

The GRIOT

KAYLA TOLBERT, EDITOR

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Colorado State University



CSU Alumni John Amos Pays a Visit

By Torshan Thomas

John Amos is a living legend to say the least, and has left a lasting impression on his son who is on the path to greatness. Going into this event I really didn't know what to expect because I had never been so close and personal with someone who has a "famous" status. I must say that I was pleasantly surprised with the outcome because his demeanor was so humbling and warm. It was interesting to hear him reflect upon his experiences as a child up until him being in college. It really made me take a step back and really want to thank those who stood before me, because without them I wouldn't be here today. I found it comforting that it took him many failed attempts to realize his true calling in entertainment. This shows me

that in life everyone struggles and it made him feel real to me. Being in his presence and hearing his words fill the room, there was a sense of inspiration and admiration in the air. These are the moments that I live for when someone successful can show you that the best things in life aren't things. This opportunity is one that I am glad I did not miss out on.

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Peer Mentors and Coordinators for the 2012-2013 school year



Name: Trenice Lane
Major: Spanish with a minor in Theatre
Year: Sophomore
Quote: "Never let the sun go down while you're angry because you never know what may happen to make you regret an angered heart"- Unknown
I chose to work in the Black /African American Cultural Center to become comfortable around my culture that I was rarely interacted with. Also, to work in an environment and still feel like it was somewhere I belong. Also I want to see people who are African American in one place bonding with one another, sharing stories, interacting and having a good time because we can all feel lonely on campus. It's amazing that Mrs. Bridgette and

Mr. Marcus, seem as though they're family instead of authorities of the office. They are both beautiful people and really have the center defined as being a home away from home, which it truly is.



Name: Alexandria Norris
Major: Human Development & Family Studies with a concentration in early childhood education.
Year: Junior
Quote: "The only way of finding the limits of the possible is by going beyond them into the impossible." — Arthur C. Clarke

I chose to work at the Black African American Cultural Center to become a more involved and active member in our growing community; getting paid to work with amazing people each and every day is simply an added bonus. I want to assist African American students with their transition to Colorado State University. The office has become my home and all of the individuals have become my family- like a support system. I love all of the opportunities and possible involvements the office presents me with, and enjoy working in an environment where we try to enhance the overall college experience for our students.



Name: Kayla Tolbert
Major: International Studies & Political Science with a minor in Arabic
Year: Junior
Quote: "Love yourself first and then we can all start loving each other" Jill Scott.
I chose to work in the office again because I have truly started to care about the office and the people which it serves. Working in the office is representing something bigger

than yourself, it is representing the support system and the feeling of home for out students which is key to success for various of our African American students here on our campus.



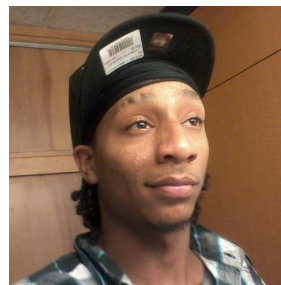
Name: Alicia Griffin
Major: Sociology/Criminology with a Criminal Justice concentration
Year: Senior
Quote: "Do not lower your expectations to meet your performance. Raise your level of performance to satisfy or exceed your expectations. Expect the best of yourself, and do what is necessary to make it a reality." -Ralph Marston

I chose to become a mentor because I believed (and still believe) that I could serve as an aid to incoming students. The first year of college is very crucial; and most of the time, students are working to figure themselves out. In other words, they are trying to find their place in this world through exploration (regardless of what that looks like). Knowing this, I believe that my presence and experience can be viewed as a resource and help assist them in their journeys.



Name: Kim Washington
Major: Apparel Design and Merchandising and Human Development and Family Studies with a concentration in Child Life
Year: Junior
Quote: "Carpe Diem...Seize The day"
I wanted to become a mentor because I wanted to become a great resource for the incoming students and to anyone else who needs resources, an ear for listening, or someone to give advice. I love helping people

find a community they feel comfortable in.



Name: Michael Burnett
Major: Business
Year: Sophomore
Quote: " Hard work beats talent when talent fails to work hard"- Unknown
I decided to work for the B/AACC office because I wanted to get more involved this

year with the events and also I felt it was time to meet more people that I identified with as far as culture and background.



