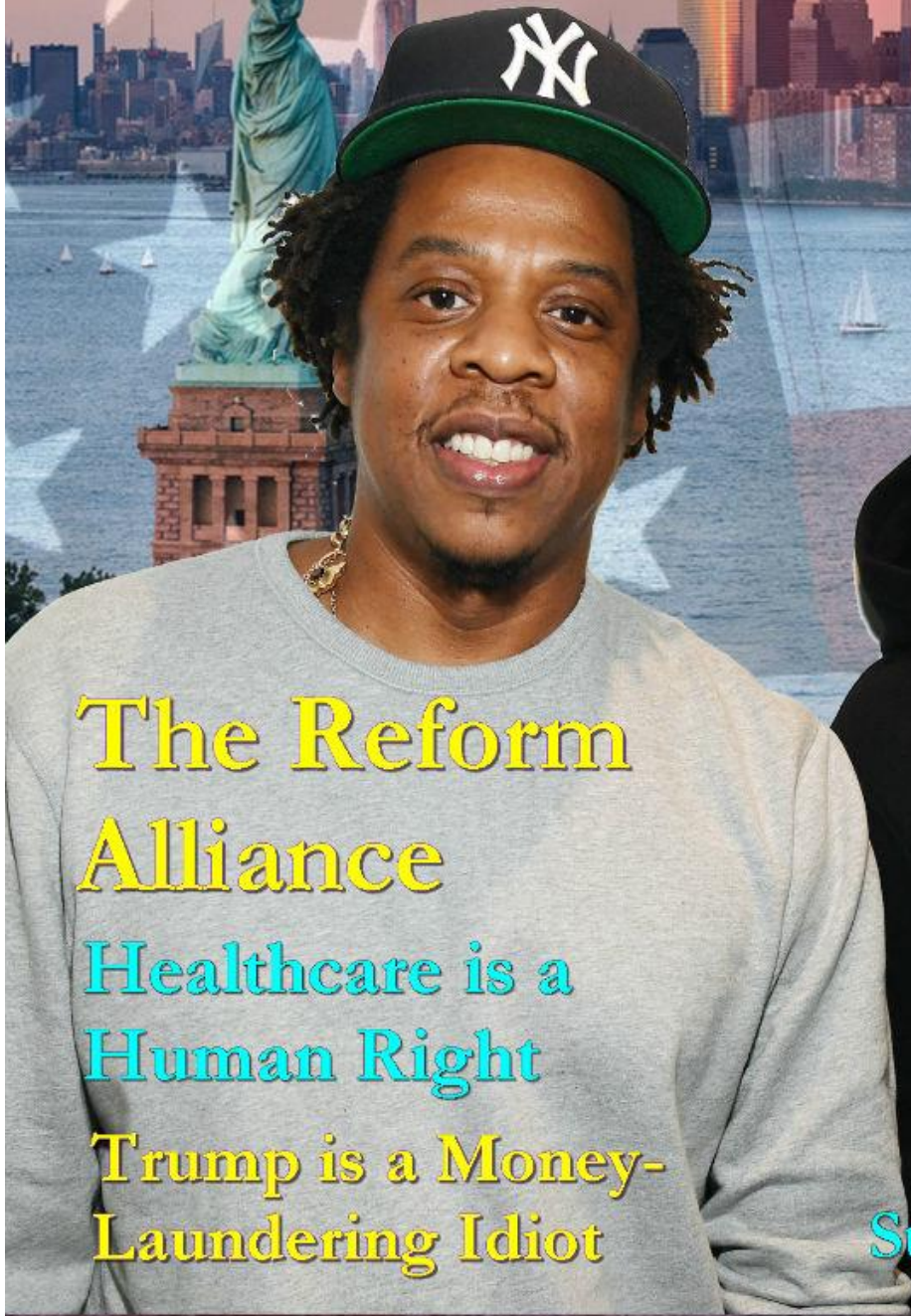


# Seven

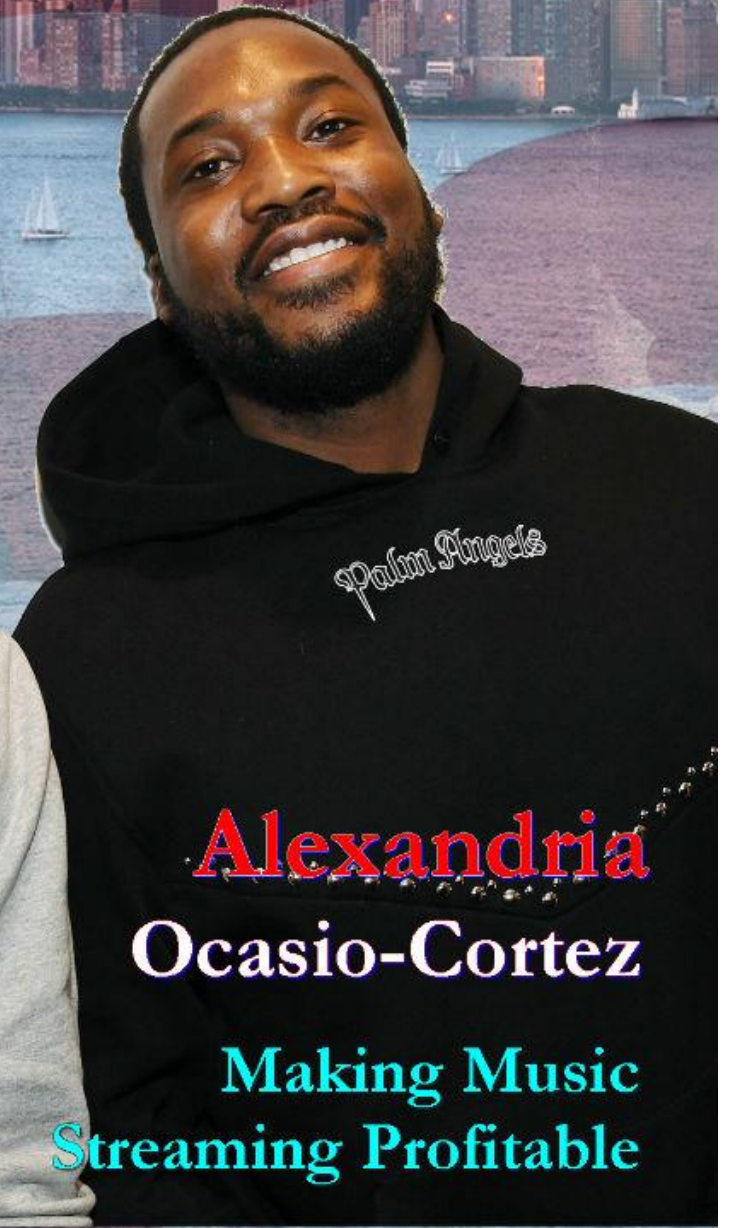
Magazine



## The Reform Alliance

Healthcare is a Human Right

Trump is a Money-Laundering Idiot



## Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

Making Music Streaming Profitable



# OWN

OPRAH WINFREY NETWORK



SUPER  
**SOUL**  
SUNDAY



BLACK  
**LOVE**

# Teaching About God's Prosperity and Abundance



"I believe, from 38 years of ministry, that ministry is contextual. It depends on the context you're in. So if I'm ministering in a context of those who are poor and struggling in life, I'm going to teach them of God's abundance, I'm going to teach them of God's prosperity in their life, and I'm going to teach them how to discipline their lives and believe God for a better quality of life. This was

a part of the promise," Pastor A. R. said in October at the Movement Day Global Cities conference held at the Jacob Javits Center. Bernard is the founder of New York City's largest evangelical congregation, the Christian Cultural Center.

Bernard's theology should not be confused with the controversial prosperity gospel to which he doesn't subscribe. "I do not subscribe to the notion that somehow wealth and spirituality are tied together. Because if that was true, then someone like Donald Trump would be considered very spiritual," Bernard told New York's Power 105.1 morning radio program in May. "That's a falsity and yet there are my colleagues in ministry, especially over the last 45 years ... [who] have pushed this notion that to be wealthy is to be spiritual, they're synonymous. That's not true because it sells a pipe dream to people, most of them struggling to be where that preacher is."

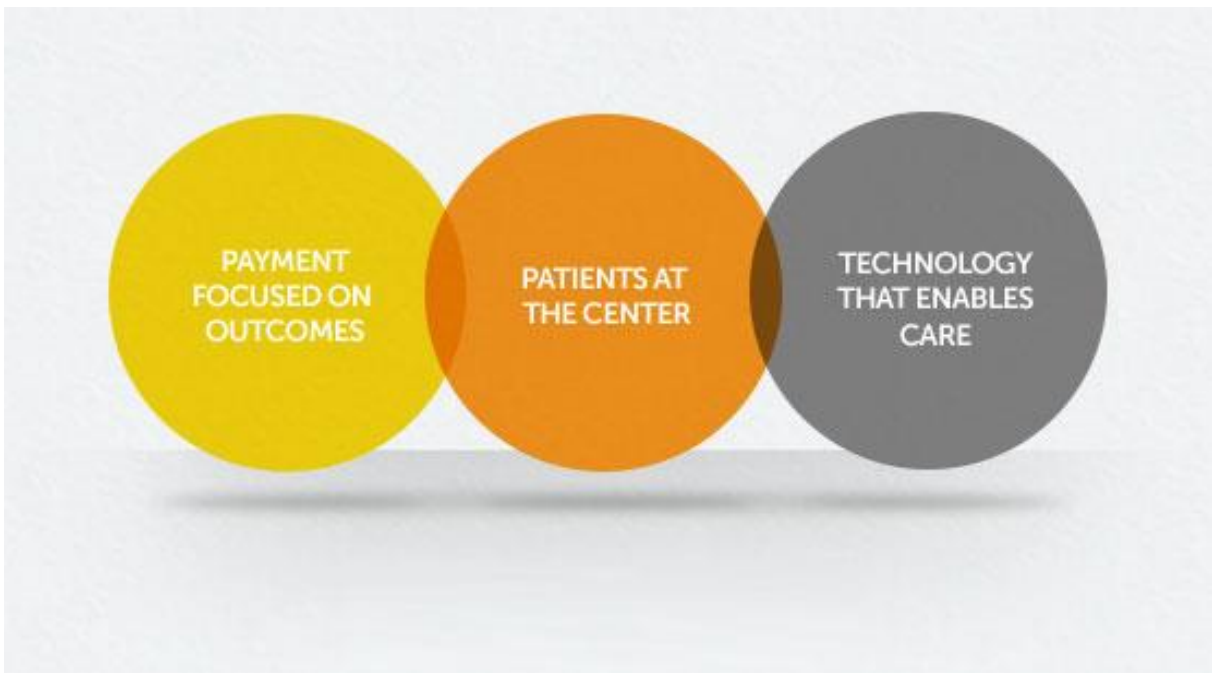
In an address to a global audience representing 95 countries at the closing ceremony of the Movement Day Global Cities conference, Bernard was unapologetic about teaching God's prosperity to the poor in his comments about how the Church needs to contextualize ministry to respond to culture.

"If my context is in a community of those who are wealthy and powerful, I'm going to teach them and preach to them about their responsibility for their brother and being their brother's keeper, for those who are less fortunate, and that makes a lot of sense," he added.





# iorahealth





The founding partners of "Reform Alliance": (L-R) Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter, Robert Kraft, Michael Rubin, Meek Mill, Michael E. Novogratz, Clara Wu Tsai, Daniel S. Loeb and Reform Alliance CEO Van Jones - **MIKE SEGAR / REUTERS**

## **OUR MISSION**

The mission of the REFORM Alliance is to dramatically reduce the number of people who are unjustly under the control of the criminal justice system – starting with probation and parole. To win, we will leverage our considerable resources to change laws, policies, hearts and minds.

## **OUR GOAL**

Today the U.S. criminal justice system controls the lives of 6.6 million human beings – by either imprisoning them or keeping them stuck in the revolving door of probation and parole. That's a ridiculous number – much, much larger than any country on Earth.

Our goal is to dramatically reduce the number of people who are needlessly trapped in the system. We will do this by changing the laws, policies, and practices that perpetuate injustice. Key to our strategy is changing hearts and minds to support real change.

We are building an alliance of influential leaders in business, government, entertainment, sports, and culture to use our shared resources, energy, and platforms for massive impact. Our initial focus will be disabling the revolving door of probation and parole.

# **ReformAlliance.com**





**Park 112**



**MIST**



**Minton's**



**LoLo's Seafood Shack**



**Red Rooster and Ginny's Supper Club**



# Chance The Rapper



**Y'all out here still  
Takin' advances, huh?  
Me and my ##ggas  
Takin' real chances, uh  
~ Jay-Z  
The Story of O.J.**

Chance The Rapper is the world's first truly independent artist. His new mixtape, *Coloring Book*, debuted in the Top 10 of Billboard's 200 albums chart. It is the first ever streaming-exclusive album to make the list. The mixtape was released

without the help of a label, and was only available in its first week as an Apple Music exclusive.

