

A young man with short dark hair, wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a green tie, is sitting in the center of a large, empty lecture hall. He is leaning forward with his hands clasped on the seat in front of him, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The lecture hall is filled with rows of light-colored wooden chairs, all of which are empty except for the one he is occupying. The lighting is warm and even, highlighting the texture of the wood and the man's features.

MT

APRIL 14 – APRIL 28, 2016

REFRAMING AND REDEFINING

IN CONVERSATION WITH THE
85TH PRESIDENT-ELECT
JOHNATHAN D. HILL

ARTICLE BY : CHAD RHYM

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JAYSON OVERBY, JR. / THE MAROON TIGER

THE REFRAMING 85TH SGA AND PRESIDENT 2016 REDEFINING 2017

Chad Rhym
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Seconds before speaking at the Southern Association for College Admissions Counselors Conference in Miami, Fl. Johnathan Hill received the phone call of a lifetime. After campaigning, debating, and praying, Hill had been elected the 85th President-Elect of the Student Government Association. A position highly revered, Hill is certainly ready to lead the student body.

In a 2014 article, the Maroon Tiger editorial board asserted, "A suitable candidate should be balanced, being both innovative and personable while also being professional and guardedly responsive when necessary," and Hill embodies said characteristics. Undeniably, the student body chose the right candidate, one who possess an admirable passion for the institution.

"Honestly, I couldn't believe it. I happened to be in Miami when I found out, and I got a phone call just like 'yo, you won', and I broke down immediately, literally crying tears," 85th President-Elect Hill said. "People were trying to understand why. It's just one of those things I've dreamt of, just the history of Morehouse, to know that the student body supports and believes in your vision, your plan to come to fruition on campus, it just means a lot. I don't think emotionally I knew what it meant until I heard those words: you won."

Hill vanquished adversity held against him. Before elected as Morehouse College's Student Government Association's newest president, he prevailed against several obstacles between him and the presidency.

"I lost my dad at nine to the military, so I didn't have a prominent male figure in my life. I was raised by a single mom, on and off of work, two older sisters, and two younger. There's so many things I go through family wise," Hill said. "Just knowing that my mom didn't finish college, this is a really big deal for her, especially coming to Morehouse because they weren't even on the radar for me when I was applying to schools. She always said she wanted the best for me, the best for her son, and I didn't know what that was like until I started saying the same thing about myself, that's all a parent wants for you – the best for yourself."

Again, Hill embraced hardship, and used his complications as metaphors in regard to the student body to emphasize with his peers. On voting day, Hill even set up a station on Brown Street to foster a personal relationship with students. Considering that he'll be put in a position representing 2000 students, it's only fitting that he learns from them, which in return will allow him to be a better leader.

"When I hear about students in the office of housing and problems they go through of not being able to shower, I think about when I was homeless with my mom, like that's crazy," Hill said. "Even when I think about students being alienated, I'm a transfer student, and transfer students come into Morehouse and they are sometimes forgotten about. Like, 'they've gone to school, they'll find their way'."

Hill's running mate, vice president Ryan George, shared a political and brotherly bond.

"We both had a passion for leading and helping others. It was around early this year, fall 2015, where we had the vision of working together, and we think that we work well together and that we know how to handle friendship and business," George said. "We both understand we have to get stuff done and we are very passionate about it. We have a great relationship."

Regardless of the trials and tribulation Hill has faced, he received 55.5 percent of votes in the run-off election, between him, and senior Robin McKinnie, and will be Morehouse College's 2016-16 SGA president.

"This is probably one of the greatest feelings I've ever felt in my life. I literally had to take a second and pray. My dad always told me, never beg for something because you won't be able to appreciate it when it comes to you," Hill said. "And I didn't beg for this, I really, really worked hard, and I got to see it through the end line."

