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PhiladelphiaObserver.com

Vol. 29 • No. 46

November 17 – November 23, 2022

WES MOORE BECOMES AMERICA'S THIRD BLACK GOVERNOR



Moore was backed by Republican Governor Larry Hogan who supported him over his Trump-backed opponent. As governor elect of Maryland, Moore follows Govs: Douglas Wilder, Va; Deval Patrick, Mass, p3

Twitter bombarded with anti-Black tweets under Elon Musk's ownership

Use of the N-word explodes in first week

By Barrington M. Salmon

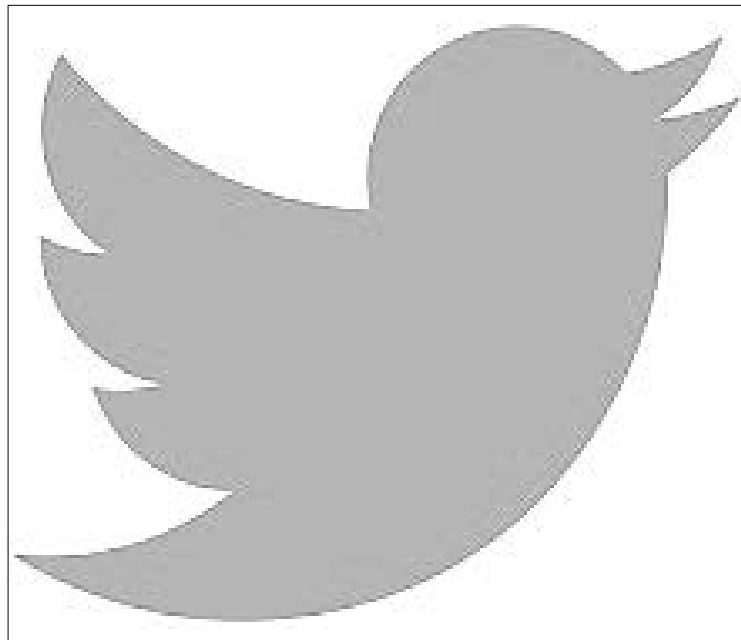
Twitter, now owned by Elon Musk, known as the world's richest man, has exploded with hate speech.

As soon as Jessica J. González and her colleagues at the media advocacy group, Free Press, heard rumblings that billionaire business magnate and Tesla founder Elon Musk wanted to acquire Twitter several months ago, they began sounding the alarm about the effects that such a move would have on a range of people.

During negotiations between Twitter leadership and Musk, an alarmed González warned that if the sale went through, Musk taking Twitter private would mean less accountability to the government and based on his actions in the past, the sale would present a clear and present danger if he allows hateful, racist, sexist and other language to go unchecked. In the past, González said, Musk has been a vocal critic of efforts by companies like Twitter and Meta to moderate platform content and restrict the spread of hateful and threatening speech and disinformation.

So it came as no surprise to González that within hours of the sale being finalized last week, Twitter was bombarded with a barrage of racist, homophobic, anti-semitic and transphobic tweets from anonymous but emboldened trolls who also posted Nazi themes, putting in stark terms the belief that after Musk took over the social network, his promise of unrestricted free speech will power an upsurge of online hate.

According to The Network Contagion Research Institute, which tracks cyber-social threats, use of



the N-word on Twitter exploded by about 500 percent in the 12-hours after news of the finalization of the sale went public. Musk assumed control of Twitter, after paying \$44 billion for it, citing free speech and promising to remove rules put in place by managers that he deems restrictive. González and other worry that Musk will make one of the world's most prominent social media sites and allow it to become a hotbed of radicalization in a space well-suited for extremism, lies and conspiracy theories to take root and blossom.

"His taking Twitter private will mean less accountability to government," said González, Free Press' co-CEO in an interview before the sale became final. "I worry about the intimidation, harassment and hate on these media platforms. He calls himself a 'free-speech absolutist' but he has attacked people online, asked

China to censor his critics and used Tesla to sway the market—he's a deeply flawed human with no commitment to civil and human rights."

The Washington Post notes that Twitter is awash in racist, sexist and anti-gay and anti-lesbian slurs. For example: "Elon now controls twitter. Unleash the racial slurs. K—S AND N—S," said one account, slandering Jews and Blacks.

Another person said, "I can freely express how much I hate n—s ... now, thank you elon."

The Washington Post cited the example of someone posting a single-word tweet, a single racial slur in capital letters which was retweeted more than 700 times and liked more than 5,000 times. The trio of reporters said the tweet was posted Thursday night and remained online more than 16 hours later. They also cited the example of an account, created this month,

which sported a swastika as its profile picture and retweeted quotes from Musk as well as antisemitic memes.

Another post said, "Elon now controls twitter. Unleash the racial slurs," the Post said.

González, co-CEO of Free Press and a founder of the Change the Terms coalition, said what, Musk, the richest person in the world wants isn't always good for the rest of us.

"We should be alarmed and concerned that the wealthiest person on the planet is buying the town square of social media," said Chuck Collins, an author and a senior scholar at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, DC, where he directs the Program on Inequality and the Common Good. "The difference between an entrepreneur and an oligarch is that an oligarch deploys their wealth to acquire media and capture political systems to advance their own wealth, power and influence."

Since the beginning of the pandemic, Collins said, Musk has seen his wealth surge from \$24 billion to about \$266 billion now.

"How he wields this wealth and power is now a matter of broad public concern and policy," said Collins. "We should consider important communication platforms like Twitter as effectively public utilities, with anti-trust interventions to discourage consolidation and regulation governing practices (as the EU's Digital Services Act is attempting to do)."

Kerrien Suarez, president and CEO of Equity in the Center, said she doesn't think anyone is surprised that Musk bought Twitter, but now that that has happened, each of us has to make a choice

whether to remain on a site that is showing that it's very harmful to African-Americans and other Black people, lesbians, gays and trans people and other marginalized communities.

"He's been consistent in his desire for free speech and he has been a dog whistle for folks on far-right," said Suarez, who has headed the organization since 2019. "Like Parler, free speech won't be sanctioned."

She said she not surprised but is deeply concerned about the surge of the use of the N word, homophobia and the host of other issues that have exploded in the days since the sale was finalized.

"They are celebrating the freedom to use hate speech. It is a safe space for hate speech," said Suarez. "Using sector-validated organizational development and change management best practices to shift mindsets, tactics and systems that drive racial and ethnic diversity at all levels."

She said Equity in the Center refuses to "be party to a space which celebrates bigoted, harmful hate speech and thus will no longer participate or be active on platform."

"It's not a hard decision for us. We will close out account and speak out," said Suarez. "We'll share our reasons for leaving. Perhaps he'll be sued. He's taking it private so he'll be free to do what he wants. Twitter users will have to decide if they leave or stay. But we will not be party to the proliferation of hate speech. It could be like Parler allowing certain types of speech and a being a place to organization and Jan 6-type event. Twitter will become an engine for hate, transphobia, sexism and racism."

Ship refuses to leave Italy port until all migrants are off

Philadelphiaobserver.com

The ship remained moored at the port with 35 migrants on board.

The captain of a charity-run migrant rescue ship refused Italian orders to leave a Sicilian port Sunday after authorities refused to let 35 of the migrants on his ship disembark — part of directives by Italy's new far-right-led government targeting foreign-flagged rescue ships.

Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni's two-week-old government is refusing safe port to four ships operating in the central Mediterranean that have rescued migrants at sea in distress, some as many as 16 days ago, and is allowing only those identified as vulnerable to disembark.

On Sunday, Italy ordered the Humanity 1 to vacate the port of Catania after disembarking 144 rescued migrants, including with children, more than 100 unaccompanied minors and people with medical emergencies.

But its captain refused to comply "until all survivors rescued from distress at sea have been disembarked," said SOS Humanity, the German charity that operates the ship. The vessel remained moored at the port with 35 migrants on board.

Later Sunday, a second charity ship arrived in Catania, and the vetting process was being repeated with the 572 migrants aboard the Geo Barents ship operated by Doctors Without Borders. The selection was completed by late evening, with 357 allowed off but 215 people blocked on board.

Families were the first to leave the ship. One man cradling a baby expressed his gratitude, saying "Thank you, Geo Barents, thank you," as he left. Another man in a wheelchair was carried down by Red Cross workers.

