

SPRING 2019

Ila M. Wilborn

CAPSTONE MASTER PORTFOLIO
JOURNALISM SEQUENCE



wilborn media
MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

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LETTER OF INTENT



01

LETTER OF INTENT

Addressed to Professor Kenneth B. Jones

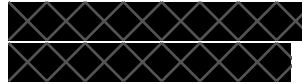
Ila M. Wilborn

MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST



March 14, 2019

Prof. Kenneth B. Jones
Journalism Sequence Coordinator
FAMU SJGC



Dear Professor Jones,

As a media professional, journalism has always been my first passion. I take pride in taking words, sounds and video to produce visual stories suitable for the masses to see and read. During my time in the School of Journalism & Graphic Communication, I have decided that my life's purpose is the art of storytelling.

As an undergraduate student, I gained experience in every aspect of journalism and public relations through internships and fellowships. During my recent fellowship with Chevrolet and the National Newspaper Publishers Association I was one of six fellows chosen to travel the country to pitch and produce stories that affect black communities. During my time at The Atlanta Voice and New Journal & Guide newspapers, I conducted live interviews and published articles, with one becoming a front-page feature. As a result of the Chevrolet and the National Newspaper Publishers Association fellowship, my work is published in black newspapers across the country.

While journalism is my first passion, I want to do more than tell stories. I want to cultivate others who have the same passion as I do, with teaching. It is my ultimate professional goal to become a journalism professor, similar to those who have inspired me to become the journalist I am today. I have applied to further my education at The S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications so that I can gain an elevated journalistic way of thinking. The realm of journalism and digital communication is intricate and like no other, and I believe that for students, the best help received is from former professionals from the industry.

My experience with print and digital journalism has given me the necessary tools I need to join the ranks of those who are fortunate to become a graduate of the School of Journalism & Graphic Communication and a professional journalist of the highest caliber.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ila M. Wilborn', written in a cursive style.

Ila M. Wilborn

COVER LETTER



02

COVER LETTER

*Addressed to Jon Levy, Interim News Director at
WCJB-TV20*

Ila M. Wilborn

MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST



Jon Levy
Interim News Director
WCJB-TV20



Dear Mr. Levy,

The purpose of a multi-media journalist is to connect people around the world with each local and national story that is created. As a budding media professional, I have modeled my career after this motto because there is an art to storytelling that I am in the midst of perfecting.

As an undergraduate student, I have gained experience in print, digital media, broadcast journalism and even public relations. I am well rounded in every aspect of the communication field. I have interned at a public relations firm and in the same summer marketed a new program for Wal-Mart during the Essence Music Festival. I have also worked for The Atlanta Voice, where I conducted live interviews with the likes of then-Democratic Gubernatorial nominee Stacey Abrams. As a result of my internships, my work is published in black newspapers across the country.

At my institution, I first worked as a reporter, camera and character generator operator for FAMU TV 20. I have been able to connect with my local Tallahassee community, while at times, traveling to nearby cities to catch an important story. I am now an anchor for the student produced newscast that broadcasts to approximately 80,000 households in the South Georgia and North Florida areas. Upon graduating from Florida A&M University in May, I want to fully immerse myself in an environment that will allow me to produce superior content to inform the masses.

I am well versed in Final Cut Pro, Logic Pro X, Adobe InDesign, Associated Press ENPS Client, CNN Newsource and MGN Online. I am willing to quickly learn any other tool that is necessary for a newsroom.

If chosen to become a member of the WCJB team as an MMJ, I will enthusiastically bring my talents of an articulate voice, sense of timing and tight writing skills to the newsroom. As an organized, punctual and creative individual, I am able to multi-task and think quickly under a deadline. I am dedicated to becoming a television news professional of the highest caliber. I enjoy a challenge and will stop at nothing to get the job done. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ila M. Wilborn

RÉSUMÉ



03

RÉSUMÉ

A quick look at my experiences and skills



Ila M. Wilborn

MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

CONTACT INFORMATION



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WILBORNMEDIA

EDUCATION

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Science, Broadcast Journalism | Expected May 2019
GPA: 3.74

SKILLS

Final Cut Pro, Logic Pro X, AP ENPS Client, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Videography, Photography

REFERENCES

KENNETH JONES

Florida A&M University, SJGC
[REDACTED]

JANIS L. WARE

The Atlanta Voice, Publisher
[REDACTED]

DOUGLAS BLACKBURN

Florida A&M University, SJGC
[REDACTED]

EXPERIENCE

FAMU NEWS 20

DESK ANCHOR AND MMJ
CAMERA OPERATOR

JAN 2019 - PRESENT
AUG - DEC 2018

- Report original news stories to air on a student newscast that broadcasts to a potential 80,000 households

THE FAMUAN NEWSPAPER

CONTENT SUPERVISOR
STAFF REPORTER

AUG 2018 - PRESENT
JAN 2018 - PRESENT

- Improve and maintain content published on the website
- Create original content for print and online

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE PEER MENTOR PROGRAM

SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR

AUG 2017 - PRESENT

- Create original content to increase outreach of the program by social media campaigns for college freshmen at Florida A&M University

CHEVROLET & NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

DISCOVER THE UNEXPECTED FELLOW MAY - JULY 2018

- The Atlanta Voice | The New Journal and Guide
- One of six scholars chosen to travel the country and pitch, produce and share stories at assigned NNPA publications

WALMART STORES, INC.

HBCU SCHOLAR

JUNE - JULY 2017

- One of ten scholars chosen to brand and market Walmart's 2-day free shipping option at the Essence Music Festival

AWARDS AND AFFILIATIONS

Presidential Scholar, FAMU Chapter of Society of Professional Journalists, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Phi Sigma Theta National Honor Society, FAMU Chapter of NAACP

PUBLISHED WORK



04

PUBLISHED WORK

All news articles were pitched and written by me



Atlanta Councilman Andre Dickens shares his priorities for term as Council President Pro Tempore

ATLANTA POLITICS

August 06, 2018

By Ila Wilborn | The Atlanta Voice



Atlanta City Councilmember Andre Dickens is a vocal and legislative championing issues that effect Atlanta. Dickens was the only councilmember relected unopposed in Nov. 2017.

It is no secret that Atlanta is home to millions. In fact, in a March 22 report, the U.S. Census Bureau ranked the city the ninth most populous metropolitan area in the country, with close to six million residents recorded in 2017.

Along with an influx of residents, Atlanta is seeing more traffic than ever before.

To combat the growing issue, Atlanta City Council's President Pro Tempore, Andre Dickens, wants to do something about it. Last January, he and other councilmembers created the city's first Department of Transportation committee for the council.

"Atlanta has not had a Department of Transportation ever, and we wonder why we have traffic (problems)," he said.

Dickens, who is now on his second term as city councilmember at-large for the city of Atlanta, said his plan is to use his engineering background to attack the nuisance with a single focus. The fifth generation Atlanta native earned engineering degrees from the Georgia Institute of Technology and Georgia State University.

After being elected to the Atlanta City Council Post 3 at Large in 2013, Dickens ran unopposed in 2017, and was subsequently re-elected.

Dickens has assumed an extensive list of leadership roles on the council. In addition to serving as President Pro Tempore, Dickens also chairs the council's transportation, on-council, public safety & legal administration and finance/executive committees.

During Dickens's first term, he served as chair for the Public Safety & Legal Administration and Community Development & Human Services Committees, and has served on the Code Enforcement & Budget Commissions as well as the Boards of the Atlanta Beltline, Invest Atlanta and the Center for Civil and Human Rights.

"My main initiatives are to make sure that Atlanta grows in a fair and balanced way, that's respectful of all Atlantans," Dickens said, as he explained how he wants to give Atlanta citizens the chance to thrive in the town. "I want to make sure that we have housing opportunities for everyone, as well as job opportunities."

With the Super Bowl on its way to Atlanta in February 2019, the Department of Transportation Committee has its plate full with ensuring the city is prepared for the massive crowd the game is certain to attract.

"We're excited about the Super Bowl coming to Atlanta," Dickens said. The councilmember recalled the last time Atlanta hosted the Super Bowl in 1994: "It was an ice storm and the roads were shut down," he said. "It made Atlanta look like we weren't as prepared as we would like to be."

The committee meets monthly to ensure that the city will be well prepared for the biggest game of the professional football season.

While the 2019 Super Bowl is among the top of his list, Dickens is also busy working on new

legislature.

He said he is also committed to keeping housing affordable for all citizens of Atlanta.

“I’ve worked (on passing) a lot of laws that have curbed some of this gentrification and things that we see in Atlanta where people are being forced out, or people not having an opportunity to participate in all this new growth,” he said.

After three years of research and policy development, Dickens led the mandatory inclusionary zoning legislation which, approved unanimously by the council, is Dickens’ most recent legislation on affordable housing.

