Spring 2024 Issue 6

HUMAN ECOLOGY





## IN THIS ISSUE

This is the 6th issue of the Human Ecology magazine and we are encouraging readers to reflect on the first four years of this new decade and all you have survived! We made it through a pandemic and overcome life's obstacles and now it's time to conquer life with a fresh perspective!

#### **HUMAN ECOLOGY UPDATE**

Learn all about our new programs!

#### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Ja'la Bannerman Kennedy Holder Jalynn Aaron

#### **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

Chanal Carlisle
Darius Thompson
Sakishia Simms Robinson

#### READY FOR THE WORLD

Get a glimpse of what students are looking forward to in the future!

### PERSPECTIVES: HOW DO YOU

VIEW THE WORLD?

Students share their outlook and perspective on life and fashion.

#### HUMAN ECOLOGY UPDATE

by Dr. Bridgett Clinton-Scott

The Human Ecology Department at the
University of Maryland Eastern Shore is excited
to announce we are accepting applications for
our NEW ONLINE MASTER'S DEGREE! The
Master's degree in Human Ecology offers
students 5 track options in Child Development,
Nutrition and Wellness, Clinical Nutrition,
Family and Consumer Sciences and Fashion
Merchandising. For more information visit:
<a href="https://www.cp.umes.edu/he/master-of-science-m-s-in-human-ecology/">https://www.cp.umes.edu/he/master-of-science-m-s-in-human-ecology/</a>



## HUMAN ECOLOGY MENTORSHIP: PROGRAM FOOD & FASHION STUDY TOUR

During the spring semester Dr. Clinton-Scott and Dr. Seo traveled to New York City with 11 students who participated in the Human Ecology Career Development Mentorship Program. Students visited fashion industry businesses that included a ready-to-wear wholesaler and the social media marketing division at Saks Fifth Ave and learned all about digital styling! In addition, students experienced the food industry visiting Arizona Beverage Co. to learn about food manufacturing in their 100,000+ sq. ft. stat-of-the art facility.



## HUMAN ECOLOGY SPOTLIGHT

by Marque Meeks

This section of the magazine delves into the rich tapestry of life at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES).

Through a series of captivating interviews, readers will explore the diverse perspectives that shape the UMES experience. These interviews showcase the dynamic interplay of current and past students and how UMES has impacted their lives. Join us on a journey through the HBCU experience where every perspective adds a unique shade to the vibrant canvas of UMES.

#### JA'LA BANNERMAN

by Dr. Bridgett Clinton-Scott



"THE HIGHLIGHT OF MY COLLEGE **EXPERIENCE HAS** BEEN THE **EXPOSURE:** BEING IN A NEW ATMOSPHERE AND HAVING THE CHANCE TO TRAVEL TO NEW PLACES I'VE **NEVER BEEN."** 



Ja'la Bannerman is a sophomore at UMES studying Child Development. Ja'la is from Baltimore, Md and is a member of the UMES women's basketball team, Lady Hawks.

#### How do you balance being a student athlete?

It's not easy but it can be done. From my freshmen year to my sophomore year I've made changes to how I manage my time so I can complete my school work and perform well in basketball. I started putting my coursework first before focusing on basketball. Now, I've learned to prioritize my school work and not procrastinate.

#### What are your future career goals?

When I graduate I want to go overseas and play for an international basketball team and start working in my field and eventually open a chain of childcare centers.

#### What is something most people wouldn't know about you?

I'm a triplet! Growing up was fun because there was always a full house with someone to play with.

#### Why did you choose Child Development as a major?

Growing up I became an aunt at a young age and I've always been around a lot of babies and young kids. I've always looked after children so because of this I always knew I wanted to have a career related to children.

#### What has been your favorite course so far in college?

my favorite class was NUDT 214 Child Nutrition where I learned how a child should eat as they grow and develop. I also learned how to properly feed a baby. A baby is always suppose to be held while being feed and when I reflect on feeding my nephews it made me think, Wow! I didn't know there was a correct way to feed a baby.