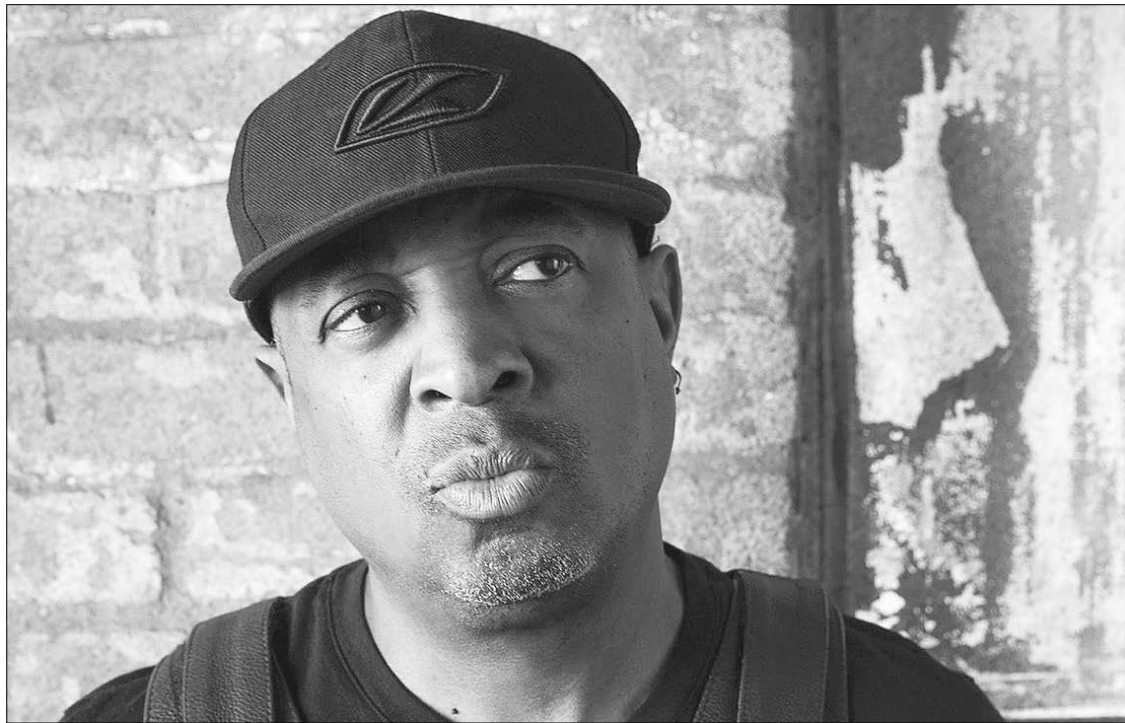
Yet two other boats run by non-governmental organizations remained stuck at sea with no port willing to accept the people they rescued.



Humanitarian groups, human rights activists and two Italian lawmakers who traveled to Sicily protested the selection process as

illegal and inhumane. Italy's new Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi is targeting non-governmental organizations, which Italy has long

accused of encouraging people trafficking in the central Mediterranean Sea. The groups deny the claim.



Chuck D on death of Takeoff: 'When corporations show up God leaves the room'

News analysis

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire

As family, friends, and fans, continue to mourn the death of Migos member Takeoff, the demand for hip-hop to take a stand against gun violence has grown. While many have expressed disbelief and anger that the shooting death of the 28-year-old, whose real name is Kirshnik Khari Ball, took place allegedly because of an argument over a dice game.

Fans on social media and the mainstream press have quickly tossed blame at everyone from Takeoff's bandmate Quavo to clothing boss J. Prince Jr. and even to the slain rap star himself.

And as always, hip-hop has come under fire.

That's no surprise to legendary Public Enemy frontman Chuck D, whom most recognize as hip-hop's voice of reason.

In putting in a perspective as perhaps only the "Fight the Power" artist can, Chuck noted that any other industry that has seen as many fatalities as hip-hop would have addressed that issue long ago.

And Chuck doesn't put the blame entirely on the artists.

"This curiosity of what is this hip-hop thing, what is this Black thing. The world always seems to want to know and mimic our greatness," Chuck asserted in a 30-minute interview with the Black Press of America's live morning news program, "Let It Be Known."

"And if they can find a way to finance and have our people mimic us at our worst – the stereotype that generalizes us as a bunch of murderous thugs and metastasize that over a 10-15-20-year period as being normal, then we got a problem."

He continued:

"I don't blame the youth. You've got to blame some adults hiding behind the scenes, pied piping and pied papering all of this madness and making this kind of thing seem normal. Was there a shoot-out at a

dice game? Yes. Were Black men involved in that circle? Yes. But it's somebody pushing buttons and pulling levers and not only doing so but they have been greatly enriched financially by these incidents."

Takeoff's death counts among a string of murders in the hip-hop community over the past several years.

Other high-profile murders include PnB Rock, Pop Smoke, XXXTentacion, Nipsey Hustle, King Von, and Young Dolph.

"I was in college when Biggie and 'Pac was killed and thought there was no way we'd ever experience anything remotely close to that again," media personality Jemele Hill tweeted following Takeoff's death.

"Now," Hill continued. "It's happening so frequently that you barely have time to recover before someone else is killed."

Chuck noted that a large part of the argument about hip-hop deaths and violence comes from many who don't consider all available facts.

"There are hundreds of thousands of artists out there," he said when asked whether the younger artists pay attention to the old heads.

"Who do you count? Do you count the more successful ones because more people like them? When we start getting into followers and likes, those algorithms don't add up to who we are as a people," Chuck insisted.

He explained:

"I have ten stations on Rap Station (Radio). We play artists from the underground and under-found. We play artists with a 10-15-year career, women worldwide and in more abundance than in the United States."

Chuck continued:

"If you only pay attention to what's being washed up on your shores, you're going to get a limited view of what it really is. There is really no kind of educational forum that people can go to like in other aspects of life. Our arts and culture should be taught to us. If we don't control our educational curriculum, we're going to let cor-

porations teach us. And, whenever corporations show up, God walks out the door."

In a recent podcast, Takeoff spoke about receiving his flowers before he died.

"It's time to pop it," Takeoff said on "Drink Champs."

"It's time to give me my flowers. I don't want them later when I'm not here. I want them right now."

Chuck said the life artists today lead today, compared to earlier hip-hop stars, is different.

"At the beginning of hip-hop, especially in the real beginning, cats wanted to get away from that," Chuck recounted.

"They didn't want to be in the Bronx. New York City had been deemphasized and abandoned by the U.S.A. during a tough fiscal time post-Nixon. Cats saw the emergence of hard drugs coming in out of nowhere, and cats wanted to get away from that, and they didn't want to [rhyme] about that in the 1980s.

He concluded:

"You had MCs and rappers who adhered to those values and qualities. We could have 'The Message' by Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five that talked about what's going on, but they also made party records to not talk about things people saw every day.

"There was a balance to at least try to bring good times into the picture. People often said Public Enemy bought a political message, but we came from the 1960s, so we remember a time of being broke but not broken.

"Many cats came from the 1970s doing hip hop in the 1980s and 1990s.

"We came from the Black Panther Party doing lunch programs, the Nation of Islam doing things in the neighborhood. We remember Dr. Martin Luther King and Malcolm X being assassinated when they were living people to us.

"On my birth certificate, it says 'Negro.' I remember being 'Colored' and 'Black is Beautiful.' That's a different period that has been kind of pushed under the rug in Americana."

Exhibition celebrates revered revolutionary activist Angela Davis

Philadelphiaobserver.com

The city of Oakland is synonymous with the Black Panther Party; it was in the West Coast metropolis where resilient young Black activists mobilized to spark a global movement of empowerment in the face of oppression. Amongst those on the front lines fighting for social change was revered activist, scholar, and author Angela Davis who is being celebrated for her transformational contributions by the Oakland Museum of California through an exhibition.

The project, titled "Angela Davis—Seize the Time," provides a lens into Davis' revolutionary quest for change. It uses her journey to explore the intersections of race, gender, politics, economics, and mass incarceration and shines

a light on how she influenced generations of activists. Seize the Time also delves into her incarceration and the "Free Angela Davis" movement that followed.

The exhibition uses an assemblage of artwork, sketches, literature, stickers, buttons, postcards, and letters from the "Free Angela and All Political Prisoners" campaign, Davis' writings, and other multi-media elements to capture her story. Among the pieces included are Faith Ringgold's "Women Free Angela and United States of Attica," as well as photographs of Davis during her time as a UCLA professor.

The exhibition was cultivated by the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University. It's curated by Donna Gustafson and Gerry Beegan of Rutgers University and Lisa Silberstein and Peggy Monahan of OMCA.



Wes Moore wins Maryland, becomes third elected Black governor in American history

By Hamil R. Harris (Triceedney)

Wes Moore, the son of a single mother who rose to become a Rhodes Scholar, Army Captain and best-selling author, was elected as the governor of Maryland on Tuesday. Moore is not only Maryland's first African American governor, but only the third Black person elected as governor following L. Douglas Wilder of Virginia and Deval Patrick of Massachusetts.

