



AABJ hosts first men's forum in honor of Father's Day



The men's panel consisted of (from left) Dr. David Malebranche of Grady Hospital; Joseph Ripley, pastor of Body of Christ Church International; Atlanta Interim Police Chief George N. Turner; Wilbur T. Purvis III, pastor of Destiny World Church; cardiology physician Dr. Winston Gandy and finance expert and author, Clyde Anderson.

By **Tandeca Turner**
AABJSC, Secretary

On Tuesday, June 8, the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists hosted its first men's forum at the Georgia Power Building located in downtown Atlanta.

The panel consisted of: finance expert and author, Clyde Anderson; Dr. David Malebranche of Grady Hospital; Wilbur T. Purvis III, pastor of Destiny World Church; Joseph Ripley, pastor of Body of Christ Church International; Atlanta Interim Police Chief George N. Turner and cardiology physician Dr. Winston Gandy.

Craig Bell, vice president of broadcast for AABJ, moderated the

forum.

With this distinguished group of African-American men, the forum was informational and filled with critical knowledge.

As the panelists settled, gathering their thoughts, Bell opened the forum with the following remark: "Let's discuss the critical issues that affect black men and our community."

"The number one issue is the presence of a father as far as the structure of family goes, both literally and figuratively," Ripley said.

Fatherhood is a major contribution to our children's lives and needs to increase in order to create

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Membership mixer draws crowd

By **Amber Street**
AABJSC, Vice President

Atlanta Association of Black Journalists hosted its first AABJ Membership Mix and Mingle at Space Atlanta on May 20.

Members, colleagues, and friends were all invited to attend.

The venue provided a mixture of good food and drinks, delightful music, and urban style.

Smiles, chatter and laughter were in abundance as new acquaintances were made and old friends re-connected with each other.

"We even connected with one of our founding members at the mixer," Bernadette Brown, AABJ membership chair said.

The event proved to be a great opportunity for networking with people from various levels of journalism: professionals and students. Journalists from CNN, FOX Sports South, Turner Broadcasting System, local news and public relations companies were in attendance, Brown stated.

Most importantly, it provided a way for prospective members to talk one-on-one with AABJ members. They were able to discover the benefits of AABJ membership, learn more about the events and activities that AABJ hosts, and experience firsthand the type of professionalism and positive attitudes AABJ members possess.

"Everyone who came was excited to hear about AABJ and

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From the Editor

Byline is back in effect



Hello All. I'm so happy to be a part of the return of the AABJ Byline as the new editor. I have high hopes and plans for the Byline. Before I jump in too fast, here is a little about me:

I am a junior at Georgia State University, pursuing a BA in Print Journalism. I'm the newly elected AABJSC vice-president. I am also a member of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.

I'm expecting the following months to be quite busy with hard work and long hours. The Byline team will be working diligently to bring you all a newsletter you will appreciate. We will be striving to provide you with news and stories that will support and encourage the journalist in you to reach new heights. The Byline will encompass AABJ's professionalism, but also incorporate the "family" values of AABJ membership to make you feel right at home. We hope to delight you with event and membership features, professional advice, motivational pieces, and more.

There is no better time than right now, so let's begin!

Editor,
Amber Street

Vice President of Atlanta Association of Black Journalists Student Consortium

First Impressions: My First AABJ Event

By **Amber Street**
AABJSC, Vice President

When my mentor e-mailed to invite me to an Atlanta Association of Black Journalists meeting, I became anxious.

The feeling stayed with me even as I arrived at the WSB-TV building the day of the event.

As I walked toward the doors, I felt nervous and unsure. Was I wearing the right clothes? Would I seem out of place? Being one of the last to arrive, will I get the awkward stare as I walk in the room?

The moment I open the door to the building, I was greeted by a member's welcome.

Immediately, my worries began to fade. I entered the room and despite my fears, I wasn't met with any mean stares. I was nicely gestured to an open seat. After

receiving a quick smile from my mentor, I was instantly engaged in the panel discussion.

All of the panelists shared great personal experiences and testimonies that provided lessons for us all. There was so much wisdom being shared and I wanted to take it all in.

