

WINTER EDITION

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE 1

LIFESTYLE & THE ART



PRESERVING THE BEAUTY
OF EACH MOMENT

ERLINDA “MEMAW” SHELDON

**THE FIGHT IS NOT OVER: A TRUE
INSPIRATION STORY**

IN THE COMMUNITY STORIES:

**HAPPY MOMS DOULA SERVICES &
HER MOVEMENT**

WWW.AUDACITYOFWOMEN.COM

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WE COULDN'T DO WHAT WE DO WITHOUT A STRONG FOUNDATION
THE SPONSORS OF SAY MAGAZINE ARE TAKING OVER
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" I REALIZED IT NEEDED TO BE MORE THAN A SMALL WORK, I NEEDED TO ESTABLISH A PLATFORM THAT CONSTANTLY REMINDED THE WORLD TO STRIVE FOR ALL THE BEAUTIES THE WORLD HAS TO OFFER."

In 2020 I had the idea to be one of the most well known women in the nation. This goal would not come through monetary success, but through the ability to live authentically. So with this idea sparked a list of business, initiatives, and events. So far I have had the opportunity to establish three of them.

Something About Yesterday (SAY) Magazine began as an idea. An idea that was driven by holding on to the moments and living in each and every experience. I wanted to take the beauty I have witnessed while working in various fields, with some of the most amazing women this nation has to offer. As this project developed, I realized it needed to be more than a small work, I needed to establish a platform that constantly reminded the world to STRIVE for all the beauties the world has to offer.

With that being said, I proudly present the creatives of the nation: artists, authors, photographers, community leaders and more. All in one space to share their story, this is SAY Magazine.



FEATURES



THE STORY OF MAHOGANY CLARK. A WOMAN WITH TALENTS EXPOSED THROUGH THE SWIPE OF HER PEN. THIS AUTHOR HAS TAKEN HER STRENGTH TO A NEW LEVEL WITH EVERY CREATION.

UNMATCHED *Strength*

Photography Provided by Mahogany Clark

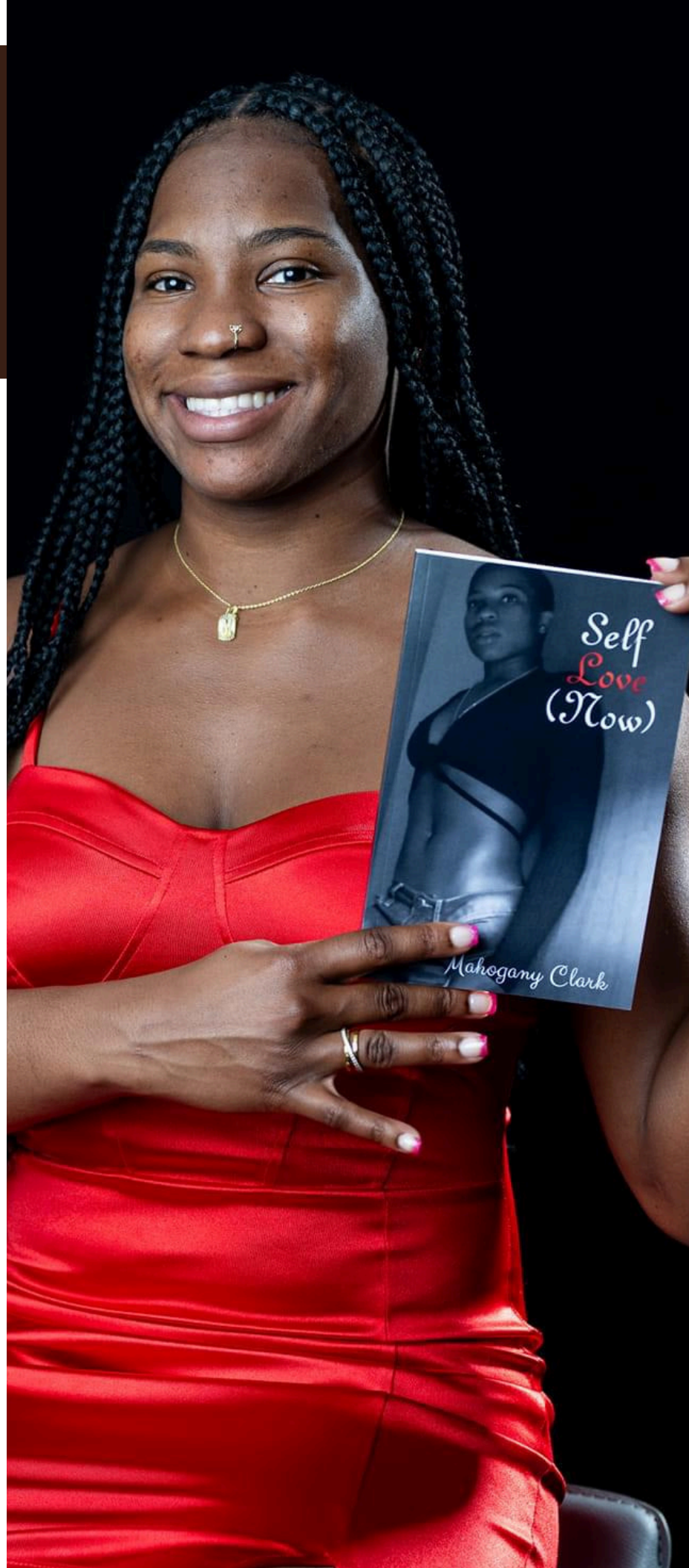
Let's talk about the strength of the woman. A mind that is resilient to trauma and a life that is filled with challenges, the strength of the woman is unmatched.

Mahogany Clark is an upcoming writer with a story that is keen on sharing the beauty behind the unmatched strength. As a veteran, Mahogany found the importance of self love and a conviction for guiding others out of the depths of trauma. Without a mentor, publication company or educational background, Mahogany took to her community to learn how she could share her writing with the world. In this time she found that even the smallest companies could have the biggest impact.

Ms. Clark stepped out on her own through the trials and errors of her first book to go on and publish journals and children's books on her own. A self published author now walks the streets of Carolina, ready to ensure they remember the Florida grown woman has more in store. Ms. Clark has a project in store, a quote book that as she puts it will, "show a snapshot of world moments, good, bad, and ugly". This book will be for men and women searching for the self love she has come to find in herself with her biography.

I am Author, Veteran, and student, Mahogany Clark. I am from Miami FL and in my 25 years, I have become the author of five books, Self-Love, A Cup of Family Tea, Somebody Always Loves You, 4 Ways to Market Your Book Product & Services and Self Love (Now). I have been writing since I was 19. Self-Love is a book of poems about how I struggled with putting myself first and encouraging others, to never make that mistake and to do better for themselves. A Cup of Family Tea is my life story before I joined the military. I talk about my upbringing and how hard things were for me, and I encourage others with that story to show them that no matter what you go through you decide what path you take in your life. "Somebody Always Loves you; this book is my very first children's book, and this book teaches younger children that somebody always loves them no matter what, and they should always know and feel that love. 4 Ways to Market Your Book Product & Services, gives 4 ways you can market your brand, to help you grow and make sales, I give my personal experience with marketing, and an exclusive tip on how I booked myself on platforms. Highly effective tips, you should check it out! Lastly Self Love (Now) is my very first quote book, and I show snapshot world moments, of the good, bad, & ugly when I didn't love myself to how I came to. This is a very special Self Help book for men and women!

