



# BLACK WORLD WHAT HAS STONY BROOK COME TO

~~STONY BOOKS~~



~~Asian  
American  
Studies~~



~~STUDENT DISCOUNT~~

## WHAT'S NEXT?



# BLACKWORLD

Celebrating 36 years!

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*Letter from the Editor...*

*As the midterm season has ended and finals are slowly but surely approaching, I hope that you take the time to do something relaxing before the chaos begins. This semester has been one of the toughest semesters so far for many and it is sometimes hard to find time to pick up a newspaper and enjoy it but I hope that this finds you readers well.*

*Hope that everyone is happy with this month's issue. Good Luck on Finals! ENJOY! :)*

*-Sarah Demezier*

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# BLACKWORLD

## CAMPUS NEWS

### A

# DAY FOR KIDS

by Paloma Paultre

On a bright and warm Saturday afternoon in September, volunteers for the Boys and Girls Club's Annual Day for Kids, waited patiently for the children to come. The tables were set with games and crafts, the grill sizzled and popped, and the smell of burgers floated in the air. Stack of boxes filled with toys sat nearby, and in the field in the back, an inflatable playground bounced with expectation.

And they came. Shyly at first, but as the day progressed, the sound of loud laughter could be heard well over the music blasting out of the speakers.

This was the 5th year that the Boys and Girls Club of the Bellport Area had put together their "Day for Kids" and the fourth year that students from Stony Brook had come to help out. Boys & Girls Club Day for Kids is a day set aside each year to celebrate and honor America's children by spending meaningful time with them. It's about celebrating kids, children, grandchildren or any child in need of mentoring. It was held in a wide concrete court in the middle of Martha Avenue Park, with a fence surrounding the area. The volunteers were a mix of staff from the local Boys and Girls Club of Bellport and students from Stony Brook University.

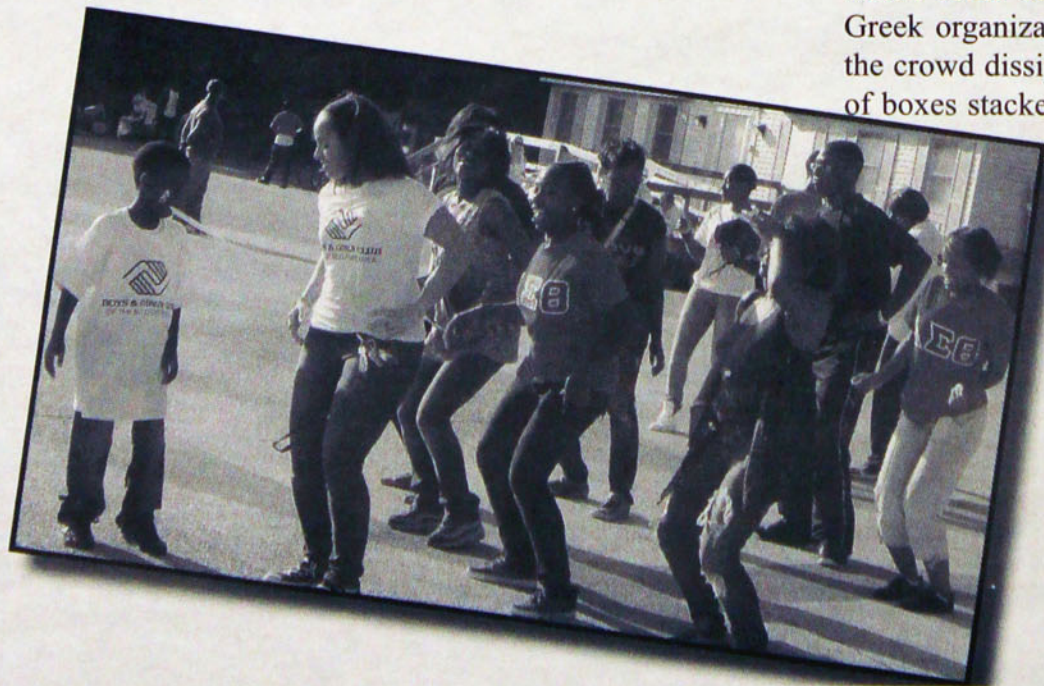
The students from Stony Brook University were organized by the Pi Delta chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, which was established on the university campus in 1984. The students who came out to support the National Annual Day for Kids event ranged in age, rank and major, but had the common goal of commitment to servicing the participants that day.

From face painting to hula hoops and from coloring to sand art, the kids had more activities to choose from than what they knew what to do with. And as they bounded from table to table, the excitement grew. The DJ, located in a corner surrounded by his turn table and large speakers, played a mix of reggae and current hip-hop tracks. When he played the "Cha-Cha Slide", everyone stopped what they were doing, and ran to the middle of the event to dance in unity.

"When an event such as Day for Kids is filled with the presence of college students, graduates and working professionals, it creates a sense of hope, courage, and vision for our youth today," said Rosario Minier, coordinator for the Boys & Girls Club of the Bellport Area Day for Kids event. "It is important as educated men and women that we give back to our local communities, especially to the future generation. In a world where there is a lack of role models, negative social influences, and a failing education system, we have the power to inspire and change a child's life. We are living examples that regardless of your situation or circumstances, you can overcome any obstacle that is thrown at you, and be able to create a brighter future."

In a report done by the Corporation for National and Community Service named "College Students Helping America", studies found that in 2005 the number of college students that were actively volunteering came to 3.3 million. The number of college students who volunteer is up by 20 percent as compared to a few years ago, with education and youth services being the main concentration. There is a significant relationship between college education and volunteerism. Campus volunteer groups and service learning courses encourage college students to take an active interest in their communities. Students are strengthened with the ideals of civic engagement and their collegiate experiences contribute to the involvement their surrounding communities, even to the communities they come from where the transition rate of high school students to college is not the greatest.

It was mid-afternoon. Faces sticky with cotton candy, munched happily on the fluffy confection while others scarfed down burgers faster than they could be handed out. The crowd gathered around in a circle to watch some of the volunteers, who were members of Greek organizations, step and stroll to the music. After the crowd dissipated, the volunteers moved to the group of boxes stacked against a fence. As they started to pull



# GO FIGHT WIN! YOU TOO ALUMNI!

by: Richard Ciceron

*G*o SeaWolves! Oh, how we love our sports so here at Stony Brook. It seems as if over the last couple of years school spirit has been on an interesting rise, where we as a community experience a whole new campus culture, especially the increased school spirit and pride that has developed in lieu of the increasing skill and performance of the SeaWolves athletics team. Such performance is more than deserving of the overwhelming support from the campus community. It is also evident through the celebration of the team's success, such as Homecoming weekend, where the campus-wide involvement was eminent and the focus of the weekend was the SeaWolves football team. Such performance on the behalf of the athletics department merits the support to truly ensure worthy investments for the sake of Stony Brook's future development.

As of the beginning of October, it had been announced that the athletics department was being given a very generous donation on behalf of Stony Brook investor and philanthropist alumnus Glenn Dubin (Class of '78). An amazing donation of 4.3 million dollars was made in order to produce a state-of-the-art training and conditioning facility, which will allow for the advancement of the athletics department—a true example of how philanthropic alumni can contribute to the improvement of the current work ethic of students of the university. "With his design input and vision, the Dubin Family Athletic Performance Center will reflect that sentiment and provide a world-class venue to support and train Stony Brook student-athletes for success in both athletic competition and in life," said Stony Brook University President Samuel L. Stanley. Well put by the university president, as quoted on the school Web site in response to Dubin's noble act, but not quite complete.

The advancement of athletics at Stony

Brook University is a topic well worth discourse, however such an aspect of Stony Brook is only one of many different aspects that are worth the investment. This is not to say that the Dubin family contribution is one of little importance, in fact, there is record of the Dubin family making contributions to Stony Brook, such as "\$1 million to Stony Brook in 2005 to create the Glenn Dubin Endowed Scholarship Fund, offering scholarships to students from Washington Heights, particularly to students from P.S. 132, where he attended elementary school." There is still much of Stony Brook's future that needs to be invested in, however, such as the restoration of campus life and enrichment, the community involvement and awareness, and the overall experience that is created here in Stony Brook. There are clubs and organizations with causes including international relief efforts, such as UNICEF and Rise Again HAITI, that need such philanthropy in order to continue the spread of involvement and awareness, so that Stony Brook students can take part in directly changing the world.