“There’s no reason to [sign with a label],” Chance told *Rolling Stone* in 2013, making his mission of total independence clear. “It’s a dead industry [...] What’s an album these days, anyways? ‘Cause I didn’t sell it, does that mean it’s not an official release?”

After a year of promoting #SaveChicago to combat the city’s rising violence, Chance received Chicago’s Outstanding Youth of the Year Award. He responded by headlining social efforts including an open mic night series and Warmest Winter project – a charity providing over 1,000 sleeping bags that turn into coats for Chicago homeless.



**Lil Chano From 79th** ✓  
@chancetherapper

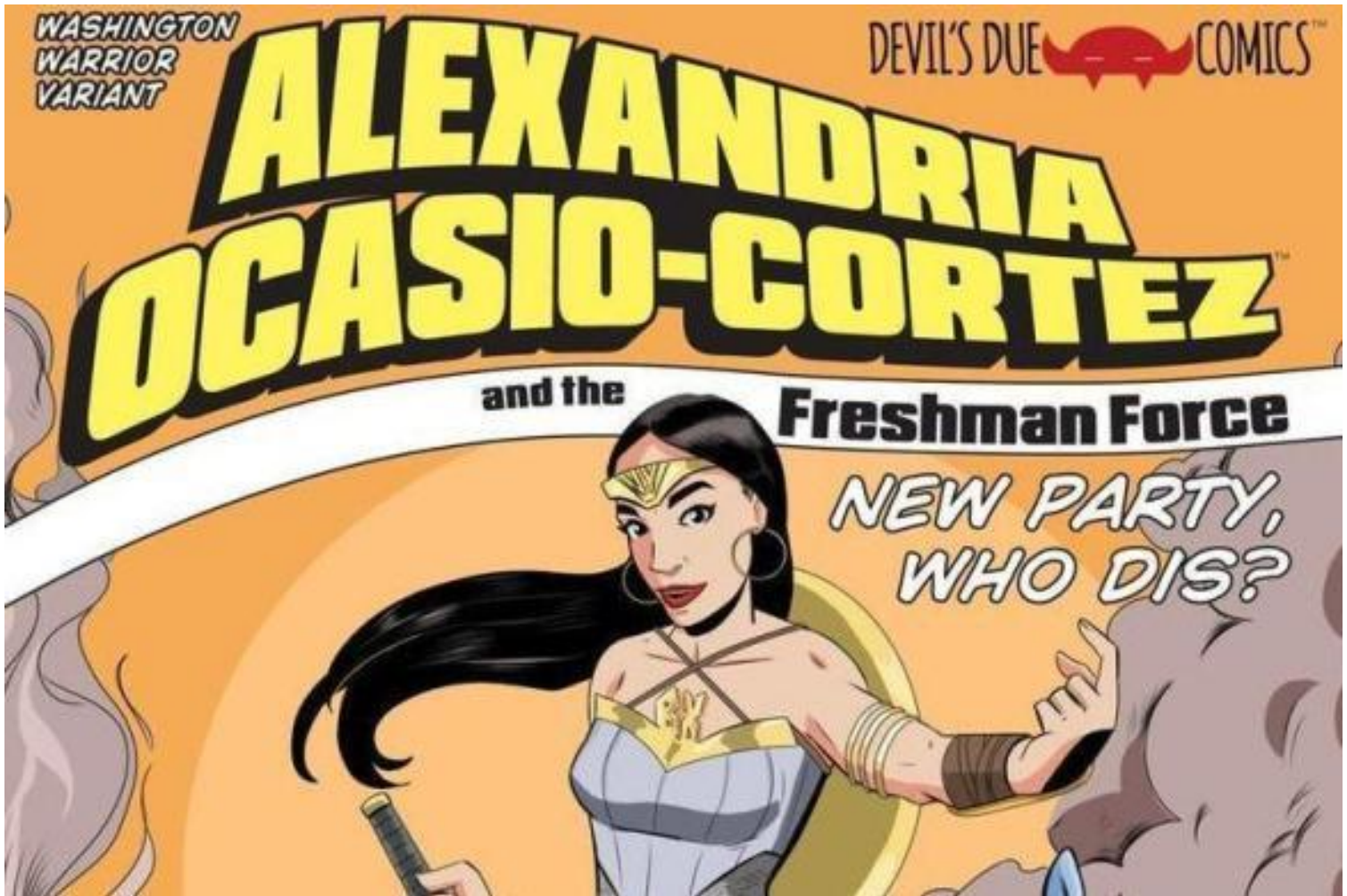
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Today's the last day my old life, last day smoking cigs. Headed to church for help. All things are possible thru Christ who strengthens me.

11:28 AM - 31 Jan 2016

↳ ↻ 14,727 ❤️ 42,590

# AOC, OBAMA, AND NEOLIBERALISM



**The neoliberal policies of the Obama years created a very weak Democratic Party that provided an ideological opening that Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and others were able to fill.**

The 1950s and '60s are often considered “the golden age of modern capitalism.” It was a great period of egalitarian growth and advances in social justice. That changed in the '70s with the onset of the neoliberal era that we've been living in since. And if you ask yourself what this era is, its crucial principle is undermining mechanisms of social solidarity and mutual support and popular engagement in determining policy.

It does this by promoting “freedom,” but this “freedom” means a subordination to the decisions of concentrated, unaccountable, private power. The institutions of governance—or other kinds of association that could allow people to participate in decision making—those are systematically weakened.

From the late 1970s to 2016, neoliberal ideas held hegemonic sway among the Democratic elite. But the economy created by this ideology — and the ensuing crises — is a major reason why Clinton lost to Trump in 2016 and the party was completely out of power at the federal level in 2017 and 2018. When Trump won the election, Democrats had occupied the White House for 16 of the last 24 years, and for four of those years had control of both houses of Congress. Yet in that time they failed to reverse the decline in working-class wages and economic security.



Support Seniors  
Medicare For All  
A Federal Jobs Guarantee  
Immigration Justice / Abolish ICE  
Clean Campaign Finance  
Support LGBTQIA+  
Housing As a Human Right  
Gun Control / Assault Weapons Ban



Higher Education / Trade School for All  
A Peace Economy  
Criminal Justice Reform, End Private Prisons  
Mobilizing Against Climate Change  
Women's Rights  
Curb Wall Street Gambling: Restore Glass Steagall  
Solidarity with Puerto Rico

Not only did the Democrats lose the White House to a wildly unpopular farce of a candidate despite a virtually unified establishment behind it, and not only did it become the minority party in both the Senate and House, but it is also getting crushed at historical record rates on the state and local levels as well. These obvious failures have provided an ideological opening that many new to politics looking to fill.

When the Democrats swept into power in a wave election in 2008, as the economy entered free fall. They had every opportunity to abandon neoliberalism and return to the kind of New Deal policy that the Great Recession called for — and they blew it.

Incredibly, the Democrats responded by doubling down on neoliberalism. Over and over again during the Obama years, the party elite proved itself overly sympathetic to the concerns of the market.

Today, many on left are divided about the best way forward. Should it follow Elizabeth Warren's lead and promise a return to the trust-busting ways of the early 20th century? Or should it emulate the more sweeping, Nordic-style politics of Bernie Sanders? Or perhaps the Democratic Socialists of America are right and something even more extreme is needed.



**(Left to right) Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (New York), Ayanna Pressley (Mass.), Ilhan Omar (Minn.), Deb Haaland (N.M.), Veronica Escobar (Texas) and Sharice Davids (Kansas)**



# Mariyam Muhammad



**Mariyam and her son Jacob**

Mariyam Muhammad who loves mentoring young people works at the Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle. She was born in the Bronx and her family with five sisters and two brothers moved to New Rochelle when she was in elementary school. She is a graduate of New Rochelle High School and the College of New Rochelle.





# The Hunter and the Eaglet

By Kofi Addo-Nkum

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★★★★★ Five Stars

Outstanding and inspiring book for kids.

Published 1 month ago by MJ

★★★★★ Five Stars

Good Moral story.

Published 2 months ago by Amazon Customer



# Was Offset Targeted By The Police?



Drew Findling, right, is a criminal defense lawyer representing Kiari Kendrell Cephus, (Offset of Migos), left. "It means a lot when you have someone who genuinely cares," said Kiari. Credit Johnathon Kelso for The New York Times

On July 21, Kiari Kendrell Cephus, the husband of Belcalis Marlenis Almanzar (Cardi B) and popularly known as Offset, one-third of the rap trio Migos, was arrested in charged with two felony gun charges and one misdemeanor marijuana possession charge.

According to his attorney, Drew Findling, Kiari was unjustly targeted by police because he's successful, wealthy, Black and a rapper.

Findling told TMZ that Kiari broke NO LAWS, and cops used a lane change as a thinly veiled excuse to try and take the rapper down.





**Belcalis and Kiari** *Cardi B Instagram*

of the large amounts of cash he typically carries and the expensive jewelry he wears.

He also noted that the police officers claim they stopped him because he crossed a solid yellow line. The arresting officer says when he pulled Kiari over he smelled weed. Findling says if that was a legit stop, at the very least, the officer would order Offset out of the car to do a sobriety test, yet that didn't happen. The police report makes no mention of impairment or suspected impairment ... it's completely ignored.

In July, Drew Findling will be sworn in as the president of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Findling, who also reps Gucci Mane, Katt Williams and Trippie Redd, in addition told TMZ that "It's a common theme. We're talking about a young, African-American man driving a shiny, beautiful luxury car and clad in designer clothes and watches and jewelry."

Findling went on ... "Unfortunately people in his genre become a target for law enforcement who think that lifestyle is connected to some illegal activity ... and that is a sad statement."

Findling said Kiari was NOT in possession of any firearm. The attorney said the passenger in Kiari's car — his assistant — was a licensed gun

holder who had firearms in the car for security. He noted that Kiari needs protection because

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Exploring Moral Principles and Economic Innovations to Restore Rights and Opportunity

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Ebenezer Baptist Church





# From Tired Resolutions to Real Solutions

By Keri Watkins Webb

It's a brand new day, and a brand new year!

But unfortunately, most people will still be doing the same old, same old, when it comes to weight loss.

Will you?

When 2019 rolls around, would you like to be able to say, "This has been the best year of my life! I grew closer to God, I discovered my purpose -- and I finally achieved my weight loss goals!"

How can you make that happen in your life?

2 Corinthians 5:17 tells us that that "...if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and the new has come."

And we truly are new creations in Christ.

But if we keep doing the same old things that have never worked, how can our lives be transformed?

And what ARE these "same old things" that keep us from living -- and looking -- like new creations? Here are just a few:

- Still trying to create lasting weight loss success through diet, exercise, self-deprivation, and will power.
- Still believing we are somehow not "entitled" to live a happy life in a healthy body.
- Still passively expecting God to solve our weight problem for us, while we take no corresponding action.
- Still trying to solve through physical means what is, at its root, a problem in our mind/spirit.
- Still living in fear instead of faith.
- Still meditating on the lies of the enemy [aka, "worrying"], instead of filling our thoughts with God's promise that ALL our needs are met.



Still believing the enemy's biggest lie -- that there IS no real solution.

There are literally hundreds of other ways we can keep on doing the same old things and getting the same old results. And at the top of the list is...making resolutions.

But why don't resolutions work?

Because they are simply notions -- shallow promises that we know in the back of our minds we won't be able to keep, even as we're making them. They are nothing more than wishful thinking.

And why are we virtually never able to keep our high-minded resolutions?

Because, in a not-so-conscious part of our mind, something a lot less positive -- but a lot more influential -- is happening. And it's sabotaging our good intentions before we can even get them off the ground!