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- Ryan C. George, 85th Vice President-Elect of the Student Government Association

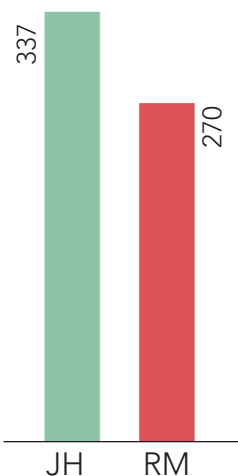
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2016 - 2017 MOREHOUSE COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
 ELECTED OFFICIALS

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 Ryan George
 Johntavis Williams
 Moses Washington
 Ryan Brazier
 Jarrell Jordan
 DeMarcus Burke
 Joshua Reed
 John Cooper

SGA President Jawuan Johnson
SGA Vice President Demarcus Brinkley
Senior Board Trustee Dimone Long
Junior Board Trustee Clifton Davis
SGA Treasurer Xavier Hill
SGA Executive Secretary
SGA Executive Director Keith Strozier
Senator-At-Large; First Chair/ Dean of Delegation Kristopher Mathis
Senator-At-Large

Senator-At-Large
Senior Class President
Junior Class President
Sophomore Class President
Sophomore Class Senator;
First Chair/ Dean of Delegation
Sophomore Class Senator
Sophomore Class Senator



337

Of the 607 votes tallied for the SGA presidency Johnathan D. Hill secured 55.5 percent of the 607 votes, while Robin McKinzie lagged only a little bit behind with 44.5 percent.

607

More than represent 2000 students represent Morehouse College, but the turnout rate for votes were tremendously low.

315

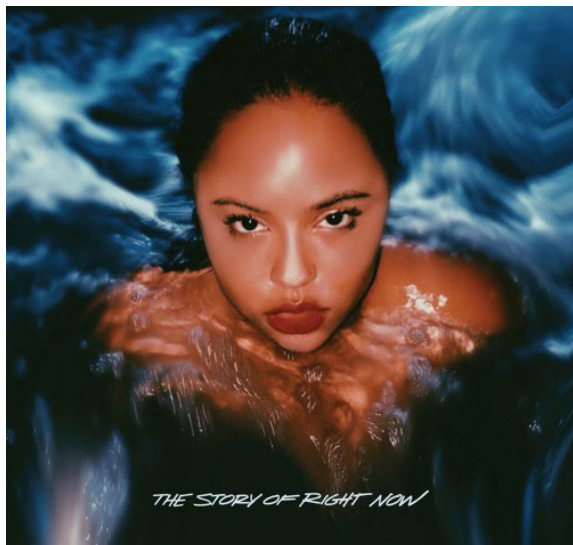
In a tight race for VP, Ryan George achieved a narrow victory over Lonnie Washington through securing a total of just 23 more votes than Lonnie Washington, Jr.



Listening and Expanding Your Music Palette

Albums You Might've Missed

Melet Cook
Contributing Music Editor
Cookmelet@gmail.com



1. SAMARIA

The Story of Right Now
Release Date 2016
Spotify, Soundcloud, and Itunes
soundcloud.com/samariamusic
R&B, Rap, Soul



2. D.R.A.M

Gahdamn! (Atlantic)
Release Date October 23, 2015
soundcloud.com/only1dram
Itunes and Spotify
R&B, Rap, Soul

CHUCK ZLOTNICK/WARNER BROS. PICTURES



Film Review: 'Barbershop: The Next Cut'

Jayson Overby, Jr.
Editor-in-Chief
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Undeniably a catalyst for assertion, reconstruction and liberation, "Barbershop: The Next Cut" attempts to give structure and purpose to black activism locally and nationally. Set to hit theaters on April 15, "Barbershop: The Next Cut," has definitely set the tone for films due to tackle police brutality, injustice within the black community, and gentrification.

In the 14 years since the original Barbershop (2002) release and 12 since the sequel Barbershop 2: Back in Business (2004), Calvin Palmer, Jr. (Ice Cube) has maintained the traditional culture of the South Side barbershop. However, this time around, he shares the establishment with Angie (Regina Hall) who operates a beauty salon.

With a dynamic cast, which includes Terri (Eve) and her barber husband, Rashad (Common), Draya (Nicki Minaj), the film is an ongoing comedy. Carrying on an altogether lively performance are Jerrod (Lamorne Morris), Indian-American cutter Raja (Utkarsh Ambudkar), and Bree (Margot Bingham), a group of characters who adds to the urgency of the film.

