Black History Month Recap & more!

Meet Tryton Johnson and Alexis Gloster, your new Mr. & Mrs. Black Student Union.

Black Female Development Circle COBOL Spotlight
Remembering our Past, Building on the Present, and Fighting for our Future
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As the semester comes to a close, we must try hard not to remember the great successes. Homecoming week was not only about celebrating a great record by our Seminole team but also the importance of unity among students and alumni especially in our black community. As a black student union we have worked hard to commemorate the fight that has existed for 45 years and also to promote change. After the Town Hall meeting with Pres. Barron and continued talks to the administration as well as the great solutions that we have gotten from students across campus it is our hope that by the time the semester ends we will have new things in place that will create a better campus for black students. I want to also take this time to extend congratulations again to our new Mr. Mrs. Black student union who has not only taken responsibility to promote the events of our BSU but also to become a voice for the problems and the concerns that we face as a family. The success that seems to be floating around the campus is not only monumental but also very contagious and I hope this inspiration instills itself into each and every individual so we can only create more products across campus. Remembering Our Past, Building on the Present, and Fighting for our Future.

Harold Scott
Greetings!

As the school year comes to a close, there comes a time when you can’t help but think about the past year. You ask, “How have I changed as a person? How can I improve for the next semester?” We’ve heard the saying, “All talk but no bite.” Sometimes, it’s a lot easier to plan something out than actually do it. If you’re tired of being this person, don’t worry because you’re not alone. You may be dissatisfied with the direction you’ve been moving in, wondering how you got off track so easily. What you can do to fix this issue is to find a source of motivation, a muse of some sorts.

Find something that triggers the genius in you, whether it is a thought-provoking colleague or a favorite album. Have you ever tried to light a fire without the proper tools? Igniting the passion in yourself will be difficult, but if you find the right stimulus, it will happen in the speed of... light! Once it happens, you’ll finally stop marching in place and actually make some moves.

P.S: You can look around day & night, but at the end of the day, it all starts within. Go look in the mirror, take a deep breath, and tell yourself that you’re worth more. Because you are, no matter what anyone else tells you.

Have an amazing summer vacation!

Joyce Philippe & Ternisha Williams
Incite Magazine Editors 2013-2014
5 must-see black films
(in case you missed them!)

The past year was a monumental breakout period for African-American cinema. From mainstream blockbuster hits to independent releases, on-screen depictions of the black experience have broken the confines of Madea’s cookouts and slapstick comedy. This renaissance of black film is focused on eliminating the notion that movies with black casts are only for black people. With skilled production, promotion, and undeniably gifted casts, these films are sure to leave viewers asking for more. Here is a list of some of the best films out so far. Make sure to keep up, because the tidal wave is only getting higher.

1 12 Years a Slave
Solomon Northup is a free black man from upstate New York. While in the pre-Civil War south, he is abducted and sold into slavery.

2 The Butler
Cecil Gaines served eight presidents during his tenure as a White House butler. View how the pivotal moments in American history, including Vietnam and the Civil Rights Movement, affected this man and his family.

3 Fruitvale Station
This is the true story of Oscar Grant III, who was fatally shot by BART Police in the hours before New Year’s Day 2009. The film follows his experiences in the last day of his life.

4 Best Man Holiday
It’s been 15 years since the last time this group of friends has been together! The next chapter to the 90s classic shows easily long-forgotten romances (and rivalries) can be ignited. The chemistry certainly will have you on your toes.

5 Black Nativity
In the contemporary adaptation of the classic play by Langston Hughes, Black Nativity follows a young teen from Baltimore as he travels to New York City to spend Christmas with his estranged relatives. As he embarks on journey to reunite with his mother, he learns lessons of faith and family, of course not without a little divine intervention.
A Circle of Women Leaders

COBOL SPOTLIGHT
The Black Female Development Circle is an organization that was established on the campus of the Florida State University in 2006. As our Mission is “To Educate, Explore, Enhance, and Celebrate Womanhood,” we do so by presenting vital knowledge in the form of mental and spiritual challenges to reshape thinking; provide mandatory practical life skills and specialized life skills that empower and promote a positive sisterhood experience; and generate a stable environment of respect, admiration, and appreciation for our own kind and our contributions.

Our annual events include: Shades of Womanhood, which is a multicultural event where we celebrate Women’s History Month through showcasing a Night of the Arts. Tribute to a Black Man, where we proudly celebrate the achievements of Black male students, faculty, and staff, as we show our campus community that the propagation of self love and self respect amongst women does not equate to a hatred of men. As well as thought provoking Seminars and Forums.

“A woman is the full circle. Within her is the power to create, nurture and transform.”

