

# PATE

Positive Authors, Teachers,  
and Entrepreneurs



A Purely Positive Network publication

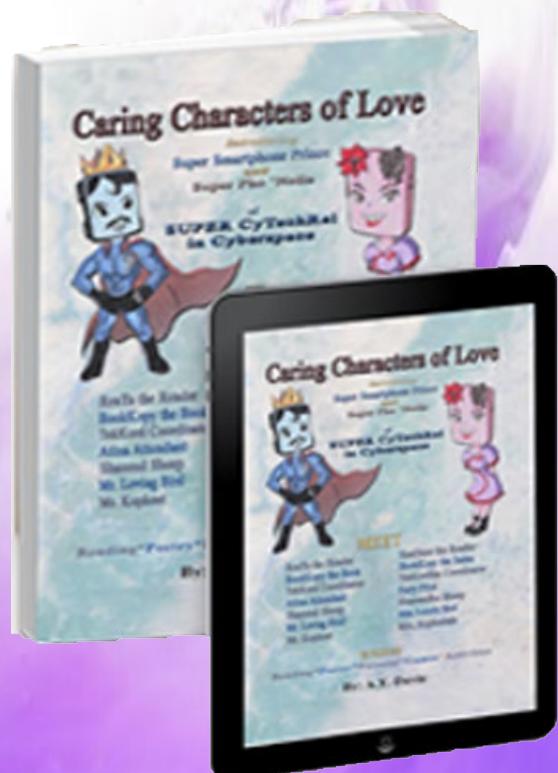
Vol.32024

## The Business Mogul Behind Black Link Magazine



# Woman's History Month

Tips for Entrepreneurs  
Women's History Month  
Self vs Hybrid publishing  
... and more



**Caring Characters of  
Love-New Teaching Tool**



**Ms. Sharon Dixon, the  
Educator**



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<https://www.cityofflorence.com/florence-mayors-youth-initiative>

The Florence Mayor's Youth Initiative (MYI) is a strategic partnership aimed at promoting the health, well-being, and success of the youth of Florence. This website offers resources and information for parents and their children.



Partners include:  
Lighthouse Ministries  
D.A.P.S. Mentoring  
Pace Center for Girls  
Department of Mental Health  
PARS  
Florence 1 Schools  
... and many more.

Visit the website for the latest happenings and news of how the youth and their families are being helped in the city of Florence, SC.

# Letter from the Editor



Hello, I'm LJ Thomas and the editor-in-chief of PATE Magazine. What is PATE? Simply put, it is a digital publication focusing attention on positive authors, teachers/educators, and entrepreneurs. PATE is apart of the Purely Positive Network family.

As the name suggests, the focus is on positive impacts through actions, conversations, products and communications. Anyone can look around and see the negativity we are constantly bombarded with on a daily basis. We need good news. We need positive impacts. We need good things.

PATE is determined to spotlight those authors who are doing this through book. It doesn't matter what genre. It doesn't

matter what format. What matters is that it is positive. It brings about positive feelings, interactions, or change.

Our teachers and educators deal with a multitude of situations daily. These remarkable blessings in our lives help mold and create a foundation of who we become when they enter our lives as children. Personally, I remember my favorite teachers and the little things she did that made a huge impact in my life. It was my favorite teacher who implanted the idea of actually becoming an author into my head. We can never underestimate our teachers and educators. Most do this for the love of teaching, not the money or recognition. This makes them even more precious.

PATE is also drawing attention to those persons with the entrepreneurial spirit. Big companies have publicity departs and campaigns. But the smaller growing businesses need help in this area. PATE is here for them. We want the world to know about your service or product. It doesn't matter if you are just starting or have been in business for years.

Our team is happy to shine a light on these authors, teachers and entrepreneurs.

## Welcome to POSITIVITY and VISIBILITY!

Truly,  
*LJ Thomas*

## In This Issue

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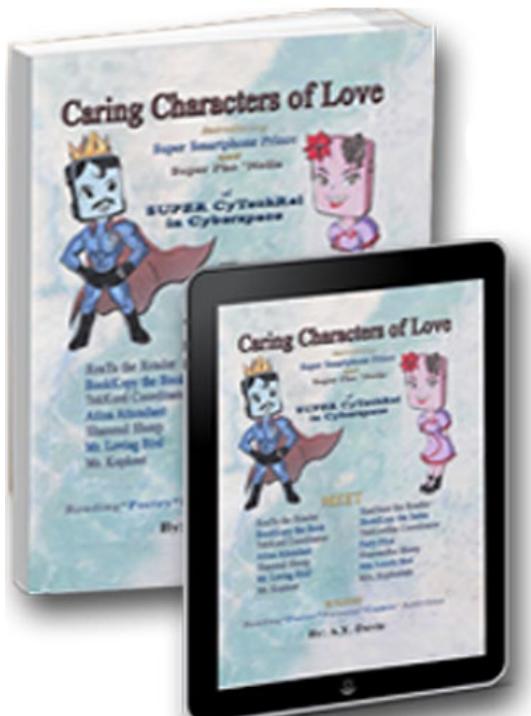
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**Caring Characters of Love** introduces sixteen educational characters in a fictional setting. All of the characters are caring and loving with super abilities. They live on a planet called SUPER CyTechRel, which is a beautiful extraordinary super planet located in Cyberspace! The caring characters are created to help students and others **have a balanced view of technology, enjoy reading and reject aliteracy** which is different from *illiteracy*.

