

VIRGINIA  
BLACK  
FILM  
FESTIVAL



FEBRUARY 23RD -25TH, 2024

*Hampton University Student Center  
135 Marshall Ave, Hampton, VA 23668*

TICKETS: [WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM)



Welcome to the Virginia Black Film Festival (VBFF); The Ultimate Celebration of Black Culture through Film! Presented in association with Hampton University School of Liberal Arts & Education (SLAE), VBFF showcases productions by filmmakers of Color from around the world. The entire event will take place at the Hampton University Student Center.

Black History Month is the perfect time for this event. In ancient African culture, elders were responsible for preserving history by communicating traditions through stories. This tradition continued with African Americans. It is how we communicate our values to the next generation.

I founded the Virginia Black Film Festival because I understand that storytelling has a profound impact on the development and evolution of a culture. As a filmmaker, I also understand the importance of proper exposure, mentorship, and continuous learning. As we celebrate the work of emerging Black filmmakers, we entertain, educate, and inspire the next generation.

We have an amazing selection of films for you to enjoy! We are honored to have 36-time Emmy winning director Jesse Vaughn, filmmaker/activist Kemba Smith, Paramount Pictures production expert Grant Housley, filmmaker Morgan Avery McCoy, martial artist and actor Willie "The Bam" Johnson, and HU professors/ filmmakers Rel Dowdell and James Balls.

VBFF is sponsored by Maverick Entertainment, a nationwide producer and distributor of Black cinema. Maverick provides a pipeline between independent producers and major streaming platforms including Fox Soul, Peacock, Redbox, Pluto TV, Plex, Roku, Freevee, Amazon Prime Video, Hoopla, Crackle, Xumo, Sling, Afro TV Land, and several others. Maverick also operates its own television channel, Maverick Free Black Cinema.

Finally, we are extremely honored to present our Lifetime Achievement Award to actor Clifton Powell, who has appeared in over one hundred feature films, including Ray, Menace II Society, Dead Presidents, Why Do Fools Fall in Love, Rush Hour, Next Friday, and its sequel, Friday After Next. Clifton Powell will conduct a Q&A on Sunday, February 25th and then receive the Lifetime Achievement Award during the VBFF Awards Ceremony.