-Diane Mariechild
READY TO ROCK
Mr. & Mrs. BSU 2013-2014

The Pageant Interview
After weeks of preparation, Tryton Johnson and Alexis Gloster made their big break into the university’s social scene at Behind the Music: The BSU Pageant. Taking on celebrity alter egos, they embodied their characters to the fullest while giving the audience a glimpse of who they are. From the opening number to the final walk, their on-stage presence was unquestionable. Gloster’s bold Nicki Minaj impression showed her attitude and flare, while Johnson had the auditorium rocking with his rendition of Marshall Mathers’ greatest hits. Their distinct personalities, radiant confidence, and clear goals for their futures at Florida State University catapulted them to victory.

**INCITE**: What were your expectations going into the pageant?

**ALEXIS**: The BSU pageant is different from any type of pageant because it’s not as competitive. You really gain a family, so it was different from what I thought it would be.

**TRYTON**: I didn’t really have much expectations, I just really hoped I’d win, & hoped people really heard what I was trying to say in my intro.

**INCITE**: What was your favorite/ least fav. part of the pageant?

**ALEXIS**: Least favorite part was question & answer, for sure. My favorite part was the intro because everyone got to come out and really do their thing, show who they are.

**TRYTON**: Getting close with the contestants and the pageant moms. It was really cool because I really got to get cool with a lot of people. Least favorite part.. it was tough, it was long... but all the practices were worth it.

**INCITE**: What is one lesson you’ve learned for the pageant?

**ALEXIS**: Being confident in yourself. Don’t underestimate your abilities because an experience like this can really bring the best out of you.

**TRYTON**: One thing I could take away from the pageant is that if you’re willing to tell your story, people are definitely willing to listen.

**INCITE**: How will you use your new title to make create an impact on campus?

**ALEXIS**: I would like to motivate people to get out of their comfort zones. I never thought I’d do the pageant and look at me now. I want to push them do things that they normally wouldn't do.

**TRYTON**: I started thinking of a lot of seminars. I want to do continue telling my story, & really bring the student body back to what it should be, like the progression of the civil rights movement. We seem to have gotten away from that. There’s a big elephant in the room that people are ignoring. I want to address the issues that nobody is talking about, and a diverse crowd so we won’t be preaching to the choir.

**INCITE**: What advice would you give to someone interested in doing the BSU Pageant?

**ALEXIS**: If you think you want to do it, do it. You learn so much about yourself, gain new skills, a family, not to mention it’s a whole lot of fun.

**TRYTON**: Go hard from the beginning, and have plans for what you want to do to make a difference on this campus. Have fun, but take it seriously because it is a big deal.

**INCITE**: If you could sum it all up in one word, what would it be?

**ALEXIS**: Inspirational.

**TRYTON**: Amazing.
ALEXIS

“I chose Nicki Minaj because I wanted to be somebody totally opposite from my normal persona.”

FUN FACT: She has done cheerleading since she was 4 years old.
“I picked Eminem because we share a lot of the same life experiences.”

FUN FACT: He won the state championship with his football team at Godby High School.
Black History Month 2014 Recap

Unlit Beauty

Illuminating the Hidden Color
An extraordinary man who sought to create a place where all would care and all would share. We are working to fulfill his bright vision.
Bobby Eugene Leach was a man who loved poetry. He believed in the shining potential - the poem - of the individual. He knew that to unleash the potential of the poetry in students, one needs to respond to them both emotionally and intellectually. This knowledge served him well. In his relationships with students, Leach had few equals. He possessed an uncanny ability to sense each one's need and to respond to it. The welfare of “his” students was of paramount importance. Helping students, faculty and staff create a “caring and sharing” community, one in which students could develop their own sense of ethics and values, was Leach’s mission at Florida State. He came to Florida State as vice president for student affairs and served in that role from 1978 to 1988. As the university’s highest-ranking black administrator, Leach played a significant role in this university’s history. His belief that the academic, social, and personal experiences of students bear strongly on their success and growth motivated Leach to champion a much-needed expansion of student facilities at the University. Thanks to his leadership, students now enjoy the enlarged and renovated Oglesby Union and the recreation center named in his honor.
Nelson Mandela, born Rolihlahla Mandela, was born in Transkei, South Africa on July 18, 1918. After the death of his father, he was adopted by a high-ranking Thembu tribesman, who groomed him for tribal leadership. He studied law at University College of Fort Hare and the University of Witwatersrand; the first in his family to receive formal education. Frustrated by the injustice, he began attending meetings of the African National Congress (ANC) and soon became an active member. The organization aimed to establish a democratic government within South Africa. He worked closely with fellow party to establish its youth league, the ANCYL. When the National Party, dominated by Afrikaners, formally introduced apartheid, the Mandela’s commitment to politics and the ANC grew ten-fold.