The message is not one of a malevolent nature, where the point is to attack the alumni of Stony Brook, but a message of encouragement to alumni, both recently and long removed from our now thriving campus community. It is not feasible to expect every one out of 10 alumni to donate a couple million dollars to our university, but the time and returned services to ensure that Stony Brook University continues to produce remarkable and scholarly individuals to interact in the ever growing world on the outside of the "SBU microcosm." Whether the philanthropic actions of alumni include volunteering to mentor others, aid in efforts being spear-headed by the students or offering advice to the anxious yet ambitious Stony Brook students, any action from alumni may be beneficial to the SeaWolf culture, so that SBU and all its constituents—student, faculty or administration—can GO, FIGHT and WIN in the world of tomorrow.

## IS YOUR MAJOR STILL UNDECIDED? WHY NOT BECOME AN AFS MAJOR?

The major in Africana Studies provides students with a thorough background in the historical, political, social, and economic conditions of people of African descent. Because of this field's interdisciplinary approach, students are exposed to the critical contributions of scholars representing a variety of theoretical approaches and intellectual perspectives, enhancing the student's knowledge and understanding, while encouraging higher-level thinking and the ability to critically evaluate ideas and information.

Many Africana Studies majors and minors have gone on to graduate and professional schools better prepared in various disciplines and professions including law, medicine, business, engineering, nursing, social work, and education. Africana Studies courses also benefit students who go on to do graduate work in history, politics, anthropology, sociology, literature, and other fields.

# KEEP A CHILD ALIVE: STONY BROOK CHAPTER

by: Olusola Yussuf Jr

*S*tony Brook has hundreds of organizations on its campus however, there is no other organization on this campus exactly like Keep A Child Alive.

Keep A Child Alive is a non-for-profit organization that is dedicated to providing life-saving anti-retroviral treatment, care and support services to children and families whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa and India. The organization does this by directly engaging the global public in the fight against AIDS. Though Stony Brook University has non for profit organizations that raise money for great causes, no other organizations have the backing that Keep A Child Alive has.

With Alicia Keys as its Global Ambassador, Keep A Child Alive has prestige based on Mrs. Keys and all her work as an artist and philanthropist. Her talent and heart have touched people of every age and culture, especially the generation that exists on this campus. She is a role model and people want to be involved in almost anything that she supports and that is why the



Stony Brook chapter of the organization is confident that she will have the support of the university's population.

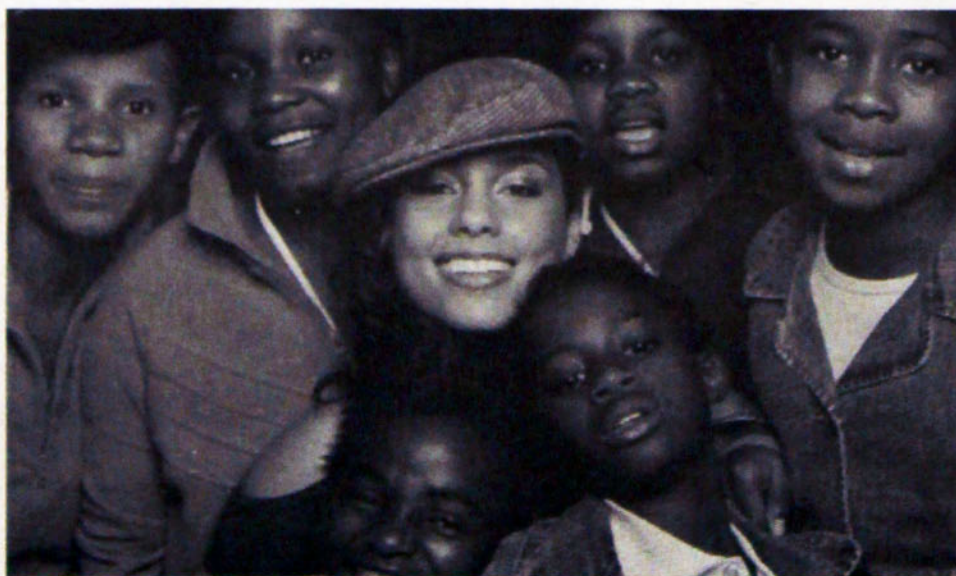
Stony Brook needed its own chapter of Keep a Child Alive because many organizations have only temporarily partnered with HIV/AIDS treatment initiatives but this organization is a permanent avenue of relief for children living with HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa and India.

The chapter plans to hold events with significant purpose that are also enjoyable to be a part of. For example, it has planned to host an event this semester that will collaborate with other non

for profit organizations on campus to the benefit of children living with HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa and India.

The first event ever as the Stony Brook Chapter was Tuesday, October 20th 2010. It was a formal Meet & Greet program where they discussed everything written in this article. Look out for more events from Keep a Child Alive throughout this and future semesters.

If you want to know more about Keep A Child Alive you can visit: [www.textalive.keepachildalive.org](http://www.textalive.keepachildalive.org)



A

# DAY FOR KIDS

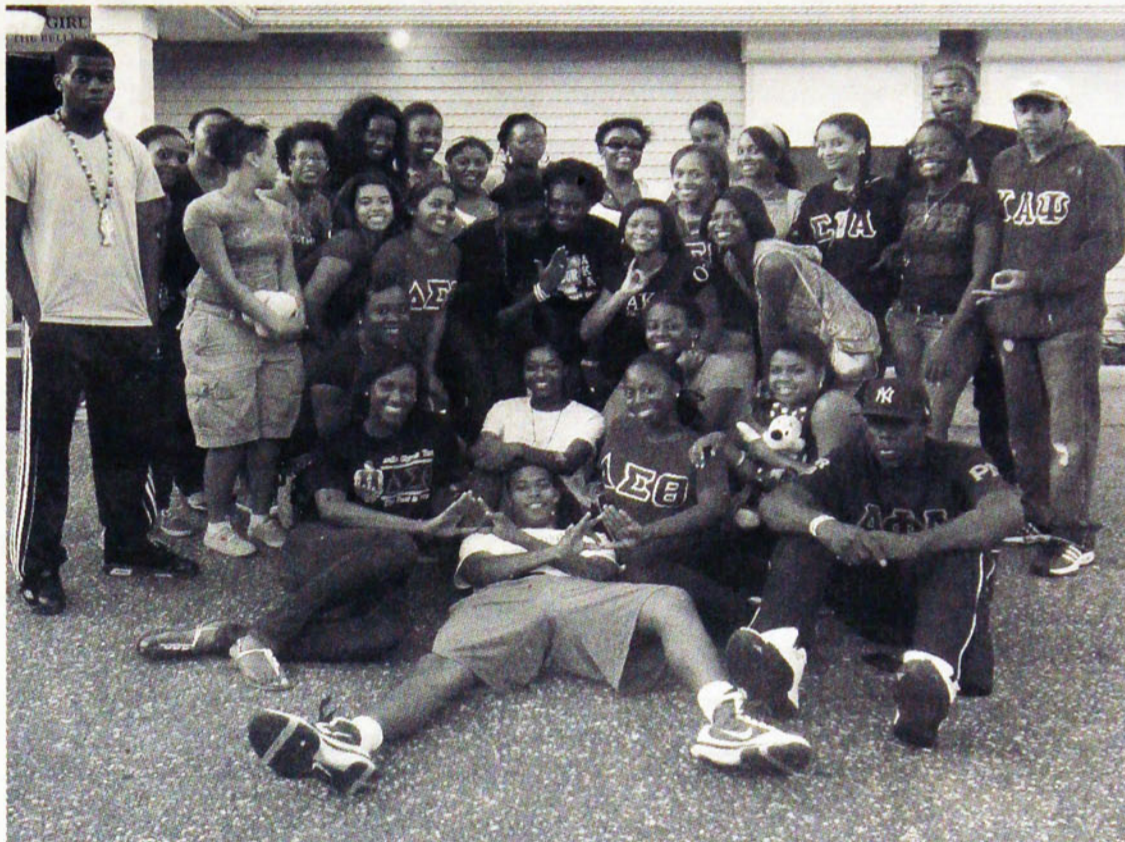
by Paloma Paultre

*Continued from page 3*

the different Disney themed toys out of the boxes, the surrounding children ran towards them. Cries of joy and excitement filled the air as each child attempted to claim as many toys as possible. One little girl, a blonde “Hannah Montana” wig atop her head, had filled her little arms to the brim with numerous toys and was in desperate need of a bag to place them in. The mountain of playthings in her hands threatened to topple over but she was determined to keep them all.