Enacted on November 7, 2017, the law requires “developers building new residential rental units near the BeltLine or Westside District to set aside 10 percent of those units for households at 60 percent Area Median Income (AMI) or below, or 15 percent of those units for households at 80 percent AMI or below,” according to a statement issued by the council.

Along with addressing Atlanta’s affordable housing and traffic issues, Dickens said he is also dedicated to achieving transparency and proper ethics within the government. One of his biggest concerns is making sure the citizens of Atlanta are able to engage with, and have trust in, the government. “To rebuild trust is important,” he said.

As an extra step towards his promise of transparency, Dickens posts daily on his social media platforms and shares his weekly calendar schedule on the Atlanta City Council webpage.

The calendar provides times and locations of meetings and events that the councilmember will attend during the week.

To Dickens, the importance of sharing his weekly schedule is not only to inform the citizens of Atlanta what he’s doing in office, but to also share what isn’t being done, which allows citizens to give their input on concerns that can be better addressed by the council.

“I’d invite you to give me feedback,” he said, as he expounded on wanting citizens to become more involved in the government. “I think that’s part of having responsible, fair government: where people have input, and they get to see your output.”

Another of Dickens’ more interesting pieces of legislature is what he referred to as the “Brunch Bill.” The State of Georgia recently allowed restaurants the option to serve alcohol on Sundays.

With Dickens’ new bill, the restaurant could choose to sell alcohol as early as 11 a.m. on Sundays, usually around the time many Atlantans choose to partake in Sunday brunch meals.

“Not that I’m trying to get everybody drunk on Sunday, because I’ll be in church,” Dickens said while laughing. “It’s good for business and good for the economy.”

Dickens also plans to enact more ethics laws concerning the hire of contractors for the city, which include working with an “independent procurement review officer,” he said. He would also like to see Freedom Parkway renamed to John Lewis Freedom Parkway.

Besides enacting policy, Dickens said he wants to ensure that every Atlantan gets a chance to enjoy the city as he has.

“I want everybody to have an opportunity to live whatever dream they want to live, as long as it’s fair and decent,” he said.



Rashan Ali shares views on joining Greek organizations to expand your network

ATLANTA GREEK PICNIC

July 02, 2018

By Ila Wilborn | DTU / NNPA Fellows



Rashan Ali hosted "The Network," a networking social during this year's Atlanta Greek Picnic weekend.

Since its inception in 2004, The Atlanta Greek Picnic Weekend (AGP) has emerged as the largest festival weekend for Black Greek-Lettered Organization (BGLO) members in the South. Every summer, for the past 14 years, an influx of BGLO members make their way to Atlanta for a host of events, including parties, community service, and a step show.

This year's weekend events started with a networking social at the Gathering Spot called "The Network," hosted by Rashan Ali — moderator of TV-One's "Sister Circle Live" and a member of

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. — and Francesca Amiker — 11Alive news anchor and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

The Atlanta Voice caught up with Ali, a philanthropist and media industry veteran, who said she was excited to host “The Network,” a meet and greet for members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) attending the Atlanta Greek Picnic Weekend.

“The network of being in the NPHC is huge and it’s beautiful for all of us to get together to see where our paths cross,” Ali said, as she described the importance of networking events.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated was formed in 1930 under the purpose of “Unanimity of thought and action as far as possible in the conduct of Greek letter collegiate fraternities and sororities, and to consider problems of mutual interest to its member organizations,” according to the organization’s official website.

The NPHC is comprised of nine international fraternities and sororities, including Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc., and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc.

Ali shared that it is not uncommon to hear and see friendly competition between the members of the NPHC.

“A lot of stuff goes on between sororities and fraternities,” she said. “When you become a grown person, all that goes out the window. We are all African American people, in the majority, and we need some stand together. This is the opportunity to show that unity for the kickoff of AGP.”

Although there are nine different organizations, every organization has one thing in common: “At the core of what we do it service,” Ali said as she spoke on the true purpose of Black Greek-Lettered Organizations.

With nine organizations coming together, it is inevitable for one’s personal network to grow, just off the basis of being in this number.

“It’s always a conversation starter, no matter what organization you’re in,” Ali said.

A large network can be the basis for business partnerships, jobs, and even just friendships in general, Ali said. “It’s just really really important that you tap into those resources,” Ali said.



Windsor Jones takes innovative approach to television commercials

June 19, 2018

By Ila Wilborn | DTU/NNPA Fellow



Windsor Jones is a local rapper who has partnered with 411-PAIN for the release of several radio jingles. (Submitted)

While driving in your car and listening to the radio, vaguely listening to commercials between your favorite music, a familiar song starts to play. You begin to sing along to the catchy tune, only to find yourself saying, “Call 1-800-411-PAIN.”

The artist behind the tune is none other than Windsor Jones, Atlanta native and independent recording artist for BSGO Music Group.

Jones is the talent behind the popular “Money Rain” jingle for the 411-Pain Legal and Medical Referral Service.

The Florida-based legal referral service, founded in 1995 by Dr. Robert Lewin, “has grown into a nationwide network that can help people get their lives back on track after an auto accident”, according to the company’s official website.

As a self-proclaimed celebrity brand ambassador, Jones got his start with 411-Pain after voluntarily sending a jingle to the company.

“I just submitted it to them and they accepted it and it took off, you know,” Jones said.

The jingle is now streaming on the radio, as well as all music platforms, including Soundcloud, Apple Music, and Spotify. Jones recently turned the “Money Rain” radio jingle into a full song, now titled, “Nights Like This,” and released it on all music platforms.

“I told 411-Pain, ‘We can turn the number one jingle into the number one single,’” he said.

For several years, Jones has been funneling his music through the nightclub circuit, working on film sets and recording public service announcements for Radio One Atlanta channels, alongside Atlanta radio veteran Denise Dunbar. Jones felt that his persistence would one day pay off.

“I was just trying to get on the radio every day, that was it. I’ll work my move from there,” he said.

Jones has been busy in the studio producing multiple singles and projects. “[My new single] is available everywhere online, all platforms,” Jones said.

“Nights Like This,” produced by KC Da Beatmonster, is the most recent single to be released by Jones. He is also preparing to release his new project, “Defy The Odds.”

Windsor Jones can be followed at @WindsorJonesAtl_bsgo on Instagram, and at BSGOJones on Snapchat.

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Millennials are breaking political barriers

By Ila Wilborn | Content Supervisor On March 12, 2019

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In true millennial fashion, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez gained national attention last June when she beat out a 10-term incumbent congressman in the Democratic Party's primary election for New York's 14th congressional district. She then went to win against her Republican opponent in the general election, bolting her to become the youngest woman to ever serve as a member in the United States Congress at 29.

In another historical case, Jeramey Anderson was only 21 years old when he became the youngest African American elected to the legislature in U.S. history in 2013. Anderson is now serving his second term as Mississippi state representative, District 110.

According to the [National Conference of State Legislatures](#), the average lawmaker in America today is a 56-year-old white male who holds a business degree. Rep. Anderson is now a 26-year-old black man with a degree in criminal justice.

Rep. Anderson is the exact opposite of what the status quo for an elected official is in the United States.

An epidemic of budding young leaders are bustling onto the administrative scene.



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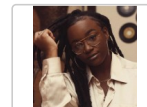
'A Madea's Family Funeral' not worth the time or money

By Rickayla Mitchell | Staff Reporter



J.I.D. to perform at Potbelly's

By Josh Mikkel | Staff Reporter



Jazmin Johnson shines at FAMU – and on the big screen

By Simone Williams | Staff Reporter



What does the Smollett saga mean for Black America?

By Oldens Lafortune | Staff Reporter

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The younger members of the millennial generation are the ones who have recently been shaking up politics in recent elections. According to Pew Research Center, the millennial generation is anyone who was born between the years 1981 and 1996; those who are 22 to 37 years old now.

Even through adversities, Rep. Anderson has managed to win his position twice. He beat the odds, running against a former representative, former mayor and two newcomers who were, what he said were around 20 years older than he. "I think people just wanted something different," he said in a telephone interview.

"Something that we've seen across the country, is young people getting involved in politics early," he said. "People are excited to have a type of fresh, innovative new ideas come forward."

With 56 the average age in politics, young political aspirants often find themselves underestimated, no matter what credentials they hold against their opponents. Richard Garzola and Jasmine Ali witnessed these obstacles, this past election season, when they ran for Tallahassee City Commission Seat 3 and Seat 1, respectively. Rep. Anderson faced this very issue when he ran in 2013, and again in 2018 when he ran for Congress. "I heard, 'you know you're not gonna win because you're too young,'" Anderson said. He also heard: "you should wait your turn," and "you need to get some more experience under your belt before you run for a state office."