"Thank you Maryland! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you Maryland!" said Moore during an acceptance speech standing with his wife, children and mother in Baltimore. "What an amazing night and what an improbable journey."

During his speech, Moore thanked outgoing Republican Governor Larry Hogan who supported him over Donald Trump-backed opponent on a night when results show a politically divided country.

But Moore looked at the racially mixed crowd and said, "You believed in this moment: our state could be bolder. You believed in this moment our state could go faster."

In a glorious tribute, Moore thanked his wife, children and his mother. But the Moore victory came on a tough night for both Republicans and Democrats who are still awaiting which party will control the House and the Senate.



President Biden and First Lady Jill Biden came to the campus of Bowie State University in Maryland to rally supporters for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Wes Moore. PHOTO: Julius Washington/Howard University News Service

Atlanta police officer buys Black man on street new clothes in lieu of a citation

Philadelphiaobserver.com

When Atlanta police responded to a complaint about indecent exposure, one officer's big heart turned into an act of compassion.

On Halloween, Field Training Officer J. Nguyen and his trainee, Officer Y. Prophete, were called to northwest Atlanta to investigate a public indecency call, FOX 5 Atlanta reported. They found a man on the street wearing pants that were too loose and did not cover his entire body.

In a body cam video released by the City of Atlanta Police Department, Officer Nguyen asks the man if he had any other pants to replace the ones hanging off his body, per 11Alive.

The man tells the officers that he doesn't own any other clothes. He says he would "go get more pants" downtown, but Officer Nguyen knew he would be traveling too far.

"I can't be getting calls about you walking around like that," Officer Nguyen tells the man in the video.

At this point, Officer Nguyen offers to take the man to a local Walmart to buy him some clothes instead of writing him a citation. While on duty, Officer Nguyen is seen walking into the retail giant and picking out a new shirt and pants



for the man. He also buys him a pair of "comfortable shoes" after the man tells him his feet hurt.

"It's not for me. I found a gentleman out there who needs some clothes, so I'm doing the best I can," Nguyen is heard telling the Walmart cashier.

On Facebook, the police department praised Officer Nguyen for his compassion and for demonstrating professionalism on the job.

"We could not be prouder of Ofc. Nguyen. He demonstrated not only his professional training, but innate compassion and concern for a fellow human being," APD wrote via Facebook.

"We are fortunate to have Ofc. Nguyen and a cadre of officers, supervisors and commanders who dedicate their lives to public safety, put their lives on the line to fight crime, and who also care about the community they serve. Job well done!"

Teenager knocks himself out running into plate glass window after robbing Louis Vuitton store

Philadelphiaobserver.com

A 17-year-old boy knocked himself out after running into a plate glass window after he tried to rob a Louis Vuitton store in Bellevue, Washington, in broad daylight.

According to TMZ, the teenager grabbed \$18,000 worth of merchandise before trying to flee through a glass window.

The video of the knock-out released on Monday began with two masked women grabbing several Louis Vuitton handbags from display shelves. One of the thieves nearly knocked over a display shelf before the two ran out of the store with the stolen merchandise. A third thief was seen trying to run from the store with several handbags when he ran into the glass window and knocked himself out.

A security guard caught the would-be thief as he lay on the ground unconscious. The security guard sat on the teen's back and handcuffed him. Due to his young age, his name is being withheld. The two unidentified women in the video appeared to have gotten away. Bellevue Police Captain Rob Spingler called the move "brazen."

"Brazen is the perfect word for it," said Spingler.



According to KOMO News, the teenager was reportedly a part of a retail theft ring in the city led by Billy Chambers and Earnetra Turner. The Bellevue Police Department reportedly broke up three organized retail theft rings in Bellevue last August, including a theft at a Louis Vuitton store that was targeted twice in June. Five thieves were caught with nearly \$100,000 in merchandise they were selling online. The retail theft ring was also accused of robbing Gucci stores in the area.

According to Fox News, Bellevue has reported at least 59 organized retail theft cases this year, and more than 50 repeat offenders were arrested in the city for shoplifting and retail theft. "The message is, if you come to the city of Bellevue, you commit these crimes, we're going to put together solid cases," Spingler said.

Scammer alert: Florida man arrested for swindling Haitian community in phony investments

Florida officials arrested a Cape Coral man on Tuesday, Nov. 8, after he allegedly stole hundreds of thousands from at least 20 victims in phony investment scams.

Ludovic Laroche, 54, is facing charges of racketeering, securities/investments prohibited practices, embezzlement, sale of unregistered securities, and violations of the Florida Securities and Investor Protection Act, NBC2 News reported.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) began a joint investigation with The Office of Financial Regulation in 2020 after receiving a complaint. Agents confirmed that Laroche targeted the Haitian community by presenting to multiple Haitian Christian church congregations

across Lee, Charlotte, and Collier counties.

In one scheme, Laroche convinced more than a dozen victims to invest funds in Laroche Real Estate Investments L.L.C. He told potential investors that he bought and flipped houses while also promising 10% annual interest on the investment. However, Laroche never bought houses to flip. According to FDLE, he bought five properties, selling four over eight years. Laroche took more than \$672,000 from the victims and only repaid \$93,500 to them.

An additional scheme involved telling victims he owned a taxi service, Houdini Taxi Apps L.L.C. He persuaded them to invest in the business, as well as his development of a cell phone ride-share application. The investigation



revealed that he owned no taxi vehicles, and the application did not launch publicly.

In another scam, Laroche impelled a neighbor to give him \$15,000 to invest in a car company, but he never purchased the stock.

Woman trashes airport check-in counter, terrorizes employees because she's late for her flight

Philadelphiaobserver.com

A viral video shows a woman losing her cool and physically assaulting an airport employee at Mexico City International Airport because she was too late to check in for her flight.

Airports worldwide have unexpected incidents occur when dealing with customers from different backgrounds. On Nov. 1, a woman who was ready to leave Mexico City showed up past the check-in deadline hoping she could board her flight. The Emirates Airlines employee assisting the woman informed her that she would be unable to board due to airline rules. In addition, her passport had expired during her visit to the country.

Although the unnamed woman was aware of the rules, she became furious at the ticket counter when denied. A viral video captured the moment she went "ape s**t" on the employees.

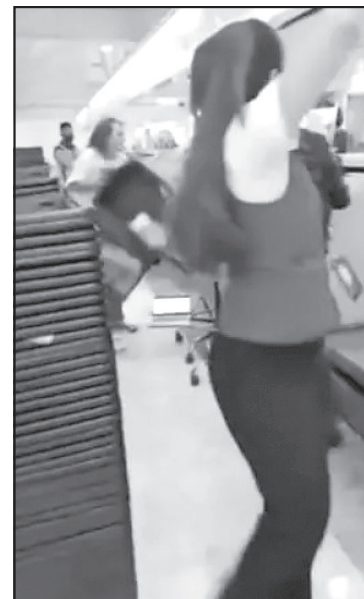
In her moment of rage, she began screaming and cursing before jumping over the ticket

counter. The Emirate employee helping her tried to stop her, but the woman began to attack her physically. The employee backed up and started calling for help to de-escalate the situation. In the video, the employee's coworker tried to assist, but it was obvious she was scared for their safety.

The bewildered woman started trashing the area by throwing luggage, knocking papers and other items off the counters, pushing desk chairs, and hitting or kicking anyone in her way.

She then proceeded to hop on one of the ticket counters to stand up and continue yelling her frustrations about missing her flight. Finally, security came and took the woman out of the airport for her violent behavior.

"Emirates can confirm that on Nov. 1, an incident occurred at the check-in counter at Mexico City International Airport, whereby a passenger reported late to the check-in counter was also found to be traveling with an expired passport. The customer was refused travel and became unruly and physically



abusive to the ground staff, making it necessary for airport security and the police to intervene. The safety of our passengers and crew is of critical importance and will not be compromised," a spokesperson for Emirates Airlines told The Independent.

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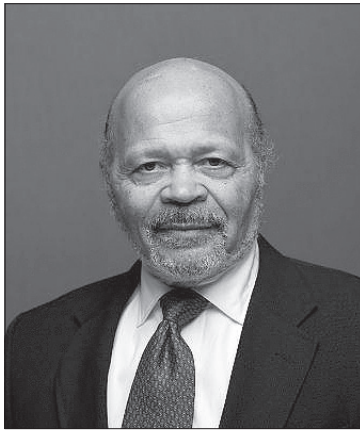
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Editorial - Opinion



By Oscar Blayton

Because they were just Germans?

In my hometown of Williamsburg, Virginia, there is a living museum whose stated motto is: "That the future may learn from the past."

