CAREER CARD

NIKOLE HANNAH-JONES

- *HANNAH-JONES HAS HAD AN AMAZING YEAR, AND THAT'S BECAUSE THE PULITZER PRIZE WINNER AND CREATOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES' THE 1619 PROJECT IS A GREAT JOURNALIST.*

THEIR LEGACY

- Nikole Hannah-Jones is the wildest dream fulfilled of the Black female journalists who wrote the truth of their times before her.
- Sector: Media
- Age: 44
- From: New York, NY
- Career: Journalist

ACHIEVEMENTS

- This year, the New York Times Magazine reporter and six-time **The Root 100** honoree earned crowning recognitions for her editorial brainchild.
- *The 1619 Project*, which recontextualized the Black American story starting with the arrival of the first enslaved Africans. She was awarded the ultra-prestigious 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Commentary, an achievement in and of itself, but the Pulitzer Center also became an official education partner for *The 1619 Project* and helped to dispatch an entire curriculum based on Hannah-Jones' brilliant work to more than 4,500 classrooms nationwide. This completely pissed off the current resident of the White House and his ineffectual right-wing chumps (see: Tom Cotton), but you know you're making good trouble when politicians are big mad.
- Hannah-Jones is changing how history is taught, and this year, after helping to reignite the discussion about reparations and racial justice for Black Americans, she's reframing what the future looks like, too.

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TEYANA TAYLOR

Teyana taylor is a famous person who does many things. She acts, sings, makes music, and dances. She started working in show business when she was young. She has been in movies like coming 2 america, honey: rise up and dance, and the after party. She has also made music albums like VII, K.T.S.E., And the album. She is the leader of black theatre united, a group that fights for fairness and equality for black people in theater. Taylor can do many different things well, she has a lot of imagination, and she inspires people with her words.

CAREER CARD

TEYANA'S LEGACY

- Sector: Entertainment!
- Age: 33 Years old
- From: Harlem, New York City
- Career: Teyana Taylor is an American artist who has a career in many fields. She is a singer, songwriter, actress, model, dancer, choreoprapher, and music video director!
- 1 Fun Fact: One fun fact about Teyana Taylor is that she loves old-school rock bands like Green Day and Blink-182. She likes to rock out to their songs and enjoy their music. That shows that she has a diverse taste in music and is not afraid to try different genres.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Some achievements of Teyana Taylor as a young black woman who looks to inspire young people are:

- **Actress, singer, producer, and dancer**: She has starred in movies such as Coming 2 America and Honey: Rise Up and Dance, released five studio albums, produced her own documentary series, and choreographed dances for artists like Beyoncé and Kanye West.
- **President of Black Theatre United**: She co-founded and leads this organization that advocates for racial justice and equity in the theatre industry and beyond, partnering with groups such as Fair Count and When We All Vote.
- **Entrepreneur and fashion icon**: She owns her own production company, The Aunties Inc., and has collaborated with brands such as Adidas, Reebok, MAC Cosmetics, and PrettyLittleThing, creating her own signature lines and collections.
- **Mother and role model**: She is a proud mother of two daughters, Junie and Rue, and uses her platform to inspire and empower young people, especially young black women, to pursue their dreams and express their creativity.

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CAREER CARD

NATE BURLESON

HE IS RECOGNIZED FOR HIS ACHIEVEMENTS AS BOTH A FOOTBALL PLAYER AND A TV HOST. HE PLAYED IN THE NFL FOR 11 SEASONS, AND WAS THE ONLY PLAYER TO HAVE THREE PUNT RETURNS OF 90 OR MORE YARDS1. HE ALSO CO-HOSTS CBS MORNINGS AND COVERS FOOTBALL FOR CBS AND NICKELODEON. HE HAS WON TWO SPORTS EMMY AWARDS FOR HIS WORK AS A STUDIO ANALYST.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Media
- Age: 42
- From: Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- Career: Former NFL wide receiver and return specialist; current co-host of CBS Mornings and football commentator for CBS and Nickelodeon
- Two-time Sports Emmy Award winner; founder of Lionblood clothing line; brother of former NBA player Kevin Burleson245

ACHIEVEMENTS

- He played in the NFL for 11 seasons, and was the only player to have three punt returns of 90 or more yards.
- He co-hosts CBS Mornings and covers football for CBS on its The NFL Today program, as well as on Nickelodeon.
- He has won two Sports Emmy Awards for his work as a studio analyst.
- He founded Lionblood clothing line, which features urban streetwear and accessories.

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CAREER CARD

MEGAN “MEGAN THEE STALLION” PETE

MEGAN THEE STALLION IS AN AMERICAN RAPPER WITH SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL SINGLES AND ALBUMS. A 3 TIME GRAMMY AWARD WINNER, MEGAN THEE STALLION IS KNOWN FOR HER CONFIDENT AND EMPOWERING LYRICS.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Musician/Rapper/Songwriter
- Age: 28
- From: San Antonio, Texas
- Career: 2016 – Present
- Advocate for social justice, women's rights, and sexual assault awareness

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Texas Southern University Graduate
- 3 Grammy Awards in 2021 including Best Ne Artist, Best Rap Performance, and Best Rap Song for "Savage (Remix)"
- 6 BET Awards, including Hip Hop Artist of th Year and Hustler of the Year in 2020
- 4 American Music Awards
- 2 MTV Video Music Awards
- Key to the city of Houston

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CAREER CARD

SEAN COMBS

TRAILBLAZER IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY AND INSTRUMENTAL TO PROMOTE BLACK ENTERPRISE AND OWNERSHIP

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: ENTERTAINMENT
- Age: 53
- From: Harlem
- Career: Rapper, producer, Record Label Executive
- Combs has been an advocate for Black enterprise and has criticized the lack of investment in Black music and TV. He has been vocal about the fact that record companies are making billions of dollars off Black culture and art forms, yet they are not investing or believing in Black executives. Combs has also been critical of the film industry's baby steps toward inclusion. He believes that harnessing the means of production is the only way forward and the organizing principle of his various businesses.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- In 1993 he started his own record label, Bad Boy Records, grooming stars like Mary J. Blige and rapper Notorious B.I.G. He has gone on to produce multiple award-winning albums and singles.
- He is also a philanthropist, donating $1 million to the School of Business at his alma mater, Howard University, in 2016 and recently fulfilled a promise to donate another $1 million to Howard after a pledge he announced at the BET awards.

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CAREER CARD

TARAJI P. HENSON

TARAJI P. HENSON IS KNOWN FOR HER CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED PERFORMANCES AS AN ACTRESS IN TELEVISION AND FILM, AND HER LEGACY INCLUDES BREAKING BARRIERS FOR DIVERSE REPRESENTATION IN HOLLYWOOD AND ADVOCATING FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: I.E. Media
- Age: 53
- From: Washington, D.C
- Career: Actress & Author
- Taraji's legacy is one of determination, talent, and advocacy. As an actress, she has broken barriers and paved the way for more diverse representation in Hollywood. Her roles in movies and television shows have portrayed strong, complex, and multi-dimensional characters, challenging stereotypes and providing inspiration for women and girls of all backgrounds. She has shown that it is possible to achieve success in the entertainment industry while staying true to oneself and one's values. Her work has inspired and empowered countless individuals, and her impact will continue to be felt for years to come.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Writing a New York Times best-selling autobiography titled "Around the Way Girl" (2016), in which she shares her personal journey and experiences in the entertainment industry.
- Being honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2019 for her contributions to the entertainment industry.
- Winning a Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in a Television Series Drama for her role as Cookie Lyon in "Empire" (2015).
- Receiving an Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" (2008).
- Being recognized for her philanthropic work, including founding the Boris Lawrence Henson Foundation, which aims to eradicate the stigma around mental health issues in the African-American community.

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CAREER CARD

VICTORIA MONET

AN AMERICAN R&B AND POP SINGER & SONGWRITER

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Entertainment
- Age: 34
- From: Los Angeles, CA
- Career: Singer, Songwriter, Producer

ACHIEVEMENTS

- A breakout talent who signed with RCA Records in March 2023.
- She released her album, “Jaguar II,” in August 2023, captivating audiences with her diverse musical styles. Her hit single, “On My Mana” peaked to the top 50 of the Billboard Top 100 and earned a Grammy Award Nomination for Record of the Year.
- Songwriting for Chloe x Halle, GOOD Music, Ariana Grande, Brandy, BLACKPINK, and Selena Gomez, among others.
- Her work in the music industry has received critical acclaim from various publications. She remains a noteworthy and influential figure in the world of music.

