



THE LEARNING

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF DONCARES OF PHILADELPHIA

ACADEMY POST

(Photo Courtesy of Brandon C. Ballard)

MILLENNIAL INSPIRATION

By Donovan Forrest

On Friday, May 11th, DonCARES of Philadelphia celebrated the end of another successful year of mentoring with our third millennial speaker's series event. Among our panelists were Sam Brown, Deana Young, Travis Wolfe, Janae Rockemore, Carine Dorlus, Shawn Aelong, and Khadijah Fofana. The purpose of our discussion was to inspire students at the U School through our stories of perseverance, and accomplishments. DonCARES Founder was hoping that U School Students and panelists would be open to a mentoring relationship.

Each panelist brought something unique and inspiring to the table. Sam Brown is a graduate of Millersville University and a motivational speaker. Sam's mantra Faith and Effort is what he uses to reach his dreams. Next up, Deana Young is an educator and gospel singer whose music is available on Apple Music. At the end of the program, Deana and Janae Rockemore who refers to herself as an effervescent woman with an ardency for education, the arts, and advocacy for the youth talked with a student at the U School who was finding her passions in life.

Travis T. Wolfe and Shawn Aelong inspired the afternoon's attendees with their testimony while Shawn told the youth members to continue countering the false perceptions made against them as people of color by working hard and continuing their education.

Also in attendance was Carine Dorlus, the Founder of Philly 4 Haiti. Philly 4 Haiti is a non-profit organization whose primary goal is to provide agency and education to build partnerships with other cause-driven organizations, colleges, and universities, in an effort to provide communities in Haiti with essential, educational, economic, and health resources.

Khadijah Fofana, a current Temple University Student and the CEO of Avantika Hijabs was in attendance also. When her business was referred to as "The best thing coming from Southwest Philadelphia." by DonCARES Founder Donovan Forrest, Fofana smiled saying: "Thank you."



Thank You From Our President:

I wholeheartedly love everyone who is part of or who has contributed to DonCARES in any way. Our mission in North Philadelphia wouldn't be nearly as successful without the warm welcome of our services by the School District of Philadelphia and our North Philadelphia community.

Thank you to our partners and especially our mentors who have committed themselves to the critical work of mentoring. If it were not for you, our primary mission of mentorship would not be possible. So, thank you, thank you, thank you, and have a great summer!



Hidden Figures

By Donovan Forrest

On Friday, May 4th, DonCARES of Philadelphia and the ladies of Womin (in) Honour held a panel discussion for female students at the U School in North Philadelphia. The name of the panel discussion was Hidden Figures. The purpose of the panel discussion was for millennial women of color in the North Philadelphia community to share their stories of perseverance and achievement in male-dominated spaces. DonCARES of Philadelphia Founder Donovan Forrest was hoping the conversation would equip U School students with the tools necessary to navigate potential spaces that are chockful of micro and macro-aggressions towards women of color. Among the Hidden Figures Panelists were Brianna Morales, Kaya Jones, Tierra Jones, Chynna Wilson, and Nagiarry Porcena-Meneus. The panel discussion was moderated by Talaya Pollard a member of Womin in Honour.

Among the Hidden Figures panelist were five phenomenal women. The first panelist was Nagiarry Porcena Meneus. Nagiarry is a Temple University Student and community activist in North Philadelphia. Ms. Porcena Meneus is also a founding member of People of Color Environmental Club. Also on the panel was Chynna Wilson. Mrs. Wilson is a retired Navy Veteran who served a tour in Afghanistan.

Chynna shared her story as a mechanic who tended to trucks to make sure they ran properly. She also recalled her grandfather telling her that because of who she is and the color of her skin she is going to have to work 110%.

After posting the event on her Instagram page. A tenth-grade student commented: "Amazing having you at our school." Mrs. Wilson responded that she would love to stay updated with any of the student's goals and accomplishments. The student responded that she would keep her updated.

Hidden Figures is a panel discussion that will return to the U School in September.

The mission is to shed light on the contributions of black and brown women in male-dominated institutions and workforces. DonCARES of Philadelphia Founder and President Donovan Forrest believes in the empowerment of young girls of color. "It's our duty as male community activists to provide these spaces for our women. We need to share the stories that are too often pushed under the rug. It's unfortunate that women of color are not yet regarded as equal despite them being the highest educated group in the world."

CONGRATS, BRITTANI FOR
BECOMING A MEMBER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA
SORORITY., INC.!



ALSO, CONGRATS DAVID
AND DAYMON FOR
GRADUATING!!!



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**WHENEVER YOU SERVE YOU
WILL ALWAYS SACRIFICE
SOMETHING BUT WHAT YOU
WILL GAIN IS LOVE.**

DONOVAN W. FORREST

IS AN AUTHOR, EDUCATOR,
AND CHARLOTTE NEWCOMBE SCHOLAR AT TEMPLE
UNIVERSITY IN PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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