The tone of the discussion was casual, but informative. Laughs and smiles filled the room, but from each response a lesson could be learned.

After some time, I realized that all the fields of journalism: print (newspaper and magazine), television, radio, and digital was represented. That was something I really wasn't expecting.

Although, I'm interested in magazine production, I found that all of the panelists' advice could be used on any professional level and everyday instances.

I learned so much in one hour. I began to ponder all of the advantages I could gain from actually becoming a member of the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists.

I was always told that you should surround yourself with positive people who are at a place in life where you are striving to be. It didn't take me long to realize that the AABJ could provide exactly the environment I need to help me reach my goals.

Needless to say, with the help of my mentor, I became a member that day.

I'm so happy I attended that meeting. I am so excited to discover and learn more from this organization. Hopefully, one day I will be on a panel that inspires someone like me to make the same choice.



“Managing the Manager Within You” forum included (from left) James Mallory, senior managing editor of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Condace Pressley, assistant program director of 750 WSB, Alexander Quince, weekend executive producer of WXIA-TV and Isoul Harris, managing editor of 944 Media. M. Alexis Scott, publisher of the Atlanta Daily Word, moderated the forum.

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Managing the manager in you panel discussion

Journalists tell AABJ audience how to handle the leader within

By **Amber Street**
AABJSC, Vice President

“Don’t take it personal,” was one of the many lessons James Mallory, senior managing editor of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, shared from his personal journey in becoming a newsroom leader. Oftentimes, people get discouraged when they do not receive an assignment or position they desire, but it is important to keep an ob-

jective outlook, he advised.

Mallory was one of the four panelists of the “Managing the Manager Within You” forum hosted by the Atlanta Association of Black Journalist at WSB-TV.

Along with Mallory, Condace Pressley, assistant program director of 750 WSB, Alexander Quince, weekend executive producer of WXIA-TV and Isoul Harris, managing editor of 944 Media, engaged the audience with words of wisdom about their climb to management positions in the journalism industry.

M. Alexis Scott, publisher of the Atlanta Daily Word, moderated the forum. Scott questioned the

panel about challenges and joys of becoming and maintaining leadership roles in their careers.

All of the panelists shared their “keys” to success, ranging from personal awareness to essential leadership skills.

“Create your own personal board of directors,” Pressley said. Creating a group of internal and external mentors and advocates who will challenge and support you is important.

Knowing main figures, or managers, in other departments who can speak on behalf of your abili-

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Black Latino Council welcomes AABJ members at reception

By **Rashida Rawls**
AABJ Vice President of Print

AABJ members made nueva contacts and connected with old amigos during the Black Latino Council's reception held Thursday, April 29 at the St. Regis Hotel in Buckhead.

A warm smile from Danielle Polard, lead creative consultant with Nouveaux Dimensions, greeted guests as she directed them to the bar area, where folks chatted about their jobs and noshed on hors d'oeuvres. There was no formal agenda, just the opportunity to network with others in the community. AABJ leaders Tenisha Abernathy, Craig Bell and Rashida Rawls were present to tout benefits of AABJ and to sell some raffle tickets.

The reception also featured art by internationally renowned artist Ealy Mays. Presenting Mays' work was his longtime friend Greg Richardson, an account executive

with Clear Channel Radio and Online Sales. Mays, who's from Texas but currently lives in Paris, often paints on the backs of canvases and uses mixed media forms as well. Richardson described Mays as a "genius" who still hasn't been totally embraced by the American artistic community, however, many savvy art collectors clearly understand how unique Mays' work really is. It was exemplified by their purchases of his artwork and the loaning of pieces for the exhibit.

Lance Robertson, executive director of the Black Latino Council, said the organization hopes to partner with AABJ on future events as well.

"We hold events every other month," he said, adding that they've held salsa-dancing events and other receptions in the past.

The idea is to bring everyone together for a more effective networking atmosphere, Robertson said.

\$500 scholarship to attend NABJ convention

Region III members,

I hope you are wrapping up your plans to attend the NABJ Convention and Career Fair at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego, July 28-Aug. 1. While making your plans, be sure to sign up for a room at the host hotel. The phone number at the Manchester Grand Hyatt is (619) 232-1234.