At the intersection of sexual innuendos, barbershop politics, and father-son disagreements, the cast still manages to insert issues within the community, which directly affect their business as well as both Calvin and Rashaad sons Jalen (Michael Rainey Jr.) and Kenny (Diallo Thompson).

When asked about the role barbershops play in the black community Cube said, "We're not really into going to therapy. It's taboo in our culture, and most of the times you can talk your problems out are at the barbershop or salon."

An ode to Chicago, the film isn't dense enough in its context, but it's rather functioning as an outcry to the city in regards to the widespread gang violence that continues to plague its neighborhoods.

More Than A Moment

In many ways, "Barbershop: The Next Cut" is attempting to educate and construct a platform for discourse and dialogue for their black and non-black audience. Despite mentioning Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown and Tamir Rice in the film, it'll take more than name-dropping to develop the initial framework of how we, the black community, tackle issues within our community

"We all have to take ownership of our community, not just of our family or what we possess, but also of our community," Cube said. "I think we can do a lot by not accepting foolishness all the time, and not accepting it especially from the kids."

A kind of all-in-your-face film, "Barbershop: The Next Cut" is guaranteed to keep you laughing with its commercial appeal, Instagram references, and all around comedy.



UNDERGROUND: A NEW SLAVE STORY

Alexandria Fuller
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Screenwriter and producer Misha Green, has given television a new perspective of slavery by capturing stories that transforms the stereotypical image of slaves into heroines. In her recent drama TV series *Underground*, co-created with former *Heroes* writer Joe Pakaski, she explores the love, pain, and humanity of slaves on the Underground Railroad through an entertaining and organic lens.

"I want people to know who lived during this time and weren't just slaves like as we say. We got slaves, done. I'm like no these were people," Green said.

The drama series was first aired on March 9th with WGN. When asked about how the idea came about Green explained, "My sister said to me, 'you should do a show about the Underground Railroad'. I knew about the Underground Railroad, but I think once we started researching Joe Pokaski, my co-creator and I, it was just the stories that I felt that I hadn't even heard. And I'm like I've learned about this stuff, but to hear about these stories of ingenuity and how they migrated 600 miles north. I'm like how has this not been told?"

To develop the characters and context Green researched and read many slave narratives found in the Library of Congress. She also was inspired by her love for horror films to add surprise elements to each episode.

Underground includes a remarkable crew behind and on camera from Jurnee Smollett-Bell, John Legend, and Aldis Hodge. In light of the work it takes to hire such notable artists and actors, Green was proud to say that many of the crewmembers were on board from the beginning.

"Actually we got a lot of our first choices, like Jurnee Smollett-Bell," Green said. "I grew up with her so I was like of course Jurnee, and then Christopher Meloni. I think that what was great about it was that a lot of the people came passionate about the project. They came at these roles like I want to be that person. I think that all of them draw you in and it doesn't hurt that they're sexy."

Despite the crew's excitement, many networks were hesitant to take on the series. "A lot of people were thinking oh my god who wants to watch 12 Years of Slave every week? One of the things we kept saying is that this is not about the occupation; it's about the revolution. This is real. We don't have to make this stuff up, we don't have to move into this sci-fi world, and that's worth telling because it's the story of American heroes," Green said.

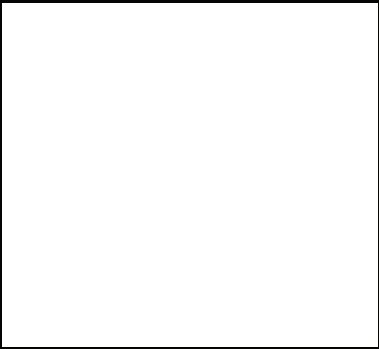
Some critics argue that they are tired of seeing African-American people's history only being connected to slavery. When asked about how she responds to this issue Green stated, "Yeah I want to see when we were kings and queens too, but we're kings and queens here. I want to see that be told and not for us to run from that fact. I do really believe that our people's struggle was a beautiful struggle, we just have never shown a light on the beautiful side and what it means. It was an integrated civil rights movement. Seeing everybody come together and what can be accomplished, that's exciting to me."