Jasmine Ali, a current student at Florida State University described her campaign as "like going up against the establishment," she said. "First, a lot of people didn't really take it seriously just because I was so young, I was 20 years old." Ali ran against Incumbent Bill Proctor, a role in which he has served in longer than Ali has been alive, some 22 years. Though Ali suffered a defeat, she holds onto a hard fact that no one can take away from her. "We came up with 42.87 percent (of the vote)," she said. "That's actually the best anyone has ever come up going up against my opponent."

Richard Garzola, also a current Florida State University student, said "young people will always be discredited because of their age. There will be a lot of ageism. You'll be discouraged, people will tell you that you're not ready enough." Garzola, a former football athlete for the Seminoles, wanted to bring awareness to issues such as homelessness, sleep deprivation and the opioid crisis in Tallahassee that he says many tend to gloss over. Garzola was unsuccessful in his attempt for election, but for him, it was much bigger than the election.

"My political campaign was something that was almost not considered political, it was considered more of a movement where I pushed others, I inspired others, to not only want to make a difference in their community and reach out to their neighbor but have someone else run for office that was young," he said.

Garzola was unsuccessful in the primaries, but Jeremy Matlow, the 32-year-old owner of Gaines Street Pies, took the win for millennials in gaining the Tallahassee City Commission Seat 3 in the general election.

Ageism has been an obstacle many, if not all, young political leaders have had to conquer. Supportive networks such as the Young Elected Official Network serve as a tool for combating those very issues for those under the age of 35.

Take the story of Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum.

Gillum made national news when he was elected as the first African American gubernatorial nominee for the state of Florida. The Florida A&M University graduate,



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[A look into FAMU's rookie of the year](#)

Students at FAMU have heard about the cutting

however, first made history at 23 when he was the youngest person ever elected to the city commission, all while still in school.

Markus Batchelor, Networks Communications Coordinator for the Young Elected Officials Network, said that when Gillum first joined the city commission, he felt as if he was isolated because he was young. In that experience, Batchelor says that Gillum, "wanted to create a network of young people who could support one another in governance."

"The network is really important because it's one of a few, if not the only network that supports young elected officials, but specifically supports young elected officials while serving in office," Batchelor said.

Programs, such as this one, are able to help cultivate the next generation of political leaders and encourage them to persevere through ageism. The network is also able to help equip its members with, as Batchelor put it, "Initiatives that are really the future of the country and really the future of local, state and our national community."

Young political leaders are not exclusive only to those who choose to run for office. There are the people behind the scenes, the young people, who are taking the necessary steps to encourage the younger millennial generation and younger generations to exercise their right to vote.

Ferrisa Connell, 26, served as the Florida State Lead this past election season for #VoteTogether, a statewide program initiative. "We're trying to celebrate the way people view voting," Connell said. "Studies have shown that when people congregate, it naturally increases voting."

Connell's purpose is to eliminate the excuses that many citizens given when dismissing their civic duty during election season by enticing voters to actually vote.

"You're more likely to go to a block party, you're more likely to go to a movie on the lawn, a skating party, more likely to go to a Farmers Market than you are to go make a plan to go vote and that's the sad truth," Connell said.

Rep. Anderson, Ali, Garzola, Batchelor, Matlow and Connell have already tapped into the ideas of a government that includes everyone, regardless of age. However, with help from everyone, these young political leaders have a real shot at taking over the government in years to come. It takes much more than a campaign. It takes the younger generation of citizens to come out and learn what candidates have to offer, ask questions and then vote for who's best for the community.

"The millennial generation shouldn't have to wait our turn because our turn is now," said Rep. Anderson.

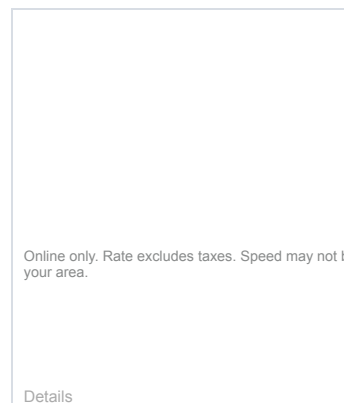
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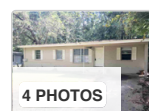
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edge eye technology employed by [LASIK Ft. Lauderdale](#) eye centers to help improve eyesight. For FAMU students passionate about science and the eye, read more about the top LASIK eye centers in South Florida.

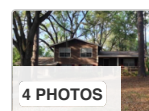


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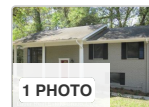
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FAMU students take part in historic march in Memphis

By Ila Wilborn | Staff Reporter On April 6, 2018

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Photo courtesy of Onyx Franklin

Florida A&M University students went to Memphis this week to participate in the "MLK50 I Am 2018" March to commemorate the legacy of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

I AM 2018 is a conglomerate of organizations including AFSCME, COGIC, and civil, human and workers' rights leaders, according to the organization's official website.

The march, held Wednesday on the 50th anniversary of the assassination of King, attracted community leaders and thousands of attendees.

A USA Today Network news article reported the crowd at 8,000 to 10,000.

Among the participants was Jade Jacobs, third-year broadcast journalism student. "It was really humbling, especially since we were in the exact same city at the exact same time 50 years later that Martin Luther King was shot. It was very powerful to see black people marching for the same cause so long ago," Jacobs said.

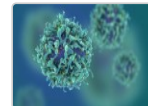
In 1968, the Memphis march was held after two black sanitation workers were crushed to death while working. Members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) led the march.

"Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. traveled to Memphis to rally the community and express his solidarity

<http://www.thefamuanonline.com/news/view.php/1033373/FAMU-students-take-part-in-historic-marc>



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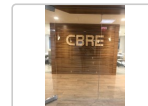
Experts: HIV breakthrough unlikely to help those who need it most

By Fatiah Caldwell | Staff Reporter



Victorious People helps homeless FAMU students

By Parris Lockley | Staff Reporter



SBI senior snags internship with world's No. 1 real estate firm

By Parris Lockley | Staff Reporter



Bill would require schools to teach CPR

By Marie Rattigan | Staff Reporter

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because he understood the connection between labor rights, economic rights, human rights and civil rights. On the evening of April 3 at the historic Mason Temple, the Church of God in Christ International headquarters, Dr. King delivered his famous 'Mountaintop' speech. Less than 24 hours later, he was gunned down on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel," the I AM 2018 official website said.

FAMU student body vice president, Dajuh Sawyer, also attended the rally. "The march was nothing but amazing. Thousands of people marched together to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Dr. King's powerful rhetoric, moral leadership and ultimate sacrifice. And we remembered the 1,300 sanitation workers' fearless demand for dignity. I felt very honored." she said.



Photo courtesy of Jade Jacobs

The march attracted many community leaders and celebrities, including Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders, Goapele, Common, Chris Tucker, attorney Angela Rye, the Rev. Al Sharpton, along with members of the King family.

"We received inspiration from Dr. Bernice King, Martin Luther King III, ambassador Andrew Young, and Bishop Charles Edward Blake, Sr. We left Memphis with our minds set on carrying on Dr. Martin Luther King's legacy," Sawyer said. "Calvin Sykes, a sophomore broadcast journalism student, got the chance to meet Bernie Sanders."

Sykes said he never expected to have a chance to hold a conversation with Sanders, who challenged Hillary Clinton for the Democratic nomination for president in 2016..

"For me it wasn't about myself, it was about speaking for others who cannot speak with themselves," Sykes said. "When he asked, 'So what is it like being a black man in America?' I gave him the real. I told him that I'm given the short hand of the stick most of the time, but I have to speak on those and bring the issues that they have to life."

Sykes thoroughly enjoyed his experience at the march. "We connected with different activists; it's like they were passing the torch to the next generation so they have the tools to create a strike or rally or do whatever they need to do to get a solution to their problem."

According to the I AM 2018 website, it isn't just a reflection on the past; it's a call to action for the future. An urgent call to fight poverty and prejudice, advance the freedom of all working people, and remind America that there can be no racial justice without economic justice and no economic justice without racial justice.

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FAMU participates in Kick Butts Day

By Ila Wilborn | Staff Reporter On March 23, 2018

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FAMU students participating in Kick Butts Day.
Photo credit: Ila Wilborn

The School of Allied Health Sciences at FAMU invited students to participate in Kick Butts Day Thursday. The event was sponsored by the American Cancer Society's Tobacco-Free Generation Campus Initiative and the CVS Health Foundation.

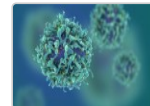
"On Kick Butts Day, teachers, youth leaders and health advocates organize events to raise awareness of the problem of tobacco use in their state or community; encourage youth to reject the tobacco industry's deceptive marketing and stay tobacco-free; and urge elected officials to take action to protect kids from tobacco," the day's official website said.

The Florida Department of Health in Leon County also took part. Crystall Robinson, Health Educator and SWAT Coordinator, said, "We're big on tobacco prevention and there are some declining rates of smoking in the state of Florida, but we want to continue that progress and let the community know that we are here as a resource."