“Community service is the willingness to give back to the community,” said Da’ nashja Davis, the president of the Pi Delta chapter of Delta Sigma Theta and the contact person for the event. “It gives me a sense of pride that so many students came out to help, and they did it because they wanted to. We had around thirty volunteers that came that day.”

At the end of the day, the volunteers were exhausted, but extremely satisfied. As they got back into their cars, some taking stuffed animals and Disney memorabilia back with them, there was a general consensus among the group that the day was just as fulfilling and rewarding for them as it was for the kids.



**BLACKWORLD**  
PROUD TO BE IN EOP

by: Deron Hill

Some people dream to have the opportunity to be able to do things like write for a college news publication but unfortunately many do not get the chance. For those who do they either have the best grades, enough money to go to college or are apart of the Educational Opportunity Program also known as EOP/AIM.

Founded on the campus of Stony Brook University in 1968 with "The purpose of the Educational Opportunity Program is to fulfill New York State's commitment to provide access to higher education for economically disadvantaged students who possessed the potential to succeed in college, but whose academic preparation in high school has not fully prepared them to pursue college education successfully.

This year PBS did an 8-minute documentary on the program reason being Stony Brook University graduates 65 percent of its Hispanic students and 70 percent of its Black student population this is largely due to the EOP/AIM program. Peer Advisor

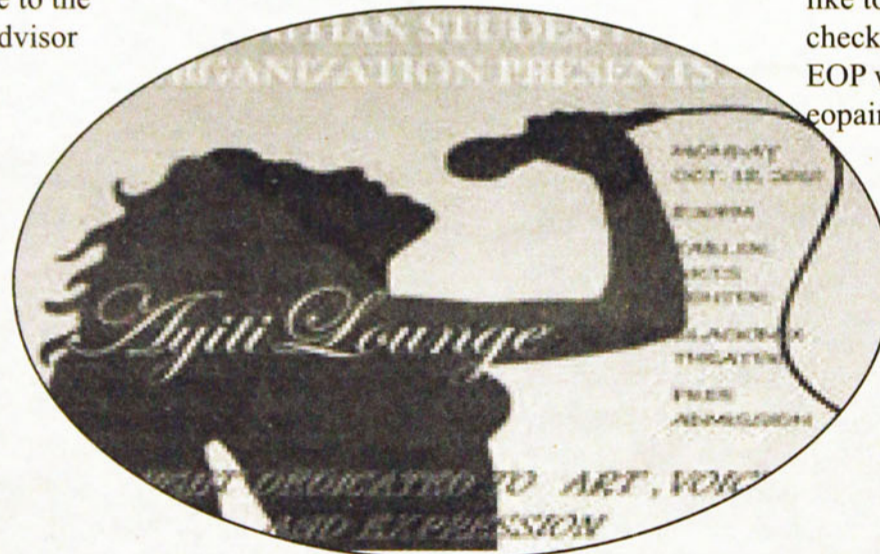


Tutors had the opportunity to be apart of the video process this summer during the five week program, which students must attend in order to gain admission to Stony Brook. After students complete the program they earn six free credits towards graduation. What many people do not know about the program is that it isn't a free ride, which many hear a lot from students who aren't in the program. There are many students on campus who are EOP who have term balances on their solar account.

EOP students do receive special privileges such as a tutorial service, which is free, and a computer lab of there own located in EOP office on the 3rd floor of the Melville library.

One of the counselors, Jarvis Watson, was asked him if there were one thing he would like to see change in the program what would it be? His response was right to the point "100 percent retention rate for the program but most importantly that the EOP students who are already apart of the program don't let it slip away from them." Meaning stay apart of the family that EOP has built don't forget your roots, it is great to get involved in other organizations and clubs on campus but those students must remember it is this program that got majority of the Latino/Black students to graduation.

EOP is a very powerful program on this campus that has opened the doors for leaders on this campus, from USG Presidents to leaders of clubs and organizations, including members of fraternities and sororities. If you would like to learn more about the program check out the video on the Stony Brook EOP website [www.stonybrook.edu/eopaim](http://www.stonybrook.edu/eopaim)



by Steven Eloiseau

On Monday, October 18th, 2010, the Haitian Student Organization put together an eventful night filled with live performances. This took place in the black box theatre in the Tabler Art Center.

What better to do on a Monday night during Midterm week than have a stress free night? Not only were the live performances enjoyable, but at the same time they were done by our own Stony Brook students. These performers were Vanessa Antoine, the Stony Brook vocalists, Daniel Rock, Mckinley Stacker IV, Maurice Folk, Nicholas Isaac, The High-C's, Chrissy, Ramon Philpotts, Ebun Akinleye, Giovanni Williams, Kuye Matthews-Mason, Richard Chounoune, J.R. Yussuf, and Maxx Rivera. As you can tell by the list of talent, the audience was very well entertained, from the sounds of soulful music being sung to the powerful poetry being read from the heart.

The number of students who attended the

event was way more than expected. There came a point where seats were unavailable because the event was over capacity.

Facebook messages described the event as "a break from all the stress of studying, classes and tests!" After attending the "Ayiti Lounge" the description could not have been more accurate. The event was everything expected and more. After all the performances, everyone was invited to a plate of Haitian food that was being served. Along with the show being great, the food was just as great, since a majority of the guests went up for seconds.

The night was filled with fun, laughter, friends, and relief, and in Stony Brook that is the combination for a "great time." The Haitian Student Organization put together such an eventful night that was free for the Stony Brook community, what more can be asked for? After such a successful night, students are looking forward to future events that may be in store.

# Parking Lot for Lauterbur & Yang

by: Olusola Yussuf Jr

*L*auterbur & Yang are the newest additions to the residence halls on Stony Brook Main Campus and they are located across from Kelly Dining. Stony Brook students have watched these buildings being built since 2008 and now that they are here the buildings are causing more harm than good for students who have been here.

With over six hundred students living in each of these buildings, you have to wonder where all them will park their cars. Surely, this highly sought after award winning, Nobel Prize-winning-Professor-producing University has thought of this. But alas, there are no new parking lots anywhere. There are only new freshman, new transfer students and higher prices for the same resources.

The school is supposed to be building a parking lot across the street from Lauterbur and the SAC parking lot; however, this is all hearsay. Unfortunately, there isn't any validity of this new parking lot because this claim has not been verified by school officials. Yet, students can see how much of an inconvenience this is to the residents with cars who are living in West apartments, Roosevelt and Kelly quad. Prior to the Fall 2010 semester, it was hard enough for a West apartment, Roosevelt, or Kelly quad resident to find good parking in the main shared parking lot and now that there are possibly 1,200 new drivers attempting to park there too, it is almost impossible. So the question to the University is, what is really being done to fix this problem?

## Africana Studies presents... The Graduate Certificate Program

The Department of Africana Studies at Stony Brook University, New York, announces its new Graduate Certificate Program in Africana Studies. The Graduate Certificate in Africana Studies is interdisciplinary in scope and applies a variety of methodologies, concepts, and theories of the social sciences and humanities to research into the histories, literatures, political systems, cultures, arts, social theories, experiences, and perspectives of persons of African descent throughout the world. The program analyzes and researches issues affecting global Black communities in Africa, the United States, the Caribbean, and elsewhere from both historical and contemporary perspectives.

Graduate certification in Africana Studies enhances qualification for careers in a range of professions where knowledge of the Black diasporic experience and viewpoints is increasingly useful, such as international business, law, medicine, higher education, management, public health, public service, social welfare, and even museum curator studies. The Graduate Certificate in Africana Studies provides vital knowledge, expertise, and perspectives needed to understand and negotiate the diversified global and transnational environment that has evolved with the contemporary communication technologies that are bringing people together in previously unanticipated ways.