Starting young in the game, Green has not been discouraged to develop major projects like *Underground* because of her awareness of the dedication and confidence necessary to be successful in the industry.

"You have to be bold. It's really about making that decision and falling through with that," Green said.

According to Green, the crew only had fourteen days to shoot two episodes. Aside from the houses that were already built, the setting was designed to fit the concepts within the project. The production designer Meghan Rodgers developed every intricate idea to the ripples in the pond destroying the big house, coinciding with the enslaved peoples decision to escape.

Anthony Hemingway has directed the first four episodes of *Underground* and it continues to air weekly on WGN until May 11th.



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ESTABLISHING A GENUINE CONNECTION:

A museum's mission to engage the Atlanta University Center

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Since 2013, UNCF (The United Negro College Fund) and AAMD (The Association of Art Museum Directors) have taken part in a nationwide diversity initiative to immerse 14 HBCU students in the museum world as interns in art museums near their colleges each year. Interns are exposed to professional museum careers, such as accounting, finance, development, community relations, marketing and education, in order to gain an understanding of the professional needs of museums and to make a meaningful contribution to the organization to which they are assigned.

This year Jason Coleman, a junior at Morehouse College was selected to participate in this initiative for the Spring 2016 semester and is interning at the High Museum of Art Atlanta. The High Museum of Art Atlanta is committed to establishing a genuine connection with the Atlanta University Center through the implementation of initiatives to increase the museum's presence on campus and activities to engage AUC students at the museum as well. The High Museum of Art is adapting to serve the needs of a broader audience in order to expand its service to every college community in Atlanta.

As the largest museum in the Southeast region, the High recognizes its responsibility to appeal to the college community and strives to become a place that college students can feel welcome and included. Initiatives that the High museum is using to increase its college student engagement are College

Month, where students are able to enter the museum for \$5 every day for the month of April, College Night; where students are invited to spend an evening at the High on Saturday, April 16, 2016. College night will include live music, art inspired by Basquiat: The Unknown Notebooks and Vik Muniz, a photo booth, and more.

The High Museum of Art Atlanta also participates in Friday Night Jazz, where visitors can enjoy refreshments while listening to award winning Jazz bands in the gallery. Coleman serves as the face of the High Museum of Art in the AUC and is conducting research on college programs in art museums across the country in order to gain knowledge of programs that the High can use to increase their college student engagement.

Coleman's internship will conclude with a trip to Cleveland, Ohio for Professional Development training through mandatory attendance at the AAMD Conference. Fellows will have an opportunity to network with art museum directors from across the United States, Canada and Mexico and attend multiple presentations and panel discussions on the work they will complete during the spring 2016 semester.

The High Museum of Art's mission to create a genuine connection with college students is supported by the entirety of its staff. Rand Suffolk has served as the Director of the High Museum of Art since Nov. 2, 2015 and has brought a new culture of growth, collaboration, connectivity, and inclusivity to the High.

"...Because of the sheer numbers, it would be naïve to not see the students and faculty of the college community as a target audience for the High. The

appreciation of complex visual culture gives students an opportunity to be inspired in their own studies, as well as being able to admire the true beauty of artistic vision," said Suffolk.