Aliteracy is an unwillingness to read even though the capacity and knowledge of how to reach is present within the person.<sup>[1111]  
[SEPSEP]</sup>

**Caring Characters of Love** is a unique interactive educational book. Its appeal is strongly universal and international. The book can capture the attention of children and adults of various ages and educational backgrounds. The characters are intriguing to read about and delve into. It is written to hold attention and expand the mind.<sup>[1111]  
[SEPSEP]</sup>

The **seven creative components** of the book include: Caring Characters, Related Vocabulary, Fascinating Reading, Heartfelt Poetry, Beautiful Pictures, Exciting Educational Games and Interactive Educational Activities. There are also Special Student Projects and General Lesson Ideas for Teachers.<sup>[1111]  
[SEPSEP]</sup>

The information inside this book can help you have a balanced view of technology, enjoy reading, reject aliteracy and enhance your life in other important areas!



A.Y. Davis is an educator, author and humanitarian. She has a passion for teaching children and has been doing so all of her life. The pandemic opened a door to marry her creativity, love of children and education. The result is a 394 page workbook. Yes, this is a children's book, but we are all children. Therefore, the contents are beneficial to all ages. A.Y. uses her skills as an educator to help children learn about technology and how to better incorporate it into everyday life without being consumed by it. The lessons are practical and fun. The way the book is designed lends itself to hold the attention of children. It is exciting to watch them explore the publication!

A.Y. lives in the south and has traveled extensively. These and other experiences are food for this book. If you are interested in A.Y. speaking to students at your school, please reach out via email at [adavisbus1@gmail.com](mailto:adavisbus1@gmail.com).



## Book Feature-Caring Characters of Love

Here is what the author has to say about her creation:

HELLO,

IVy name is Anita Y. Davis and I am a retired schoolteacher. I would like to introduce my brand new exciting children's book! The title is Caring Characters of Love. It is a unique positive educational children's book that appeals to all ages. This book has a fictional setting with sixteen fictional characters with super abilities! There are seven components to the book:

## Caring Characters

## Related Vocabulary

## Fascinating Reading

## Heartfelt Poetry

## Beautiful Pictures

## Exciting Educational Games

## Interactive Activities

There are also Special Projects for Students and Lesson Ideas for Teachers!

I wrote the book during the pandemic. Children and adults can enjoy positive educational and entertaining activities if we ever have to shelter in again. Now that we are out, the book can be taken to school, used along with other assignments, taken on vacations and given as gifts.

***Caring Characters of Love*** can help students have a balanced view of technology by combining it with reading. Please look at the cover of the book on Amazon. It captures your attention! You will see how reading will become fun and enjoyable! The size of the book is 8.5x11 with 394 pages available as a paperback and an e-book.

The paperback version has 394 PAGES with 12 CHAPTERS equivalent to at least 14 books! The book is fictional and can be read in sessions. There are 16 SUPER CHARACTERS with SUPER ABILITIES on a New Planet in Cyberspace! ',..,This book includes: Fascinating Reading, Related Vocabulary, 35 Heartfelt Poems, Numerous Beautiful Pictures, 20 Exciting Educational Games and more than 33 Interactive Activities! There are also 30 Special Projects for Students and Lesson Ideas for Teachers. TECHNOLOGY is combined with READING to make it FUN! Please see the PREVIEW on Amazon. Tap or click on the picture of the book. Then, tap or click on the top right hand corner of the picture on the words, Look inside.

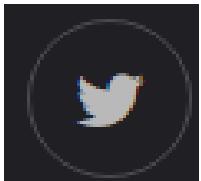
I invite you to preview 40 pages of my book. This is A NEW TEACHING TOOL! See the below direct link for caring characters of Love by A. Y. Davis.

## Book Feature-*Caring Characters of Love*

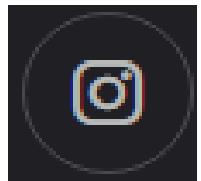
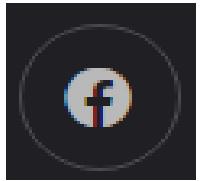


*“Caring Characters of Love* is an amazing teaching tool. Each chapter is full of lessons that overlap and spark the imagination of children who read and explore the book. It has hours of fun and really captures the mind,” says Publisher LJ Thomas.