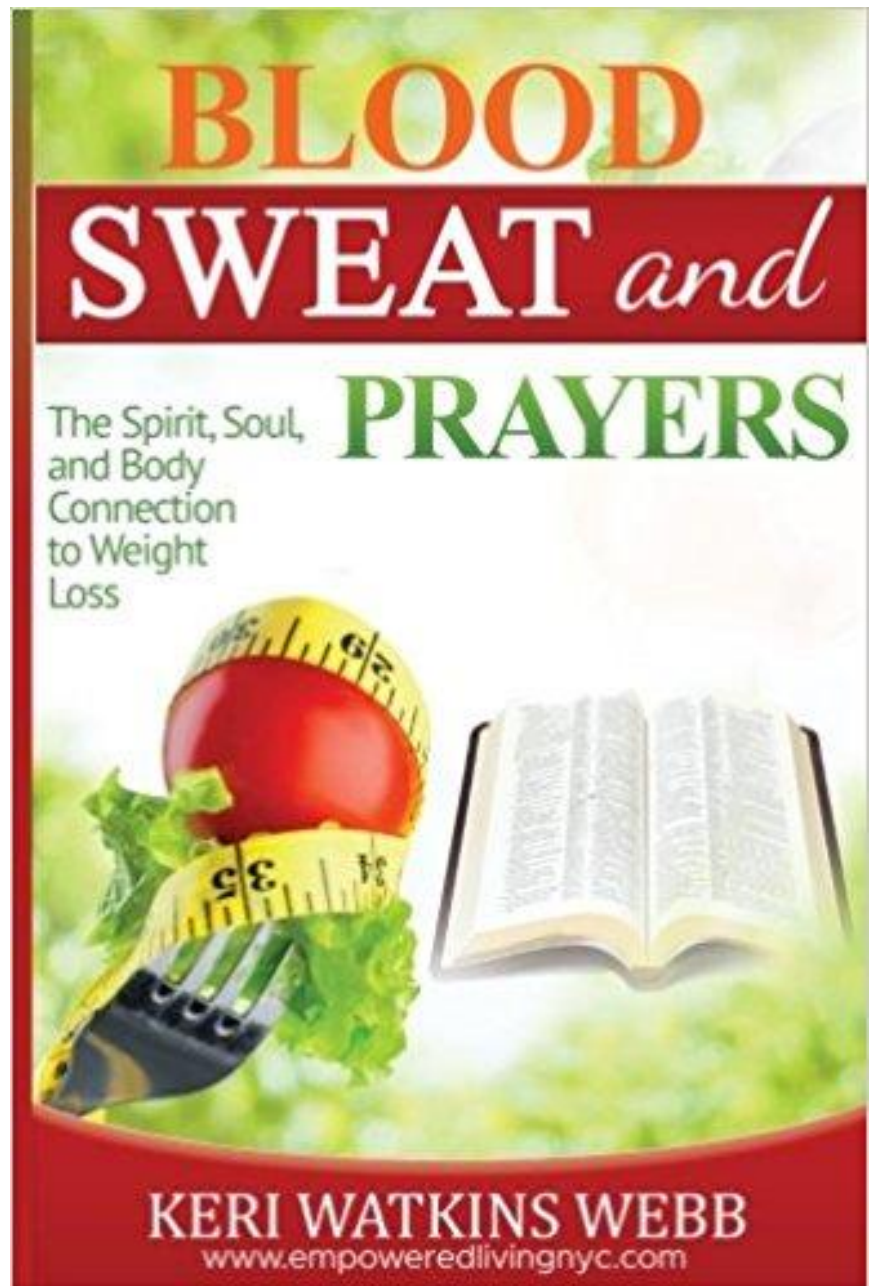
The sad truth is that, after so many years of exposure to the "stinking thinking" of this world, our own thinking becomes so saturated with negativity and failure that, by now, we may literally be "programmed" to be unhappy, out of shape — and overweight.

These are not problems we can solve with physical "solutions" like diet, exercise, self-deprivation, will power, and/or weight loss surgery.

These are problems that can ONLY be solved through a renewed mind.

What is the first step to renewing our minds? It's saying goodbye to resolutions, and working with REAL solutions.

If you are in search of a real solution, then look no further. Blood, Sweat and Prayers: The Soul, Spirit and Body Connection to Weight Loss provides practical solutions to persistent weight management issues.





# CHHE & Music Streaming

Music is found in every known culture, past and present. We should consider the idea that we cannot have a healthy society without a healthy music generation system. And that our current lack of real innovation is rooted in the corporate capture of the music industry.

The sad fact is that in 2017, in the United States, the music industry generated \$43 billion in revenue. The artists' share of this \$43 billion is very small, just 12 percent.

**Good health has become far too confusing. We need a different way to practice medicine. Instead of asking “what disease is it?” We need to ask “why are we sick?”**

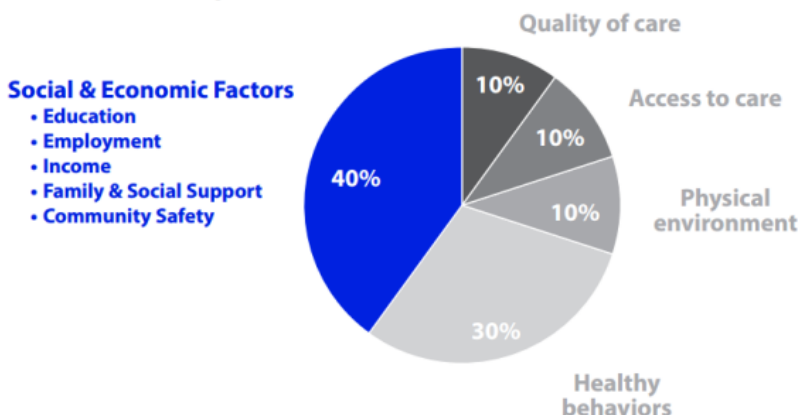
Dr. Rangan Chatterjee is a medical doctor with over 16 years experience who treats you as an individual. He takes a 360° approach to health by focusing on his 4 pillars of health: Food, Movement, Sleep and Relaxation.

He also believes that doctors are largely taught to ‘cure illnesses’ by just treating symptoms. Their training is not as useful for the current epidemic of chronic lifestyle-related conditions that now flood their practices. We at CHHE agree with Dr. Rangan Chatterjee, but we also understand that there are also community and social determinant of health that go beyond individual actions.

The **Community Health & Holistic Eating (CHHE)** mobile app is based on the fact that healthcare needs to expand its focus beyond illness treatment alone and look to what creates health in the first place. We need to tackle the challenging social, economic, and environmental issues that, to a large extent, determine our health status, our outlook, and our life expectancy. These are the “social determinants of health,” a complex of factors related to where people are born, grow, work, live, and age. They represent the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life that drive health outcomes, such as inequality, social mobility, community stability, and the quality of civic life.

## The Social Determinants of Health

To address health inequalities, you must address social and economic inequities.



Data from "County Health Rankings & Roadmaps," University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

**Just 10 to 20 percent of what creates health is related to access to care, and the quality of the services received**

There is no way to reduce smoking without cutting into sales of cigarettes, prompting Philip Morris to fight back. There is no way to slow the obesity epidemic or fight heart disease without changing what people eat and tangling with McDonald's and Coca-Cola. People leading these corporations, even as they



understand the dangers of their products, are obligated to resist because their shareholders demand larger profits.

**The greatest limit to our becoming much healthier is not a lack of ideas or even a lack of money. It is a shortage of leaders who are willing to take action to save lives in the face of determined opposition.**

### **CHHE is exploring connecting businesses with music artists**

“The streaming services have a bad situation, there’s no margins, they’re not making any money,” said Jimmy Iovine, former head of Apple Music and founder of Interscope Records. “Amazon sells Prime; Apple sells telephones and iPads; Spotify, they’re going to have to figure out a way to get that audience to buy something else. If tomorrow morning [Amazon CEO] Jeff Bezos wakes up and says, ‘You know what? I heard the word “\$7.99” I don’t know what it means, and someone says, ‘Why don’t we try \$7.99 for music?’ Woah, guess what happens?”

The short answer is it would rattle the entire streaming business ecosystem and probably most of all the industry-leading Spotify, which nine years after launching is still unable to turn a profit.

“The streaming business is not a great business,” he continued. “It’s fine with the big companies: Amazon, Apple, Google... Of course it’s a small piece of their business, very cool, but Spotify is the only standalone, right? So they have to figure out a way to show the road to making this a real business.”

### **Music Streaming Services are Trying to Screw Songwriters**

**The rates that songwriters and publishers receive have always lagged behind the rates paid to recording artists and master owners.**

Spotify, Pandora, Google, and Amazon announced last week that they would appeal the Copyright Royalty Board’s (CRB) recent decision to increase the streaming royalty rate paid to songwriters. Their announcement is a stark reminder of the difficulties songwriters face in getting paid and was immediately slammed by the National Music Publishers’ Association (NMPA), the industry trade group representing music publishers.



**Loving Your Neighbor  
Is Good for Your Health**  
**ΑΓΑΠΗ**  
— agape’ —

μεγίστη ταύτης ἀγάπην οὐδεὶς ἔχει, ἵνα τις τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ θῆ ὑπὲρ τῶν φίλων αὐτοῦ.  
Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

— John 15:13



**LOVE**



# Educator Dr. Steve Perry

Dr. Steve is founder of Capital Preparatory Schools which included Capital Prep Harlem and Capital Prep Harbor in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He also founded the Capital Preparatory Magnet School in Hartford, Connecticut.



Dr. Perry has been featured on MSNBC, Fox, CNN, Al Jazeera, TV One, BET and NBC as well as on the Oprah Winfrey network in multiple shows.

**Terrance Jackson: What would you like people to know about Capital Prep Harlem?**

Dr. Steve Perry: I would like them to know that it is a year-round college preparatory grade 6-12 school with a theme of social justice and the expectation that every single child that graduates will go on to a 4 year college.

**TJ: What was it like working with Sean “P Diddy” Combs?**

SP: We still work together, so it’s good. It gave me the opportunity to have somebody that I deeply respect from another industry. Learn from some of the things that he’s done to build out his organization and to provide for the community. And to be able to share what it is that I learned as it specifically relates to children and how we have grown our model to support the community.

**TJ: What do you see as the purpose of charter schools?**

SP: The purpose of charter schools is to provide another option to families who don’t have them or those who do. Primarily, we provide another option for families with children from historically disadvantaged populations that have been failed by their neighborhood schools in some

cases.

**TJ: You are a big advocate of high expectations and the Education Innovation Laboratory at Harvard University identified five “tenets” of high-performing charter schools in New York City – practices that collectively explained approximately 50% of the variation in school effectiveness. They are:**

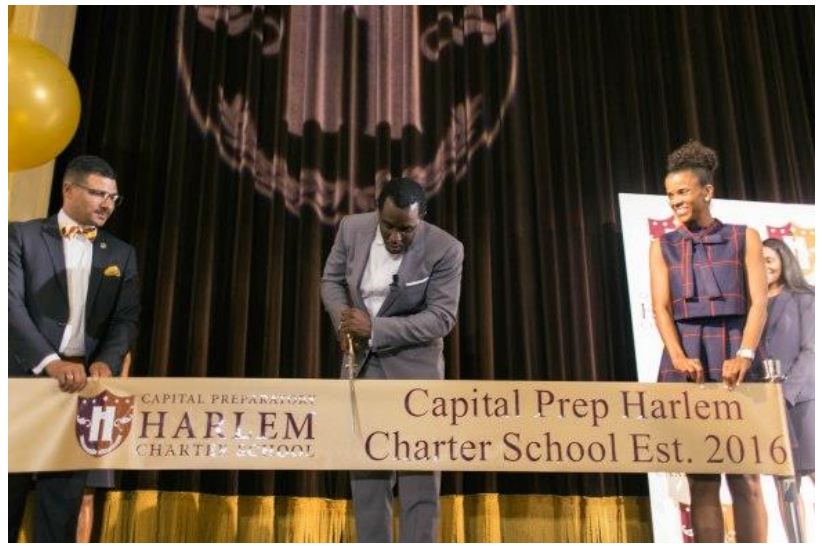
- an extended school day and year,
- the use of data to drive instruction,
- devotion to high-quality human capital,
- a culture of high expectations, and
- small group tutoring.

**What are your thoughts on these five tenets?**

SP: Not only do I agree with them, we do everything that we can to make sure that we implement them.

**TJ: In the same study, they found that input measures associated with a traditional resource based model of education – class size, per pupil expenditure, the fraction of teachers with no teaching certification, and the fraction of teachers with an advanced degree – are not correlated with school effectiveness. Would you like to comment on these findings?**

SP: That is absolutely true. The teachers' unions want people to think that what drives students' performance is how much you spend on children, which is not true. If that were the case, then we should all children to prison because that where we spend the most amount of money on children. They also want people to believe that it's the size of the classroom, where in fact that's not true. They are using an outdated study that specifically talked about a very small group in Tennessee. It's not been found to exist as an indication of quality anywhere else.



The fact is that that most of us who went to college, went to college classes in which there was as many as 700 students in one class, in one lecture. Then, of course, teacher quality is not driven by a certification. Certification is no indication of whether or not a person is a quality instructor. Any more than a driver's license tells us that a person isn't going to drink or get high and get behind the wheel; isn't going to crash a car because they're on their cellphone.

Haven't read that particular study that you are talking about, that Harvard study, but hearing you read an excerpt in that way; I would agree with what I understood of what you read.