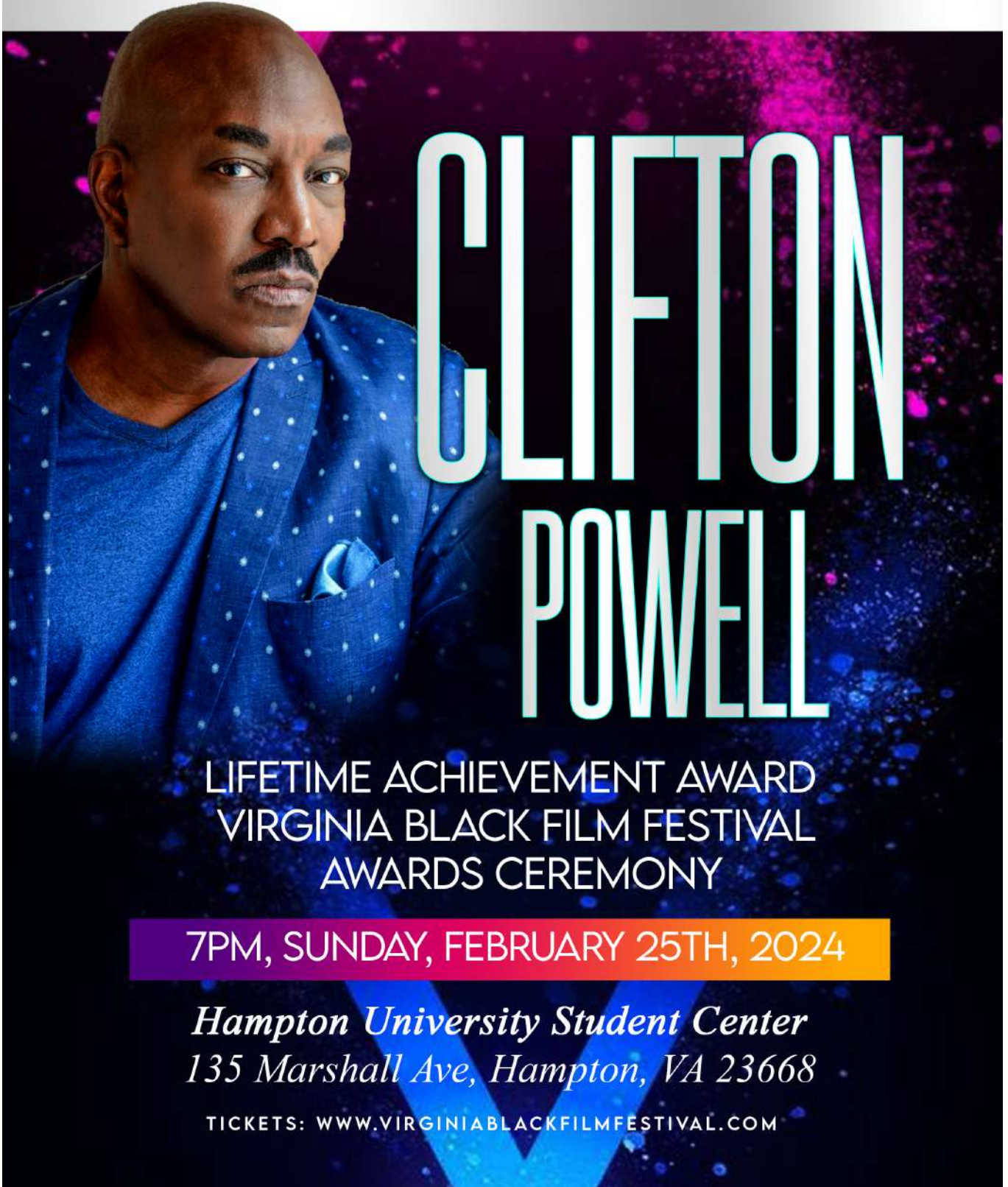
Thank you making Black History with us in this, the first annual Virginia Black Film Festival!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan G Thompson".

Bryan G Thompson  
Founder, VBFF

VIRGINIA  
BLACK  
FILM  
FESTIVAL



# CLIFTON POWELL

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
VIRGINIA BLACK FILM FESTIVAL  
AWARDS CEREMONY

7PM, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024

*Hampton University Student Center  
135 Marshall Ave, Hampton, VA 23668*

TICKETS: [WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM)



Norbit



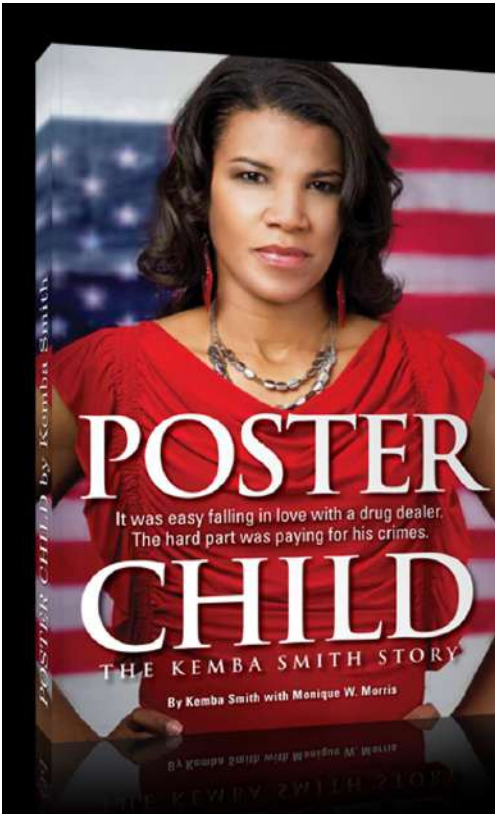
Dead Presidents



Next Friday



Ray



*Kemba Smith*



EXCLUSIVE SCREENING



11am, Saturday 2/24

**VIRGINIA  
BLACK  
FILM  
FESTIVAL**

# CHARITY AWARDS GALA

FEATURING GUEST OF HONOR, CLIFTON POWELL  
HOST, APRIL WOODARD

6:30PM SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024

**MAVERICK  
BLACK CINEMA**

Hampton University Student Center  
135 Marshall Ave, Hampton, VA 23668  
TICKETS: [WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM)





