Indianapolis, where she developed products and trained her beauticians, known as 'Walker Agents.' The agents and the products were recognized in black communities throughout the U.S. and Caribbean for promoting the philosophy that cleanliness and loveliness could advance the plight of African-Americans.

Tom Bradley a Los Angeles city councilman from 1963-73 was elected the city's first black mayor in 1973. Bradley, a liberal Democrat was reelected four times and served until 1993, during a period of Los Angeles's expansion.

Shirley Chisholm served as a U.S. Congress woman for Brooklyn, N.Y. from 1969-83 became the first black woman to run for president in 1972. In 1993 she was nominated to be U.S. ambassador to Jamaica but withdrew because of ill health.

Condoleezza Rice became the first African American woman to serve as National Security Advisor to President George W. Bush in 2001.

It is important that we remember the strides that these African American men and women have made to pave the way for us. We must continue to make history so that one day the playing field will be fair for all.





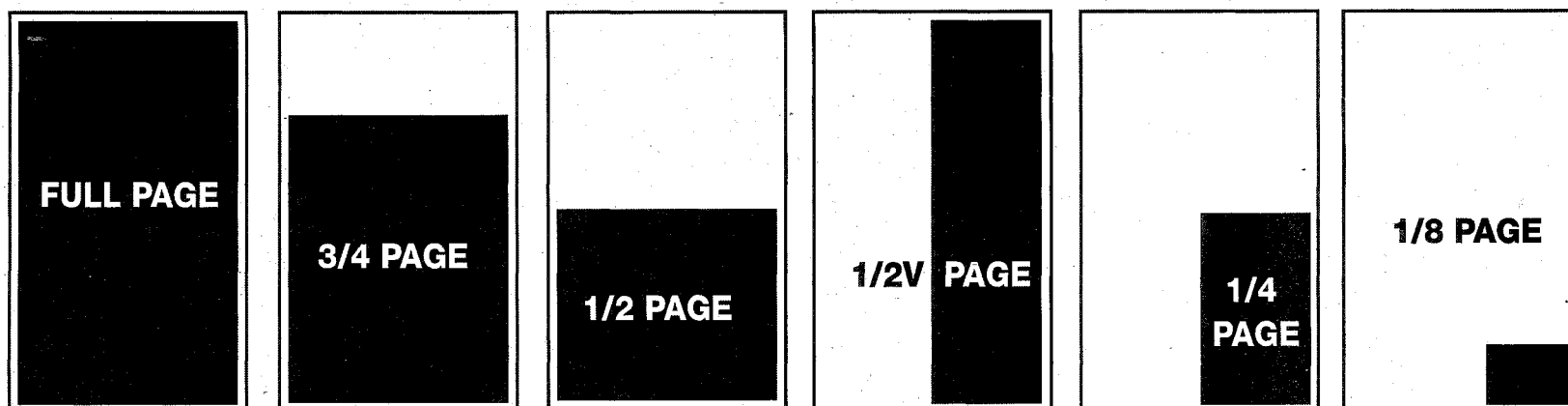
*"Know Thyself"*

Stony Brook University  
BLACKWORLD  
Student Union 072  
Stony Brook, NY 11790

## SPRING 2004 MONTHLY RATE SCHEDULE

Rates are subject to change without notice. All Ads with 1-Spot Color add \$50, All Ads with 2-Spot Colors add \$75. 4-Color Processed Ads add \$100. All Ads place on the Outside Back Cover add \$150 (4-Color process). Classified Ads are \$15 for 25 words, 30 cents each additional.

AD SIZE	DIMENSIONS	MONTHLY RATES
Full Page	9.735 x 13.75	\$345
3/4 Page	9.735 x 10.313	\$235
1/2 Page (H)	9.735 x 6.875	\$170
1/2 Page (V)	4.825 x 13.75	\$170
1/4 Page	4.825 x 6.875	\$ 70
1/8 Page	4.825 x 2.292	\$ 30
Classified	(25 words - 30 cents each add'l)	\$ 15



### PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

February	23	Production dates are subject to change without notice.
March	3	
March	10	
March	24	
April	14	Please make checks and money order payable to: Blackworld Newspaper
April	21	
May	5	
May	19	

Camera Ready Ads and classified must be submitted five days prior to publication date Non-Camera Ready Ads must be submitted two weeks prior to publication date.

**Advertisement Design** - All Ads requiring basic graphic design and illustration will be subjected to \$25 fee per Ad. All Ads requiring complex design including digital photo editing and scanning will be charged according to complexity. All fees are nonrefundable and must be paid prior to completion of Ad. All advertising is prepaid. Credit will be extended at the discretion of the Advertising Manager. If credit is approved, statements will be mailed out at the end of each month. The advertiser is to indemnify BLACKWORLD for all expenses it may incur to enforce collections of any amount due, which shall include but is not limited to reasonable attorney's fee and court costs resulting from such collection. The first proof is provided by BLACKWORLD free of cost. Additional proofs are \$3 each.



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