FAMU faculty member and event coordinator, Kandy Woods explained, "We're out here today to promote a tobacco smoke-free policy for Florida A&M University. We do not have, written, a tobacco *and* smoke free policy, and it's 100 percent no tobacco or smoke products. You've got to think about chewing tobacco, it doesn't produce smoke, but its tobacco. So that's why you want a



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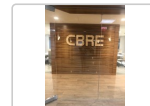
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policy that says no tobacco and smoke,” she said.

The event was majorly student run, with the help of faculty and sponsors.

“I’m faculty in the School of Allied Health Sciences, so the School of Allied Health Sciences is helping the university to push this policy. I’m in cardiopulmonary science, which I produce students to become respiratory therapists. So my students have a real dedicated passion about healthy lungs,” Woods said.

Among educational tables, the event featured music, free prizes and games.

Amara Lewis, a former student and recruit of the Florida Department of Health, oversaw “Strike Out Tobacco,” a game of inflated bowling that educates the player on the types of chemicals found in tobacco smoke.

“There are over 7,000 of them,” Lewis said as she described the object of the game. “We have Cadmium, which is the active component in battery acid. And we have Ambergis, which is whale feces and vomit.”

Kick Butts Day is an annual national initiative held March 21; however, it can be celebrated throughout the year.

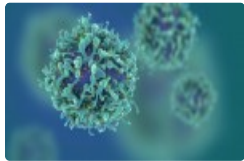
“While Kick Butts Day is officially held on one day each year, our hope is that every day will be Kick Butts Day in the fight against tobacco,” the official website said.

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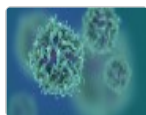
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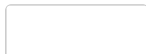
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For the second time in 12 years medical experts have cured a patient with HIV. Photo Courtesy of Medical News...



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SBI student is Miss Black California U.S. Ambassador

By Ila Wilborn | Staff Reporter On March 24, 2018

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Dominique Parks is the 2018 Miss Black California U.S. Ambassador (Photo courtesy Parks)

Dominique Parks is no ordinary FAMU student.

Parks is a professional master of business administration candidate. But that's not all. The Los Angeles native holds the title 2018 Miss Black California U.S. Ambassador, and was crowned in her home state.

"The Miss Black U.S. Ambassador program is a program that's known for bringing ambassadors of change to the community,"

Parks explained as she talked about how the pageant is not a typical beauty contest. According to the Miss Black U.S. Ambassador website, each contestant is judged based on a five-minute community service presentation, private interview, fitness, evening gown and an on-stage question.

"I've met a great group of women. We all have the same goal: We all want to be change agents within our community. Being able to meet girls from all over the country and hear what they're doing to change the community, it inspires you to want to do more in yours," Parks said.

"It's a great experience and it is a life changing experience," she added. "Just the people that you'll meet will make you want to be such a better person."

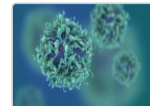
Parks has used her platform to improve her community in California but she does not want to stop there. "Because I am the California queen, a lot of my platforms points have been done in California," she said.

Parks plans to execute her points on FAMU's campus as well.

"Starting March 1, it's National Reading Month, and my platform point is 'C.R.E.A.M. of the Crop,' which is essentially bringing literacy to our children," she said. "I'll be having a book drive in connection with the Chicago Club to donate books to juvenile detention centers in California and



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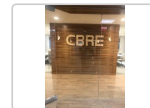
Experts: HIV breakthrough unlikely to help those who need it most

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Chicago.”

Parks is not just a nationally recognized queen, she is also involved in a plethora of organizations on FAMU’s campus. She is in Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Business Fraternity, Inc., and she’s involved in the School of Business and Industry’s Roundtable Leadership, where she serve as the president for one of the companies in S.B.I.

Kacey Lusborough, Parks’ longtime friend said, “We’ve always been classmates, but our friendship began after becoming members of the Omega Xi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Business Fraternity. Dominique as a very driven and compassionate person. She’s always working to improve herself and elevate those around her. She excels in and out of the classroom because she gives 110 percent in everything that she does.

“She’s a good person and a hard worker,” Lusborough said.

Mr. FAM-elect, Myles Millsap, can also attest to Parks’ work ethic.

“I’ve known Dom since my freshman year, going into my sophomore year. She’s been the sister that I haven’t had. She was my campaign manager and there were times when I didn’t think I could get something done and she would make it happen just because she’d told me she would. She sacrificed a lot of her personal life for me.”

Parks is also a member of the National Council of Negro Women and the Ernie Sims BIG H.I.T.S. Stars Mentoring Academy.

Parks has a strategic plan on making sure everything she plans to do, gets done.

“I take a moment every morning to map out my week and how it’s going to go. I’m very, very adamant about having my planner and accomplishing the different things that are in my planner. I make a time schedule, so every time segment, every hour, every couple hours, is dedicated to something during my day to make sure that I stay on track with and am able to accomplish all my goals for the week,” Parks said.



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FAMU student serving the community, one bite at a time

By Ila Wilborn | Staff Reporter On February 15, 2018

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Terrell Nelson, third year sociology major, journalism minor student at Florida A&M University

Terrell Nelson started cooking in the fourth grade. Now a third-year sociology major, journalism minor at Florida A&M University, Nelson knew since that day that culinary was his true passion.

“Cooking is one of those things where I’ve always had a niche for it, but I just didn’t want to do anything with it,” said Nelson as he described how he founded his self-run culinary business: The MasTer Chef Experience. “My grandmother, her name is Cynthia Scott, kept telling me to take my love for cooking and make a business out of it, and finally that’s what I did,” he said.

Nelson decided to make The MasTer Chef Experience more than a company that serves food, but one that serves the community as well.

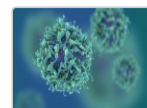
“One of my biggest visions for right now, is to feed the community and college students that don’t have meal plans,” he said. “I also want my business to be for those students that can’t afford to eat.”

Victoria Lewis, long time college friend, admires what he’s done.

“Terrell is selfless, compassionate, and an uplifting friend to many. He’s a prayer warrior for all,



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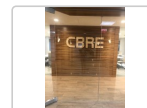
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and servant to humanity,” Lewis said. “I have supported The MasTer Chef Experience on numerous occasions because the food reminds me of home cooked meals while I’m so far away from home. However, watching this young college student- business owner feed those who did not know when their next meal would be, showed me that his service extends past the money, but caters to those in need,” Lewis said.

“The food is of superb quality and the presentation matches as well. The portions and menu options are very generous all at an affordable price that restaurants who have been in business for years do not compare to,” Lewis added. “Terrell does this all from his approved personal home kitchen which adds the extra personal touch.”

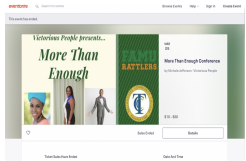
Nelson has made it his priority to open up his house to friends who are less fortunate than him. “I wanted my house to be a safe haven for people because you’d be surprised by how many FAMU students that you talk to each day, go home hungry each night,” Nelson said.

“I’ll be serving chicken and waffles platters and shrimp and grits platters to the first 125 people from 11 a.m.. to 2 p.m.” Nelson said. He’s calling it “Brunch on Bronough” this Saturday, Feb. 17.

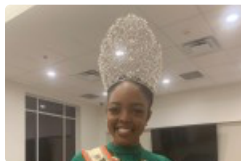
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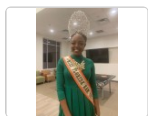
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Nicole Jefferson, an assistant in the College of Pharmacy, has started a non-profit to help students. Photo Submitted by Nicole...



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By Fatiah Caldwell | Staff Reporter

Imani Cooper, Miss FAMU, took part in the event. Photo Submitted by Fatiah Caldwell. Wednesday night was a big night for...



'Sneauxball Social' benefits Frenchtown

By Fatiah Caldwell | Staff Reporter

Two Greek organizations at FAMU joined forces Friday for a benefit for Frenchtown. Photo Submitted by Fatiah Caldwell. The...

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FAMU is in my DNA

By Ila Wilborn | Content Supervisor On October 1, 2018

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Ila as a young girl.
Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

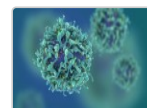
As a young girl, I can remember playing around on the campus of Florida A&M University during Homecoming. Every year around the beginning of autumn, my parents would check my sister and I out of school and we'd ride down from Atlanta to Tallahassee for the weekend to see my mother's family and my parents' old college friends. The trips to FAMU easily became a highlight during my childhood years.

I first fell in love with the College of Love and Charity through Homecoming. Seeing a sea of citrus orange and agricultural green excited me, and I never understood why. It wasn't until I was a senior in high school that I realized how much FAMU meant to me. I received scholarship offers from St. John's University, South Carolina State University and Savannah College of Art & Design. All of the colleges I applied to accepted me. I went on college tours at many campuses, but something just didn't feel right.