#### What do you like to do in your free time?

I like to work out and hang out with my friends when I'm not focused on my studies or 5 basketball.



## Why inspired you to choose Child Development as a major?

I've always had an interest in working with children. From babysitting my cousins all the time, to my mother working in the education system. After changing my major in my sophomore year, hearing other people's stories, it made me eager to further my experience.

## What would you tell an incoming freshman interested in Child Development?

I would say join for the right reasons. Don't just choose the major because you think you'll just be watching children all day and it'll be easy, because it's not. Being in this field requires a special kind of person to be able to teach and mold children.

#### What do you hope to do with your degree?

I hope to further my education in a graduate program, where I'll work towards becoming a pediatric occupational therapist. Once I obtain my license, I plan on opening a center catered to individuals with disabilities.

## How do you balance your personal life and your academics?

Honestly, I'm still trying to find a healthy balance between my personal life and academics. It's a bit of work because I'm a double major and I'm currently working as an ABA therapist on the road to gaining my RBT certification. So the best I can do for now is utilize my calendars and complete assignments at least one week in advance.

#### **KENNEDY HOLDER**

by Mackenzi Evans



Kennedy Holder is a graduating senior at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, majoring in Human Ecology with a concentration in Child Development. She currently serves as Vice President of the Human Ecology Club. Kennedy's career goal is to become a director of a childcare center, although she is contemplating pursuing other career paths along with this.

## What inspired you to join the Human Ecology Club?

I wanted to become more connected with my major and deepen my involvement in my major.

### As Vice President, what brings you the most satisfaction in your role?

What brings me the most satisfaction is successfully organizing and executing events and ensuring they run smoothly. Also, I find joy in witnessing my vision being implemented.

## How do you balance your commitment to the Human Ecology Club and your school commitment?

"I really try to stick to my schedule and prioritize my assignments, so they get done in a timely manner.

# What was a memorable experience or achievement from your time on the Human Ecology Club that stands out to you?

One memorable experience was when the club organized an event where club members visited classrooms to read to the children and engage in Valentine's Day activities with them.

## Why did you choose Child Development as a major?

My decision to pursue this major stems from my lifelong love for being around children. I just think they're the coolest, funniest people ever! I find joy in being a trusted figure for them and I really look forward to coming into work every day and seeing how excited they are to see me. When they all run up to me, that's probably the highlight of my day!

#### CHANAL CARLISLE

by Kennedy Holder

I had the pleasure of interviewing UMES Alumna, Chanal Carlisle, who completed her degree in Human Ecology with a concentration in Nutrition and Dietetics. Chanal is employed by Fresh Lemon Harvest located in Florida where she focuses on the integration of digital solutions for improving access to healthcare.



### What advice do you have for someone interested in majoring in Nutrition and Dietetics?

My advice would be to seize the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on a global scale. With the health-related epidemics and pandemics affecting populations worldwide, the need for qualified professionals in this field has never been greater. Overall, majoring in Nutrition and Dietetics offers limitless opportunities to make a positive impact on the lives of many people by helping them improve their health and well-being.

## "THE BIGGEST MOTIVATION THAT DRIVES ME IN MY CAREER IS HAVING THE MINDSET THAT THE POSSIBILITIES ARE LIMITLESS"

#### What are your professional goals?

My professional goals have not changed but have evolved over time. I aim to address emerging needs and gaps in the market to drive growth and create value in new areas related to digital nutrition. Ultimately, my goal is to continually improve the quality of life through the use of technology.

#### How will you impact society through your chosen career path?

My personal mission is centered around an unwavering commitment to improving quality of life locally and globally. I aim to achieve this by driving transformation in the digital space, particularly in the areas of health, nutrition, and energy. Overall, through my chosen career path, I am dedicated to making a meaningful and lasting impact on society by improving health outcomes, promoting sustainable living, and championing social responsibility for the health and welfare of others.

#### **DARIUS THOMPSON**

by Marque Meeks

UMES alumni, Darius Thompson completed his degree in Fashion Merchandising and has a diverse career path that includes fashion show production, runway coaching, and education.

