

THRIVING!

THE NEWSLETTER OF BLACK PR WIRE, INC.

September 2019

“Girlfriends Rising Together” at 9th Annual Women of Color Empowerment Conference



Yvette Miley



Evelyn D'An



Jocelyn Carter-Miller



Susie Levan



Kim Hawthorne



Golden Brooks



Karen Hunter



Regina Belle

SAVE THE DATES



SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2019

Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa
3030 Holiday Drive, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

Girlfriends have an unbreakable bond that gets stronger day by day, as they encourage each other along the way. “Girlfriends Rising Together” is fittingly the theme of the 9th Annual Women of Color Empowerment Conference. The event takes place from September 13-15, 2019 at the Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach and Spa in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The conference offers attendees an opportunity to get empowered by prolific leaders during the Leadership Master Class and learn from experts on how to constructively leverage influence, navigate workplace conflict and drive change when change is needed. Master Class experts include **Yvette Miley**, Senior Vice President of NBC News & MSNBC; **Evelyn D'An**, President of D'An Financial Services and Former Big 4 Audit Partner; **Jocelyn Carter-Miller**, President of TechEdVentures and Soul

TranSync, an entrepreneurial venture specializing in the development and marketing of high performance educational personal and community programming; and **Susie Levan**, former Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer and Founder of The Work-Life Balance Institute for Women.

The Women of Color Empowerment Conference also features noted guests including **Kim Hawthorne**, Actress from OWN's *Greenleaf*; **Golden Brooks**, Award Winning Actress and Motivational Speaker, known for her role as Maya on the hit TV show, *Girlfriends*; **Karen Hunter**, Radio Host, Journalist, Author and Publisher; and **Regina Belle**, Grammy Award Winning singer and songwriter.

For more information and to register for the 9th Annual Women of Color Empowerment Conference, visit www.nationalwomenofcolor.com or call 954-900-3494.

September is College Savings Month

Did you know that September is **National College Savings Month**? As you might imagine, back-to-school is the perfect time to consider your finances — and whether you are saving for a higher education. According to Sallie Mae, only 4 in 10 parents have started saving for their children's higher education. However, 9 of 10 parents believe that their children will go on to receive a higher education. Establishing a savings plan now is key to avoiding a future debt situation.

It is advised that one of the best things to do is to make college savings a part of your overall financial plan. In fact, Sallie Mae offers a handy education investment calculator that can give you an idea of how much you should be saving. This invaluable tool, found at (<https://www.salliemae.com/content/landing/invest>) can help you figure out what you can do to get on the right track for financial savings progress and success.



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“There is POWER in the Wire... At Black PR Wire, we distribute the news our media can use!”

POWER PROFILER: GOLDEN BROOKS



Golden Brooks is an award-winning actress and motivational speaker. A native of San Francisco, California, Brooks is multi-talented and is also a classically trained dancer. She studied and taught ballet, jazz, and modern dance. The consummate professional, Brooks studied literature and sociology and is a graduate of UC Berkeley where she majored in Media Representation of Minorities with a minor in Theater. She also earned a Master's degree from Sarah Lawrence College.

In her early career, Brooks was active in the Rodney Theater Company. She has many television credits and has appeared on *The Adventures of Pete & Pete*, *Promised Land*, and *The Jamie Foxx Show*. Brooks also appeared in a number of films, like *Hell's Kitchen*, *Timecode*, and *Impostor*. From 1998 to 2000, she starred alongside Pam Grier in the Showtime comedy series, *Linc's*.

Brooks is best known for her portrayal of the character Maya Wilkes on the CW sitcom *Girlfriends*, in which she starred alongside Tracee Ellis Ross, Persia White and Jill Marie Jones from 2000 to 2008. In 2001, she appeared in an episode of *Moesha*, portraying Maya Wilkes. For her performance in *Girlfriends*, Brooks received the BET Award for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series in 2004, and well as two nominations for the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Actress in a

Comedy Series in 2003 and 2008.

Brooks also won the Black Reel Awards for the 2004 film *Motives*, co-starring with Vivica A. Fox and Shemar Moore. She has starred in *Beauty Shop* (2005) and *Something New* (2006). In 2008, Brooks was cast as Kim Kaswell in the Lifetime comedy-drama pilot *Drop Dead Diva*, but later was replaced by Kate Levering. In 2011, she starred in the independent film *The Inheritance*. In 2012, Brooks joined the cast of *Hart of Dixie* in season 2 playing Ruby Jeffries, Mayor Lavon Hayes' ex-girlfriend from high school, who runs against him for mayor. In 2014, Brooks starred as one of five leads on the TV One reality series, *Hollywood Divas*.

In 2015, Brooks was cast in a recurring role of Patrick Stewart's lead character's ex-wife in the Starz comedy series, *Blunt Talk*. In 2017, she was cast as the lead character's mother in *The Darkest Minds*, a young adult dystopian thriller directed by Jennifer Yuh Nelson. She also was cast in the Paramount Network drama series *Yellowstone* starring Kevin Costner. Later, she was cast in the series regular role on the TNT drama series *I Am the Night* directed by Patty Jenkins, playing mother of the lead character. Brooks received critical acclaim for her performance in *I Am the Night* and continues to shine today.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_Brooks

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This section is designed to keep you in the know and on the go. Check out some of the latest happenings in Black communities throughout the country this month.

Tom Joyner Family Reunion

8/29/19-9/2/19
Orlando, FL
www.blackamericaweb.com



ADCOLOR Awards

9/06/19-9/08/19
Los Angeles, CA
www.adcolor.org



National Congress of Black Women Conference

9/15/19
Washington, DC
www.nationalcongressbw.org



Chicago Jazz Festival

9/01/19
Chicago, IL
www.events12.com/chicago



MEAC SWAC Challenge

9/01/19
Atlanta, GA
www.meacswacchallenge.com



Atlanta Black Restaurant Week

9/01/19-9/15/19
Atlanta, GA
www.atlbrw.com



Fort Lauderdale Story Slam

9/13/19
Fort Lauderdale, FL
www.allevents.in

Women of Color Empowerment Conference

9/13/19-9/15/19
Fort Lauderdale, FL
www.nationalwomenofcolor.com



National Black MBA Association Annual Conference

9/24/19-9/28/19
Houston, TX
www.nbmbaconference.org



Art of Cool Festival

9/27/19-9/29/19
Durham, NC
www.aocfestival.com



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