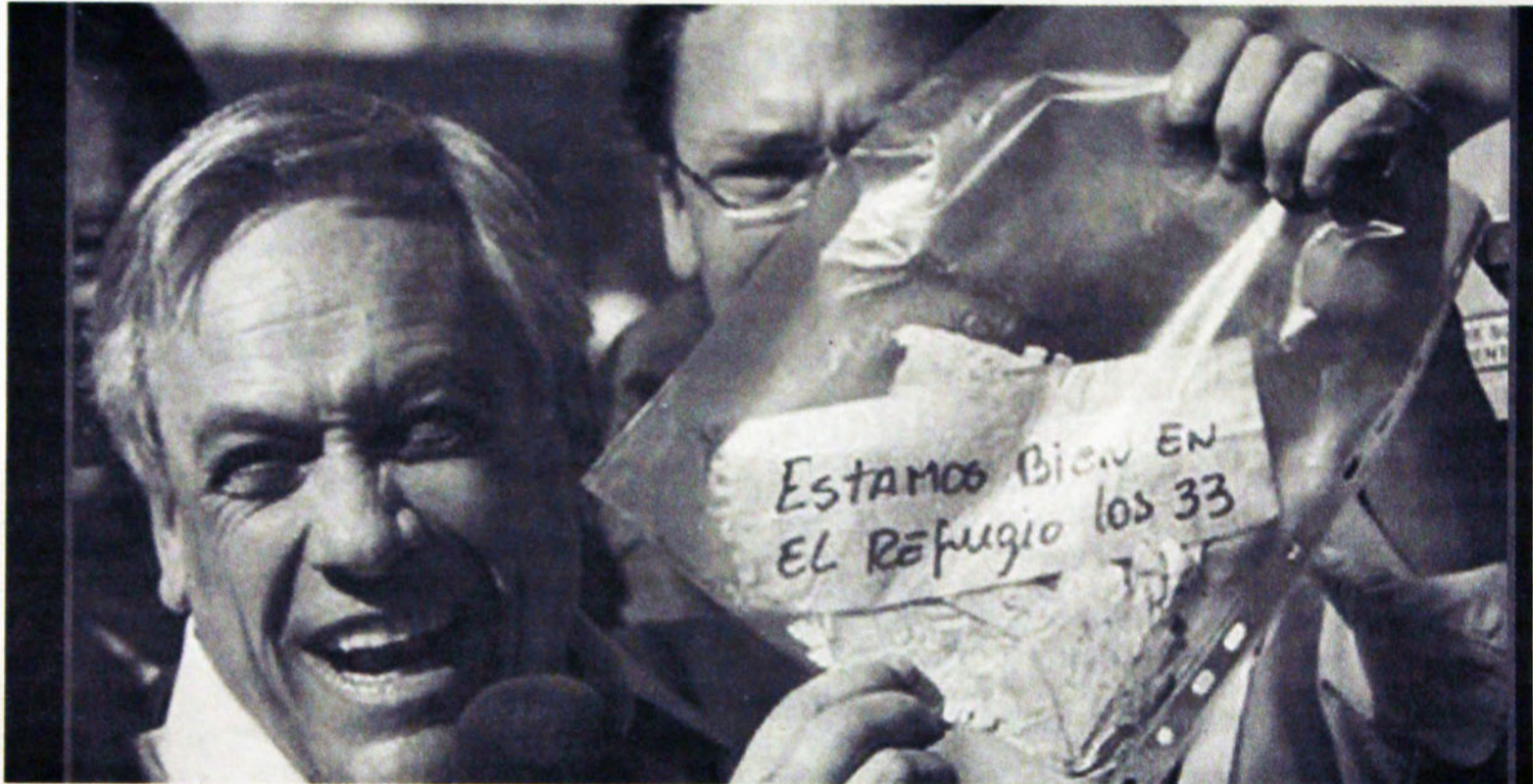
We invite you to visit the Department of Africana Studies on the web at [www.sunysb.edu](http://www.sunysb.edu) and view our University, Faculty, Staff, and programs for further information.

**SUPPORT OUR AFS DEPARTMENT!**



**BLACKWORLD**  
**NEWS BEYOND "DA BROOK"**

**33 IN, 33 OUT**  
**"A STORY OF DETERMINATION AND FAITH"**



by: Patricia D. Jimenez

On Oct. 13, 2010, the 33 miners that had been trapped 2,050 feet underground within a copper and gold mine for 68 days were finally pulled up to safety in Chile. Surviving all odds, the miners were reacquainted with their family members and loved ones. A story of hopelessness and doubt turned into an inspirational act of determination and faith.

It took 17 days before the miners made their first contact with the outside world. Throughout that time, they ate two spoonfuls of tuna, half a cookie and drank a half-full glass of milk every 48 hours. When people on the surface discovered that the miners were still alive, they began to send them food and communicate through narrow plastic tubes called "doves." Once they established a food system where the miners ate four meals a day, controlled by a physician, they found other ways of entertaining themselves while an evacuation shaft was created to lift them into safety.

They communicated with their family and friends through small portable cameras and were allowed to speak on the telephone for one minute. The miners were

only allowed to have a 2,200 calorie diet and exercise daily in order to stay slim enough to fit in the shaft, which is two feet in diameter.

"Down here we are fighting too, just like the Chilean soccer players," said miner Franklin Lobos, a former professional soccer player, before he was rescued a few weeks later. The dangers and physical and emotional distresses of isolation suffered by these miners were compared to the challenges faced by astronauts and submarine crews when working on their most demanding tasks.

Many on the surface and around the world doubted technology and were skeptical at how safe the miners were underground, since something of this sort was never seen before, especially maintaining such a large crowd alive. On that Wednesday, all doubt, disbelief, and hesitation were put aside for 22 hours as the shaft made its way up and down 33 times and pulled up every miner, from the weakest to the healthiest.

People undermine the greatness of having great humor, optimism and faith, but without these characteristics, these men would not have survived the abnormal air quality, lack of proper nutrition and the feeling of desperation. This story is an example of hope to us all, that with passion and willpower we can defeat all odds and achieve what we put our minds to. Our mind is the evacuation shaft and can lift us from any obstacle.

# Student Spotlight

Melissa Mayard



**MAJOR:** Triple major in English, Education (Secondary), Africana Studies

**TITLE:** President of HSO 2008-2009, Vice President of New York State NAACP Youth + College Division 2008, Secretary of HSO 2010-2011, Public Relations for 'Rise Again Haiti' 2010-2011, Resident Assistant 2008-2010.

**YEAR:** Senior

**Q:** "Well hello Ms. Mayard, how are you feeling today?"

**A:** "I'm feeling pretty good. I'm mainly excited for our interview to start."

**Q:** "Well I would hope so! OK, first question: What is your best quality?"

**A:** "My personality. I love everyone and if you don't like me, we will find a way to make that change."

**Q:** "Wow, really? Well, what about your personality is so great?"

**A:** "I see it like this, everyone has a story and I'm really interested in finding out what that story is. This way I can experience life with a camera that doesn't have a tiny lens! It's so much more fun that way."

**Q:** "OK, so you seem to have a pretty good personality and you've taken

up quite a few leadership responsibilities; so what are some of the things you want to accomplish in your life?"

**A:** "Well because the future is so unpredictable I can only hope to accomplish my to-do list fully and successfully. I hope to take my career in education to its highest potential in administration at both high school and middle-school levels."

**Q:** "And how do you plan to leave your mark on Stony Brook before you leave?"

**A:** "Stony Brook has honestly left a mark on me. I've become a better person with a bigger heart and learned so much. It's so sad that the journey is almost over. But hey, all good things must come to an end."

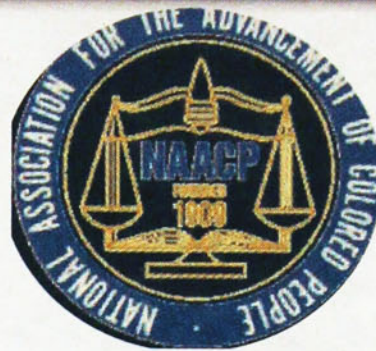
The rest of the interview with Melissa Mayard

**Q:** "What is your affiliation with Rise Again Haiti?"

**A:** "My position within the organization Rise Again Haiti is PRO and that means I handle the promotion of the events and also getting the organization in general known. My duties also include reaching out to other organizations with similar goals and raising awareness of the situation at hand. People think that the earthquake happened and now everything is okay but its not. All of the money raised thus far has been squandered and people living in Haiti have yet to really experience the help that many people have tried to offer. The thing is that we need bodies there that can offer hands-on help. We are trying to get at least 50-60,000 people to go there to help. We need doctors, pilots, nurses, or just able-bodied people that care about our mission. We plan to raise enough money to build shelters in Port-au-Prince and we are trying to get Haiti back to how it was before the 1960s when it was one of the richest countries in the world. Back to its glory days."