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CAREER CARD

AURORA JAMES

A CANADIAN CREATIVE DIRECTOR, ACTIVIST, AND FASHION DESIGNER WITH A PASSION FOR ARTISANSHIP AND HUMANITARIANISM

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Fashion
- Age: 39
- From: Guelph, Ontario, Canada
- Career: Creative Director, Activist, Fashion Designer

ACHIEVEMENTS

- She founded the fashion label Brother Vellies in 2013, with the goal of promoting traditional African design practices and techniques
- Her brand has been worn by activists, celebrities, artists, and musicians, including Beyoncé, Solange Knowles, Nicki Minaj, and Elaine Welteroth
- In 2020, James founded the 15 Percent Pledge, a non-profit organization that supports Black-owned businesses
- Her memoir, titled “Wildflower” was published in 2023
- As a result of her advocacy work, she has been awarded Council of Fashion Designers of America’s Founders Award, and named to the 2021 TIME100 and the 2020 Bloomberg 50

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CAREER CARD

JOEY BADASS

JOEY BADASS, BORN **JO-VAUGHN VIRGINIE SCOTT** ON **JANUARY 20, 1995**, IS AN AMERICAN RAPPER HAILING FROM **BROOKLYN, NEW YORK CITY**. HE IS A **FOUNDING MEMBER** OF THE HIP-HOP COLLECTIVE **PRO ERA**. JOEY BADASS HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RAP SCENE, DISSOLVING THE FINE LINE BETWEEN OLD-SCHOOL HIP-HOP AND CONTEMPORARY RAP.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: I.E. Media
- Age: 29
- From: Brooklyn, New York
- Career: American Rapper
- Joey Badass, the talented rapper, has made significant contributions to the black community through his lyricism & conscious rap, community engagement, representation, advocacy for mental health & educational initiatives.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Joey Badass continues to use his platform to uplift and empower the Black community, and his impact extends beyond music alone. 🎤🤎✊
- **Debut Mixtape "1999"**: Joey Badass gained critical acclaim and recognition with his debut mixtape, **"1999"**, released in June 2012.
- As a **founding member** of the hip-hop collective **Pro Era**, Joey contributed to the group's rise. Pro Era, formed by his high school friends, inlcuding the late Capital Steez, became a platform for their creative expression and activism.
- **Television Debut on "Mr. Robot"**: In 2016, Joey made his television debut on the USA Network series **"Mr. Robot"**.
- **Dissolving Boundaries**: Joey Badass is credited for dissolving the fine line between old-school hip-hop and contemporary rap. His though provoking lyrics resonate with listeners, addressing systemic racism and societal thoughts and challenges.

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CAREER CARD

JAYLEN BROWN

JAYLEN MARSELLES BROWN IS AN AMERICAN PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL PLAYER FOR THE BOSTON CELTICS OF THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION. HE PLAYED ONE YEAR OF COLLEGE BASKETBALL FOR THE CALIFORNIA GOLDEN BEARS, BEING NAMED FIRST-TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE AND FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR IN THE PAC-12 CONFERENCE

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: I.E. Media Sports
- Age: 27
- From: Atlanta Georgia
- Career: Professional Basketball Player

ACHIEVEMENTS

- On July 25, 2023, Brown signed a five-year contract extension worth up to $304 million, surpassing Nikola Jockic $276 million extension as the richest deal in NBA history.
- Brown took a masters-level class in Berkeley's Cultural Studies of Sport in Education program during his first semester in college. He also gained some fluency in Spanish, stating a goal of learning three more languages by the age of 25.
- In 2019, Brown was named as a MIT Media Lab fellow and has since collaborated with the university to create *the Bridge Program*, which mentors Greater Boston youth and high school students of color, who are interested in pursuing careers in STEM programs. Through his work with MIT and his 7uice Foundation, Brown has taken a strong interest in tackling education and income inequality, among other social advocacy initiatives

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CAREER CARD

VAN LATHAN JR.

VAN LATHAN JR. IS AN AMERICAN MEDIA PERSONALITY, WHO BECAME FAMOUS FOR HIS CONFRONTATION WITH RAPPER KANYE WEST. HE IS A FORMER HOST OF TMZ LIVE AND HOSTED A WEEKLY PODCAST, VAN LATHAN'S THE RED PILL, FROM 2018 THROUGH 2019.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Host and Media Personality
- Age: 43 (DOB: 16 April 1980)
- From: Baton Rouge, LA
- Career: Executive Producer, Host
- Help others loss weight through his hilarious documents of his journey.
- Offers practical advice on how to get yourself in shape.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Oscar award-winning producer of short film "Two Distant Strangers (2020)
- Former host of TMZ Live
- Host of Van Lathan's The Red Pill Podcast
- Author of 'Fat, Crazy, and Tired: Tales from the Trenches of Transformation'

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AICHA EVANS

Aichatou Sar Evans

American CEO of "Zoox", a self-driving car subsidiary of Amazon

CAREER CARD

THEIR LEGACY

- **Sector: I.E. Media**: Technology
- **Age**: Born in 1969
- **From**: born in Senegal and spent her childhood in Paris before immigrating to the United States.
- **Career**: CEO of "Zoox" self-driving car

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Aicha Evans is an American CEO of Zoox, a self-driving car subsidiary of Amazon. She was born in Senegal and spent her childhood in Paris before immigrating to the United States. She studied computer engineering at The George Washington University and worked for several companies in the wireless engineering field, including Intel, where she became the chief strategy officer. In 2019, she joined Zoox as its new CEO and led the acquisition of the company by Amazon for $1.3 billion in 2020. She is one of the few female leaders in the autonomous vehicle industry and has been recognized by Forbes and Business Insider for her achievements.
- She also serves as a trustee for the Anita Borg Institute for Women & Technology and advocates for racial tolerance and diversity in the tech sector

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CAREER CARD

THOMAS SOWELL

IS AN AMERICAN ECONOMIST, SOCIAL PHILOSOPHER, AND POLITICAL COMMENTATOR. HE IS A SENIOR FELLOW AT THE HOOVER INSTITUTION. HE WAS A RECIPIENT OF THE NATIONAL HUMANITIES MEDAL FROM PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH IN 2002.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Economics, Media, Education
- Age: 93
- From: Gastonia, North Carolina
- Career: Author, Economist, Senior Fellow Hoover Institution (Stanford), Professor Cornell University, Harvard University, Rutgers, Brandeis Univeristy, Amherst College and UCLA

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1982: the Mencken Award for Best Book, from the Free Press Association, for his *Ethnic America: A History*.
- 1990: the Francis Boyer Award, presented by the American Enterprise Institute.
- 1998: the Sydney Hook Award, from the National Association of Scholars.[119]
- 1998: elected membership to the American Philosophical Society.[120]
- 2002: the National Humanities Medal, presented by President George W. Bush, for prolific scholarship melding history, economics, and political science.
- 2003: the Bradley Prize for intellectual achievement.[121]
- 2004: the Lysander Spooner Award, presented by Laissez Faire Books, for his *Applied Economics: Thinking Beyond Stage One*.[122]
- 2008: the International Book Award, from getAbstract, for his book *Economic Facts and Fallacies*.[123]

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CAREER CARD

Claudette Colvin

ON MARCH 2, 1955, AT JUST 15 YEARS OLD, COLVIN REFUSED TO GIVE UP HER SEAT ON A SEGREGATED BUS IN MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, MONTHS BEFORE ROSA PARKS' MORE FAMOUS PROTEST

THEIR LEGACY

- Claudette Colvin was born on September 5, 1939. She attended Booker T. Washington High School, where she was a member of the NAACP Youth Council and learned about the civil rights movement
- Age: Claudette Colvin was born on September 5, 1939, which makes her 84 years old as of now
- She is a retired nurse aide and has been involved in efforts to clear her arrest record from 1955, which was successfully expunged1. This action was important to her as a way to remind her grandchildren and others that change is possible and to solidify her legacy as a civil rights pioneer

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Colvin was one of the five plaintiffs in the court case of Browder v. Gayle, which led to the Supreme Court ruling that Montgomery's segregated bus system was unconstitutional

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CAREER CARD

KEKE PALMER

KEKE PALMER IS AN AMERICAN ACTRESS, SINGER, AND TELEVISION HOST WHO HAS BEEN MAKING HER MARK ON HOLLYWOOD FOR QUITE A WHILE NOW. SHE HAS BEEN IN THE INDUSTRY FOR OVER 20 YEARS AND HAS PLAYED BOTH LEADING AND CHARACTER ROLES IN COMEDY AND DRAMA PRODUCTIONS.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: I.E. Media
- Age: 30
- From: Los Angeles
- Career: Actress, Musical Artist, Entrepreneur
- Keke Palmer is known for pushing the envelope on Black representation and leaving behind a legacy
- Palmer is driven to push the envelope with her own work, much like the celebrities she holds in high regard such as Queen Latifah and Ice Cube, whom she credits for helping start her career
- She hopes to be in a position to produce and create opportunities for people in her community, not just on-screen but behind the screen

ACHIEVEMENTS

- She has won an Emmy award for Outstanding Host for a Game Show for NBC' Password, becoming the first woman in 15 ye to win an award in this category
- Her pregnancy with son Leodis Andrellton Jackson, who was born in February, made he maternal and postpartum fashion icon, show the world how sleek and sexy pregnancy and new motherhood can be.