GRANT HOUSLEY  
PARAMOUNT PICTURES



ERICA BARRABI  
MAVERICK ENTERTAINMENT



BRYAN G THOMPSON  
IMANI FILMS



DOUG SCHWAB  
MAVERICK ENTERTAINMENT


# FILM DISTRIBUTION: HOW TO ACHIEVE MASS APPEAL

3PM, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY STUDENT CENTER  
135 MARSHALL AVENUE, HAMPTON, VA 23668  
TICKETS: WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM



VIRGINIA  
BLACK  
FILM  
FESTIVAL




**REL  
DOWDELL**

MASTERCLASS  
"BRIDGING THE BLACK PAY GAP"  
HOW BLACK ACTORS ADDRESS AND  
IMPROVE PAY EQUITY IN FILM.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024

Hampton University Student Center  
135 Marshall Ave. Hampton, VA 23668  
TICKETS: WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM

VIRGINIA  
BLACK  
FILM  
FESTIVAL




**JAMES  
BALLS**

EDITING MASTERCLASS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024

Hampton University Student Center  
135 Marshall Ave. Hampton, VA 23668  
TICKETS: WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM




# WILLIE "THE BAM" JOHNSON

MASTERCLASS: CALL TO ACTION  
INTRO TO STAGE COMBAT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024

Hampton University Student Center  
135 Marshall Ave, Hampton, VA 23668

TICKETS: [WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM)



# MORGAN AVERY MCCOY

CAREERS IN FILM  
HOW TO PROSPER THROUGH FEARLESS  
INNOVATION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024

Hampton University Student Center  
135 Marshall Ave, Hampton, VA 23668

TICKETS: [WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM)




# JESSE VAUGHAN

DIRECTING MASTERCLASS: FUNDAMENTAL  
KEYS TO GREAT FILMMAKING

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024

Hampton University Student Center  
135 Marshall Ave, Hampton, VA 23668

TICKETS: [WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM)



# GRANT HOUSLEY

MASTERCLASS  
"FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN"  
UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS AND AVOIDING  
THE PITFALLS OF INDEPENDENT FILMMAKING.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024

Hampton University Student Center  
135 Marshall Ave, Hampton, VA 23668

TICKETS: [WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.VIRGINIABLACKFILMFESTIVAL.COM)



# VIRGINIA BLACK FILM FESTIVAL



## FEATURE FILMS

10 MINUTES AGO  
ALCHEMY OF SOLITUDE  
ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST AFRICANS IN ENGLISH AMERICA  
BLACK AMERICA IS  
BOXED IN 2  
CURVES UNDER THE MISTLETOE  
DOPE BOY MAGIC  
DREAM CONSPIRACY  
HISTORY HALF TOLD IS UNTOLD  
JAMES SOLOMON RUSSELL: ADVENTURE IN FAITH  
KEMBA  
KNEE DEEP  
MAMA'S HANDS  
MOMADOT  
SLIGHTLY NEW  
THE COMEBACK  
THE GIRL ON ROUTE 83  
THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS  
THE SOUL THAT TIES US  
THEN SINGS MY SOUL  
THICKER THE BERRY, THE SWEETER THE JUICE  
WE THE PEOPLE