**Q:** "How do you balance all the things you do on and off campus?"

**A:** "It's not so much of a balance. When you say the word balance I think of having to give up things I would want to do but I honestly don't sacrifice too much. Being so busy has its ups and downs, and it is stressful, but I wouldn't have it any other way. Being involved in different organizations is all about time management but I understand that my priority is school first and foremost. When I was growing up I always wanted to get into extracurricular activities,



whether it was trying to be a part of a church play or various clubs at school. Solely studying felt unnatural for me. When you network you get to meet so many amazing people. Its fun and I do it because I enjoy it."

**Q:** "How has your experience here at Stony Brook shaped you as a Black woman?"

**A:** "Since 1999 I've been the only black girl in all my A.P. courses and the only black girl so involved in school and the only black girl in my neighborhood. So I heard all types of comments like 'wow your smart for a black girl' and 'how'd you get into this class?' So I've always had to work harder than others no matter what. Now that I'm here at Stony Brook, I still have to prove myself, however being here I have come across so many other intelligent black women. And that has made me feel like I was finally a part of a community as opposed to being the only goal-driven black girl. Most of all it empowers me and makes me want to support other Black women, everywhere. I feel like I don't have to carry the torch alone in representing intelligent Black women to people who view us in any other way anymore."

I had a great time interviewing with Ms. Melissa Mayard because she has a great personality that can be described as being light-hearted and fun. During our interview we got a bit off track and had the opportunity to have a heart-to-heart about the importance of being genuine. She gave me some great advice and I helped her out too, but speaking with her let me know that she has a great head on her shoulders, that she is confident, never stuck up—and she knows that she wants the most out of life.

# 'Ask J.R.'



'Ask J.R.'

Q: "So Mr. Relationship Man, I find myself wondering if me and my ex will ever get back together...What should I do?"

A: I think that you should evaluate the reasons why you guys broke up in the first place. Remind yourself of the facts; not just the good times. From there you should gauge how much you both have grown, matured and if the reason you guys broke up is more important than being together.

Q: "I'm in love with this guy and I'm not really sure if he loves me back... We're really close friends and have been close with each other for over a year...I'll do anything for him and he'll do anything for me...I'm scared to tell him I love him...What do I do?"

A: You guys have been friends for a while and if what you say is true, he obviously cares about you. He just might not love you the same way you love him, so before you do anything, you should make sure you are ready to handle what might happen if you tell him you love him. He might say he doesn't want to be with you romantically, he might say he has felt the same way all along or you might not hear from him again. Be ready for ANYTHING. Good luck.

Q: "Is the 3-month rule truly in effect while being on a college campus? That's damn near an entire semester!"

A: GREAT question. One of the main purposes of the 3 month rules is to test the quality of the person you're dating and having this in place prevents your judgement from being obscured by sex. What is important is being able to accurately judge the character of the person you're dating; not how long you wait. This is ESPECIALLY difficult to determine because we are on a college campus and you see that person at least five times more than you would if you were dating normally. Use your discretion when choosing how long you should wait because once you give something away, you don't get it back.

J.R. Yussuf is a 21-year old performer and writer who was born and raised in New York City. He is a full-time student at Stony Brook University and there he is a double major in Theatre and Music. He is a praise and worship leader and a committed member of Emmanuel Evangelical Missionary Church and deeply believes his own statement that says "Questions don't always produce answers but they are worth asking because it's not only about an answer; sometimes the journey to the answer is more important." He has also studied abroad in Florence, Italy at the Florence University of the Arts in spring semester of 2010.

# Optimism or Stagnation: Diversity and Standardized Testing Scores

by Simone Brown

*W*e've all had to do it at some point in our late grade-school careers: take the SATs, ACT or some other form of standardized testing. It's been told that the performance on these tests were the crystal ball to determining how successful one was going to be in college. Perhaps even greater news as far as the subject of standardized testing goes is the fact that more minority students are opting to take these exams; yet, that is exactly where the optimism stops.

Despite there being more minorities taking these important tests, recent studies have shown that as diversity among the test takers have increased, scores have fallen slightly since 2008. Needless to say, such a bit of information is quite disturbing to know about.

Yet, the way it was reported makes it even harder to stomach. The cause of the hindrances of these scores are not the ethnicities of the people taking them (though it is constantly made a case of), but rather the public school systems put in place to serve them. Though these studies are quite common, what is not is the investigation into why such results are an unfortunate reality. Instead of the people being the problem, what should be under observation is our broken educational system and what steps should be taken to repair it so that more positive results come about from minorities during these standardized tests.

According to College Board, nearly 13.5% of college-bound high school seniors who took the SATs were minorities; a dramatic increase from the last 10 years. Yet, at the same time, math and reading scores continued to fall behind those of whites. For example, on the critical-reading portion of the SATs, blacks scored an average of 429 and Hispanics had an average of 452, while the average of their white counterparts was a 528.

The same drastic differences could be seen in the writing portions as well. Blacks averaged about 421, while Hispanics had average scores of 446. Once more, whites averaged greater than both groups at 518. Quite discouraging statistics, especially considering the fact that there is now an African-American president in the White House who is currently urging Congress to pass a bill to extend tax breaks for college students.

While these scores are most certainly a disappointment, it is considered a splendid thing that more minority students are taking the option to take these tests. According to an article posted on [www.diverseeducation.com](http://www.diverseeducation.com), Robert Schaffer, a public education director for FairTest, an organization committed to advocacy for fairness in standardized testing, has stated that the growing diversity among these students is "a good thing", yet it can't amount to much if they are less prepared for college.

For that, he emphatically blamed the No Child Left Behind Act, which eliminated funding for failing schools. Knowing the type of background a lot of minority children come from, it is quite an obvious

fact of what happens to the schools they attend. Therefore, it is of no consequence to acknowledge the essential damage that has been done (or, rather, that is already present) in today's educational systems, especially for minorities who come from rather humble beginnings.

Instead of narrowing the racial gap in the standardized testing game, the law enacted by the previous presidential administration ended up maintaining (if not further widening) the gap between minorities and whites. There is no doubt that America is in the middle of an "academic arms race", as President Obama creatively called today's battle for academic efficiency. What would help this nation keep up with countries like Germany, China, and India would be the fixing of our long broken system of education by giving students of all backgrounds equal opportunity to compete with the rest of the world. If a student, no matter the race, has the desire to achieve a good education, he or she should certainly have the right to do so. Maybe then the United States will be back in leading the world in the ring of economic prosperity rather than being a profound symbol of its inequity.

**\*\*\*BLOOD DRIVE on Monday, December 6th in SAC Ballroom B from 11:00am - 3:30pm. You can sign up ahead of time at the EOP office to become a donor or a volunteer which will help out with anyone's participation for Chi Alpha Epsilon.\*\*\***



## BLACKWORLD

### I PAID FOR THIS?

by Patricia Jimenez

In this fall 2010 year, Stony Brook University's undergraduate population was 16,342 students. Each Stony Brook student must pay a student activities fee of \$94.25 each semester as part of their tuition to this University, this fee provides students with the "free" or low cost campus events, activities and other source of entertainment outside of the academic world. A total of about \$1.5 million or more is given to the University to decide what activities and events the students of this school would enjoy the most. The Student Planning Association (SPA) is in charge of providing these activities and prepare events that will cater to the school's ethnic diversity, culture and interests.

On Wednesday, November 17, 2010, SPA presented a free concert for the students of Stony Brook. The band that played at the event, Best Coast, is an American indie-pop trio based in Los Angeles, California and established in 2009. The event was held in the SAC Ballroom and the attendance was fairly high. Although the event seemed successful many Stony Brook University

students feel that not only was the Best Coast concert catered to a certain audience but the overall fund management within SPA is unfairly distributed and compared to previous years and events provided to the campus, this has been one of the most controversial.