**TJ: Charter schools employ a wide variety of educational strategies and philosophies. For instance, the Bronx Charter School for the Arts believes that participation in the arts is a catalyst for academic and social success. The school integrates art into almost every aspect of the classroom, prompting students to use art as a language to express their thoughts and ideas. At the other end of the spectrum are a number of so-called "No Excuses" schools, such as KIPP Infinity, the HCZ Promise Academies, and the Democracy Prep Charter School. These "No Excuses" schools emphasize frequent testing, dramatically increased instructional time, parental pledges of involvement, aggressive human capital strategies, a "broken windows" theory of discipline, and a relentless focus on math and reading achievement. What educational strategies and philosophies are employed at Capital Prep?**



SP: At Capital Prep, the expectations are that we have to learn from the best that we have seen from charter, traditional, private, home, and on-line. We are a hybrid. Our goal is to create the best academic experience that we know at this time in the international education conversation.

Do we test? Yes. Do we use arts? Yes. Does discipline matter? Yes.

Is it just the act of disciplining or is it the act of being disciplined. They are different. The act of disciplining is the adult correcting a child. The act of

being disciplined is practicing, much like a pianist does or any artist does.

The difference of many of those people often seen as just being "No Excuses," they're not without love. They're not a monolith within the school. Even within a school there're variations to how people actually respond to what the rules are, as is the case with every type of school.



# “Nigger—ain't \$600 enough for raping your wife?”

Recy Taylor was abducted and raped at gunpoint by seven white men in Abbeville, Alabama, on September 3, 1944. Later, six of the men would offer her husband Willie Lee Taylor \$100 each to forget the matter. Their lawyer, Marvin White asked Mr. Taylor, “Nigger—ain't \$600 enough for raping your wife?” Taylor died in her sleep at a nursing home in Abbeville, Alabama, on December 28, 2017, aged 97.



**Recy Taylor and Oprah Winfrey**

In her acceptance speech for the Cecil B. DeMille award at the Golden Globes, Oprah Winfrey mentioned Recy Taylor. She was “raped and left blindfolded by the side of the road, coming home from church,” Winfrey told the audience. “They threatened to kill her if she ever told anyone.”

But Taylor's ordeal was reported to the NAACP and a young investigator named Rosa Parks worked on the case. Parks helped organize a nationwide campaign and triggered an unprecedented outcry for justice for Taylor. Rosa Parks was a seasoned activist who had cut her political teeth working to defend the “Scottsboro Boys” from false allegations of rape in 1933.

Taylor’s case was not unusual for Alabama. In 1997, an interviewer asked Joe Azbell, former city editor of the *Montgomery Advertiser*, who was the most important person in the bus boycott. “Gertrude Perkins,” he said, “is not even mentioned in the history books, but she had as much to do with the bus boycott as anyone on earth.” On March 27, 1949, Perkins was on her way home from a party when two white Montgomery police officers arrested her for “public drunkenness.” They pushed her into the backseat of their patrol car, drove to a railroad embankment, dragged her behind a building, and raped her at gunpoint.

Left alone on the roadside, Perkins somehow mustered the courage to report the crime. She went directly to the Holt Street Baptist Church parsonage and woke Reverend Solomon A. Seay Sr., an outspoken minister in

Montgomery. “We didn’t go to bed that morning,” he recalled. “I kept her at my house, carefully wrote down what she said and later had it notarized.” The next day, Seay escorted Perkins to the police station. City authorities called Perkins’s claim “completely false” and refused to hold a line-up or issue any warrants since, according to the mayor, it would “violate the Constitutional rights” of the police. Besides, he said, “my policemen would not do a thing like that.”

But African Americans knew better. Montgomery’s police force had a reputation for racist and sexist brutality that went back years, and black leaders in the city were tired of it. When the authorities made clear that they would not respond to Perkins’s claims, local NAACP activists, labor leaders, and ministers formed an umbrella organization called the “Citizens Committee for Gertrude Perkins.” Rosa Parks was one of the local activists who demanded an investigation and trial, and helped maintain public protests that lasted for two months.

Two years after the protest on behalf of Gertrude Perkins, meanwhile, black activists rallied to defend yet another victim of white sexual violence in Montgomery. In February 1951, a white grocer named Sam Green raped a black teenager named Flossie Hardman whom he employed as a babysitter. After Hardman told her parents about the attack, they decided to press charges, and when an all-white jury returned a not-guilty verdict after five minutes of deliberation, the family reached out to community activists for help. Together, individuals such as Rufus Lewis, who organized voter registration campaigns, Rosa Parks, who was still serving as secretary of the Montgomery NAACP chapter, and members of the newly formed Women’s Political Council, launched a boycott of Green’s grocery store. After only a few weeks, African Americans delivered their own guilty verdict by driving Green’s business into the red.

By the early 1950s, then, a history of sexual assaults on black women and of the use of the boycott as a powerful weapon for justice had laid the groundwork for what was to come. Given that history, it made sense that city buses served as the flashpoint for mass protest. Other than police officers, few were as guilty of committing acts of racist violence and sexual harassment of black women as Montgomery’s bus operators, who bullied and brutalized black passengers daily. Worse, bus drivers had police power. They carried blackjacks and guns, and they assaulted and sometimes even killed African Americans who refused to abide by the racial order of Jim Crow.

In 1953 alone, African Americans filed over thirty formal complaints of abuse and mistreatment on the buses. Most came from working-class black women, mainly domestics, who made up nearly 70% of the bus ridership. They said drivers hurled nasty, sexualized insults at them, touched them inappropriately, and physically abused them. In May 1954, JoAnn Robinson, leader of the Women’s Political Council, threatened a boycott of Montgomery’s city buses, and only after months of futile efforts to get city officials to address the problem did the boycott finally come into being. Women walked rather than ride the buses, Rosa Parks said in 1956, not in support of her, but because she “was not the only person who had been mistreated and humiliated.” Other women, she said, “had gone through similarly shameful experiences, most worse than mine.”

These experiences propelled African American women into every conceivable aspect of the boycott. Women were the chief strategists and negotiators of the boycott and ran its day-to-day operation. Women helped staff the elaborate car pool system, raised most of the local money for the movement, and filled the majority of the pews at the mass meetings, where they testified publicly about physical and sexual abuse on the buses. And of course, by walking hundreds of miles to protest their humiliation, African American women reclaimed their bodies and demanded the right to be treated with dignity and respect.



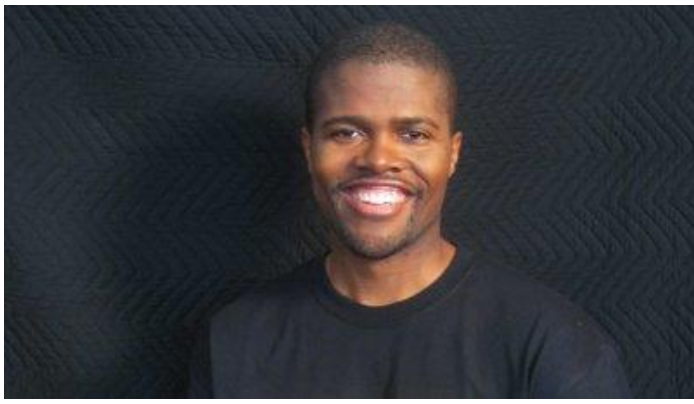
Rooted in the struggle to protect and defend black womanhood from racial and sexual violence, the Montgomery Bus Boycott is impossible to understand and situate in its proper historical context without understanding the stories and *saying the names* of Gertrude Perkins, Flossie Hardman, Recy Taylor, and all the black women who were mistreated in Montgomery.



**Rosa Parks being fingerprinted by Deputy Sheriff D.H. Lackey after her arrest for boycotting public transportation.**

In 1956, E.D. Nixon, local community leader and president of the local chapter of the NAACP, gave Joe Azbell a pamphlet by the Montgomery Improvement Association calling for a bus boycott. He published it on the front page of the *Montgomery Advertiser*. Journalist Ted Poston later called Azbell the father of the bus boycott as Poston believed that many in the African-American community were unaware of the planned boycott prior to publication. Ted Poston, a journalist for more than 40 years whose byline appeared in *The New York Post* for 33 of those years. He was the third black reporter hired to work for a major New York daily newspaper—the first at *The Post*.

Nixon told Azbell, “I want to tell you what we're gonna do, we're gonna boycott these buses, we're tired of them fooling with our, our women. And they done it for the last time.” And Azbell said, “Ok.” Nixon said, “You gonna put this on the front page?” And Azbell said, “Yeah, I'm gonna try to.”



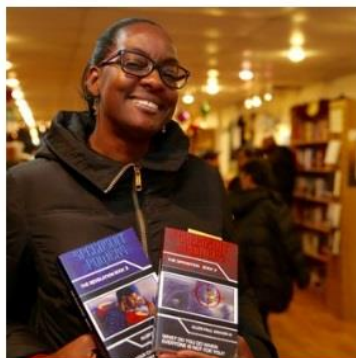
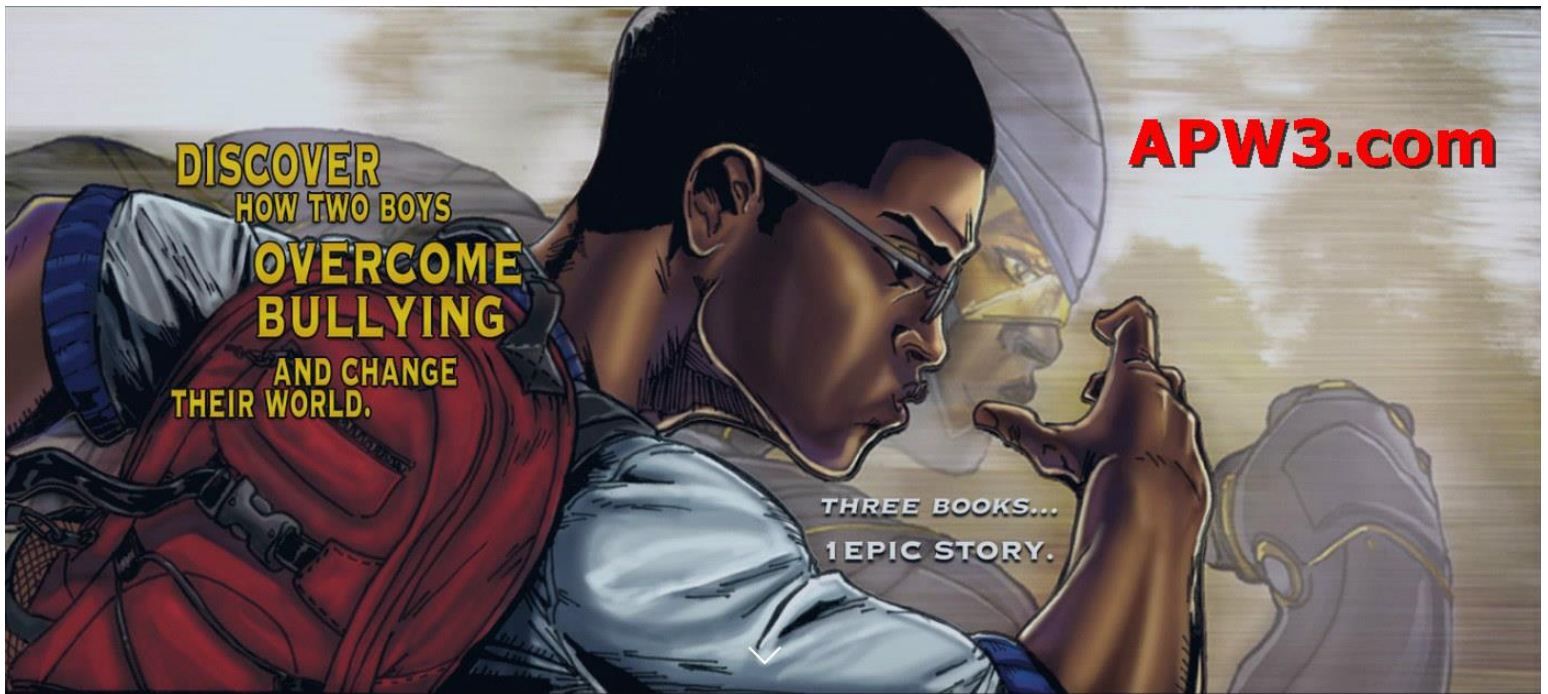
# Rev. Allen Paul Weaver, III

**Rev. Weaver** is the assistant pastor at Bethesda Baptist Church in New Rochelle. He is an author, speaker, filmmaker and interpersonal communications coach.

Allen brings 30+ years of personal and professional experience into focus with his skills, gifts and talents, as he works to inspire, motivate and educate audiences of all ages. He loves helping others move towards their purpose and believes everyone has at least one book in them!