## SERIES

BROOKLYNIFICATION  
NEWLYWEDS

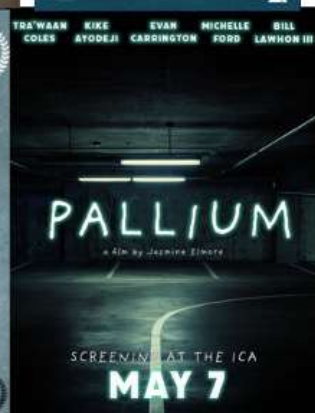
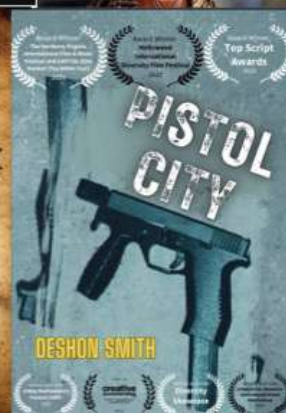
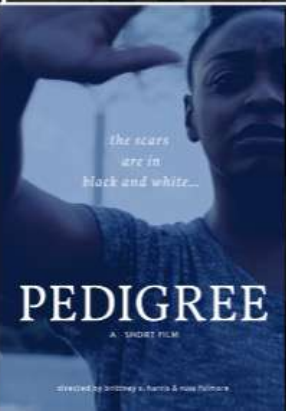
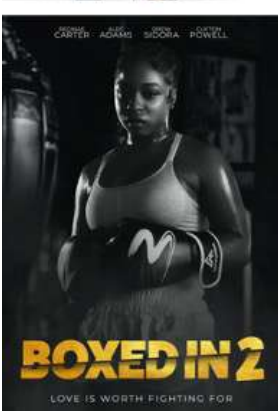
## SCRIPTS

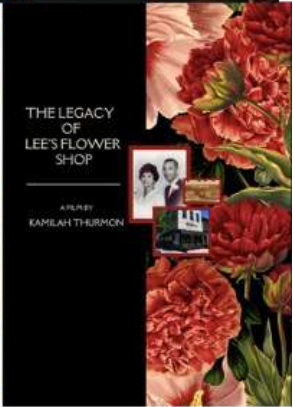
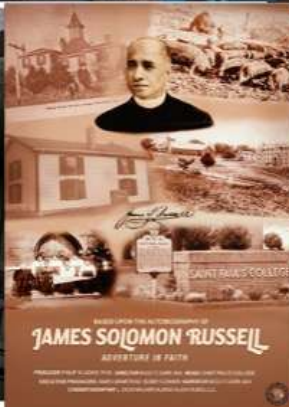
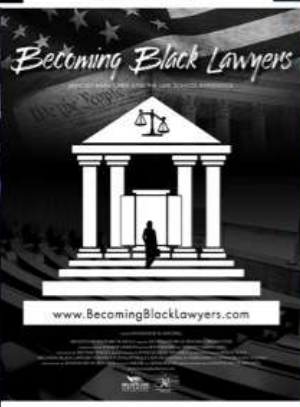
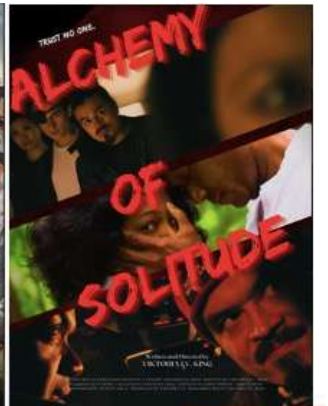
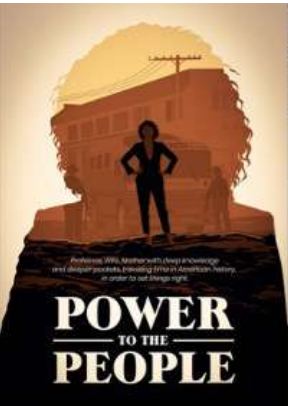
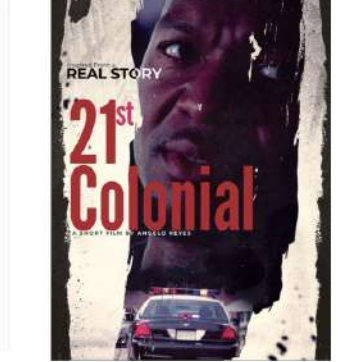
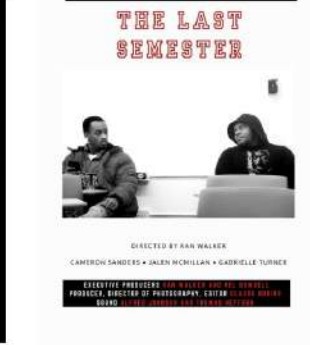
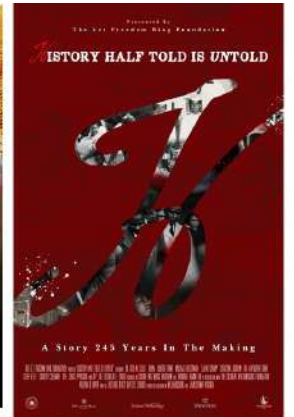
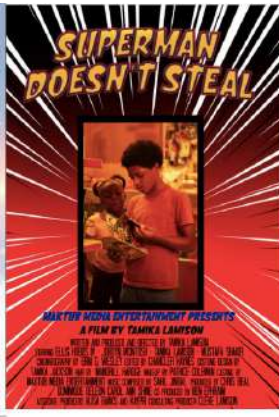
LARSANEE  
PISTOL CITY  
POWER TO THE PEOPLE  
RAPED  
SHATTERED DREAMS