But one moment put everything into perspective for me: FAMU's 2014 Homecoming. I remember seeing the



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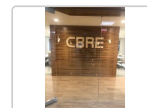
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By Fatiah Caldwell | Staff Reporter



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orange and green flags all around the campus, and the energy was just different. We were playing Norfolk State University and I can remember the sweat dripping down my face, but I didn't care. I was too busy dancing to the Marching 100's rendition of "Icecream Man." Nothing else mattered in that moment but the love I felt for FAMU.

Something clicked in my brain, and it all made sense. FAMU is not like any other institution. It's a home away from home, it's "FAMUly" when I miss my family, and it's a breeding ground for some of the most successful black professionals in the world. It was at that homecoming that I made my final decision: I was coming to FAMU.

My parents met at FAMU,



Ivan Wilborn as a Head Drum Major in 1983.
Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

in the School of Business and Industry. My mother was a shy sophomore from Tallahassee who was born at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College Hospital. My father was a junior from Atlanta, who happened to be the head drum major in the Marching 100. The two were in Orator's Club, where my father was the student teacher. He asked my mother on a date, and the rest was FAMU history. They got married, moved to Atlanta and had two daughters. Though they left Tallahassee, their love for FAMU went with them.



Monica Williams and Ivan Wilborn in Gaither Gym parking lot after a 1983 Convocation.
Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

I see the impact that FAMU has had on my parents, as they're both dedicated members of the National Alumni Association as well as the Boosters under the Investing in Champion program. Since I've been a student at FAMU, my parents have never missed a home game.

I'm following in the footsteps of my parents, older sister, and my mother's seven siblings by attending FAMU. This university has been such an integral part of my life and it only made sense to continue the tradition that my family left for me. I would have never felt the way I feel about FAMU if it wasn't for that initial exposure to FAMU's annual homecoming celebration.



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Am I the only one without an internship?

By Ila Wilborn | Staff Reporter On April 23, 2018 Tweet Like Save



Photo courtesy of Congressional Black Caucus Foundation

Internships can make a college graduate's entry into the workforce much easier. An internship is designed for college students to gain work experience and make connections with professionals in the network they would like to tap into. If an intern shows exceptional skills, the internship can turn into a career offer upon graduation.

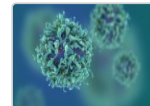
Internships can provide a clearer picture of what a specific job entails on a day-to-day basis. It's a time for students to see how a company operates. Usually, students feel like they're in adult-life heaven when they can finally use their skills toward something they love. However, some students can also participate in an internship and absolutely hate it. It's all about the experience and what the intern gains from it.

While effortless for some, finding an internship for others can feel like moving a mountain. For me, the internship search this academic year has been nothing short of one of the biggest annoyances of my time at FAMU. Internships, and getting them, have been on my mind since the beginning of Spring semester classes.

What's even more disconcerting, is the fact that I received two separate internships last summer. One with a public relations firm in Atlanta under a woman who happened to graduate from FAMU. The other internship was for "HBCU Scholars," to help during the Essence Music Festival with



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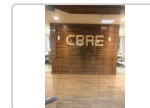
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Walmart, Inc. in New, Orleans.

So naturally, I walked into this year's Spring semester assuming I would have the same type of luck.

Plot twist: Nope.

I have applied to 28 internships this semester and I have received 17 regret letters. I happened to see a social media post congratulating their new summer interns for a company that I applied to, but didn't even receive a regret letter from.

Is my 3.83 GPA not good enough? Is my prior experience not enough? Am I just *that* boring on paper, are in the daily rants I say to myself after opening my emails to see nothing regarding an internship offer.

I asked around campus to see if I was the only one with these issues, and two accounts stuck out the most for me.

Although Stephen Lamar, a fourth-year elementary education major, is still seeking a summer internship, he seems to be somewhat satisfied at his odds for finding one. "I'm education, so usually it's during the school year where we have to student intern or student teach," he said.

"With me being an African American male in this field, there's a huge need for that demographic in the field of education. So people are always excited when I approach them about an internship at their school," Lamar said.

A growing problem for many FAMU students, including myself, is that it seems as though students in the School of Business & Industry are always the ones to have a high percentage of students with summer internships and multiple job offers upon graduation. Now, that's nothing short of amazing, I applaud my fellow Rattlers who have secured their own bag before graduation. But I want the same to happen for all of the colleges and schools at FAMU.

"The same thing they do with SBI needs to happen with Education. SBI is almost the pride and joy of the university and it shows. [Especially with] the seminars, career fairs, partnerships and sponsorships," Lamar said as he explained how much SBI offers its students.

"Representation is everything, so if [the College of Education students] are presented to school districts and other educational entities we would have a much easier time securing internships," he said.

I can walk into school-sponsored job fairs on campus and find, maybe three companies, out of over a hundred, who are looking to hire students in my field of study.

Daniel Joseph, a third-year business administration student, has been awarded two internships for the summer. One for Asset Management at Thompson Creek Wealth Advisors in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and an executive search at Heidrick and Struggles in Atlanta.

After I rolled my eyes uncontrollably in jealousy, I asked him what his secret is to getting these internships. "Apply, apply, apply," he said. OK, I did that. Next.

"Practice interviews. Being good on paper is important, but performing in person is critical. Be able to think quickly and communicate what you've thought about. One of the things people take for granted is the ability to talk about themselves and that is where they slip up on interviews," Joseph said.

Well, that makes sense. I like that advice. However, I feel as though SBI students have it easier, so I asked him if he felt the same way.

<http://www.thefamuanonline.com/news/view.php/1033739/Am-I-the-only-one-without-an-internship>

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“Definitely a true statement. We live in a business-oriented society where almost anything has a dollar value attached to it, and if it doesn’t, people are willing to make one up,” Joseph said.

“I’m also at a business school designed for recruitment, so I’m never far away from opportunity,” he said.

Proving my point. Sigh.

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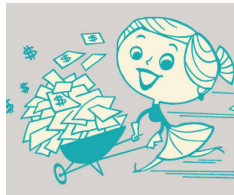
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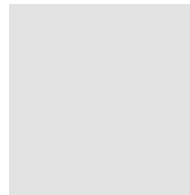
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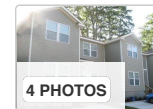
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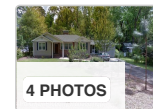
Students at FAMU have heard about the cutting edge eye technology employed by [LASIK Ft. Lauderdale](#) eye centers to help improve eyesight. For FAMU students passionate about science and the eye, read more about the top LASIK eye centers in South Florida.

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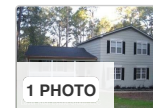
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Norfolk City Jail Inmates are More Than What They Seem

 AUGUST 14TH, 2018

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By Ila Wilborn

The United States has a prison population that far exceeds any of the other countries in the world, with a little over 2 million people incarcerated. Over the last 40 years, this population has increased by 500%.

According to the Prison Policy Initiative, there are 68,000 people that are incarcerated in the state of Virginia, which has steadily increased in the last 40 years. Compared to the rest of the world, Virginia's incarceration rate stands out to be above the national average.

In 2016, The Norfolk City Jail announced it would become an all-male facility to help combat the overcrowding epidemic. The jail was housing its inmates in triple bunk beds. Currently, the jail houses over 1,000 inmates, according to the Norfolk Sheriff's Office official website.

With a population of 245,116 from the latest census, the Norfolk City Jail inmates represent less than half a percent of the population, making them a large minority.

The New Journal and Guide sends its papers all around the city of Norfolk, and the inmates at the Norfolk City Jail are given the opportunity to read the weekly paper. As a result, some of the inmates have written letters to the publication.

It is a commonality for us "free citizens" to look down on inmates, not open to the similarities we may share. We are all still human; the only difference is, these inmates have made some mistakes.

Unbeknownst to many, the inmates' letters contain poetry, stories, questions about their community and letters of gratitude. These letters show that even though their bodies are contained, their minds are still free to go beyond where they are.

Writing letters give the inmates hope in allowing them to be a little more human with the people here on the outside of jail. The poetry they create serves as a way for them to go into parts of their mind that we may discount on the outside.

"Why all the hate, must our colors separate, for we didn't choose the colors of our skin...Whether born in Birmingham Alb., or Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the real person comes from within..." an inmate wrote in his poem entitled, "Love Indestructible." This particular inmate would write two or three poems almost weekly to send to the publication until his release from jail.

Other inmates ask for more information in their letters, "I'm not familiar with any black banks, let alone Brick and Mortar ones," one inmate wrote as he asked for more insight on the subject of black banks in Norfolk.

"The New Journal & Guide is the highlight of my week," the inmate wrote. "I'm into news and politics and my community and it helps me with my debates."


The purpose of the black press is to serve as a platform for those who are voiceless. In this case, these inmates are the voiceless and long to be heard. It's about time we listen.