Name: Kourtney Green
Major: Health and Exercise with a minor in Business
Year: Sophomore
Quote: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" -Philippians 4:13.
I chose to mentor with the Black/ African American Cultural Center so that I could give the same love, support, and friendship to new incoming students that I was given when I first arrived at Colorado State University.



Name: Torshan Thomas
Major: Psychology
Year: Sophomore
Quote: "You educate a man, You educate a man; You educate a woman, You educate a Generation"-Unknown
I chose to work in the Black/African American Cultural Center to connect with the black community on campus and to gain working experience and skills for the professional world. As well as explore all my opportunities the B/AACC offers.



Name: Lauren Stadeker
Major: Business, Computer Informational Systems and Marketing
Year: Sophomore
Quote: "Without music, life would be a mistake."-Friedrich Nietzsche.
I chose to mentor with the Black/African American Cultural Center because I had a mentor last year who helped me become connected and I wanted to do the same for my mentees.



Name: Erica Boyer
Major: Animal Science and Equine Science with a minor in Spanish
Year: Sophomore
Quote: "Don't make excuses. Make it happen"-Unknown
I chose to work on the Black / African American Cultural Center because the B/AACC office was a home for me last year and I wanted to be a part of the



Name: Edward Harlan, otherwise known as Ed.
Major: Philosophy and minoring in Criminal Justice.
Year: Senior
Quote:
I chose to work in the B/AACC Office mainly because I needed a work-study job, I like the people that work in the office and I like the "homey" atmosphere within the B/AACC Office. I also wanted to be a peer mentor because I want to give back to the community.



Name: Suprina Williams
Major: Business Administration Management
Year: Sophomore
Quote: " Love all, trust few, do wrong to none"- Unknown
I chose to work in the Black/ African American Cultural Center because I wanted to help others get connected, and stay connected myself. The worst thing in the world is to feel alone in a room full of people.

Name: Raquel Robertson
Major: Business Management & Ethnic Studies
Year: Junior
Quote: "You only live once, but if you do it right, once is ENOUGH" by Mae West
I chose to be a mentor for the Black /African American Cultural Center because it gives me an opportunity to help African Americans students adjust to their first year on campus as well as the cultural shock. I enjoy knowing that my mentees have someone to go to if they have any questions or concerns about the adjusting process. College

Name: Tyreesa Reeves
Major: Double major in Psychology with a emphasis in Early Child Trauma and Sociology with an emphasis in Contemporary Race and Ethnic Relations.
Year: Junior
Quote: "Pain is inevitable, suffering is optional"
I chose to be a mentor for one reason, I wanted to make a difference in

No Picture

No Picture

may seem a little scary at first but with the help of a mentor things can become easier.

someone's life.

Homecoming Royalty Pageant

Come join us at The 2012 Homecoming Royalty Pageant as we crown Mr. CSU and Mrs. CSU!

When: September 30th, 2012 @ 6:00 p.m.

Where: North Ballroom

Cost: \$3 for Students and \$5 dollars for non-students

Welcome B/AACC Kick Back

By Alexandria Norris

The annual barbeque hosted by the Black /African American Cultural Center- on Friday August 31st- was an extreme success, thanks to all of the new and returning faces that decided to stop by. This year the office spiced up the barbeque by changing its location to the Rolland Moore Park; allowing student's to enjoy: music, food, volleyball, flag football, basketball, dancing, and a peaceful place to hang out.

The event brought both new and returning students together, welcoming them back to campus for another year of hard work and studious endeavors. Students that attended in-

dulged in hamburgers and hot dogs - grilled by Marcus Elliot, Edward, and Keenan- as they enjoyed music provided by DJ Nunez. DJ Nunez's music selection allowed for all attendees to sing or dance along with every tune he played, at one point getting everyone up to partake in the notorious Wobble. Freshmen and upper classmen were also able to socialize and ask questions about the B/AACC office, campus, programs, upcoming events, and other trending topics.

The Welcome B/AACC Kick-back provided a comfortable environment that allowed students to share information about resources the Black/

African American Cultural Center and other programs can provide; while enjoying some delicious food, music, and conversation. If you missed this opportunity to bond and learn more about what the office has to offer, simple come stop by the office and a B.E.S.T Student Staff member would be more than happy to tell you about the numerous programs, clubs, organizations, and groups this campus has to offer.