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CAREER CARD

TUPAC SHAKUR

TUPAC SHAKUR WAS A PROMINENT FIGURE IN 1990S GANGSTA RAP, A GENRE OF HIP HOP THAT DEPICTED THE HARSH REALITIES OF URBAN LIFE. HE WAS ALSO AN ACTOR WHO STARRED IN SEVERAL FILMS AND TV SHOWS. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT HAVE A FORMAL ROLE IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, HE USED HIS MUSIC AS A PLATFORM TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT SOCIAL ISSUES SUCH AS POLICE VIOLENCE, ECONOMIC INEQUALITY, AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Music/Film
- Age: 25
- From: June 16 1971 - Sept 13th 1996
- Career: Rapper/Actor & Artist

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Tupac Shakur has won several accolades for his contributions to the music industry. Some of his notable achievements include:
- Winning the **Soul Train Music Award** for Best Rap Album in 1996 for his album “Me Against the World” [3].
- Receiving the **American Music Award** for the Favorite Rap/Hip Hop artist posthumously in 1997 [3].
- Being nominated for **six Grammy Awards** throughout his career [4].
- Being inducted into the **Rock & Roll Hall of Fame** in 2017 [4]

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CAREER CARD

FANI WILLIS

IS KNOWN FOR BRINGING ELECTION INTERFERENCE CHARGES AGAINST DONALD TRUMP AND 18 CO-DEFENDANTS.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Criminal Justice
- Age: 52 Years Old
- From: Inglewood California
- Career: District Attorney

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Became the first woman to serve as a DA in Fulton County.
- Launched a criminal investigation into former President Donald Trump and his allies for election interference in Feb.2021
- Successfully prosecuted the Altanta Public Schools cheating scandal in 2015 leading to 11 convictions of racketeering
- She has 24 years of legal experience working in the private sector and in public roles in Atlanta and Fulton County.

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CAREER CARD

HAKEEM JEFFRIES

HAKEEM JEFFRIES IS A NEW YORK CONGRESSMAN AND THE UNANIMOUSLY-ELECTED MINORITY LEADER OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. JEFFRIES MADE HISTORY AS THE YOUNGEST AND FIRST PERSON OF COLOR TO LEAD A MAJOR PARTY IN EITHER HOUSE OF CONGRESS.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Politics
- Age: 53
- From: Brooklyn, New York
- Career: Congressional Represenative, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives and Leader of the Democratic House Caucus

ACHIEVEMENTS

- After earning his bachelor's from SUNY Binghamton as president of Kappa Alpha Psi, a historically Black fraternity, Jeffries went on to earn his M.P.P. from Georgetown University and graduated magna cum laude with his J.D. from New York University
- In 2020, Jeffries became the first Black man to serve as a House Impeachment Manager in the Senate trial of President Donald Trump
- As a tireless advocate for social and economic justice, Jeffries has led the charge to pass bills such as the "George Floyd Justice in Policing Act," criminal justice reform bill "FIRST STEP Act," and more

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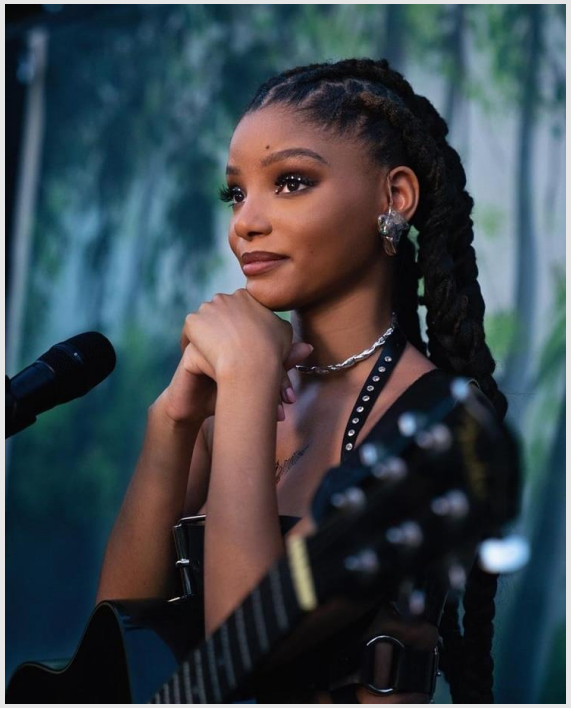
CAREER CARD

HALLE BAILEY

HALLE BAILEY IS RECOGNIZED FOR HER GRAMMY-NOMINATED MUSICAL ARTISTRY AS PART OF THE DUO CHLOE X HALLE AND HER GROUNDBREAKING ROLE AS ARIEL IN DISNEY'S LIVE-ACTION "THE LITTLE MERMAID.



THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Music & Film
- Age: 23
- From: Atlanta, Georgia
- Career: Singer-Songwriter & Actress

- YouTube Stardom: Halle and her sister Chloe gained early recognition by posting cover songs on YouTube, which showcased their harmonious vocals.
- Beyoncé's Protégés: Their talent caught the eye of Beyoncé, leading to a mentorship and signing with Parkwood Entertainment.
- Grammy Nods: As part of Chloe x Halle, she has been nominated for several Grammy Awards, including Best New Artist and Best Urban Contemporary Album.
- Acting Chops: Halle has appeared in the TV series "Grown-ish" and made waves with her casting as Ariel in Disney's live-action adaptation of "The Little Mermaid" — becoming the first African-American actress to play the role.
- Ariel's Biggest Fan: She was "obsessed" with "The Little Mermaid" as a child, wearing out her family's VHS copy of the original animated movie2.
- Mermaid Training: To prepare for her role as Ariel, Halle underwent extensive "mermaid training," including learning to simulate swimming while suspended on wires.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Halle Bailey is a multifaceted American artist known for her soulful voice and captivating performances. Born on March 27, 2000, in Atlanta, Georgia, Halle rose to fame as one half of the R&B duo Chloe x Halle alongside her sister Chloe Bailey. The duo has been nominated for five Grammy Awards and is celebrated for albums like "The Kids Are Alright" and "Ungodly Hour."

In 2023, Halle embarked on her solo career with the release of her debut single "Angel," which earned a Grammy nomination for Best R&B Song. Her acting prowess shone through with her portrayal of Ariel in Disney's live-action adaptation of "The Little Mermaid" and her role in the musical film "The Color Purple."

Halle's early life was marked by creativity and a strong work ethic, learning to play instruments and write songs under the guidance of her father. Her talent was recognized early on, leading to a record deal with Parkwood Entertainment and the mentorship of Beyoncé, solidifying her status as a rising star in the entertainment industry

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CAREER CARD

JON BATISTE

JON BATISTE IS A GRAMMY, GOLDEN GLOBE, AND OSCAR WINNING SINGER, SONGWRITER, AND COMPOSER. HE HAS WON FIVE GRAMMY AWARDS FROM TWENTY NOMINATIONS, INCLUDING ALBUM OF THE YEAR FOR HIS ALBUM WE ARE (2021)

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Entertainment
- Age: 36
- From: Brooklyn, NYC
- Career: Musician
- Known to many as the former bandleader and musical director of "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert," Jon Batiste is on the ride of his life. After grabbing nearly all the 2022 Grammys, including Album of the Year, Batiste stepped back from his nightly television duties to help care for his wife, author Suleika Jaouad, but didn't slow his output. Batiste currently serves as the music director of The Atlantic magazine and as creative director of the National Jazz Museum in Harlem. His latest studio album, "World Music Radio," features Lana Del Rey, K-pop group NewJeans and Lil Wayne, among others.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Batiste has won an impressive 5 Grammy awards and is nominated for six more at the 2024 Grammys. To date, he has won:

1. Album of the Year for "We Are" (2021)
2. Best American Roots Performance for "St. James Infirmary Blues" (2019)
3. Best Contemporary Instrumental Album for "Chronology of a Dream: Live at The Village Vanguard" (2021)
4. Best American Roots Song for "Cry" (2021)
5. Best Score Soundtrack For Visual Media for "Soul" (2021)

- He also won a Golden Globe Award and an Academy Award for his original score of the Disney-Pixar film Soul (2020).
- Batiste's latest project is the documentary "American Symphony," which provides a glimpse into his creative process as he composed his inaugural four-part symphony.

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CAREER CARD

ROSALIND BREWER

ONLY BLACK WOMAN TO CURRENTLY LEAD A FORTUNE 500 FIRM

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Retail
- Age: 58
- From: Walgreens
- Career: CEO
- Only Black woman to currently lead a Fortune 500 firm

ACHIEVEMENTS

- In March, Rosalind Brewer, who currently serves as Starbucks' chief operating officer,will be starting a new position as CEO of drugstore chain Walgreens Boots Alliance. When she steps into this new role, she will be the only Black woman currently leading a Fortune 500 firm, and just the third Black woman in history to serve as a Fortune 500 CEO. Ursula Burns, who served as CEO of Xerox between 2009 and 2016 was the first, and Mary Winston, who served as interim CEO at Bed Bath & Beyond in 2019, was the second.