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31

WORK SAMPLES

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A look at tornado's aftermath in Quincy

By Ila Wilborn | Content Supervisor On March 5, 2019

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Trees, ripped from the ground by their roots narrowly miss damaging a home.

Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

QUINCY – Sunday night at 7:44 p.m., the National Weather Service released an area-wide Emergency Alert for Tallahassee, Quincy and Midway. “Tornado Warning in this area til 8:15 pm EST. Take shelter now. Check local media. – NWS.” There was also the possibility of penny-sized hail, to an area with a population of almost 300,000.

Almost simultaneously, the echoes of a loud siren cried out through the tumultuous thunder and lightning, confirming the importance of the prior alert.

Eleven minutes later, the National Weather Service confirmed a tornado had touched down south of Quincy and was moving east-southeast toward Midway.

In the aftermath of the storm, homeowners off of Jim Williams Road in Quincy in Gadsden County – the only county in Florida with a majority African American population – took in the damage to their homes.



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By Rickayla Mitchell | Staff Reporter



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By Josh Mikkel | Staff Reporter



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By Simone Williams | Staff Reporter



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By Oldens Lafortune | Staff Reporter

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Crews begin to fix snapped power lines that have been littered by tree branches.
Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

Gadsden County's Public Works Department, responsible for maintaining the over 700 miles of roads, were among those deployed to help clear out the damaged area after the storm.



A homeowner's dog walks along the damage, ahead of the Gadsden County's Public Works Department, which is surveying the area where trees mangled a water pipe.
Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

In a public information statement, the National Weather Service in Tallahassee released information of the EF-3 classified tornado in surrounding counties. In an EF-3 tornado, winds are classified as "strong," ranging from 136 to 165 mph.

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Students at FAMU have heard about the cutting



With winds reaching an estimated 140 mph in the storm's path, this homeowner's roof ripped off of her home.

Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

One homeowner described how her family took cover in their dining room as the storm alerts went off the night before. As the family walked through the halls of their home and front yard, they understood the severity of the previous night's tornado.



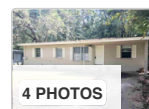
Wind and branches scattered and battered the homeowner's cars.

Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

edge eye technology employed by [LASIK Ft. Lauderdale](#) eye centers to help improve eyesight. For FAMU students passionate about science and the eye, read more about the top LASIK eye centers in South Florida.

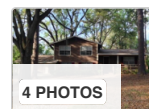
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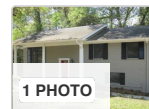
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Porch chairs and a backyard fence are among items tangled with tree limbs, scattered with shattered glass.

Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

A look inside



A mirror fell from the wall of the bathroom, along with the door frame.

Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

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The homeowner said her son's room was clean before the storm, and that the winds tore off sheets and pillows from his bed causing his signed memorabilia to fall from the walls.

Ila Wilborn | The Famuan



A tree branch burst through the bedroom's window, lodging inches from the head of the son's bed. The son was not at home during the storm.

Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

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2018 Mid-term elections: If we vote, we win

By Ila Wilborn | Content Supervisor On November 7, 2018

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Voting booths set up at the Leon County Supervisor of Elections Office. Ila Wilborn | The Famuan

It was around 10 p.m. on Election Day in 2016 and I was sitting on my bed watching election numbers pour in. My room was quiet. My mind was at ease and in my heart, I knew history was about to be made once it was announced that Democratic Presidential Candidate Hillary Clinton would become the first female elected President of the United States.

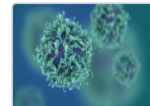
I, along with most of the country, watched stunned as Hillary Clinton received 2.8 million more popular votes than Republican-nominee Donald Trump. But she did not win.

My fingers were tingling. My heart was pounding erratically and my eyes flooded with tears. Donald J. Trump, the man we laughed at the entire election cycle, won 306 electoral votes, which prompted him to become the 45th U.S. President.

Internally, I was defeated. With the chaos that ensued after the 2016 Presidential



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By Fatiah Caldwell | Staff Reporter



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By Nya Ramirez | Staff Reporter



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By Aushlynn Timmons | Staff Reporter

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election, it was easy to believe that my vote truly did not matter at that moment. Clinton received more than 2.8 million voters; yet, she was not my president.

I almost gave up until I thought of the privilege I had to even be able to fill out a ballot in this country. In exercising my right, I vote for my ancestors that were lynched for trying to cast a ballot. I vote because it matters and when we vote, we win.

Let's look at the numbers.

According to the Florida Division of Elections, as of Sept. 30, 13.2 million residents are active registered voters. Of that number, a little more than 3.5 million have no party affiliation; more than 99,322 are in minor parties; 4.6 million are registered Republicans and 4.9 million are registered, Democrats. We, as African-Americans and as Democrats, outweigh any other party. If we vote, we win.

To break it down in Leon County: according to the Supervisor of Elections, as of Oct. 9, there are 213,195 registered voters in the county. Of that amount, Republicans account for 58,012 registered voters; 43,406 are categorized as "others," and 111,777 Democrats have registered to vote.

Just three months ago, on Aug. 28, there were 108,363 eligible Democrats and 56,998 registered Republicans; followed by 40,048 non-partisan voters and 1,423 labeled as "other."

Now more than ever, people are exercising the right to vote. It is now clear that if we vote, we win. If we don't, we lose.

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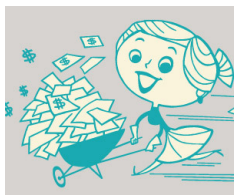
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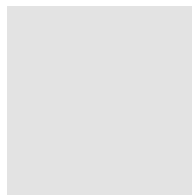
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Can Christians celebrate Halloween?

By Ila Wilborn | Content Supervisor On October 28, 2018

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At the beginning of October, decorations of ghouls, goblins, and pumpkins can be seen in retail stores around the country. These signal what is the unspoken beginning of the “Holiday Season” to end the year off. Halloween, the first holiday of this mostly commercial season, has always been an uneasy one for me to celebrate.

As a Christian who grew up in a Baptist church in Atlanta, I was taught to never celebrate Halloween because it was known in the Christian community as, “the devil’s birthday.” My church family decided that Fall Festivals at the church would stand in the place of trick-or-treating each year. There would be bags of candy and even costumes involved, to somewhat suffice for the devout children missing other festivities.

The concept of the day made it difficult for me to want to express that I, like most young children of my age, enjoyed dressing up in a costume just to knock on doors for free candy once a year. That’s all Halloween was for me back then, and what it continues to be for me right now.

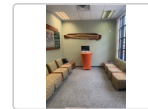
Upon entering college, I increasingly wanted to join in with my friends, with the help of peer pressure, in Halloween. I felt as if I was missing out on a quintessential piece of childhood and had to make up for it. The church continues to be an important piece to my puzzle of life. As Halloween came around this year, I found myself grappling with whether or not God would be disappointed with me if I “celebrated” this day. Could I still be a Christian and celebrate



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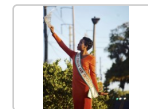
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By Josiah George | Staff Reporter



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By DeTroyia Hardy | Staff Reporter

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Halloween?

In a historical sense, the holiday started off as All Hallows Eve, an ancient Celtic holiday to mark the commencement of a new season and to prepare for All Saints Day on Nov. 1. It was initially a day to celebrate and honor all of the dead saints. The meaning, "hallowed evening," was meant to celebrate these saints, then shortened to the name, "Halloween." So at what point did "All Hallows Eve" turn into the "Halloween" that is associated with dark and evil?

Halloween is a holiday that can be taken different ways by multiple individuals. It is the choice of those who decide to, or not. I will choose to celebrate what and who I want. I choose not to let the devil have this day. So yes, as a Christian, I will celebrate dressing up and having fun. However, I have never, and will never, celebrate the dark and evilness that so many have projected on to the day.

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By Bleu Bell | Staff Reporter

Moku Poke serves a popular Hawaiian dish that's healthy on-the-go. Photo Submitted by Bleu Bell. At first glance,...



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By Myeisha Gibson | Staff Reporter

Photo Courtesy of FAMU's office of Academic Success. Imagine attending a university for four years and not knowing what...



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By Fatiah Caldwell | Staff Reporter

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This graphic design was created as a social media flyer for a potential mental health fair for Tallahassee residents.