At a time when America is being plagued by legions of history deniers wanting to hide their true nature by obfuscating who they have been, it is important to learn from the past so we can see the dangers we face in our future.

Most people alive today have no personal memories of World War II, but few are unfamiliar with its place in history. The massive destruction and human misery brought about by the rise of fascism is unmatched in modern times. For more than seven decades, historians have struggled to explain how the Axis nations, and Nazi Germany in particular, came to inflict such horror on the world. In many instances, historians simply concluded that this was just the nature of the German people.

In his book, "Iron and Blood: A Military History of the German-Speaking Peoples Since 1500," Oxford University Professor Peter H. Wilson warns that attempts to draw a continuous

line through centuries of violent German history culminating in the Holocaust are the result of "lazy" scholarship and imply a false continuity and inevitability. Wilson argues that this laziness risks ignoring the agency of those involved in the atrocities, thus acquitting them of their personal responsibility. He states that in each case, individuals chose to partake in genocide, and the question as to why they did demands more complicated answers than "because they were German."

It is true that a great deal of what happened in Germany in the first half of the 20th century had to do with a crazy little man named Adolph Hitler. But even he can't take all the blame.

When World War I ended in 1918 with total defeat for Germany, the Treaty of Versailles, signed in 1919, and the Dawes Plan of 1924 created conditions that placed Germany in a pressure cooker. The treaty forced Germany to give up its colonial territories, reduce its military forces and make reparation payments to the Allied powers.

But perhaps most stinging to the German people was the treaty's "War Guilt Clause" which required Germany and her allies to accept all the guilt for starting the war. This public humiliation of Germany enraged its population and gave rise to their sense of grievance.

The heavy reparation payments placed on Germany by the treaty were eased somewhat by the Dawes Plan, created by Charles G. Dawes, an American banker who later would become vice president of the United States under President Calvin Coolidge. Under the Dawes Plan, Germany's

annual reparation payments were reduced initially but were scheduled to increase over time as its economy improved. Additionally, economic policymaking in Berlin was reorganized under foreign supervision and Germany was required to rely on foreign loans to make its reparation payments. More importantly, the plan left undetermined the full amount to be paid.

After World War I, Hitler remained in the German army and, in 1919, was an intelligence agent assigned to infiltrate the German Workers' Party (DAP). After joining DAP, Hitler discovered that he agreed with their views, so when he was discharged from the army six months later, he became an enthusiastic party member. DAP eventually changed its name to the National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) and became known colloquially as the "Nazi Party."

As he rose in the party, Hitler became adept in the use of scapegoating as a means of focusing blame upon minorities for the economic hardships and other grievances of his angry listeners.

With the help of early followers, he was able to assemble street thugs into a violent paramilitary group known as the "Storm Troopers." Ostensibly their function was to provide protection at rallies, but most often they were used to physically attack political opponents.

In late 1923, Hitler, backed by his Storm Trooper thugs, tried to stage a coup, much like the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection in Washington, D.C. And like the Jan. 6 insurrection, Hitler's coup attempt, known as the "Beer Hall Putsch," failed.

Hitler was tried and imprisoned for nine months for his part in the attempt.

In 1927, the threat of rising fascism was recognized in Germany. The Nazi Party was declared illegal in Berlin and eventually Nazi speechmaking was banned throughout the entire German state of Prussia. Unfortunately, the ban was lifted later that year and the march towards fascism continued.

Five years after Hitler was released from prison, the U.S. stock market crashed in 1929. With the Great Depression that followed, Germany's reliance on foreign loans under the Dawes Plan sent Germany into an economic tailspin. The pain of the Depression, coupled with Germany's sense of grievance over the loss of World War I and the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, ultimately led to political instability in Germany and the end of its democratic government. What ensued was the rise of the Third Reich under the Nazi Party. Using his oratory skills to focus blame on scapegoats, Hitler garnered overwhelming public support by promising to repudiate the Versailles Treaty, strengthen the economy and provide jobs.

By 1933, Hitler had become chancellor of Germany, introduced censorship, passed laws ending civil liberties and passed the Enabling Act, making himself dictator for four years. And the following year, he made himself chancellor and president.

This is the history of a nation that followed an avowed racist and anti-Semite who never finished secondary school, who possessed

no discernable skills other than oratory, and who never rose above the rank of corporal in the German army. Germany followed him into World War II and to a destruction of its own making.

In 1927, German citizens were at a crossroads. And they failed their country. By ignoring the threat of fascism that year, Germany was unable to resist it after the stock market collapsed in 1929.

Today, Americans find themselves at a similar crossroads. Grievance politics and economic instability have led to the scapegoating of immigrants and minorities by a segment of our society that sees fascism as the answer to its problems, even if it is not called by that name.

The critical question at this hour is: Can America become the democracy it claims it wants to be, or will it devolve into the chaos of fascism as Germany did a century ago? Overcoming this danger requires a desire for equality that has been lacking throughout this country's history.

The myth of a democratic America has never been more than an aspirational concept. But we can no longer deny equality and a decent quality of life to portions of our society and expect to be rewarded with their loyalty and support. Shared strength must result in shared power. A democratic America must share power or disappear.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia. His earlier commentaries may be found at <https://oblayton1.medium.com/>

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Alabama councilman facing racism allegations arrested for punching Black mayor

Philadelphiaobserver.com

An Alabama councilman was arrested after allegedly punching Tarrant Mayor Wayman Newton in the face following a council meeting on Monday night.

The incident was caught on camera as officials told Fox's affiliate station WBRC that it stemmed from Councilman Tommy Bryant and Mayor Newton. Officials told the outlet that officers escorted the councilors to their cars following a heated city council meeting on Monday night.

Councilman Bryant stopped to talk in the parking lot when he

approached Mayor Newton and later punched him in the jaw.

"I don't know what motivated Councilor Bryant to act. I know that there was a verbal exchange between the two," Chief Wendell Major explained to WBRC.

"That's when Councilor Bryant struck the mayor."

That is when the chief called local authorities to report the incident that prompted an arrest warrant and was upgraded to third-degree assault.

Video footage shows Major immediately grabbing the councilman after the punch while other officers soon stepped in.

Major added that the incident

makes the city look bad.

"I do not think it's a good look for the City of Tarrant, and we would hope that we can continue without these types of distractions in the future," Major told WBRC.

"We cannot condone violence because people don't like people's words no matter how provocative one might think the words may be."

According to TMZ, the dispute arose from a heated argument where Bryant challenged the mayor to step down during the council meeting.

They also reported that Bryant has been accused of racism in the past after allegedly referring



Two Atlanta poll workers terminated for connection to the Jan. 6 Capitol attack

Two poll workers in Atlanta, a mother and her son, were terminated from their posts after officials found that the woman was connected to the attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021.

The New York Times reported that the pair were removed Tuesday morning from a polling center in suburban Johns Creek, Georgia, before polls opened on 7 a.m., according to officials from Fulton County and the Georgia secretary of state's office.

The outlet obtained a social media post in what appears to be photos of the woman at the Capitol building that day.

(Facebook)
"I stood up for what's right today in Washington, D.C.," the post stated. "This election was a sham. Mike Pence is a traitor. I was tear-

gassed FOUR times. I have pepper spray in my throat. I stormed the Capitol Building. And my children have had the best learning experience of their lives."

Johns Creek resident Laura Kronen posted to Twitter about her and 17-year-old son being "kicked out of being a Fulton County poll worker." She told the American Tribune that they signed up to be poll workers months ago, attended training sessions, and were following every rule.

"We never even brought up anything regarding a political affiliation, or a person running," she said. "We never even mentioned a name. Nothing. We were wearing black clothing. We were wearing their voter shirts. Like there's not there's nothing that can possibly indicate what our political party is what our affiliation is. Nothing."



Texas woman sentenced to death for killing pregnant woman, ripping out unborn baby

Philadelphiaobserver.com

A Texas woman convicted of murdering a pregnant woman and ripping out her unborn baby was sentenced to death Wednesday.

A jury of six men and six women in Bowie County, about 150 miles east of Dallas, deliberated for less than two hours before handing down the fatal sentence for 29-year-old Taylor Rene Parker, TXK Today reported.

Parker was convicted of capital murder on Oct. 3 in the ghastly killing of Reagan Michelle Simmons-Hancock, 21, and her infant daughter in New Boston in Oct. 2020.

"My only biological sister. You need to understand what you took from me and my family. No more celebrating her birthday. I was barely 19 when I got the call my sister was gone," Emily Simmons, the victim's sister, said to Parker in an emotional victim impact



statement before jurors began deliberating, the Texarkana Gazette reported.

"She will never be my maid of honor. If I visit my sister I have to go to a graveyard and see a headstone. I will never get a text or phone call her from again."