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CAREER CARD

DR. UCHE BLACKSTOCK

UCHE BLACKSTOCK IS AN AWARD-WINNING PHYSICIAN, AUTHOR, WRITER AND PUBLIC SPEAKER WHO ADDRESSES BIAS AND RACISM IN MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: STEM
- Age: 45
- From: New York
- Career: Doctor, CEO of Advancing Health Equity, which has a primary mission of engaging with organizations to dismantle racism in health care.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Uche Blackstock is an award-winning physician, author, writer and public speaker who addresses bias and racism in medicine and health care. She is also founder and CEO of Advancing Health Equity, which has a primary mission of engaging with organizations to dismantle racism in health care. Blackstock won the American Medical Women's Association's 2021 Presidential Award, the 2021 Harvard Humanist of the Year and the NAACP Brooklyn Chapter's 2022 Valiant Service Award. Her book, "Legacy: A Black Physician Reckons with Racism in Medicine," is set to release in January 2024. Blackstock is a force in the medical field, using her platform to advocate for those who do not have one. She is bridging gaps to create equity in health care for both patients and providers.

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CAREER CARD

SIMONE BILES

THE FIRST AMERICAN WOMAN TO WIN SEVEN NATIONAL ALL-AROUND TITLES AND FIRST FEMALE GYMNAST TO EARN THREE CONSECUTIVE WORLD ALL-AROUND TITLES

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Olympian
- Age: 26
- From:
- Career: American Gymnast
- 19 Gold Medals
- 25 Medals in total
- Only 19 years old competed first Olympic Competiton.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Born March 14, 1997, Simone Arianne Biles has boundless energy, natural strength and fierce determination, taking those talents to become the greatest gymnast of all time. The 4-foot, 8-inch dynamo is the most decorated American gymnast in history, with 25 medals (19 of them gold) from the World Championship and seven medals (four gold) from the Olympics. She is also the first American woman to win seven national all-around titles and first female gymnast to earn three consecutive World All-Around titles. She is a three-time recipient of the Laureus World Sports Award for Sportswoman of the Year and has received widespread recognition, including TIME 100 Most Influential, Forbes 30 Under 30, Ebony Power 100, People Women Changing the World, USA Today 100 Women of the Century, and two-time Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year, among others.

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CAREER CARD

PHARRELL WILLIAMS

PHARRELL WILLIAMS IS RENOWNED FOR SHAPING MODERN MUSIC AS A PRODUCER AND ARTIST

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Music/Media
- Age: 50
- From: Virginia Beach, Virginia
- Career: Pharrell Williams, is an influential figure in the music industry. He started his career in the 1990s with Chad Hugo, forming the production duo the Neptunes, producing songs for various artists. Later, they formed the band N.E.R.D. with Shay Haley. Williams ventured into a solo career in 2006 with his debut album “In My Mind”. His song “Happy” from the film Despicable Me 2 and his collaboration with Daft Punk on “Get Lucky” are among his most notable works. Throughout his career, Williams has shaped the sound of modern popular music and continues to leave his mark.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Formed influential duo The Neptunes and band N.E.R.D.
- Released debut solo album, “In My Mind”, 2006
- Global hit song “Happy”, eighth highest-selling in UK
- Collaborated on “Get Lucky”, with Daft Punk, winning two Grammy awards
- Won 13 Grammy Awards from 42 nominations
- Inducted in Songwriters Hall of Fame
- Honored with ASCAP Golden Note Award

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CAREER CARD

YUSUFF SALAAM

AS OF NOVEMBER YUSUFF IS A CITY COUNCILMAN IN

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Politics
- Age: 49
- From: New York, New York
- Career: City Councilman

ACHIEVEMENTS

In 1989, five boys who would come to be known as "The Central Park Five" were accused of rape, imprisoned and incarcerated until a serial rapist confessed to the assault years later. Yusef Salaam was one of those five boys. Nearly seven years passed before he was exonerated, but he was left to live with the weight of an accusation that cost him his childhood and left him to figure out how to move forward. For Salaam, that included going to school, becoming an author, and, as of November's elections, becoming a New York City councilmember. His story is one of redemption, survival and justice -- paralleling his activism, criminal justice reform work and rehabilitation efforts for the formerly incarcerated.

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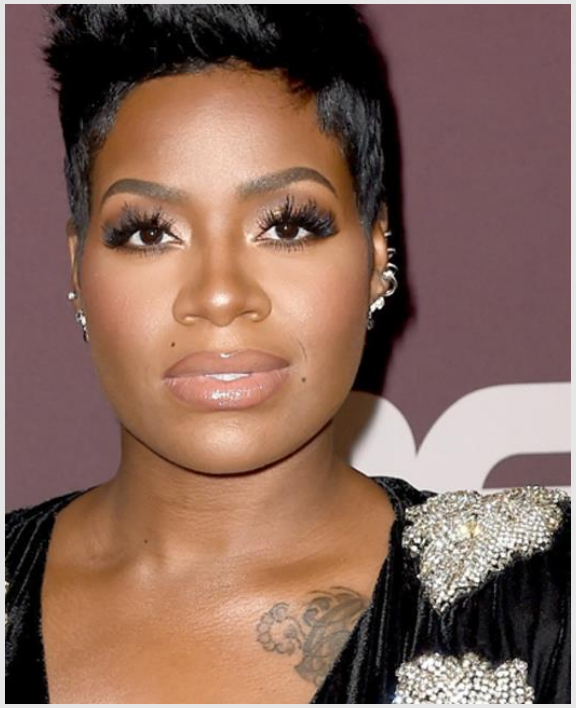
CAREER CARD

FANTASIA BARRINO-TAYLOR

SINGER, ACTRESS, AUTHOR, AND PRODUCER



THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Music
- Age: 39
- From: High Point, NC
- Childhood: Fantasia was a victim of sexual assault at the age of 16 and dropped out of high school. She became a teenage mom at age 17.
- Career: Fantasia rose to fame as the winner of the 2004 winner of American Idol. She has since recorded 5 albums, produced songs, published her own autobiography, and starred in the movie "The Color Purple" (2023).
- Family: Married to Kendall Taylor and has 3 children (Zion, Dallas, and Keziah)

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Her "Free Yourself" album sold over 1M copi
- Made Billboard history as the first female art to have 2 of the top 3 songs on the chart
- Authored her autobiography and best-selling book "Life is Not a Fairytale"
- Grammy Award Winner
- Won 2 Billboard Awards
- Received the Theatre World Award for Best Debut Performance
- Nominated for a Golden Globe Award
- Nominated for a Screen Actors Guild Award
- Nominated for 3 American Music Awards
- Honorary member of Sigma Gamma Rho

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CAREER CARD

AVA DUVERNAY

A VISIONARY FILMMAKER WHO HAS SHATTERED CONVENTIONS TO SHOWCASE THE BLACK EXPERIENCE.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Entertainment
- Age: 51
- From: Los Angeles
- Career: The first Black woman to premiere a feature film in competition at the prestigious Venice International Film Festival. At a festival press conference, she revealed the struggles she faced throughout her journey. "I can’t tell you how many times I’ve been told, 'Don’t apply to Venice, you won’t get in, it won’t happen.'
- Ava is an American filmmaker. She is a recipient of a Primetime Emmy Award, a NAACP Image Award, a BAFTA Film Award and a BAFTA TV Award, as well as a nominee of an Academy Award and Golden Globe.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Ava DuVernay is a visionary filmmaker who has shattered conventions to showcase the Black experience. This year, the spotlight found its way to DuVernay in a never-seen-before way. At the prestigious Venice International Film Festival, the award-winning filmmaker premiered her film “Origin,” becoming the first Black woman to premiere a feature film in competition at the festival. At a festival press conference, she revealed the struggles she faced throughout her journey. "I can’t tell you how many times I’ve been told, 'Don’t apply to Venice, you won’t get in, it won’t happen,'" she confessed. Against the odds, DuVernay opened a door that remained elusive for so long and made history.

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CAREER CARD

CYNT MARSHALL

is chief executive officer of the Dallas Mavericks. In February 2018, Marshall became the first Black female CEO in the history of the National Basketball Association.[

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: NBA
- Age: 64
- From: Richmond Cali
- Career: CEO of Dallas Mavericks
- Etc...

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Cynt Marshall is the current Chief Executive Officer of the Dallas Mavericks 1. She became the first Black female CEO in the history of the National Basketball Association in February 2018 1. Prior to joining the Mavericks, Marshall worked for AT&T for 36 years in leadership roles focused on improving workplace culture and encouraging diversity, equity, and inclusion 1. She held positions such as Senior Vice President of Human Resources, Chief Diversity Officer, and President of AT&T North Carolina 2. Marshall is also known for being one of the first African-American cheerleaders at the University of California, Berkeley in the late 1970s 1.

