Brown Orchid

Vol. 2
Spring / Summer 2025

Rupaul's Drag Race Star, Kerri Colby talks All Stars 10, Fashion, Music & Black Female Trans Represenation

Hack Your Hormones this Spring.
Interview with Alexis Brooks MS RD as we talk about periods, gut health, PCOS & more!

Pretty in Pink: Soft Pink makeup for this spring
Sunkissed Babe: Get your Glow This Summer



Welcome to the Solaniverse!
We talk with designer of Solani, Anika Kablan about her beginings, early start of Solani and what represenation means.

Interview with Make-up Artist and Beauty Influencer ,Kaylee White
We Talk Why Representation Matters in the beauty industry

Ridin' Solo with Alt-Soul Musican, Savvyy
We talk about her upbringing in Queens,NY, her singles "Talk To Me & Ridin Solo and her Future

Pop Star Loading: Jordyn Tareaz tells us why Black Pop Stars are important. Inside her early upbringings & More

A Star To Be: From Broadway's Touring Production of Annie. We Talk to Savannah Fisher. Inside what it takes to be a Broadway Actress & The beauty of Black Theatre.

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Manifesto

Brown Orchid is for ALL Black women and black femmes alike. We want to give you a brand new sense of community. I want your voice uplifted and encorgaed to be a better version of you. When the world. turns it head at black women, Brown Orchid will never look back on the black woman. You are the center and purpose of Brown Orchid. It does not matter what you look like. Does not matter what you identify as. We are one. We spread postivity. We are home.

A Letter from our Editor



Written April 9th, 2025

Spring equinox is a time to refresh and set clarity for yourself.
Many refer to spring as the “new year” as many cultures outside the western notion. Warmer weather, blooming petals, and longer days in the sun, spring can ring new perspective to your life. I have always felt this way about spring. I am one of those people that I set insanely high goals for New Year’s. Then I flop mid way through Janaury. Feeling somehwat defeated in myself. The beginging of the year always feels like an 90 day trial. You have to test the water almost. How are you feeling?
What are these feelings exactly bringing? Is it time for a change in your daily life? These are important questions to ask yourself for the spring season.
Answering these questions can bring peace within. It is never too late to start a new habit. I want everyone this spring season to start a new habit! These things can be super simple. Less screen time on your phone, read one book this spring, spend more time with family or friends, learn something you’ve always wanted to do, and eat less processed foods. The possibilities are limitless. Out with the old, in with the new. Oh yeah, this is the perfect time to start spring cleaning. This means clearing out junk that’s been sitting in your car forever or throwing away clothes that do not fit. Plus those Amazon Prime boxes (just saying!)
I want the spring season to be a season for the better version of yourself. A rejuvenated mind, body, and spirit. Enjoy the springtime my fellow Orchids.

Love, Arianna

Our Princesses Need More Care

How Disney has failed women of color. Analyzing the Black & \ Women of Color featured in Disney's Live Action Remakes.

Rachel Zegler stars in the latest Disney live-action adaptation, Snow White (2025). Premiering later this month. The movie is met with much dismay. It is another (* unneeded*) remake of a Disney classic. It joins the club of reboots and live-action adaptations. This remake sparked negative press before the movie came out this year. Years in the making, since pre-production in early 2022. The casting is another color blind casting choice. Zegler, who is of Colombian and Polish descent. She proudly embraces her Hispanic/Latin culture. There was a side of the internet that did not believe it was an accurate portrayal of the Princess to have Zegler play. The r@$!t side of the internet and the incels did not let this go. Criticism over not having an actress who looks like Snow White and the fairy tale quote " Her skin as white as snow" .



I think you all get where I'm going with this.. This was the first instance of hate towards Zegler. In addition, throughout the filming, more negative stories came out. With the Seven Dwarfs being reimagined and not featuring people with dwarism.I really think they should have included more people with dwarism. It really would have given the actors with the condition major film work. Where to even begin with Gal Gadot. Not fit for the role and allegedly disliked by her co-star Zegler.



With this being said. Does this remind anyone of what happened to Halle Bailey. Yes our Ariel!

Back in 2023, Halle starred in the live-action version of The Little Mermaid(2023) as Ariel.

I remember when it was announced she was casted in the role since it was another color blind casting. Controversy and hate comments gear towards Halle started to float in. Some fans simply did not see her as the Princess.

First of all mermaids do not exist. Although I am not shocked but I am just taken aback on how people were genuinely wanting her to be recast. The things I have seen against her casting and portrayal were so frustrating and disheartening

I have seen disgusting images of mocking her..For us Black women, we know how it feels when this hate is against us.
As young black girls, we all know the feeling of not being represented in TV and Film. The few pieces of media that showcase black women.



It was a breath of fresh air to see a character wear her locs/ box braids and beautiful melanin for the world to see. To see toys and other merchandise in the likeness of Halle Bailey's version of Ariel. It was an absolute joy to see. I could only imagine how little black girls



saw a version of themselves in Halle. I know I would have loved gifting my daughter (*if I had one) loads of Little Mermaid merchandise.
With this being said, the 2023 version did fairly well at the box office, with 569.6 million worldwide at the Box Office against a 240 Mil. Budget. The press for The Little Mermaid was adequate, unlike Snow White. Right before the North American release of Snow White. Disney reduced its press and media outlets.





Halle and Rachel are both women of color. These two have very similar experiences with their time as Disney Princesses. No doubt, Rachel had it much harder. In the heightened political climate we are currently living in, the United States. Zegler also received backlash for supporting a pro-Palestinian side and strong dislike of Trump. These amazing actresses do not deserve the hate.

What's in My Bag ?

Spring 2025 Edition

Summer Fridays Lip Butter Balm- Pink Sugar
A sweet sugar cookie flavor with a sheer pink tint.. *$24 USD summerfridays.com or spehora.com*

Brown Girl Jane, Carnivale EDP.
Carnivale, a deliciously juicy fruity floral fragrance capturing the essence of Trinidad's legendary celebration.g top notes of ripe mango mingling with sweet vanilla and nectar, and luscious cream and sandalwood $30 USD
, *sephora.com or browngirljane.com*

Touchland, Hand Sanitizer, Bery
$10 USD
ulta.com, sephora.com or touchland.com



Black Girl Sunscrean SPF Lotion - Daily SPF lotion with a twist. In a vanilla scent. *$15.99 USD*
Ulta.com or Blackgirlsunscreen.com

Victoria's Secret PINK
Canvas Tote Bag - *$34.95 USD*
victoriassecret.com

Editor's Favorites



I've been really into these Vivienne Westwood necklaces. Diamante Heart Pendant Necklace
$185 USD



So Pretty, So Pink ooo This is on my list (In my dreams) , My DMV girlies know cherry blossoms are spirng time perfection

OSCAR DE LA RENTA
Embellished sequined organza mini dress - Cheryy-Blossom - 2,500 USD
netaporter.com

As a little black girl who grew up in the 2000s. Who had Sasha dolls gowing up, my inner child is screaming!
Bratz x Jean Paul Gauiter Doll
$150 USD, bratz.com



Labubu who? I'm loving her
M02991
Vivienne Fashionista Bag Charm
$1,420.00USD
us.louisvutton.com

See, I'm a sweet treat type of girl. even in my lippies! I know y'all it's bad
LANEIGE:Lip Sleeping Mask Intense Hydration with Vitamin C



Magnolia Bakery X Banana pudding balm dotcom, Hello. It is perfect for spring and summer.
Glossier.com , sephora
$16 USD



Hack Your Hormones This Spring.

Interview with Registered Dietitian & Women's Health Coach Alexis Brooks we talk about periods, importance of balancing hormones & gut health and more.

March 12th 2025. Interview by Arianna Freels



Alexis Brooks, founder of Alexis Brooks Nutrition, As a Registered Dietitian for over 11 years with a Master's in Nutritional Science, Alexis brings a wealth of expertise to her practice. Alexis' signature approach, The Hormone Code™, is a testament to her commitment to getting to the root cause of hormonal imbalances.Alexis's goal is to empowered to take control of their hormone health and live life to the fullest.
www.alexisbrooksnutrition.com

A: Thanks again for speaking with Brown Orchid! I am excited to get to chat with you! I have been following your TikTok page for a while.How did you get started in your field?

AB: I've been interested in nutrition and science since I was a kid. I remember one day during my sophomore year of high school saying to my dad, "I don't know what I want to be but I know what I want to do". He asked me to explain and I went on to describe having my own office and helping people improve their health and prevent illness through food. Once he told me that was a nutritionist, I dove into research and decided I wanted to become a registered dietitian. My first job as a dietitian was working at a large teaching hospital in Los Angeles.I later ended up working in outpatient settings for several years.

A: What are some myths you have noticed on social media about women's health you want to debunk?

AB: So many! But I often see diets marketed towards women that are way too low in calories or carbs. Ladies, we need more than 1200 calories. Eating too little is a good way to stress your body, disrupt your hormones, and even lose your period. Maybe another one is we don't need periods. We do! It's considered your 5th vital sign so just as we use blood pressure, respiratory rate, temperature, and pulse, your period is one too. So changes or problems with your period signal a health problem.

A: Let's talk about the Gut. I don't think a lot people realize, our digestive system is responsible on how our body functions. How much does gut health play in our overall health?

AB: Gut health is everything. It's where the majority of our immune system lives, it plays a role in neurotransmitters being made, mental health, mood, inflammation, and hormone health. Of course, it also where nutrients are absorbed. Poor gut health can cause many problems.

A: How can we repair our gut health?

AB: Choosing foods that are anti-inflammatory like berries, leafy greens, turmeric and ginger. Plus eating enough fiber from diverse sources-fruits, vegetables, nuts, seeds, legumes.Probiotics in the form of fermented foods like yogurt, kefir, sauerkraut and kimchi. Bone broth helps repair the lining of the intestine.You may also supplement. Stay hydrated.Take your time when you eat. Breathe deeply before and chew very well. Chronic stress, poor sleep, alcohol, and a sedentary lifestyle ruin gut health so tend to these too.



espe-
There is
we need

A: What are some things we do on an daily basis that are affecting our hormones? (This can be related to gut health - things we do such as makeup, perfume, social media etc)

AB: Doom scrolling, skipping meals, not getting enough protein, going to bed late, and using products that have endocrine disrupting chemicals like fragrance.

A: Let's Piviot to reproductive health. I really want to emphasize cially in western culture such as the United States for example. an attack on womens bodies. As women what are some things , to protect our reproductive system?

AB: I think one thing that is empowering for women to do is track their menstrual cycles. Many apps that hold this data have privacy polices that may not be sound so having alternative ways to store the data is important. Whether that be a good ole notebook, notes section of your phone, or a different way. But having body literacy and understand your body's patterns is crucial. Also, protecting your mental health. Make sure you have solid ways to release your thoughts and emotions.

A: Including me, Millions of women deal with heavy periods. Heavy , bad cramps. especially the first few days of the cycle. What could some culprits of an " Bad Period" (Heavy Bleeding, Painful Cramps etc)

AB: Too much inflammation and likely hormonal imbalance. These symptoms often come from estrogen excess. Also, physical, emotional, physiological, and environmental stressors.Such as poor quality sleep, sedentary lifestyle, endocrine disruptors, insulin resistance of blood sugar dysregulation, and chronic mental stress,

A: What are common symptoms that women should not ignore about their periods?



AB: Painful or heavy periods are not normal. Something is up that needs to be addressed. Also, your period shouldn't stop you from doing normal day to day tasks.

A:Iron & Vitamin D. In Black women it is common to have some sort of deficiency in both. How important is it and how can we increase our levels?

AB Very! Iron is important in creating hemoglobin, which carries oxygen throughout the body. Vitamin D supports the immune system and lowers risk for fibroids, diabetes and many other conditions.Being low in either is pro-inflammatory. Depending on your levels you may need to supplement. There aren't many food sources for vitamin D but some include eggs, fatty fish and foods fortified with it. Iron is found in meat, seafood, eggs, beans, and leafy greens. It's not well absorbed in plant sources though so you must add a vitamin C source.

A:Black women are 3x more likely to develop fibroids than other racial groups. 70% to 80% of us will have them .Thus 2x as likely to receive a hysterectomy. what can we do to reduce our chances of fibroids.

AB:Make sure you have optimal vitamin D levels. Avoid endocrine disruptors.Eat plenty of fiber. Eat grass fed/pasture raised whenever possible.Get in lots of vegetables and antioxidants regularly. Make sure you prioritize having balanced blood sugars.Manage your stress, move your body, and get good quality sleep. Pay attention to changes in your body and address it with your provider early.

A: What is the best advice you heard?

AB: When someone shows you who they are, believe them the first time.

A: Last thing, what do you want women to know about their bodies?

AB: They are so powerful and wonderfully made. They're constantly communicating with us, we just have to listen.

Read the full interview via www.brownorchidmedia.com/hackyourhormoneswithalexisbrooks
Follow Alexis Brooks on Facebook,Instagram & TikTok @alexisbrooksnutrition.

This or That?

With RD Alexis Brooks



Go To Recipe?



Tofu Stir-Fry!

Pilates or Yoga?



Pilates

Favorite Workout?



Yoga

Green Tea or Chai?



Chai

Matcha me Up!

It might seem like a viral drink but it's viral for a reason. A caffine alternative with super health benefits like stress reduction. This green tea fav is a great way to boost your mornings. Learn how to make it at home!

Ingredients
2 teaspoons matcha powder
1 to 2 tablespoons hot water
1 cup warm water
Ice
Milk of choice



Directions
In a measuring cup or bowl, add the matcha powder. Pour in the 1 to 2 tablespoons of hot water and whisk until the matcha has fully incorporated into the water. This should create almost a bit of a paste.
Pour in the remaining 1 cup of water and mix. Transfer to the fridge or freezer to chill for about 15 minutes.

Fill two glasses full of ice and add your milk of choice so the glass is about 3/4 of the way full. If you like, this is a great time to add any simple syrup. Lastly, pour in the chilled matcha and stir.

Style

weather is finally getting warmer out. find looks based off of your body type to wear this spring!

We will be looking at the core body types found in women such as Triangle, Apple, Hourglass, and Pear.

Pear

Pretty as pear. Pear body shapes have defined waists, full hips and thighs. Typically small busts and narrow shoulders. Try A-Line and fit and flare skirts and dresses this spring and summer



Mara Corset Halter Midi Dress
fashionnova.com $47.99 USD

Triangle

Triangle of love. The inverted triangle shape has wide shoulders, big bust and flat hips. Usually undefined , straight waist. Try shift dressses

Apple

Sweet as an apple. Apples carry most of the weight in their stomach and tend to be curvier. A-line dresses, wrap dresses. empire-line and bias-cut styles



Hourglass

Body like benz. Hourglasses have round shoulders,bust and hips are of the same width, small and defined waist, bottom and hips are rounded-Bigger thighs. Opt for voluminous skirts on dresses such as a full circle or tulip skirt as they make the waist appear even smaller. But make sure they are in a simple style.



Creator: bijanross

Style

Spring Style



TikTok: @laviemichelle
Insta: @Michelle_tautie

@sondersonders
@oridonia









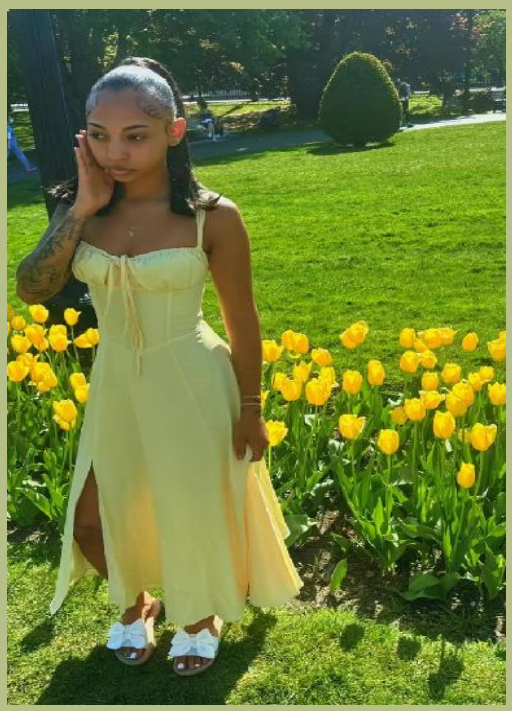
@Y0.hanna



TikTok: @itsfendixxo
@iyanaayck







@laniilyn
ig:@sydnindy
TikTok:sydnil8

We Buckin'!