Baker's Choice Catering, led by Chef Tanesha Baker, is your gateway to reliving cherished flavors and embracing a genuine taste of home, all while honoring her rich cultural heritage and family traditions.



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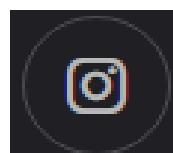
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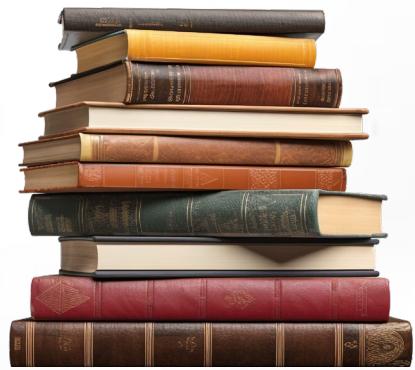
895 BC Flat Shoals Rd., Conyers, Ga 30094

The publishing industry has been around for thousands of years. There are different ways of getting the book you have written to the world for other to enjoy.

Let's take a look at the different forms of publishing. We will begin with the traditional publisher. What is traditional publishing? **A traditional publisher** (also known as a commercial or trade publisher) purchases the right to publish, distribute, and sell a manuscript (usually together with a bundle of other rights, known as subsidiary rights) on an exclusive basis. Large publishing houses and bigger independents pay an advance on royalties; small presses often don't. Traditional publishers are highly selective, publishing only a tiny percentage of manuscripts submitted.

There's no cost to the author with traditional publishing: publishers undertake the entire financial risk, handling every aspect of publication at their own expense. This investment is recouped from the sale of books to the public, and from the use and licensing of subsidiary rights. Traditional publishers are highly incentivized to invest significant resources in marketing and distribution support for the books they publish, in order to drive the sales that are their primary source of profit.

Who are the big traditional publishers? According to [bookscouter.com](http://bookscouter.com) the big publishers include: Hachette Book Group, HarperCollins, Macmillan Publishers, Penguin Random House, and Simon & Schuster.



No doubt, if you are a person who likes to read, some, if not all, of these names are familiar. But, wait a minute, this is not all. These big publishers, have smaller publishing houses under their umbrella. Check these out:

[\*\*Penguin Random House's\*\*](#) current notable imprints:

- Knopf Doubleday- This imprint has multiple other imprints, as most within Penguin Random House. Knopf is known for publishing hardcover within all fiction and nonfiction genres, and the smaller imprints beneath Knopf itself are dedicated to genres from classics, to commercial fiction, to translation, and more.
- Crown Publishing- This imprint specializes in bestselling fiction and narrative nonfiction in categories including biography, science, history, politics, and so on. Fiction authors that have been published with this imprint include those of Gillian Flynn, Andy Weir, Ernest Cline, among many others.
- Viking Press- This imprint is dedicated to both fiction and nonfiction authors across all genres.

**Simon & Schuster** was founded in 1924. As of 2016, they were the third largest publisher in the United States.

Some of their notable imprints include (it is still too early to know the ins and outs of how PRH and S&S will be redesigned in terms of imprints and the merge):

- Howard Books- Publishing fiction across genres, as well as nonfiction including biography and memoir. They also publish Christian living, inspirational, and gift books.

- Scribner- Publishing fiction and nonfiction across genres. Stephen King is often published under Scribner. They have published authors such as Annie Proulx, Frank McCourt, Don DeLillo, and many others.

- Touchstone- Publishing fiction and nonfiction across genres.

**Hachette Livre** was founded in 1826. The new merger was created officially in 1992.

Notable imprints:

- Grand Central Publishing- This imprint mainly focuses on fiction spanning from commercial to literary.

- Little, Brown and Company- All genres are published under this imprint.

- Mulholland Books- This is an imprint within the imprint of Little, Brown and Company. It is dedicated mainly to publishing mystery novels of all types.

**HarperCollins** was formed in 1989 through a multi-company merger.

Notable imprints:

AvonBooks- This imprint is dedicated to publishing romance of all kinds, including paranormal, erotica, fantasy, contemporary, and more.

- Harlequin Enterprises- Publishing mainly women's fiction and romance across all genres.

- Harper- Publishing fiction and nonfiction across all genres.

- William Morrow- Premier fiction and nonfiction publisher across genres.

**McMillian Publishers** was founded in 1843.

The current embodiment of MacMillan was established in 2015 after company merges took place.

Notable imprints:

- Farrar, Straus and Giroux- Publishing fiction and nonfiction across genres, they also publish renowned poetry.

- Picador- Publishing literary fiction.

- Thomas Dunne Books- Publishing fiction and nonfiction across genres.

Now that we know who the traditional publishers are, how do you get them to publish your book?

- How do you submit to them?