-Mahogany Clark





A MOMENT CAPTURE THROUGH FINE DETAIL AND BOLD COLORS. A NIGHT OUT IN THE VIEW OF LISA JAE.

THE EVERLASTING *Art Flame*

PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY LISA JEFFRESS



Influences are the key to development. It is the extension of shared stories that shapes who we are. In this case the talented painter, Lisa Jeffress, known to the art world as Elle Jae, took the opportunities to turn a simple coloring session with the women in her life, to a pursued passion that has now become her muse.

The everlasting flame that is created when we identify our passion is undeniable. In her early years, Elle Jae took her family by storm, she was destined to pursue art as it was seen in every attempt to hold onto the beauty seen in everyday moments. Elle Jae is the kind of artist we don't see very often, the old school raw and authentic side that takes away the efforts of technology and steps back into the hands-on work of the painter. Elle Jae has a story that we must hold onto.

She attended college where she pursued business like many Baby Boomers trying to fit in the expectation of the time. After realizing that the lack of interest was not productive, she finally stepped into her own and gained her education in Art. As her college experience continued, the question came into play: Was she learning anything new? According to Elle Jae, she mainly learned how to harness her everlasting flame. Through beautiful relationships, shared knowledge and techniques, Elle engulfed herself in the art world as she engaged in long nights of paint sessions and attending fellow artists' gallery events.

As the years continue, we understand that the only way to hold ourselves to the needs of our passion is by implementing them where we can. Elle Jae now supports her Alma Mater and shares her art skills throughout her role. Whether it is marketing designs, school decoration ideas, or just sharing her work with the community around her. We tend to believe that if we do not reach the heights of the 1%, we aren't successful. Elle Jae reminds us that there will always be challenges and that our passion will continue to burn inside of us, but whether we are pursuing it full time or not, we have a responsibility to feed that flame. Elle Jae is phenomenal and continues to highlight and promote the phenomenal artists around her. Through her love for the captured moment, Elle is working on a piece featuring the innocence of children playing in their element. This painting will depict the love for childhood and enjoying the time we have here. She is ready to show the world that her flame has not died out and neither should yours.

Who is Elle Jae?

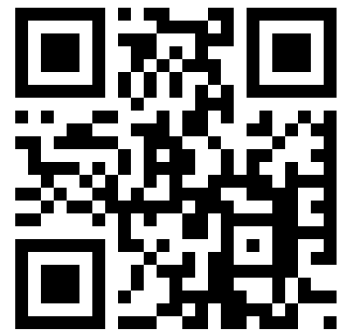
Lisa Jeffress (aka Elle Jae) was born in what is now the growing city of Danville VA and still calls it home because of the fond memories, family, and lifelong friendships. She currently resides in Norfolk VA and works at her alma mater where she earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree. She is looking forward to becoming a full-time artist upon retirement. She is also an author, having published a book of poetry with a sequel book of poetry and prose soon to be published.

She enjoys portraiture and genre art using the mediums of graphite and mechanical pencils for drawing and oils for painting. She is always in creative mode and takes pleasure in promoting fellow artists, giving them exposure to others who might not see them otherwise.



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I own a greeting card company called Intentional Sentiments and I am a newly published author with a journal titled "Being Intentional-Purpose Driven." I have an associate degree in graphics, bachelor in criminal justice, and am working towards my master's in Law. I have been married for 16 years with four sons. We are a blended family!



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DEE WOLFE

MASTERING THE
ART OF
ADAPTABILITY



For more on Dee Wolfe and her creative journey, you can view her works directly on her official website and Instagram page.

@WolfieTings

@DWolfeArt

<https://linktr.ee/MoonRosePaperco>

Dee Wolfe, known online for her work shared across platforms like Instagram, is a dynamic artist whose creations embody a blend of visual depth and symbolic meaning. Known for multimedia pieces that mix painting and photography, Dee primarily uses her hands to construct sense of bold vibrancy quality to her work. She draws inspiration from nature, particularly animals, to explore complex themes of identity, perception, and transformation. Her symbolic narratives often introduce surprising juxtapositions that evoke introspective responses from her audience, such as in her work with her company Moon Rose Paper Co. she imprints her vision of color relation and symbolism, reflecting her fascination with paradoxes and ironies.



Dee's work on Instagram and other platforms delves into dreamlike, even magical landscapes that feel both familiar and otherworldly, highlighting how she uses art to explore the blurred boundaries between reality and fantasy. Her artistic process embraces the moment when perception flips, creating pieces that prompt viewers to question what they see and feel. This element of surprise—when ordinary scenes take on fantastical twists—illustrates Dee's commitment to exploring life's unpredictability and the fluidity of perception. Through her powerful blend of imagery, Dee continues to captivate her digital audience, sharing moments of whimsy and depth in each piece she reveals.

ONE PERSON'S MISTAKE *is the World's Inspiration*

Amber Nicole Wade is a Caribbean- American contemporary artist based out of Missouri. Originally born in the US Virgin Islands, she is a self-taught artist. Her artwork, known to be bold and vibrant, captures inspiration from life, culture, nature and day to day experiences and influences. Many of her pieces speak deeply to onlookers and have been displayed in art exhibitions and purchased by art collectors across the US and Caribbean.

"I have always been gifted with the ability to create art. As a lover of art, I love how it invokes thought and emotion. I find that every time I begin a new piece, it's as though I capture what words fail to describe on canvas. What is wonderful about that is the fact that it almost advocates for those who connect with it, leaving them with a feeling of validation or curiosity to explore deeper thought. I do believe that is the purpose and importance of art. Creating art brings me peace and a feeling of purpose and I am overjoyed to share my God given talent with the world."



BELOW YOU WILL SEE AN AMBER NICOLE ORIGINAL. EMERGENCE AND APPEARANCE WERE ONCE MISTAKES THAT TURNED OUT TO BE THE ONES THAT DREW IN ONLOOKERS. "EMERGENCE" (AS SEEN ON THE RIGHT) WON AN AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN A LOCAL JURIED ART SHOW.



Amber Nicole Wade, the Virgin Islands Beauty with Missouri roots. This artist began canvas painting at the height of the pandemic but has been known as a face and body artist predominantly for children's parties for over 11 years. During this time, we all know that there is nothing a parent wouldn't do for their little one. So, naturally Amber thrived. with an 11-year streak of being the talented body paint artist in town, Amber decided it was time to expand her skills to the world. Amber is now known for bringing her canvas work to local murals for high level organizations in her hometown.

Beauty for the World to See

Amber is a Contemporary Artist but finds that her art does not fit into anyone's mold. She draws from her heritage of Island- African diaspora to create bold, colorful pieces filled with patterns that express her free nature in the world. Amber became known for her skills creating murals when she was hired for the opportunity to paint the vision for a location within the Drury University network. This is just the first of many. With such an amazing support system such as her friends who referred her to the mural world and her family that takes on bonding time in a fun way. This has been just the beginning of such an amazing story. Amber is on the move to rising in the art world by connecting with other universities in the area and most importantly a major project on a popular highway that will change this self-taught artist's trajectory in life.