Outfit Inspo to wear to the Beyonce's Cowboy Carter tour this Spring and Summer 25'



True Religon Denim Halter Top.
orginally $119 USD, 40%
(as of 5/29/25) $71.99 USD
True Religon Stores or www.truereligion.com

Micas Denim High Waist Patchwork Skirt $55 USD
Sizes S-XL
shopmicas.com





JASGOOD Western Metal Concho Belt for Women
$7.99 USD
amazon.com

Akira . Ticked and Tied Lace and Bow detail Denim Pants
Sizes XS-2X $69.90 USD
shopakira.com



Fashion Nova : Meet Me In The Desert Denim Jumpsuit - Tan
$48.99 USD
Sizes XS-3X
fashionnova.com



Satin Lined Cowboy Hats from Kin Apparel . Black and Woman Owned Brand.
www.kinapparel.org , $65 USD

Vixen Style : Capri in Love

Capri's are so back this season. Find the best style inspo here.





ASOS DESIGN fitted twist neck detail top in olive green
$24.99 USD www.asos.com





Floral Graphic Drawstring Asymmetrical Hem Bandeau Top
$19.90 USD
cider.com

True Religion Low Rise Capri's
US Sizes 22-38 in.; 68% Cotton $118 USD
www.truereligion.com or True Religion stores



Coco Capri Pants
LIONESS 60% $23.60
US Sizes 2-10 True to Size
nordstorm.com



Boho Babe

Earthy looks to try this spring.

Creator
TIktok:
@solarsun-
shineee



The Waist Vanity - Opulent Pearl Waist Chain
$26.95 USD, waistvanity.myshopify.com

IT ONLY GETS BETTER RUCHED MAXI
SKIRT $79.90 USD
Sizes XS-1X
shopakria.com

L'Artiste Caelinee Wedge Sandal
$110.00 (Sale now as of 6/4/2025- $69.99)
USD Color: Multi
DSW Stores www.dsw.com

Silence + Noise Camellia Mesh Halter Top
$19 Urban Outfitters
Pink Town Sun Necklace, $9.99 USD amazon.com





All Dressed Up!:

Spring Edition
The hottest dresses

CLIO PEPPIATT
West Coast beaded tulle mini dress
$3,025 USD
Orange









Ramona Dress
$63 USD , Sizes XS-XL
www.thekriptstore.com



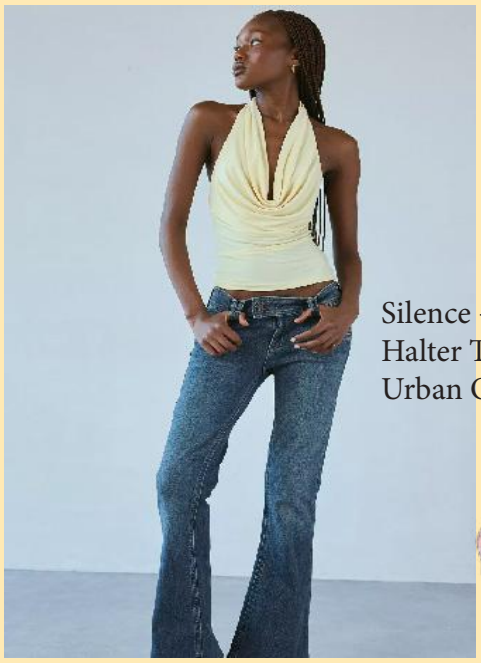
Dolls Kill
dollskill.com
Sugar Thrillz Sweetheart Glance
Sandals, $66.50 USD

Denim Ruffle Skirt with peplum
H&M , $29.99 USD
H&M Stores or hm.com





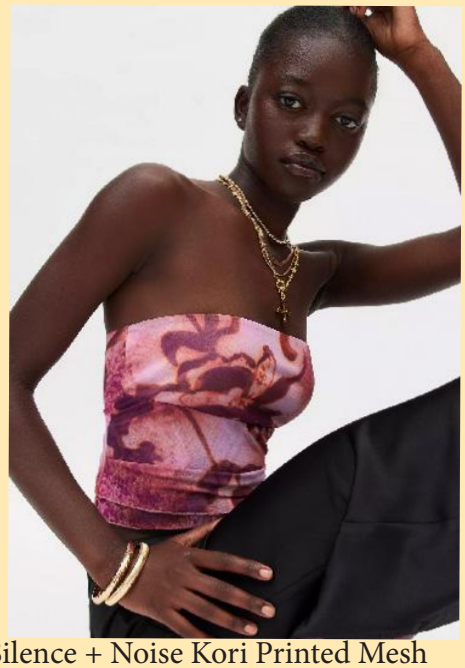
Silence + Noise Camellia Mesh Halter Top $19 USD
Ubran Outfitterrs



Silence + Noise Coyote Cowl Neck Halter Top in French Vanilla
Urban Outfitters



Kayley Crochet Jumpsuit - Pink or Cream
Fashion Nova
$49.99 USD
fashionnova.com



Silence + Noise Kori Printed Mesh Tube Top
Urban Outfitters

Trend Alert

Gingham

Summer
2025

You can't go wrong with a classic plaid print. This style many be vintage but always a great choice for a summer look. It's making a comeback this season. Find the best dresses for you!



Marilyn Gingham Halter Midi Sundress
HOUSE OF CB. $279 USD ; XS-XL
nordstorm.com or houseofcb.com



TikTok:@jamiesayori



Revolve -Linella Dress
Amanda Uprichard
$251 USD Sizes:XS-XL
recolve.com



If you are curvy- midsize..
Double-Tier Smocked Halter Skort Dress. Hollister; $49.99 USD (On sale now $25. Tall, Petite,Regular
XXS-XXL. Holliserco.com or stores

If you are tall..
Yellow Gingham Print Sweetheart Tie Back Tiered Maxi Dress 39.99 USD
elenista.com



Tankinis are Back!

Remember those tankinis we used to get at Limited Too and Justice. Yeah those vibes are back! Move over bikinis. This summer we are wearing Tankinis are returning this summer. Here are some options!



seamoly Colorblock
Stripes Tie Side Tankini
Set $37.00
amazon.com



Victoria's Secret Swim
Ultimate Smoothing Harlow Push-Up Tankini
$53 USD victoriassercet.com



Samiol, Yellow Contrast Tankini
$37.00 USD
samiol.com

WELCOME TO SOLANIVERSE

If you are on social media, you have probably seen her Viral Star Bags, but Solani is more than just a star. Brown Orchid Magazine's Arianna Freels talks with Solani founder and designer, Anika Kablan. Ever since she was young, Kablan(25) was artistic and loved to draw and create. Attending art school most of her formative years, she honed her creative skills. She has a deep passion for art. Her love of art and fashion led her to create Solani in 2020. Solani originally started as a jewelry store, just a creative outlet for Kablan. The universe had other plans bigger than what Anika hoped for. Solani grew into something much bigger. Solani now, represents a universe of creativity, nostalgia, and inclusivity. Bringing a vision to life she never imagined.



Arianna Freels: Welcome to the Garden Anika! I am excited to be speaking with you!
Anika: Kablan Thank you so much for having me! I am super excited!
AF:What were your first inspirations?
AKI was inspired by so many things! Barbie, Myscene, polly Pocket, Code Lyoko, etc
AF: I have been following your brand since late 2021 to very early 2022. I remember the headphones and Star Bags
. I knew instantly this is Star Power. How did you come up with Solani?



AK: Thank you so much for following my brand! It means a lot to hear that you remember those early pieces, like the headphones and Star Bags. Solani was born from a deep desire to create something that combined my love for storytelling, whimsy, and the universe. The name "Solani" actually comes from the word "sol," which represents the sun and symbolizes light, energy, and warmth, things I wanted the brand to embody. I envisioned a universe where creativity and imagination could shine brightly, and Solani became the embodiment of that vision. It's all about bringing a little bit of magic into everyday life, connecting with others, and celebrating the whimsical side of our world. As the brand evolved, it began to reflect more of a journey, with Solani herself transitioning from a character in a distant universe to someone with her feet firmly planted on Earth. It's been such a fun and meaningful journey!
AF: I am child of the 2000's . I know what exactly what your brand is. I grew up with imagery of color, whimsy and fun. It is a warm feeling for many. What lacks in modern branding now. I think it is a simple yet very strong image that Solani goes for. Thinking of the creation what were your early concepts, inspirations for Solani?

AK: Honestly, Solani didn't start with a fully formed concept. It was more of an evolution that came from my love of color, a strong sense of nostalgia, and the Y2K aesthetic. I've always been drawn to vibrant, playful visuals, and over time, the brand naturally took on a Barbie-inspired direction. As an avid doll collector, I've always admired the way dolls represent imagination, identity, and creativity. I wanted to capture that same spirit with Solani but make it feel more inclusive, especially for Black women. I felt there wasn't really a space where we could experience that kind of whimsical, dreamy aesthetic in fashion, so I decided to create it myself.

AF: I love the partnership with your Art Director , Evelyn. How did this relationship come to be?

AK: We first connected in 2022 after following each other for a while and deciding to collaborate. Our audiences loved it, and the partnership felt so natural that we decided to team up.



AF: Desiging Solani , theres is a strong anime pressence. Where did your love for the artwork collide with fashion?

AK: I've been into fashion for as long as I can remember. Sketching outfits, mixing patterns, and playing with different styles. My parents were incredibly supportive and nurtured every creative passion I had, especially when they saw my talent for art. Growing up, anime was a huge influence on me. Shows like Sailor Moon and Peach Girl shaped my love for dreamy, expressive fashion, while Nichijou and Naruto inspired me with their bold character designs and storytelling. Over time, my love for both worlds naturally merged, and that fusion became the foundation of Solani. I wanted to create something that feels like stepping into a dream:where art, storytelling, and fashion collide in a way that's both imaginative and wearable.

AF:What was your "Ah-Ha" moment and what really made you jump into designing?

AK:It's hard to pinpoint the exact moment, but looking back, I'd say it was less of an "Ah-ha" and more of a push from the universe. I had been trying to make clothing for years and failing over and over again. The fear of failing again for the fifth time honestly, held me back. But funnily enough, the moment that changed everything wasn't some big revelation...it was a broken machine. The machine I used to make headphone charms broke down, and I had no choice but to pivot. I wasn't confident in my ability to design clothing, but this forced me to take the risk I had been avoiding. I knew that if I was going to step into fashion, I wanted to create something with utility, pieces that weren't just cute but also multifunctional. matching sets

AF:One thing I really admire about your brand is authenticity. Solani captures the sprit of fun, flirty. sweet and feminine essence! It has that unique factor. What is something you sought out for your brand?



AK:Thank you so much for that thoughtful compliment! Authenticity has always been at the core of Solani, and I'm glad that it resonates with you. When I created the brand, I really sought out to build something that felt genuine, something that wasn't just about products but about the spirit of fun, playfulness, and self-expression. I wanted Solani to reflect that whimsical, feminine energy that allows people to feel both confident and comfortable in their own skin. But more than that, I sought to create a brand that connects with people emotionally. I wanted it to be more than just a clothing line; I wanted it to be an experience, a celebration of imagination, and a reminder to stay playful and true to yourself in a world that can often be too serious. It's all about offering a space where individuality is celebrated, and people can feel like they belong to something that's unique and full of heart.

AF:At Brown Orchid we celebrate womanhood & blackness. Your brand does both! How does it look and feel like to be a black female business owner?

AK: Being a Black female business owner is both empowering and challenging. There's a sense of pride in knowing that I'm not only building something for myself but also creating space and representation for others who may not always see themselves reflected in mainstream spaces. There's a unique strength in celebrating both womanhood and Blackness—it's about honoring our roots, our culture, and the beauty in our individuality. At the same time, I also recognize the responsibility of navigating spaces where people like me aren't always in leadership roles. It pushes me to work harder, stand taller, and ensure that my brand speaks to the richness of our history and the limitless possibilities of our future. It's a balance of joy and resilience, and I carry that energy with me every day in my business.

AF: What do you want Brown Orchid readers to know?

AK:I want Brown Orchid readers to know that you have the power to create your own path, so have the confidence to go after what you want. We're only on this planet once, and you'll never regret having the courage to try, even when the road feels uncertain. Bet on yourself, take risks, and embrace the journey, because you're capable of so much more than you realize. As Black women, we've been conditioned to shrink ourselves, but it's time to step into our full power and be unapologetically authentic. Our voices, our creativity, and our presence are necessary. So, trust yourself, keep pushing forward, and know that you have everything within you to make your dreams a reality. Don't wait for permission!!!!! Take up space and own your greatness!

Read our full interview www.brownorchidmeda.com/welcometosolaniverse

follow @shop.solani on all social platforms and shop Solani www.shop.solani.com

This or That ?

with founder of Solani, Anika Kablan

Yoga or Pilates?

Pilates

What public figure/ celebrity who can see rocking Solani?

Meg Thee Stallion, Pink Pantheress, Sabrina Carpenter, Tyla

If Solani had a theme song, what song would it be?

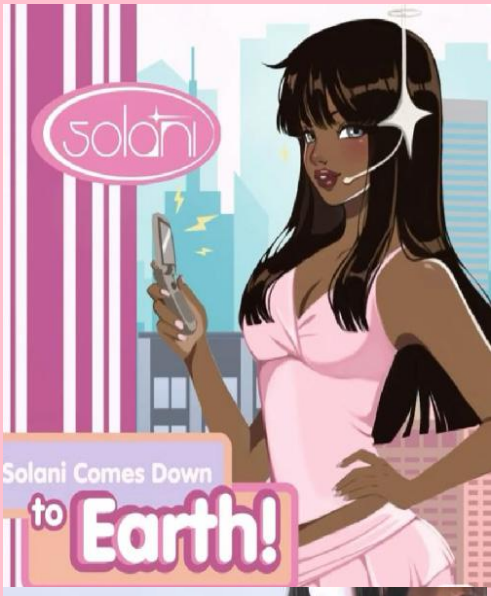
Someone to Call My Lover by Janet

Insta Baddie or Y2k Bling Vixen?

Y2K Bling

Favorite Summer Activity?

Going to the beach!





Shop Solani now at www.shopsolani.com and follow on all social platforms

Spring Refresh

Spring is offically here! So why not, start fresh? We are here to give tips to help declutter and organzie your space!



1. Organize your winter/ fall clothes to warm spring/ summer clothes.
You have clothes everywhere. I know it. It's cool sis. Make life easier and start sorting your sundresses and shorts. Rotate those clothes.

2. Throw that old shit away!
Yes, throw away that junk that has been sitting in your car. Spring clean things that you simply do not need. If its clothes. See what fits or does not fit. See if you can upsycle the clothes you think can alter. If not compile your clothes you do not need. Freshly clean clothes can go to recycling and donatation bins. They are found in most shopping centers,schools or major public spaces. The best thing about not needing something is... it can be someone's treasure! Sell glently clothes or acessories like bags on depop, mecari or any major online reslae site. Make some extra cash!

3. Create a cleaning schdelue.
Yes, who wants to clean on their day off. In a age where we are constantly busy with work and family. It is easy to leave your bed sheets, towels, makeup brushes, and livings stations weeks without a deep clean. Things we use every-day need to be cleaned. Bacteria and mold can easily grow. The best thing is to create a scheule that works for you. Wether it is cleaning everyda after you use or every weekend. Cleanliess is imprtant!

Beauty



Pretty in Pink!



So soft, so feminine, and oh so fine. You cannot go wrong with a pink makeup look baby. Here is some make-up inspo for a soft pink makeup look with melanin friendly makeup.

Step 1: Base
Start with your favorite moisturizers and primers to set your face. Then follow and apply foundation or skin tint with beauty belnder or brush.

Step 2: (desired) to acheive glowy look use an illuminator.
Our Choice: Saie Glowy Super Gel Lightweight Dewy Multipurpose Illuminator in Warm Glow

Step 3: Brows
Laminate your browss with a clear brow gel. The use your favrote brow product and apply concealer around your brows.