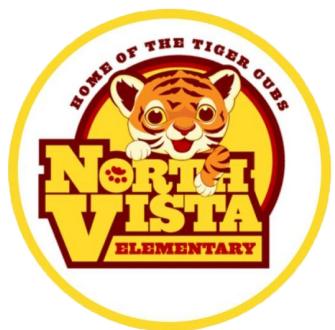
- Do you need a literary agent?

- Do you have to pay for them to publish your book?

- Who edits the book?

There are so many questions to be answered and these are just a few.

We will explore this in the next issue.



As children we are exposed to individuals within the educational system who impact us, and it affects our lives. Some of us can still remember our favorite teacher. The person who worked at our school and encouraged us. Or even the staff member who made the bad days seem better.

There is no doubt that educators have an indelible effect on some of our lives. With that being said, let me introduce Sharon Dixon. She is a native of Marion SC and the principal of North Vista Elementary school. She has been the principal at north vista for over 25 years. Now that is a track record that is hard to beat!

Ms. Dixon started her educational journey by graduating from Marion High School. She went on to South Carolina State University and then Francis Marion University. She also attended the University of South Carolina and Walden University. She immediately put her education to work.

Her career began at Delmae Elementary school, which is also where she did her student teaching. She taught there for five years, then moved on to Curriculum Coordinator at Savannah Grove Elementary. Then the Florence school district did some rezoning and Ms. Dixon was moved to Carver Elementary school after a year. A promotion to Assistant Principal at Moore Intermediate school came after a year at Carver. The following year, the promotion to principal at North Vista Elementary school came and Ms. Dixon has been there ever since. She is keenly aware of the importance of educating young minds since she is the proud mother of a boy and a bonus son.

Educators with a heart for children and learning have fond memories. Ms. Dixson says, "I have so many memorable moments in my career. Most of them center around student growth and accomplishments. I love seeing students from NVE grow up and return as doctors, lawyers, teachers, nurses, etc. I also love seeing students in the community and they are surprised that I remember their names and special characteristics or moments about them while in school. " No doubt it is rewarding to experience these kinds of moments.

Each individual working within has an educational philosophy. Ms. Dixson believes all students can and deserve to learn!" She says it may sound cliche, but her heart truly believes it.

During her educational career, she has and is affiliated with many organizations. Currently she is a member of the South Carolina Administrators Association. In the past she has been a member of:

- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
- South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics
- South Carolina International Reading Association
- South Carolina Association of School Administrators
- South Carolina Network for Women Administrators in Education

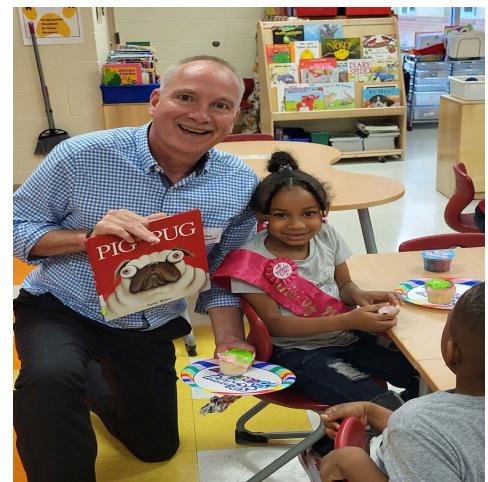


Over the years she has received several awards including:

- **Recognized as Silver Award School by SC Department of Education Administrator of the Year**
- **Francis Marion University**
- **2007 Mother of the Year**
- **Florence Chapter Jack and Jill of America**
- **2003 Soror of the Year**
- **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority-Epsilon Chi Omega Chapter**
- **2002 Teacher of the Year**
- **1992 – 1993 Teacher Incentive Award**

As an educator there is a constant concern to help teachers more effectively do their difficult job of teaching the students. Ms. Dixon says, “I feel that it is important to actively listen and communicate so they feel heard. I try to provide the best resources possible for them to do their jobs. I try to recognize and praise teachers for doing a good job. I set aside a collaborative planning period for teachers to collaborate with each other and share instructional resources. I also try to create a respectful, safe, and supportive work environment to support many of their decisions and encourage growth. I try to give fair and meaningful evaluations.”

In Ms. Dixon’s 36 years of educating students she has experienced many joys and challenges that come along with the job. She is a good principal. This author’s children attended North Vista Elementary school with Ms. Dixon as principal. Imagine the surprise when this author attended a donation presentation at the school and discovered Ms. Dixon was still the principal.





Ms. Sharon Dixon is a consummate professional. When asked where does she see herself in the next five to ten years, she simply replied, "At this point, I am still in love with my job, it is possible to still be working. I take it year by year and allow God to order my steps."

The advice she would give to anyone who wants to be an educator is to enjoy, connect with and inspire the student. Be the best version of yourself. Be sure to build relationships, create accountability and lead by example. This is important with children since it is easy to impress things upon their young minds.