"I do not understand how six flags, laser tag and skating trips isn't diverse," says a former member of the Student Activity Board when asked on why they were removed from the Undergraduate Student Government.

With the recent removal of the Student Activity Board (SAB) which had a large and similar budget to that of SPA's, there has been disputes on where our money is going to. When SAB was an active organization it hosted extracurricular activities such as trips to Six Flags, novelty fairs, and skating trips, all free of low cost to all students. The board was removed due to accusations of mishandling money to favor and cater to one group of students over another.

"What is going on in there? I haven't seen this event promoted," says an onlooker as she watched the line of fans pile into the Student Activity Center lobby.

by. Many students are not being informed of the "free" events being offered to them which in reality these ill-informed students did pay for.

Some may question and fault both SAB and SPA for targeting their favored audience but the students of this university are the ones suffering by paying a certain amount of money and not being provided with the services promised for it. Students fail to realize that \$94.25 out of their tuition is used for thing that many not only cater to other people but for people who come from off campus and are not Stony Brook University students and give no compensation for these events.

Budget cuts is national crisis but it is also being felt in the University level as well but along with budget cuts there is a shortage on events, programming and the entertaining aspect of college life. Students come to college to enhance themselves academically but also to build social relations with other students and according to popular demand, a change has to be implemented.

### DEATH ON BROADWAY

by Simone Brown

On the night of November 2, 2010, Broadway's famous bright lights dimmed in honor of one of its starlets who lost her battle with leukemia. Shannon Tavares, aged eleven, had big dreams of performing on that famous stage; and she got to live them. She courageously fought her own illness while at the same time encouraging others to become aware of and participate in bone marrow transplant. If a match couldn't be found to save her, she had urged, one could easily be found to save someone else. For such courage through dire circumstance, a special farewell from the place that allowed her to share her carefully honed talents were aptly due.

The young actress had gotten her start at the Harlem School for the Arts, where she had been attending since the age of 3, for voice and piano. Her teachers there had encouraged her to audition for the role of Young Nala in the Broadway Disney theatrical production of "The Lion King". At the famous Apollo Theater, she had beaten out many other young hopefuls for the role late year after

her first open audition. From there, in September, she made her Broadway debut, playing four of eight shows, until April, when her leukemia forced her to quit.

Tavares' absence from the stage, however, did not deter her from trying to live to the best of her ability. While she fought her illness with chemotherapy, she was able to use her fame as a Broadway starlet to encourage people to get tested to see if they were potential matches for a bone marrow transplant of which she was in need. And if they weren't matches for her, their samples could be used to help other people battling similar illnesses. "And remember... one swab will do the job," she encouraged in a YouTube video on her website. Her plight won the hearts of celebrities like Alicia Keys, Rihanna and 50 Cent, who also joined in the support for bone marrow testing. As this little girl's story brought the support of celebrities (as well as nearly 8,000 other people who either donated or were tested to be a potential donor), it also brought to light the issue of the difficulties minorities face in finding potential donors. Tavares was of mixed race; her mother is African-American and her father is Hispanic, from the Dominican Republic. People of mixed ancestry as well as minorities have a dif-

icult time finding good matches for a transplant because there aren't many people from either group that are signed up as potential donors, according to the obituary from Tributes.com. Therefore, because a match could not be found for Tavares, doctors performed an umbilical-cord blood transplant as an alternative in August. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough to save this brave, young soul; she succumbed to her disease on November 1 at Cohen Children's Medical Center in New Hyde Park.

While this might seem like a tragic story of a young life cut short by a debilitating illness, it serves as one of inspiration as well. Shannon Tavares was able to live her dream of performing on Broadway's stage, despite the fact that she could not be there for long. While she wasn't singing and acting, she continued to live on as an example of perseverance by encouraging others to get tested to be potential donors, not only for her own need, but also for the needs of other people suffering with her ailment. She was able to show us that Simba wasn't the only brave, young soul Broadway saw; for she already personified that without her makeup and costume. Her legacy will continue to survive in the hearts of her family, friends, and thousands of her supporters.

# BLACKWORLD OPINION EDITORIALS

## URBAN MEDIA SOURCES

by: Marika Bacchus

Many people can say that they all have one page or item on the Internet that they have to check daily. It can range from their email, YouTube and, more popular among the black community, Mediatakeout. This overnight sensation swept the urban community making claims that they had the newest, juiciest gossip. Although the claims that Mediatakeout usually make are false and fabricated, I remember becoming addicted to the site at first with their outrageous articles and claims. They once displayed naked pictures of singer and model Cassie displaying her nipple rings. Mediatakeout went on to claim that these pictures were sent to rapper P.Diddy, allegedly her "boy-friend". Now how exactly they came across the accusations, they neither claimed, nor shown any proof. I started to make a semi study out of the site. I would check it daily and read the titles of the mini blogs and see if they indeed correlated with the actually story or photo. I

## Stony Books Closed

by Jeffrey Akita

In the fall of 2005, a majority of the Stony Brook student population had discovered what looked like the cheaper alternative to buying all the books needed to successfully be an A student. Five years later, members of social media site Twitter reported that the famous bookstore Stony Books Inc. located right across the Long Island Rail Road station off of 25A, next to the Dominos Pizza store had been closed down. One of the workers cleaning out the store who did not want to reveal his name said he did not know why the store was closing but he did know that their lease was up. Rumors are competition from other bookstores and the online book companies took away most of its customers. Believe it or not, Stony Books made it possible for many students to actually afford the cost of some, if not all, books. The people I really feel for are the many students who had to borrow money to buy books. The cost of books was such a problem; Stony Books sometimes gave students a break, just so students could have all their books. Stony Books going out of business could mean a student may not be able to go to class because they don't have the

have found that 80 percent of the time, Mediatakeout fabricated the photo or names of the individual(s) involved with the story. They in fact mainly choose the most famous people to make assumptions and accusations on. They had a photo of Beyonce with a baggy shirt and claimed they had "confirmed sources" that stated she was pregnant!

I know some people are wondering why I am ranting on about this site. It is not because I care about the lives of the celebrities, or I am some truth crusader looking for the right source of gossip. My main issue with Mediatakeout and other "urban media" sources are the ignorant claims they make on their world known site. They allow outside individuals to believe that this is what our community is focused on. They not only report on stars but they make claims of new "hood trends; all exaggerated and unrelated to any of the issues in the urban community today.

When speaking to one of my sorority sisters, we discussed a rebuttal

books to read and be prepared for whatever the professor may randomly ask. This is the saddest day in Stony Brook history; first they shut down Southampton, now Stony Books too? Come on, this has got to stop at some point. We cannot strife for advancement in research and not provide ways for students to save as much money as possible, just so they can focus on achieving more than clocking in at his/her second (sometimes third) job to afford books. We have to wake up and fight the power; this is a call for UNITY... March On, March On! This article is designed for you as the reader to take the initiative and hold your elected USG officials responsible for finding out the truth about everything involving students on campus; they are your voice and they must know how to seek the truth. We as a Blackworld, not by race but by the student activity fee we "puck" around, should know that we have to be alert and must stay aware of the way our money is being circulated. The same way our government can run into debt, our student government can soon disappear, if we continue to sit back, not get involved and not ask questions. In a time like this, USG should start their own Online Bookstore, a PDF based version making it easy for students to just print out the PDF files

that some people may compare the gossip source TMZ to Mediatakeout and that for argument sake, they are no different from each other. They both focus on the gossip of celebrities and Mediatakeout just has a focus more on the black community. In some ways I can see how TMZ can be related to Mediatakeout but TMZ does not exploit an entire race of people like Mediatakeout does. They specifically make a mockery of the black community and they're getting a paycheck from it. The type of videos, articles and pictures that they choose to display are coonery at its finest and it's something that I find very disrespectful being that they claim they are a Lead Urban Media source. There is nothing that I would ever quote or use as any type of source or support for Mediatakeout and this "chuck n' givin'" has to come to an abrupt halt. Before you type in Mediatakeout please take a second thought and just hit the esc key and Google something more resourceful instead.

with their Technology fee. There are many ways to make this happen, lets see if they take the initiative. If printing will cost a lot of money, then save some and send it to their email and have them read it online. The solutions to our problems don't lie in the hands of others, it is in their care, and your job is to make sure they take care. Lets unite as one and JOIN IN THE EFFORT TO CREATE A COALITION OF STUDENTS SEEKING TO FIX UP THE USG THEY LEFT TO ROT. Look for my next article in upcoming newspapers circulated by Blackworld.