For those whose finances are a little tight, NABJ plans to award 10 \$500 scholarships to assist NABJ members who would like to attend the convention this summer. You will find the link to the NABJ web site below, or you can go to NABJ.org and check out the July 1, pre-registration deadline information. It will include the requirements to apply for a convention scholarship.

<http://www.goeshow.com/nabj/Annual/2010/registration.cfm>

Ken Knight
NABJ Region III Director

Upcoming event

AABJ Final Cut Pro Editing Workshop

Where: Georgia State University

When: Saturday, July 17th or Saturday, July 24th

3 hour sessions are available:

Morning 8:30am – 11:30am
(8:00am check-in)

Afternoon 1:30pm – 4:30pm
(1:00pm check-in)

Cost: AABJ & UNITY members* – \$100 and Non-members – \$150 (\$5.00 admin fee added to total if paid online via PayPal)

Workshop Objective: Workshop is designed to introduce the primary features and abilities of Final Cut Pro. Attendees will learn to perform basic editing functions along with becoming familiar with the Final Cut Pro interface.

Prerequisites: Attendees must be comfortable with the general operations and navigation of a computer. The understanding of the Apple/Macintosh operating system

is desired, however not required.

What you will learn: Set-Up; Logging and Capturing footage; Building and Finishing a Rough Cut Edit; Applying Transitions; Creating titles; and Common Mistakes.

Registration Deadline: June 30, 2010. All participants must be pre-registered. There will be NO on-site registration. **Register and pay online** at aabj.org



2010-2011 AABJSC Board

Congratulations to the new board

By **Angela Tuck**
AABJ Student Liaison

The students wrapped up the year in grand fashion with most chapter members and all but one executive board member graduating from college!

A new board was elected and officers be installed at a meeting in mid-September. New board members are:

Deja Cromartie — President
Amber Street — Vice President
Tandeca Turner — Secretary
Devin Emory and **Alexandra Amanambu** — Public Relations co—chairs

Crystal Jordan — Membership Chair
Tekneshia Day — Parliamentarian

Chapter Meeting Schedule

AABJ meeting announcements

The Atlanta Association of Black Journalists hold its regular monthly meetings the second Tuesday of every month, or on select Saturday mornings. The Tuesday meetings are normally held at the Georgia Power building, located at 241 Ralph McGill Blvd. NE, Atlanta. The Saturday meetings are normally held at at WSB-TV Channel 2, 1601 West Peachtree Street N.E. Atlanta. Refreshments will be served.

2010 Schedule of AABJ General Membership Meetings:

Tuesdays, 6:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.
Georgia Power Building -
Auditorium 241 Ralph McGill Blvd.
NE, Atlanta.
Oct. 12
Dec. 14

Saturdays, 11:00a.m. - 12:30p.m.
WSB-TV (Community Room) 1601
W. Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta.
July 10
Sept. 11
Nov. 13

AABJ Executive Board

AABJ is governed by a Board of Directors that consists of the elected officers of the association, the chairpersons of the standing committees (appointed by the president and approved by the elected officers) and one student member (appointed by the president). The current members of board of directors are listed below:

Tenisha Abernathy, President; **Craig Bell**, Vice-President of Broadcast; **Mario Page**, Vice-President of Digital Media; **Rashida Rawls**, Vice-President of Print; **Ronna Charles Branch**, Secretary; **Deborah Simon**, Treasurer; **Mashaun D. Simon**, Parliamentarian

Calendar for the year

Saturday, July 10 (WSB-TV 11:30a) — General body meeting

July 28-Aug. 1 — NABJ Convention and Career Fair in San Diego, CALIF.

Saturday, July 17, 24 — Final Cut Pro workshops

August — Professional/Student Chapter retreat. Date TBD

Saturday, September 11 (WSB-TV 11:30a.m.) — General body meeting

Tuesday, October 12 (Georgia Power 6:30p.m.) — Social Media Session

October — Unity Mixer / date TBD

Saturday, November 13 (WSB-TV 11:30a.m.) — Financial Workshop

November — Community service event / date TBD

Tuesday, December 14 (Georgia Power 6:30p.m.) — How to get the media to pay attention

December — Kwanzaa event / date TBD

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all it has to offer,” Brown said.