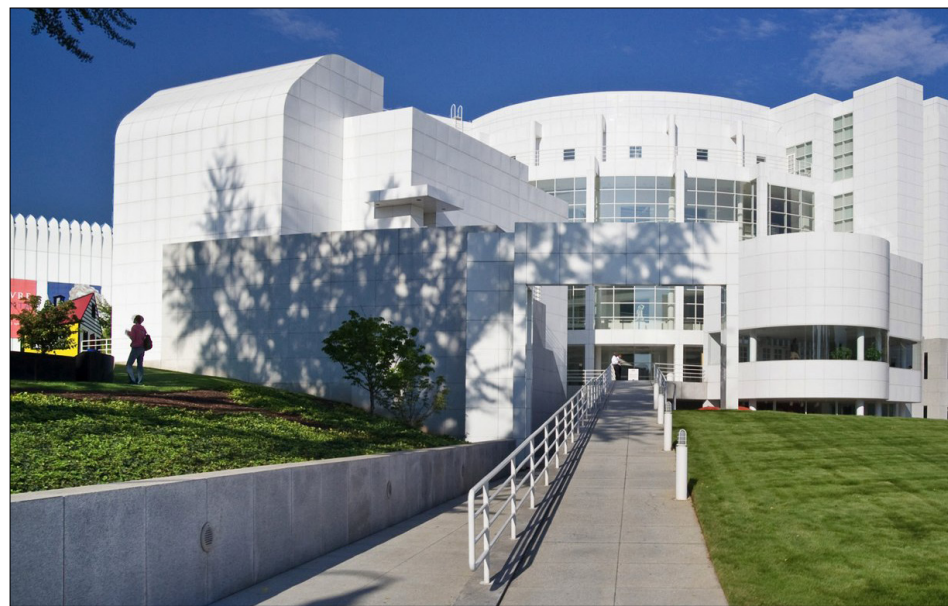
Rhonda Matheison serves as the Chief Financial Officer at the High Museum of Art Atlanta, and her son is a 2007 graduate of Morehouse College. She states that "Morehouse is a special place, and the High Museum of Art is a place where students have the opportunity to participate in many events that can

change their lives". Her vision for college engagement at the High Museum of Art is a place that any college student considers visiting in their free time and is engaged through the appreciation of art.

Creating a genuine connection takes time, but is a mission that The High Museum of Art has accepted and is dedicated to fulfilling. The High Museum of Art is easily accessible from the Arts Center MARTA station. Visit High.org for information on upcoming events.



Rand Suffolk: Director of the High Museum of Art, Atlanta



High Museum of Art, Atlanta

COLLEGE NIGHT

Saturday, April 16, 2016 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Buy Tickets Member Tickets

High Museum of Art

\$7 per student, FREE for members

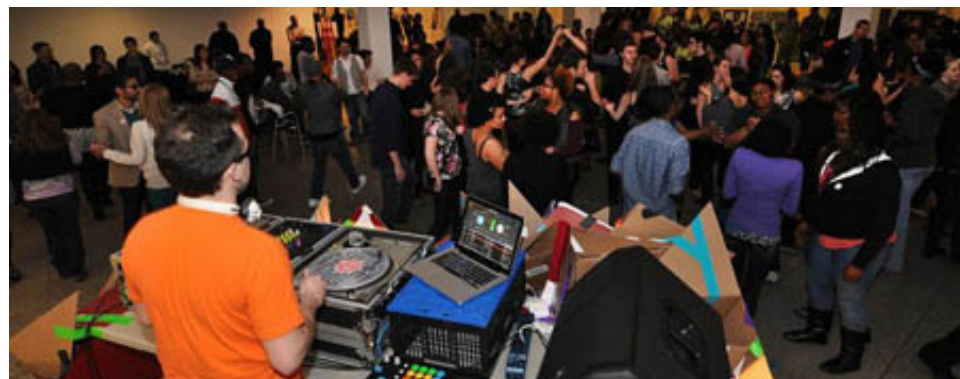
Description

Don't miss College Night 2016 at the High Museum of Art!

Live music, art making inspired by Basquiat: The Unknown Notebooks and Vik Muniz, a photo booth, and more!

PLUS \$25 Student Memberships! (regularly \$35)

Enjoy FREE admission for a year with a discounted Student Membership to the High. This offer will be available exclusively during College Night! Walk-up only.