HAVE AN OPINION?  
WANT TO WRITE ABOUT  
IT IN BLACKWORLD?...  
THEN SUBMIT AN ARTICLE  
TO US ON OUR  
EMAIL ACCOUNT  
BLACKWORLDNEWS@  
GMAIL.COM.

**BLACKWORLD**  
**ENTERTAINMENT**

# Why Are You Laughing?

By: Iliia Thomas



and their daily lifestyles from an outsiders' viewpoint? With such lower budget films the main focus is to entertain but at who's expense? It is evident that In Hollywood it is acceptable to portray Black Culture in a satiric manner to the point where it can become borderline racist, because quite frankly this is what other ethnic groups use to judge Blacks on. With *Soul Plane*, for example, making over \$14 million in the box office there is no doubt that the movie was well supported.

The movie received many negative views; while a number of viewers found it funny, some found it degrading, repulsive and a "bad depiction of Black Culture". If you saw the movie and found it to be funny, what exactly did you find to be entertaining? Is this how you want to be represented to a foreigner or even to other groups of people in the US that may not be familiar with Blacks or Black culture?

As we all know the mass media will always play a crucial role in the way and which African-Americans or Blacks in general are perceived. Being that movies are found to be an easy source of entertainment, many apply what they see in such films and use that to formulate new or confirm former stereotypes of Blacks. Is this how YOU want to be viewed? With constant displays of drug usage, violence, women degrading themselves, adultery & many other pernicious depictions of Blacks, as a race how are we ever going to be taken seriously? Do you really want these movies to represent you or validate the preconceived notions of Blacks or Black culture? Not too many would.

Just remember next time you go to the movies to see that highly anticipated "black movie" and you see black actors making a fool of themselves as if they are in a modern day minstrel show, ask yourself... "Why am I laughing?"

*B*lack movies; when you hear the term what initially comes to mind?

Unfortunately many tend to revert back to the midday movies shown on BET when the network isn't airing 106 and Park or the plethora of reruns of off-the-air TV shows. Even the collection of films written and produced by the talented Tyler Perry may come to mind too. But what exactly is a "black movie"? The definition is something that can be left up to interpretation. Yet many can agree that if more than a third of the cast is black, then it is automatically deemed a "black movie."

With that being said it is clear that the target audience is obviously Blacks. While we often refer to these films as "black movies", do you feel they best represent the black community? With movies such as *Soul Plane*, *The Player's Club*, *I Do...I Did*, and *Love for Sale*, movies constantly rotating on BET, what is the perception of African Americans

# BLACK WORDS

Light Skin vs.  
Dark Skin  
by Marika Bacchus

The Unseen  
by: Saradja Paul

Do you see me?  
I mean really see me?  
Past my smile past my hair  
Past my style  
Into my eyes,  
Deep into my soul?  
I maintain my control  
With a cool smile across the room  
I've fooled them all.  
I'm appalled  
Because no one cares deeply enough  
To. Just. Get. Deep.  
The labels are marked  
And I'm left in a box.  
No.  
The story does not end here  
I choose to demolish stereotypes  
And assumptions  
So it doesn't matter if you see me  
Because to the world I will  
truly be seen.

I have watched my transforma-  
tion

From when my skin use to be an accept-  
able skin

When the sun wouldn't sink so much in

But now I have this deeper mahogany skin

One that would leave me boarder line in this war that  
blacks are facing

But for once the enemy is ourselves

Fighting each other over the color of melanin and mostly  
skin cells

So the question I ask is if all light skin girls are beautiful,  
then  
where my ugly brown skin girls at?

The ones who have to have the banging body to even be  
compared to what  
these so called goddess light skin women have

Why is the dream girl light skin long hair and figure 8  
body?

But when brown skin girls have all the above their  
just.. Average?

Tired of fighting for something that's unattainable

Because no matter the shade I accept my skin

And light or dark im still ethnic within

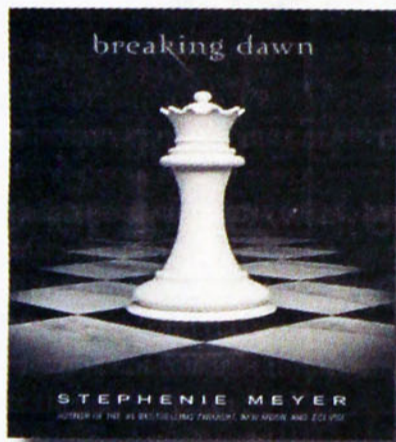
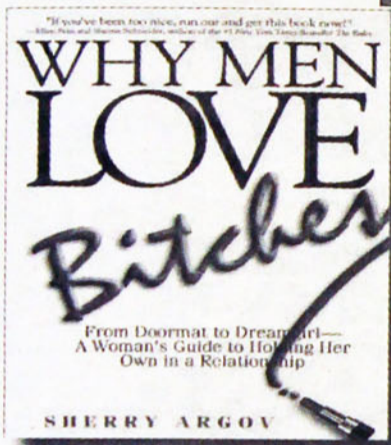
From the slant of my eyes to the curls  
in my hair

Light skin vs. dark skin tell  
me who truly cares ...

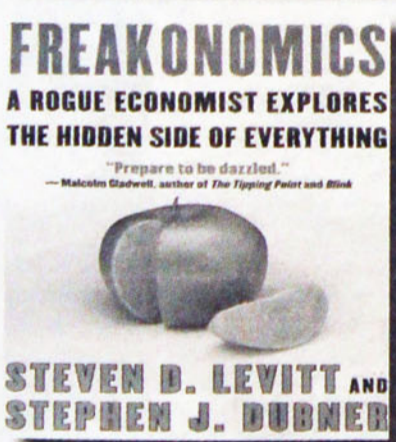
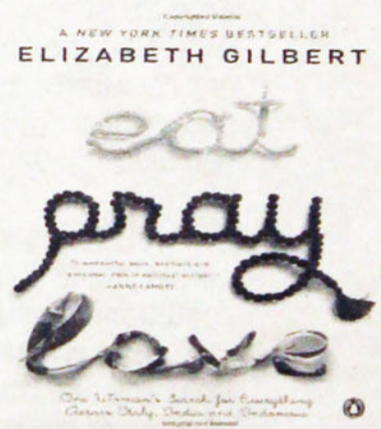


# Stony Brook's Favorite Book List

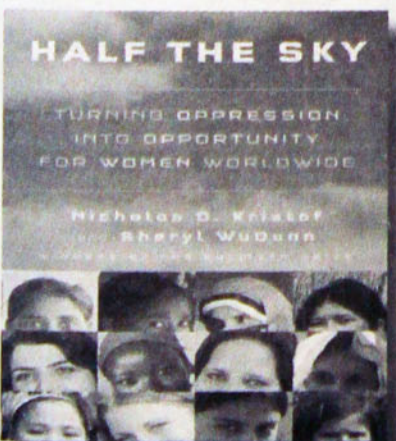
by Patricia Jimenez



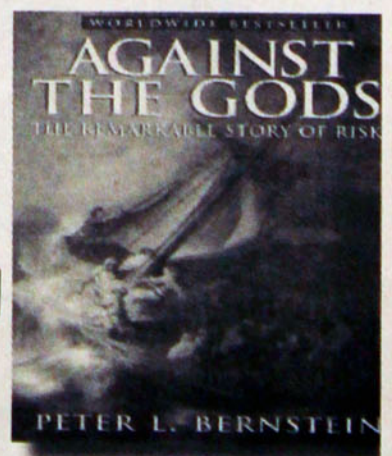
1. Steig Larsson Series
  - The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo
  - The Girl Who Played with Fire
  - The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest



2. Eat Pray Love by Elizabeth Gilbert
3. Half the Sky by Nicholas Kristof
4. Breaking Dawn by Stephenie Meyer
5. Why Men Love B#%\$@es.