## SHORT FILMS

21ST & COLONIAL  
A RACE IN THE SUN  
BECOMING BLACK LAWYERS  
CASE NOTES  
CASH CROP  
CHECKMATE FOR LIFE  
DEAR EXQUISITE BLACK QUEEN  
HARLEM FRAGMENTS  
HOMECOMING READY  
IN THE MATCHBOX  
INTERCEPTION: JAYNE KENNEDY,  
AMERICAN SPORTSCASTER  
INTERSECTED  
IT'S STILL NOT ABOUT ME  
PALLIUM  
PEDIGREE  
RAVENS ON 3: DOMINATE  
RUIZ  
SHADOW FIST 3: THE FINAL CHAPTER  
SUPERHEROES  
SUPERMAN DOESN'T STEAL  
THE AVERAGE BLACK BOY  
THE DUPPY MAN'S WALK  
THE LAST SEMESTER  
THE LEGACY OF LEE'S FLOWER SHOP  
THE PET SHOP  
THE REFLECTION  
THE WAR TORN DRUM

OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

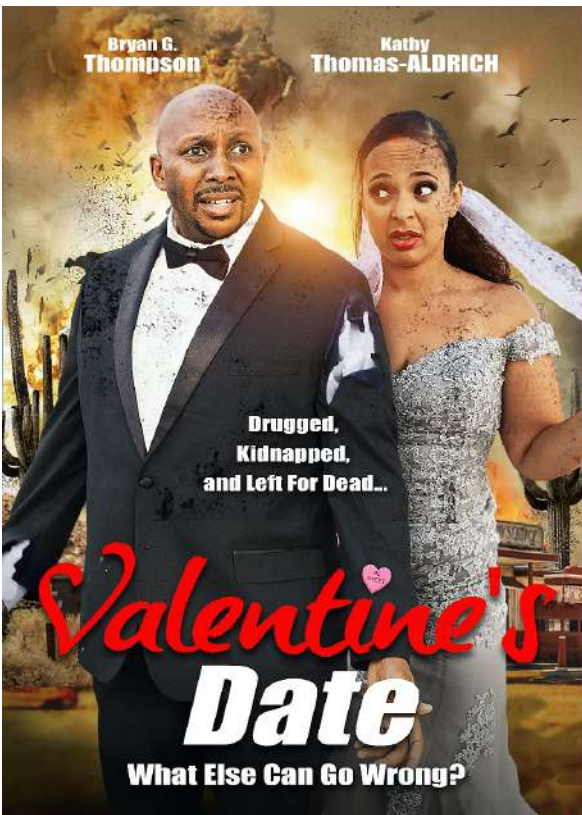








MAVERICK  
BLACK  
CINEMA



MAVERICK  
BLACK  
CINEMA





**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD**  
**LOCATION: HU MOVIE THEATER**

**SCREENING BLOCK #1**

10:00AM BLACK AMERICA IS  
11:00AM THE LAST SEMESTER  
11:30AM HU STUDENT SCREENINGS  
1:30PM A CONVERSATION WITH TONY ROCK  
1:37PM HOMECOMING READY