## What motivated you to choose your current career path after graduating from our college?

In college I thrived in classes focused on advertising, promotion, and visual merchandising, After graduation, I continued producing fashion shows and expanded into offering classes, image consulting, event planning, and public relations. This led me to pursue a Master's degree in marketing and brand management which I recently attained in May 2024!



## Can you share a memorable experience or lesson from your time at our institution that has influenced your professional journey?

During my sophomore year of college, while watching Project Runway, I recognized an opportunities for students at UMES to develop their fashion stylist skills. This motivated me to create a platform for my peers and myself along with some of my friends developed the Stylist Competition at UMES.! This initiative was a success and continued even after I graduated. This experience instilled in them a mindset of creating their own opportunities whenever faced with limitations or challenges.

# "DESPITE THE CHALLENGES, I'VE FACED I TAKE PRIDE IN WHAT I'VE ACCOMPLISHED AND THE PATH I'VE FORGED FOR MYSELF WITHIN THE INDUSTRY, DIVERSIFYING MY SKILLS IN PRODUCTION, MEDIA, AND EVENT PLANNING."

#### Can you share a particular challenge you faced post-graduation and how you overcame it?

Upon graduating, I initially pursued retail management roles, but soon felt unfulfilled and restricted creatively. Despite the risk, I made the bold decision to quit my job. I chose to prioritize my happiness and desire for creative fulfillment in my career. This pivotal moment prompted me to refocus on my own business endeavors, which led me to opportunities in producing shows and running fashion programs. Through my dedication and passion, My journey exemplifies the importance of taking risks, following one's passions, and seizing opportunities, which ultimately lead to personal and professional growth.

#### What advice would you give to current students aspiring to pursue a similar career path?

I would encourage students to stay focused and take time to appreciate both highs and lows in one's journey. I would emphasize the importance of not rushing to the next goal but allow your achievements to unfold and open new opportunities. It's important to enjoy and savor successes rather than constantly seeking the next achievement. Lastly, I would caution students against becoming too focused on future goals to the extent of overlooking present accomplishments,

#### SAKISHIA SIMMS ROBINSON

by Angela Lynch

Sakishia Simms Robinson is a 2012 graduate of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in the Human Ecology Department where she studied Fashion Merchandising. Sakishia is an entrepreneur operating her own online business, Immeasurable Beauty Boutique.

## What was your experience like at UMES as a Fashion Merchandising major?

I had a very good experience in college at UMES. I learned a lot about the retail business, buying and selling merchandise, how to run a business, and accounting. Being a student at an HBCU was also a great experience for me because I was able to be around people who looked like me and it was empowering.

#### Describe a typical work day for you.

As an entrepreneur my work day begins with me checking my social media platforms for orders, growth, and analytics. I also check my business email emails from customers and manufacturers. I am currently working on creating my own handbag line so I've been spending more time communicating with manufacturer related to this.

"MY PERSONAL STYLE IS VERY VERSATILE AND UNIVERSAL, SO IT CHANGES VERY OFTEN."

## What advice do you have for someone interested in majoring in Fashion Merchandising?

I recommend that students pursue fashion if they are passionate in buying, business, or anything fashion related. With a degree in fashion merchandising student will gain the foundational knowledge they need to pursue a career in fashion and retailing. Also, students will learn a lot about themselves and what they truly what to do in life.

#### Who are your fashion inspirations?

I am most inspired by Sergio Hudson, who is a suit designer and Christopher Rodger who is a dress designer. I'm excited to see more black designers doing luxury fashion.



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WHILE OUR HUMAN
ECOLOGY STUDENTS ARE
ENJOYING THEIR COLLEGE
EXPERIENCE THEY ARE
PREPARING FOR A BRIGHT
FUTURE AHEAD!

. . . . . .



### KENNEDY HOLDER

### SENIOR, STUDYING CHILD DEVELOPMENT

#### WOW ACHIEVEMENT

My most recent wow achievement is becoming a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. The reason why this achievement is so important to me, is because I have always looked up to, and admired Delta women, and how they effortlessly give back to the community displaying unconditional love within the organization. Because I have been given the opportunity to learn from other individuals who have been in my shoes, they can bestow their advice upon me, and just simply knowing that I have support in my future endeavors really reassures me that I can be successful in the future.