Fenty Beauty
Gloss Bmb
Fuchsia Flex
$22 USD



Danessa Myricks Beauty
Yummy Skin Blurring Balm Powder Lowlighter Soft Glow Highlighte- Unbothered , $25 USD

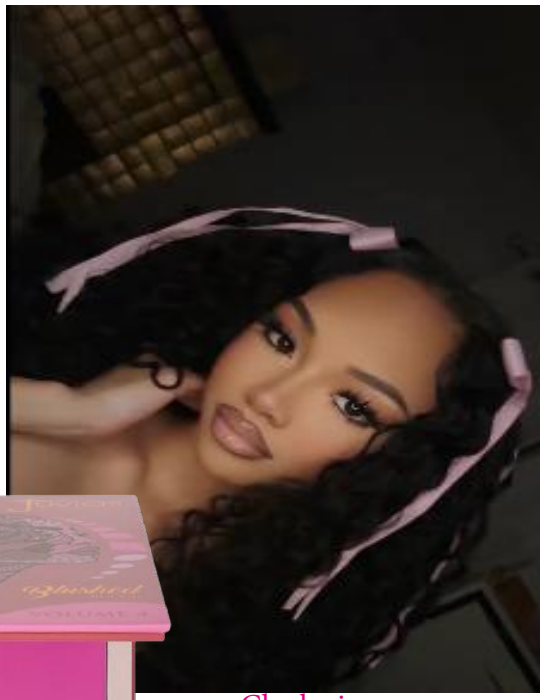
Step 4.: Eyes
Use Eyeshadow Primer or Concealer as eye primer.
Apply a deeper red- pink as the first base.Apply using a eye brush with huge strokes across end of your eyelid to top of your nose bridge.
Apply a white shadow in the middle of your eyelid extending to the inner corners of eye and top of nose bridge.
Then with the same shade as the base, apply on the outer corner of eye extending below the water line.
Apply a light shade of a glitter in the middle towards the inner corner of eyelid.



Set Face using powders and settings sprays to keep face in tact

Step 5: Blush and Highlighter
Using a flat rounded tip brush apply a bright pink blush upper top of both right and left side of cheeks.
Using a pink highlighter. On top of blush and along nose.

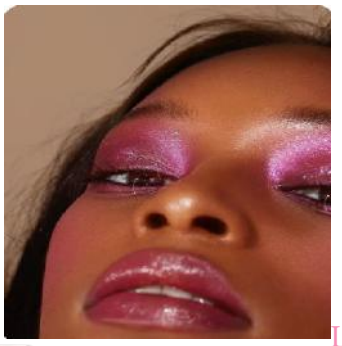

Photo Credits: TikTok/IG
@corizus







Clockwise
Anastasia Beverly Hills ;Cosmos Eyeshadow Palette
$55 USD, sephora, ulta and ABH.com
Juvia's Place - Vol 4 $18
Nars-Mulit Stick Orgasm, $39



Step 6: Lips
Using a brown lip liner, trace your lips.
Apply a baby pink lip cream or Hot Pink lip gloss.

Step 7: Wrapping Up
Set your face with finishing powders and setting spray. Volia! You are done!



Lawless Forget the Filler Line Smoothing Gloss- Strawberry Milkshake $26 USD
lawless.com, sephora.com



Ami Colé
Soft Shape Waterproof Lip Liner
Cafe Touba $18 USD
sephora.com

Spring Beauty

New beauty and haircare products to try!



adwoa Beauty
Melonberry
Anti Frizz Gel
$24 USD , sephora.com



Sienna Naturals
DNA Scalp Serum
$42 USD found at Sephora.com or sien-nanaturals.com





Revitalizing Scalp Scrub
Pattern Beauty
$32, Sephora,Ulta,



Charlotte Tillbury
“ Soulmates” Heart Check & Blush Duo Powders
$52 USD
Sephora, Ulta or Char-lotte Tillbury.com



Cocokind Lip Peptide
$8.39 (on sale now!) Ulta.com





Makeup Eraser, Makeup remover wipes.
Hello Kitty Camping Edition
$25 USD,makeuperaser.com, Sephora.com



Fenty Beauty “Cherriez” Collection
fentybeauty.com, Sephora. com , in select Sephora stores
$21-$32 , prices vary



Cécerd
Hydration Favorites
$42 USD
ulta.com

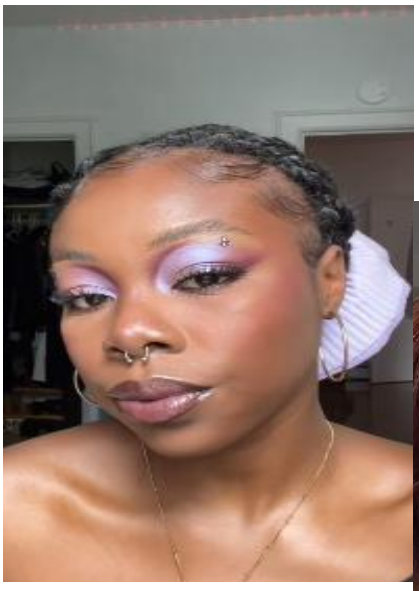
Photo Love

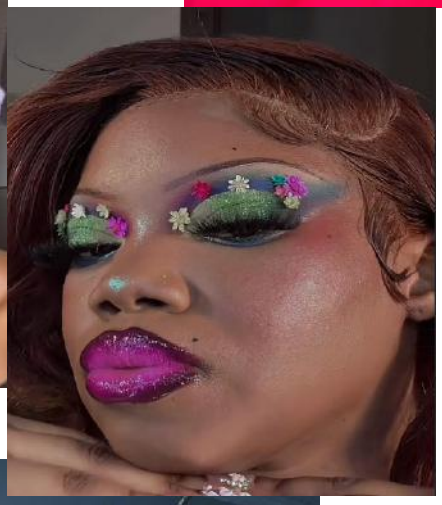
makeup looks from socials.

SPRING 2025







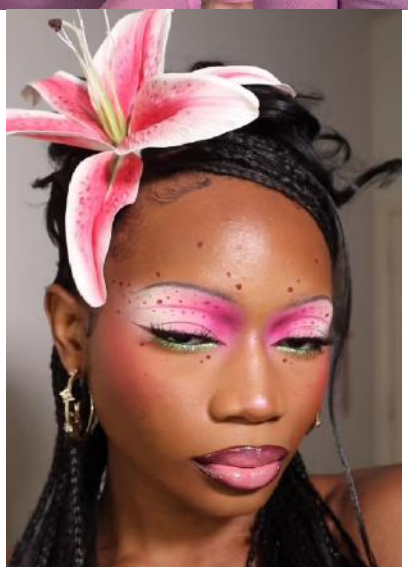








Credits (Clockwise Left to Bottom)
@justjaimehansell
@maried_balandi
@godiswithinher777
@nikkyias.aura
@itsbeautybybrit
@girlwiththegap







SPF GUIDE

Summer is heating up! Here are the best no cast SPFs and SPF skin tints best for melanated skin.



WYN BEAUTY

Featuring You Hydrating Skin Enhancing Tint SPF 30- $29
*75% ($7.25)



MERIT
The Uniform™ Tinted Mineral Sunscreen Broad Spectrum SPF 45





innisfree
Daily UV Defense Invisible Broad Spectrum SPF 36 Sunscreen $18





NYX Professional Makeup

Buttermelt Glaze Skin Tint SPF 30
$16

ONE/SIZE by Patrick Starrr
Mini On 'Til Dawn Mattifying Sunscreen Makeup Setting Spray SPF 28
$18

Saie
Slip Tint – Lightweight Tinted Moistur-







Sensitive Skin SPF Essentials
Cay Skin
SPF Body Mist, Mineral Drops & SPF tinted Lip Balm
cayskin.com or sephora.com or stores
$70 USD Set , separately $12- $28







Youth To The People
Youthscreen™ Daily Hydration + Pollution Defense
Invisible Broad $30
Kiehl's Since 1851
Better Screen™ UV Serum
SPF 50+ Facial Sunscreen with Collagen Peptitudes $45

Sunkissed Babe

Peachy Summer Makeup for Black Girls

TikTok:l@ooking4june

Danessa Myricks Beauty
Yummy Face 1.0 All Over Complexion Brus- $28 USD sephora
LYS Beauty
No Limits Cream Bronzer and Contour Stick $21 USD sephora.com





Milk Hydro Grip + Glow Illuminating Primer$30 , Sephora,Ulta, and milk-makeup.com









Haus Labs by Lady Gaga
Color Fuse lip + Check Blush
Glassy Tangelo, $34 USD
Sephora or hauslabs.com





She's Back
Fenty Beauty by Rihanna
Body Lava Body Luminizer
$59 USD , sephora, ulta and Fentybeauty.com



Beauty Files: A Conversation with Makeup Artist, Licensed Esthetician & Beauty Influencer Kaylee White



Interviewed on February 3rd 2025
Interview done by Editor in Cheif, Arianna Freels

Kaylee is an 24 year old from Kansas City, Missouri. She is a “black unicorn” living through life. Her makeup is colorful and vibrant just like herself. She sets her apart from her peers in the beauty game. She is currently esthetics school to pursue a long career of makeup artistry. Her future plans is to eventually create a makeup brand that represents dark skin black women authentically. I plan to use my license to travel and spread my Unicorn Makeup style. Kaylee is a inspiration to all black women and black little girls.. Kaylee has gone through difficult personal experiences, but makeup is her passion and therapy.

AF: How did you get started in makeup?
KW: I started makeup once Fenty Beauty launched in 2017. My mother went with my to purchase my first product before heading to college. My favorite first product was and still is Trophy Wife Killawatt Highlighter.
AF:What is the story behind the “Glammed Unicorn”?
KW: The Glammed Unicorn began because of my passion for staying true to being unique in my community. **I am rare, my style is rare**, and when I glam someone it isn’t about just makeup. It is about the experience and the love I give my clients.
AF: I have been following your TikTok since early 2023, Let me tell you, your makeup, your style , YOU! In the age of beauty influncers. This is the most captivating face ive seen! How did you find your signature style?
KW: I found my signature style through inspirations like Rihanna, Bratz, Raven Baxter, and life being a black woman. I have always been obsessed with maximilism. I’ve curated this style by investing and pouring into things I love. A lot of times we wait for people to be brave before we practice bravery ourselves. I’ve grown to be brave and bold on my own. I’ve spent a lot of my life shrinking and feeling like I had nothing important to say, when all along I’m a black unicorn.







AF: The artistry of how you work with colors is amazing. How did influence your style of makeup?



KW: I started utilizing colors because I was afraid of them. I wanted to start doing things that scared me more. I believed darker black women didn't look good in colors, but that is such a huge lie. I started playing with colors and now my face is truly a palette.

AF: Describe the highs and lows of social media fame? What has it taught you?

KW: The lows of social media fame has taught me to truly stay grounded in who I am and what I love. My following, my support, looks so much different than other creators. I'm not a creator that produces a lot of buying power, but I do show others what true and unique expression is. I give people something different. The highs of social media has consistently taught me that my voice matters. No matter who you are people want to hear you. You're never alone.



"A lot of times we wait for people to be brave before we practice bravery ourselves. I've grown to be brave and bold on my own. I've spent a lot of my life shrinking and feeling like I had nothing important to say, when all along I'm a black unicorn."



AF:What has been your favorite look you have done?

KW:My favorite look has been my Halloween fairy look. I really tapped into a love for whimsical and magical things I've had since a little girl. I felt so alive and beautiful.

AF: What would your makeup line look like?

KW:My makeup line would look very deeply rich. I would highlight darker skin and an array of undertones. I also would have glitters and makeup products that promote artistry, not restriction. I believe makeup products should be versatile.

AF: What is the best advice you have ever recvived?

KW:The best advice I have ever received is to "do it scared." A lot of things scare me, but it can't stop me. I have to do the things that scare me because I am stronger than my fears. If I can't fight my battles, no one will. If I don't overcome, I will drown. I deserve a beautiful life above water.

AFAnything you will like the readers to know?

KW: I want you all to know I love you. Community is the only thing that will save us. Find your community and love on them and love on yourself. Find who you are and be so loud about it.

AF:Whats the best advice you ever recvived?

KW: "Take up space!" ***Read the full article on our website www.brownorchidmedia.com/kaylee-whiteinterview Watch our Interview on Youtube @brownorchidmagazine***
Follow Kaylee on these social platfomrs. Instagram: Kayleetheblackunicorn
TikTok: theblackunicorn23
Lemon8: theblackunicorn23

This

Or

That?



with Kaylee White

If you can paint anyone in the world who would you paint?

If I could paint anyone in the world I would paint Rihanna. She is truly such a creative and beautiful woman. Her aura screams confidence and security in herself.



Favorite Beauty Tips you live by?

It's not about products, it's about technique. If you don't know it now, you won't know it when you buy something new. Practice what works on your face, and not the next person.



Favorite beauty brands?

Danessa Myricks Beauty
Pat McGrath Labs
Haus Labs
Morphe
MAC



Scents of the Summer

Summertime fun means smelling the best. Think to times at the beach, getting that sweet ice cream with your bestie, or just memories of a good time. Here are some perfume choices to have everlasting summer



Ellis Brooklyn(Online)
LYCHEE MILKSHAKE Hair and Body Fragrance Mist
Also in Mango Scent
, $35 USD Ulta.com



Sol De Janeiro
Cheirosa 39 Hair and Body Mist Cocobana
Shes back and limited in Coconut scent
$25 USD Ulta.com



Juliette Has a Gun
Lust For Sun Eau de Parfum
1.7 oz , $115 USD
Notes; Ylang-Ylang, Coconut Water, Vanilla
Sephora Stores



LoveShackFancy
Love on the Beach Eau de Parfum with Coconut & Frangipani 2.5 oz $125 USD
Notes: frangipani, coconut, and salt water
Sephora Stores



Kayali
MALDIVES IN A BOTTLE YLANG COCO
1.7 oz $100 USD
Notes: banana, rosemary, and ylang-ylang.



Kayali
MAUI IN A BOTTLE SWEET BANANA
1.7 oz $100 USD
Notes: Sweet Banana, Coconut Cream, Jasmine
Kayali.com or Sephora



Gucci Flora Gorgeous Gardenia Intense with Sandalwood,Orange Blossom and White Florals
$155 USD
Sephora or Ulta Stores



Phur Beach Skin Body Mist $25 USD sephora
bergamot, salted tiare flower, and sandalwood.



Orebella $72 USD 1.7oz
BLOOMING FIRE Parfum
Alcohol-Free , Water based prerfume(Senstive Skin).
Notes-monoi flower and exotic patchouli with a radiant bergamot. Ulta Stores or orebella.com



Maison Margiela
'REPLICA' Never-ending Summer
Orange and Italian Spritz Accord, Vetiver
A fresh citrus fragrance that captures the feeling of eternal summer.
$165 USD Sephora or Margiela.com



Fenty Beauty by Rihanna
Butta Drop Tropical Oils + Shea Butter
Citrus Sorbert $45 USD fentyskin.com or Sephora

Hair Edit

Ginger & Strawberries

spring/summer 2025

Celebrites such as Keke Palmer has started the trend of ginger red hues for hair color. Ginger and Stawberry Blonde hair colors for Black Women. Here is some hair inspo to try this spring/summer! Caption: KeKe Palmer at 2025 Met Gala.







Look for the colors #33 Ginger color



mix hair colors #27 & #30 for strawberry blonde





Outre 5x5 HD Lace Closure Wig - HHB-Natural Yaki 22" Ginger Strawberry Gold $37.99 USD ebonyline.com

Creator @tayloranise



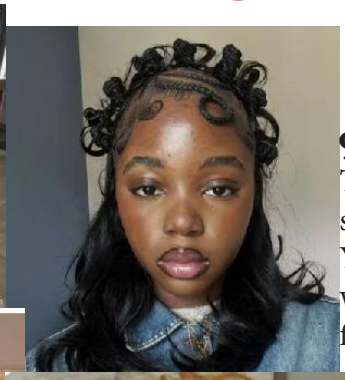






Hair Styles to try this Spring and Summer





90s Quick Weave.

Tems re-popularize the 90s hair-style in late 2024.
You can easily acheive this easily. with flat twist or cornrow your front portion of your hair. Half wig the back! This is such a easy summer do!







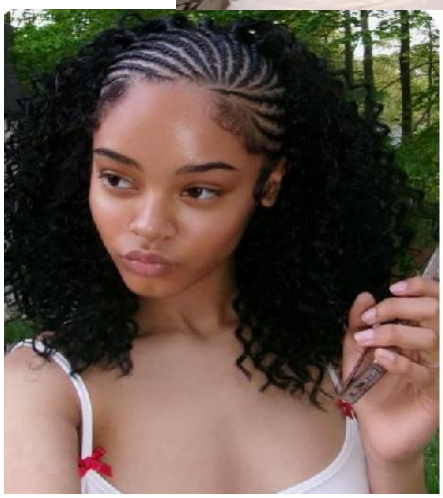
Boho Braids



Any Braids

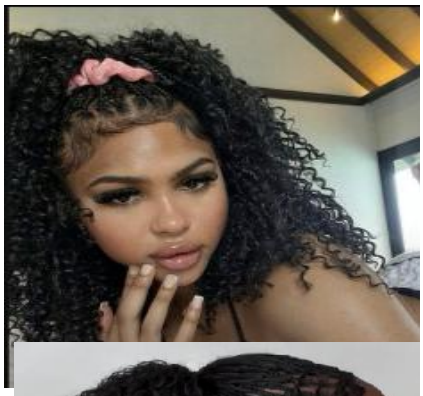
Tree Braids or French Curl Braids

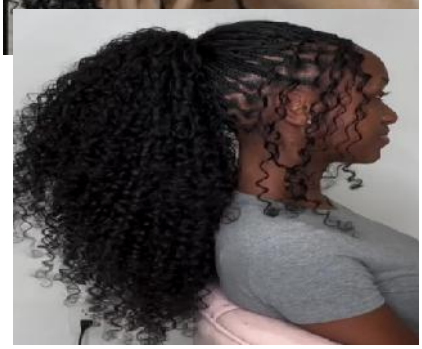




"Bora Bora" Braids

A curly version of Boho braids. Sprial curls throughout the braids are the rage this summer.