On August 5, 1962, Nelson Mandela was arrested and later sentenced to life imprisonment. His iconic status was sealed around the world when he gave his famous statement:

“I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die.”

Mandela spent the first 18 of 27 years in jail at Robben Island Prison, where he was confined without a bed or plumbing. He received scarce rations and fewer privilege as a black political prisoner. He only saw his wife once every six months. Despite brutal restrictions, he earned a bachelor of law degree while in confinement from the University of London. He also acted as a mentor to other inmates and smuggled out a draft of his autobiography, which published five years after his release. He was released on February 11, 1990.

On May 10, 1994, Mandela was sworn in as the first black president of South Africa. He introduced many social and economic programs to improve the living standards of South Africa’s black population. Mandela soon received a Nobel Peace Prize and was recognized for his triumphant life. He worked diligently to create a new international image for South Africa. He claimed his country as “a rainbow nation at peace with itself and the world”, and dedicated his life to promoting peace, democracy, freedom, and human rights.

Nelson Mandela passed on December 5, 2013.
“Difficulties break some men but make others. No axe is sharp enough to cut the soul of a sinner who keeps on trying, one armed with the hope that he will rise even in the end.”
Battle of the Sitcoms in Black TV

Sitcom is short for situational comedies, 26 min. shows that have a single problem that gets wrapped up by the end of the episode. In the early days of television, black actors were cast in stereotypical, clownish roles stemming from the days of minstrelsy. The first all-black sitcom, the Amos n’ Andy Show, was a radio show turned TV series. It ran from 1951-1953, when the NAACP pushed for its removal for the way black people were portrayed, as either “crooks or quacks.”

After there were no all-black sitcoms until the 1970s. Good Times, The Jeffersons, & Different Strokes were notable pioneers shows in black TV. In the 1980s, newer networks like FOX, the WB, & UPN established themselves with black audiences with shows like Martin & Living Single to name a few. These shows gave black entertainers a platform to share their experiences on the main stage. It also gave them opportunities to
Women always want some kind of change. It seems like we are never satisfied. We always want more. We want to be better. This is NOT a bad thing ladies, and DO NOT let anyone tell you otherwise. I’ve gotten to the point in my life where I want change, specifically with my hair. This topic has been trending for a while now. Females are rocking natural hair, which is absolutely stunning, fabulous, and empowering. The natural look is definitely not a favorite among our young African brothers. When females make that big chop, or go through that long transition, they are doing it for themselves. No one else, and THAT is empowering. To be secure in making a drastic change is beautiful in itself. These women with natural hair are not allowing their hair to define or measure the amount of beauty they possess (Oh goodness, India Aire “I Am Not My Hair” melodies have invaded my thought process.) Beauty seems to be defined by how much make-up you wear, or having on the latest trends, having the longest weave, and y’all some people still wear colored contacts! All of these things are materialistic and a bit superficial. YES, oh yes I love wearing makeup and and I am constantly checking F21 for the latest trends, however, if all of that was stripped away from me, if all of that was stripped away from you, would we still be beautiful? I can say I wouldn’t feel like the baddest chick per-se, but I know I would feel secure with the natural beauty God has given me.

Natural hair is empowering. It is the process of rediscovering your authentic self. Women who are natural still wear weave, because they want variety and hell, they are women. Women are not stagnant. We are emotional creatures who want our hair to match the personality we have adopted for those three weeks. The braids be oh so fresh, but she can take out those braids, and put on that u-part wig and still feel secure in her beauty. What I’m trying to say is stop using material things as a crutch. Use them to accentuate your beauty. Don’t depend on the superficial things in life to make you happy. That is a miserable everlasting journey to happiness. you must start within yourself to feel some type of way. To feel damn sexy in your skin, and the hair you have been blessed with. Shoot, I know I do.
The budget for food stamps has been cut by $5 Billion dollars. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides $80 Billion per year to about 47 million people, but since the recession the numbers have increased dramatically. The Center of Budget Policy and properties broke down the amount of money families would lose due to the cutback. A single person household would be estimated to lose $11 monthly, while a 4 person household would lose $36 monthly. In 2009, the budget for food stamps was increased so that the people would be able to provide for their families. It was only a temporary fix so now they are trying to transcend back to the normal standards. SNAP is planning to make a gradual transition. The first cut was made on November 1, 2013.

Congress is determined to make tremendous cuts. The House of Representatives were considering a bill that would cut $39 Billion for the program, but making it harder for people to obtain food stamps. They would like to reinstate limits on able-bodied people without children. The House of Representatives would like to take the decision for the state to determine eligibility away. Forty-four states, this year alone, qualified for federal waivers that would allow more able-bodied adults to receive food stamps if unemployment in the area is particularly high. The power is in their hands. What do you think? Do you support the food stamp increase or decrease?