#### BEST ADVICE YOU EVER RECEIVED

The best advice I've received was to let things go that I cannot control because ultimately if I have no control over the situation there is no point in me stressing over it. Since following this advice, when I am faced with the challenge that I have no control over, I do my best to simply let it go.



## WARNELL WATTS JUNIOR, STUDYING FASHION MERCHANDISING

#### WHY DO I LOVE FASHION?

I love fashion because it is a way to express myself, showcasing my personality. Fashion is like art and my desire to be a part of the fashion industry, creating and designing clothing is what motivates me.

#### HAIR HACK:

Having locs and always dying and bleaching my hair, I like to keep it moisturized. I do this every other day so I won't cause any damage to my locs. Also, I wear a silk scarf or silk bonnet to bed to prevent breakage.

#### THE HBCU ADVANTAGE

Attending an HBCU has allowed me to create multiple cultural connections. Being around individuals from various backgrounds has helped me embrace my Black heritage and culture more. In addition, in the Human Ecology Dept. we are able to build professional connections with alumni who have provided mentorship, guidance and even internship opportunities.

### MARQUE MEEKS

# JUNIOR, STUDYING FASHION MERCHANDISING

#### WHY I LOVE FASHION

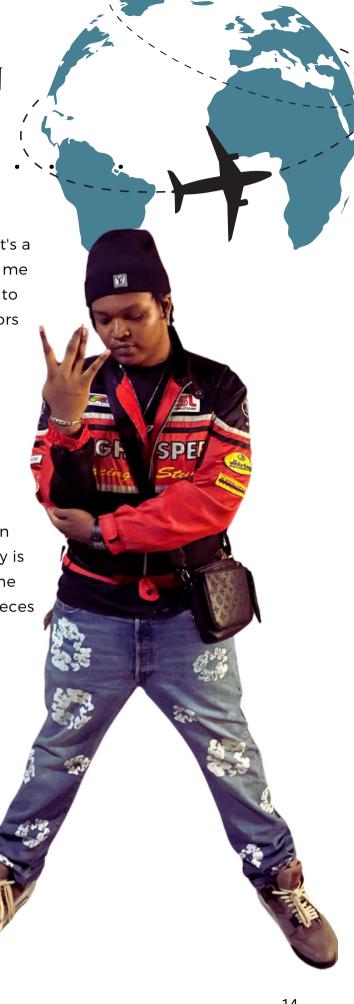
I love fashion because it's more than just clothing – it's a form of self-expression and creativity. Fashion allows me to showcase my personality, mood, and individuality to the world. Whether I'm experimenting with bold colors and patterns or opting for a minimalist look, fashion empowers me to curate my own unique style that reflects who I am.

#### FAVORITE BRANDS

My favorite Brands are Balenciaga Under Amour and Chaotic Beauty. I chose these brands because I find myself wearing them so much and all the items I own from the brands are very comfortable. Chaotic Beauty is my good friend's brand and he asked me to model the shirt for him so it will always be one of my favorite pieces of clothing.

#### BEST ADVICE I'VE EVER RECEIVED

The best advice I ever received was to embrace failure as a stepping stone to success. It's easy to get discouraged when things don't go as planned, but I've learned that every setback is an opportunity to learn and grow. Instead of dwelling on mistakes, I now see them as valuable lessons that help me improve and move forward.



#### LOURDELLE INTIAMOA

### SENIOR, STUDYING FASHION MERCHANDISING

#### BEST ADVICE

The best advice I received was "keep going". It was the best advise because it reflects perseverance and determination. Life is a journey full of trials and failures, and this advice encourages me to keep moving forward even when things get difficult.



#### MY FAVORITE DESIGNER

Rick Owens is my favorite fashion designer because of the experimental and different designs he uses. He is known for his edgy and dark look, which appeals to my taste in unique, non-conformist fashion.