Simmons-Hancock's mother, Jessica Brooks, called Parker an

"evil piece of flesh demon."

"My baby was alive still fighting for her babies when you tore her open and ripped her baby from her stomach," the heartbroken mom said.

AP

In the 10 months leading up to the murder, Parker had faked her own pregnancy in an elaborate scheme to prevent her boyfriend from leaving her, prosecutors said. She wore pregnancy disguises, faked ultrasounds, posted about her pregnancy online and even threw a gender reveal party for the fake baby.

Parker, who could not conceive after a hysterectomy, told her boyfriend she would be induced to deliver the baby on the day of the murder. Prosecutors said she intensively researched how to fake a pregnancy and watched numerous videos on delivering babies preterm at 35 weeks, which is how far along Simmons-Hancock was when she was killed.

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On the scene

Wow! mind blowing superhero epic unfolds

By Dwight Brown

Wow! You'll say that over and over again as this mind-blowing, superhero epic unfolds. Wow! The loss of King T'Challa (Chadwick Boseman), a/k/a Black Panther, weighs heavily on the people of Wakanda. More so on his sister Princess Shuri (Letitia Wright) and his mother Queen Ramonda (Angel Bassett). They try to move forward but are paralyzed with grief. A sorrow so deep it shadows their attempts to keep their nation safe. Outside forces covet their precious metal Vibranium, which absorbs, stores and releases super amounts of kinetic energy. They must remain vigilant.

The royals think they are alone in their struggle against the outer world, until they encounter an interloper. Namor (Tenoch Huerta Mejía, Son of Monarchs) is the emperor of the hidden undersea kingdom of Talokan. His people are of Mayan ancestry. He offers them an opportunity to fight mutual enemies. "You want to burn the world? We'll burn it together." Can he be trusted? Is combat against anyone the answer? Some say no: "If you go to war for vengeance, it will never fill the hole in your soul."

How do you go on after Boseman's death? It's hard to fathom, but a mission Writer/Director Ryan Coogler and Co-writer Joe Robert Cole ruminated over and planned out perfectly. Their attention to detail and quest to honor the legacy of the actor and character is evident in every frame. They start the movie on a spiritual plain and end it the same way. The superhero is gone but his essence remains. Shuri steps up. But burying herself in creating new warfare technology to protect Wakanda does not shield her pain. Smart as she is, she has so much to learn. Her voyage of self-discovery drives the film for



Actors Tenoch Huerta Mejia, Letitia Wright and Angela Bassett

2h 41 min.

That intimidating length shouldn't be of concern to ardent fans. Yes, a few scenes could be slimmed, some backstory sequences shorter and the less exposition would be better. However, for the most part, editors Kelley Dixon, Jennifer Lame and Michael P. Shawver clip the footage in a way that makes time go by as it should. Not too fast. Not too slow. Just right. As the story evolves, taking you in directions you couldn't deem possible, the majesty of what you're viewing and its thesis on dealing with death grip you visually and emotionally in the most

astounding ways.

Wakanda, Talokan and all points between or beyond are stunning to behold. The royal chambers, underwater world, battle ships, etc. are awe-inspiring (production designers Hannah Beachler, Jason T. Clark). The colors are radiant or murky as they should be (art direction Marlie Arnold, Cameron Beasley, Laurel Bergman and Jason T. Clark). Regal attire and Namor's ethnic jewelry and garments are glorious or suitable costumes (Ruth E. Carter). Action scenes to dance sequences are captured and lit like they belong in a blockbuster movie (cinematographer Autumn

Durald Arkapaw). Composer Ludwig Göransson's thrilling score intensifies emotions from woe to bravery and the eclectic world music playlist (Burna Boy, Alemán, Blue Rojo, Tems), highlighted by a haunting theme song, "Lift Me Up" sung by Rihanna, is a keeper.

Coogler and Moore's script takes the audience into a heady, ethereal dimension that's as Afrocentric in nature as the original Black Panther. But this sequel is different. New. Female centric too. The way Queen Ramonda confronts the nation's adversaries on world stages is so confrontational and unapologetic she should be

running the U.N. It's a dignity, grace and strength that Bassett brings to all her characters. However, she is in her glory as the exasperated matriarch: "My entire family is gone. Have I not given everything!" She deserves an Oscar nom for Best Supporting Actress.

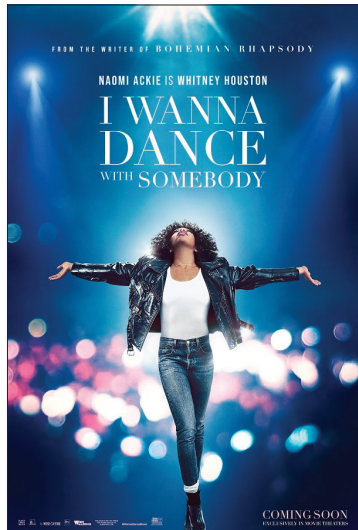
It's almost as if the rest of the cast takes their lead from her. The professionalism, the wrangling of the emotional core of each character, the flawless diction and steadfast performances come from a stellar ensemble cast at the top of their game, as guided by Coogler's intuitive direction. Wright strikes the right chord between bravery, vulnerability and mourning. Her Shuri searches for answers in imperfect ways, stumbling as she goes. The very hard-driven Namor, whose nation's survival comes first, is her perfect foil. Mejía's interpretation of this aquatic warrior is a respectful acknowledgement of Native American culture and its centuries-old dynasty. He also deserves an Oscar. Kudos to Lupita Nyong'o as Nakia the undercover spy and Dominique Thorne as Riri the tech inventor. Danai Gurira plays Okoye, leader of the Dora Milaje special forces, with dignity. Martin Freeman's Everett Ross shines as the U.S. State Department leak. Many may wish that Winston Duke's role as M'Baku, the leader of Jabari Mountain tribe, had been more expanded. He deserved more screen time. Be prepared to be awed by the majesty, dangerous liaisons, warfare and inner growth. You'll walk out of the theater shrouded in an overwhelming emotion that won't subside. A feeling deeper than 99% of the superhero movies you'll ever see. A eulogy. A spectacle. A marvel. A state of grace. Wow! Visit NNPA News Wire Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrownInk.com.



Cast of "Black Panther" Wakanda Forever"

On the scene

Naomi Ackie to star as Whitney Houston in Tristar's 'I Wanna Dance with Somebody'



Coming Soon from Sony Pictures -- 'I Wanna Dance With Somebody'

By Audrey J. Bernard

Naomi Ackie steps into the role of Whitney Houston in the upcoming "I Wanna Dance with Somebody" drama/music/biography film by Tristar Pictures and released



Naomi Ackie

nationwide by Sony Pictures exclusively in movie theaters on Wednesday, December 21, 2022. The biopic also stars Stanley Tucci, Ashton Sanders, Tamara Tunie, Nafessa Williams and Clarke Peters. As the story goes, "I Wanna Dance with Somebody" is a powerful and triumphant celebration of the incomparable Whitney Houston. Directed by Kasi Lemmons, written by Academy Award nominee Anthony McCarten, produced by



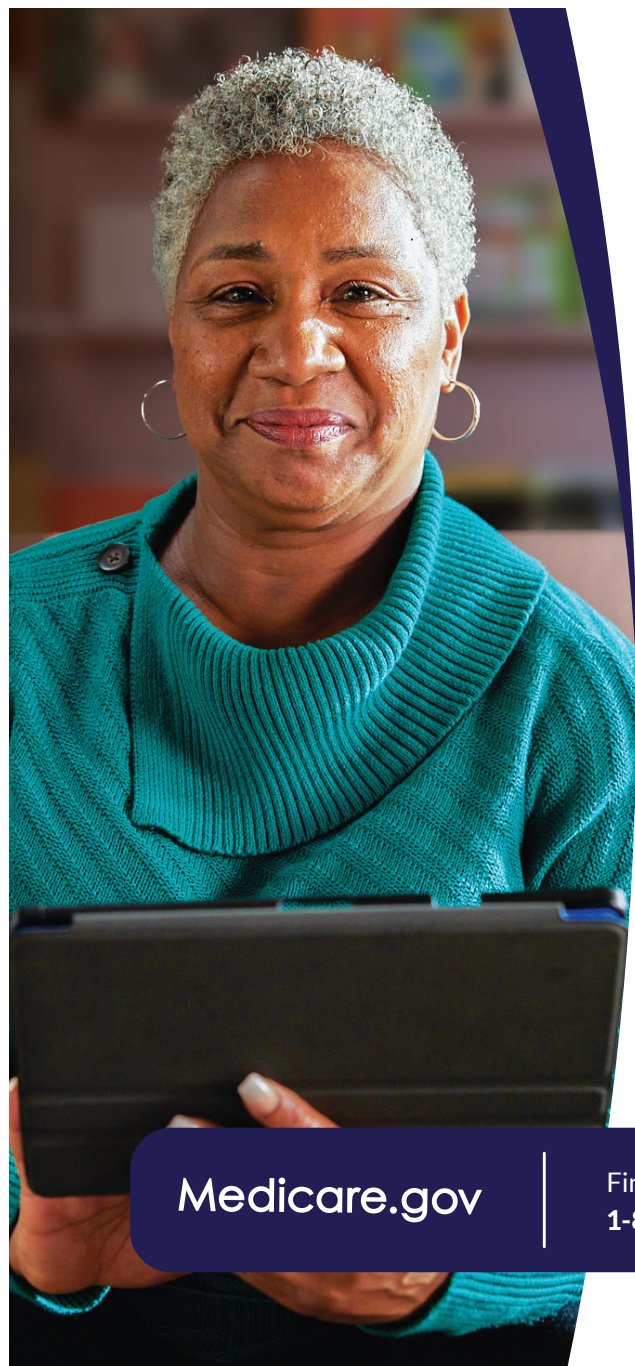
legendary music executive Clive Davis and starring BAFTA Award winner Naomi Ackie, the film is a no-holds-barred portrait of the complex and multifaceted woman behind The Voice. From New Jersey choir girl to one of the best-selling and most awarded recording artists of all time, audiences are taken on an inspirational, poignant—and so emotional—journey through Houston's trailblazing life and career, with show-stopping perfor-