YOUR AD COULD BE HERE

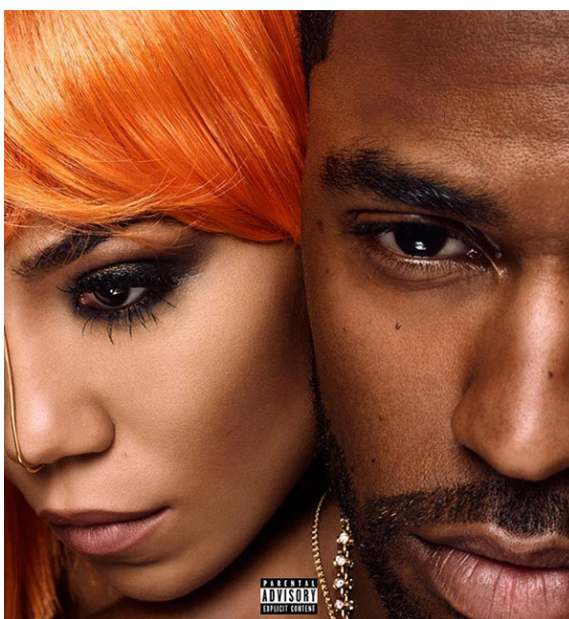
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Listening and Expanding Your Music Palette

[continued]



3. **Anderson.Paak**
Malibu (Empire)
Release Date January 15, 2016
Itunes and Spotify
Rap, R&B, Soul



4. **Big Sean | Jhene Aiko**
Twenty88 (GOOD/Def Jam)
Release Date April 1, 2016
Tidal
Rap, R&B



A LETTER TO THE OFFICE OF HOUSING AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE

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We often forget blessings. For example, at Morehouse, after moving mandatorily into our dormitory for our freshman and maybe sophomore years, we get to the point where the hype ends and we exasperatingly realize, this is my living condition. From the outset with New Student Orientation, your first experience with the cafeteria, and other Morehouse amenities, to now collegiately accustomed in second semester, you experience what economists like to call: diminishing marginal utility, and, as time goes on, you forget to realize that your dorm is your home.

An unfortunate experience regarding one of the most integral parts of your tenure at the college: housing, may afflict your holistic experience in the many other offerings Mother Morehouse has to offer. I can say this because as a junior, my friends and I have experienced love-hate relationships with our dormitories too.

Common sayings during your freshman year will be (or have been), "I live in a prison," or "I am paying such-and-such dollars for this?!" Trust me, we have been there; however, after much to our chagrin, we understand that we made the appropriate decision coming to Morehouse, and living on campus. Here's why:

Look around yourself. To your left and right are students who do not share your social-economic background. They did not have the same experiences as you growing up, whether it may have been through opulence, poverty, or maybe something in-between.

Look around yourself again. Your brothers do not share the same style of clothes that you don, nor speak with the same slang that you have transculturally employed amongst them.

Lastly, look around yourself once more, and realize, that you are simply at Mother Morehouse. She, just like many relatives we know, always comes through. I realized this when I stayed in DuBois my freshman year. Rooms were small, just like everyone else's, water was sometimes too hot, yet every one of my brothers experienced the same frustration.

When we complained, we did it together. When something was pending to be resolved, we brainstormed other ways around the issue and carried on. Eventually, issues were resolved; however, through the process we built fortified brotherhood; and, in the end, we would be fools to notice the problem, and not give back to cure the issue.

Many housing problems, like other problems at Morehouse, are attributable to a dearth of resources. This means, that SMART Board in your classroom not working, is due to a financial resource issue, not departmental laziness to implement one. For the class of 2018 and beyond, you all do not know the literal struggle of a ramshackle cafeteria prior to your arrival. Yet, that got fixed, and your 2017 brothers and those before us persevered.

I want to write a specific thank you to the Office of Housing and Residential Life (OHRL), to express matured appreciation for situating me during my three-years here at the college, but also through your doing, teaching me necessary lessons of true brotherhood, patience, and loyalty to my campus.

To all students reading this, please take my words as truth. Although, if you refuse to take my word for it, you ought to stop by the offices of OHRL, schedule a conversation with them, and see for yourself; as, you will find that these people care. Thank you OHRL!

PROGRESSIVE IMAGES PHOTOGRAPHY



THE INVESTITURE OF MARY SCHMIDT CAMPBELL

On Saturday, April 9, 2016, Spelman College celebrated the inauguration of Mary Schmidt Campbell, the 10th president of Spelman College.