To reach out to Ms. Dixon, you can follow North Vista Elementary school.



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Being an entrepreneur is exciting. The pride that comes with knowing you are working for yourself is priceless. It also comes with some challenges. How can a business owner be successful?

1. **Adaptability** - The ability to adapt to unexpected circumstances for new ideas and innovative plans will help you look for feasible alternatives. Be able to quickly make necessary changes.
2. **Business mentor** - Reach out to successful business professionals you may know whom you can ask about their motivations and advice. The individual should have industry experience and knowledge in their chosen field, contacts, and networking to assist in your career. This information can give you an education with going through negative experiences.
3. **Quality** - Ensure you deliver quality work in your investor reports, products for customers or your business plans. Being consistent in

4. **Stay updated** - Remember that the world and business changes. Avail yourself of the new technologies and business strategies for generating revenue and growing your customer base.
5. **Take risks** - Analyze the situation and determine the pros and cons then take a risk. You may be surprised at how much the risk can benefit the business.
6. **Set Goals** - Goals can turn your ideas or business ventures into an achievable objective. When you create goals, you can lay out the steps to help your business launch successfully and grow. Be sure to set your short-term and long-terms goals. You can further break things down by laying out the milestones to signal achievements. This will give you a clear path to follow to reach your goals.
7. **Challenge yourself** - This will give you the courage to try harder and be better and better at whatever you decide to reach out for as an entrepreneur.
8. **Know your competition** - There is no law or unwritten code that stops more than one business of the same type from being in the same area. Therefore, whether you have an establishment directly across from a business with the exact product or service (think gas stations) or not, you need to study the competition. What are they doing well that keeps the business operating successfully? Is it the way they treat the customer? Are they delivering

lower process for the same quality product or service? Are their business hours better? As these questions and more as you learn about the competition to determine how you can improve your business.

9. Hold onto the cash - Even when business is good or great, you should always have some cash reserves. This is the rainy-day fund. You want to have something put aside for emergencies or unforeseen problems. This way you don't have to raise the money or take out a costly loan for the situation. If you use the money, replace it as quickly as you possibly can. I call this a safety net for problems.

10. Continuing education - You should never stop learning. This includes new things related to your chosen industry, financial trends, and business strategies. The successful entrepreneur never stops educating himself because he knows the education will benefit the business.

These are just a few characteristics necessary to be a successful entrepreneur. There is always room for improvement as a business owner. It is not good to get set in our ways and ignore new technologies and markets. Trends in business change and customers change what they desire in products and services.

These things are constantly changing and as such, ignoring them could mean the difference between a booming business or a business whose doors have closed permanently. It is good practice to have a SWOT analysis done once a year. This is an

evaluation of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to the business. This report can help an entrepreneur plan for needed changes, see trends, and provide better products and services to the customer. You can be a successful entrepreneur. Follow these tips to start and practice good habit to operate a good business.



# Women's History Month

In 1995 the Presidents of the United States of America began making annual proclamations declaring March as women's history month.

The origin of Women's History began in 1981 when Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28 authorizing and requesting the President to proclaim the week beginning Match 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week."

Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28 which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week." Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month in 1987 after the National Women's History Project petitioned them. The way for a month-long celebration of women's history was further paved during the years of 1988-1994 as Congress passed additional resolutions authorizing the Presidents to make March Women's History Month.

The contributions and specific achievements women have made to the United States in a variety of fields during American history are celebrated during Women's History Month. International Women's Day on is on Wednesday, March 8, 2024.

The theme for 2024 celebrates "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion." Some key dates during Women's History month include:

- **International Women's Day** is celebrated on March 8, and was established as a holiday in 1911.
- **The first major march on Washington by suffragists** happened on March 3, 1913.
- **The National Woman's Party was formed in March 1917.** The group was dedicated to getting women the right to vote.
- Title IX was passed on March 1, 1972. In fact, the first-ever Women's History Week was created in order to bolster support for Title IX, which prohibited discrimination due to sex in federally funded education programs.
- **The Equal Rights Amendment was passed** in the Senate on March 22, 1972.

## Other Dedicated Web Sites

- [National Endowment for the Humanities](#)
- [National Archives](#)
- [National Park Service](#)
- [Smithsonian Education](#)
- [United States Holocaust Memorial Museum](#)

# Women's History Month

On March 8, 1857 in New York City, a group of women textile workers organized to protest unfair working conditions and unequal rights for women. This was one of the first organized strikes by working women with a result of a shorter workday and decent wages. This is the importance of March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Women have made countless contributions to American history. Just talk to older family members and you will learn things that aren't in the history books.

Did you know? Women's History Month began as a local celebration in Santa Rosa, California. The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California)

Commission on the Status of Women planned and executed a "Women's History Week" celebration in 1978. The organizers selected the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day. The movement spread across the country as other communities initiated their own Women's History Week celebrations the following year.