6. Against All Gods by Peter L. Bernstein
7. Freakonomics by Steven D. Levitt
8. What My Girlfriend Doesn't Know by Sonya Sones
9. Labor of Love-The Story of One Man's Extraordinary Pregnancy by Thomas Beatie



10. Stitches: A Memoir by David Small

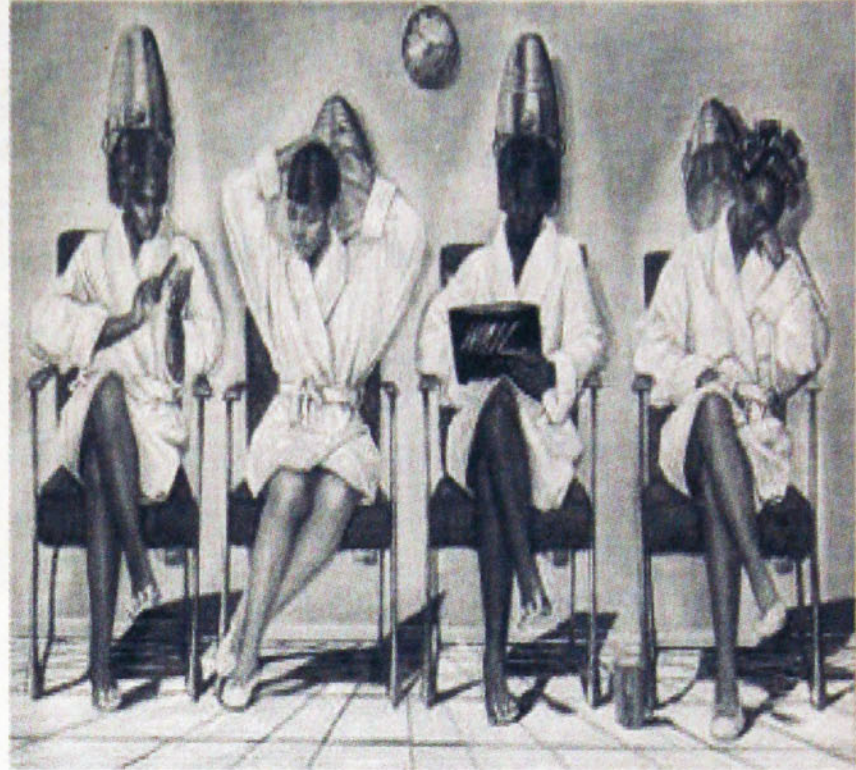
# Outrageous Facts

## Basic Beauty

Shared by: Ilia Thomas

As college students we are always looking for ways to save on money. Here are a few tips/tricks we can utilize that are not only healthy and environmentally friendly but pocket friendly as well. Enjoy!

- ☒ Substituting shampoo with conditioner (called co-washing), will promote healthy hair growth, as it increases moisture in the scalp and hair.
- ☒ Soaking nails in a cup of lemon juice will not only work as a natural (chemical-free) nail hardener but will also promote nail growth.
- ☒ Spraying perfume on the bare body immediately after a shower will allow the scent to stay on your body longer and you won't have to use as much.
- ☒ Mayonnaise, eggs and olive oil mixed together make a great conditioning mask for healthy hair.
- ☒ Bad breath is caused mainly by dehydration. Try and drink a few more glasses of water throughout the day. (you'll thank me later, lol)
- ☒ Vaseline mixed with sugar can be used as a lip scrub to get rid of dry skin and to give your lips a natural shine.
- ☒ Smile!



## 7 WAVY FACTS OF THE DAY BY: STEVEN ELOISEAU

- 1) IT IS PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR PIGS TO LOOK UP INTO THE SKY.
- 2) RATS AND HORSES CAN'T VOMIT.
- 3) WEARING HEADPHONES FOR JUST AN HOUR WILL INCREASE THE BACTERIA IN YOUR EAR BY 700 TIMES.
- 4) IN EVERY EPISODE OF SEINFELD THERE IS A SUPERMAN SOMEWHERE.
- 5) BARBIE'S FULL NAME IS BARBARA MILICENT ROBERTS.
- 6) A SHRIMP'S HEART IS IN THEIR HEAD.
- 7) THE BABY RUTH CANDY BAR WAS ACTUALLY NAMED AFTER GROVER CLEVELAND'S BABY DAUGHTER, RUTH. (NOT THE BASEBALL PLAYER!)

# ADVERTISEMENTS

**STONY BROOK GOSPEL CHOIR**  
**NOBODY GREATER THAN YOU**

Lion of the Tribe of Judah (Rev. 5:5)  
Worship of God (Rev. 19:5) The Stone the builders rejected (Acts 4:11)  
 Christ Conqueror (Rev. 19:11) Good Shepherd (John 10:11, 14)  
 Lamb of God (John 1:29) Restorer of all creation (Col. 1:20)  
 Man of Sorrows (Isa. 53:3) Great Shepherd (John 10:11, 14, 18)  
 Father of All (John 1:9) Lord of Life (John 1:4) Lord of Peace (John 14:27)

**ON CAMPUS \$1**  
**OFF CAMPUS \$3**

**SAC BALLROOM A**  
**DECEMBER 5TH @ 7PM**

**DIRECTIONS**

**BY CAR** From New York City, take the Long Island Expressway (I-495) eastbound from the Queens Midtown Tunnel in Manhattan or the Throgs Neck Bridge or Whitehouse Bridge in Queens to exit 42, and follow Nicolls Road (Route 97) north for 9 miles. The main entrance to the University is on the left. To find the campus via GPS, enter the address: "100 Nicolls Road, Stony Brook, NY 11790."

**NOBODY GREATER THAN YOU**

**BY TRAIN** Take the Long Island Railroad's Port Jefferson line from Penn Station in Manhattan to Stony Brook. The LIRR station is at the north end of the campus; bus service to the central campus is provided. Trains to and from Penn generally require transfers at Jamaica or Huntington. Hicksville is also a transfer point on some lines.

**BY FERRY** Car ferries cross Long Island Sound at Bridgeport, Connecticut to Port Jefferson, Long Island. Take Route 25A west to Nicolls Road, and turn left on Nicolls. The University entrances are the first three intersections you come to. From New London, Connecticut to Orient Point, Long Island, take Route 25A west to Nicolls Road and proceed as above.

LIZGONZALEZ618@GMAIL.COM

**GOSPEL CHOIR CONCERT!**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 5th, 2010  
 Student Activities Center (SAC) BALLROOM A  
 DOORS OPEN @ 7PM!

Concert Verse: Isaiah 43:10-11, 21 (NIV)  
 10 "You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.  
 11 I, even I am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior.  
 21 the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise

The First Annual Snowflake Ball is finally being brought to the Syracuse University campus!

The members of UNICEF at SU and the Distinguished Dons of the Kappa chapter of Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated are proud to present the very first formal event that UNICEF at SU has ever had. Originating in New York City and Beverly Hills, CA, we felt that it was time to bring this spectacular event to our campus.

The event will be a formal affair, while not black-tie, still formal.

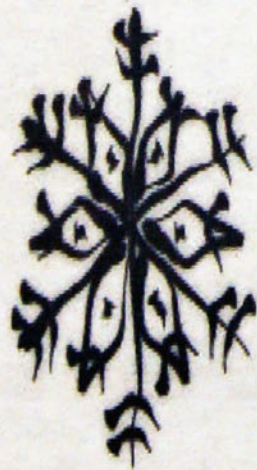
Attire Suggestions:  
 Men: A suit and tie,  
 Women: A formal dress.

There will be food and refreshments provided. The event will be a mixture of a reception with a dance floor area.

The event will take place Saturday, December 4, 2010 from 6 P.M. to 9 P.M. in the Life Science Complex Atrium.

Tickets will be going on sale towards the end of this week until they are sold out. Only 200 tickets will be sold!

Price: \$5 for those with SU ids  
 \$7 for those without SU ids



unicefsnowflake

**DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER...  
FOR BLACKWORLD  
THAT IS!  
STUDENTS CAN TAKE  
BLACKWORLD AS AFS  
283 FOR UP TO THREE  
CREDITS! (EMAIL black-  
worldnews@gmail.com)**



**EXAM STRESS**

You do the math, 4 Nights No Sleep, Enough Coffee to make you run to the bathroom every hour = Distortion of All Surroundings. Ah ! Those were the good old days ...

**GOOD LUCK ON FINALS!!**