**SCREENING BLOCK #2**

2:01PM A RACE IN THE SUN  
2:05PM THE LAST SEMESTER  
2:12PM RUIZ  
2:38PM THE WAR-TORN DRUM  
2:50PM MAMA'S HANDS  
4:24PM THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS

**SCREENING BLOCK #3**

6:00PM THE BRAXTON'S: THE FIRST FAMILY  
7:20PM BECOMING BLACK LAWYERS  
8:00PM DREAM CONSPIRACY  
(Q&A SPONSOR: JONESY GIRL ENT.)



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH**  
**LOCATION: HU STUDENT CENTER**

**SCREENING BLOCK #4**

10:00AM SUPERHEROES  
10:05AM THE AVERAGE BLACK BOY  
10:18AM THE DUPPY MAN'S WALK  
10:37AM INTERCEPTION: JAYNE KENNEDY,  
AMERICAN SPORTSCASTER  
10:52AM DEAR EXQUISITE BLACK QUEEN  
10:56AM SLIGHTLY NEW  
12:30PM THE PET SHOP  
12:35PM IT'S STILL NOT ABOUT ME  
1:22PM SUPERMAN DOESN'T STEAL

**SCREENING BLOCK #5**

1:41PM KNEE DEEP  
3:41PM CURVES UNDER THE MISTLETOE  
6:06PM IN THE MATCHBOX

**SCREENING BLOCK #6**

6:17PM THICKER THE BERRY, THE SWEETER THE JUICE  
7:53PM THEN SINGS MY SOUL  
9:30PM 21ST & COLONIAL



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH**  
**LOCATION: HU MOVIE THEATER**

**SCREENING BLOCK #7**

10:00AM HISTORY HALF TOLD IS UNTOLD  
11:00AM KEMBA (Q&A SPONSOR: BET +)  
1:00PM THE GIRL ON ROUTE 83  
2:35PM INTERSECTED  
2:55PM THE REFLECTION  
3:12PM HARLEM FRAGMENTS  
3:29PM CASH CROP  
3:39PM PEDIGREE

**SCREENING BLOCK #8**

3:48PM MOMADOT (Q&A SPONSOR: JONESY GIRL, ENT.)  
6:00PM CLUTCH (Q&A SPONSOR: MAVERICK ENT.)  
8:00PM DOPE BOY MAGIC (Q&A SPONSOR: MAVERICK ENT.)