Funlani/Cornrows

you can't go wrong with this style

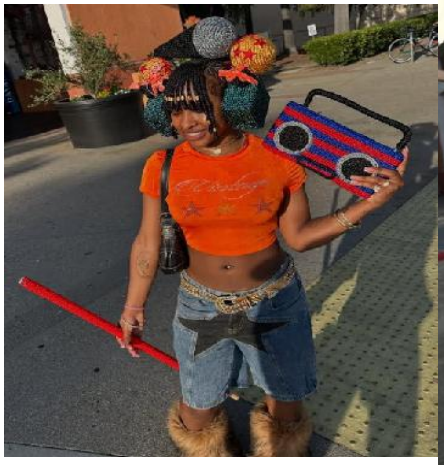


hair love

Spring/Summer 2025

Photo Love from socials that are from you. Showcasing Hairstyles that are us.
Want to be feautured in our Late Summer/Fall Issue email brownorchidmedia@gmail.com

Instagram: @krownedbykeiii









Creator: @fairytaleflood (left)
@citizenofwhoville (right)

@sooestherr
TT: @cursivewind





@aryaaink
@s0saariii

Hair Edit

Wigs to try this Spring and Summer



Outre Melted Hairline Synthetic Lace Front Wig - Elara
Colors Shown
DR99J/ROSY SPICE, DRFF4/ COCOA VANILLA SWIRL, DRFF4/UC AMBER SUNRISE
$37.99 USD
hairsoflyshop.com or ebonyline.com

Sensationnel Butta Glueless HD Lace Wig - Pre Cut Unit 3
$29.9 9 USD
color shown: BA-LAYAGE COPPER
hairsofly.com or ebonyline.com





Outre Perfect Hairline 13X6 Lace Frontal Wig - Kihara
$46.99 USD
DRFF4/HONEY AUBURN, DRFF4/ROSE BROWN, LR613/ HEAVENLY PINK
hairsoflyshop.com or ebonyline.com

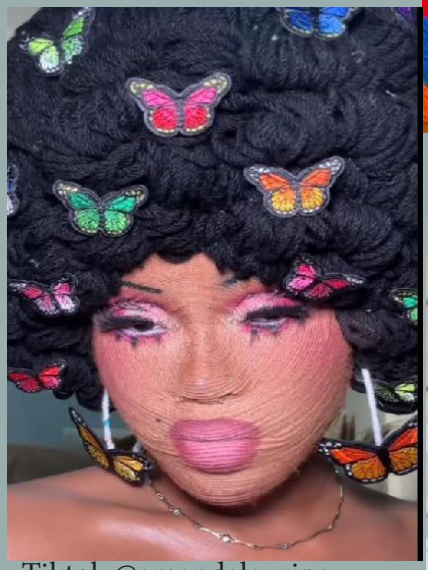
Why So....Serious?

The Best Yarn Makeup Looks from the viral social media trend from Late March 2025 to Early April 2025



@beatsbydebb- (right)





Tiktok:@amandalaurine

TikTok: @victoria.sebrina





TikTok: @girlwoththegap



@nadinemanariyo (Left)



TikTok: @itsjaimehansell (Right)



TikTok: @Pinkythefablous (Right)

TikTok: @lyricsherade (Left)



TikTok: @Snitchery



Tiktok: @sistaswatcha



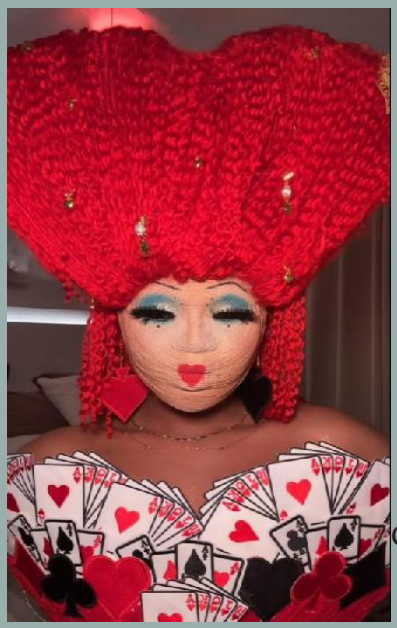


TikTok: @itszaybaybay

Tiktok: @keshokage



Instagram & TikTok:@ iamkaylabeauty



Check out more images on our website



New In Beauty for Summer 2025

Sol de Janeiro Body Badalada™ Lotion with Hyaluronic Acid
$32 USD Sephora or soledjaneiro.com

Kreyòl Essence
Soft Hair, Don't Care Haitian Moringa Oil OMG Curl Crème- *$25 USD*
Ulta Beauty

Fenty Beauty Gloss Bomb-Mango Marg *Ulta or Fentybeauty.com $22 USD*







Haus Labs - Glassy Cayenne - deep rose
$34 USD, sephora



Ami Cole - Hydrating Lip Oil Excellence- $20 USD
Amicole.com or sephora







rem beauty fembot collection
On Your Collar Pumping Lip Gloss
$17-$20 USD
Sweet Dreams Eyeshadow Singlet
$22 USD
Ulta or rembeauty.com



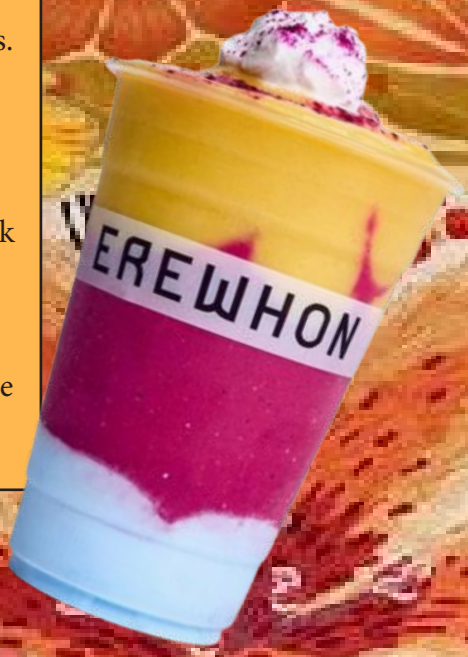
Rosen Skincare
Super Smoothie Cleanser for Preventing Dark Spots and Minor Breakouts-
$22 USD
Ulta

SUMMER TROPICAL SMOOTHIE

INSPIRED BY WINNE HARLOWS ISLAND GLOW SMOOTHIE FROM EREWHON. TASTY AND HEALTHY!

Ingredients - Single Serving
Vita Coco Coconut Milk (1)
1 Lime
1 Cup Frozen Mango
1 Cup Frozen Dragon Fruit
1 Cup Frozen Pineapple
1 Cup Strawberries
2 tbsp Honey
1 tbsp Blue Spirulina
1 Vanilla Greek or Non Fat Yogurt Cup
1 tbsp Camu Camuu Powder
Whipped Cocout Cream
Desired ingredients
1 tbsp Vital Proteins Vanilla Collagen Peptides
1 tbsp Sea Moss Gel
Directions:
Clean all surfaces, compile all ingredients with their measurments. Bring with Food Processor or Blender
1. Base. Bring Cups of Mango, Pineapple to blender. Blend with Coconut Milk.Separate Mixture.
Same Process for Dragon Fruit and Strawberries,
2.Liquids: Juice the lime, and pour. Bring the Cup of Coconut milk in the blender. Then follow with the cup of yogurt.
3. Add tbsp Blue Spirulina & Camu Camu Powder (& desired ingredients) Separate Yogurt Mixture
5. With your favorite cup, Tier the mixtures inside the cup. Drizzle with Honey, coconut cream. So Yummy.Enjoy!





Horoscope

Spring and Summer 2025 Edition



The Summer Solstice brings the onset of a beautiful new season and the Sun's movement into the constellation Cancer. At this time, we'll dive into our desires, visions, and artistry. Intuition will be high, bringing us psychic downloads throughout the cosmic journey. The possibilities seem endless, and our connectivity to others will deepen. The world feels limitless.

Aries

Your sense of security in your life is deepening and strengthening, giving you an internal glow up. Your confidence will help in creating stable situations and relationships with family and friends. For once, it will be refreshing to have zero drama in your personal realm, making everything seem easy breezy.

Aquarius

Be clever in what you take on in the weeks to come. You shouldn't feel as though you have to take on the problems or issues of others, which means you'll begin to implement major boundaries with your crew. This will positively impact the evolution of your partnerships and friendships.



Pisces

A romantic encounter is heating your love life, making you hopeful about the coming weeks. Things can only get better with your crush/boo, suggesting that the fairytale ending you've been dreaming over has a chance to exist. Believing in happily ever after brings you a sincere relationship.

Capricorn

Go through your contact list and reconnect with some of the peeps you haven't spoken to recently. If the vibe doesn't feel right, you may even decide to delete their information and walk in another direction without them. Regardless, you should choose your next move carefully to protect your energy.

Sagittarius

Accepting who you are and where you're at encourages you to gain pep in your step. You'll give yourself more TLC when you begin to see how fabulous you are—flaws, qualities, and everything in between. Your rizz is all you need to get by. You got this, Sagittarius!

Gemini

Money is no longer a funny subject. A shopping spree is necessary since you secured the raise and have extra cash to burn. Even if you only purchase a single pair of sandals or get a pedicure, the point is that you're treating yourself to a present for your efforts.

Cancer

With your birthday month commencing, it's time to start the celebration. Allow yourself the opportunity to cut loose and have fun. Do not worry about the past or future—your only job is to remain present and be in the moment to embrace the excitement. Cheers to you, Cancer!



Leo

Fortunately, time heals all wounds. This is your time to let go of repressed hurts looming underneath the surface. The release will be cathartic, helping you to enter a new season with an emotionally clean slate. Now, you can finally move forward in a healthy manner with an open heart.

Virgo

Where's your crew at? Yes, they've been MIA recently, focusing on their careers. But they'll be back in your life with full force, planning and hosting events. Since you're first on the guest list, it's important to RSVP ASAP because you are an MVP in your social circle and scene.

Libra

Opportunities at work are becoming available, pushing you to attain greatness in your career. TBH, it's about time your colleagues and management notice all the good you do. You know the business couldn't possibly run smoothly without you, and now they do, too. Accept the applause and gratitude you're receiving.

Taurus

You might get a little antsy and restless, which can cause you to lose sleep. Before taking on more than you can chew, check your energy levels. If you need a hot minute to rest and chill, you should take it. Meditation or a yoga class may accelerate your calmness.



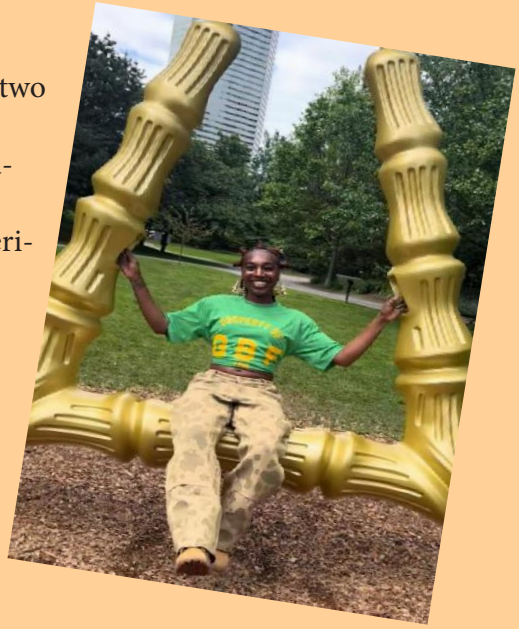
Scorpio

A spiritual retreat over the weekend connects you to your essence. You learn about your subconscious thoughts and desires while manifesting the next chapter of your life. You'll feel seen, heard, and appreciated by those surrounding you—including yourself. All the more reason to go away with your crew.

Places you need to visit this Summer

"Big Hoops to Fill" art sculpture by Ja"Hari Ortega .

I want a girl with extenstions in her hair & Bamboo Hoops at Least two pair right? This is a life size swing featuring 2 life szie Gold Bamboo Hoops. The art work is located in Greenway Park, Boston Massachusetts.
Comile by Steel, Resin and Fiberglass. An Ode to Black female Americans in the 80s.



Concerts

Beyonce's Bucking this summer with Cowboy Carter, SZA and Kendrick Lamar is touring globally. See your

favroirte artist this summer!





UNIVERSAL STUDIOS FLORDIIA

EPIC UNIVERSE

May 21st, 2025 Universal opened the newest theme park in America. Epic Universe takes you through 5 “portals” which are themes of Celestial Park, Dark Universe, How to Train Your Dragon, Super Nintindo World and Harry Potter. Embrace your inner kid!





TikTok: @kaylaamariia
Instagram: kaylaa_mariaa



@_anesmay

JAPAN

See the beautiful culture of Jpan. Do some shopping at Harajuku, Visit Tokyo Sea by Disney or Universial Studios.Go out and explore!





Flamingo Beach in Aruba
Beautiful Blue beaches and You get get feed Flamingos. That sounds like heaven!!



@marissadaily_



@diaryofahappyblackwoman

COWBOY CARTER TOUR

BEST LOOKS

Beyonce's Cowboy Carter Tour was the hottest tour of the year. The Tour started back April 28th and Ended July 26th. Across the 32 shows, here are the best looks from you!
Check out more looks on our website www.brownorchidmedia.com/bestcowboycarterlooks





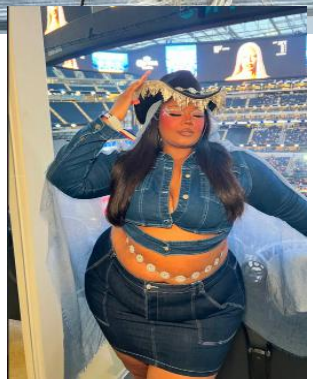


Creators:(Clockwise)
@sebriah2(TikTok) &(IG)sebriahhh
@iamkaylabeauty
@jasmeannnn @youvelinescreations
@chandleralysse @momodicee
@Beatbylay @Brytneielle

















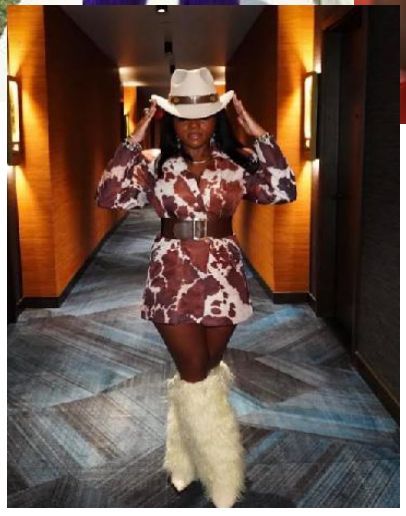


Creators: (Clockwise)
@goldiesogolden (TikTok)
@alexaht58(TikTok) & IG @ alexht
@oliviaellis.studio(IG)
@nkah_ntseh
TT: waveymavey__
Ig:waveymavey_
@itgirlchristyle











It will always be #PROTECTBLACKWOMEN.

MAY 16TH 2025

Written by Arianna Freels

The most disrespected woman on the planet is the black woman. Singer and Model, Cassie Ventura (known as Cassie), is in the news recently due to Diddy's trials happening in New York. She is testifying against him based all 18 of the charges against him, including prostitution, sex trafficking, and racketeering.