- Teniola Ajayi
BSU FLASHBACK

STRIKE A POSE

Say Cheese

Opening Ceremonies
A BIT OF EVERYTHING
IN CASE YOU MISSED IT
COBOL GAMES

WINNER CIRCLE

Round 1

ISEEU

THE BSO'S 45TH ANNIVERSARY
"THE REVOLUTION"

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The semester is coming to an end. As school lets out, many will start looking for some company for those wild summer nights. While it may be fun to get cozy with a special someone, it's no secret that sometimes, things may go a little further than anticipated. This is why it is important to carry a condom (and use it properly) to significantly reduce risk of STDs, including AIDS.

There are approximately 1 million people in the United States living with HIV. That equals to about 12 times the maximum capacity of Doak Campbell Stadium. Even more shocking is that 1 in 5 people are unaware that they are even infected, leaving them capable of unknowingly passing the virus on to others. While gay & bisexual men of all races are the most profoundly impacted group, African-Americans continue to be disproportionately affected. As only 12% of the US population, blacks accounted for 44% of new HIV infections in 2010.

June 27 of every year marks National AIDS Testing Day, the official initiative to encourage communities to stay informed on their HIV/AIDS status. At the end of the day, the best way to prevent yourself from contracting HIV is to keep yourself and the ones around you informed. With regular testing and safe sexual practices, you keep yourself healthy and worry free. Remember to think before the next time you decide to go without a condom, because decisions made in one night can follow you for the rest of your life.
Torn, Tattered, BatteRed, and bruised
You couldn’t see these wounds but I wear them close to
my flesh like the lace undergarments grandma use to
make me when I was a kid.
You devoured my innocence repeatedly, but this was by
far the most humiliating time of all
It was on the day we laid grandma’s
lifeless vessel 6 feet under.
Devastated, Detached, Demolished, Distorted and
DAmned to be Damned
You wanted to comfort me……
This time I thought it would be different
because
of the circumstance
You filled your usual chubby glass with
whiskey
and sat down beside me, shoulder to
shoulder and thigh to thigh
Your dilated puPils traced my anatomy
My sneeze broke your deep gaze and you
suggested we do something fun…
We were flipping
Through grandma’s old photo album
Reminiscing on the past and grooving
to that Jazz beat that polished our ear-
drums softly
WE were losing touch with who we are
But as we were losing touch
You were gaining touch
You placed your bear-like paws over my
mouth
Your hands reeked of a familiar smell
It was whisky, you consumed it, it con-
sumed you, and you consumed me
As the tears pierced through my eyelids
I yelped for help time after time
No one ever penetrated the opening in
the wall
But you did penetrate ME so forceful,
vulgar and so deep

-Ternisha Williams
Jean-Michel Basquiat was born on December 22, 1960, in Brooklyn New York. Raised by a Haitian father and Puerto Rican mother, his colorful heritage served as the foundation for his many works. He developed an immense interest in art at an early age, encouraged by his mother through frequent museum visits. After being hit by a car, he spent his recovery time reading medical texts including the famous Gray’s Anatomy; another major influence in his art.

Basquiat ran away from his troubled household, living homeless in the streets of New York City by the age of 15. He made ends meet by selling drugs and peddling hand-painted T-shirts and postcards. Soon, he collaborated with his good friend, street artist Al Diaz and began tagging graffiti under the alias SAMO©. The brand was loaded with anti-political and anti-establishment commentary, often seen on high-end, SoHo art galleries, and downtown buildings. He rose into New York’s art circle as a unique talent when he showcased his work at the iconic Times Square Show of 1980. His art fell in line with the rising Neo-Expressionist movement of the time, characterized by its loud and eccentric nature. His style was sketchy and innate, contradicted minimalist ideologies, and featured a blend of raw imagery and language.

Basquiat began working full-time as an artist by 1981, then opening solo shows in cities around the world. He became the youngest ever artist to show in Documenta, a prestigious survey of contemporary art held every 5 years in Kassel, Germany. He became close friends with pop-artist Andy Warhol, and they joined forces on a number of projects from 1984-’86. He spearheaded the new Black Renaissance in the art world with over 1,000 paintings by 1988, when he succumbed to cocaine and heroine abuse at only 27 years old. In his short life, he left a legacy of unapologetic works that have become highly sought-after luxury pieces. He lives on through his art, as it continues to be exhibited and decoded to this day.
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN INCITE? EMAIL bsuincite@gmail.com FOR MORE INFORMATION

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