



STATE/METRO



The Canton Gospel Music Association presented the 15th Annual Professor Samuel Whisenton Music Scholarship to Michael Brooks. The scholarship is \$1000.00. Brooks is a graduate of Velma Jackson High School. He states, "I would like to inspire younger generations of musicians to use the gift that has been bestowed upon them by our Lord and Savior." He aspires to pursue a degree in Music Education at Jackson State University and later becoming a choral music teacher.



The Canton Gospel Music Association presented the 15th Annual Mrs. Rembert Washington Music Scholarship to Kaitlin Elise Myricks. The scholarship is \$1000.00. Kaitlin is a graduate of Germantown High School. She was a part of the Marching, Symphonic & Concert Band. Myricks says, "Gospel music is a way of celebrating and connecting and drawing closer to God, because the songs tell a story of His goodness." She will attend Holmes Community College to major in Forensic Chemistry and later plans to go to medical school with aspirations of becoming a medical examiner.

The rejuvenation of the black spa

By Amia D. Edwards

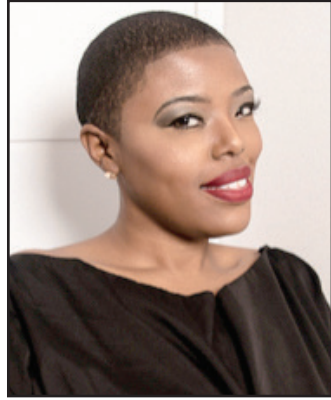
Jackson Advocate Lifestyle/Entertainment Writer

Remember the Calgon commercials? A lady, luxuriating in the lap of luxury, asks this feminine box of scented water softener to "take her away", well at least her problems of the day. These advertisements made it appear that an affordable spa experience could be found at your favorite general store instead of a local spa (which usually didn't really cater to women who looked like me).

As an impressionable pre-teen, I took a dive and grabbed a container of spa-in-a-box. I drowned my pre-teen cares into the box of chemicals and water to make me feel better. I also grabbed some cucumbers, sliced them, and put them on my eyes to really feel "Bougie".

Thank goodness for growth. I have learned to appreciate "self-care" and the holistic healing to be found in spa services. Entrepreneurs like Atlanta's Candace Holyfield are encouraging women of color to not only look into spa services but also consider the business of spa services. Holyfield, also known as the "The Six Figure Spa Chick", has an extensive resume. Not only is she a spa owner, but she also host spa parties.

Additionally, Holyfield is the author of dozens of e-books for spa professionals and mentors of hundreds of spa owners across the country. "I see people with amazing brands and services, and people don't know about them. I help them increase their exposure. I also encourage them to dominate the spa industry by taking them to China to help build relationships with vendors and



Candace Holyfield



Tanya Kelly

suppliers. This way, they will have the latest cutting edge technology in their salons."

During our conversation, about the black woman and entrepreneurship, we couldn't help but mention Madame C.J. Walker. Holyfield definitely is inspired by the mogul. "Her story is super amazing to me. And when we think about the spa industry, we don't think about black women. But I'm working to change that. I'm working hard... I want to be a spa legend."

As her platform grows, Holyfield is preparing for the "Queen Spa Expo" which will be held in Atlanta this September. One major topic she will tackle deals with financial knowledge amongst spa professionals. She feels like a lack of financial knowledge and disciplined bookkeeping is why hundreds of black entrepreneurs aren't able to take advantage of the Payroll Protection Program offered by the Small Business Administration during the Covid-19 pandemic.

"My goal is to help more independent spa and beauty owners understand the business side of owning a spa. We all go to school to learn the tools and get licensure, but we are barely

taught the business side. So often we hear of a nail salon or spa opening in our community and then closing within six months. The business side of owning a spa is a major goal of the expo this year."

If an aspiring spa owner can't make the expo in September, Holyfield encourages them to visit her website for free e-magazines that are filled with knowledge or use the hashtag #spabosstribes on all social media platforms to learn more. "I want everyone to follow their dreams until something happens."

Licensed Esthetician and Beauty Business Accountant, Tanya Sanders Kelly, held on to her dream of owning a spa



Candace Holyfield spa party

here in the Jackson Metro Area for over a decade. "I started enjoying spa services at various spas across the country. ...But what I noticed was I almost always was out of town when I got these services. That one single thought one day sparked something in me that made me say to myself that I would love to own a spa one day in my area. I knew back then I would name it 'Body Party.'"

Kelly and her staff offer a wide range of spa services to a diverse customer base at her Wax and Beauty Studios in Pearl. Kelly has a long list of goals for her business – multiple satellite locations, a product line, a training center

for her signature services, and business development within the beauty industry. In the meantime, she wants more women of color to "tear away" the idea that spa services are not attainable. "It's important that we stop thinking that the type of services that we offer are not for us. That couldn't be further from the truth! At my studio, I have been very meticulous in finding products and techniques that work best for our skin and service needs. I wish more women of color would understand that our bodies are important and sacred and should be taken care of as such, for ourselves more than for anyone else."

BODY PARTY
STUDIOS
the best experience ever

vstems • brows • lashes
body waxing • facials

228 St. Paul Street | Pearl, Ms 39208 | 877-279-2717

@BodyPartyStudios
www.bodypartystudios.com

VAN GOGH, MONET, DEGAS, AND THEIR TIMES:

THE MELLON COLLECTION OF FRENCH ART FROM
THE VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

The 17th presentation in the Annie Laurie Swaim Hearin
Memorial Exhibition Series

SUMMER 2020



Alfred Sisley (1839-1899), The Watering Pond at Marly with Hoarfrost, 1876, oil on canvas, 15 x 21.625, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 83.52. Image © Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM of ART

380 SOUTH LAMAR STREET • DOWNTOWN JACKSON • 601.960.1515 • @MSMUSEUMART

**ADVANCE TICKETS
ON SALE
MSMUSEUMART.ORG**