Cassie is among the black women including; Halle Bailey, Megan Thee Stallion, and Keke Palmer, who have all experienced Domestic Violence at a very public level. It is the reactions against them makes me say everytime over and over again. BLACK WOMEN MATTER



Cassie met the hip-hop mogul back in 2006. When she was just 19 years old, and subsequently signed a 10-record deal with Bad Boy. Over their 11 years together, it was a very tumultuous relationship riddled with very violent physical and mental abuse. He forced her to participate in "Freak-offs" with blackmail if she did not agree . Over the years led her on about her music career stalling on working on many huge opportunities. Notably, modeling opportunities and music features. Cassie, who is now with her husband Alex Fine since 2019, shares two daughters and is expecting a third child due later his year. Cassie was with Diddy from 2007-2018.11 years together. Those was during her 20s, to her early 30. Her formative early adult life. The relationship was plagued by very violent domestic violence back in 2024. A 2016 hotel incident showed him(Diddy) having a violent outburst on Cassie. The hotel footage included him kicking her head, throwing heavy objects and pulling her hair and throwing her. Gruesome scenes from the video were released at the court hearing.



Caption: May, 2025 Courtroom sketch depicts Cassie on the stand recalling the infamous 2016 hotel room incident

More details about the basis of their relationship are made public by Cassie as she continues to testify. * *TRIGGER WARNING** such as the freak offs where she was used as sex slave basically. He also paid male escorts to do pretty disgusting acts on Cassie, which included R@pE and urination. The things she is forced to talk about are utterly heartbreaking.
This was over a decade of abuse. The social media response has been divided(not shocking, unfortunately). " Why didn't she just leave?" or "The money must have been good to stay that long?". Those are the common arguments I see. Which is the same defense people have for abusers.



Those are the common arguments I see. Which is the same defense people have for abusers. People who are in relationships like these face difficulty leaving the person. There is a life and death jeopardy and a sprinkle of Stockholm syndrome that the victim usually goes through.
Halle Bailey and her ex-partner, rapper and streamer DDG(real name Darryl Dwayne Granberry Jr), called it quits earlier this year. The pair share a one-year-old son, Halo. As of May 19th, 2025 Halle has been granted a restraining order against DDG. In her case she details verbal and physical abuse by DDG. At one time where he chipped her tooth in an altercation. I can go into lengths about how when you don't date men at your level or higher, the men are always JEALOUS of you. This is what I believe the case is between Halle and DDG.
Moving on to our favorite rapper, Megan Thee Stallion. She getting media attention again due to Tory Lanez being stabbed in prison. If you dont know or forgot, around mid-(July)2020, Lanez shot Megan in the foot during a heated argument in a car. The situation also involved her ex-friend Kelsey. In 2022, he was proven guilty and with a 5-year sentence. Now that you are caught up. With Lanex being in the recent news. This has bought up once again, the theory that Megan is just another woman calling wolf.That Lanez simply didn't do any wrong and was justfiled.
This misogynistic attack on black women needs to be stopped. We as black women are often overlooked.



SUPERFINE: TAILORING BLACK STYLE BEST LOOKS FROM THE 2025 MET GALA

LIZZO
MEGAN THEE STALLION
KEKE PALMER
CARDI B
NICKI MINAJ
RIHANNA






















EGO NWODIM
TEYANA TAYLOR
HALLE BERRY
JANELLE MONAE
QUINTA BRUNSON
ANOK YAI
ANEGLA BASSETT
ZENDAYA

Check Out our full gallery
www.brownorchidmedia.com/2025metgalafashion

What's the deal with New York's latest statue?

Explaining the online discourse within the black community of the Thomas J Price sculpture of a black woman in Times Square

Written by Arianna Freels

April 30th, 2025





Mid-April 2025, artist Thomas J Price unveiled his latest artwork titled "Grounded in the Stars" . Grounded in the Stars depicts a Black woman made of bronze, as the woman wears her natural hair in plaits. The piece of work stands 12 feet high, and the woman is full figured proudly wearing her curves. The woman is also wearing simply a t-shirt and jeans with her hands on the backside of her hips. Standing tall in the middle of Times Square. She is put on display until mid-June of 2025.

The statue is Thomas J. Price does a wonderful job of visualizing the features of black women. He is a Britain-based artist, and has done numerous afrocentric artworks. He conducted casting calls spanning from Los Angeles to London for black women. His own take on those white statues of old men, you know, the ones . A spotlight on the most unprotected woman, the black woman.

There are tons and tons of statues around. This one feels special. I will always appreciate when someone gives us some shine in the right way. In the hands of someone who values us.

Of Course, there's online discourse about the artwork. I have been seeing lots of comments about her appearance. Aside from the general misogynoir. The main comments coming from us were that of the clothes she was wearing. "Why can't a girlfriend wear a dress," or " why the braids"? Yes, lots of people expected the statute to be 30-inch buss down wig on her.

The thing with appearance stims so deeply rooted. Why can't black women just be average? As a black woman, in my average everyday life, I stopped wearing makeup daily, I don't put crazy amounts of gel in my natural hair(yes, it gets frizzy), and I wear shirts and jeans, and glasses. I am average. Yet I get looks about my appearance. I can't stand it. My non black counterparts never get the comments about stepping up their looks. My fellow black women, it is okay to be *average*. I promise you our stress levels will finally go down!

Girlfriends

A Guide to find your forever tribe

Nothing beats a sisterhood . In a Social Media world & adulting it's hard to find your girlfriends in irl ! we are here to help!



1. **Meet Mutuals** through social media, favorite co workers, current friends
2. **Join Facebook Groups**
Groups like " Black Women Making Friends"
are a great and very welcoming introduction to many fellow black women . Ranging from all ages, locations & backgrounds.
you should find a friend !!
3. **Go to local events**
try a happy hour at your favorite bar & restaurants , eventbrite also has tons of free events & fairs in your area. So try it out!
4. **Take Classes!** Do things you enjoy! Whether it is building legos, hiking . There's a class for everything.
5. **Have fun & Do Not BE SHY!**
life is all about taking risk. (Take educated ones) . Finding your tribe does take time. But your girls friends are here through thick & thin!

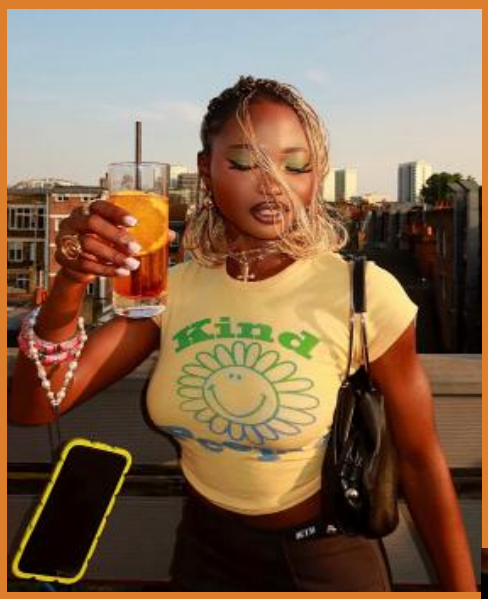






Summer Mood Board

@_thisisclaire





@__
evonne.__



gelmiramanico



@adaeze__n

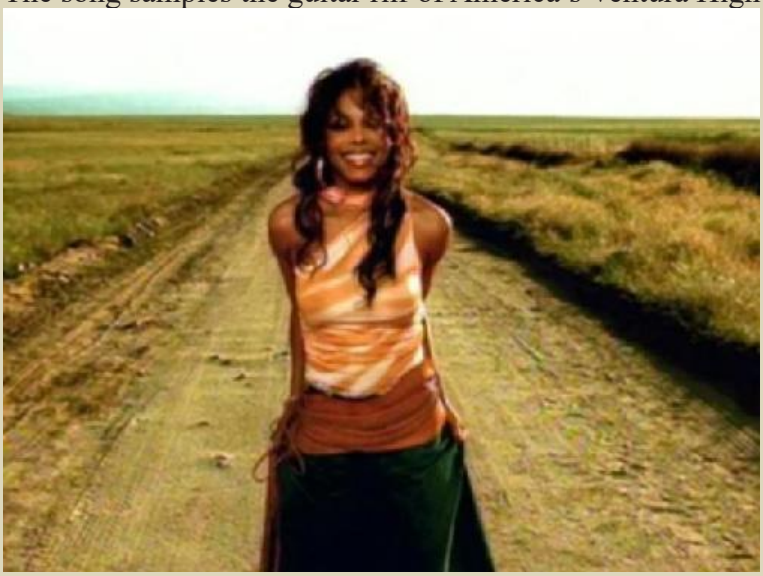


@janezizz

I Finally Have Someone to Call My Lover

A look back at Janet Jackson's Trailblazing Career and her sudden resurgence on the music charts.

It has been 24 years since the release of Janet Jackson's " Someone to Call My Lover" from her 2001 album All For You. In today's age of music cycles, In TikTok fashion, the song is now making a comeback. The song, produced by Jackson's longtime collaborators Terry Lewis and Jimmy Jam, tells a simple story of Jackson cruising in the summertime to look for someone to romance with.
The song samples the guitar riff of America's Ventura Highway.



There is something very bubbly and upbeat with every listen. You instantly feel happier. As someone who grew up listening to Janet Jackson and other R&B divas (A La my mother's music catalog of CDs for the car). I have very fond memories of road trips or other adventures of the song playing. I mean nothing really beats listening to this while you are coming back home from the beach!
When songs trend on TikTok, I always sideeye a bit. In my opinion these songs are more than just trends. Their popularity its sunken down to just a random dance for 15 seconds. But with Janet .. it's different for me and a lot of her fans.
I think we can all recall THAT moment in 2004. Yeah it was still a mans fault ..
Looking back it was very noticeable that her career took an unfortunate hit in the mid 2000s. The music never stopped for me. Look, Feedback, Call on Me, and So Excited went Gold on my iPod as a kid. I feel that she got pushed to the side in terms of that stage of her career. Then the rise of the 2010s recession core EDM craze tuned her out more. With her song trending now on TikTok, it is actually heart warming to see.
I feel that the younger generation (wow I feel old saying this) does not realize the impact of Janet Jackson. Janet was that girl. She isn't just the sibling of Michael and the rest of Jacksons. She had a name of herself.



Janet paved the way for merging talented high energy dancer to a pop star. Her career inspired the likeness of pop stars today. Especially Britney Spears, Ciara, and even Beyoncé. In terms of music. She never stayed in one genre. Especially Britney Spears, Ciara, and even Beyoncé. In terms of music. She never stayed in one genre. She really was one of the first artists to do alt- R&B and have a visual albums of sort. I think back to 90s and early 00s janet.



The body of work that is Velvet Rope. One of my personal favorite albums. Each song tells a story. The album taken from a time where Janet herself was dealing with depression, anxiety, loss and more. Deep issues such as the AIDS/ HIV epidemic and Abuse, when at a time it was taboo to openly talk about.
Caption: Janet preforming during her 1997 World Tour.

Below: Velevt Rope 1997 album cover



Go Deep is one of my favorite songs to listen to. Janet Jackson touring is top tier. One night I had done a deep dive seeing the tours of Velvet Rope and All for you on Youtube of her old HBO specials. I mean girlfriend had it going on, concerts these days do not compare. She still has it to this day. For mothers day two years ago. She was on her Together Again tour, I took my mom to see her when she came to Bmore. Janet performed like she did decades ago.
Recently Janet has done two tours one in 2023 and additional one for the 24-2025 season. On May 25th or this year. The AMA's presented Jackson the ICON Award. She preformed a melody of hits including Someone to Call My Lover and All For You.

Now im happy to see janet jackson making a full swing with new fans. Janet is simply incredible talent.





Mariah The Scientist- Burning Blue

Another hit from the R&B singer. Released May,10th 2025. A single for her upcoming album *Hearts Sold Separately*.She explains with COMPLEX, the song is about being vulnerable , while harboring deep feelings for a lover.



Pink Pantheress- Fancy That

Her name is Pink and she's really glad to meet you. The UK singer has relased her latest EP, *Fancy That* May 9th 2025 Viral singles like "Illegal" and " Tonight" are great fresh pop songs while blending her sinagture UK Garage sound.





ENTERTAINMENT

Song of the Summer Kehlani- Folded

Shes back with sultry melodic tune for the summer. She teased a small clip on TikTok late May 2025. The clip quickly became a viral songbait on social media. She offically released the sing on June 11, 2025. Bringing back souful love notes back to the R&B charts.





Coco Jones- Why Not More?

In her debut album, released on April 25th 2025 is an R&B master piece. With strong vocals on each traack. Leading singles "Taste" and "You". Feautures include Fuure and YG.

Lizzo- My Face Hurts from Smiling

With a totally new sound. Lizzo serves us her third mixtape. With collabrations with Doja Cat and SZA.



Movies

SINNERS



Genre: Gothic Horror
Starring: Michael B.Jordan
Rating: A

Black Vampires count me in!

A Ryan Coolger film. Set in 1932 Mississippi, tells the tale of twin brothers(dual role by Jordan) Smoke and Stack as they return home after working for the bootleggers in Chicago. The twins buy an old mill off of a supposedly reformed Klansman with the design on it becoming a Juke Joint. But opening night has to be tonight, so they can start earning a profit.Thus their venture lends them to met various supernatural forces of people thet meet and enconter. The movie which is set during Jim Crow era. Holds alot of history to what the era was like. Movie goerson social media praised the writing.

Riding Solo with Alt- R&B Musican Savvy

Interviewed by Arianna Freels, Editor in Chief
Interviewed on March,26h, 2025

Savvy , (25)



formally known as Savannah McClain, is an independent artist born and raised in NYC, emerging from the grounds of Queens, NY. Her sound is new and inspiring while including notes of familiarity that reminds us of the sounds we know and love. The sweetness of her voice combined with the depths of her harmonies produce an angelic experience for all to hear. Savvy's goal is to comfort and uplift others with her music. With Savvy's goal of unity amongst all in mind, she reminds us of our power, shifts your perspective, and opens us up to a plethora of love and opportunities.

Arianna: Welcome to the Garden Savannah! I'm excited to speak with you. At Brown Orchid we speak with fellow Black women from all walks of life platforms and to spotlights. What made you interested in pursing music?



Savvy: Since I could talk, I could sing. It was a natural born talent that I began to cultivate in the church since I had a Christian upbringing. Even though I no longer resonate with the church, I loved singing on stage with my choir members and improvising with the band every Sunday. I continued to find outlets to sing until I found my way into recording studios and taking my craft more seriously. It felt amazing being able to showcase my talents and have others be touched and inspired by it. I just knew even at a young age that I was going to become a superstar. It was an intuitive knowing that was always within me.

Arianna:Describe growing up in New York and how did it impact your music ?

Savvy: Growing up in New York was a bit different for me than the average. I was sheltered for most of my adolescence due to my parents being afraid of how the concerts jungle would alter my mind. Eventually, I was able to explore my city and I wouldn't trade it for the world. New York is exactly how people describe: hard, fast, and if you're not careful, you'll be up on your ass! But this city prepares you for anything, and instills a specific kind of grit and determination that you cannot get anywhere else. This ambition that I gained being here is the very fire that drives me to do what I do everyday to make my music become a reality.

A:How you you describe your music style ?
S: I feel that I am still on the process of growing and cultivating my sound. However, I fear (in a good way lol) that my journey may never end. As I grow and change within myself, my music will always reflect that growth, which is why I am great at being extremely versatile. What tends to come up the most in my music, are the soothing, inventive melodies and harmonies that I include. I know much of that comes from my church/gospel roots, and those roots will always be present in my music regardless of what style I tend to explore.



A:Who are your musical inspirations? Do you have an muse?
S: I don't have a specific muse that I center. However, I do have my influences of course. They can range from Alicia Keys, to Adele, Imogen Heap, Michael Jackson, Whitney Houston, Anita Baker, Beyoncé, the list can go on and on. I think the commonality between most of my musical inspirations is that most are the Black Greats that have come before us. I hope to lead by their incredible example of creativity, wisdom, dedication, and culture.
A:How did you come up with your song Solo ?
S: I wrote Solo when I was 17 years old. I was experiencing a friendship breakup with multiple friends (my entire friend group) and I felt like the scapegoat, forced to walk away from the dysfunction. I was sad and angry because I loved my friends but didn't understand why they were treating me the way they were. I hated that I had to experience all of that pain and confusion alone, feeling so unsure if any of this was my fault? I realized that I made the right decision, and decided that no matter how much it hurt, I would much rather be alone that stay around "friends" who didn't truly appreciate me and my value.



A: Black womanhood is something we hold very deeply together. What does represenation mean to you and how does your music translate - represent to fellow black women?
S: Representation is incredibly important to me, especially when it comes to my music. It's important for all experiences and walks of life to be platformed. Seeing diversity be prioritized is important especially for the younger generation coming after us. You can see that intention shown in my music video for Talk To Me. I was able to work with an incredible creative director/choreographer, Kris, who choreographed the dances and made sure that we were sticking to my vision for the video. When it came to dancers and extras, I specifically wanted black/Afrolatina individuals to be casted because I know how much we are underrepresented in the arts. It was incredible to see all of us get together to make that vision possible and I'm so happy I was able to do that.