In 1980, a consortium of women's groups and historians—led by the National Women's History Project (now the National Women's History Alliance)—successfully lobbied for national recognition. In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the Week of March 8th 1980 as National Women's History Week.

## Sources:

<https://people.com/human-interest/womens-history-month-facts-explainer/>

<https://www.womenshistorymonth.gov/about.html#:~:text=Since%201995%20presidents%20have%20issued,history%20in%20a%20variety%20of>

<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/stories/international-womens-day.html#:~:text=It%20began%20in%20New%20York,work%20day%20and%20decent%20wages.>

<https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/womens-history-month#:~:text=Every%20year%20March%20is%20designated,women's%20contributions%20in%20American%20history.>

## Featured Entrepreneur: Marva Brown-Thomas



Born and raised in a small town in the state of Oklahoma, Marva Brown-Thomas (Marva B.) is the daughter of the late Roy F. Brown, Sr., and Linda E. Brown. She has 4 siblings, 2 children, Martae' (21) and A'nia (15) and a brand-new grandbaby boy, Ky'Arie Roy Mondell. Marva B. is also the wife of Frank Thomas who is her backbone and everything God needed him to be. She has two bonus sons Ty'Rel (32) and De'angelo (31) who are by blood her nephews. She is a dedicated member of Greater First Church where she sings in the choir and is pastored by Rev. Stephen Ivey.

Growing up Marva B. always wanted to be in the entertainment realm by way of being a stage playwright, director, and executive producer. As a youth, she enrolled in audio and visual classes, she would write full blown stage plays and had a couple of acting roles but sadly, she nor her parents were aware of how to make

any real connections to get her pushed in the right direction. Marva B. also had a love for journalism, although once she went to college, she turned to Business Management and Human Resources, holding a BA in Business Management and an MBA, in Human Resources.

Naturally, she took on a career in the corporate world, with majority of it being a Human Resources Professional but covid changed quite a bit for her. While the world was shut down and secluded to their homes, she, and her then 11 years old daughter decided to finish the book they had started two years prior to covid, *Be Yourself* which is focused on bullying. Once the book was complete and published, Marva B. was inspired to do more. Then the George Floyd murder happened. She began to study on what her small part was to place our black culture in a positive light. She wanted to show the world that the stigmas that are placed on the race as "angry black women" and "uneducated black men" couldn't be further from the truth. As a result, Black Link Magazine, LLC (BLM) was born.

BLM is owned and operated by Marva B., and she gives much recognition to her contributing writers of which most of them have been with her since the inception. Also, to everyone else who came aboard to make it what it is today. BLM is a national publication that focuses on culture, entrepreneurship, entertainment, and empowerment. 20

## Featured Entrepreneur: Marva Brown-Thomas

BLM's managing distribution partner is New Day Associates, John Blassingame, who has been able to get the quarterly publication on shelves across the entire U.S. For instance, Books-A-Millions stores, The Magazine Café, and Penn Newsstands. The publication is also digitally and hard copy available on Magcloud.com.

Finally, Marva B. has been afforded a mound of opportunities. She has been able to connect with and interview A & B List celebrities, such as Bill Duke, Tamela Mann, The Mighty Whispers, and more. She has been on red carpets for movie premieres that include heavy hitters, such as Keith Sweat, Katt Williams, Lisa Raye and Rotimi, *For the Love of Money*, produced by the amazing Melvin Childs and a few more notable carpets.

To reach out to Marva B. for interviews, features, advertising opportunities, you may contact her at [info.blacklinkmag1@gmail.com](mailto:info.blacklinkmag1@gmail.com), or [blackisnation1ptnl@gmail.com](mailto:blackisnation1ptnl@gmail.com). Social media sites:  
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## Featured Entrepreneur: Marva Brown-Thomas

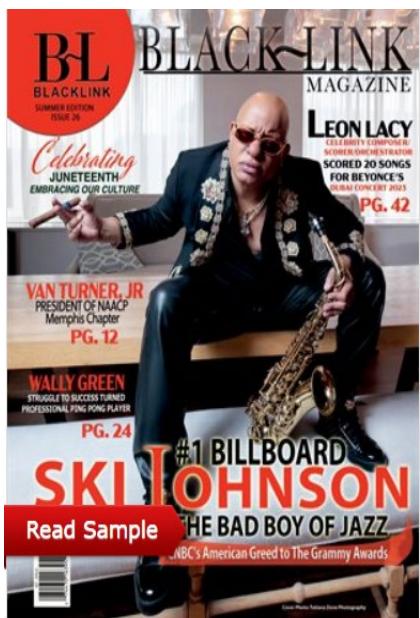


**International Male Model of the year Jude in Manhattan, NY at the Magazine Café with his beautiful wife Hakima, International Beauty of the year by New Day Associates CEO John Blassingame picking up their Black Link copy!**

If you haven't read Black Link Magazine, you are missing out. This is a "high end" publication delivering entertainment news and more.

