

HBCU Green Fund AUC Fellows plant 100 trees in Africa during Spring Break



CAPTION: HBCU Green Fund AUC Fellows join their host families for a photo during their trip to Northern Senegal to help in the fight against climate change.

ATLANTA – A group of HBCU Green Fund Atlanta University Center Fellows recently dedicated their spring break embedded in an African village on the border of Senegal and Mauritania building a tree shelter, planting trees and digging a well in their ongoing efforts to help the vulnerable communities that are most impacted by the effects of climate change, but contribute the least. The climate advocates spent a full week without Internet, TV and phone service to help mitigate the devastating effects of global warming.

The inaugural HBCU Green Fund Eco Spring Break Service-Learning Program at REDES Ecovillages connects students,

faculty and alumni from Black colleges including Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse and Spelman Colleges in Atlanta, GA, with students and faculty from Cheik Ante Diop University in Dakar Senegal. With over 100 villages in Senegal and Mauritania, REDES Ecovillages helps traditional communities become ecovillages by blending deep-rooted culture with modern ecological and community-building methods. The program gives students an opportunity to help with the climate crisis and also learn innovative solutions the Africans have implemented.



“I’m so proud of these young leaders who put down their social media to live for a week with families in a rural village where electricity, water and food were extremely limited. It was a game changer for young professionals who consider themselves to be climate justice advocates,” said Felicia Davis, founder of HBCU Green Fund. “The experience provided the volunteers with a deeper understanding of climate change, food waste, plastic pollution, and the devastating impact of wasteful western habits on distant communities along with an opportunity to make a real and tangible difference.”

Davis adds, “We gain as much or more than we give, it is powerful to function as a part of nature, as a steward seeking ecological restoration and balance. With a small donation the HBCU Green Fund financed the construction of a shelter for tree saplings and a well that women farmers requested so they don’t have to walk all the way to the river and back for water.”

The Eco Spring Break Service-Learning program is one of several initiatives the HBCU Green Fund sponsors as they cultivate relationships with local communities in the U.S., Africa and throughout the African Diaspora to promote conservation, renewable energy, and sustainable agriculture and development. The group currently has ongoing projects in 14 countries in Africa, including Ghana and Tanzania, two of the countries Vice President Harris recently visited and declared climate change an “existential threat to the entire planet.”

“It was a life-changing experience,” adds Serena Echols, an HBCU Green Fund Fellow and senior environmental science major at Spelman College. “We lived with host families sleeping on the floor just as they do. Our days consisted of working on various projects to help transform the villages of the Sahel. We also learned to milk a cow or a goat and planted more than 100 trees.”

“When we returned to the U.S. and heard Vice President Harris’ call to action it reinforced our commitment to fighting for climate justice and made us feel like we were playing a personal role in the mission to address the climate crisis in Africa and around the world,” adds Echols.

Based in Washington, DC and Atlanta, the HBCU Green Fund (hbcugreenfund.org) is a non-profit, nonpartisan organization working with historically black colleges and universities in the U.S. and abroad to advance sustainability, promote student engagement in green initiatives, and train the next generation of global green leaders. The organization’s Atlanta University Center Clean Energy Fellows Program introduces students to career opportunities in the clean energy sector and connects students with Black entrepreneurs that provide training in renewable energy technologies. The HBCU Green Fund partnered the Harambee House/Citizens for Environmental Justice (HH/CFEJ) to lead a delegation of 27 persons from the United States and Africa to participate in COP27 in Egypt last November and are planning to take a delegation to to COP28 in Dubai in November of this year.

The Pendulum Ink Academy

Graduates First Class Of Hip-Hop Lyricists



The Pendulum Ink Academy is the first school dedicated to teaching hip-hop lyricism and they are celebrating their first graduating class. The graduation ceremony happened on February 26, 2023, and Bun B delivered the commencement speech. Grammy-winning songwriter Mickey Factz and battle rap champion Chilla Jones founded the school to teach aspiring rappers how to succeed in the music industry. Comikbook Cam, Jeff Walker of Rhymeocology and Rob Nice of Rap Seminar are co-owners and have helped to develop the school.