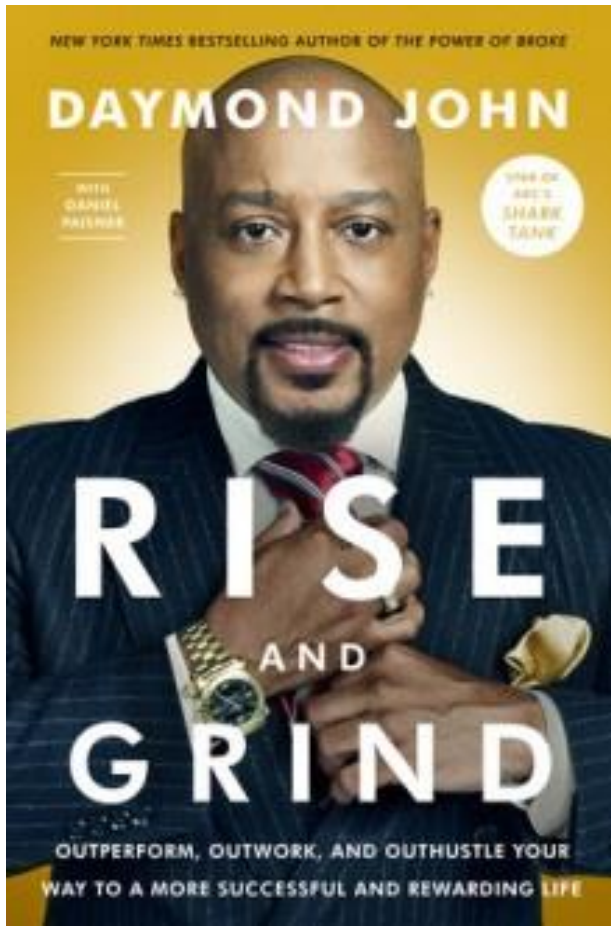
Allen is the author of the *Speedsuit Powers Trilogy* (YA Fiction). In 2012, he adapted Book 1 of his trilogy into a live action, independent film entitled, *Speedsuit*. He has published two other books (*Transition* and *MOVE! Your Destiny is Waiting on You*) and is currently working on five additional manuscripts. His video production work has taken him across the United States, to Europe, China and 7 African countries.

In his downtime, Allen enjoys drawing, watching movies, reading comic books and vertical wind tunnel flying. He lives in New York with his wonderful wife and amazing son.





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**Daymond John** has come a long way from turning a \$40 budget into FUBU, a \$6 billion fashion game-changer. Throughout his career, Daymond has continued to be an entrepreneur in every sense of the word. He is not only a pioneer in the fashion industry, but a Shark on ABC's Shark Tank, *New York Times* best-selling author, branding guru, and highly sought after motivational speaker. Most recently, President Barack Obama appointed Daymond a Presidential Ambassador for Global Entrepreneurship, a position focused on promoting the power and

importance of entrepreneurship on a global scale.

With years of experience as both a successful entrepreneur and mentor, Daymond landed a co-starring role on ABC's business show, Shark Tank. Throughout his eight seasons on the show, he has given countless aspiring entrepreneurs the opportunity to work alongside him and his team, showing them the ins and outs of what they need to take their business to the next level. As The Peoples Shark, Daymond has made an impact on the hopeful entrepreneurs vying for an investment in the Tank, as well as the weekly viewers sitting at home, through his relatable story and journey to success that continues to both motivate and inspire. As the most watched program on Friday nights, Shark Tank has maintained an impressive average weekly viewership of over 10 million and has won multiple Emmy Awards. In early 2014, Shark Tank syndicated on CNBC, becoming the channel's top rated show and giving the network its best primetime ratings in over 6 years.

Daymond created his brand consulting company, The Shark Group, to reveal the secrets that made FUBU a \$6 billion global brand and reinvigorated the once defunct Coogi brand into the biggest fashion line in its space. Consulting for some of the top Fortune 500 companies in the world, Daymond and The Shark Group share advice and experience on branding, licensing, social media, product placement, marketing strategy and overall business consultation. As a brand consultant, Daymond and his team will examine the needs of the corporation, dissect the problems and create manageable solutions for brand growth. He will also help improve your business' profitability by enhancing the marketing structure and strategy.

Daymond is the author of three best-selling books, including *Display of Power*, *The Brand Within* and, most recently, the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* best-seller *The Power of Broke*. As a world-renowned marketing and branding guru, Daymond has been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards throughout his career, including Brandweek Marketer of the Year, NAACP Entrepreneur of the Year, The Essence Award, Advertising Age Marketer of the Year, Ernst & Young's Master Entrepreneur of the Year, and Details 50 Most Influential Men.

John has also been tapped to work with President Obama on his My Brother's Keeper program, which will help create access and opportunity for underserved men of color via mentorship and education.





# Literary Agent

## Dawn Michelle Hardy

**Dawn Michelle Hardy** has been called a “literary lobbyist” by *Ebony* magazine for her ability to help authors reach their readership using strategic promotions, win awards and garner national and local media attention. She has dual roles in the book publishing industry as both publicist and literary agent. She founded Dream Relations, PR & Literary Consulting Agency in 2004. Additionally, in 2011 she joined Serendipity Literary Agency where she aids in shaping the careers of platformed writers. Some of her clients at Serendipity include Jean McGianni Celestin, co-writer of the Nat

Turner biopic *The Birth of a Nation*, Kent Babb, Washington Post sports writer and PEN Literary Award finalist for *Not a Game: The Incredible Rise and Unthinkable Fall of Allen Iverson*, Clay Cane, entertainment editor at BET.com, director of *Holler If You Hear Me: Black and Gay in the Church*, and author of *Live Through This: Surviving the Intersections of Sexuality, God and Race*.

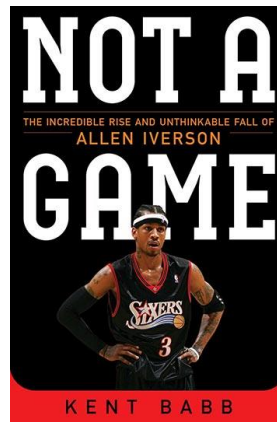
As a publicist she works with both fiction and non-fiction authors including New York Times bestseller D. Watkins, author of *The Beast Side: Living and Dying While Black in America*, Tia Williams, former magazine beauty editor and author of *The Perfect Find* and Clint Smith award-winning poet, Ted Talk conference speaker and contributor to *The New Yorker*.

**Terrance Jackson: What does a literary agent do?**

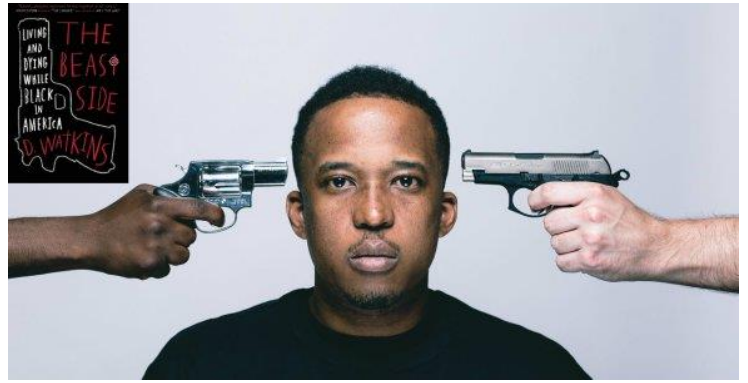
**Dawn Michelle Hardy:** A literary agent represents their clients’ written work and champions for that work to be sold to a publisher. In most cases the work starts out as a book proposal for a non-fiction idea including a memoir or it can be a completed manuscript for a novel or children’s book. Additionally, as a literary agent I attend conferences and do critiques on book pitches and I conduct workshops on memoir writing, proposal writing and building an author platform.

**TJ: If someone has an idea for a book, what should they do?**

**DMH:** If someone is preparing to execute a book idea and is looking to publish they should consider the options available. Are you self-publishing or looking to acquire an agent to help you land a deal with a publisher? If you choose to go the route of submitting to literary agents, start by researching



similar books in the genre you are writing. It helps to know who your competition is and the agents and publishers that create like-minded content. To find an agent consider purchasing a copy of [Writer's Market](#) found on Writer's Digest website. This book is updated annually and serves as a directory for literary agents nationwide.



If you are writing a non-fiction book you will need a book proposal. The complete book is not needed to begin querying agents except when the project is a memoir. Memoirists will need both the book proposal and the full edited manuscript to accompany their query.

If you are writing a novel, you will need to have a finished and edited manuscript included with your query letter. If you are submitting a children's book you don't need illustrations, just the complete manuscript. If you have an idea for a series, focus on pitching the first book and just mention that you have visions of the project being a series. Publishers are not going to buy a 7-book series until they know they have a successful project in book one.

### **TJ: What are the advantages of using a literary agent as opposed to submitting directly to publishers or even self-publishing?**

**DMH:** The advantage of using a literary agent versus submitting directly to publishers is access and knowledge. Literary agents have access to editors at publishing houses through schedule meetings, speaking at conferences and in-house invite only events. Editors rely on agents to vet materials. A proposal reviewed by an agent is more than likely going to have everything an editor will need to make an informed decision. Projects that are represented by a reputable agent/agency get reviewed before an editor would review unsolicited materials. The number of submissions in ratio to editors is extremely high. I once had an editor tell me she received 30 submissions a day, 150 in a work week.

### **TJ: Can you share with us a bit about your next project coming to market?**

**DMH:** As an agent I am very excited about an upcoming 2018 book by one of my debut authors. The book is titled *Beyond Broadway Joe: The Super Bowl Team That Changed Football* by Bob



Lederer. The difference between this author and the *Not a Game* author Kent Babb is that Bob didn't have a big platform but he did have strong writing and a great proposal. Additionally, a book on the New York Jets winning Super Bowl III is a subject of personal interest to me as a sports fan. The proposal was submitted through the agency website and a member of the team saw it and shared it with me. Agents do check the slush.

**Read more of our interview at [StartUpTown.Wordpress.com](http://StartUpTown.Wordpress.com)**





# Luis Moux & The Youth Defense Center By Ronald Fisher, Esq.

**Sons Love their Mothers:** It was a warm evening; yet unseasonably cool for August 15<sup>th</sup>, in the Bronx. Winding down from a long day in court, Walter Fields, Esq. receives a phone call that there's a family and supporters, numbering at least 20, sitting outside arraignments looking for a lawyer to represent a young man named Luis Moux (18). Walter ran to arraignments to meet those gathered. On his way, he called Carlos Gonzalez, Esq. and me. Carlos trekked from another county

while I searched media accounts of this breaking news story.

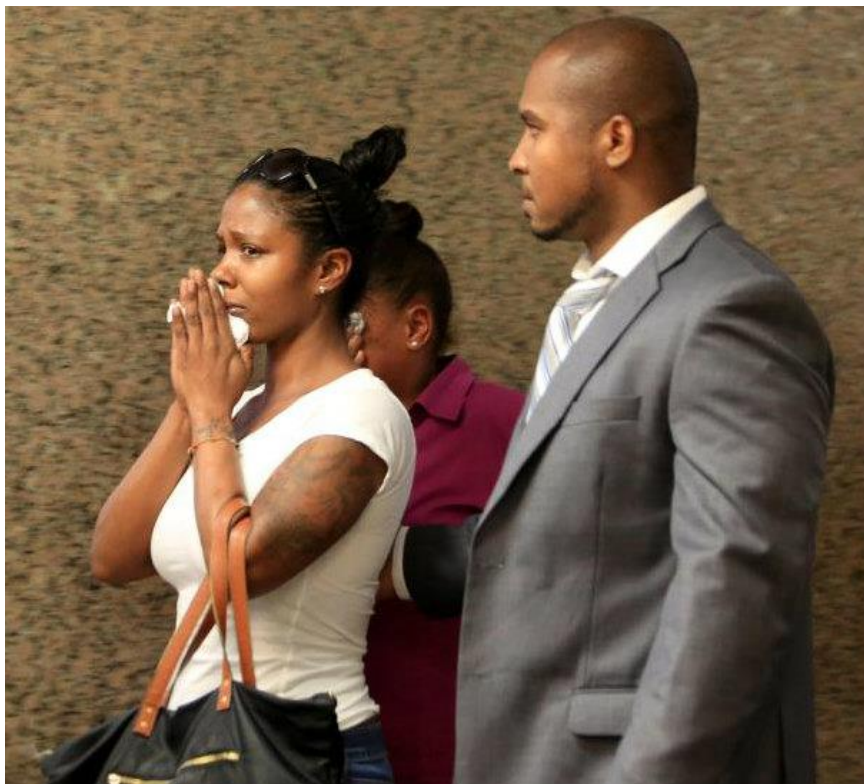
The young man's single mother Lorena Sesma (37), sporting a black eye, was lost within the crowd of those assembled. She appeared as though she was a deer in the headlights when facing the harsh side of the criminal justice system. She was no stranger to the criminal justice system. You see, her ex-boyfriend, Stanley Washington (43) had assaulted her on several occasions in the past, with injuries including a broken jaw. However, on this day, she would be a witness for law enforcement, she was supporting the alleged perpetrator, her son. Luis was charged with unlawfully taking the life of Mr. Washington.