Apples to Oranges

Art was never a career path that was obtainable or supported In Amber's community. This doesn't mean you cannot find a way to implant your craft in a way that makes everyone happy. Although it took some time to fully commit to the art world, Amber began her career studying engineering but that path did not seem to be where her heart was meant to be. Explore the creative world as an adult has led to her understanding the value in art. Digital art didn't feel satisfying to her, she believed she was hindering her skills.

When comparing canvas art to the digital version it makes it difficult to find your spot in this era. Amber didn't allow it to stop her, she continues to bring those artistic mistakes to the role in such a beautiful manner. However, the art world came with its challenges, marketing and getting out of her comfort zone. The world of algorithms is not for the weak when you have no background in working with social media, Amber took the time to learn what she could and thrive in the best way. She may feel like she is always starting over, but what we can say about Amber is that she continues to remind us how our mistakes are jammed packed with beauty, it just depends on how we look at them.



SHE IS *Empowerment*

PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY ANGELINA
MOJICA

SHE IS NOTHING SHORT OF A MIRACLE. HER HARD WORK SPANS THE NATION AS SHE CONNECTS WOMEN WITH THE SUPPORT SHE DIDN'T HAVE IN HER TIME OF NEED. SHE BRINGS LOVE AND DEDICATION TO ALL SHE MEETS.

Angelina Mojica, a woman of many influences in her Texas community. Angelina is a true depiction of a woman who has taken the pressures of life and found the light. In her career Angelina has made an impact in young minds as a Foster Care Director. She spent years working at the forefront of childcare with stories of turmoil and actions to bring each child to safety. This work does not go overshadowed, but as she continues to find her voice and passion in the world, she is now seen as more than a woman serving her district.

Angelina is previewed in this issue as a woman with a story. She is preparing to share her life's work in her upcoming book "Empowering Through Transformation: Angelina Mojica's Journey of Service and Healing". This new work will take her readers through the beginning stages of her life, the obstacles she faced and how she overcame them, but most importantly she is going to share what is next for her journey. Being a woman in her position comes with trials and tribulations. Angelina is a beacon of hope, when we think of this idea we tend to believe that is merely a nice thing to say. When in reality Angelina provides an environment and expertise that supports this notion.

She is the founder of organizations that go the extra mile to mentor and inspire women. Her non-profit, Empower H.E.R Steps, is dedicated to helping women heal from trauma, elevate their circumstances, and rebuild their lives. Through her mentoring and leadership, Angelina ensures that every woman who crosses her path has the opportunity to tap into the resources needed to turn their life around. She believes that no dream should be deferred due to financial constraints, and she's made it her mission to provide access to those who need it most. Her work has not only transformed lives but has also created a ripple effect in the community, inspiring others to reach out, give back, and strive for greatness. In addition to the great work she is doing on the ground, Angelina has taken to the digital world through her engaging podcast Good Morning Minute! On her podcast she brings women to her platform to discuss invigorating topics based on creating the life you deserve. Angelina has a story that cannot be compiled into one article, here her journey from the woman herself coming soon in her book "Empowering Through Transformation: Angelina Mojica's Journey of Service and Healing"

Who is Angelina Mojica?

Angelina Mojica (48) was born March 16, 1976, and raised in Lubbock, TX by her birth parents, Rosario Mojica and Catarino Mojica Jr. who are both deceased now, but provide Angelina with a foundation that she has sprung forward in life hitting remarkable goals and aspirations. Angelina's background encompasses a life of childhood trauma and abuse, adolescent depression, suicide attempts, teen pregnancy, domestic violence, grief and loss, broken marriages, poverty, and passing of generational curses.

Like a Phoenix raising from the ashes, Angelina's story shows the remarkable strength of determination, strength, resilience from which she raises reborn into the remarkable woman she is today. She has taken her story using it as a platform from healing, elevating, to rebuilding what was once a challenge in her path, has become her steppingstone to a successful life.



THROUGH HER MENTORING AND LEADERSHIP, ANGELINA ENSURES THAT EVERY WOMAN WHO CROSSES HER PATH HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAP INTO THE RESOURCES NEEDED TO TURN THEIR LIFE AROUND. SHE BELIEVES THAT NO DREAM SHOULD BE DEFERRED DUE TO FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS, AND SHE'S MADE IT HER MISSION TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST. HER WORK HAS NOT ONLY TRANSFORMED LIVES BUT HAS ALSO CREATED A RIPPLE EFFECT IN THE COMMUNITY, INSPIRING OTHERS TO REACH OUT, GIVE BACK, AND STRIVE FOR GREATNESS.

BEYOND *Expectations*

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See what most people don't understand is that I'm black. I don't think you heard me. What most people don't understand is that I. Am. Black. Not only am I black. I am a black woman that walks into a room and people stop as I wait for applause. I am a gypsy in the night casting spells to keep the fellas holding their exhale. I speak with a tongue that cuts the doubt of a misfortunate soul. I spread love and peace as I play for keeps. Only to be kept by the men that never wept. I search for ambition but run into myself steadily on a mission. I am a black woman. Steadily running toward the light that is hanging on a shoe string with a black man weighing it down. I am kept by my dark thoughts as I lay in bed at night wondering where I went wrong. I exhale as I pass that bar when many didn't think black women would get this far. I exhale as i subdue my mental into a state of submission because I listened to his vision. I creep through the night because less eyes watch as the black girl deciphers her next trend. I am a black woman waiting in a room filled with stares because I am in the public view. I am a black woman that stopped to care. I stopped to care and lost my ambition to be a black woman that makes other stop and stare.

BY JAYSA KING
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAYSA KING



INSPIRATION IS POWER





A STORY OF EMPOWERING WOMEN TO ACHIEVE LIMITLESS SUCCESS

PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY
ALYCE WILBURN

**MY NAME IS ALYCE WILBURN, AND I KNOW SOME ARE WONDERING WELL WHO IS SHE?
WHO AM I??**

**AND I AM A WIFE, MOTHER, DAUGHTER, SISTER, AND CEO OF A NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION. I AM ALSO A FIGHTER, A CONQUEROR, A VICTOR, A CHAMPION, A
WINNER AND A DEFEATER!!**