Black Link Magazine is in 40+ Books-A-Million Stores, on Penn Newsstands across New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The publication anticipates going into airports in 2023 and by years end, into Canada. The Magazine Café in Manhattan New York, the largest book store in the USA carries Black Link Magazine (The Spring issue sold out within 24 hours). The magazine is family friendly with something for everyone. Black Link Magazine focuses on Culture, Entertainment, Entrepreneurship, and Empowerment. Great things are happening!

While the articles are well written and the pictures are amazing, the magazine offers more. There are advertising and sponsorship opportunities available with each issue of this quarterly publication.



The contributions and specific achievements women have made to the United States in a variety of fields during American history are celebrated during Women's History Month. International Women's Day on is on Wednesday, March 8, 2024.

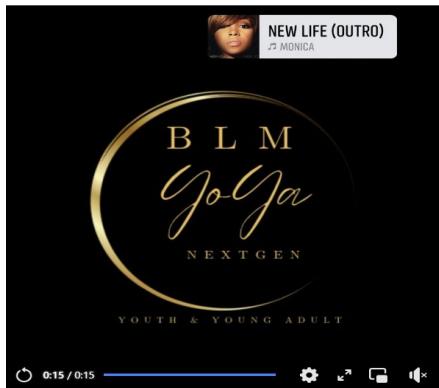
## Featured Entrepreneur: Marva Brown-Thomas

Blacklink Magazine is award winning. It delivers the news the culture wants and needs. Articles are varied within the theme chosen by the editor-in-chief. For instance, in 2023 the following themes were selected; Celebrating Women, Juneteenth and Our Culture, Black Entrepreneurs and the Holiday Edition. As Blacklink Magazine continues to grow and supply an amazing "BlackLink Experience" the company is expanding.

The founder, Marva Brown-Thomas made the following announcement in January 2023:

COMING SOON!!! Our new addition to Black Link Magazine is YoYa: Next Generation Digital Magazine. Exclusively for Youth and Young Adults and their success!! Stay Tuned!!

We are searching for content contributors (writers). We are looking for amazing youth and young adults to run their stories globally!! Contact us for details.....  
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Miriam's Persevering Abundant Resources and Services, also known as PARS, is a 501c3 nonprofit dedicated to helping the citizens of the Pee Dee region of South Carolina. The organization provides more than resources. They deliver compassionate care to their clients in need of job assistance, help finding housing, and other practical items.

The **mission** that will drive Miriam's Persevering Abundant Resources and Services is to serve the people within the community with persevering love and abundant care to ensure they are able to connect with the resources available to them through the services PARS provides to ensure they can become economically, emotionally, financially, and physically self-sufficient and sustainable within their environment.

PARS has a vision to impact and improve the lives in the communities through empowerment of workshops, housing opportunities, budgeting, community development, workforce, and healthcare, to the undeserved urban residents in all communities with the Pee Dee region of South Carolina.

PARS began operating in 2021. The founder, Miriam James Singley saw a

need in the community and made it her mission to fulfill the missing services. During the year 2023 PARS donated backpacks filled with school supplies in multiple areas including Florence, Johnsonville, and Darlington. The organization is active in the community from decorating for the holidays, to participating in the annual Pecan Festival.

PARS is partnered with the city of Florence, SC through the Mayor's Youth Initiative. An air of collaboration among the partners (business leaders, educators, nonprofits, and more) is fostered to provide special events and service for the youth and their families in Florence.

The founder is determined to give clients life sustaining services. As such she is also partnered with and a resource for SC Thrive. This organization makes applying for state Medicaid, SNAP benefits and other assistive programs easy to do in one place. PARS can do these applications at their office without the client having to complete them on their own. They do not make the decision for the benefit; they only complete the application for the agency.

Through the Mayor's Youth Initiative, PARS has participated in the Annual

Youth Initiative Day held on July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Barnes Street Activity Center. The Pecan Festival, is a liaison to North Vista Elementary school, and so much more. The organization's introduction to the community was done on November 12, 2022. It was filled with local corporations, businesses, nonprofits, and people from the community. PARS used this Mix & Mingle as a fundraiser and has been going strong ever since. The list of clients that have been helped with housing, SNAP benefits, Medicaid, job connectivity and more continues to grow. Workshops on Budgeting, time management, self-sustainability, career planning and more are held on a monthly basis. PARS also supports other organizations who provide help to the community.

PARS is the parent company of MandD Unlimited. This is a case management company serving the community of those who receive Medicaid. The company will begin operating soon, so stay tuned.

To contact PARS, please call (843) 733-PARS (843)733-7277 or email MiriamPARS@outlook.com.