#### FHVORITE HOBBY

My favorite hobby is modeling because it allows me to embody many characters and express myself through the art of fashion and photography. It's a wonderful experience to switch between styles and personas, Modeling allows me to showcase the creativity of designers, photographers, and stylists.

#### WHAT'S NEXT?

After graduation I want to become a celebrity wardrobe stylist. I express my creativity through clothing and want to help others do the same. Styling allows me to express my personality, attitude, and individuality to the world. Styling is a tool for me to explore many aspects of my personal style and experiment with new appearances. I love helping people with discovering and embracing their individual style, allowing them to feel confident and authentic about their appearance.

#### KHAMARA LOGAN

## JUNIOR, STUDYING FASHION MERCHANDISING

#### DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE

I'm very feminine, I like to dress very elegant and I'm not complete without my pearls. I love to wear dresses, especially from Calvin Klein. I'm also very interested in streetwear, so you can sometimes catch me in oversized shirts, cargos, and a pair of J's.

#### FAVORITE HOBBY

I always find myself making stuff, on Canva or Superimpose. I like to design mockups and flyers. Whenever I feel overwhelmed, I will grab my iPad and create.

#### DREAM VACATION

I definitely plan to visit Japan and Italy. Japan because of all the interesting varieties of snacks and candy flavors. Italy because I would love to take a boat ride in Venice. I'm a fashion girly, so I would definitely take a trip to Milan while I'm there.

#### **WOW ACHIEVEMENT**

I have two favorites. I have had the privilege of being recognized as an HBCU White House Scholar. It's been a great experience, and I even got to go to the Vice President's house and see her speak! This past fall, I also achieved my lifelong dream of becoming a member of Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority Incorporated and continuing my mother's legacy. Oo-oop!



#### MACKENZI EVANS

#### JUNIOR, STUDYING FASHION MERCHANDISING

#### WHY I LOVE FASHION

I love fashion because it allows me to express myself through clothing. I enjoy putting together outfits that showcase my style and reflect how I'm feeling. Fashion is timeless, with old styles constantly making a comeback.

#### HAIR HACK

To keep my hair healthy I try to deep conditioner. my hair at least once every 1 to 2 weeks. Additionally, I schedule trims every 3 to 6 months to maintain my hair health.

#### BEST ADVICE I EVER RECEIVED

The best advice I ever received was to avoid comparing my success to others. Comparison steals joy. If you don't appreciate the little achievements, you'll never find true happiness.

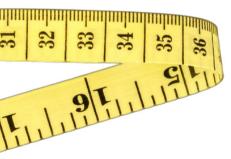
#### SKIN HACK

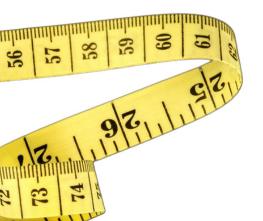
My skin care hack for smooth skin is to wash with an African bath sponge. After showering, mix your lotion with Vaseline for added hydration. Lastly, remember to drink plenty of water for glowing skin.

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#### MY FAVORITE HOBBIES

My favorite hobbies include hanging out with friends and exploring new local restaurants. I'm a big foodie, so I love discovering hidden gems in my area. In addition, I enjoy sewing and listening to music in my spare time.







P Ε R S P E C



THIS EDITORIAL INVITES READERS TO

CONSIDER DIFFERENT ANGLES OF
PERCEPTION. EACH PHOTO IN THIS
EDITORIAL SPREAD WILL HIGHLIGHT A
DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE'S
TAPESTRY. BY CHANGING OUR
PERSPECTIVE, WE ARE ABLE TO GAIN A
DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE DETAILS
THAT SHAPE OUR EXPERIENCES AND PUSH
OURSELVES TO LOOK BEYOND OUR OWN
RANGE OF VISION. by Mackenzi Evans