WHO AM I? Some days that seems like an impossible question to answer. As a woman, a wife and a mom we all can agree that we put the woman we once where on the back burner. We will get to her later, but unfortunately later can easily become years. Shoot later can sometimes never come at all. We are constantly adjusting, revolving and positioning those invisible crowns that we wear daily. I learned how to block out those heavy loads and push forward, I had things to do, I had a husband to keep happy and children to help thrive. These things seemed more important to keeping Alyce (that woman happy or thriving). That question of WHO AM I? always pops up... So I said I am a mommy. I am a mommy of 4 GIRLS. Life is hard and I'm sure some of you seasoned moms are thinking, poor girl she has no clue. My girls are 11, 7 and 2 year old twins...Well this mommy thing is something I always knew I wanted. I couldn't wait and honestly I always wanted girls. I always wanted that relationship. I just didn't know I would lose me in the journey of it all. So, WHO AM I? After princess number 2 entered this world roaring like the little firecracker she is, I found myself engulfed in my family. Slightly obsessed, because they are really cute kids, I'm not even trying to be bias. But as time went on I realized that I stopped doing the things that I enjoyed, I brushed it off because this is what I wanted, wasn't it?. I didn't need my nails done, oh my hair, that could wait, I didn't need that glass of wine to unwind, or simply enjoy, sitting in silence was a thing of the past. Jeez more time went on and I wondered ...Who am I?? You know all the extra money was for field trips, their new shoes or their favorite snacks. I lost myself pretty quickly and losing myself even made me feel different, I walked

different, I conversed different, I was different! WHO AM I??. Quite frankly I no longer existed. This thick cloud started to gray faster than I could even comprehend. So much where I didn't even know I was depressed. I just knew I felt different. I knew I wasn't happy, I knew I didn't laugh as much, I knew smiling became harder, hiding my tears felt almost impossible and I honestly didn't know what made me happy anymore. WHO AM I?

It was not until the cloud that followed me was completely black and I felt like life wasn't worth living anymore. It was a regular day in November almost 2 years ago, I decided to end it all. I knew my girls were going to be just fine because their dad was amazing, everyone was going to pour into them. It was in that moment when my then 5 year old asked me to make her a PB&J sandwich. I hushed her away but she came right back even more persistent. I finally couldn't ignore her requests so I walked out that room and kicked the toys out of my way with each step.

et me tell you, this conversation was the hardest conversation I have ever had in my 37 years. I couldn't hide from myself. I kept asking WHO AM I? I couldn't tell myself all is ok. It was so hard...but I did it and in that time, I realized that finding Alyce was imperative to my survival. I needed to find who I was again. Find the me before I found the love of my life, the me before I even decided to have my beautiful children. After I had this conversation with self, I realized that so many people struggled with similar issues as myself. And so many people didn't know who they were? Anyone who has had depression you know it's an incredibly lonely road, I truly thought I was the only person dealing with this unforgiving disorder. I instantly decided I need to help these people. I needed to be a resource and a friend.







Depression Defeaters Inc. is the name of my baby. My non-profit organization! We work with people struggling with LIFE. Life is so underrated; people take this thing for granted. People forget how hard this thing can get. Us parents must live this life and take care of significant others, kids, oh we are sick, oh well, oh we are having a bad day, oh well, we have to keep pushing no matter what. WE HAVE TO KEEP GOING!!! But as life goes on, I often wondered WHO AM I? Depression Defeaters is an organization that will help these people that feel like they can't go on. We act as a liaison between that amazing person that has been locked away under the thumb of depression and the resources, they need to do day to day, month to month or just because.

I know sometimes in life its easier to be mad. Being mad gives us the outlet and the explanation for all of our "issues" right...NO at some point in life, preferably sooner than later I need you to accept the life you were given. Yes some times it doesn't seem fair and you feel like you didn't deserve that family or that job BUT it is what it is and you cant allow those things to disrupt your mental. Take back your life and love yourself!!

The only way you as the PERSON, the mom, the dad, the daughter, the son, the whoever can elevate and unleash your full potential is to have that hard conversation with self and re-learn to love yourself even if no one else does. You have to understand that your mind is so powerful and by speaking life into yourself you can change not only your entire day but your life.

Please understand this mental fight isn't easy, honestly I think it is the hardest thing I have EVER done. I have good days and I have bad days, but I am grateful for each and every day I have. I have learned to embrace the cards I have been dealt, try and respect the struggles I endure and embrace the road that I am traveling. And for the people that don't struggle with these same struggles, be kind, be present, be consistent.

Your loved ones, even strangers don't need extra negativity, don't ask if someone is ok and you don't pay attention to them and just because today is a good day for them, tomorrow may not be so be consistent with your love. So lets go back to that question I kept asking myself....WHO AM I?

So like I said this journey has been extremely difficult, and I lost myself along the way BUT during the rollercoaster of a ride called life I found Alyce along the way. I found something that made ME happy, something for ME, no one else. Alyce is not only a wife, a mommy, a daughter, a daughter in law, a sister and a CEO of her very own non-profit but I also am Ms. Full-Figured NJ Plus 2023, Ms. Fashionista 2023, Ms. Rising Star 2023, Ms., Social Media 2023, Ms. Swimwear 2023, Ms. Congeniality 2023. All these titles were given to little ole me because I chose to live and live for me. But through it all one title that I will hold dearly and I honestly know for a fact that is my most prized title, the title that got me through every dark day, the title that kept breath in my lungs, the title that stopped me from taking my life almost 2 years ago...it the title of being a child of God. I stand before you proclaiming and standing 10 toes down in my truth and knowing that I could not, and would not be here without the most high. I not only had angels surrounding me spiritually but also the ones I have been blessed with hear on earth. I need to thank my husband Corey for all that he has done, thank you for loving me, my girls, they mean the world to me, my mommy, my rider, thank you, I love you, my mother in love, this woman is absolutely amazing inside and out and to Empowered Magazine for having a platform like this for me to share my story in hopes of saving someone else. Thank you and if no one else tells you....I love you and you matter!! Thank you.



By Jaysa King
Photography Provided by the
Sheldon Family

WHISPERS OF LOVE, ACROSS TIME

Hello my baby,

I just wanted to pop in to say I'm okay. There have been moments when you looked to me for a glimpse of what used to be, but it is fading away. The love I have for you will always be shared through the soft kiss on your cheek. As you watch me change, try to see the beauty that forms around you. Like a butterfly finally free of its cocoon, soon I will be free to watch you make every new move. I may not be able to walk the islands of our beautiful home the way we once did, but I want you to remember I am okay. I will always spend time remembering your smile as you carried me in my hardest times. I will always hear your voice as you speak love to me and though you may have needed it more from me. I will always remember your fight to keep this family whole. Finding ways to please the unknown feelings of those who didn't see your true feelings. However, once the glimpse of my past self fades from my eyes, I ask that you continue to see me. See me as the light shining in your window. See me as the lullaby you hear curled up in bed. See me as the warrior woman overcoming the challenges of a new life. I may not come as you once knew me, but my hope is that you never forget. Share our routines with the loved ones you hold dear, embrace them with them with a kiss as they get ready for bed. Show them that despite the hard exterior created by this world, that life must go on. The moments we share are just the beginning, a tradition and show of affection passed down from one mom to another. Our memories are eternal, we knew that the time would come when you would no longer have to lift me into the tub. You now have to face the light at the end of the tunnel. The parties you hosted in my honor. The culture of my home that you made sure I was surrounded by every day. The passion to ensure I was well fed. I may not have said it and I may not even now, but I knew you were strong. I knew you were capable of moving forward with the dreams we once sat and talked about. I may be quiet with small moments of light from here and there, but in those moments of silence remember life must go on and you, my baby are the strongest of them all. You go on and find your light. Go on and tell those sweet stories of what once was. In the moments of silence, think about how you will go on.

