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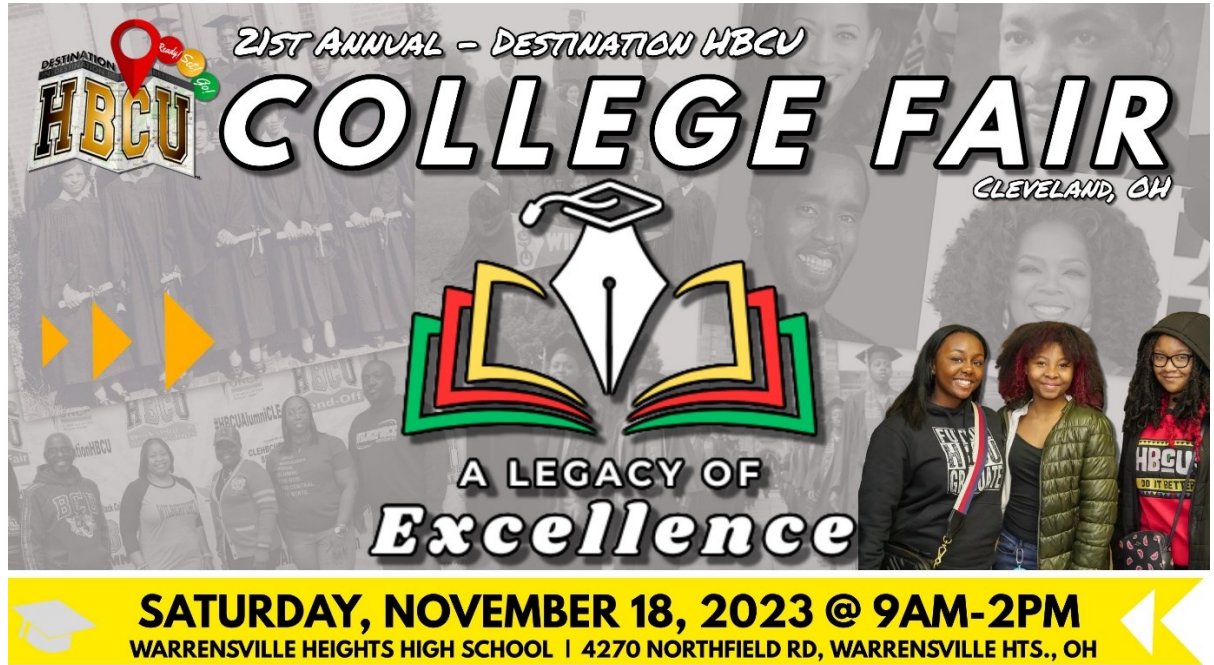
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September 12, 2023,

Greetings High School Administrator, Advisor, or Youth Leader:



We are thrilled to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to all participants to the 21st Annual Destination HBCU College Fair Weekend, scheduled to take place from November 16-19, 2023. It is with great pride and enthusiasm that we invite you to join us for this remarkable event, celebrating the profound impact of Historically Black Colleges and Universities on education, culture, and "A Legacy of Excellence."

This fair is not just an occasion; it is a testament to the enduring legacy that HBCUs have woven into the fabric of higher education. As we gather together, we honor the trailblazers and visionaries who established these institutions to provide unparalleled opportunities for Black students. "A Legacy of Excellence" encapsulates the remarkable achievements of alumni who have excelled in fields ranging from the arts to the sciences, from social justice advocacy to entrepreneurship. The overarching theme of not only reflects our formidable heritage but also impels us to strive for even greater achievements in the times to come.

Throughout the years, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) have consistently strived to provide students with an extensive array of resources, ensuring that they have all the necessary tools to make well-informed decisions about their collegiate experience. This event has been instrumental in helping countless students embark on their journey towards discovering HBCUs, obtaining college acceptances, and exploring scholarship opportunities, not only for those residing in Northeast Ohio, but also extending its reach beyond.

The Event:

As we plan to mark the occasion with a weekend of festive and informative events to highlight the accomplishments and opportunities of HBCUs.

