THE NEWSLETTER OF BLACK PR WIRE, INC.

August 2017

HBCUs Rule As Students Go Back to School

Thousands of African American students prepare to go back to school each year. Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs) will rule as students go back to school in the fall to continue their growth and educational enrichment. In honor of the important and necessary task of going back to school, we felt it fitting to highlight why getting an education is so essential, as well as the benefits of doing so at HBCUs.

> First and foremost: To swing it in any technical field, you need to start out with all the knowledge and know how you can possibly accumulate. Given that the vast majority of future jobs will require education and technical skills beyond high school, African Americans are encouraged to get the experience, the grades, and the skills necessary to build

their career. Although

Thousands of African American students American students can attend college anywhere their pare to go back to school each year. grades, talents and interests take them, many are looking at storically Black Colleges & Universities HBCUs because they want the unique experience that only BCUs) will rule as students go back to such institutions can offer.

In the past, Historically Black Colleges and Universities have been responsible for training such familiar names as the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, former Virginia governor Douglas Wilder, opera diva Leontyne Price, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young, filmmaker Spike Lee, actor Samuel L. Jackson, former Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan, Former Director of the Centers for Disease Control David Satcher, and astronaut Ronald McNair, among others.

There are still thousands of non-famous graduates consisting of business leaders, college teachers, doctors, lawyers, civil servants, elected officials, writers, and artists who have gone on to make their mark in the African American community. Their success did not come without hard work, dedication and career focus. HBCUs will continue to rule as students go back to school.



August is National Minority Donor Awareness Week

National Minority Donor Awareness Day is celebrated on August 1, 2017, as part of National Minority Donor Awareness Week. The observance was created to increase awareness of the need, especially among minorities, for more organ, eye and tissue donors. It is also a time to honor minorities who have already donated and to encourage others to register as donors and follow in their footsteps. This August, and every month, let's make organ donation a key concentration!



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POWER PROFILER: DR. WILLIAM BYNUM, PRESIDENT OF JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. William Bynum is the new President of Jackson State University. With more than 25 years of experience in higher education, Dr. Bynum served most recently as the President of Mississippi Valley State University and Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services at Morehouse College in Atlanta.

Throughout his career, Dr. Bynum has led special projects and initiatives related to enhancing retention and graduation rates and has developed academic policies to help students achieve and shorten their path to completion. Dr. Bynum grew up in a rural area of North Carolina that is very similar to the Mississippi Delta and understands the power that education has to change the lives of students and their families for generations to come.

Dr. Bynum holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Davidson College and both a master's degree and a doctorate in sociology from Duke University, where he was a Duke Endowment Fellow. In addition, he was selected as one of the first 13 inaugural members of the National Association For Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) - Kellogg Leadership Fellows Program in 2003.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS August is jam-packed with many fun-filled activities for African Americans to enjoy. Take a look at some of the latest happenings in the Black communities this month. National Sales Network Houston International Jazz Festival Art & Soul Festival Summer Conference 8/5/17 8/19/17-8/20/17 services and 8/2/17-8/4/17 Oakland, CA Houston, TX www.jazzeducation.org Chicago, IL www.artandsouloakland.com www.salesnetwork.org To Be Continued Brass Band Omega Psi Phi Fraternity PHOTOS COURTESY OF ART AND SOUL OAKLAN Leadership Bayou City Brass Band Hot 8 Brass Band Conference **Bronner Brothers** OUR TEAM Martha's Vineyard African International Judae Faith Jenkins 8/2/17-8/6/17 American Film Festival **Beauty Show** Cincinnati, OH Bernadette A. Morris 8/7/17-8/12/17 8/19/17-8/21/17 President/CEO www.oppf.org/omega_ bmorris@blackprwire.com Vineyard Haven and Oaks Bluff, MA Atlanta, GA events.asp Joe Torry www.bronnerbros.com www.mvaaff.com Ricardo F. Reyes Caribana AVP/Creative Director Africana Virginia Beach Funkfest rreyes@blackprwire.com 8/3/17-8/7/17 8/25/17-8/27/17 🍊 Toronto, Canada Tanisha Coleman Virginia Beach, VA www.caribanatoronto.com Marketing Manager Oakland in Blue Hold On www.africanavirginiabeach.com tcoleman@blackprwire.com Satchmo Summerfest Simone Cook Account Executive and 8/4/17-8/6/17 Newsroom Manager 8/9/17-8/13/17 New Orleans, LA scook@blackprwire.com New Orleans, LA www.fqfi.org/satchmosummerfest www.nabj.org Teodoras Vitkauskas Webmaster West Indian American Carnival Long Beach Jazz Festival tvitkauskas@blackprwire.com 8/31/17-9/4/17 8/11/17-8/13/17 PHOTOS COURTESY OF ZACK SMITH Erica Brown Long Beach, CA Brooklyn, NY **Rachelle Ferrell** Senior Graphic Designer **Umoja Family Festival** www.longbeachjazzfestival.com www.wiadcacarnival.org ebrown@blackprwire.com 8/04/17-8/06/17 Seattle, WA www.umojafamilyfest.com Marcus Miller Boney James Nathan Fast FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF EVENTS, PLEASE VISIT WWW.BLACKPRWIRE.COM Black PR Wire has several alliances and **BPRW** Facebook.com/ strategic partnerships with wire services and ALLIANCES Business Wire **BLACKPRWIRE** SONSHINE national organizations. They include:

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