



Youth of Today Hope of Tomorrow



LOCAL GROUP RAISES MONEY FOR YOUNG TEXANS TO SEE 'BLACK PANTHER'

By Reena Diamante
Spectrum News

AUSTIN, Texas -- The hype around the Black Panther film is heating up.

Friday afternoon, The Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta posted a video of students celebrating the opportunity to see the latest installment of the Marvel cinematic universe. The video quickly went viral, amassing more than 4 million views on Twitter.

The film follows the main character T'Challa, who returns home to the isolated and technologically advanced African country of Wakanda. He hopes to take his rightful place as king, but soon faces challenges as he strives to protect his people.

The Capital City Black Film Festival believes the movie will inspire and uplift African-American kids and teenagers. They're now raising money so that 200 young Texans can



Cyrena Matingou and T. J. Williams on the news studio set at Spectrum News television station in Austin, Texas. On Sunday, February 4, 2018, Spectrum News reporter Ms. Reena Diamante interviewed Youth Brigaders T. J. Williams and Cyrena Matingou regarding the upcoming screening of the Marvel Comics Super Hero movie "Black Panther." The movie is slated to premier nationwide on Saturday, February 15, 2018. The Capital City Black Film Festival is working diligently to bring the movie to Austin, Texas through a Go FundMe account at gofundme.com/bptakover. Funds will allow 200 young people to attend the event at the Alamo Draft House Cinema. Photo by Carmen Williams

watch the Marvel movie free of charge.

The screening is set

to take place opening weekend at the Alamo Drafthouse.

"The world is not a perfect place and we have not made all the strides

that we need to make and so thank goodness for films like that that come out that can spread around the world and see black people in such a role," said Winston G. Williams, executive director of The Capital City Black Film Festival.

The organization is collaborating with different organizations like the Villager Youth Brigade.

Cyrena Matingou, 15, and T.J. Williams, 17, are among the invited youth. The Cedar Ridge High School students write for the community newspaper, The Villager. "This is the first superhero movie with a predominantly black cast, which is really special," said T.J. Williams. "It really inspires me, because I know that despite my skin color, there's nothing that's going to hold me back from doing what I want to do," Matingou said.

Organizers hope when young people watch

this film, they'll be motivated to envision greater possibilities for themselves.

"Black Panther himself is intelligent, he's brave he's a great leader, those are the qualities that I want to bring to myself in business or at my school," T.J. Williams said.

Many say the fictional world of Wakanda and the spirit of Black Panther is not so out of reach. "That's symbolic of black people in America today, stepping up showing that we're not who you think we are," Matingou said. "We're intelligent, we're compassionate, and I think that has been demonstrated in Wakanda."

"Had colonialism never happened, Wakanda and Black panther and all of that, that might have actually happened," T. J. Williams said.

For a full list of screenings or to donate to the campaign visit: gofundme.com/bptakover.

AVID Island



Erika Lipscomb
Manor M. S.

In my AVID class, we are working on a fun assignment with our table groups called AVID Island. At each group, there will be a big piece of sticky note paper to draw on. Then you will receive a paper with instructions and certain items you need to have on your island. The first thing was creating the name. I thought it'd be a cool idea to put me and my friends names together, so we came up with Mychuanika. The Mych is from Mychia, uan is from Quan, ad ika is from Erika.

Next was drawing the flag, I made the colors blue and purple stripe on each side, and green outlined in the middle with a juicy burger on the front. That would represent "Land of the Food". The next task was to draw each other's characteristics, such as if you have a temper or kind of a mean person you would draw a volcano. Or if you were nice and

sweet, you would draw a garden of flowers. My drawing was a jungle because it may be beautiful when you're looking around but if you go in deeper, there are a lot of dangerous animals. We also had to have our first law which was "Treat others the way you want to be treated, but if you ever get into a fight make sure EVERYONE'S phone is charged".

We also needed currency, our highest bill is 1,000,000 and everything on the island is cheap so you can get alot with that. Money that you will get will automatically have your face on it once you have it in your possession so you will feel a bit more valuable. Money and coins are edible to eat so people have to be careful. The next thing was to have a first job. Since the island is crazy enough the job will be to move the giant pineapples from the jungle. Last thing we had time to do was to think of a national holiday. I thought of (F.O.M) first of the month, meaning every 1st day of each month will be celebrated.

There are some things that we didn't get to like the national song or national book but I hope we do because it's honestly the only fun thing we are doing so far in that class.

The Simone Biles Movie



Ruby George
Riojas Elementary

So, we all know that Simone Biles is the top gymnast in the world. On Saturday, I watched the Simone Biles movie, and I

was absolutely amazed of what I saw. She was a natural gymnast that was struggling with family, and she achieves the hardest thing ever! I bet being a gymnast is very challenging sport to do. She can inspire anyone, chef, dancer, marathon runner, swimmer, boxer, and gymnast. She is definitely my inspiration. Simone shows that if you have a dream, then work hard for it. She trained 30-32 hours a week, and that that takes time and energy. She went to the Olympic games, and won the gold medal. Now that's what I success.

AISS Honors



Tyler Allen
Gus Garcia YMLA

This is the second week of African-American history month. It is always good to look back on some of the past men and women of history. It has been said that "those that don't learn from the past are doom to repeat". Yet some of the thing we celebrate I was told were not really accomplishments. They were things we were only allowed to do. We just wanted opportunities. It

was bad we had to prove to others things they already could see.

Something like become the president of the USA. You had to win that. Tiger Woods won all those "Golf Majors". Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. being honored with the "Nobel Peace Prize" required sacrifices. People that spoke out against injustice are something I think are very special.

The AISS 35th Annual African-American Heritage Celebration will be held on Feb. 18, 2018. This academic honor is given to the top African-American male and female students enrolled in grades 6-12. I have been selected by the staff of my school to receive that honor. I don't know what

I did to receive the honor except to do the best I could in class. I was always told to only try and do your best. I'm still excited to be selected.

Dance Practice



Kennedy George
Weiss High School

For the past few weeks, I have been going to dance practice for the annual Sounds Of Blackness performance. The Sounds of Blackness is the 10th black history performance that the Flava

Dance Company has had. They allow people who are not in the dance company be a part of the performance, so I am participating. That is pretty cool because I don't have dance experience.

I wanted to do the Sounds Of Blackness performance last year but I couldn't. I had a great first dance practice. We learned a dance to Motownphilly by Boyz II Men that time. I even met some new friends. By now there are plenty of dances I have been taught. I have had a lot to practice and dancing is a fun addition to the things that I have done and experienced.

Fredrick Mckinley Jones



Montrae Nelson
Four Points M. S.

Hello, This whole month of February is Black History Month and this is a celebration of black accomplishment and the impact black people have had on the world. Fredrick Mckinley Jones was a accomplished inventor and entrepreneur, this article will tell you a little about his life.

Jones was born on May 17, 1893 he was

raised by a white father and black mother, his mother deserted him when he was a young child but that didn't stop him it just made him stronger for what was ahead. In 1938 he designed a portable air-cooling unit for trucks carrying perishable food.

In 1949 he created a new company called the "Thermo King Corporation" and his portable units was especially important during World War 2 because it preserved blood, medicine and food for use at army hospitals. during his life he was awarded 61 patents, and in 1991 the "Medal of Technology" was awarded to him and his business partner. Thanks for reading