Endless Cycle

By Trenice Copeland

Sometimes you have to forget those feelings
And remember what you deserve
His lies may seem true, but they're just simple words
You hear them and you listen, naïve as a child
Subconsciously you know but you're just in denial
Fooled by what you see, everything is an illusion
He gives you false hope, as you feed into his attribution
You know what he's about but steady falling in the trap
One thing you don't know is his plan to attack
Breaking the barriers, to get inside your heart
Shattering your pieces to cover up his scar
The scar that started, the game he plays
The pain entrapped from being led astray
Falling for the girl, who didn't fall back
Left him cold and heartless but his mind still intact
Although it was long ago, he is still in love
Just forgetting it all happened had always been tough
He was expected to bounce back, Even though he was hurt
Refrained from showing emotion, glori-

fied for being a flirt
He showed his affection once, for that one special girl
Until he realized the hard work put in
Left him empty handed, alone in the world
Now the demeanor player, is embedded in his head
But you're trying to make him the one, and change him instead
You settle for less, knowing you can do better
A virtuous woman, worth far more than his pleasure
But you've forgotten your value, when you're the prize he should've won
Not the phrase waiting to be completed, because in his mind he'd be done
Do you think you're the one, to fix his broken heart?
Glass can be fixed but once it is shattered,
It's nearly impossible to originate some of the parts.
Time is the key to let everything fall in place
You can't rush him, when he's not ready to move at your pace
But you've forgotten your value, when you're the prize he should've won
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Do you think you're the one, to fix his broken heart?

Glass can be fixed but once it is shattered,
It's nearly impossible to originate some of the parts.
Time is the key to let everything fall in place
You can't rush him, when he's not ready to move at your pace
Your mind is so clouded, no one can get through
You don't realize the damage, that he is doing to you
But once you've had enough, is when you seek help
In the end, ultimately, you're feeling how he felt
Not listening, became your down fall
And now, a healing process begins to evolve
You're stronger, better, and can create yourself anew
So stop finding the guys you think you deserve
And find a guy who deserves you!

Final Passage: Rites of Passage

By Edward Harlan

This year was my fourth year attending the BAACC (Black/African-American Cultural Center) retreat here at Colorado State University, and my third year being a part of the B.E.S.T (Black Educational Support Team) staff and one as an actual attendee my freshman year. But this year was also bitter sweet because this year will also more than likely be my last.

The road to my senior year seemed pretty short for four years but at the same time it was time well spent with people that I have come to know and love through the retreat, as well as being in BAACC everyday. While acknowledging what I just said in my last thought, this has been a very long ride, and I am very grateful for the fact that I met several people that have been with me along my whole journey throughout my college career. Every year its always fun to see the new freshman class come in, see them meet each other and form, hopefully, lasting relationships when just the day before the majority of the students were not even aware that their new found peers even existed.

It seems like every year we have a great group of students that are all very willing to participate in every-



thing that we do, and this year was no different. I had a great time getting to know a lot of our new students and it was great having them participate in the day's activities when they could have been anywhere else. Since they chose to attend the BAACC retreat I can proudly say that they had the opportunity to learn very important things about our heritage in a very engaging and thought provoking way. Every retreat is different and great in its own way and I'm glad that this retreat was the one that was my last.

Donald W Wilson Professional Mentoring Program!

Calling ALL juniors and seniors...if you want to be mentored by African American professionals this program is for YOU! They meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month over the NOON hour! If interested, contact Mrs. Bridgette Johnson at bridgette.johnson@colostate.edu or give her a call at 970.491.5781 to sign up no later than September 24th!