A: What is something you want your fans and audience to know about who Savvy as an artist?
S: I want my community to know that I am truly always thinking about them when I'm writing my music. Even the Soulmates who haven't joined the community yet! Yes, I do this work for myself and I get a lot out of it; but I truly want the Soulmates to remember how loved and important they are to me and the rest of the world. That they are never alone, and whatever you are going through, someone can relate to your experience. I hope that they can feel that through my music, as well as feeling inspired to be a positive light to the people around them so they can share the love and comfort that I share with my music.

Stream Savvy's Singles "Talk To Me" & "Solo" on Apple Music and Spotify
For Full Interview read https://www.brownorchidmedia.com/ridin-solo-with-savvyymusic and watch our interviw on YouTube @BrownOrchidMagazine. Follow Savvy @Savvyy.Musicon social platforms

IronHeart- Disney+

Released June 24th-Jully 1st 2025

Marvel fans rejoice! After years of teasing her own series. RiRi Williams is IronHeart. The role is Played by Dominique Throne as RiRi Williams. Williams is the prodigy of Tony Stark. Set After Wakanda Forever Film (2022). A brilliant MIT student who uses tech and robatics to fight against the villian "The Hood".





Love Island USA Season 7-Peacock

A hot new bombshell steps into the villia. Single 20 somethings try to find their perfect match. A reality show thats a mix of *Big Brother* and the *balchelor/balchelorett*e.



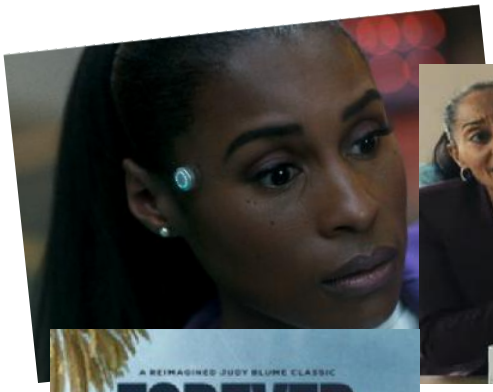


Must Watch TV This Summer 2025

Best Black Led or Featured Shows to Watch on Your Radar!

Black Mirror, Season 7 - Netflix

Fans of Black Mirror, a brand new season is officially here. This modern Twilght Zone has fresh new perspectives to an near dystopian future. This season features Issa Rae, Rashdia Jones and Tracee Ellis Ross.





Rupaul's Drag Race - All Stars Season 10 Paramount +

Some of our favorite queens are back and ready for the crown.This year's season is tourament bracket style. An exciting swtitch up with 3 epsiodes each of 3 brackets composing different set of 6 queens.







Forever, Netflix

Mara Brock Akil (Creator of The Game and Girlfriends) is back with teen love story based in 2018. Follow two college athletes in love.



Pixar's Win or Lose, Disney + , Follows a middle school softball team including their familes. Pixar's first show.

Miss Governor, Netflix
A new comedy from Tyler Perry. Stars Terri J. Vaughn takes poltical issues into a family comedy

Pride

Black Lesbian Led Films and TV to Watch this Pride Season



Set it Off (1996)

A Classic 90s film for Black Culture.Cleo and Ursula are the next lesbian pairing with 'Set It Off', an action-packed drama about 4 women who become armed robbers. Now, Cleo and Ursula's scenes are minimal with barely any dialogue but still, the visibility is everything, especially in the 90s when seeing a couple like this was not always shown.

Beauty (2022)

'Beauty' follows a young talented singer, Beauty, who's struggling to maintain her voice and identity after being offered a lucrative record deal. Beauty's best friend and lover, Jasmine, is on this journey with her and their romance is hidden from the public. For legal reasons they don't state it, but this film is inspired by the legendary vocalist Whitney Houston. Since the start of Whitney's career, there have been speculations that she was lesbian, due to her closeness with her friend Robyn Crawford. This film depicts the late singer's love life, and the heartbreaking sacrifices she made to follow her dreams in the '80s

Bessie (2015)

Bessie' unveils the tales of Bessie Smith, the incomparable blues singer who rose to fame during the 1920s and '30s. Bessie was openly bisexual, and some may even say polyamorous. Throughout the movie, her love for women is apparent and delightful to witness. While Bessie and Lucille's romantic screentime is brief, their feelings for each other are displayed continuously, deep and profound. The visibility of sapphics and lesbian relationships is so beautiful and important

Full list on our website www.brownorchidmedia.com

Kerri Colby is an All Star

From RuPaul's Drag Race season 14 and the new All Stars season 10. Star Kerri Colby talks with Brown Orchid's founder and editor in chief, Arianna Freels about her journey on All Stars 10, her future and the importance of black trans represenation.
July 31st, 2025

Arianna: Hi Kerri, welcome to the garden! We are so glad you can join us!
Kerri Colby: Thank you so much for having me, Arianna! It's so great to connect with new audiences.
Arianna: Let's talk Drag Race. How did you feel coming back to Drag Race? Season 14 vs. AS10?
Kerri Colby: I felt like I was too in my own way in Season 14. I know that is a very common thing that girls say in regards to their initial season, but it really is true and that is why so many girls say yes to coming back. Something clicks that second time around and we realize that actually, our biggest competition is ourselves.



Arianna: Was there anything you wanted to showcase this time around, other than what was seen on season 14?



Kerri Colby: My personality and that I am more than just beauty (the judges words - not mine lol). I really am a silly good time girl and I think the girls all see it now, but when Ru saw it with me saying I give **"kuntfidence,"** that took it to a whole other level. Of course, getting to do a Rusical after all this time was great!
Arianna: Do you think you fulfilled your rudemption?
Kerri Colby: Yes! For me, coming back fully myself and not being in my own way was what redemption looked like. Then, **ANOTHER** call to come back was the cherry on top. I really could not have asked for anything more and I hope that shows.
Arianna: What Challenges did you feel great about doing this season?
Kerri Colby: All of them except the design challenge haha! I'm a curator and an entity but I'm not a seamstress. And I fully admit that!



Caption (right): Kerri's 8 Ball Design Runway Look
Arianna: Rap Roast Challenge: I thought your rap was very clever. Maybe not directing roasting by names, but you nailed the rap part. ***Would you change anything about it? Could we see more Kerri Colby's music in the future?***
Kerri: I would change absolutely nothing. My goal was to create something different that showcased my ability to word play and use double entendres. I knew going into the challenges, I would either get very high or very low critiques for going outside of the box of predictability. It was a gamble I was happy to make, and yes, more music is on the way! The hair, the body, and the face has music to share!



Arianna: Switching gears to your bracket. I can say for a lot of drag race fans and reality show watchers, the Pink Bracket was a favorite to watch, very entertaining! Each of you was so fun to watch. Did you expect this fan reaction?

Kerri: Oh absolutely! We are the powerhouse of personality; we were a pretty diverse group as well. We **WERE** All Stars 10 - in my humble opinion.

Arianna: The first day of set, did anyone surprise you who walked in on your bracket?

Kerri: Definitely Lydia - I didn't know what to expect.I didn't know her at all personally until that moment. And my God, she's such an entity and mind! I love that we got to share these moments with each other.

Arianna:I have to ask you about the drama of the points. We the audience were gagged, and everyone watching did a jaw drop. We felt so bad for you and Nicole. Shady Boots. How did you feel in that moment?

Kerri: You know, a lot of people were wondering why I was so silent in that moment and why I seemed so calm. The truth is, I'm quite neuro diverse. I have AuAdhd; when I'm overstimulated I tend to leave the current moment and find an internal fortress of stability. That is how I tend to process things when I am in such a state of shock. I pick and choose my battles and I knew a never ending shouting match with Mistress wouldn't lead to anything productive. It took me until after filming to fully process everything that happened.

Arianna: How was it seeing Chappell Roan in the workroom? She seemed like a very fun energy. More, should I say, Drag Sister!

Kerri: Chappell Roan, an honorary Colby now! I had listened to her since she performed at Coachella and got to see her at the VMAs with Mother (re: Sasha Colby- Kerri's Drag Mother) last year and their camaraderie is so special.

"Invest in who you want to become and only listen to advice from people who align with that vision of yourself. There's a lot of weird energy and negative people in this world and it's not your job to absorb that. If you can see it you absolutely can achieve it!"





Arianna: ***What is the best advice you have ever received?***

Kerri: Invest in who you want to become and only listen to advice from people who align with that vision of yourself. There's a lot of weird energy and negative people in this world and it's not your job to absorb that. If you can see it you absolutely can achieve it!

Arianna: ***What's next for you?***

Kerri: Ohhh...if you've been keeping an eye on socials, you've seen a few clips of me performing my single Hair Body Face at Prides! It's in the final stages of production and will be released soon...very soon! Besides that, I just got a call that I will be touring with one of my all time favorite RuGirls, Shea Couleé, for a few of her tour dates, which is an honor - we have such a fun bond.Other than that, just stay tuned - I might start doing some more travel content with some international divas that you all know and love.

Read Our Full Article www.brownorchidmedia.com/kerricolbyinterview
Watch RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars Season 10 streaming on Paramount Plus or on WOW Presents Plus
Follow Kerri Colby on all social platforms @kerricolby

Arianna: My God, your Venus Fly Trap look was killer. It was my favorite look you wore. Did you have any favorite runways?

Kerri: My goal this season was to handle some big business and shift the focus of Kerri Colby from past to future tense. My favorite embodiment of that was my entrance with the purple pseudo suit and 60 inches of angelic hair.

Photo (left): Kerri's Enterance Look & (Right) Plant Runway Look

Arianna: At Brown Orchid, we talk to Black women/femmes from all walks of llife. What does black female trans representation look like and feel for you?

Kerri: Being Black to me is a calling higher, a need to go deeper, and the power to create more. I think the work and feeling for me is to rise to the occasion as my authentic self daily. My goal is to honor my many heritages and leave this realm better than I found it.

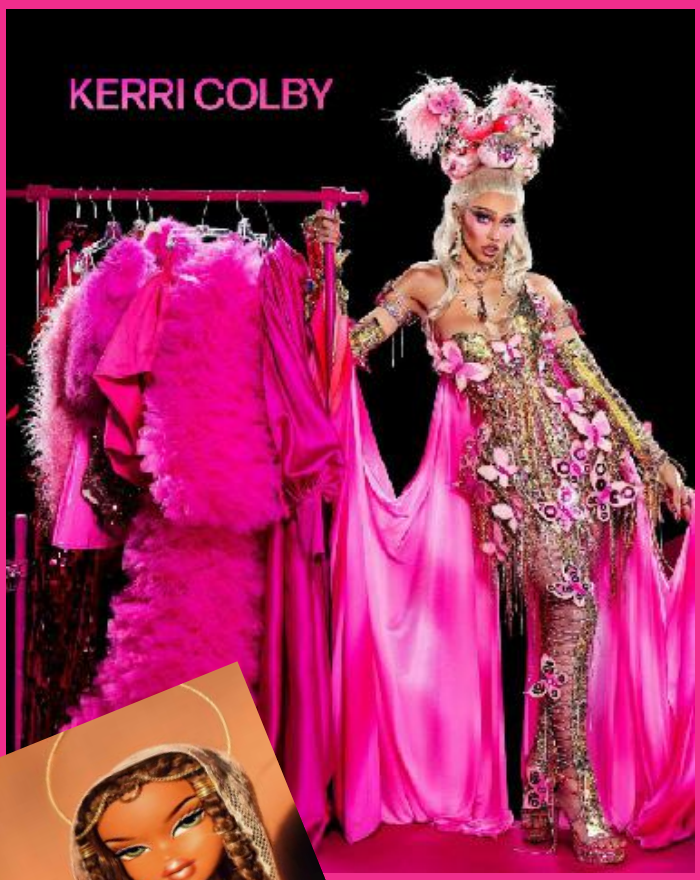


Arianna: Role Model to many, what are some lessons fellow black trans women can learn from you?

Kerri: We are gathered and called for such a time as this, the magic is real. The magic is inside us, the magic is us. So many generations both known and forgotten have come together to create each and every one of us! And remember - you cannot break generational curses while seeking approval from the generations that are still cursed.

This or That?

with Kerri Colby



Favorite Song or Artist to Lip Sync?

You caught me in the midst of Pride Season and i have been loving my Muscles x Diva mix!

I Know you are a Bratz fan. What would your Bratz doll look like?

Tan & painted for the gawdsss! Probably a blonde blayage vibe, with the most amazing little outfits and rhinestone shoes!



Favorite Makeup Tip?

I say this to ALL my girls, drag queens or not- do NOT forget to blend your foundation down to your neck!

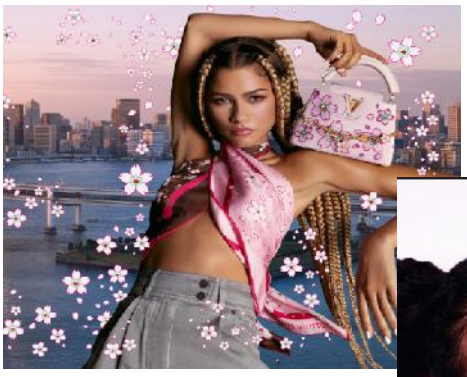
Who are some inspirations?
Oh, goshI have so many· I know I alwas post about my female divas- Beyonce', Mariah Carey, Ariana Grande· But my all time inspiration is Micahel Jackson & my mother Sasha Colby!



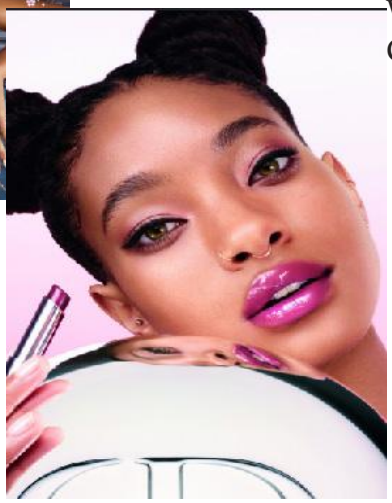




Celebrity News



Zendaya stars in Louis Vutiion Murakami Collection ads for Spring/Summer 2025



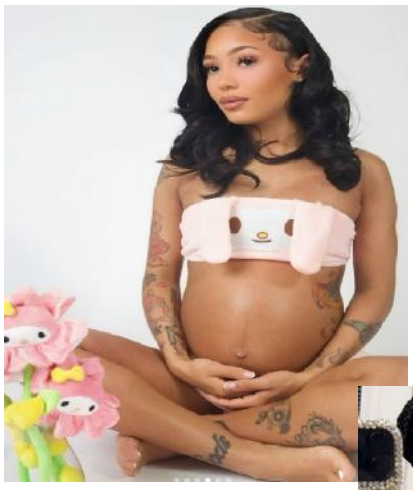
Willow Smith in Dior Beauty winter 2025 Campaigns

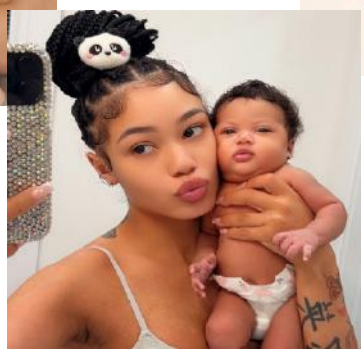
Baby News

Rapper's Coi Leray & Flo Mili welcomed their bundles of joy! Coi giving birth to a baby girl and Flo to a baby boy!









It's Doechii's World



May 30th, 2025
By Arianna Freels



2025 has to be the year of Doechii. You probably have heard a few songs of hers or you are probably a full blown fan by now. It is undeniable that Doechii is a household name now.

Doechii is the stage name of Jaylah Ji'mya Hickmon, was born August 14th, 1998 in Tampa, Florida. She gained early internet fame with her YouTube channel in the late 2010s and early 2020s. Chronologizing her early music career and and truly humble beginnings by vlog. She posted about working retail, getting dumped and moreon her channel.

Her first viral hit was back in 2023 . What it is hoe? Literally. An Instant hit. What it is (Block Boy), featured rapper Kodak Black and another version with just her. The single was released March, 17th 2023. A viral hit with over million videos used across TikTok , Instagram Reels, and Youtube Shorts. People making dances and more. It is considered her breakout hit, with her first billboard entry. Topping the Hip-Hop/R&B Charts in 2023 within the top 8 and 3 positions. Hot 100 #29 spot.