**SPECIAL EVENT**

12:00PM GRANT HOUSELEY FILM PRODUCTION MASTERCLASS  
2:00PM JESSE VAUGHAN FILM DIRECTING MASTERCLASS





**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH**  
**LOCATION: HU MOVIE THEATER**

**SCREENING BLOCK #9**

**10:00AM CASE NOTES**

**10:14AM THE COMEBACK**

**11:41AM LOVE UNDONE**

**11:51AM NEWLYWEDS**

**12:05PM CITANUL (Q&A SPONSOR: FAVOR MULTI-MEDIA)**

**1:30PM SHADOW FIST 3: THE FINAL CHAPTER**

**1:40PM JAMES SOLOMON RUSSELL: ADVENTURE IN FAITH**

**2:31PM BOXED IN 2**

**3:52PM WE THE PEOPLE**



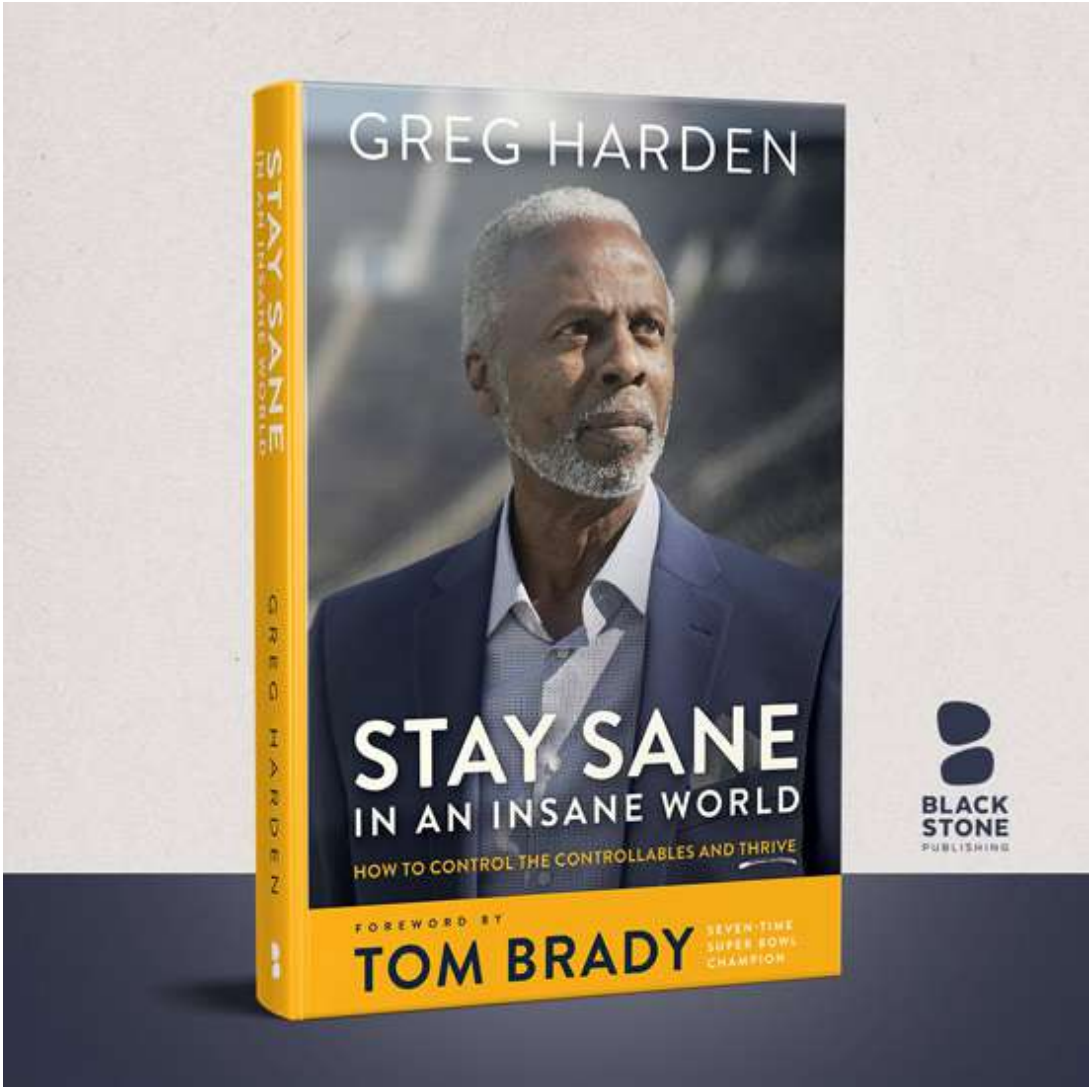
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH**  
**LOCATION: HU BALLROOM**

- 10:00AM**      **FILM COMBAT (WILLIE "THE BAM" JOHNSON)**
- 11:00AM**      **THE HOLLYWOOD PAY GAP (REL DOWDELL)**
- 12:00PM**      **EDITING MASTERCLASS (JAMES BALLS)**
- 1:00PM**        **FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN (GRANT HOUSLEY)**
- 2:00PM**        **DIRECTING MASTERCLASS (JESSE VAUGHAN)**
- 3:00PM**        **CAREERS IN FILM (MORGAN AVERY MCCOY)**
- 4:00PM**        **DISTRIBUTION PANEL (MAVERICK ENTERTAINMENT)**
- 5:00PM**        **CLIFTON POWELL: Q&A WITH AN ICON**
- 6:30PM**        **CHARITY AWARDS GALA (HOSTED BY APRIL WOODARD)**

VBFF is grateful to the following entities for covering our event!