**THE ISAAC WILSON PROJECT**

**5th Annual Youth Symposium**

**Presented by The Isaac Wilson Project and Friends**

**FREE FOOD AND FREE ENTRY**

At this event, we teach our youth about financial literacy, bullying/suicides, mental illness, life after school, goal-driven mindsets, college readiness, job readiness and so much more that they can benefit from learning about.

Date: March 9, 2024  
Location: Wilson High School  
Time: 10 AM - 2 PM

Register online at [www.theisaacwilsonproject.org](http://www.theisaacwilsonproject.org)

**GOALS!**

**Mental Health Matters**



**Miriam's PARS**  
Persevering Abundant Resources & Services

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**1pm-11pm**

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There is a lot of talk about self-empowerment. So, what is it? Simply put, it is the intentional control of your life and destiny.

Often times when self-empowerment is not a priority, there is a void, little direction and even less fulfillment in the person's life. Therefore, we know that working toward self-empowerment and prioritizing it will lead to more confidence and focus on future goals and objectives.

There will be greater courage to face obstacles or things that come up unexpectedly. You will trust that you have what it takes to overcome these things. Your strength and weaknesses will be understood by you and you can use them to better reach the goals and objectives you have set.

Now that we know what self-empowerment is, how do you do it?

It is a deliberate path to help yourself. One way is by making positive affirmations. You can make up your own or select a few that you've found or read.

Once you've selected the affirmations that "speak" to you, post them in a place that you can see them on a daily basis. Repeat the words over and over again. This will help you fully absorb them so they can help motivate you to reach your goals or dreams.

Next, it is a good idea to write down your goals, objectives or dreams. Doing this helps impress it on your brain and makes it real. Think about what you want to achieve. Dream about what you want to achieve. Visualize or even do a vision board about what you want.

You can also start a journal. Write about how you will achieve your goals. Write about what you will do once you reach your goal. Finally write about how great it feels to achieve your goal!

Another step on the road to self-empowerment is an accountability partner. What is this? This is a person you mutually know and trust, who is honest with you and who will "hold your feet to the fire when you aren't doing what you said". (Not literally, so don't fret). This is the person who tells you that it's a bad idea to buy a whole chocolate cake just because you like the way it looks when you have a weakness for it and you are watching what you eat to lose weight. This is the person/friend that encourages you when you want to give up on your weight loss journey because you're not dropping the pounds as fast as you want.

The bottom line is that empowering yourself will manifest as positive change in employment, relationships and more. You will improve your health and many other things. So much is possible when you take control of your life and approach your goals with confidence.

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## Blacklink Magazine

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[blackisnation1ptnl@gmail.com](mailto:blackisnation1ptnl@gmail.com).

IG: @blacklinkmagazine

YouTube: The Black Link Experience

TikTok: @blacklinkmagaizne

website: [blacklinkmag.com](http://blacklinkmag.com)



## About PATE Magazine

**Issue Schedule:** every March, June, September, and December on the 1st of the month

**Mission:** Our mission is to open the eyes of the world to the positive authors, teachers and entrepreneurs via articles, advertising and interviews.

**Vision:** We envision a shift in society to embrace the positive aspects of these professions.

**Summary:** PATE is a quarterly digital magazine dedicated to the visibility of positive authors, teachers/educators, and entrepreneurs. While things are happening around us everyday, we are not always presented with something that is positive. PATE Magazine will chance this. Each issue will only feature positive this is intentional.

This means authors, books, brands, businesses, educators, entrepreneurs, organizations, products, services, and teachers are featured within our pages. In addition, we have advertising and sponsorship opportunities. We offer classified ads all the way up to 2-page spreads. As a digital publication, audio, hashtags, links and video are included within the articles.

Our distribution is global via social media, websites and more. We also offer opportunities for translation into other languages (French, Spanish and potentially Swahili).

A perk of being published in the magazine is the opportunity for an interview on one of our other promotion platforms distributed via Amazon Fire TV (Roku and additional outlets coming soon).

PATE Magazine is a member of the Purely Positive Network media company. While there are a number of publications geared to these target groups, this is the only publication which also gives the person the option of interviews on podcasts, in other magazines and radio as an added benefit to their feature article. Pate is unique in the way we bring visibility. As such, our expertise in this arena is sought after and this is the reason the magazine was started.

**Welcome to POSITIVITY!**

A Purely Positive Network publication

# PATE Magazine Partners



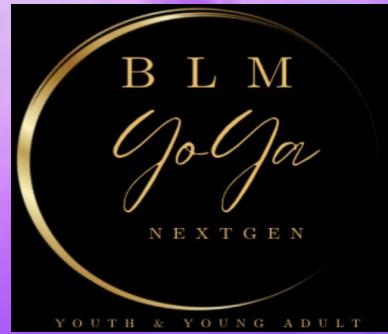
*Mayor's Youth Initiative*



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