The Fight is Not Over

AN INSPIRATION STORY

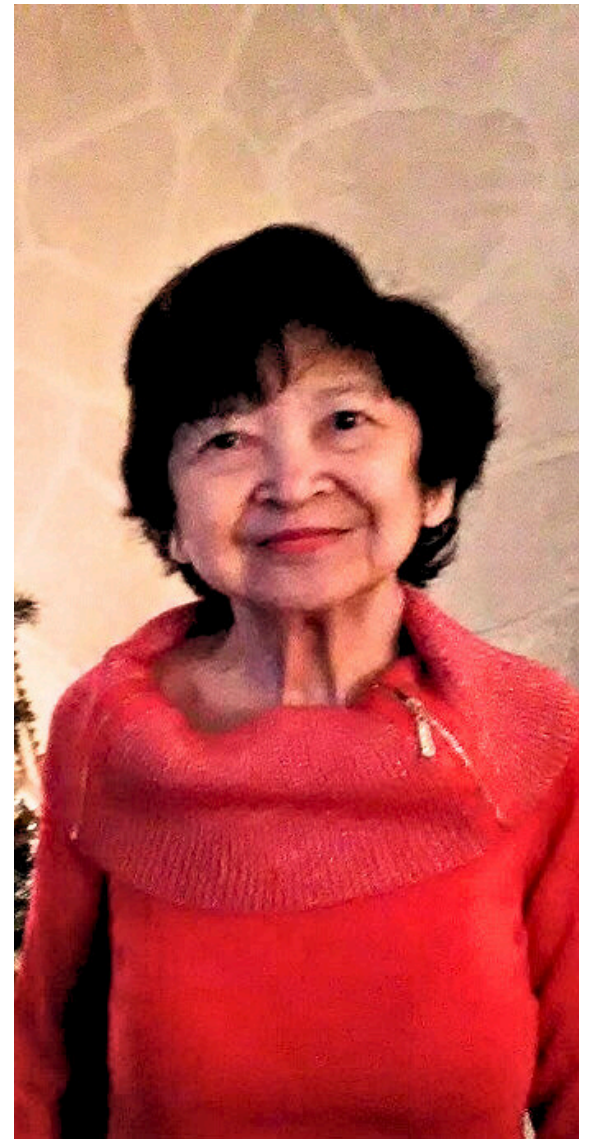
DID YOU KNOW?

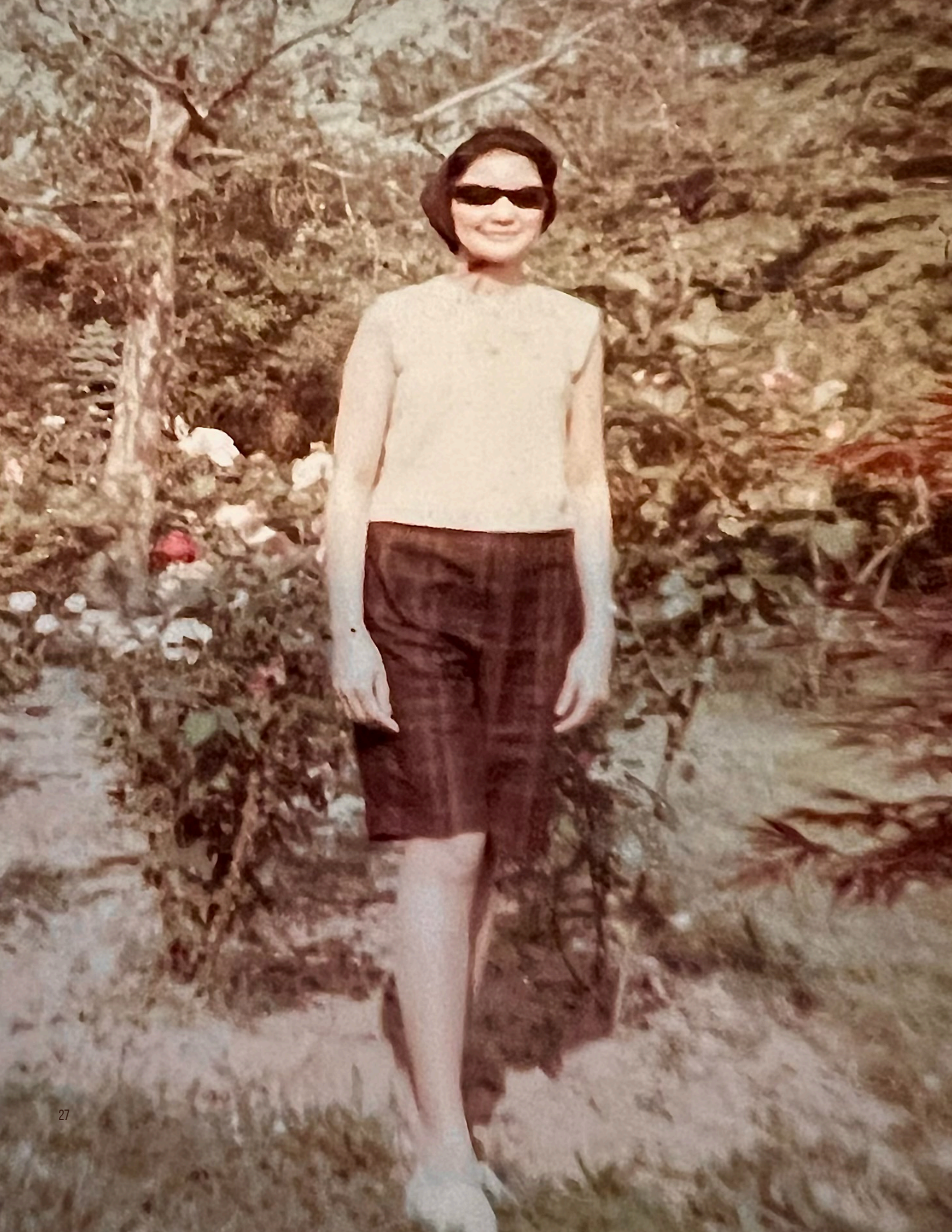
THE NATIONAL DANCE FOR THE PHILIPPINES IS THE TINIKLING. THIS DANCE IS INSPIRED BY THE MOVEMENTS OF THE TIKLING BIRDS AS RICE FARMERS ATTEMPTED TO PREVENT THEM STEALING THE RIPE GRAINS.



Born in Manila, Philippines, on August 21, 1937, our matriarch's journey began in a country on the brink of war. She was one of 11 children raised in a household filled with laughter, trials, and an unshakable sense of family. Her father, Emitello Rellosa, a respected military figure, and her mother, Louisa Gonzalez Rellosa, an entrepreneurial artist and jewelry maker, laid the foundation for a legacy rooted in honor, resilience, and creativity. Growing up during the years of World War II, her family endured the challenges of Japanese occupation, including the terrifying experience of soldiers taking over their home. Despite the memories of war, moments of joy shone through—picnics, swimming, and canoeing on the islands offered a reprieve from hardship. Her close bond with her Tia (Aunt), who helped raise her, provided an enduring source of guidance and love.