The Academy is designed to help students become strong writers, performers, and lyricists. The curriculum also teaches students how to navigate the music industry. There are courses on Creative Writing, Content Creation, Battle Rap 101, Criminology in Hip Hop, Hip Hop According to Finance, Evolution of Rhyme In Hip-Hop, and The Visual Aesthetics of Hip Hop. The teaching faculty includes DMC, Rah Digga, Blu, Ransom, Pharoahe Monch, King Los, Benny The Butcher, RJ Payne,

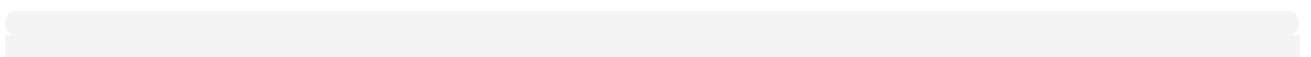
Ab-Soul and more. Rhymecology is a mental health component that helps students tell their personal stories using rhyme.

Bun B shared his feelings about being the first commencement speaker, "I am honored to be the commencement speaker for the first Hip Hop and lyric academy in the world, that not only addresses the craft but has a care and concern for the creators.

Interested applicants can apply to the school at pendulumink.com and they can send any questions to info@pendulumink.com.



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A post shared by Pendulum Ink LLC (@pendulumink)

Rapping Math Professor Chad Rico Assigns Next Four Lessons with New Single Releases from “12 Weeks of Summer”



Richmond, CA – As a devoted college math professor, recording artistÂ Chad RicoÂ knows that if he doesn’t keep his students engaged, they will miss the lesson he is there to teach them.Â So Chad has been dropping his special form of musical arithmetic all summer and has just announced four new single homework assignments to keep his fans committed to the groove.Â With plans to teach all summer long, hisÂ “12 Weeks of Summer”EP project onÂ Gold & Gems RecordsÂ has added up to hot summertime fun with the release of a new single every week. The curriculum for the next four weeks includesÂ “How You Make It” on July 12;Â “Barbados” on July 19;Â “All the Love” on July 26Â and “International Gentleman” on August 2.

As an entrepreneur, financial analyst, clothing manufacturer/designer, filmmaker and world traveler, Chad Rico is a proven master mathematician with winning calculations for success. He dropped his first EP "Myth" last year with the single and wildly popular video, "New Level." Both titles clearly announced his intentions and positioned him at the head of the class.

A Belizean American, Chad's legend began at birth when he was born in Los Angeles, in the same hospital and at the same time as Grammy Award-winning artist Kendrick Lamar. Currently repping for the Bay Area, Chad's family relocated to Northern California where he now resides. The esteemed University of California Berkeley alumni attended the University on an academic scholarship at the age of 16! With a B.A. in African American Studies and Applied Math, and a master's in mathematics from San Francisco State University, Chad also spent eight months in London in a Regents College Graduate Business Program. The intentional student turned professor has taught math at Contra Costa College, City College San Francisco, Berkeley City College and College of Alameda. The 32-year old has traveled to over 35 countries. In addition to his music company Gold & Gems, he owns and has operated his Gold & Gems clothing business for the past six years.

Students are welcome to review the past single assignments "Legend In The Coupe," "Pure Highbury," "Charge It to the Game," and "Don't Trust You" in preparation for the final semester test.

Register for class with him at www.Chadrico.com and sign up for attendance on Instagram at [@internationchadrico](https://www.instagram.com/internationchadrico). Check out snippets from the full music track syllabus at <https://www.goldandgemsrecords.com/12weeksofsummer.html>.

And don't forget to look out for the 'cheat sheet' for "How You Make It" at <https://youtu.be/WVkBWW0eW08>.

Media Questions Of The Week



<https://twitter.com/lizzo/status/1120196214136328192>

Was Lizzo right in her now-deleted Tweet that only musicians should be able to write music reviews?



Is Kanye West going to formally start a church?Â



Will Democrats attempt to impeach President Trump because of his administration's refusal to give Congress documents pertaining to the Mueller Report and his taxes?Â



US model Blac Chyna attends the 2018 MTV Video Music Awards at Radio City Music Hall on August 20, 2018 in New York City. (Photo by ANGELA WEISS / AFP)ANGELA WEISS/AFP/Getty Images

Why are [Harvard](#) graduates so angry about former stripper Blac Chyna faking an acceptance letter into an online business program when all the Ivies are having credibility problems after the Lori Loughlin and Felicity Huffman scandal?Â