mances and a soundtrack of the icon's most beloved hits as you've never heard them before. Don't you wanna dance? Film credits: Directed by Kasi Lemmons. Written by Anthony McCarten. Produced by Anthony McCarten, Pat Houston, Clive Davis, Larry Mestel, Denis O'Sullivan, Jeff Kalligheri, Matt Jackson, Molly Smith, Trent Luckinbill, Thad Luckinbill, Matt Salloway, and Christina Papagjika (Photo Credit: Emily Aragonés for Sony Pictures)



Stanley Tucci and Naomi Ackie



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Culture

Reginald F. Lewis: A Wall Street titan

By Tamara Shiloh

In 1965, a select group of Black students participated in a summer school program funded by the Rockefeller Foundation and held at Harvard Law School. Each student lobbied for acceptance in the program, which introduced them to legal studies. One student's confidence and leadership skills made him stand out: Reginald F. Lewis (1942–1993).

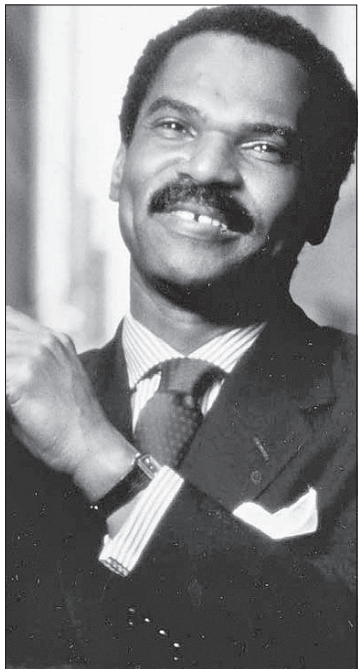
Lewis made such an impression that Harvard Law welcomed him as a student that fall. This acceptance made him the only person in the law school's 148-year history to be admitted before applying.

In 1968, Lewis began his career with the New York City firm Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, where he practiced corporate law. He served as counsel to the New York-based Commission for Racial Justice and represented The Wilmington 10, a group of civil rights activists who had been unjustly convicted of an arson fire in 1971. He successfully forced North Carolina to pay interest on the Wilmington 10 bond. In 1970, after networking with colleagues, he opened Wall Street's first African American law firm.

By 1983, Lewis' dream was to "do the deals himself," thereby establishing the venture capital firm TLC Group, LP. The firm purchased the failing McCall Pattern Company for a reported \$22.5 million. After successfully reviving McCall, Lewis sold it for \$90 million. He later outbid Citicorp and purchased TLC Beatrice International for \$985 million. It was the largest offshore buyout in American history at the time.

Looking back, in 1960, Lewis told a friend, "I know that what I'd like is to be the richest Black man in America." He was on his way. TLC became the first Black-owned company to pass the billion-dollar mark with its annual sales of \$1.8 billion.

Lewis had strong influences in his life from childhood. Growing up in East Baltimore, his parents, grandparents, uncles, and aunts



always encouraged him to "be the best that you can be."

Young Reginald's grandmother instilled in him the importance of saving, "even cutting and peeling strips from the bottom of a tin can and nailing it to the floor of a closet to protect his savings," according to his website.

He set up a delivery route at age 10, selling the Afro American newspaper. What began with 10 customers grew to more than 100 over two years. Even then young Reginald had the business savvy to sell his route at a profit.

About Lewis, former-president Barack Obama commented: "[He] had the work ethic, the skills, and the know-how. Beyond that, he had the temperament, the self-assurance, and the confidence that he belonged there. Being the first of anything requires a certain mindset. Reginald Lewis had it."

Lewis' life was cut short by his untimely death after a short illness in January 1993. He was 50 years old.

Learn more about young Reginald Lewis and the challenges he overcame as he transformed himself from ordinary to extraordinary in Lin Hart's "Reginald F. Lewis Before TLC Beatrice: The Young Man Before the Billion-Dollar Empire."

Tiffany Cross show "Cross Connection" on MSNBC unexpectedly ends

By Lauren Victoria Burke, NNPA
Newswire Correspondent

Without detailed explanation and days before one of the most consequential midterm elections in recent memory, MSNBC decided to end its contract with MSNBC host Tiffany Cross. The staff who work on her show was informed of the change on Oct. 4.

Cross was host of The Cross Connection, which aired on Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. The show was the highest rated weekend show on MSNBC, whose slogan is "this is who we are."

The sudden end to Cross' time at MSNBC is another moment in a string of examples of MSNBC parting ways with Black women who were either hosts or commentators at the network. The list of Black women who have departed over the last several years includes Tamron Hall, April Ryan, Melissa Harris Perry, Karen Finney and Zerlina Maxwell.

In a statement posted on social media on the evening of Nov. 4, Cross reacted saying, "I am disheartened to learn of MSNBC's decision to cancel The Cross Connection, at such a crucial time — four days before the midterm elections."

"Fresh off the heels of 'a racial reckoning,' as so many have called it, we see that with progress there is always backlash. Now is not the time to retreat to politics or journalism as usual," Cross observed.

There has been a rise in political violence and white supremacy in the wake of former President Donald Trump's rise to political prominence. Trump's announcement he'd run for the presidency included a racist attack on Mexican immigrants, blaming them for crime in the U.S.

"When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best. They're not sending you. They're not sending you. They're sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems with us. They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people," Trump said during the June 16, 2015 campaign kickoff announcement in New York.

Prior to that statement, Trump had spent years attempting to falsely claim that President Barack Obama was born in Kenya and somehow elected illegitimately though President Obama was born in the U.S.

On June 17, 2015 a white supremacist, Dylann Roof, murdered nine Black people by shooting them to death at point blank range during a bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina. Those murdered by Roof including the church's senior pastor: State Senator Clementa Pinckney.

During his time in office, Trump hired two white supremacist who often platformed and pushed policies and messaging that has been used by racists: Steve Bannon and Stephen Miller.

The FBI has reported a notable uptick in political threats and violence and named the number one threat in the U.S: as politically driven domestic terrorism.

On Aug. 4, FBI Director Christopher Wray told Congress that, "the greatest terrorism threat to our homeland is posed by lone actors or small cells who typically radicalize to violence online and look to attack soft targets with easily accessible weapons. We see these threats manifested within both domestic violent extremists and homegrown violent extremists... Individuals who commit violent criminal acts in furtherance of social or political goals stemming from domestic influences—some of which include racial or ethnic bias, or anti-government or anti-authority sentiments."

In 2017, a hate filled white supremacist riot broke out in Charlottesville, Va. and a counter-protester was murdered after a white supremacist deliberately drove his car into a crowd of counter-protesters. President Trump did little to push back against the racist Charlottesville rioters and instead said "there are very good people on both sides."

In Jan. 2021, the U.S. Capitol was violently attacked by Trump supporters shortly after he incited them in a speech to go to the Capitol on the day President Biden's 8 million



vote victory over Trump was to be certified.

Last week, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's husband Paul Pelosi, 82, was violently attacked in his home by an intruder who struck him with a hammer. The individual trafficked in false online conspiracy theories around election fraud and QAnon driven paranoia.