Spike Lee speaking at the inauguration of Mary Schmidt Campbell



Malcolm Banks
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TAKE THE SHOT

Golf is widely recognized as a difficult sport to master, starting with the very basics. Many never get past the beginner stages as they folly trying to develop an often broken form. That's where the SportPod comes into the picture, a new age product that has the potential to revolutionize and help create new interest in the Sport.

The SportPod, created by the African American duo of Drew Dixon and Drae Hubbard is a product that that ultimately helps an individual with their golf swing by recording movements. The idea first came about due to a frustrating experience that company CEO Dixon detailed.

"I'm a terrible golfer and so is Drae," Dixon said. "We're always at the golf course trying to record our swing, but we couldn't find anything that existed that would help us. I asked Drae if he had any ideas, he suggested that we make something, and it really started from that point on. We made a prototype which was terrible but it grew from there."

Both Dixon and Hubbard have a background in golf as Dixon has been visiting courses since he was a toddler his father. Hubbard picked up the club roughly ten years ago, before putting them down, and then ultimately getting involved in the sport again a few years ago.

The original product, which launched last October, had an initial soft launch in November, followed by an official launch in January, which surpassed expectations as all the products are currently sold out.

"We wanted to be cautious with our soft launch because we didn't know how the market would react but once we went to the full launch," Dixon said. "We

started having golfers on board, PGA people interested, it really started to take off."

The products, which have all been sold out for an extended period of time now, is a great sign for the company, as their marketing plan so far has been strictly Instagram endorsements.

"Instagram is our main focus, but we are constantly at the golf course trying to strike conversation with people," Dixon said. "Once we start our next launch, we are going to start reaching out to golf magazines, as well as courses and trainers. We believe trainers can help push the products to their athletes."

The company, which is eyeing a late April date for presales on their second surge of products, has left Hubbard and Dixon very grateful and even more dedicated to their craft.

"I think one of the biggest things we pride ourselves on is two black guys trying to break into a game that historically really isn't for us," Dixon said. "We are sticking strong to our roots and showing that this game is for anyone and anyone can start a business, you just have to put your mind to it."

Hubbard and Dixon, focused on their next steps stressed a message that they live by and is central to The SportPod. Take Your Shot, which is visible on the companies Instagram (TheSportPod) as a hashtag, is all about positivity and believing in yourself.

"Hashtag you take the shot at whatever your dreams are," Hubbard said. "Your goals or whatever you do want in life, just take the shot. That's our motto."

MALAKAI MILLER / THE MAROON TIGER

FROM MAKING THE BAND TO MAKING A NAME

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Being one of the faces of the latest Black male singing groups, Big Mike is now trying to reestablish a solo name for himself. While his time with Day26 came to an end, he is now on the road to rebranding himself.

"The first time that we [Day26] actually took a break, I pretty much just got into dealing with my family, and just being around them more because I wasn't around for the past five years," Mike said. He delve back into church, and even started a group with his family called 2G Ministries. Despite the group being on break, Mike did not let that stop him from his music.

"I was always singing and performing still, but I waited because I thought I knew we were going to get back together and do what we do," Mike said. "I didn't want the whole thing of being solo to cloud the return, the reunion. I waited like an idiot but it's cool."

With his solo career continuing to blossom, he keeps his focus on simply giving a great show. With an industry "over saturated" with talent, it can be easy for

an artist to easily be tuned out. However, his time with Day26 has helped him to grind hard and never give up.

"We were thrown in the grinder a lot," Mike said. "We would get ready for a three, four month tour and we had to get ready off of three days of rehearsals. Those rehearsals were like fifteen hours."

In order to rebrand himself away from Day26, he is focused on making music for every age range. To reach the college crowd, he has been doing shows at many HBCUs along the east coast. He aims to continue putting out music for everyone to listen to.

"Within the next year, I'm going to back on that plateau and its going to be huge," Mike said. "We got homecomings, we got the BET awards—they contracted me to be a Music Matters artist—but I also have a lot of performances in LA for that award weekend. We going to run these schools though."

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