The First-Year Experience Peer Mentor Program Presents:

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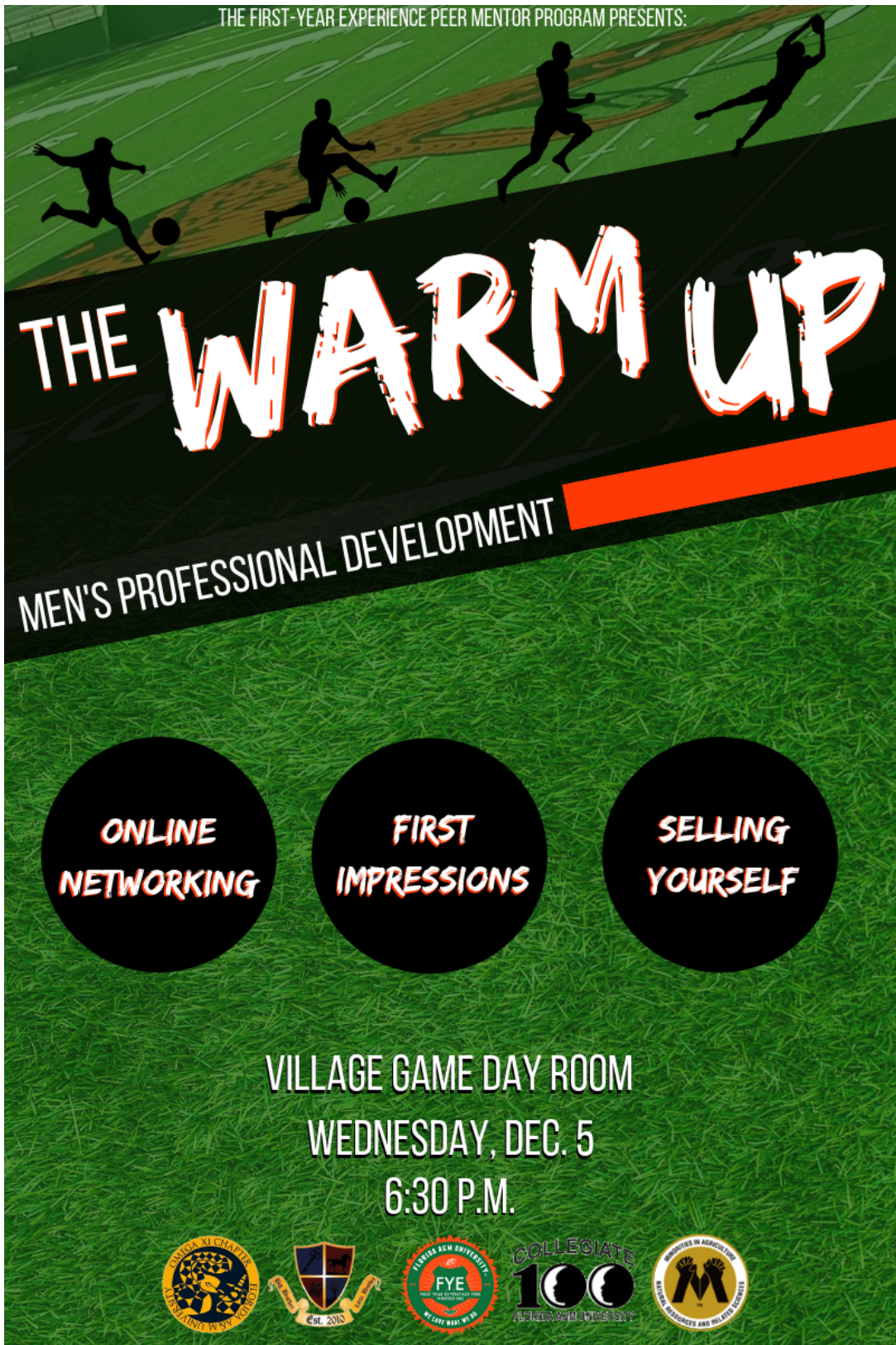
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This graphic design was created as a social media flyer for a women's empowerment fair for Florida A&M University students.



This graphic design was created as a social media flyer for a men's professional development seminar for Florida A&M University students.

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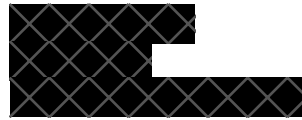
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SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM & GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION
OFFICE OF INTERNSHIP & PLACEMENT

March 11, 2019

Ms. Francine Huff
Knight Chair for Student Achievement
School of Journalism & Graphic Communication



Dear Prof. Huff:

This is a letter of confirmation that Ila Wilborn had or currently has an internship. This letter verifies that the student has fulfilled all internship duties and is eligible for graduation. Students at the School of Journalism & Graphic Communication are required to work a minimum of 15 hours a week. Summer interns are required to work a minimum of 8 weeks and students interning during the fall or spring semester are required to intern for a minimum of 13 weeks. However, the intern and supervisor can make adjustments as agreed upon.

In order for the student to earn credit, we must receive a completed evaluation. The evaluation form is provided to the supervisor near the end of the internship. This letter is verification that an evaluation has been sent on behalf of the interning student, or that an evaluation will be sent once the student completes his or her internship.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. I can be reached at (850)412-5395 or ranata.hughes@famou.edu.

Sincerely,

Ranata M. Hughes

Ranata M. Hughes
Internship Coordinator



Dear Applicant,

Congratulations! You have been chosen as a fellow for the Discover The Unexpected 2018 Journalism Fellowship Program. As a fellow, you are entitled to a \$10,000 scholarship, a \$5,000 stipend, and a chance to work with national newspapers around the country.

If you are indeed willing and able to accept your position, we require that you **reply to this message by May 14th, 2018** with your decision. If you decline or defer, your fellowship will be passed to another applicant.


If you choose to accept your decision, we will follow up with a group call, information/travel packet, and get you ready for your great adventure!

Sincerely,
Oraya Hunter
DTU Coordinator



Internship Agreement

This Agreement is between DTU Journalism Fellowship (the "Site") and Florida A&M University School of Journalism & Graphic Communication ("FAMU SJGC"), regarding a practicum/internship ("Internship") for the following FAMU student:

ILA WILBORN ID: 

This ("Student") is enrolled in the MMC 4945 Professional Media Practicum Internship Program at FAMU. The parties agree as follows:

1. Purpose: The Program includes an opportunity for the Student to acquire experience in a professional setting prior to graduating from FAMU SJGC. The Site has suitable experiences, supervisors, and facilities available for the educational experience of the Student. It is mutually beneficial to FAMU and the Site to have the Student participate as an intern/practicum student at the Site. Therefore, the purpose of this Agreement is to outline the cooperative arrangements, duties and responsibilities for the Internship.
2. Internship Plan: In conjunction with this Agreement, FAMU SJGC, the Student and the Site will develop an Internship Plan in the form of or substantially in the form of the sample included as Attachment A to this Agreement, setting forth the specifics of the Internship, including details such as duration of the internship, Student responsibilities, and Site responsibilities.
3. Coordination and Communication: FAMU SJGC and the Site location will coordinate and cooperate regarding the Student's Internship. Each party will designate a liaison ("Liaison") for such communications. The Liaisons are the following persons:

Liaison for FAMU School of Journalism & Graphic Communication:

Name: Ranata M. Hughes

Department: School of Journalism & Graphic Communication

Address: 

Phone: 

Email: 

Liaison for Site

Name: Carol Hood

Address: 

Phone: 

Fax: 

Email: 

* Either party may change the designated Liaison or his or her contact information by notice in writing.

4. Orientation and Supervision: The Site will orient the Student to the policies, rules and schedules of the Site. The Site will assign a direct supervisor who will be on-site or readily available by phone or other electronic means for consultation, supervision and direction for the Student.
5. Professionalism: The Site will provide the Student with adequate workspace and resources (e.g., office supplies, access to computer) needed to conduct Internship activities. The Site will treat the Student as a professional.
6. Student Status: While engaged in the Internship, the Student shall retain the status of a student working towards the fulfillment of a degree requirement. The Student is not an employee or agent of FAMU. The Student shall not displace regular employees of the Site. Unless negotiated between the Student and Site, the Student is not entitled to any monetary or other remuneration for services performed at the Site.

Attachment A
INTERNSHIP PLAN
FAMU School of Journalism & Graphic Communication
PROFESSIONAL MEDIA PRACTICUM INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

I. Parties Involved:

Student: ILA WILBOEN

Student ID#: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Site: Site Name: Discover the Unexpected

Supervisor's Name: Carol Hood

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email/Fax, if available: [REDACTED]

II. Duration of the Internship: (Insert dates From: 5-31-2018 To: 7/27/2018)

III. Hours:

As a general rule, the student must work between 10 (min) -15 (max) hours per week.

IV. Student Learning Goals:

Specify the professional and career development goals this internship will help the student achieve and list them in priority of importance. Include general learning objectives (understanding of production, social media, writing articles, media industry, part of the news crew, etc.), specific goals (observing editing and production techniques, strengthening interviewing skills, etc.).

V. Student Responsibilities

Specify responsibilities to the organization to be completed during the internship. A manageable project or focus is most desirable (e.g. research and make recommendations for a political campaign, type news releases and create PSA's, etc.). These tasks should be clear and concise to avoid uncertainty during the course of the internship and at the time of the final evaluation.