After the war, her family prioritized education, with many siblings eventually pursuing opportunities in America while the eldest remained in the Philippines to care for the family's coconut farm, Salang Bato. In the 1960s, she embarked on a new chapter, immigrating to the United States. With a master's degree in Dietary Nutrition, she built a career while navigating life as a single mother. By 1970, she welcomed her first son and, in the years that followed, found love and stability through marriage, expanding her family and moving across states—from New York to Georgia. Her life in America was a testament to perseverance, balancing motherhood, career, and the challenges of adapting to a new culture.







Family remained her greatest priority. She poured herself into her children's lives, attending school events, nurturing their talents, and ensuring they felt the warmth of home. Sundays were dedicated to faith, with church becoming a cornerstone of family life. Even in times of financial struggle, she created a loving environment filled with the rich traditions of Filipino culture, from heartfelt meals to music and storytelling.

The loss of her husband in the late 1980s brought new challenges, but her resilience never faltered. She worked tirelessly in retail and cleaning jobs to provide for her family, even as her professional qualifications went unrecognized. In her later years, she found solace in an independent living community, where she embraced activities like water aerobics and ballroom dancing, proving her vitality and grace.

Today, she is the proud matriarch of a legacy that spans three children, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Her life is a testament to faith, strength, and selfless love. She has taught us the value of perseverance, the power of family, and the importance of cherishing our roots.

Her story is more than a personal journey—it is a reflection of the immigrant experience, a narrative of sacrifice and triumph that inspires us to carry her values forward.

**AS HER FAMILY, WE HONOR HER BY LIVING THE LESSONS SHE TAUGHT US AND
CHERISHING THE PROFOUND LOVE SHE HAS GIVEN. MAHAL KITA, MAMA.
YOUR SPIRIT LIVES IN EVERY STEP WE TAKE.
-YOUR CHILDREN**

**FILIPINOS BELIEVE THAT SAINTS PROVIDE GOOD FORTUNE, AND FESTIVALS HELP FOSTER SOCIAL COHESION AND MAINTAIN
FAMILY UNITY.**

RAYMOND FABICULANAN. (N.D.). PHILIPPINE FESTIVALS ARE IMPORTANT. SCRIBD. RETRIEVED NOVEMBER 5, 2024, FROM <https://www.scribd.com/document/515509215/Philippine-Festivals-Are-Important#:~:text=they%20are%20important%20to%20Filipinos%20who%20believe,changes%20over%20time%20and%20bringing%20communities%20together.>

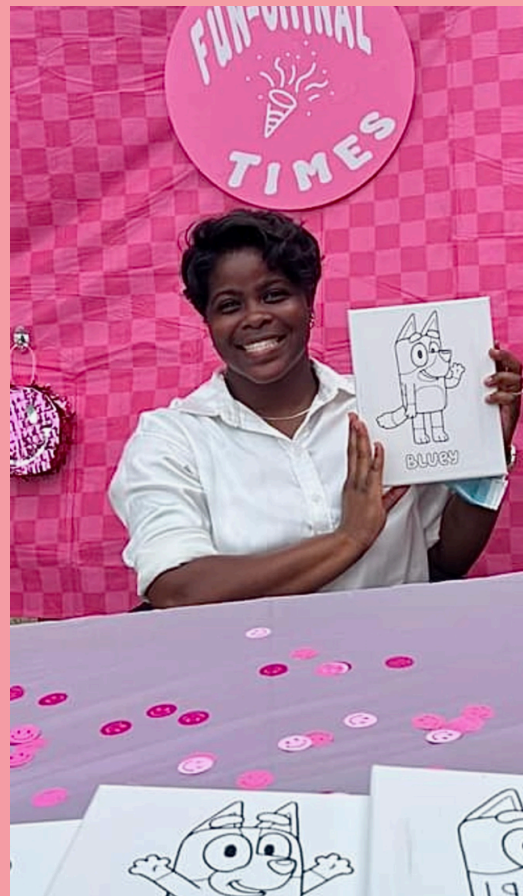
IMPORTANT#:~:TEXT=THEY%20ARE%20IMPORTANT%20TO%20FILIPINOS%20WHO%20BELIEVE,CHANGES%20OVER%20TIME%20AND%20BRINGING%20COMMUNITIES%20TOGETHER.



Who are we?

FUNOMINAL TIMES CAME TO BE WHEN THE OWNER AND CEO, MONIQUE YELLOWFISH, WANTED TO CREATE OCCASIONS FOR KIDS TO HAVE FUN AT ANYTIME. MOST PARTIES/SPECIAL EVENTS ARE CENTERED AROUND A CERTAIN TIME OF YEAR FOR KIDS WHETHER IT BE A BIRTHDAY PARTY, HOLIDAY CELEBRATION OR A GRADUATION.

Let Us Plan Your Child's Next Party!



Monique Yellowfish



OUTSIDE OF THE DESIGNATED TIMES, KIDS SEEM TO BE LIMITED ON THE OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED TO THEM TO LET GO AND HAVE FUN JUST BECAUSE! WE OFFER CUSTOM CHARACTER/THEME CANVASES FOR OUR "PARTY & PAINT" PACKAGE, SO BOOKING WITH **FUN-OMINAL TIMES** WILL BRING OUT THE JOY IN A CHILD'S MOST COMMON DAY.



RISING ABOVE

The Inspiring Journey of Ebony Lacour



In the face of adversity, one woman's story of resilience, faith, and self-belief shows that courage and determination can overcome even the toughest of life's challenges.*

When Ebony McCourt tells her story, her courage and strength shine through, woven into every chapter of her life. A single mother of three, Ebony has faced setbacks that would challenge anyone's spirit—but her perseverance, faith, and commitment to her dreams have transformed her trials into a narrative of empowerment for women everywhere.

Ebony's journey took a sudden turn when she was diagnosed with retinal detachment in both eyes. As she underwent surgeries, she learned that her left eye would remain blind, while her vision in her right eye would be significantly impaired. At the time, Ebony was just a semester away from completing nursing school—a lifelong dream. With her vision suddenly gone and her future in nursing uncertain, she faced an agonizing decision.

Refusing to give up, Ebony made the bold choice to start her nursing program all over again from the beginning. She had to work twice as hard, learning through adaptive methods like a magnifying lens, and memorizing key medical information in new ways.





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FLIGHTS

In sharing her journey, Ebony's message to other women is clear: no matter the struggles, believe in your strength, and trust that you have the power to overcome.



But with determination and her unwavering faith in God, she pushed forward. Despite countless challenges, she graduated with honors, earning a 3.4 GPA and receiving the prestigious Butterfly Award, an honor reserved for students who demonstrate perseverance in the face of adversity.

“People told me I’d never be able to care for my kids again, that I couldn’t live life the way I had,” Ebony recalls. But she wasn’t ready to let go of her dreams. Supported by her mother, who had faith in her from the start, Ebony continued, overcoming doubt and obstacles. Today, Ebony has been a licensed practical nurse (LPN) for ten years and is currently back in school pursuing her RN license.

Tragedy struck again when Ebony lost her mother unexpectedly to pancreatitis, a devastating blow that shook her family to its core. Her mother had been the rock and foundation of the family, and her sudden loss left Ebony grieving while caring for her children, siblings, father, and extended family. Despite this, she found the strength to carry on, joining a grief group to help manage her emotions and stay strong for her loved ones.