VBFF is extremely grateful to our generous sponsors and partners!





# LOOKING FOR A DJ THAT TRAVELS?

MIXX STAR DJs are  
available to bring  
the party where ever  
you are.



**HAMPTON-NEWPORT NEWS**  
ACHIEVEMENT FOUNDATION



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE VIRGINIA BLACK FILM FESTIVAL!**

Join us in supporting a legacy of community empowerment. Your investment allows the Hampton Newport News Achievement Foundation to support philanthropic programs of the Hampton-Newport News (VA) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. (Guide Right / Kappa League), and other non-profit organizations. These programs make a difference in our community and in the lives of young men and women as they strive for excellence and leadership.

Give Local, Give Back, Give to the Hampton-Newport News Achievement Foundation!



**GIVE LOCAL 757!™**

**APRIL 23, 2024**

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**Photography**  
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**\$10000** Hope an Outstanding Day!  
 Dalton Dale Nixon I  
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**Be our Guest for three (3) days and two (2) nights  
 and experience our 5-Star Resort!**

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\*Qualifications, restrictions and availability may vary from state to state; please call for details.

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[outstandingmemories@aol.com](mailto:outstandingmemories@aol.com)

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**Community Family Portrait  
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**\$20 Photo Package**  
 your group earns \$10 per sale  
 customers receive 1-11x14 or 1- 8x10,  
 2 - 5x7's and 8 wallets

**Have the OM Mobile lab  
 on location at your next event**

**Photos (wallets to 8x10's), Photo  
 Buttons, Key Chains, T-Shirts  
 and more. For more info contact  
 outstandingmemories@gmail.com**


**GRADUATION & FAMILY PORTRAITS** package on Location  
 up Photo shoot and over 50 photos from wallets to  
 12 x 18 including 2 key chains or 2-3" Buttons

**\$99**

**BEST DEAL \$125**  
 photo shoot , 3 outfit changes, multiple poses  
 12x18 collage w/ten photos and text  
 1- 11x14, 2 - 8x10, 4- 5x7's  
 52 - wallets or (change 4 wallets to a 5x7)  
 2 photo buttons or key chains

*Need a character or a red carpet  
 rolled out at your at your event?*

Large selection of Backdrops and custom  
 Backdrops - Blue and Pink Carpet Available



**YOUR ONE STOP SHOP "FROM THE HOOD TO THE WHITE HOUSE"**

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 Weddings, Receptions, Family Reunions, Birthday parties, etc.  
 50 to 200 people Kitchen Space available -  
 bring your own food or have it catered Non-Alcoholic events only

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Fully Customized T-Shirts  
 and Photo Buttons **1 - 1000+**

ENCORE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR



***Therapeutic Services***

This advertisement features a background image of four diverse children smiling. Overlaid on the left side is the same logo as seen in the top section. On the right side, the following text is displayed in a blue, sans-serif font:

50 W. Queen St.  
Hampton, VA 23669  
Monday-Friday  
9:00am-5:00pm

At the bottom of the advertisement, the following contact information is provided in a red, outlined, sans-serif font:

**Office: 757-819-6958**  
**Fax: 757-900-9853**  
**Elevate Today's Future**







**JONESY GIRL  
PRODUCTIONS**



THE  
**LANDING**  
HOTEL  
HAMPTON MARINA VIRGINIA  
TAPESTRY COLLECTION  
by Hilton™



*Helping Injured Families for*  
**HUFFMAN & HUFFMAN**  
BROTHERS - IN - LAW, P. L. L. C. **50 years**



**VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS**