USC BLACK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

BLACK TROJAN TWENTY

November 4, 2023
INSPIRATION
INSPRIATION

Kianna Armstrong

Sophomore; Co-Founder & Managing Director, Architecture + Advocacy

Social entrepreneur and co-founder of Architecture + Advocacy, a nonprofit inspiring young people in South L.A. to become changemakers through the power of design.
INSPIRATION

Thomas Endashaw
*Junior; President, Brothers Breaking B.R.E.A.D.*

Student leader empowering Black men to embrace leadership, while working to reframe/restructure Black masculinity and dismantle stereotypes and stigmas, to leave an enduring legacy of unity and empowerment for Black males at USC
INSPIRATION

Alexia Enokou
Senior; Co-Director of Siblings in Solidarity

Student leader cultivating community and connection while raising awareness of mental health and inclusivity for female and non-binary students at USC, and successfully fundraising to produce the S.I.S. Summit, a conference focused on celebrating the mental well-being of Black female and non-binary USC students.
INSPIRATION

Candace House

Senior; Co-Founder of the Black Career Fair; Former Executive Director of the Black Student Assembly

A visionary student leader elevating African American student voices, stories and careers through first-of-a-kind events like the Black Career Fair and the student-film project *Three Colors*
INSPIRATION

Jernei Johnson

Junior; Co-Founder of the Breonna Taylor Scholarship
Passionate social justice and mental health advocate who turned a devastating tragedy into a powerful call to action in our community by crowd-funding scholarships for African-American female students
INSPIRATION

Leonard Pitts Jr. ’77

Author and Columnist, The Miami Herald

Entered USC in 1973 at age 15 and began his writing career three years later; went on to become a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and Hall of Fame columnist with a career spanning 5 decades; awarded the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for commentary and three-time recipient of the National Association of Black Journalists Award of Excellence.
INNOVATION
INNOVATION

Hon. Triston Ezidore

*Junior; School Board Member, Culver City Unified School District*

Youngest elected official in L.A. history and the first Black male to serve on the Culver City Unified Board of Education
INNOVATION

Malcolm Jones PhD ’23

Director of Health Innovation, USC Iovine and Young Academy; Creator and Director, Flight Lab at the Jordan Brand (Nike Inc.)

Health justice advocate and the first Black student to earn a PhD in bio-kinesiology from USC
INNOVATION

Princess Isis Lang
Senior; Founder of the Cardinal Divas at USC

Creator of the first and only majorette team at USC, the Cardinal Divas of 'SC; strives to uplift and recognize Black experiences and Black creativity through the performing arts
INNOVATION

Damilare Kujembola MSL ’15
CEO and Co-Founder of Amplify Africa Inc.

Amplifying Africa and the diaspora through media and entertainment; his multi-channel YouTube network reaches over five million millennials across the U.S., U.K. and Brazil.
INNOVATION

Gina Merritt DSW ’21

Principal, Northern Real Estate Urban Ventures; Founder of Project Community Capital® (PCC)

Award-winning real estate developer who has underwritten over $4 billion in real estate transactions specializing in community development that creates employment and economic opportunities in underestimated communities
INNOVATION

Tracy Oliver MFA ’10
Producer, Writer and Director

Courageous screenwriter, director and producer telling diverse and meaningful stories; first Black woman to write a film that grossed over $100 million at the box office, shattering records and inspiring a generation of women in media
INNOVATION

Jose J. Scott III MPA ’20
President, Graduate Student Government

Public affairs honor society leader using his research to close social welfare gaps in Black and Brown communities
IMPACT

Lisha Bell ’01
Economic Opportunity Manager, Paypal Ventures

Bridging the capital divide and pioneering innovation in venture capitalism by overseeing the investment of $100M into diverse emerging fund managers; co-founded BLXVC, an angel syndicate of moms funding Black and Brown founders; board chair of Black Girl Ventures
IMPACT

Valencia Belle EdD ’23
Founder & CEO, S.C.H.O.O.L.S Programs

Eradicating poverty through education technology and leader of first BIPOC female-led Benefit Corporation in Alabama; one of Business Alabama magazine’s 23 "Women in Tech" for 2023; awarded 1 of 6 inaugural Wharton Knowledge for Impact Awards in 2021 for global social impact; continues to make impactful change through technology
IMPACT

T. Morgan Dixon ’00
CEO, GirlTREK

Pioneer for social change, leading the largest health movement in America for Black women, with over one million members; created two major TED Talks and a viral podcast called Black History Bootcamp; named among the top 1% of social innovators in the world.
IMPACT

Fallyn Jones ’05

Senior Vice President and Senior Compliance Officer, Citigroup

Financial services executive recognized as one of the city’s "Top 40 Under 40" by Dallas Business Journal; committed to leadership, service and diversity through leading a myriad of philanthropic causes in Dallas-Fort Worth
IMPACT

Fred Anthony Smith ’02

Vice President and Head of Non-Scripted Development, SMAC Entertainment

Emmy award-winning producer using the power of media to elevate Black stories; for 2 decades, the creative force behind some of NFL Media’s most impactful storytelling, including a new series, Coach Prime, and projects like Say Their Stories about the lives of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery.
Erroll Southers MA ’98, PhD ’13
Associate Senior Vice President of Safety and Risk Assurance, USC

Leading national expert in security, counterterrorism and safety assurance; president of the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners
IMPACT

Jevon Marco-Walls Torres
Senior; Co-Founder of Giving Cycle

Aspiring engineer, civic-minded social entrepreneur and philanthropist developing innovative programs to engage youth in philanthropy; co-founder of Giving Cycle which has provided unrestricted grants to over 50 nonprofits, totaling over $55,000
CONGRATULATIONS!

November 4, 2023
Fight On!