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CAREER CARD

ALICIA KEYS

ALICIA KEYS IS A 15-TIME GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING SINGER-SONGWRITER

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: I.E. Media
- Age: 42
- From: New York, NY
- Career: **Alicia Augello Cook** (born January 25, 1981) known professionally as **Alicia Keys**, is an American singer and songwriter. A classically trained pianist, Keys started composing songs when she was 12 and was signed at 15 years old by Columbia Records. After disputes with the label, she signed with Arista Records and soon released her debut studio album, *Songs in A Minor* (2001) through J Records. The album became a critical and commercial success, selling over 12 million copies worldwide and receiving five Grammy Awards in 2002. It contained the *Billboard* Hot 100 number-one single "Fallin'." Her second album, *The Diary of Alicia Keys* (2003) was met with continued success, selling eight million units worldwide and spawning the singles "You Don't Know My Name," "If I Ain't Got You", and "Diary." The album earned an additional four Grammy Awards.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- This was a banner year for Alicia Keys. The 15-time Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter embarked on a new tour performing new songs alongside her classic hits. She and producer Swizz Beatz celebrated 13 years of marriage. She had success with her skincare line, Keys Soulcare. Finally, “Hell’s Kitchen,” a musical inspired by her teenage years, recently opened off-Broadway. ”Hell’s Kitchen” depicts a few months in the life of a 17-year-old named Ali. “It’s really so much more about relationships and identity and trying to find who you are," Keys explained to The New York Times. "Which, I think, is a continuous theme in all of our lives: Who are we? Who do we want to be? Who are we becoming?” The play features many of Keys classic songs reimagined for the stage. More and more, Keys reminds us that not only do we know her name…we will never forget it.

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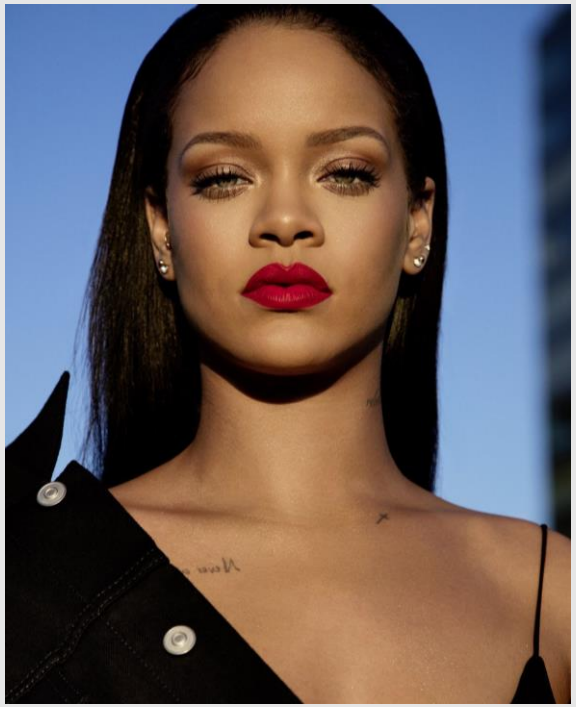
CAREER CARD

RIHANNA FENTY

RIHANNA FENTY IS A BARBADIAN SINGER,SONGWRITER, ACTRESS, AND ENTREPRENEUR WHO HAS ACHIEVED WORLDWIDE FAME AND SUCCESS IN MUSIC, FASHION, BEAUTY AND PHILANTHROPY.



THEIR LEGACY

- Rihanna Fenty started as a singer in 2005, signing with Def Jam record label and releasing her debut album. Since then, she has released 8 studio albums, ventured into acting, founded and co-owns Fenty Beauty, and is also known for humanitarian work in support of education, health and emergency response programs around the world.
- Sector: Music, Cosmetics, Fashion, Philanthropy
- Age: 35
- From: Barbados, a Caribbean island nation in the Atlantic Ocean.
- Career: Singer, Songwriter and Entrepreneur

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Rihanna has won 9 Grammy Awards, 13 American Music Awards and 12 Billboard Music Awards. Her 8 studio albums have sold over 250 million records worldwide. Making her one of the best-selling music artists of all time.
- She has launched her own cosmetics brand Fenty Beauty, which has been praised for its inclusivity and diversity of products.
- She launched her own fashion house Fenty, making her the first women of color to lead an original brand under LVMH.
- She became America's youngest self-made female billionaire in 2022. Networth $1.4 billion.
- Rihanna's Super Bowl LVII performance set the Guinness World Record for the most watched halftime show in history.

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CAREER CARD

DOUG E. FRESH

THE WORLD'S GREATEST ENTERTAINER AND ALSO KNOWN AS THE HUMAN BEAT BOX.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Entertainment
- Age: 57
- From: New York, New York
- Career: Rapper / Nonprofit Founder
- **Douglas Davis**, known professionally as **Doug E. Fresh**, (born September 17, 1966) is a Barbados-born American rapper, record producer, and beatboxer, also known as the **"Human Beat Box"**. The pioneer of 20th-century American beatboxing, Fresh is able to accurately imitate drum machines and various special effects using only his mouth, lips, gums, throat, tongue and a microphone.
- In the early 1980s he formed the Get Fresh Crew with DJs Chill Will and Barry B and later added rapper Slick Rick. Two of their songs "The Show" and "La Di Da Di" are considered early hip-hop classics. "La Di Da Di", in particular, is one of the most sampled songs in music history.

ACHIEVEMENTS

For Doug E. Fresh, 2023 was 50 years in the making. As the world stopped to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Hip-Hop, The World's Greatest Entertainer was standing right in the center of the ring. The incomparable performer conceptualized a block party-style summer celebration tour with other legends called "Masters of the Mic: Hip Hop 50 Tour." He also used the golden anniversary to help raise awareness for an organization he founded with Dr. Olajide Williams called Hip-Hop Public Health, a group dedicated to teaching health literacy to historically underserved communities. Fresh said in a statement, “When we celebrate that block party in ’73 with Kool Herc that started it all, we’re celebrating the true spirit of Hip-Hop; everyone coming together and having a party sharing the love of their music and community. That’s the true heart of Hip-Hop culture right there.” Fresh is also a heartbeat of the culture, having rocked stages around the world. He’s an author, entrepreneur and has even had a dance named after him. Fresh currently serves as vice president and co-founder of the Hip-Hop Public Health (HHPH) nonprofit whose mission is to amplify health literacy through music and to foster positive health behavior changes, beginning with school-aged children. According to his agency, Fresh is one of the most actively touring musicians in the U.S. with more than 200 live shows a year.

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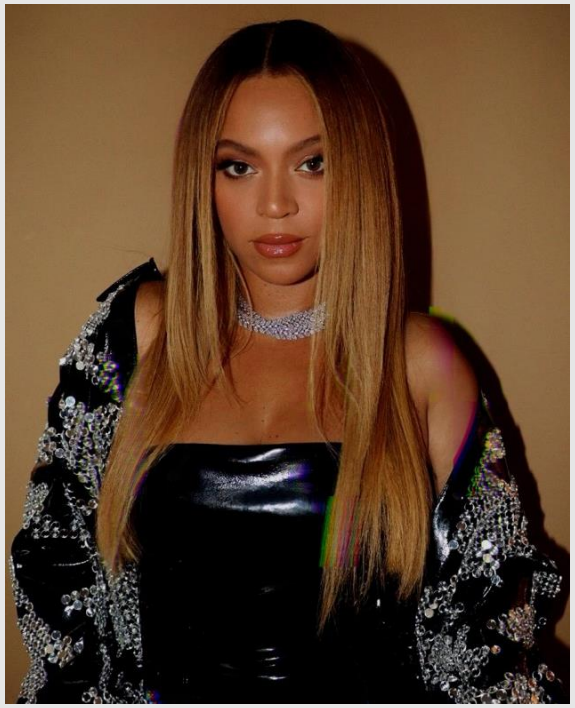
CAREER CARD

BEYONCE KNOWLES-CARTER

BEYONCE IS AN AMERICAN SINGER, SONGWRITER AND BUSINESSWOMAN. SHE ROSE TO FAME IN THE LATE 1990S AS A MEMBER OF R&B GROUP DESTINY'S CHILD. SHE IS WELL KNOWN FOR HER PHILANTHROPY AND ACTIVISM.



THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Media
- Age: 42
- From: Houston, Texas
- Career: Singer, Songwriter, Record Producer, Actress, Film Director & Entrepreneur

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Rolling Stone named her one of the greatest vocalists of all time.
- Acted in several films such as:
  - Austin Powers in Goldmember (2002)
  - The Pink Panther (2006)
  - Dreamgirls (2006)
  - Cadillac Records (2008)
  - Obsessed (2009)
  - The Lion King (2019)
- Won many Grammys and Awards for her music, such as:
  - MTV Video Music Award for Best Female Video (2003): "Crazy In Love"
  - Grammy Award for Best R&B Song (2004): "Crazy In Love"
  - MTV Video Music Award for Video of the Year (2009): "Single Ladies (Put a Ring On It)"
  - Grammy Award for Song of the Year (2010): "Single Ladies (Put a Ring On It)"
  - Billboard Millenium Award (2011)
  - MTV Video Music Award for Video of the Year (2016): "Formation"

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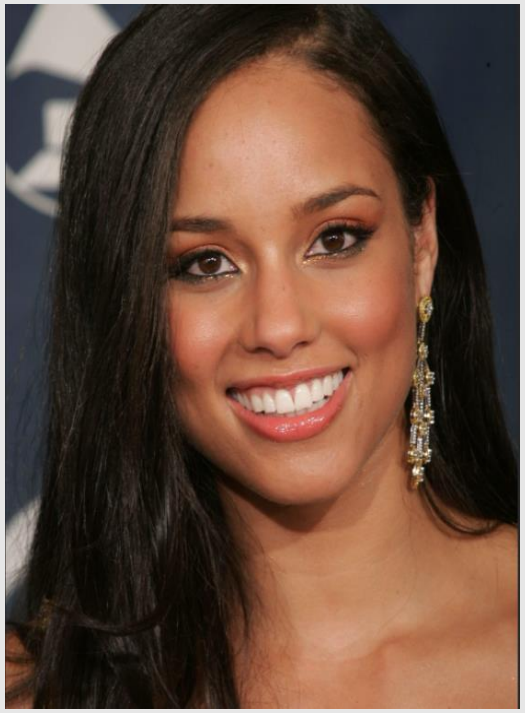
CAREER CARD

ALICIA KEYES

ALICIA KEYS IS AN AMERICAN SINGER AND SONGWRITER. A CLASSICALLY TRAINED PIANIST, ACTRESS.



THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Media
- Age: 42
- From: Manhattan, New York.
- Career: Singer, Song Writer, Composer, Actress, producer, Entrepeneur, Philanthropist, Director.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 14-time Grammy Award-winning
- 30 million albums sold worldwide
- New York Times best-selling author
- Acted the following movies: Smokin' Aces, The Nanny Diaries,, and The Secret Life of Bees.
- Global Ambassador for the non-profit organization dedicated to providing life-saving, anti-retroviral treatment and resources to children and their families with HIV/AIDS in Africa and most recently, India.

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USHER RAYMOND IV

USHER IS AN INFLUENTIAL FIGURE IN CONTEMPORARY R&B AND POP MUSIC, HAVING SOLD OVER 75 MILLION RECORDS WORLDWIDE AND ATTAINED NINE NUMBER-ONE RECORDS ON THE BILLBOARD 100 CHARTS. HE IS ALSO KNOWN FOR HIS ACTING AND CHARITY WORK. HIS SUCCESS AND DEDICATION TO HIS CRAFT CAN SERVE AS AN INSPIRATION TO CHILDREN OF ALL AGES AND BACKGROUNDS WHO ASPIRE TO ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS

CAREER CARD

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Music
- Age: 45
- From: Dallas, Texas
- Career: Singer, Songwriter, Dancer

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Usher has received over 300 awards over the tenure of his career including:
  - Eight American Music Awards
  - Twenty-nine Billboard Music Awards
  - Eight Grammys
- In addition to countless awards, Usher has also been recognized with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, holds multiple Guinness World Records, has been recognized by Make A Wish as a Shining Star, having granted over 40 wishes to children, has been inducted into the Boys & Girls Club Hall of Fame after attending as a child, and has been awarded a Key to the City of New Orleans

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CAREER CARD

AMIR “QUESTLOVE THOMPSON

WORLD RENOWNED ENTERTAINER, DRUMMER FOR THE ROOTS,

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Entertainment
- Age: 52
- From: Philadelphia originally, now lives in NYC
- Career: Multi-faceted entertainer, long time drummer for influential band The Roots, Documentarian, accomplished DJ, and now involved in book publishing

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ahmir “Questlove” Thompson is on a mission. The longtime front man of the The Roots is trying to build a world for himself that he never had growing up. Most recently, he’s set out to achieve this goal by entering the book publishing industry. AUWA Books, an imprint by Questlove and MCD Books, is set to tell stories that will impact the next generation. The imprint is a continuation of the musical genius’ artistry. Documentaries such as “Summer of Soul” about the 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival have showcased Questlove’s talents outside of music, emulating his commitment to empowering the Black community through his various mediums of creative expression.

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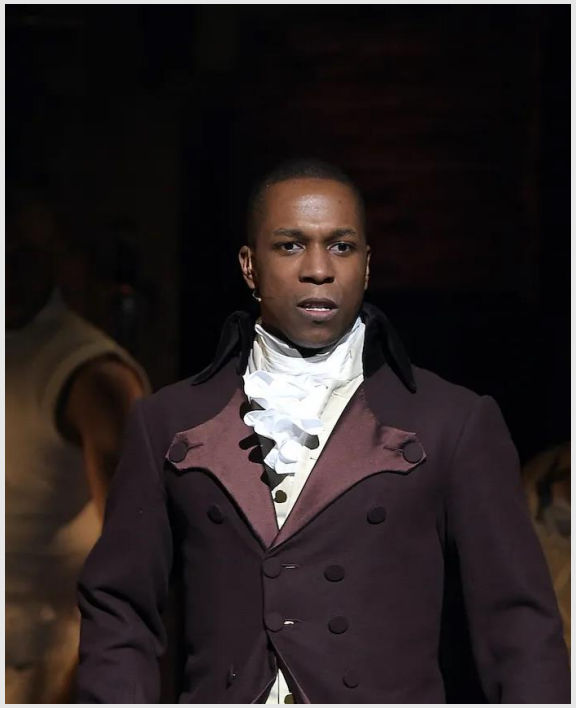
CAREER CARD

LESLIE ODOM JR.

Leslie Odom Jr. is a multifaceted, award-winning vocalist, songwriter, author, and actor.



THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Entertainer
- Age: 42
- From: New York, NY
- Career: Singer, Songwriter, Author, and Actor

ACHIEVEMENTS

He has received recognition with Tony and Grammy Awards as well as Emmy and, most recently, two Academy Award nominations for his excellence and achievements in Broadway, television, film, and music. He is best known for his portrayal of Aaron Burr in the musical Hamilton, which earned him a Tony Award for Best Actor in a Musical and a Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album. He has also appeared in several films and TV shows, including One Night in Miami, Central Park, and Harriet.

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CAREER CARD

COLMAN DOMINGO

A CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED ACTOR, PLAYWRIGHT, AND DIRECTOR

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Entertainment
- Age: 57
- From: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Career: **Colman Jason Domingo** (born November 28, 1969) is an American actor, writer, and director. Known for his roles on stage and screen, Domingo has received various accolades including a Primetime Emmy Award and nominations for a Tony Award and Laurence Olivier Award. He gained recognition for his portrayal as civil rights activist Bayard Rustin in the Netflix film *Rustin* (2023), receiving a Screen Actors Guild Award, Golden Globe Award, and Critics' Choice Movie Award nomination.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Colman Domingo is a critically acclaimed actor, playwright, and director and known for various roles in The Color Purple, Rustin, Candyman, and Euphoria. Although graduating with a degree in journalism from Temple University, Domingo found his passion in acting, earning a Primetime Emmy for Outstanding Guest Actor in a Drama for his role as Ali in the HBO drama Euphoria. He has been nominated for a Tony Award for Best Play as a producer for “Fat Ham.” In addition to his successful acting career, Colman wears many hats; he hosts “Bottomless Brunch at Colman’s,” a talk show on AMC; produces, directs and is faculty member at University of Southern California, School of Dramatic Arts.

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CAREER CARD

AYANNA PRESSLEY

A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS AND A SYMBOL OF RESILIENCE.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Politics
- Age: 49
- From: Hyde Park, Massachusetts
- Career: **Ayanna Soyini Pressley** (born February 3, 1974) is an American politician who has served as the U.S. representative for Massachusetts's 7th congressional district since 2019. This district includes the northern three quarters of Boston, most of Cambridge, parts of Milton, as well as all of Chelsea, Everett, Randolph, and Somerville.[2] Before serving in the United States House of Representatives, Pressley served as an at-large member of the Boston City Council from 2010 through 2019. She was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 2018 after she defeated the ten-term incumbent Mike Capuano in the Democratic primary election for Massachusetts' 7th congressional district and ran unopposed in the general election. Pressley was the first black woman elected to the Boston City Council and the first black woman elected to Congress from Massachusetts. Pressley is a member of "The Squad", a group of progressive Congress members.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (D-MA) is a voice for the voiceless and a symbol of resilience. Elected to represent Massachusetts' 7th Congressional District in 2018, she shattered barriers, becoming the first woman of color from Massachusetts to serve in Congress. Pressley's career is defined by her dedication to serving her community. From her early work as an aide to Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy II and Sen. John Kerry to her historic election as the first woman of color to the Boston City Council, she has consistently fought for justice and equality. In Congress, Pressley continues her fearless advocacy, championing legislation for fair wages, supporting survivors of sexual assault, reforming the criminal justice system and, with Rep. Shontel Brown (D-OH), pressing the FDA to remove harmful chemicals in relaxers Black women use on their hair. She is a powerful advocate for immigrant rights, reproductive freedom and government accountability. Her unwavering commitment to making a difference has earned her numerous accolades and recognition as a true leader.