- During these meetings the following is discussed:
- Being black in the world of work
- Graduate school...hmmmm...
- Preparing for Interviews
- What to wear and what not to wear in the professional world of work
- Speed resume writing tips
- How to sell yourself in 30 seconds or less



Letter From The Director

Bridgette Johnson

Another year... Whether it is your 1st or last year in college, I am certain as you reflect you will realize the many accomplishments you have made! Know that I am sending you a heartfelt welcome to another year to make a difference in the life of someone else, and to simply celebrate YOU and all that you have accomplished and yet to accomplish! So many memorable things have happened already this year and we have so much more to do, including electing the next President of the United States of America— do NOT forget to vote – YOUR vote does count! The Black/African American Cultural Center is NOT only your home away from home BUT our goal is to also support you academically, professionally and personally. We will do this by providing mentoring programs, cultural enrichment and leadership development opportunities throughout your academic career. Remember while being a college student is exciting and full of opportunities, your ultimate goal is to graduate, so please prioritize accordingly! We have close to 800 students who self-identify as African American and we are continuing to grow, so we ask that you make sure you stop by to let us know who you are and how we can be of service to you because our staff, professionals and students alike, are here to be of service to you! We have an exciting year ahead of us and we can only accomplish our mission with your involvement and dedication to the office. Looking forward to seeing you in the B/AACC!

“our goal is to also support you academically, professionally and personally.”

The difference between involvement and commitment is like ham and eggs. The chicken is involved; the pig is committed.— Martina Navratilova

Black Student Alliance(B.S.A)- Jesus Ornelas– jornelas@rams.colostate.edu

A student-led coalition that sponsors cultural activities and advocates the social and political interests of African-American students on the campus of CSU.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.– Alexandria Grant

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. seeks to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards and to promote unity and friendship among university women.

Africans United– Hermella Yilma– yilmahermella@live.com

The purpose of Africans United is to bring awareness of the diverse and rich cultures of Africa within the CSU campus and surrounding community, to establish and participate in activities designed to bring the Diaspora African community together as one and to unite African students on the CSU campus as well as in the community.

**Shades– Ashley Johnson-
ajohnso3@rams.colostate.edu**

Our mission is to create a friendly atmosphere for people who are multiracial and/or in current interracial relationships. Our focus is to educate individuals in an academic and social setting about the ever-growing phenomenon of multiracial people in today's society.

**United Men of Color- James Bryant-
jambry91@yahoo.com**

The mission of United Men of Color is to make a positive change on campus and in the community through service, leadership development, building community amongst students and faculty, but most importantly, culturally inclusive programming.

Black Definition

Student organization that plans and implements Black History programs throughout the year, with a strong emphasis during the month of February.

United Women of Color-Destiny Johnson-Dcajohns@rams.colostate.edu

United Women of Color is a formally recognized student organization at CSU. UWC is a group of women who are ethnically diverse. We value our individuality, but there is power in numbers. We are here to represent and promote issues that concern us. UWC is predominantly from the African American perspective, however it is not exclusive.

**Omega Psi Phi- Keenan Bender –
haneefisa@yahoo.com**

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. purpose is to bring about union of college men of similar high ideals of scholarship, and manhood in order to stimulate the attainment of ideas and ambitions of its members.

**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.- Candice Davis -
davisca@rams.colostate.edu**

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. has clearly distinguished itself as a public service organization that boldly confronts the challenges of African Americans and, hence, all Americans.

Colorado State University
Black/African American Cultural Center
204 Lory Student Center
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-8016
Office Hours: 8:00 am– 5:00 pm

Phone: 970-491-5781
Fax: 970-491-0492
Email:bss@lamar.colostate.edu

September 2012

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 <i>Volleyball vs. Pepperdine @ 7pm</i>	8 <i>Football Game v. North Dakota State @5pm</i>
9	10 <i>Math and Science Tutoring @6-7:30pm</i>	11 <i>Real Talk @4 pm</i>	12 <i>Math and Science Tutoring @6-7:30pm</i>	13	14	15 <i>Ram Jam !</i>
16	17 <i>Math and Science Tutoring @6-7:30pm</i>	18 <i>Real Talk @4pm Diversity Symposium</i>	19 <i>Math and Science Tutoring @6-7:30pm Diversity Symposium</i>	20 <i>Graduate School Prep Workshop @12 pm Diversity Symposium</i>	21	22 <i>Football Game v. Utah State @5pm</i>
23/30 <i>Homecoming Pageant @6 pm</i>	24 <i>Math and Science Tutoring @6-7:30pm</i>	25 <i>Real Talk @4 pm</i>	26 <i>Math and Science Tutoring @6-7:30pm</i>	27	28	29