Ebony’s strength is not just for herself but also for her children. Her 21-year-old daughter recently accepted into nursing school is following in her mother’s footsteps, a testament to Ebony’s influence and resilience. Her son has graduated high school and is pursuing technical college, and her youngest child, now eleven, stands by her side as a constant support.

Through it all, Ebony has learned to embrace her journey, managing anxiety and vision challenges by focusing on her faith and self-confidence. “Life is vision,” she says, holding hope that one day her sight may be fully restored. But for now, she is seeing with her heart, trusting that her path forward will continue to be filled with opportunities and growth.

As a licensed nurse, travel advisor, and mother, Ebony has learned that life’s toughest battles can lead to the most profound growth. Her story is a testament to the power of resilience, faith, and an unwavering belief in oneself—a story that reminds us all that we can rise above any obstacle.

IN THE COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT





HAPPY MOMS

Doula Services



Happy Moms Doula Services LLC, led by Jordan McKey, provides extensive community support through childbirth education, birth and postpartum doula services, and placenta encapsulation. Jordan empowers new parents with emotional and physical support, covering techniques for labor comfort, birth advocacy, and post-birth care. Her work not only helps families transition confidently but also reduces postpartum depression risks and promotes family bonding. Serving Camp Lejeune, NC, and virtually, Happy Moms Doula Services stands out by making professional birthing support accessible and personalized for new parents.

For more details, visit: [Happy Moms Doula Services]
(<https://happymomsdoulaserv.wixsite.com/happy-moms-doula-ser>).



SHINING A LIGHT ON THE OWNER AND LEAD DOULA, JORDAN MCKEY

Jordan McKey, founder of Happy Moms Doula Services LLC, started her business after feeling a lack of support during her own first childbirth. This experience sparked her passion for helping families feel prepared, cared for, and confident during the birth process. With certifications in childbirth education, postpartum support, and placenta encapsulation, Jordan has dedicated herself to making professional doula care accessible and affordable. Her goal is to provide supportive care that empowers parents and helps make childbirth a positive, memorable experience.



Jordan McKey, is a long-term friend, motherly confidant and an amazing example of a wife. She has taken on motherhood with elegance and care. Through her various certifications toward the wellbeing of women, she takes no prison in her efforts to educate women as they undergo the most beautiful, yet terrifying moment of their lives. Jordan is a brilliant woman who lives the life of a military spouse. She spends her time becoming familiar with natural products and remedies that care for not only the mother, but the delicate children being cared for. In a short period of time, Jordan has turned a stagnant vision into a pursuit to have her business known up and down the east coast. happy Moms Doula Services is a way for moms to gain support during a stage of motherhood that many of us overlook or undergo in silence. As a mother of one, I can say the mentorship I have received from this amazing woman has been unmatched. almost two years into motherhood and I am still looking through the resources provided by her services. She shares her mistakes and in return we glorify her success. She is worthy of being seen as a piece of the community that is taking the world by storm. No longer do you have to wonder if your childcare doula is in it for the fame or money, Happy Moms Doula Services is lead by a woman who leads with heart and care, so take a chase and find out how Mrs. McKey can support you through your next pregnancy.



For more information, visit [Happy Moms Doula Services]
(<https://happymomsdoulaserv.wixsite.com/happy-moms-doula-ser>).





Her Movement, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to youth empowerment through mentorship, workshops, and motivational speaking events. Using frameworks like Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, the organization creates a nurturing environment for adolescents, fostering personal growth and life skills. With locations in multiple states, it offers diverse opportunities for youth to build confidence and overcome challenges, providing resources and support for long-term personal development. Community members can contribute through donations, partnerships, or volunteering to further the organization's mission to cultivate future leaders.

Learn more at [Her Movement, Inc.](<https://www.hermovement63.org/>).

**HER MOVEMENT
IN THE COMMUNITY**



PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY LABRENA COLEMAN

ABOUT THE FOUNDER & HER STRIDE TOWARD WORLDWIDE INTEGRATION

The founder of Her Movement, Inc., LaBrena Coleman, has a vision rooted in creating supportive, resource-rich environments that help young individuals achieve personal and professional growth. Her goal is to empower youth, particularly young women, through tailored mentorship, leadership programs, and community involvement. By fostering resilience and confidence, the founder aims to equip the next generation with essential life skills and tools for self-sufficiency. Her Movement, Inc. focuses on instilling a sense of purpose and motivation, promoting a future of empowered leaders who contribute positively to their communities.

In 2024, Her Movement has made strides to recognized as one of the top tier organizations with a support system that spans the nation. Through Coleman's ability to bring people together through the passion for change within our own environments; she not only has provided resources for her mentees out of her own pocket she has created a space for her team to learn and execute the skills they need to be successful in this industry. Her Movement is just getting started, as the new year comes to a rolling start, the establishment of an event and community initiatives calendar, is you would not want to miss. As the organization itself is looking for like-minded community members to join the efforts, she is also in search sponsors who can assist in the collecting of tangible and monetary resources that are directed toward the mentees of Her Movement on a regular basis. This is just one story in the community. Taking a step toward Her Movement is just one of many impactful strides.

Learn more at [Her Movement, Inc.] (<https://www.hermovement63.org/>).

WANT TO BECOME A HER MOVEMENT PARTNER?
JOIN THE HER MOVEMENT COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT THE GATHERING OF RESOURCES PROVIDED TO TEENS ACROSS THE NATION. THIS OPPORTUNITY COMES WITH AMAZING PERKS IN SPECIALLY DESIGNED PACKAGES FOR YOU!

VISIT THE HER MOVEMENT WEBSITE TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT
(WWW.HERMOVEMENT63.ORG/PHILANTHROPICEFFORTS)



PRESERVING THE BEAUTY
OF EACH MOMENT

SPONSORS

THE STRONG

Female Lead

SHE'S A MENTOR, BUSINESS MOGUL, FASHIONISTA, AND ALL AROUND SUPPORTIVE FRIEND, LAUREN COLE IS BEING PRESENTED AS A SPONSOR FOR ISSUE 1 OF SAY MAGAINZE. READ MORE ABOUT HER AND HOW SHE STEPS UP TO THE PLATE IN HER FIELD.





**PINK CAPTURES THE EYE WITH ITS UNYEILDING REPRESENTATION OF LOVE, NUTURE, AND COMPASSION.
ALL SUITABLE TRAITS FOR THIS SPONSOR.**

Empowered by faith and a relentless pursuit of excellence, I am a So-Cal based professional, mother, entrepreneur, motivational speaker, and life coach. Philippians 4:13 reminds me that I can achieve anything through Christ who strengthens me. With over two decades of experience in the financial industry, I've honed my skills across various roles and graduated from eCornell University with a certification in women's entrepreneurial leadership. As a proud mother of one amazing son and two fur babies, I've expanded my horizons into entrepreneurship as the co-owner of Jus Flickinit LLC, a luxury photo-booth company that creates unforgettable experiences with unmatched professionalism and customer service. My passion for community and female empowerment led me to found Business Women Brunchin' Inc., a non-profit that fosters sisterhood, unity, and giving back to the community through tools, tips, and resources for building and marketing businesses effectively.