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CAREER CARD

KEITH LEE

KEITH LEE IS PROOF THAT SOCIAL MEDIA CAN SOMETIMES MAKE THE RIGHT PEOPLE FAMOUS. WITH NEARLY 15 MILLION FOLLOWERS ON TIKTOK, THE FORMER MMA FIGHTER IS USING HIS PLATFORM TO CHANGE LIVES -- ONE FOOD REVIEW AT A TIME. HIS REVIEWS OF MOM-AND-POP RESTAURANTS IMMEDIATELY TURN INTO VIRAL VIDEOS, WHICH IN TURN GAIN SMALL BUSINESSES MORE FOLLOWERS, ORDERS, AND SOMETIMES DONATIONS. THIS IS KNOWN AS THE "KEITH LEE EFFECT."

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: I.E. Media
- Age: 27
- From: Las Vegas, Nevada
- Career: Social Media influencer, ex. UFC Fighter, Food Critic.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Keith Lee has 15 Million followers across TikTok and Instagram.
- As TikTok's favorite food reviewer, Lee now has brand deals with Wingstop, Chipotle, and other major corporations
- He highlights Black businesses and food trucks on his page often and gives back to his community by buying sneakers for kids at his favorite local shoe store or buying all the ice cream from an ice cream vendor and passing it out at schools.

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CAREER CARD

VICTOR WEMBANYAMA

CONSIDERED ONE OF THE GREATEST BASKETBALL PROSPECTS OF HIS GENERATION, HE WAS SELECTED FIRST OVERALL BY THE SPURS IN THE 2023 NBA DRAFT.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Athlete
- Age: 20
- From: Le Chesnay, France
- Career: Professional Basketball Player
- Nickname: “Wemby”

ACHIEVEMENTS

- He is seen as a generational talent and is compared to the likes of Tim Duncan and David Robinson, who brought multiple championships to the Spurs1.
- He has already made a significant impact in his rookie season, recording the second-fastest triple-double in NBA history2.
- His performance and presence have been instrumental in the Spurs’ victories, and he continues to impress with his playmaking abilities2.
- Off the court, he has shown a unique perspective on important cultural events, such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, offering insights from his upbringing in France3.

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CAREER CARD

DR. ONI BLACKSTOCK

BLACKSTOCK IS CHAMPIONED IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH SPHERE AS SHE IS PASSIONATE AND VOCAL ABOUT ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY FOR FOLKS IN MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: STEM
- Age: 45
- From: New York, New York
- Career: **Oni Blackstock** is a primary care and HIV physician, researcher, and founder of Health Justice, a racial and health equity consulting practice. She previously served as assistant commissioner for the Bureau of HIV for the New York City Department of Health, where she led the city's response to the HIV epidemic.[2] Her research considers the experiences of women and people of color in healthcare. During the COVID-19 pandemic Blackstock shared advice on how people in New York City could maintain sexual health and slow the spread of COVID-19 as well as guidance for people with HIV and HIV care providers about the intersection of HIV and COVID-19.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Oni Blackstock is a physician, entrepreneur, researcher, executive director and founder of Health Justice, a racial and health equity consulting practice whose primary focus is to center anti-racism and equity in the workplace and reduce health inequities in the communities they serve. Blackstock was inspired to become a doctor after witnessing her mother do the same in New York. As a former assistant commissioner of the New York City Health Department, Blackstock led the city's response to the HIV epidemic. Blackstock is championed in the public health sphere as she is passionate and vocal about achieving health equity for folks in marginalized communities. “My background, the way I was raised, was always very much rooted in social justice," she said. "And I think so much of my work had maybe not explicitly addressed issues around social justice, but it was always sort of a part of my work."

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CAREER CARD

SHERRI SHEPARD

SHE IS AN AMERICAN ACTRESS, COMEDIAN, AUTHOR, BROADCASTER, PODCASTER, AND TELEVISION HOST.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Entertainment
- Age: 56
- From: Chicago, IL
- Career: **Sherri Shepherd** (born April 22, 1967) is an American actress, comedian, author, broadcaster, podcaster, and television host. She currently hosts the daily syndicated daytime talk show, *Sherri*. From 2007 to 2014, Shepherd was a co-host of the daytime talk show *The View*, for which she received multiple Daytime Emmy Award nominations, winning one in 2009. She hosted *Dish Nation* from 2019 to December 2022, with her final months in limited episodes due to her talk show. She also starred in the sitcoms *The Jamie Foxx Show* (1999-2001), *Less than Perfect* (2002–2006), *Sherri* (2009), *Trial & Error* (2017–2018), and *Mr. Iglesias* (2019–2020).
- In 2009, she published the book *Permission Slips: Every Woman's Guide to Giving Herself a Break*. In 2012, she appeared as a contestant on the 14th season of the reality competition series *Dancing with the Stars*. Shepherd had a recurring role as Angie Jordan on the NBC sitcom *30 Rock*, a recurring role on the HBO Max series *The Sex Lives of College Girls*, and hosted the game show *Best Ever Trivia Show*.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Sherri Shepherd has made us laugh for most of our lives, and 2023 was no different. A seasoned comedian and actress, Shepherd hosts the "Sherri" talk show, where she discusses everything from pop culture to food choices. Only in its second season, the show has hosted some notable guests, including Katt Williams, Kirk Franklin and Tina Knowles. She also has four Emmy nominations and an NAACP Image Award under her belt.

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CAREER CARD

SHA'CARRI RICHARDSON

SHA'CARRI RICHARDSON IS RECOGNIZED FOR HER EXCEPTIONAL SPEED IN TRACK AND FIELD.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Athlete
- Age: 23
- From: Dallas, Texas
- Career: Sha'Carri Richardson, born in 2000, is an American track and field sprinter who competes in the 100 meters and 200 meters races. She rose to prominence in 2019 as a freshman at Louisiana State University, breaking the 100m collegiate record at the NCAA Division | Championships. In April 2021, she ran a personal best of 10.72 seconds, becoming one of the fastest women in history. Richardson qualified for the 2020 Summer Olympics but was disqualified due to a controversial topic. Despite this setback, she bounced back and won gold in the 100 m at the 2023 Word Championships in Budapest.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Broke the world U20 100m and 200m records in 2019
- Ran a personal best of 10.72 seconds in 100m in 2021
- Qualified for the 2020 Summer Olympics
- Became US national champion in women's 100m in 2023
- Won gold in the 100m at the 2023 World Championships
- Won gold in the women's 4x100m relay at the 2023 World Championships
- Awarded the Jackie Joyner-Kersee Athlete of the Year in 2023

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CAREER CARD

MARQUESS BROWNLEE (MKBHD)

YOUTUBER WITH OVER 20 MILLION SUBSCRIBERS AND 3.93 BILLION VIDEO VIEWS TOTAL

PROFESSIONAL ULTIMATE FRISBEE PLAYER

RECOGNIZED AS THE BEST TECHNOLOGY REVIEWER ON THE PLANET RIGHT NOW BY VIC GUNDOTRA A FORMER SENIOR VP OF GOOGLE

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Media focusing on technology
- Age: 30 born December 3, 1993
- From: Maplewood, New Jersey
- Career: Youtuber and Professional ultimate frisbee player

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Creator of the Decade at the 10th Shorty Awards in 2019
- Recognized as a notable example of representation in the STEM world
- Interviewed tech icons such as Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg, and Elon Musk and other celebrities.
- Vocal about social issues and posted a video in June 2020 titled “Reflecting on the Color of My Skin” in which he spoke about his experiences with racism and urged views to work against it.

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CAREER CARD

DAYMOND JOHN

IS AN AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN, INVESTOR, AND TELEVISION PERSONALITY.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Investor/Media
- Age: 54
- From: Hollis, NY
- Career: Daymond is best known as the founder, president, and chief executive officer of FUBU, and an investor on the ABC reality television series Shark Tank. Based in New York City, John is the founder of The Shark Group
- John started FUBU in his mother's house in Hollis, Queens. When John first had the idea for a clothing company for young men, his mother taught him how to sew and supported him by allowing her house to be taken over to grow the business.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- John is a New York Times and Wall Street Journal best-selling author.
- John has received numerous awards, including Brandweek Marketer of the Year, the NAACP Entrepreneurs of the Year Award (which he won twice), the Advertising Age Marketing 1000 Award for Outstanding Ad Campaign, the Essence Award, Crain's New York Business Forty Under Forty Award, Ernst & Young's New York Entrepreneur of the Year Award, the Brandeis University International Business School's Asper Award for Excellence in Global Entrepreneurship, Details 50 Most Influential Men, and the Congressional Achievement Award for Entrepreneurship (which he won twice).
- In 2015, President Obama appointed John as an ambassador to promote underserved entrepreneurs.

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CAREER CARD

A'JA WILSON

AMERICAN PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL PLAYER FOR THE LAS VEGAS ACES OF THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (WNBA).