VI. Supervisor Responsibilities

A. Training - Plan on a significant time commitment initially. Structure an orientation to both the organization and specific role to be assumed. Attendance at ongoing staff meetings or training opportunities is desirable, if possible.

B. Feedback - Regular feedback sessions should be formally arranged to facilitate consistent supervision, guidance, and constructive criticism on a weekly basis. These times should be specified and adhered to. Specify how feedback will be given on an ongoing basis. A formal midterm conference date should be set and included in this contract.

C. Final Evaluation - A final written evaluation from the supervisor of the student's performance is required. Please submit within 30 days after the intern's last day in the position.

VII. Credit

1 credit hour (MMC 4945) will be awarded at the end of the term based on successful completion of the internship (final evaluation score) and all written assignments.

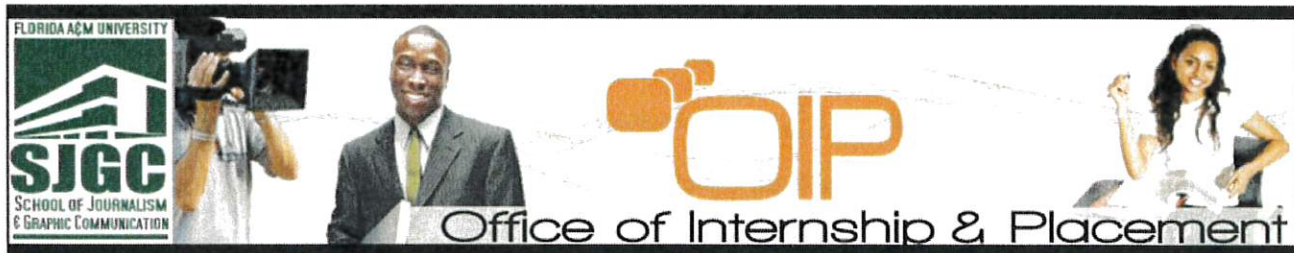
VIII. Signatures:

Student Site Supervisor Internship Coordinator

Name: Carol Hood
Title: Copy Supervisor
DTU

Date: 5-14-2018





Supervisor's Confidential Intern Evaluation

Please complete the evaluation form and return via e-mail to: ranata.hughes@fam.u.edu. If you have any questions, please call (850)412-5395.

Intern's Name:	<u>Ila Wilborn</u>	Dates of Internship:	<u>5/31 - 7/27/18</u>
Place of Internship:	<u>The Atlanta Voice</u>	Hours Worked per Week:	<u>20-30 hours</u>
Evaluated by:	<u>Dawn Montgomery-Greene</u>	Evaluation Date:	<u>7/30/18</u>

1. Please provide a brief description of his/her responsibilities:

Assisting with editorial projects, content creation, write 2-3 articles a week, research empowering, entreating & inspirational current events, event coverage and daily internship reports

RESPOND TO AREA(S) APPLICABLE TO THE INTERNSHIP. MARK RESPONSE WITH AN "X"

2. PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE

a. **WRITING SKILLS** - Did the student demonstrate basic writing skills? Please rate the student on the ability to spell, punctuate, use AP style, and otherwise follow accepted procedures in the mechanics of writing. Please take into consideration the student's improvement during the internship.

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

b. **PRODUCTION SKILLS** - Did the student demonstrate basic production skills? Please rate the student on the ability to use equipment properly, troubleshoot, take photos, provide clean edits or designs, and otherwise follow accepted procedures in the mechanics of production.

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

c. Did the student meet deadlines?

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

d. Did the student demonstrate the skills expected for this internship? Please explain.

Yes she did. Ila was prepared to write the story, take photos and create video content.

3. PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDE:

a. Did the student carry out assignments responsibly?

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

b. Did the student accept assignments without quibbling?

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

c. Did the student show initiative?

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

d. Can the student tolerate stress (perform under pressure)?

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

COMMENTS:

Ila was prepared daily for unexpected tasks and was always professional under pressure.

INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

a. Did the student show organizational ability (establish goals and set priorities)?

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

b. Does the student have decision-making ability (evaluate relevant information, recognize alternatives, reach conclusions based on evidence)?

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

c. Does the student cooperate with others (listen effectively, take direction well, admit mistakes gracefully)?

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

COMMENTS:

Ila was able to lead a few editorial assignments while being a team player in a group setting.

5. What do you consider the intern's other strengths?

Ila pays close attention to details and understanding her assignments. Ila was vocal while learning how to adjust in a newsroom setting.

6. Any suggestions for the student's improvement? Early on I suggested that she work on her time management skills and she adapted during her time at The Atlanta Voice.

7. Please comment on the overall performance of the intern.

Overall we were impressed with Ila's writing skills and how she took initiative in learning more behind the scenes. We offered her an opportunity to freelance with our publication.

8. How would you rate this intern compared to interns from other schools?

Superior Above Average Average Below Average Not Applicable

9. Please recommend a grade for the intern.

A B C D F

Signature: Dan Montgomery Phone: 404-345-1814

Title: Managing Editor E-mail: Dgreene@TheAtlantaVoice.com

Dear Ila,

We are so pleased to confirm our offer to you to be one of our Walmart Visiting Scholars at this year's Essence Festival! The dates of this program are June 27rd through July 3rd, in New Orleans, LA. Walmart will provide transportation to New Orleans for the duration of the program, and will also provide housing in town in the form of a hotel. You will also receive a stipend in the amount of \$500.

Visiting Scholar Schedule:

Tuesday, June 27th – Arrival / Briefing

Wednesday, June 28th – Professional Development Session / Overview

Thursday, June 29th – Volunteer Day of Service

Friday – Sunday, June 30th – July 2nd – Run of Show

Monday, July 3 – Departure

Please contact Zoë Barton [REDACTED] to formally accept your offer. When doing so, please also complete the below information and send back to Zoë in order to book your travel:

1. Your full legal name as it appears on your ID.
2. Your date of birth.
3. Gender.
4. Your preferred departure airport.
5. Anything other requests.
6. Emergency contact name and phone number.

Marquita Brown [REDACTED] and Regine Moore [REDACTED] will be your main points of contact as the Essence Festival approaches, but please feel free to reach out to Zoë if any questions arise! Congratulations, and we look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Zoë Barton

Campus Recruiter, Campus Relations & Talent Outreach

O [REDACTED]
M [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

OTHER DOCUMENTS



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OTHER DOCUMENTS

Certificates and awards

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars

To all who read these letters

~ Greetings ~

The Honorary Board of Regents and the Board of Directors

of The National Society of Collegiate Scholars confer honor and distinction upon

Ma M. Wilborn

for commitment to the ideals of

Scholarship, Leadership, and Service

Presented on 3/9/2016

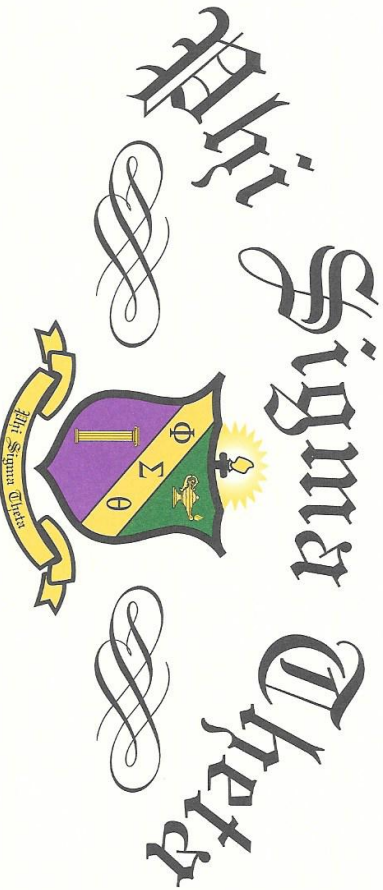
With this recognition comes all the rights, honors, and privileges therewith pertaining to the Society at

Florida A&M University



Steve E. Ellis
Founder and Chief Executive Officer

Cassanova Jackson
Advisor



This is to certify that

Ala Milborn

was duly initiated into

Phi Sigma Theta National Honor Society

at Florida A & M University on the sixth day of February, 2015

and is hereby granted all the honors and privileges
pertaining to membership in the Society



Nancy Patricia Hession
Grand President

Emiley Allen Craft
Grand First Vice President

CERTIFICATE of ACHIEVEMENT

THIS ACKNOWLEDGES THAT

Ila Wilborn

HAS BEEN NAMED AS A 2018 SCHOLAR OF

Friends of FAM Inc.

AUGUST 4,
2018

Amberley M. Park
SIGNED, Friends of FAM Inc. Scholarship
Committee



Certificate of Achievement

This distinguished honor is proudly presented to:

Ma Wilborn

2018 Discover the Unexpected NNPA Journalism Fellow
Awarded this day Thursday, July 26, 2018.



Michelle Alexander, General Motors

Date

Dr. Benjamin Chavis, NNPA