**A Rude Awakening:** Luis had dreams of returning to the football field to play center for his high school team. He had dreams of attending his senior prom. He had dreams of attending college and possibly playing football there. Unless he has a substantial growth spurt, being less than 6' tall, the NFL was not in those dreams. Unfortunately, when he went to bed the night of August 14, 2017, he never dreamed that his slumber would be interrupted by a nightmare.

At approximately 4:30 am, Luis was awakened by his mother's voice crying out "Stop!" Luis gets out of the bed ran to his door and to his chagrin he sees Washington pulling his mother's hair. Luis retrieved a baseball bat reopened the door only to observe Washington punch his mother in the face. Luis tells Washington to leave the apartment. Instead of leaving the apartment, Washington and Luis grappled with the bat. After the bat fell to the ground the two grappled with each other on Luis' bed, Washington bit Luis several times, and finally they fell onto the floor. It was on the floor where ultimately Luis got Washington into a chokehold and finally where Washington drew his last breath.

**Preparation meets Opportunity:** Walter met the friends and family. Among the throng were: his mother, aunts, uncles, cousins, neighbors, teammates, classmates, coach and principal. He learns that the attorneys that they spoke with wanted much more money than the family could afford. One family friend created a "go fund me" page. The waiting area was wrapped in fear and trepidation. Walter allayed their fears when he broke the news that left several with jaws agape: our firm would represent Luis for free.

By this time Carlos arrived. After checking our credentials the family agreed. We compared notes and proceeded to meet Luis in the "pens." We went over Luis' version of that night and told him what is going on both outside and inside the courthouse.



**Louis Moux's mother, Lorena Sesma, cries Tuesday as she leaves Bronx Criminal Court.**

(LUIZ C. RIBEIRO/FOR NEW YORK DAILY NEWS)

Once again we convened and discussed our bail application strategy. This was a major local press case that involved the death of an individual. Bail was going to be set, that was a given. Our task was to present the best argument to have the bail set at as reasonable a number as possible. However, before we could talk bail, the judge had to address the media requests to memorialize the proceedings.

As a teenager with a pristine record of no prior contacts with the criminal justice system we wanted to protect his image as much as possible. The world did not need to see Luis walking into the courtroom in handcuffs. After a brief hearing, only print media could remain.

The Assistant DA was succinct in seeking high bail. Walter and Carlos were brilliant. I took notes and explained the arguments to Luis. Bail was set at \$25,000. Usually, in

cases involving a death, bail starts at six figures up to held without bail. A school official posted the bail.

Free to defend his case, Luis was able to meet us in office instead of behind bars at Rikers Island. We were able to hear the entire story from start to finish without interruption and without distraction. As a former prosecutor, I explained the entire criminal process from the District Attorney's perspective with emphasis on the Grand Jury. Walter and Carlos discussed body language and how to answer questions posed by the prosecutor. The story was Luis' from start to finish; we just helped him with the delivery. Lies can be exposed. The key was to present the truth in as compelling a way as possible under the circumstances.

On the appointed day, Luis entered the Grand Jury with Walter (only one of us could enter as a matter of law) and made his statement. He answered the Assistant DA's questions and questions posed by members of the Grand Jury. All that was left was for the vote. At least twelve (12) of the twenty-three (23) jurors had to vote in favor of an indictment—a true bill. We learned that the jurors chose not to indict Luis.

**Media Blitz:** A host of talk shows reach out to Luis' family and his lawyers for the opportunity to interview Luis and his "dream team." Some of the shows are local and some national. Offers of varying kinds and amounts were presented. We sat down with Luis and his family and informed them of the pros and cons of each offer, of attending each show and the target audience of each show. Each offer was rejected.

Luis was done. With the dismissal, Luis wants to move on with his life. Luis wants to resume his life and turn the page on the nightmare and return back to his dream. Luis now dreams of returning to the football field to play center for his high school team. He now dreams of attending his senior prom. He now dreams of attending college. Now his dream can be a reality.

**The Flip Side:** In a criminal case where the government is not the complaining witness, there is an aggrieved civilian. After the conclusion of these cases, there are no winners. If the accused is found guilty, a price will have to be paid and a victim will have to put the pieces back together somehow. If the accused is



found not guilty, the life that had been disrupted must reboot with the specter of the accusation looming for much of the foreseeable future. Meanwhile, the “victim” is left wondering why the jury did not accept the presentation.

Here is no exception. Washington leaves behind a family who grieves the loss of a husband, father, brother and friend. We may never know what brought him to Ms. Sesma’s home at 4:15 or 4:30 in the morning. We may never know why an argument in the hallway of her University Avenue building spilled into her apartment. We may never know why Washington chose not to leave when Luis asked him to leave at 4:30 am. We do know that Washington’s family like other families under such circumstances suffer a deep loss. They need and we offer our prayers for healing and comfort.

**Birth of a Notion:** How did all this come together? How did three solo practitioners come together and form Luis’ defense team? Turn back the clock. Months earlier, in conversations with each other, two at a time, we bemoaned various concerns that we had with the criminal justice system. We talked about what could make things better. We realized that we offered something more than what other firms and organizations offer. The three of us grew up in the Bronx. We went to school in the Bronx. We know the daily struggles that Bronx residents face. Not from a text book or some psychology journal, we know from our experiences and those of our loved ones. We went to great schools and we all became lawyers. We did not forget from whence we came.



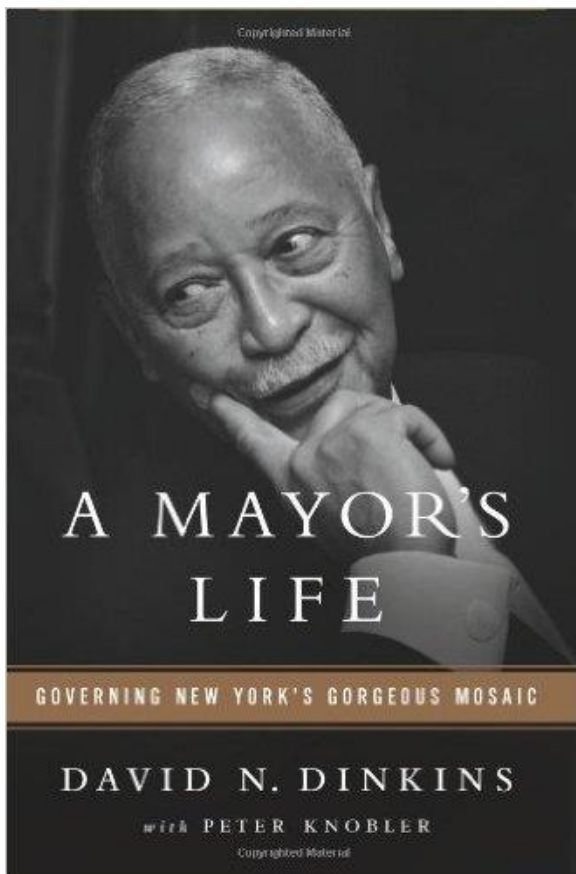
**Youth Defense Center Attorneys Walter Fields, Carlos Gonzalez, and Ronald Fisher**

We formed a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) charity where we can represent young people under the age of 19 in criminal proceedings. We named it, Youth Defense Center, Inc. (YDC). Our intention was to begin operations in October 2017. However, sometimes God’s time is not man’s time. Luis came into our lives and thus the inaugural case of YDC.

At this stage, we’re forming partnerships with other organizations to provide necessary services for our clients. They include: alternatives to incarceration, social work services, investigators and bail bonds. Forming a Board of Directors is the next big step. They will be entrusted with fundraising to ease the burden on us since we have been covering all of the costs of the organization. If you want to learn more about us check us out at [youthdefensecenter.org](http://youthdefensecenter.org)

**Ronald G Fisher, Esq.**, a solo practitioner in New York City, is Co-Founder of the Youth Defense Center, Inc. He is also on the Board for The United Black Men of Queens Foundation, Inc., an organization dedicated to mentoring young men and stands as a vanguard of the quality of life of the local community.

# David N. Dinkins



How did a scrawny black kid—the son of a barber and a domestic who grew up in Harlem and Trenton—become the 106th mayor of New York City? It's a remarkable journey. David Norman Dinkins was born in 1927, joined the Marine Corps in the waning days of World War II, went to Howard University on the G.I. Bill, graduated cum laude with a degree in mathematics in 1950, and married Joyce Burrows, whose father, Daniel Burrows, had been a state assemblyman well-versed in the workings of New York's political machine. It was his father-in-law who suggested the young mathematician might make an even better politician once he also got his law degree.

The political career of David Dinkins is set against the backdrop of the rising influence of a broader demographic in New York politics, including far greater segments of the city's “gorgeous mosaic.” After a brief stint as a New York assemblyman, Dinkins was nominated as a deputy mayor by Abe Beame in 1973, but ultimately declined because he had not filed his income tax returns on time. Down but not out, he pursued his dedication to public service, first by serving as city clerk. In 1986, Dinkins was elected Manhattan borough president, and in 1989, he defeated Ed Koch and Rudy Giuliani to become mayor of New York City, the largest American city to elect an African American mayor.

As the newly-elected mayor of a city in which crime had risen precipitously in the years prior to his taking office, Dinkins vowed to attack the problems and not the victims. Despite facing a budget deficit, he hired thousands of police officers, more than any other mayoral administration in the twentieth century, and launched the “Safe Streets, Safe City” program, which fundamentally changed how police fought crime. For the first time in decades, crime rates began to fall—a trend that continues to this day. Among his other major successes, Mayor Dinkins brokered a deal that kept the US Open Tennis Championships in New York—bringing hundreds of millions of dollars to the city annually—and launched the revitalization of Times Square after decades of decay, all the while deflecting criticism and some outright racism with a seemingly unflappable demeanor. Criticized by some for his handling of the Crown Heights riots in 1991, Dinkins describes in these pages a very different version of events.





# Celeste Beatty



*Celeste Beatty with former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg enjoying a glass of her best known beer, Sugar Hill Golden Ale.*

In 2015, craft brewers produced 24.5 million barrels, and saw a 13 percent rise in volume and a 16 percent increase in retail dollar value. Retail dollar value was estimated at \$22.3 billion, representing 21 percent market share. Yet, a recent Nielsen study commissioned by the Brewers Association found that while African-American drinkers compose 11.2% of the US population, they consume only 3.7% of the country's craft beer. Compare that with the 80% of craft beer guzzled by whites, who make up 60% of the population.

According to a [New York Times article](#) about Maggie Anderson, the author of *Our Black Year*, a study by the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University found that between half a million and a million jobs could be created if higher-income Black households spent only \$1 of every \$10 at Black-owned stores and other enterprises. Yet only a tiny fraction of Black buying power is spent at Black-owned businesses.



Celeste Beatty, an African-American based in Harlem, spent the last 15 years bootstrapping the Harlem Brewing Company, which started as a one-woman operation in her 123rd Street apartment.

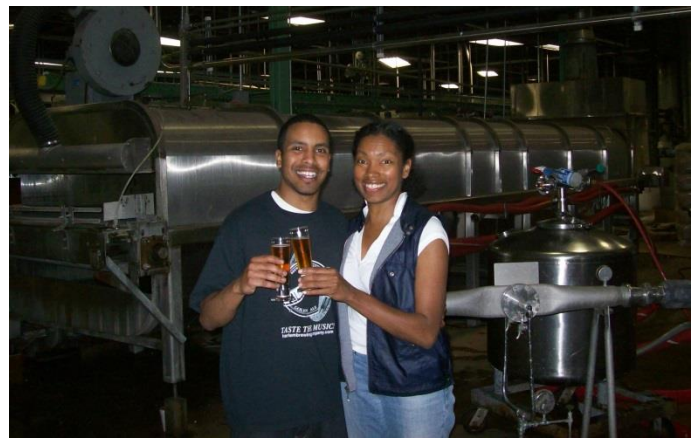
Now, with a multi-million-dollar investment in the works and a deal with the world's largest retailer, she's hoping to build a permanent home in her neighborhood — and put Harlem firmly on the craft beer map.