At a time of rising political division and deliberate misinformation and disinformation, MSNBC is removing an on-air presence pushing back against growing racist and fascist trends in politics. Cross was recently a target of Fox News host Tucker Carlson. The silence of MSNBC on Carlson's attack was noted by many on social media.

"So just right before a crucial election cycle the plug is pulled on @tiffanydcross? What's going on @msnbc?! First @mharriserry & now this....I know the numbers were right....what's goin on?" Wrote music artist and producer Questlove on twitter on Nov. 4.

"WTH?! First @ZerlinaMaxwell now suddenly @TiffanyDCross is out @msnbc? Pro Tip: Reversing 2020's equality by ruthlessly purging people of color or taking hints on how to treat your hosts from Tucker & Fox News won't appease Trump & the armed insurrectionists. They hate you," wrote Malcolm Nance, a MSNBC contributor.

MSNBC announced Cross Connection's debut in December 2020 along with a Sunday show hosted by Jonathan Capehart. Moving forward, MSNBC will have different hosts in the Saturday 10 a.m. slot to replace Cross.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist and the host of the podcast BURKEFILE. She is a political analyst who appears regularly on #RolandMartinUnfiltered. She may be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke

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Lula wins Brazilian election with overwhelming support of Black voters

Brazilian voters rejected a second term of far-right rule Sunday evening. With over a two million vote lead, former President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, known as simply Lula, is now president-elect.

Lula beat Bolsonaro by approximately six million votes in the first round, but not enough to beat incumbent Jair Bolsonaro outright. Unlike the United States, the popular vote dictates the presidency. There is no Brazilian electoral college.

Lula was very popular during his last tour as president. Fifteen years ago, I traveled to Brazil as a part of a law school study abroad

trip during Lula's second term.

Periodically following up with students I met during that time, Bolsonaro's election brought deep concerns for hard-fought progress in the country. But Sunday night felt different for one friend who said she shed tears but for a different reason than four years earlier. She said they were tears of joy.

As we've seen in the U.S., defeating a far-right leader is only one step to combatting the global pull toward fascism. Brazil took a decisive step in the right direction Sunday.

Black and poor voters overwhelmingly Back Lula

Lula garnered most of his sup-



port from the northern part of the country. Northeastern Brazil overwhelmingly showed up for the leftist candidate who promised a new era of equity and justice.

A CNN report days before the election noted that Black women are a large component of the Brazilian electorate. They were expected to support Lula given his record of supporting issues that benefit Black Brazilian women and their families. Some may simply be rejecting Bahia, by some accounts Brazil's blackest state, went 72 percent for Lula.

Voter suppression is not a U.S. only phenomenon

While there was no evidence of widespread political violence on election day, a viral clip shared by BreakThrough News, hosted by Eugene Puryear, shows emotions running high right before election day. Brazilian Karen was busted on video pulling a gun on a Black man who supported Lula.

"Yesterday, far-right Deputy Carla Zembelli pulled a gun in a crowded restaurant on a Lula supporter (a black man) after an argument," tweeted BreakThrough News. "He told her 'Tomorrow: Lula!'"

the outrageous cuts to social programs under Bolsonaro.

Disc chat

Producer

George Allen receives success from “Break My Soul”

Posted By Don Thomas

George Allen, a longtime Englewood, New Jersey resident and highly regarded music producer, is receiving success from Beyoncé's new single “Break My Soul,” which became Billboard's #1 Hot 100 single. The track became a #1 single on multiple charts and formats, and she has George to credit. “Break My Soul,” uses the production of “Show Me Love,” produced by Allen and his longtime production partner Fred McFarlane, the song was initially performed by Singer Robin S. and released in 1990.

At that time, “Show Me Love” became a mega-dance anthem that sold more than three million copies and continues to be a fixture in dance clubs worldwide. It's the latest example of George and production partner Fred McFarlane's phenomenal, shared success over the past 40 years. Unfortunately, McFarlane passed away in 2016; however, his musical legacy remains present. The duo wrote numerous hit songs, fine-tuned, helped make stars of other artists, and enjoyed a new generation sampling their work.

Through songwriting, production credits, and sampling by other artists, Terrible Two Productions have sold music in the multi-millions. George is currently busy working with former Def Jam's first lady of soul, Alyson Williams producing new songs for an upcoming soundtrack at Allen's new studio, Digital Dump Recording located in Englewood, New Jersey.

Allen and McFarlane's admiration society includes once-in-a-generation, multi-threat talent Chris Brown and rap star Kid Ink, who in 2013 sampled “Show Me Love” in their song, “Show Me,” which became the most played rap song on pop radio, dethroning Juvenile and selling over a million records. In 2012, Pop/R&B idol Jason Derulo recorded his version of “Show Me Love.” His “We Don't Wanna Go Home” went platinum and introduced Terrible Two Productions to a younger audience.

McFarlane was a child prodigy whose father, Fred McFarlane Sr., was a bassist for the legendary Jazz Musician Lionel Hampton. As a teenager, he played trumpet for the legendary Sonny Rollins. George and Fred McFarlane hail from the Bronx, N.Y., where the future production and songwriting titans met as young teens and began their journey from kids to superstar hitmakers.

George, a self-taught bassist, played for Jimmy Thomas, a

member of the Fatback Band and Jimmy Castor's keyboard player. He later learned about disco and the New York club scene from Steve Rubell, owner of the famed Studio 54. Allen fostered a love for dance music.

George and McFarlane formed The Terrible Two Productions in 1981. Allen's first production work saw him taking the reins for The Rocker's tune, “Super Stuff,” two years earlier. The first official Terrible Two production was “Hot Tasty Love” by the group Zest. In 1984, George and McFarlane's dedication and refusal to take no for an answer led them to convince established disco star Jocelyn Brown to enter the studio to record their song, “Somebody Else's Guy.” It became a phenomenon on radio nationwide and The Terrible Two Production's first million-selling



George Allen

single. They journeyed to London to produce The Belle Stars' number one dance record, “World Domination.”

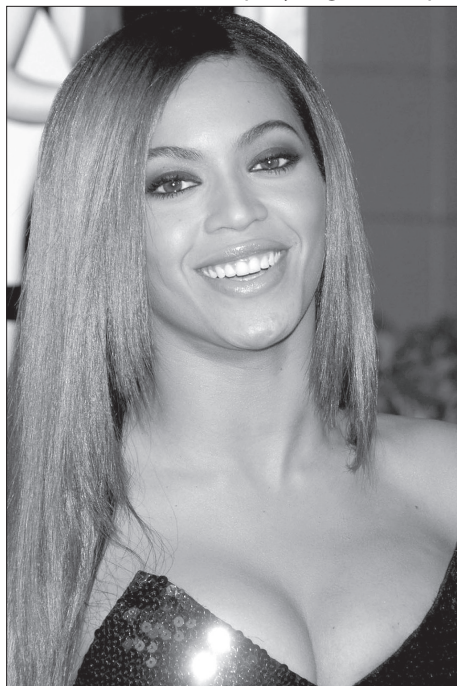
Despite their three-decade

career of producing and writing hit after hit together, George now carries on their legacy of musical knowledge by starting a new company, Digital Dump Recording.

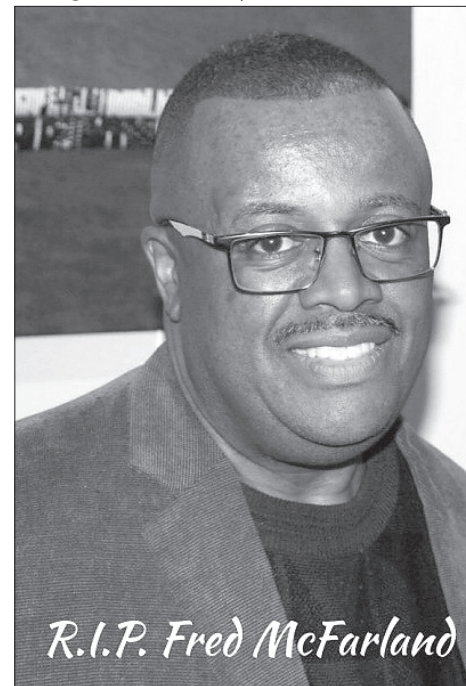
With a long list of projects ahead for George, his inspiration to create, produce, and bring amazing new music to the world continues in his already remarkable career.



Alyson Williams



Beyoncé Knowles-Carter



Fred McFarlane (deceased)



Jocelyn Brown



Robin S

Steven Spielberg's 'The Fabelmans' is a cinematic tour de force



By Audrey J. Bernard

Steven Spielberg's latest masterpiece is about his life which he co-wrote and directed. The

movie is about his unique upbringing and how it shaped him into one of the most respected and famous filmmakers in Hollywood and globally. In "The Fabelmans," Spielberg does not hold anything back and at times, the total transparency is quite jarring from his finding out about his mother's extra-marital affair to the reason for his father's steadfast vulnerability and how it changed the trajectory of his journey. Universal Pictures and Amblin Entertainment's "The Fabelmans" premiered in select theaters on Friday, November 11, 2022 and theaters everywhere Wednesday, November 23, 2022.