## WHEN YOU SHARE YOUR PERSPECTIVE WITH OTHERS YOU NEVER KNOW WHO YOU CAN INSPIRE.

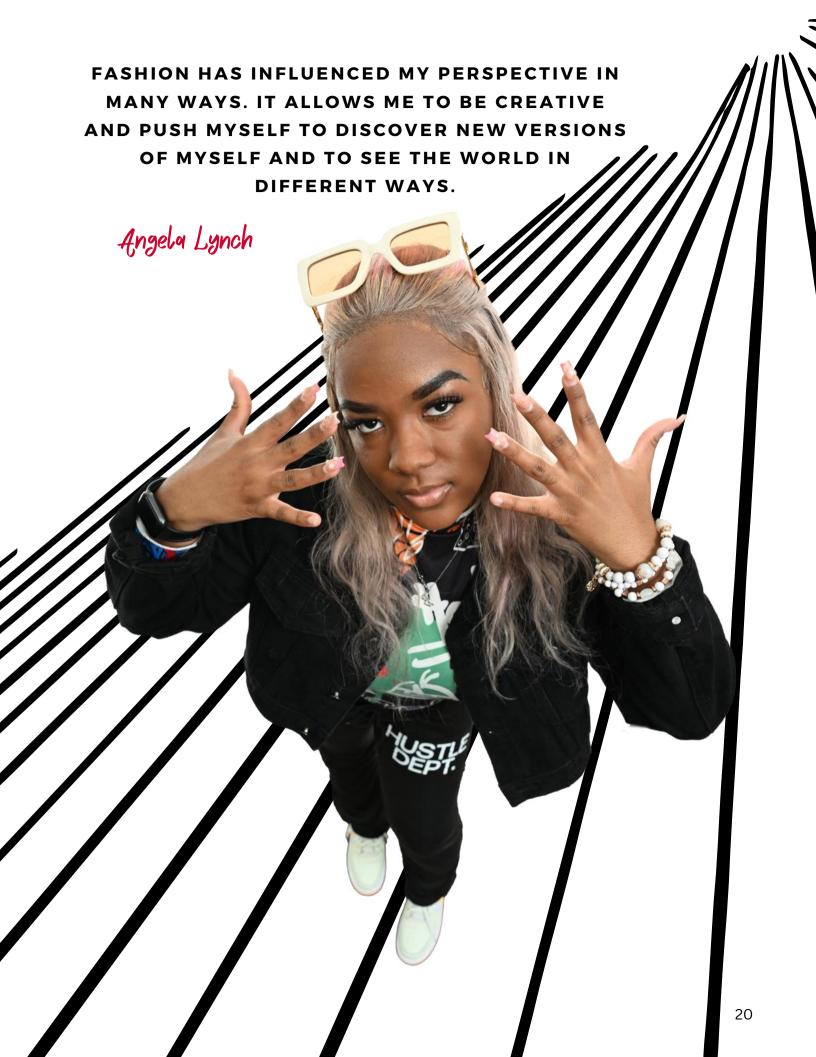
Perspective is how we see the world around us through our own eyes, formed by our own unique experiences and ideas. When we take the time to experience the world through another person's eyes, we learn more about them and ourselves. We begin to understand their motives, fears, and goals. We also begin to perceive the world in a new way. Perspective is valuable because it helps us to be less judgmental and understanding. It allows us to break down boundaries and develop bridges. It contributes to a world that is more equal and inclusive. So, what is my opinion? I believe that perspective is everything. It is how we make sense of our surroundings

interactions with others. I also feel that everyone has a distinct perspective that should be shared



**Model: Aalayia Otis** 

and shape our





WITH A FRESH PERSPECTIVE, WE CAN BUILD A WORLD WHERE EVERYONE IS SEEN AND HEARD.

Mackenzi Evans

EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

**PERSPECTIVES IS EXPRESSING** YOUR UNIQUE POINT OF VIEW. I THINK IT'S **IMPORTANT FOR PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND** THE IMPORTANCE **OF PERSPECTIVE** SO INDIVIDUALS **CAN HAVE LESS BIASED THOUGHTS AND** JUDGMENTS, AND **BE MORE OPEN** TO UNDERSTANDING OTHERS.

Kennedy Holder



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