In March, Beatty's business got its biggest boost to date when Walmart started carrying her beer in its 39 New York area stores as part of a \$250 billion commitment to U.S. manufacturing. "We were introduced through a supplier and followed up with a taste test," Beatty said.

She hopes the Bentonville, Ark.-based chain will consider stocking her brand in other states if it proves a hit. Either way, she expects a revenue boost of about 20% this year thanks to the Walmart deal.

Next up, Beatty's aiming to raise a \$5 million investment round on the back of this momentum. She's had commitments of \$2.5 million so far, she said. "We have offers for the balance."

Beatty will put part of this capital towards building a brewery in Harlem itself: a space where she can create new infusions as well as teaching classes to would-be brewers. She has her eye on a particular property on 12th Avenue, not far from her beer's namesake Sugar Hill. Coincidentally, a 4,000-square foot beer garden is set to open nearby this spring.





# Every Successful Relationship is Successful for the Same Exact Reasons (Part I)



Based on almost 1,500 people who have been married for 10+ years and are still happy in their relationships, this is what we learned:

**1. Be together for the right reasons.** Before we even get into what you should do in your relationship, let's start with what not to do. Do not get married because of...

- Pressure from friends and family
- Feeling like a “loser” because they were single and settling for the first person that came along

- Being together for image—because the relationship looked good on paper (or in photos), not because the two people actually admired each other
- Being young and naive and hopelessly in love and thinking that love would solve everything

**2. Have realistic expectations about relationships and romance.** Love is a funny thing. In ancient times, people genuinely considered love a sickness. Parents warned their children against it, and adults quickly arranged marriages before their children were old enough to do something dumb in the name of their emotions.

Romantic love is a trap designed to get two people to overlook each other's faults long enough to get some baby-making done. It generally only lasts for a few years at most. True love—that is, deep, abiding love that is impervious to emotional whims or fancy—is a choice. It's a constant commitment to a person regardless of the present conditions. It's a commitment to a person who you understand isn't going to always make you happy—nor should they!—and a person who will need to rely on you at times, just as you will rely on them.

**3. The most important factor in a relationship is not communication, but respect.** The thing people with marriages going on 20, 30, or even 40 years talked about most was respect. They through sheer quantity of experience, have learned that communication, no matter how open, transparent and disciplined, will always break down at some point. Conflicts are ultimately unavoidable, and feelings will always be hurt.

And the only thing that can save you and your partner, that can cushion you both to the hard landing of human fallibility, is an unerring respect for one another, the fact that you hold each other in high esteem, believe in one another — often more than you each believe in yourselves — and trust that your partner is doing his/her best with what they've got.

Without that bedrock of respect underneath you, you will doubt each other's intentions. You will judge their choices and encroach on their independence. You will feel the need to hide things from one another for fear of criticism. And this is when the cracks in the edifice begin to appear.

**4. Talk openly about everything, especially the stuff that hurts.** If something bothers you in the relationship, you must be willing to say it. Saying it builds trust and trust builds intimacy. It may hurt, but you still need to do it. No one else can fix your relationship for you. Nor should anyone else. Just as causing pain to your muscles allows them to grow back stronger, often introducing some pain into your relationship through vulnerability is the only way to make the relationship stronger.

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should anyone else. Just as causing pain to your muscles allows them to grow back stronger, often introducing some pain into your relationship through vulnerability is the only way to make the relationship stronger.

Behind respect, trust was the most commonly mentioned trait for a healthy relationship. Most people mentioned it in the context of jealousy and fidelity — trust your partner to go off on their own, don't get insecure or angry if you see them talking with someone else, etc.

But trust goes much deeper than that. Because when you're really talking about the long-haul, you start to get into some serious life-or-death shit. If you ended up with cancer tomorrow, would you trust your partner to stick with you and take care of you? Would you trust your partner to care for your child for a week by themselves? Do you trust them to handle your money or make sound decisions under pressure? Do you trust them to not turn on you or blame you when you make mistakes?

These are hard things to do. And they're even harder to think about early on in a relationship. Trust at the beginning of a relationship is easy. It's like, "Oh, I forgot my phone at her apartment, I trust her not to sell it and buy crack with the money... I think." But the deeper the commitment, the more intertwined your lives become, and the more you will have to trust your partner to act in your interest in your absence.

**5. A healthy relationship means two healthy individuals.** A lot is made about "sacrifices" in a relationship. You are supposed to keep the relationship happy by consistently sacrificing yourself for your partner and their wants and needs. There is some truth to that. Every relationship requires each person to consciously choose to give something up at times.

But the problem is when *all of the relationship's happiness* is contingent on the other person and both people are in a constant state of sacrifice. Just read that again. That sounds horrible. It reminds me of an old Marilyn Manson song, "Shoot myself to love you; if I loved myself, I'd be shooting you." A relationship based on sacrifices cannot be sustained, and will eventually become damaging to both individuals in it.

A healthy and happy relationship requires two healthy and happy individuals. Keyword here: "individuals." That means two people with their *own* identities, their *own* interests and perspectives, and things they do by themselves, on their *own* time. This is why attempting to control your partner (or submitting control over yourself to your partner) to make them "happy" ultimately backfires — it allows the individual identities of each person to be destroyed, the very identities that attracted each person and brought them together in the first place.

**6. Give each other space.** People sung the praises of separate checking accounts, separate credit cards, having different friends and hobbies, taking separate vacations from one another each year (this has been a big one in my own relationship). Some even went so far as to recommend separate bathrooms or even separate bedrooms.

Some people are afraid to give their partner freedom and independence. This comes from a lack of trust and/or insecurity that if we give our partner too much space, they will discover they don't want to be with us anymore. Generally, the more uncomfortable we are with our own worthiness in the relationship and to be loved, the more we will try to control the relationship and our partner's behaviors.

BUT, more importantly, this inability to let our partners *be who they are*, is a subtle form of disrespect. After all, if you can't trust your husband to have a simple golfing trip with his buddies, or you're afraid to let your wife go out for drinks after work, what does that say about your respect for their ability to handle themselves well? What does it say for your respect *for yourself*? I mean, after all, if you believe a couple after-work drinks is enough to steer your girlfriend away from you, you clearly don't think too highly of yourself.



# Dr. Steven M. Safyer

**“Health care is a human right, not a privilege”**



Steven M. Safyer, MD, is President and Chief Executive Officer of Montefiore Medicine, one of New York’s premiere academic health systems. When former Mayor Michael Bloomberg proposed a citywide ban on supersize sodas, he did so in the lobby of a Montefiore hospital, flanked by Dr. Safyer and physicians.

Dr. Safyer took the helm of Montefiore in 2008 after three decades at the hospital, starting as an intern and resident who later spent years caring for inmates at Rikers Island. He is a champion for a single standard

of healthcare quality and access regardless of social or economic circumstances, he led the way for Montefiore to set a new standard for equitable healthcare systems. Dr. Safyer tells Montefiore employees that “health care is a human right, not a privilege.”

“There are many places that provide sophisticated medical care,” said Dr. Allen Spiegel, dean of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, whose students and faculty practice and conduct research at Montefiore through a close partnership. “There are relatively few places that are as responsible for the social and community care as Montefiore. This combination is somewhat unique in the country.”

Under Dr. Safyer leadership, Montefiore is migrating away from what is a fee-for-service system and advancing the pre-payment or capitation model. Dr. Safyer:

*Most of the way care is paid for in this country is piece work – the more you do, the more you make. When you change that dynamic, the way you pay, you have to change the way you deliver care.*

*Any kind of payment system is susceptible to overuse or underutilization of services, so you always have to aim for the highest quality. But if you’re being paid to keep people well or you manage their care, you shift the paradigm.*

Dr. Safyer’s has also led Montefiore to become a leader in anti-obesity efforts. It has offered zumba classes and cooking demonstrations in waiting rooms, and brought a farmers market to hospital grounds. It has worked with local officials to sponsor community health fairs where its doctors take blood pressure readings and give free diabetes and H.I.V. tests.

In middle school, Dr. Safyer attended civil rights rallies for school integration, and at Cornell University, where he aspired to become a labor lawyer and earned a bachelor’s degree in labor relations, he protested the Vietnam War. Later, he said: “I decided that my mother was right and that it would be good for me to have a profession.”

He returned to New York to take pre-med classes at Columbia University. He enrolled in medical school at Einstein, where he met his wife, and completed his residency in Montefiore’s social medicine program, which viewed medicine as an instrument of social justice and sent doctors into poor and underserved neighborhoods. His wife, Dr. Paula Marcus, is a geriatric psychiatrist at Montefiore; both of their daughters also work at hospitals.

**NEW BOOK COMING SOON**

**DO THIS AND  
YOU WILL LIVE**

**αγάπη**  
agape



**Terrance Jackson**



# Good Jobs First

## **SUBSIDY TRACKER 3.0**

([goodjobsfirst.org/subsidy-tracker](http://goodjobsfirst.org/subsidy-tracker)) is the first national search engine for economic development subsidies and other forms of government financial assistance to business.

According to Subsidy Tracker 3.0, New Rochelle has given over \$109 million in subsidies since 2004. A Good Jobs First press release:

*Localities spend tens of billions of dollars annually on subsidies, yet most make it difficult for residents to learn which companies receive that assistance,” said the report’s author, Good Jobs First research Analyst Kasia Tarczynska. “And even fewer provide information on the effectiveness of the awards.*



## **Helping Local Businesses Create a Million New Good Jobs**

In January 2017, the unemployment rate was 4.8%. This is great but the problem is that there were also over 5.8 million people who worked part-time but wanted full-time employment.

In addition, we need more than just jobs alone. We need good jobs. According to the Social Security Administration, 51.4 percent of all Americans make less than \$30,000 per year which is only slightly higher than the poverty guideline for a family of four of \$24,250. 1 in 5 people in New York City live below the poverty level.

According to a Good Jobs First report, "Shortchanging Small Business: How Big Businesses Dominate State Economic Development Incentives:"

## New York megadeals

Ten largest deals since 2000

Source: Good Jobs First

*Small businesses account for a large share of the United States' GDP. A subset of firms that are young and high-growth generate a large share of new jobs. Locally owned firms have been found to generate greater local economic ripple effects than chain establishments or other non-locally owned companies.... the SBA, for example, attributes almost half of private nonfarm GDP and almost two-thirds of net new private-sector jobs to what it calls small businesses.*

*Yet across the 16 programs in 14 states examined, large companies are receiving 80 to 96% of the subsidy dollars.... Overall, big businesses received 90 percent of the \$3.2 billion awarded, and 70 percent of the deals.*

Project	Location	Subsidy
Alcoa hydropower discounts	Massena	\$5.6 billion
GlobalFoundries plant	Malta	\$1.2 billion
SolarCity plant	Buffalo	\$750 million
IBM plant	Fish Kill	\$660 million
Destiny USA shopping mall	Syracuse	\$600 million
Yahoo data center	Lockport	\$478 million
Goldman Sachs HQ	New York City	\$425 million
Cornell University campus	New York City	\$400 million
Sematech HQ	Albany	\$300 million
Sematech research center	Albany	\$210 million

## In New York City, 80% of \$82,471,363 in deals went to large firms

So what can local, state, and federal governments do to make it easier to start a business and to grow small businesses? Stacy Mitchell, Senior Researcher at the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, states the six steps that governments must take to support small businesses:

- 1. Restructure the Banking System**
- 2. Close Corporate Tax Loopholes**
- 3. Extend Sales Taxes to Large Internet Retailers**
- 4. Get Corporate Money Out of Politics**
- 5. Cap Credit Card Swipe Fees**
- 6. Increase the Small Business Share of Government Purchasing**

We also need need efficient markets. If our capital markets were functioning efficiently, roughly half of our \$30 trillion savings or about \$15 trillion would be going into the half of the economy that is local small business. David Weild IV, chief executive of IssuWorks and a former vice chairman of Nasdaq who has researched the decline in small-company capital formation, has argued that the public markets are effectively closed to 80% of the companies that need them.

Another way to address these problems is for Americans to buy more products manufactured in the US and for New Yorkers to purchase more locally made products. If we all buy just 5% more US made products we will create a MILLION new jobs.



# Shopping at Amazon is Bad for Your Health



LOVE YOUR  
NEIGHBOR  
AS YOURSELF

ΤΟΥΤΟ ΠΟΙΕΙ  
ΚΑΙ ΖΗΣΗ

Counties and parishes with a greater concentration of small, locally-owned businesses have healthier populations — with lower rates of mortality, obesity and diabetes — than do those that rely on large companies with “absentee” owners.

# Trump is a Money-Laundering Idiot!



For over 30 years, the Russian mafia laundered money through Trump properties. The evidence is overwhelming in support of this claim. Trump is aware of this or he is not. Either way makes him a complete idiot.