2023 was a big year as she starred in an A24 film, Earth Mama. Based on the short film by Savannah Leaf and Taylor Russell. The movie is about A pregnant single mother, with two children in foster care, embraces her Bay Area community as she fights to reclaim her family. Doechii stars as Trina. (Photo on the right)

Doechii also began touring with fellow rapper and singer, Doja Cat on her Scarlett Letter tour as a supporting act.

2024 Doechii Released her 2nd Mixtape; Alligator Bites Never Heal.



An instant hit in the Hip-Hop scene. I may say that this release, has made its mark for this decades top Hip-Hop/Rap album.

Alter Ego featuring JT , along with Anixtey (re-released in 2025) became a sleeper hits. Alter-Ego was featured in January 2025 on Rupaul's Drag Race, which Doechii guest judged.

Nissan Altima was the first single from her mixtape. I really apertaite the nod to the culture(& stigma of Altimas FYKYK LOL!). That single became another viral hit. Weeks ahead of her own mixtape drop. She charted on Tyler The Creator latest album single "Ballon" into the hot 100. She went through another huge push into the new year. Her second single "Denial is River" featured a star studded music video featuring Zach Fox as her boyfriend who she catches with her friend, played by Ricky Thompson. Appearances by Baby Tate, DJ Miss Milan, Earl Sweatshirt, H Wood, Schoolboy Q, SiR and Teezo Touchdown.



Doechii is officially making her stride in mainstream culture. Doechii is everywhere at the same time. 2025 is the year of Doechii. 2025 is hers. She was opening act ofr Kendrick Lamar's & SZA;s Grand National Tour this year. In addition in Febuary, Doechii won her first Grammy for best Rap Album. That same month she she appeared at NYFW at the Dsqaured show , closing the runway show with Naomi Campbell. She doesn't stop there. She will be toruing throughout the summer. She was also one of the headliners at Chicago's music festival Lollapalooza, (Photo on the right) which JT was her music guest. She received honors at the Billboard Women in music show.





Doechii reminds me of late 90s early 00s rappers who experiminted with their image. They were the quirky black women who used their sexuality against social norms. I think of Missy Elliot. Her sounds were just relent on her sexuality or her looks. Her music always took you on a trip. Doechii must be doing something right because Lauryn Hill co-signed suring a performance for the Jazz in the Gardens in Miami in March of 2025.
There is just something about Doechii. It's for the good. She is something we need so desperately back to music.

STARRING JORDYN TAEREZ

APRIL 7TH 2025

Jordyn Tareaz has been releasing music for three years.
She (23) was raised in New York City and Potomac, Maryland. Music is her passion. She has been singing and performing for 20 years. She writes and produces her own music. Bringing her songs to life. In high school, she was one of the student vocal captains in her music program, helping put on shows with over 150 performers—including a full band, dancers, and singers. The shows featured 30 songs set to a theme, spanning Pop, R&B, and Rock. This also lended her to teach others and help her learn the skill of arranging music. Organizing and performing in front of 800 people per night shaped her ability to put together big productions and played a huge role in shaping her career today. Now she is ready to take over the pop music scene.



Arianna: Welcome to the Garden Jordan! I am excited to be interviewing you. How has 2025 been treating you?
Jordyn Tareaz: 2025 has been really great so far there's so many things I can't wait to start announcing soon! and I've been finishing up my second EP I just got the mix for the first single off the project so expect to be able to listen to that released song either at the end of May or early June! I'm giving you the exclusive, and I haven't talked about this publicly yet, but it's called "Wild Woman".

AF: When did you start singing? What were some of your early inspirations growing up?
JT: I started taking piano lessons at just two years old, along with ballet and musical theater performances. By eight, I was already writing my first songs. I've always been obsessed with early 2000s music—it still inspires me today. Since I was little, I've been singing and dancing to Beyoncé, Rihanna, Lady Gaga, and all the iconic pop divas.
AF: Music drives us as humans. Explain your passion for singing
JT: Singing and creating for me is all about self-expression. without it I feel caged in. being able to express my emotions through the way that I sing is the best feeling for me and why I'm so passionate about singing and music.
AF: If you had to sing to a completely new audience, what song of yours would you sing?
JT: Love Me Right
AF: At Brown Orchid, we celebrate womanhood and blackness. How does it feel being a black woman in the msuic industry?
JT: Black women shape culture so at times when it can feel hard to be a black woman in a white male dominated industry I just remind myself that black people created Music black people create basically all of the trends that are relevant and entertainment and fashion and are so important to culture so despite the lack of diversity on both the creative and business side of the industry I always let my black womenhood Empower me.





AF: As a child of the 2000s, I grew up with pop music that was from an era where music went through a machine. The single, the music video, the press tour etc. Social madia has changed the game. How do you connect with audeinces on social platforms?

JT: I'm really active on Instagram and TikTok and I post daily there. I'm also going to start being more active on my YouTube and I have my Substack which is like my little blog called The Diva Diary. I get really close with my audience by showing the behind the scenes of my career and I love traveling so I show that too!



AF: As you know trends do come back. There is lots of dance, funk, alt elements in mainstream pop. Lack of better terms "Recession Pop" . Whats your take on this?
JT: I'm here for it! Carefree type of Pop is my favorite type of music I was already creating a lot of music like that for my next EP so I'm glad that the world is embracing it right now
AF: How is Jordyn Tareaz redifying the pop star?
JT: I feel like in this day and age there aren't a ton of vocalists out with really big voices. I'm talking like classic pop diva riffs and runs so that's definitely something I'm bringing back. while still being a performer, actress, dancer, songwriter, and producer. I'm more than just a pop artist, I'm a multi-hyphenate creative!

" I'M MORE THAN JUST A POP ARTIST, I'M A MULTI-HYPHENATE CREATIVE!"

AF: For those who are unfamiliar, what is the essence of Jordyn Tareaz. How would you describe yourself and style of music?
JT: As a person and an artist I'm bold, Unapologetic and I'm going to do whatever and say whatever the fuck I want and make it fabulous too. In music if you like big vocals, riffs, guitars, strings, 808s, synths and clever hooks I'm your girl.
AF: What song have you written that is a personal favorite & Why
JT: I love Pressing Play, it's such a fun song for the club. It's more dance pop/edm inspired. I wrote it cause at the time i was taking a lot of cycling classes and I wanted a song that would be great for one of those classes. I'm definetly having a lot more upbeat fun club songs on EP #2.
AF:We desperately need more black female pop stars. You are that person! What do you think about the lack of black female starsJT: First off, thank you! but yes they're definitely is a shortage of black pop stars and part of the reason why is because everyone wants to pigeonhole black female artists into R&B. I love R&B music but I'm not an R&B artist. if you listen to any of my songs you'll see that. but when I go into sessions nine times out of 10 the songwriters and producers in the room will be like "so what R&B song are we going to write? what's the style of R&B we want to write." and I'm like y'all need to stop seeing black women as only one thing we are everything and we can do any genre with ease.

Follow Jordyn on all social platforms: @jordyntareaz
Stream Jordyn's music including "Wild Woman" on all music platforms including Apple Music and Spotify
Watch Jordyn's and Arianna's Interview on Youtube @BrownOrchidMagazine
Read our Full Interview www.brownorchidmedia.com/starring-jordyn-taerez

Content Creators & Influencers You Need to be Following!

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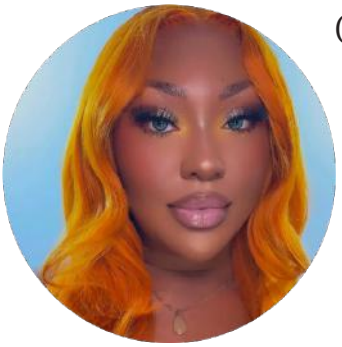
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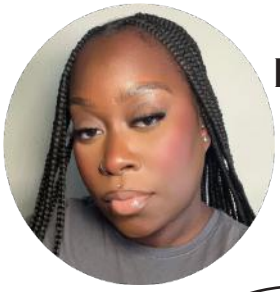
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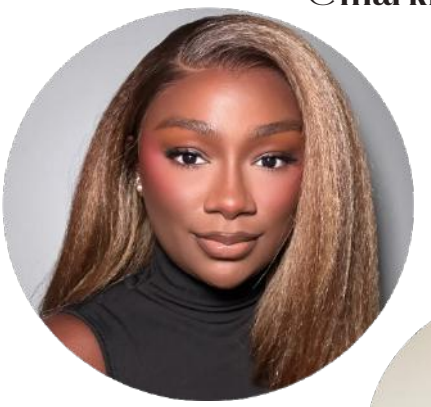


Hair, style & Beauty

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A Star To Be

Interview with Touring Broadway Actress, Savannah Fisher



April, 16th 2025

Arianna Freels interviews Savannah Fisher, a touring actress on Broadway's "Annie," who plays the role of Star to Be. Savannah shares her journey from Detroit to New York, her extensive theater background, and her experiences working with notable figures like Whoopi Goldberg. She describes a typical day on tour, the camaraderie among cast members, and the challenges of performing. Savannah emphasizes the importance of practice, self-growth, and the impact of representation in theater. She aspires to a long-running Broadway career and aims to inspire others through her performances, encouraging them to pursue their dreams.



Arianna: All right hello, everyone. My name is Arianna Freels. I am creator and editor chief of brand organ magazine media company, and today I have a very special guest with me. She is currently on the touring production of Annie. Her name is Savannah Fisher. Welcome to the garden. Ms.Fisher.
Savannah Fisher: Hi. Thank you so much for having me so excited.
AF:Yes, yes, yes. So tell us, the viewers a little bit about yourself?
SF:Well, my name is Savannah Fisher, I am on the Broadway national tour of Annie. I play the star to be amongst many other incredible characters. And what's really cool about this iteration is that our star to be is African American women, which is really awesome to see someone coming to New York and having a dream. You know, that looks like me. So this is really special. I'm from Detroit, Michigan. I moved to New York to pursue my Broadway dreams a few years ago, and I've been on tour since I graduated and moved this is my fourth national tour.
AF: Oh, wow, congrats, awesome.
SF: Thank you. Yeah, yeah. And this is my second year on Annie, so that's really cool, too.
AF: This is That's amazing. Yes, and I have been doing some research on you. You have a lot of credits to your name. You, yes, that's amazing. You just ended a fresh career too. I've also you were in Sister Act as Deloris, and then you also played in the wiz as and a bunch of others, Jesus Christ, Superstar , Dogman and Godspell.
SF: Yes. There are so many things I've been doing theater since I was, like, 10 years old. So those were the start of me doing it professionally, which was really awesome. And what's cool about Sister Act is we did Annie at Madison Square Garden in December with Whoopi Goldberg. And so I got to be like, Hey, girl, yes, queen, yes.

AF: Is there any other famous actress that you would maybe want to model your career after?
SF: I get compared to Audra McDonald a lot, and I love it so much. Great actress. Compliment to me. She has her nose in so many different veins of the arts and in theater and in TV, and she grew up being like she made a way kind of for black women in this industry. And I would love to be a trailblazer like her. We actually got to rehearse next door to her. She's doing gypsy on Broadway now. And. And so I ran into her a few times, but it was early in the morning. I didn't want to bother Right, right? Yeah. Also felt meant to be
AF:One of those, one of these days you're going to meet her, yes,
SF: Oh, for sure, yes,



"there's always a bright light at the end of the tunnel. and to just live your life and like, be happy and love the people around you."



AF: Do you want your audience to take away from seeing Annie?
SF: :the feeling of hope and joy and knowing that if things did not turn out well today, that it's okay because we are blessed turn out well today, that it's okay because we are blessed with another chance to wake up and try again tomorrow and like, it's okay. be yourself

AF:Surround yourself with positivity and yeah, everything you want will happen. Yeah, you have to continue to put in the work. I love, the whole moral of Annie itself.
SF: SF:the feeling of hope and joy and knowing that if things did not turn out well today, that it's okay because we are blessed turn out well today, that it's okay because we are blessed with another chance to wake up and try again tomorrow and like, it's okay.

AF: so you are playing the star to be. So do you have a personal connection to being the start to be, because you are a star to be?
SF: What's crazy is that I really just get to go out there and be myself, which I won't say is rare, because all characters come from a point of view from yourself. But this one is like, dead on. This is me. I have always been a vocalist, I've always been a dancer. I went to school for that, and I've always planned to move to New York and follow those dreams.



Watch Arianna's and Savannah's Full Interview on Youtube @brownorchidmagazine
Full Article on our website www.brownorchidmedia.com/startobe-savannahfisher
Follow Savannah on Instrgram : @ savannahmfisher

ARTWORK

From our garden, we are showcasing talented artwork from fellow black women artists . Showing beautiful work that is represents us.

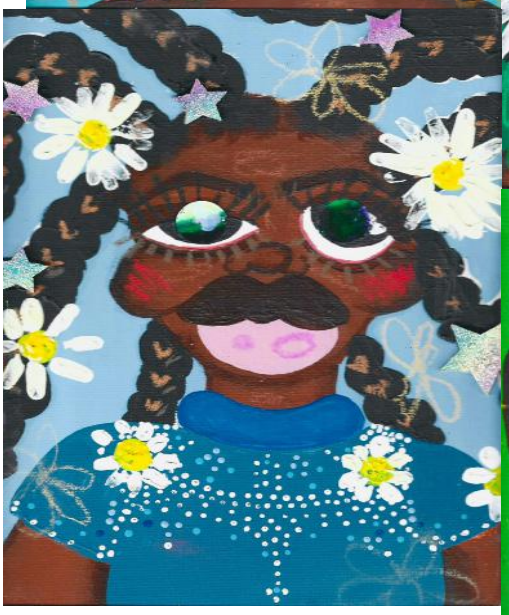


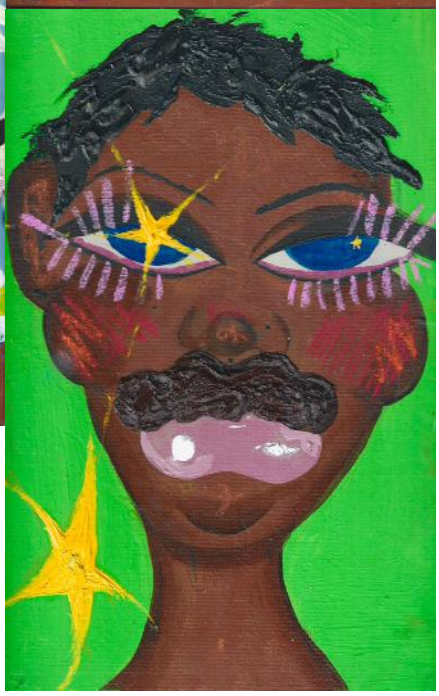
Konah Varmah (kon8h)

25 : Fort Worth ,Texas
@kon8h on instagram
@888konah TikTok





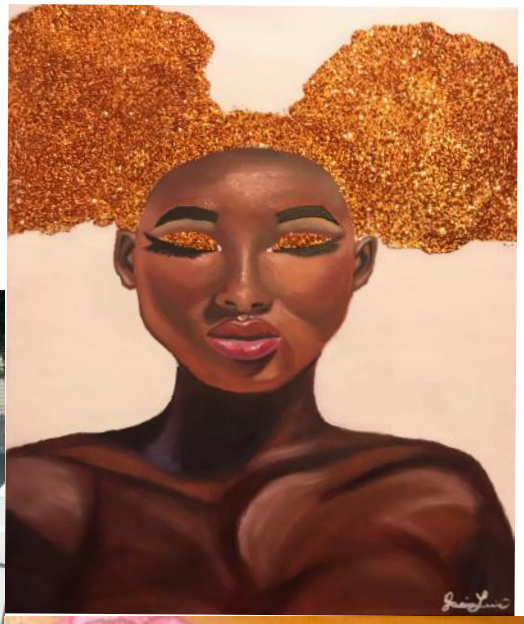




This series is an ode to the Black woman—rooted in girlhood, searching for affirmation, and learning where her flowers truly belong. Through layered textures and blooming florals, the work captures her journey from external validation to the quiet revelation that everything she needed was always within. Each piece holds space for healing, reflection, and rebirth. It's a visual declaration that Black women are powerful simply by existing—before the applause, before the titles, before the world takes notice. Her bloom is not a performance; it's a birthright.

Jasmine Lewis

26;Baltimore, Maryland
@dancin2jas98:TikTok
@jasiupart @dancin_2_jass: Instagram(s)



My art I would describe as black art. I create to interpret self love and encouragement. These pieces are to encourage black women to be theirselves unapologetically and to believe in theirselves. To see the beauty within.