As a motivational speaker, I use my platform to speak life into people and their dreams, creating a safe space for women to live freely and embrace their truth and beauty from the inside out.

**COACH LC "NAILZ IT" IS OFFERING YOU A FREE 30
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TODAY!**



**LAUREN COLE
BUSINESS WOMEN BRUNCHIN INC**

BWBRUNCHIN.ORG



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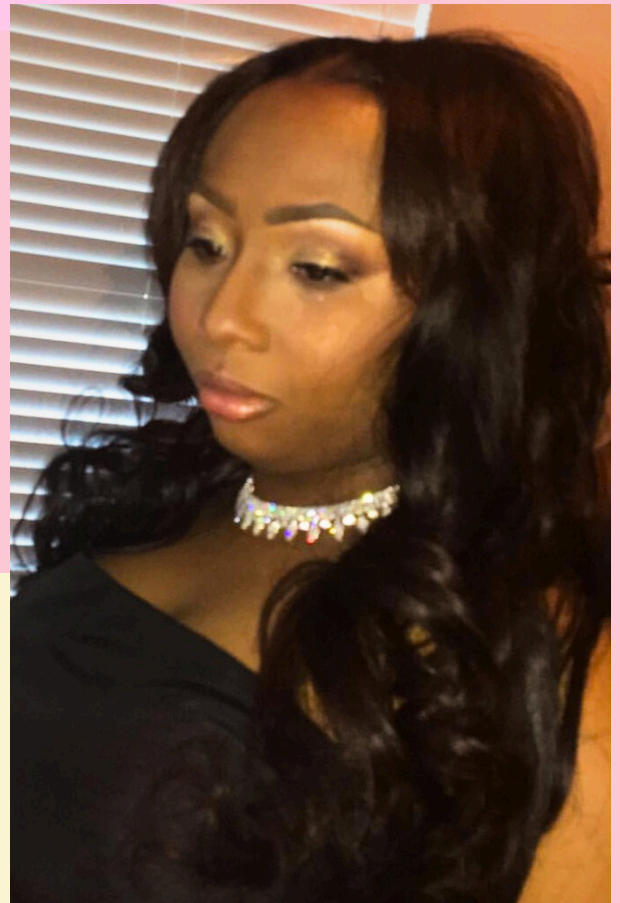


281.889.5139

Maddison
 Gage

“

I am women empowerment coach I believe that every woman has there own journey but is up to them see it through my book is going to help you through your journey my chocolate business started when I was sixteen When I was diagnosed with wolf hirshorn syndrome it is a condition were I am missing part of my chromosomes 4 But my disability does not effect me going after my dreams I believe I can do anything I set my mind too



”

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WHAT'S COMING TO THE EMPOWERMENT MAVEN?

WOMEN OF SUCCESS (WOS) PANEL

The Women of Success Panel is a transformative and empowering event designed to inspire and equip women with the tools, strategies, and connections they need to turn their visions into reality. This dynamic panel will cover various aspects of personal and professional growth, including goal setting, overcoming obstacles, and creating a sustainable impact in their respective fields.

KEY FEATURES OF THE EVENT:

- Engaging and interactive panel discussions led by influential and successful women leaders.
- A supportive environment for networking and collaboration among attendees.
- Actionable insights and strategies aimed at empowering women to achieve their aspirations in both their personal and professional lives.
- Opportunities for audience members to participate in Q&A sessions and gain personalized advice.

EM
Empowerment Maven
BRAND ARCHITECT



The Audacity

RAW | REFLECTIVE | RESILIENT |
REVOLUTIONARY



AUDACITY PODCAST NETWORK

With a voice and a mind that has a lot to say, Jaysa King has developed three podcast style platforms to discuss the hot topics. Available throughout the year for your convenience, check out the Audacity Podcast Network!

Contrary to the Culture is a seasonal podcast that premieres on Tuesdays from May to October. This podcast challenges the status quo by bringing guest speakers to share their opinions on the Culture.

Just Jaysa is the original podcast. Running on 5 years in the podcast world, Just Jaysa is commentary based in Mental Health, Motherhood, and Marriage featuring, just Jaysa. On Thursdays from November to April, viewers can gain first hand wisdom.

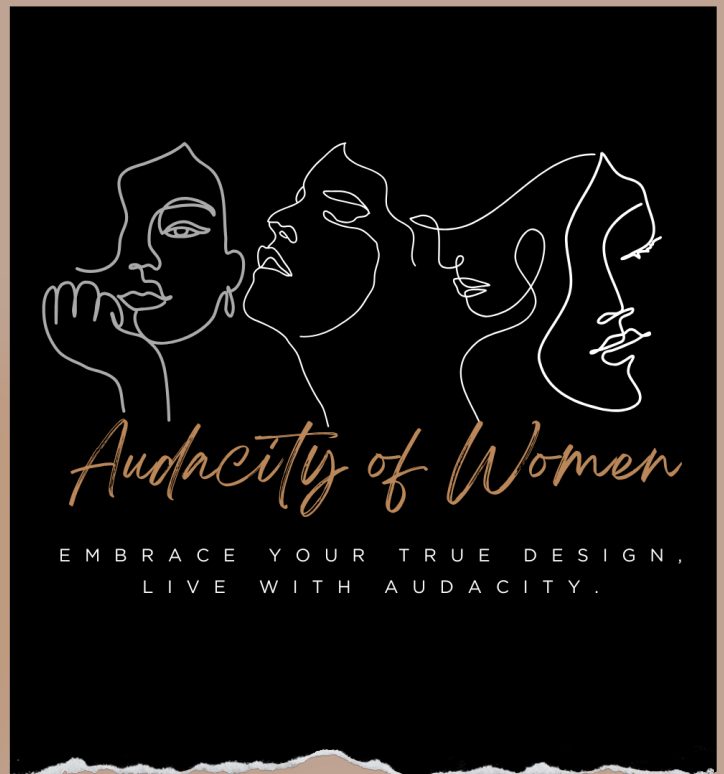
The Audacity Roundtable is a fun exploration into the focal points of the nation. From Black History to Suicide Awareness. On this platform viewers can witness the collective dialogue of experts and influencers on matters that make the world go round. Visit the Audacity website for a full calendar of dates.

EVENTS & MASTERCLASSES

Introducing the Audacity Masterclasses. These five classes are filled with motivational and healing techniques that allow women to work on themselves in the safe space of women looking to build a community.

This year Audacity of Women is getting ready to roll out a full spread of event for the community! Through partnerships with non-profits such as Her Movement and collaborations with businesses such as Elementary Education Evolved, we will be bringing resources and skills to your front door.

Visit the official Audacity of Women website at Audacityofwomen.com to learn more.





**Are you interested? In being featured in the
next issue of SAY Magazine?**

Contact us using the information below to fill
a spot and Learn more about the theme of
each upcoming issue.

Issue Release dates

January 11th, 2025

May 5th, 2025

September 9th, 2025

JAYSA KING

Audacity of Women CEO



Audacityofwomen@outlook.com ✉

<https://linktr.ee/AudacityofWomen> 🌐