SYNOPSIS: A deeply personal portrait of a 20th century American childhood, Steven Spielberg's *The Fabelmans* is a cinematic memory of the forces, and family, which shaped the filmmaker's life and career. A universal coming-of-age story about an isolated young man's pursuit of his dreams, the film is an

exploration of love, artistic ambition, sacrifice and the moments of discovery that allow us to see the truth about ourselves, and our parents, with clarity and compassion.

ASSETS: Amblin Entertainment And Reliance Entertainment Present "The Fabelmans."

Directed by Steven Spielberg, *The Fabelmans* is written by Spielberg and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Tony Kushner (Angels in America, Caroline, or Change), who has earned Oscar nominations for his screenplays for Spielberg's *Lincoln* and *Munich*. The film is produced by three-time Oscar nominee Kristie Macosko Krieger p.g.a. (*West Side Story*, *The Post*), Steven Spielberg p.g.a. and Tony Kushner p.g.a. The film is executive produced by Carla Raij (*Maestro*, co-producer *West Side Story*) and Josh McLaglen (*Free Guy*, *Logan*).

CAST: The film stars Gabriel LaBelle (*The Predator*, *American*

Gigolo series) as 16-year-old aspiring filmmaker Sammy Fabelman; four-time Academy Award nominee Michelle Williams (*Manchester by the Sea*, *My Week with Marilyn*) as his artistic mother, Mitzi; Paul Dano (*The Batman*, *There Will Be Blood*) as his successful, scientific father, Burt; Seth Rogen (*Steve Jobs*, *An American Pickle*) as Bennie Loewy, Burt's best friend and honorary "uncle" to the Fabelman children, and Academy Award nominee Judd Hirsch (*Uncut Gems*, *Ordinary People*) as Mitzi's Uncle Boris. The ensemble cast includes Oscar nominee Jeannie Berlin (*The Heartbreak Kid*, *Inherent Vice*) as Sammy's paternal grandmother, Hadassah Fabelman; Julia Butters (*Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood*, *13 Hours*) as Sammy's sister Reggie; Robin Bartlett (*Moonstruck*, *Lean on Me*) as Sammy's maternal grandmother Tina Schildkraut and Keeley Karsten (*Hunters*, *Evil Lives Here*) as Sammy's sister Natalie.

CREDITS: The music is by five-time Academy Award winner John Williams (*Schindler's List*, *Jaws*), the costume designer is two-time Oscar winner Mark Bridges (*The Artist*, *Phantom Thread*) and the production designer is two-time Oscar winner Rick Carter (*Lincoln*, *Avatar*). *The Fabelmans* is edited by three-time Academy Award winner Michael Kahn ace (*Saving Private Ryan*, *Schindler's List*) and Sarah Broshar (*West Side Story*, *The Post*). The film's director of photography is two-time Academy Award winner Janusz Kaminski (*Schindler's List*, *Saving Private Ryan*).

PREMIERE: On Sunday, November 6, 2022, Steven Spielberg debuted his highly personal new film *The Fabelmans* at AFI Fest Closing Night Gala Premiere at TCL Chinese Theatre, in Hollywood, California, where he was joined by his cast along with his 3 sisters who are prominently featured in the film. (Photos by Getty Images)



Paul Dano, Mateo Zoryna Francis-DeFord, Michelle Williams, Gabriel LaBelle, Seth Rogen, Steven Spielberg and Chloe East attend the AFI Fest premiere Of 'The Fabelmans'



Sue Spielberg, Anne Spielberg, Steven Spielberg and Nancy Spielberg



(L-R) Paul Dano, Michelle Williams and Seth Rogen



Director Steven Spielberg and actress Kate Capshaw



Seth Rogen



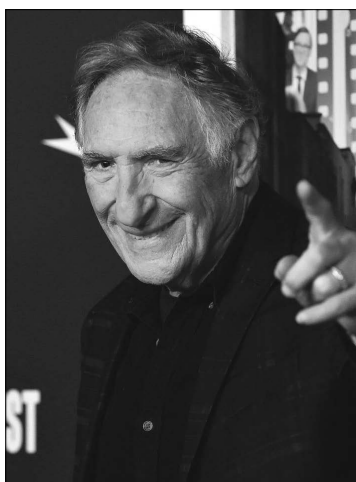
Paul Dano



Michelle Williams



Chloe East



Judd Hirsch



Seth Rogen, Lauren Miller

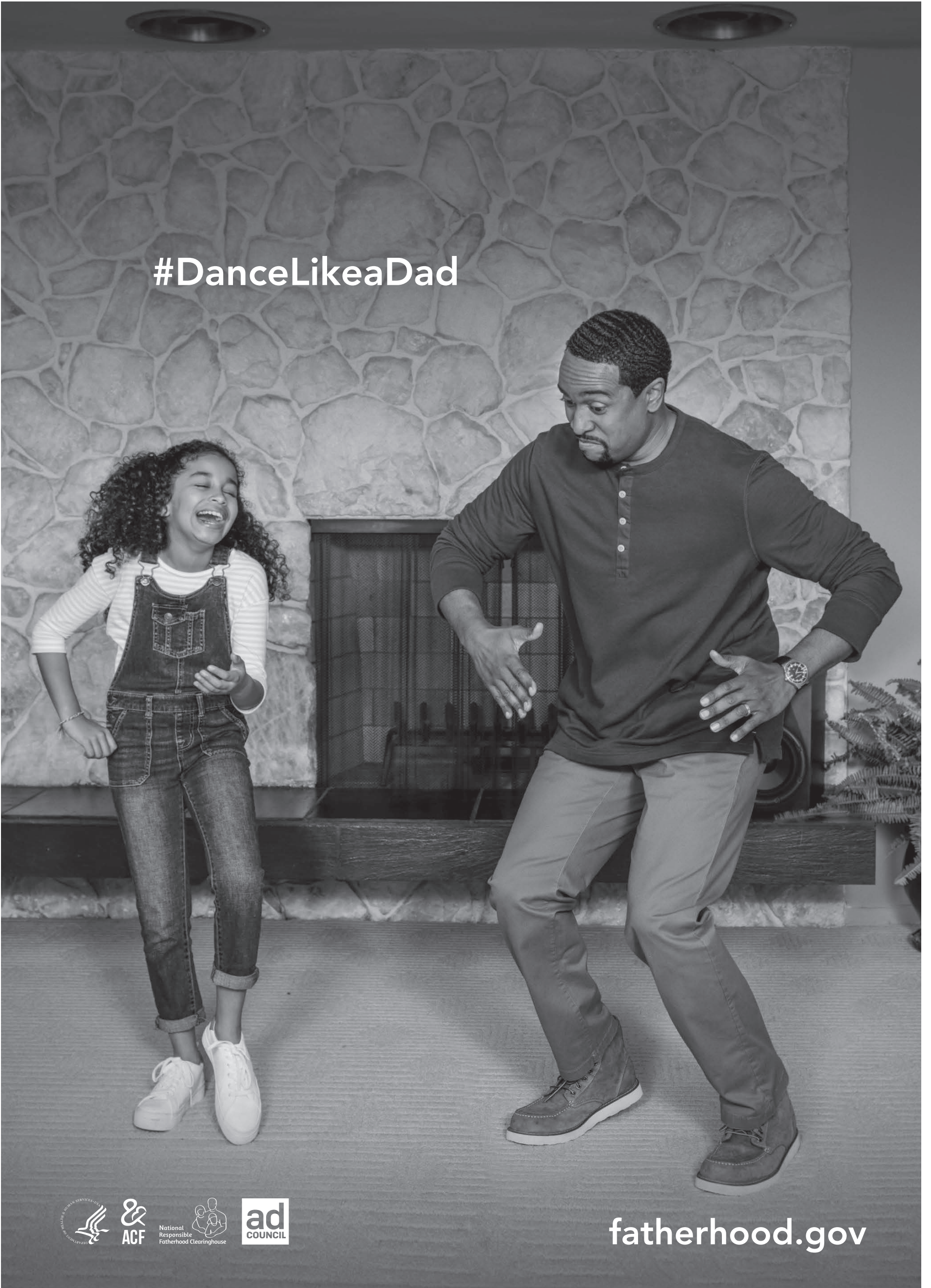


Steven Spielberg, Tony Kushner



Julia Butters

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