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Sports
- Age: 27
- From: Las Vegas, NV
- Career: A'ja Wilson was the name on everybody's lips this past basketball season after successfully leading the Las Vegas Aces to their second consecutive victory at the WNBA Finals, making them the first WNBA team in 21 years to win back-to-back titles. Along the way, Wilson snagged the 2023 Finals MVP. Her recent accomplishments at the finals simply scratch the surface of her success: she has a nice collection of hardware on her shelf, with an Olympic gold medal, another WNBA Finals MVP and two WNBA Defensive Player of the Year awards. She has become a household name, and this looks like just the beginning of her professional athletic journey.

ACHIEVEMENTS

A'ja Riyadh Wilson (born August 8, 1996) is an American professional basketball player for the Las Vegas Aces of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA). Wilson played for the South Carolina Gamecocks in college, and helped lead the Gamecocks to their first NCAA Women's Basketball Championship in 2017, and won the NCAA basketball tournament Most Outstanding Player award. In 2018, she won a record third straight SEC Player of the Year award, leading South Carolina to a record fourth straight SEC Tournament Championship, becoming the all-time leading scorer in South Carolina women's basketball history, and was a consensus first-team All-American for the third consecutive season. Wilson swept all National Player of the Year awards (Wade, AP, Honda, USBWA, Wooden, and Naismith) as the best player in Women's College basketball for 2018. In the 2018 WNBA draft, she was drafted first overall by the Aces. Wilson won her first WNBA MVP in 2020, as well as her first Olympic Gold medal in the 2020 Summer Olympics. In 2022, Wilson helped lead the Aces to their first title in franchise history, a feat she repeated in 2023 while earning Finals MVP.

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CAREER CARD

DR. JOIA CREAR-PERRY

PHYSICIAN, ADVOCATE, FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL BIRTH EQUITY COLLABORATIVE

THEIR LEGACY

- She is a physician and champion of health equity. Her career has focused largely on improving maternal mortality rates, experiences and outcomes. An advocate for transformational justice
- Age: 52
- From: New Orleans
- Career: Physician, OBgYN, birth equity advocate, Activist.
  As the founder and president of the NBEC, she identifies and challenges racism as a root cause of health inequities.
- Currently serves as a principal at Health Equity Cypher

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Multiple awards including Global Visionary award from the Maternal Health Task Force at Harvard University
- Recipient of Congressional Black Caucus Healthcare Heroes award
- Improved the availability and utilization of affordable health care for New Orleans citizens after the Hurricane Katrina disaster in 2005
- In 2020, Dr. Crear-Perry was honored by USA Today in its "Women of The Century" series
- While she was the Director of Clinical Services for City of New Orleans Health Department she was responsible for four facilities that provided healthcare for the homeless, pediatric and gynecologic services within the New Orleans clinical service area

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CAREER CARD

NIJA CHARLES

AMERICAN
SINGER, SONGWRITER, AND
RECORD PRODUCER.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Entertainment
- Age: 26
- From: Union, New Jersey
- Career: **Nija Aisha-Alayja Charles** (born October 20, 1997), also known by her stage names **Nija** or **Amnija**, is an American singer, songwriter, and record producer. Charles began her career in 2017, and has since been a credited songwriter for The Carters ("Heard About Us" and "LoveHappy"), Lady Gaga ("Rain on Me"), Cardi B ("I Do" and "Ring"), and Chris Brown ("No Guidance"). She is signed to Capitol Records and Universal Music Publishing Group.
- She was nominated for the first ever Grammy Award for Songwriter of the Year at the 65th Annual Grammy Awards for her work on releases by Beyoncé, Summer Walker, City Girls, Lil Durk, Anitta, Meek Mill, Megan Thee Stallion and Kehlani.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Not many songwriters can say they got a Beyoncè placement before 25, let alone two. But Nija Charles can brag about doing just that. In 2017, Charles dropped out of school at New York University -- where she was studying at the Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music -- and signed a publishing deal with Universal Music Group. Since then, she's penned hits for Cardi B (on her Grammy-winning debut album), DJ Khaled, Summer Walker, Lady Gaga, Teyana Taylor, Chloe x Halle and Ariana Grande, among others. Charles wrote and sang on "My Power," the song Blue Ivy Carter danced to, capturing hearts throughout the Renaissance Tour. At 26, Charles has several platinum plaques for her work. She began releasing her own music in 2021 and now has 1.3 million listeners on Spotify. This year, she executive produced her first album with R&B songstress Kiana Ledè. Her latest release is titled "Stay Awhile" and is featured on Diddy's newest album. This singer-songwriter is ahead of the game and it's only a matter of time before everyone knows her name.

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CAREER CARD

DEION SANDERS

DEION SANDERS' IMPACT ON JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY WAS EXPECTED TO EXTEND BEYOND COACHING, AS HE EXPRESSED A COMMITMENT TO ENHANCING THE OVERALL ATHLETIC PROGRAM AND THE UNIVERSITY'S PROFILE. HE HAS ALSO EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORTING HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (HBCUS).

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Professional Athlete, College Athletic's Coach
- Age: 56 years old
- From: Fort Myers, Florida
- Career: Professional NFL & MLB Player, currently head coach of the Colorado Buffalo's Foot Ball Team.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Pro Football Hall of Fame: Inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2011 for his outstanding career as a cornerback and kick returner.
- Two-Time Super Bowl Champion: Won Super Bowl XXIX with the San Francisco 49ers (1994) and Super Bowl XXXVIII with the Baltimore Ravens (2004).
- Eight-Time Pro Bowl Selection: Selected to the Pro Bowl eight times during his NFL career.
- Two-Time NFL Defensive Player of the Year: Named NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 1994 and 1995.

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CAREER CARD

YARA SHAHIDI

AMERICAN ACTRESS AND PRODUCER WHO IS RECOGNIZED FOR HER ROLES IN THE SITCOM BLACK-ISH AND ITS SPIN-OFF SERIES GROWN-ISH. SHE IS ALSO KNOWN FOR HER ACTIVISM AND ADVOCACY FOR EDUCATION, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Media
- Age: 23
- From: Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Career: Actress, Producer, Activist
- Named one of one of Time's 30 Most Influential Teens in 2016, one of Glamour's Women of the Year in 2019, one of Time's 100 Most Influential People in the World in 2020, and one of Forbes' 30 Under 30 in 2020

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Produced and directed several projects, such as the short film Hair Love and the TV series Growing Up
- Graduated from Harvard University in 2022 with a major in Interdisciplinary Sociology and Black American Studies
- Played Tinker Bell in the live-action film Peter Pan & Wendy
- Co produced and starred in Sitting in Bars with Cake (Amazon Prime)
- Founded Eighteen x 18, a platform to encourage young people to vote, and Yara's Club, a partnership with the Young Women's Leadership Network to empower girls through education

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CAREER CARD

MARQUES BROWNLEE

ALSO KNOWN AS MKBHD IS AN AMERICAN YOUTUBER & PROFESSIONAL ULTIMATE FRISBEE PLAYERS. HE IS BEST KNOWN FOR HIS TECHNOLOGY-FOCUSED VIDEOS AND HIS OVERALL IMPACT ON THE TECH-INFLUENCERS WE SEE TODAY.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Social Media
- Age: 27 (December 3rd 1993
- From: Maplewood, New Jersey
- Career: Tech Youtuber & Ultimate Frisbee Player
- YouTube Subscribers: 18.1 Million

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Marques Brownlee, also known as MKBHD, is an American YouTuber and professional ultimate frisbee player.
- He has interviewed tech icons such as Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg, and Elon Musk.
- He was named “Creator of the Decade” at the 10th Shorty Awards in 2019.
- As an Ultimate Frisbee player, he was apart of the New York PoNY Team and won the 2022 WFDF World Championship in the open category.
- His YouTube Channels have amassed over 20 Million Subscribers & almost 4 Billion total views.
- Was called “the best Technology reviewer on the planet right now” by Vic Gundotra, a former Senior vice president of Google.

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CAREER CARD

RICH PAUL

PAUL FOUNDED KLUTCH IN 2012 IN HIS HOMETOWN OF CLEVELAND, OHIO WHERE HE FORGED A UNIQUE AND PERSONAL APPROACH TO REPRESENTING SOME OF THE TOP NBA TALENT – PUTTING ATHLETES FIRST AND EMPOWERING THEM TO BUILD

CAREERS AND BRANDS ON AND OFF THE COURT.

THEIR LEGACY

- Sector: Sports Agent
- Age: 42
- From: Cleveland, OH
- Career: He started his career selling vintage sports jerseys and later became known for his association with Lebron James, eventually becoming his agent.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Founded Klutch Sports in 2012 with Lebron James.
- By the end of 2020, Klutch sports had a rosters of 25 clients and over 1 Billion worth of NBA contracts had been negotiated for these clients.
- Some notable Clients are Lebron James, John Wall, Anthony Davis, Ben Simmons, Draymond Green, Zach LaVine, Dejounte Murray.

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