If he is not aware to the fact that the Russian mafia has been laundering money through his properties, then he is a complete idiot simply for not knowing something so obvious. If he is aware to the fact that the Russian mafia has

been laundering money through his properties, then he is a complete idiot for running for president and exposing himself and his family to the intense scrutiny that involved in a president campaign and being president.

The Russian Mafia played the central role in nurturing an exceptionally pliant asset who initially seemed to be more of a person of influence than a man with real political clout. It had been nearly thirty years since Trump welcomed David Bogatin to Trump Tower and facilitated the sale of five apartments to help launder Russian Mafia money for the first time. Since then, he had accepted many millions of dollars—perhaps billions—for his condos. Vyacheslav Ivankov had lived at Trump Tower and run operations for Mogilevich. Bayrock had been there from 2002 to 2008, and helped Trump rise out of the ashes of Atlantic City and become a billionaire yet again—potentially leaving him deeply, deeply indebted to the Russia Mafia.



The scenario that, to my mind, makes the most sense of the given facts and requires the fewest fantastical leaps is that, a decade or so ago, Trump, naïve, covetous, and struggling for cash, may have laundered money for a business partner from the former Soviet Union or engaged in some other financial crime. This placed him, unawares, squarely within *sistema*, where he remained, conducting business with other members of a handful of overlapping Central Asian networks. Had he never sought the Presidency, he may never have had to come to terms with these decisions. But now he is much like everyone else in *sistema*. He fears there is *kompromat* out there—maybe a lot of it—but he doesn't know precisely what it is, who has it, or what might set them off.

Trump and many of his defenders have declared his businesses, including those in the former Soviet Union, to be off-limits to the Mueller investigation. They argue that the special counsel should focus only on the possibility of explicit acts of collusion between the Trump campaign and the Russian government. This neatly avoids the reality of *sistema*. As Pavlovsky wrote, "Under Putin, *sistema* has become a method for making deals among businesses, powerful players, and the people. Business has not taken over the state, nor vice versa; the two have merged in a union of total and seamless corruption."



# NYPD Need Legitimacy

Malcolm Gladwell's *David and Goliath*:

*[L]egitimacy is based on three things. First of all, the people who are asked to obey authority have to feel like they have a voice—that if they speak up, they will be heard. Second, the law has to be predictable. There has to be a reasonable expectation that the rules tomorrow are going to be roughly the same rules today. And third, the authority has to be fair. It can't treat one group differently from another....*

*[W]hen the law is applied in the absence of legitimacy, it does not produce obedience. It produces the opposite. It leads to backlash.*

A *New York Times* article reported on the NYPD's Juvenile Robbery Intervention Program (J-RIP) created by Chief Joanne Jaffe:

*The New York City Police Department has embarked on a novel approach to deter juvenile robbers, essentially staging interventions and force-feeding outreach in an effort to stem a tide of robberies by dissuading those most likely to commit them.*

*Officers not only make repeated drop-ins at homes and schools, but they also drive up to the teenagers in the streets, shouting out friendly hellos, in front of their friends. The force's Intelligence Division also deciphers each teenager's street name and gang affiliation.*

*Detectives compile a binder on each teenager that includes photos from Facebook and arrest photos of the teenager's associates, not unlike the flow charts generated by law enforcement officials to track organized crime.*

Gladwell continues:

*Now, why was Jaffe so obsessed with meeting her J-RIPPers' families? **Because she didn't think the police in Brownsville were perceived as legitimate.** Across the United States, an astonishing number of black men have spent some time in prison. (To give you just one statistic, 69 percent of black male high school dropouts born in the late seventies have done time behind bars.) Brownsville is a neighborhood full of black male high school dropouts, which means that virtually every one of those juvenile delinquents on Jaffe's list would have had a brother or a father or a cousin who had served time in jail. If that many people in your life have served time behind bars, does the law seem fair anymore? Does it seem predictable? What Jaffe realized when she came to Brownsville was that the police were seen as the enemy. And if the police were seen as the enemy, how on earth would she be able to get fifteen- and sixteen-year-olds—already embarked on a course of mugging and stealing—to change their ways? She could threaten them and warn them of the dire consequences of committing more crimes. But these were teenagers, stubborn and defiant by nature, who had already drifted into a life of crime. Why should they listen to her? She represented the institution that had put their fathers and brothers and cousins in prison. She needed to win back the respect of the community, and to do that, she needed the support of the families of her J-RIPPers.*



Kids playing football with then NYPD Housing Bureau Chief Joanne Jaffe [now Community Affairs Bureau Chief] at PSA 6's National Night Out event at the Grant Houses in Harlem.

# Seven Magazine “Real Value for New York”



Live  
From  
VA

Hosted by

Niece Eaton  
aka Diamond Black

Created & Produced by

Terrance  
Jackson

Ask, and it will be given to you;  
Seek, and you will find;  
Knock, and it will be opened to you.

~ Matthew 7:7

The Genesis for *Seven Magazine* began over ten years ago. Before Facebook, I had the idea of developing a social media platform that integrated music and broadcast television.

This idea led to the development of a television show called *Live From VA* where we interviewed such guests as: Academy Award winner Mo’Nique, Russell Simmons & Rev Run, Kanye West, Pharell Williams & Chad Hugo (the Neptunes), and Katt Williams.

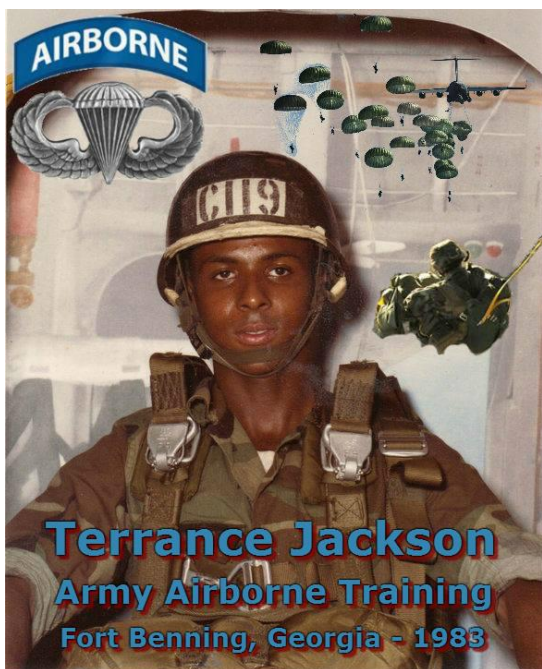
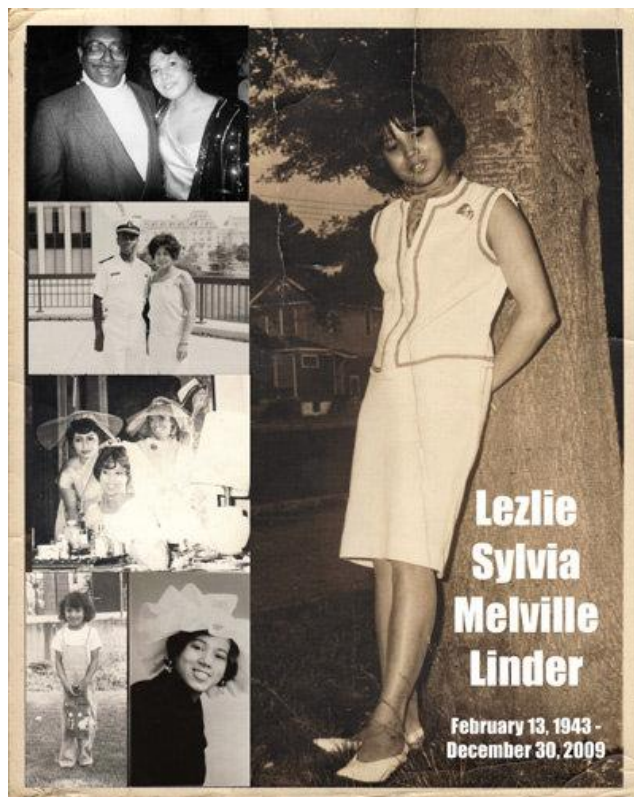
In January 2009, my mother, Lezlie Linder, was diagnosis with lung cancer. On my bookshelf, I had a copy of Ralph Moss’s *The Cancer Industry*, it argues that chemotherapy and radiation are largely ineffective and so toxic people often die from their treatment rather than their disease. She really wasn’t interested.

In May 2009, in order to help encourage my mother to eat healthier, I attended a screening of the documentary *Fresh* which included a reception that featured Joel Salatin and

Will Allen. Living in Williamsburg, Virginia, I was motivated to host a screening and panel at the local library.

We understand that the new model of advertising and branding demands that companies improve public life and satisfy the needs of our higher sacred selves.

*Seven Magazine* creates real innovation and real value for local families and businesses by understanding people as human beings, not consumers. The basic idea is to build a close personal relationship based on quality, service, friendship, loyalty, and communications. And, not based on deceptions.



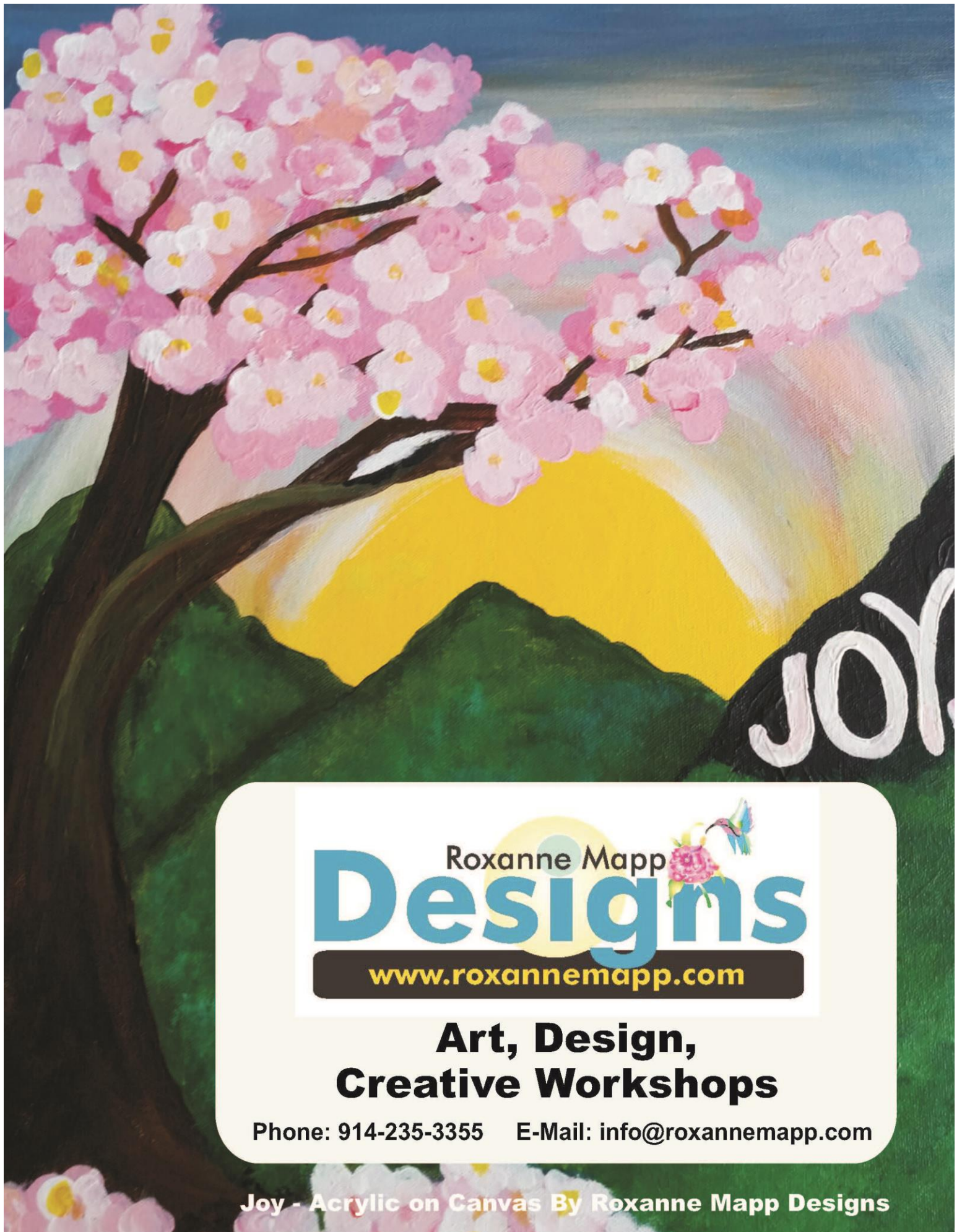
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