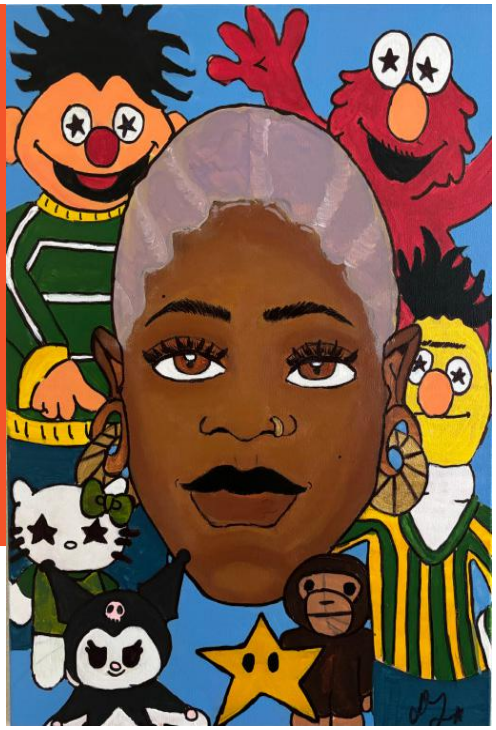
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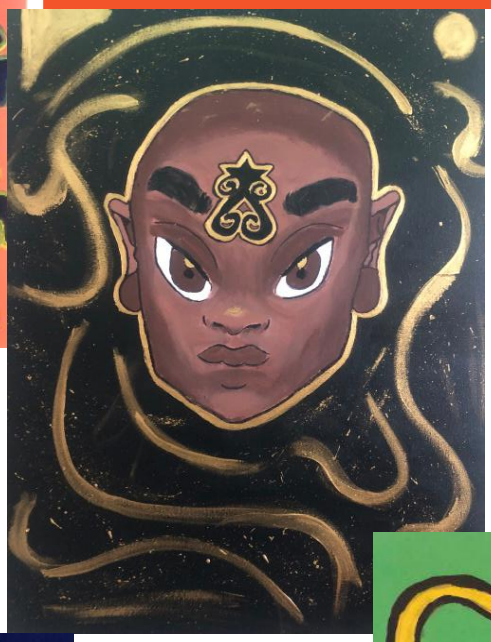
Dom Sankofa

27; Athens, Georgia
@domsankofa/@nostalgia90s-even

My artwork aims to pay homage to African diasporic culture and inner child work through artistic expression. Using bold colors and imagery, my art shows different dimensions of Black life through both a powerful and nostalgic lens. It's important to make art that is most personal to you because it lets you create from your subconscious freely.











Heaven Goode

22; Georgia
Instagram & TikTok : @goodeonearth



I love to create anything I can get my hands on but I mainly specialize in acrylic paintings/mixed media work. My art is lively, whimsical, and fun with deep undertones. I transmute and translate all that I think, see, feel, hear— experience— into everything I create. I make art relating to themes and feelings many others can connect and relate to. My creations are more than a hobby; it is my lifestyle.









Artwork

Courtney Bailey
22; Silver Spring, Maryland
Instagram - @art4ourthesoul
TikTok- @brazybourt







I would like to describe my artwork as dreamy and thought-provoking. Each time I create I try to create based of a message or a current struggle that I'm facing in my life. I find that using my dis-comforts and expressing them into my art helps me find clarity about my thoughts and brings me closer to myself.





The artwork I submitted is a logo design for my small business called Littlemissnova. It is a star biblical angel which follows the brands moto of being an angel and being a star. It is a play on faith and my middle name which is star.

Phylicia Atherley
20; New York, New York
Instagram: ilynxva
Youtube: phyliciaxo
TikTok: phyliciaxoyt
Pinterest: phyliciaxo

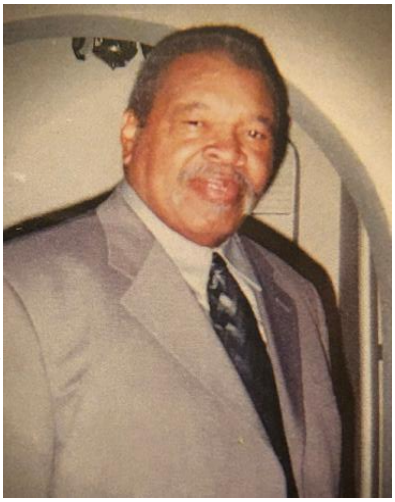


Do you make art? We want to feature you! submit all entries via brownorchidmedia@gmail.com

The Healing Power of SisterHood

How heartbreak and turbulent . Family relationships transformed a former only child into having a new sister with a renewed sense of purpose.

In her own words. Alana J. Best, 31 was born and raised in Los Angeles, California.Having lived in Inglewood. She graduated from the Palisades High School in 2012. Studied Business Administration at Fresno State University. Astrology, Numerology, and Psychology since a child from the influence of her grandparents. Now looking for new sense of self after multiple family passings in recent years.



In 2022 after living in the Central Valley of Fresno for about 8.5 years, I decided to move back to LA to be in a big city again and spend more time with family. Family was always difficult for me to connect to as I am the first only child in the family in over 6 generations so my journey with a lack of siblings was always difficult to navigate. So at 28, I decided to actively work on my relationship with my father whom people would describe as very tough, eccentric, and at times difficult to be around due to his upbringing and challenges as a young man growing up in LA's crack epidemic and finding his way out of the gang culture in his lifetime. His journey of discovery as a man and father impacted my life greatly. By living with him, I discovered there were many things we couldn't work on together so I decided to spend time with my mother in mid-2022. Unfortunately I discovered that my beautiful, hardworking, and selfless mother was suffering from a long time, hidden addiction to alcohol and a deep depression from the COVID lockdown and the change in lifestyle that came with it. She was very sick and it was too late for me to help. We fought and fought and eventually went no contact from the pain I felt with her self harm and lack of desire to seek help leading me to move a third time with my grandparents. All the moving lead me to instability financially and emotionally.





While living with my grandparents from the end of 2022 to 2023, I found out through small updates from my uncle, my mother's younger brother that my mother was slowly dying in the hospital for the last few months and she had less than a year to live. As I began visiting her, my father would reach out to update me about my younger sister that lived in Alabama with her mother whom I've known since a child from my father's days as a football coach, coaching one of her son's from a previous relationship around my age at the time.

But I had my hesitation and heavy heart because I also have a younger brother on my father's side as well born in 2004, that I cannot have a relationship with due to my father's relationship with his mother leaving me to suffer from their issues. Having that heartbreak the first time, 10 years before made meeting my sister a big deal. As I met my sister for the first time while watching my mother's life fade away. In April 2023 I met my sister for the first time. It was short but magnetic. We just clicked. But I wasn't fully present as I was accepting my mother's fate. In July my mother passed away with all her friends around her leaving me, her only child to process the loss.



My sister and I grew closer and she started to fill my emptiness with her joy and pure love. We are now closer than ever as life continues to unravel for me. It's healed the space where our brother used to me before he was taken off it of my life. After my mom passed, my grandpa passed 13 months later leaving me to be the sole caregiver for my grandmother, my mom's mom, with dementia. Watching her lose her daughter and her husband within a year of each other just crushed her in many ways.



As her dementia progressed, spending time with my sister served as a valuable healing resource for me. Watching my grandma, my best friend, fade mentally hurt me beyond words. Still does. Eventually my family and I decided a nursing home would be best, we moved my grandma out of the house at the end of March 2025. Now, as I navigate this new reality where my small, immediate family has almost vanished within 2 years, I search for ways to create joy for my sister and I. I don't know where life is leading me but as I wait for the dementia to lead my grandmother to her final transition, I open myself to the love and affection my sister offers me and the nurturing and love I give in return to remind me that love is always near. It has been so hard and I know it isn't over yet but knowing I have my little sister makes everything a little lighter as I search for direction and next steps.

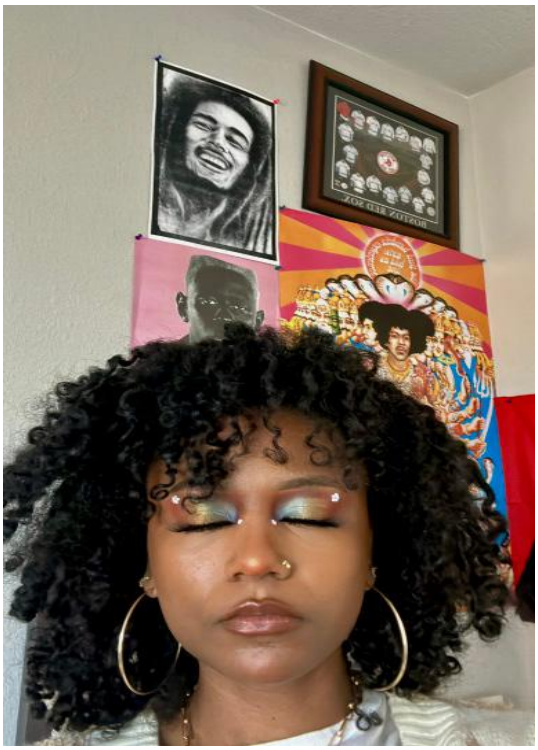
Makeup Love

Janae Robinson

27; Hickory, North Carolina
TikTok: @childish.jan.bino











Return The Lines

Inspired by the poem “Lines” written Martha Collins

Write the lines. Unfold the lines. Return them.
The lines we’ve crafted have been made for us
to be revised and rehearsed,
to fill the blanks that have been left aside,
that will balance the connection to the end.
But those darker lines must return,
to a past that can not be repeated,
but unfolded as a future that’s been finally learnt.
Returned to the past that mind yearns to retrieve,
to fulfill its hunger to see our wrongs,
and be held against us as we face a world,
that will never hold the hands we used
to craft life with the lines we choose.

Phylicia Atherley

We must create a life that builds us up to our fullest potential. To let go of what is holding us back from our future. To write what defines us but not what we think we are defined by.

Ask the Garden

Spring/ Summer 2025
July 2025

Who were your beauty role models growing up?

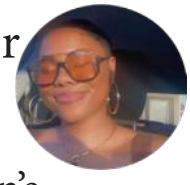
we asked the garden, who was your beauty standard growing up? Did you have anyone who you modeled your personal model of beauty. here are the answers!



@iamcrystalnicole

My Mother

@imaniaisha_





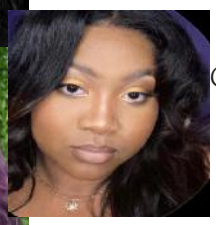
Vanessa Williams. When I was child, I was so mesmerized by her when she plasyed the trash queen in Elmo in grouchland movie. My parents could tell you, I had it on repeat on VHS player! Her in that blue dress, I was obsessed. You can tell I had an eye for fashion even as a kid!





Raven Symon'e
Justine Skye
Her





@lacedinjoi

@justjazzylove



Talk about fashion. Seeing Raven Symon'e on That's so Raven was life changing for me. For all of the reasons. She was unapologetically herself. She was loud and took up space. I think when you area young black child. You realize that blackness really isn't the status quo. Raven was something I saw myself in. Also I loved seeing Vivica Fox in Ella Enchated when she played the fairy godmother. I thought she was always super pretty. Also my aunt took me and my sister when we were children to see Catwoman. Halle Berry was so pretty to me in that movie. Oh yeah of Course Beyonc'e . Duh . I remember flipping through the palmpet of Dangerously in Love.

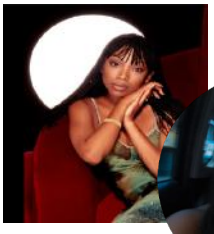


Queen Latifah

Beyonce'
Aaliyah
Brandy
Tia and Tamera









@jorda.nm

@mrsicy



@simone.britt







CREATOR SPOTLIGHT

PHYLICIA ATHERLEY

20,NEW YORK, NEW YORK







Meet Phylicia· She is 20 years old and is from New York· You name it , she can d it· She is your new content creator· She dabbles in beauty and fashion· Her youtube channel takes you on her personal journey within lfestyle and advice content· She also has her own business called LittleMissNova· Her faith is very improtant , she incorporates her faith within her business to stay grounded and help others personal growth·

Where you can find Phylicia
Instagram: @ilynxva
Youtube: @phyliciaxo
TikTok: @phyliciaxoyt
Pinterest: @phyliciaxo

Photo love

see the best hairstyles and makeup from this Summer



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@loiszaina

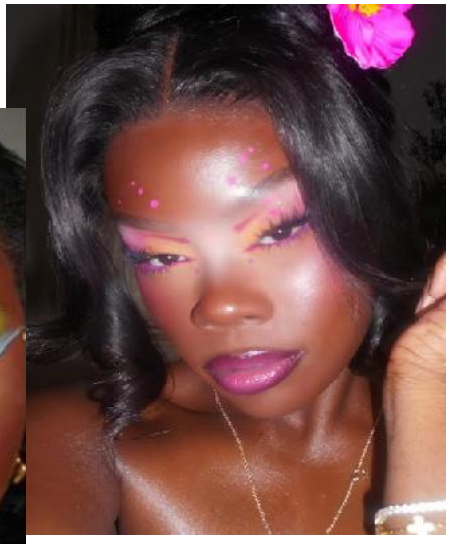
@lynda.florae



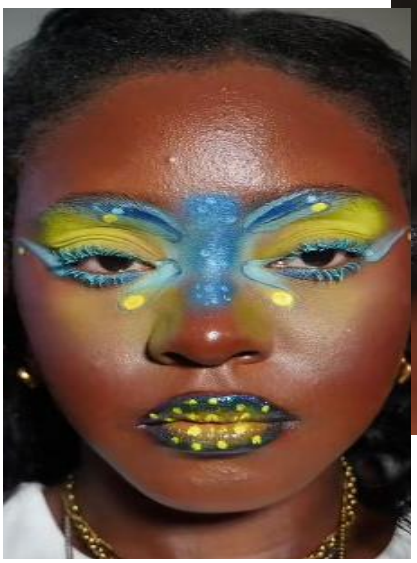


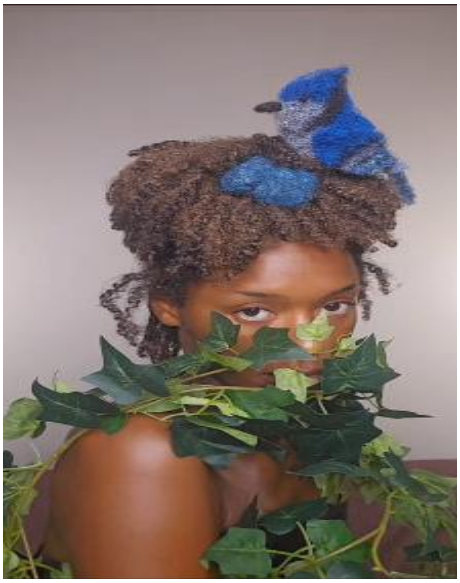


@theeblackestberry_



@jennygabrielle





@kwiin..ava
@whitscanvas

Finshing Touches

Spring/Summer 2025



Creators; @intuitmani

As summer winds down and fall is coming down upon us. Summer creates happy memories. A youthful time. I really hoped you enjoyed your summer and spring season. Summer is my favorite season. I am a July baby so I am biased.. . Summer is a just a joyous time. Although I spent the summer working per usual. I actually think this is the first year, I really did not take a vacation. As my financial worries took over my mind. Creating this issue has been he only thing keeping me sane. I put in a lot of effort into this issue. I am glad that I can get to create a community like this. Each and everyone of you who reads are important to me.

I want to thank all of my interviews for this issue. I want to thank (in order); Alexis Brooks, Anika Kablan, Kaylee White, Kerri Colby, Savannah Mcclain, Jordyn Tarez, and Savvanah Fisher.

Also to our incredible orchids who submitted to our magazine!

I want our garden to continue to grow. I want us to become better versions of us. Some of us are heading back to classes or simply starting new positions in life this fall. There is never a right time to start something new. Don't be afraid of the "if" . The time is now. I used to think , "Oh well if I do this , I wont' have this or What if this doesn't work out.". The If hasnt happened yet. I aways keep a back up plan indeed. But life is filled with "ifs". I am a huge believer in manifestation. Let me tell you the things I have done by simply taking action from the sheer idea from I want this. Really does exist. A lot of us stop ourselves from going after that desire or passion. So I end this issue by wanting our garden and our fellow Orchids by this. Get into new habits this upcoming season. Finish off quarter four the best you can. Believe in your own power. See you in issue 3.

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