The event was concluded by a prize drawing. The three winners were first place: Kia Smith, writer/author, second place: Allen Huntspon, CNN associate producer, and third place: Keisha Bottoms, Atlanta City Council.

“We gained 7 new members that night,” Brown said, “It was a great event and I hope we will do it again.”

AABJ Men's Forum

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a critical positive adjustment in the future of African-American men, he said.

"We have to train younger generations on how to be great fathers, it's about who can raise a baby, not who can make one," Purvis added.

Installing good, responsible qualities in our youth helps support them in becoming outstanding fathers and community leaders in the future.

On a more personal topic, the panel was asked, "As journalists what can we do to improve our communities?"

"Do your research and look behind numbers," Turner said. Journalists have to research stories by obtaining accurate statistics and information.

Panelists also discussed an increased need to show positive involvement in our communities.

"As journalists you need more stories directed toward positive fathers and role models rather than sports, entertainment and criminals/violence. This will give our

youth a better outlook of our race and society," Gandy said.

The topic was soon switched to: "how to raise your daughters to have a positive look at black men in their generation."

As a father of young girls, Anderson advised, "Let them see you as an example, looking at how you react to and treat your wife will allow them to grasp an understanding of a good man."

Children are like sponges they soak up everything whether its actions, reactions or emotions you have with situations that are presented, he continued.

"You have to have a clear definition of the roles of mother and father as parents. Children don't do what you say, they do what you do," Ripley added.

The doctors on the panel provided great insight on the topic of how to help black men make positive decisions when dealing with health.

"If we create an environment within our facilities that is reassuring, nurturing and family-oriented we will receive an increase in male

participation as far as medical proceedings go," Malebranche said.

This will make men more comfortable to ask questions about their health, and make more attempts to take care of their physical and mental states.

The panel discussion also included a brief video of gospel singer Kirk Franklin's recent interview speaking about the black community.

A major issue Franklin highlighted was that, we as black people, often "ignore the younger images of ourselves due to success."

Franklin stated that we have to stop forgetting that there are younger generations who need guidance.

As the forum concluded with open questions, it was evident that the audience was intrigued by the panelists' facts, experience and knowledge.

The forum provided positive and intellectual information from both the panel and audience, and a delightful meal by Chef Shombe of Shombe's Catering, filling the minds and stomachs of participants.

Managing the Manager in You Panel Discussion

Continued from page 3

ties, can boost your potential to others, Quince said.

"Managers hire who they know, like and trust," he explained.

Harris stated being open and telling others about your goals is a crucial step in elevating your career. Many times, you can miss out on an opportunity by not speaking up and informing others of your aspirations.

Scott also asked the panel about some hardships they face currently as leaders in their workplace.

"Learn the art of compromise," Mallory said. He advised when it comes down to disagreements between you and colleague, it is best to try to meet each other halfway to

resolve the issue.

All of the panelists have admitted that at times, they feel that their opinions or beliefs have been challenged.

Pressley shared with the audience a personal example of how she handled the situation of a colleague stating something she found disrespectful. By "politely" expressing her views, she stood her ground.

Harris shared a testimony, recalling an article he wanted to publish that shed light on issues that sponsors of his publication did not like. Despite opposition, Harris felt he held the responsibility to inform his readers. His final decision was to run the story.

"You speak up when you need to, even if you don't win the argument," Mallory said. Winning

every battle is not what is important, Mallory advised, when it comes down to decisions that test your morals or beliefs, you should go with the choice that you can feel proud of days, months, even years down the road.

Self-awareness was a concept stressed by the panelists. Displaying your strengths and working on your weaknesses was the formula the panel provided for making progress in the workplace.

And even when you reach a goal or leadership position such as a manager, there is always room for improvement.

"There is no finish line. No matter how good you are...you can always get better," Pressley said.