Schedule of Events

THURSDAY November 16, 2023	FRIDAY November 17, 2023	SATURDAY November 18, 2023	SUNDAY November 19, 2023
<p><u>WELCOME RECEPTION</u> Alpha Educational and Leadership Development Center 2820 E. 116th Street Cleveland, OH 44120</p> <p>Networking opportunity for area educators, school counselors, principals, and superintendents with HBCU admission counselors, advocates, alumni, and partners.</p>	<p><u>RECRUITER SCHOOL VISITS</u> Visit various Northeast Ohio High School Campuses. This is a great opportunity for recruiters to meet with seniors as a lead-in to the big day.</p> <p><u>COLLEGE FAIR SET-UP</u> Warrensville Heights High School 4270 Northfield Road, Warrensville Hts., OH 44128 3:00pm – 6:00pm</p> <p>Avoid the rush and set-up and/or decoration your table or classroom space.</p> <p><u>THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION BOWLING PARTY</u> 21400 Southgate Park Blvd. Maple Heights, OH 44137 7:00pm – 11:00pm</p> <p>A Friday night bowling event for alumni, families, and friends, featuring food, drinks, games, and a chance to represent your school!</p>	<p><u>HBCU COLLEGE FAIR</u> Warrensville Heights High School 4270 Northfield Road Warrensville Hts., OH 44128 9:00am – 2:00pm</p> <p>Experience the thrill, fun and excitement of the HBCU Experience complete with an HBCU inspired Pep Rally, workshops, and engagement for the entire public</p> <p><u>HBCU NIGHT OUT</u> To Be Announced</p> <p>7:00pm – 9:30pm</p>	<p><u>UNCF SUNDAY SERVICE</u> Mt. Zion Congregational Church United Church of Christ 10723 Magnolia Drive Cleveland, OH 44106 11:00am</p> <p>Come let us worship together and represent your favorite HBCU by supporting the Northern Ohio/ UNCF Scholarship Fund that benefits local students attending an HBCU.</p>
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4

The Destination:

The Cleveland Council of Black Colleges Alumni Association is responsible for organizing this exceptional group made up of graduates and supporters of accredited HBCUs in the Greater Cleveland area. This event attracts admissions offices, major sponsors, and national recognition, making it a comprehensive and renowned experience on multiple levels.

At the fair, high school seniors and college transfer students will have the opportunity to complete the Common Black College Application, allowing them to apply to more than 60 HBCUs with just one submission. They may also receive immediate acceptance and scholarship offers. Furthermore, attendees will have the chance to interact with vendors and take part in workshops that cover a wide range of topics.

- Career & College Readiness: organizations that offer scholarship opportunities and employment, internships, training, and development.
- Youth Programming: athletic programs, recreational groups and programs, and other agencies that provide educational services, after-school programming, mentoring, social/emotional learning, and development.
- Health and Wellness: for health and wellness groups that aim to promote a better lifestyle. Such groups can focus on active lifestyles, clean eating, available programs, and much more.
- Community Service: offer community service opportunities.
- Social Service: providing services and programs to support the total well-being of the family.

Student/Parent Participants:

The fair welcomes high school students and parents from Warrensville Heights High School, Cleveland Metropolitan School District, and neighboring school districts. Parents, counselors, youth leaders, and interested individuals are encouraged to attend. Admission is free for all attendees, but students must register. Additionally, community colleges in the area (Cuyahoga Community College, Lakeland Community College, and Lorain County Community College) will be invited to meet college transfer students. Please visit the website for updates on participating schools and programs.

Students represent many public/private/parochial/charter school districts in the Greater Cleveland area. However, our reach goes far beyond that, as in years past, we have had participants attend from all parts of Ohio, Buffalo, NY; Detroit, MI; Pittsburgh, PA; Wheeling, WV; and Niagara Falls & Ontario, CA.

Registration:

The event is FREE for all students, parents, educators, community to attend.

- Student/Parent Online Pre-Registration will close at 5:00pm - 11/17/2023
- Student/Parent Online Late Registration will begin at 6:00am the day of the event.
- Registration is required for all attendees. It's imperative that teachers/advisors (groups) ensure the fidelity of each student registration. Group registration is not an option.
- Register online at www.DestinationHBCU.org

12th Graders, High School Grads and Potential College Student Transfers - avoid the rush and complete the Common Black College Application NOW! Be sure to read the authorization message during the registration to access this application and receive a PROMO CODE for payment processing.

Common Black College Application:

Thanks to the generous support of our Program Partners, we are offering **every 12th grade student and recent high school graduate** that registers for the Destination HBCU College Fair, the opportunity to **complete the Common HBCU application for admission at no cost**. The Council is proud to continue this collaboration to provide opportunities for students throughout the greater Cleveland area. Students will be able to apply to over 50 select Historically Black Colleges & Universities absolutely "FREE." That's an initial savings of \$20.00, with an overall saving of more than \$1000.00, if the student were to apply to each school individually.

What To Expect:

Throughout your experience, we hope that you will be engaged with the presentations and to want to know more about a HBCU institution, a particular program, services, or products. Even more it is our desire that you take some time to:

- Speak with college representatives to discuss recruitment options and admissions requirements.
- Learn of the available scholarship options or youth-related educational programs.
- Be prepared to complete the necessary paperwork to gain college acceptance.
- Engage with the variety of options, opportunities, and resources related post-secondary options, careers, internship, and vocational interest.
- Support the vendors that are providing products or services.

Fast Track Workshops:

In addition to browsing the college and university booths, education program resources, and opportunity vendors, students will have the opportunity to attend informative workshops designed to make the college transition a little easier. These "Fast Track Workshops" will be beneficial to parents and counselors attending as well. The workshops will have participants engaged in meaningful discussions that will certainly prepare the student for their future endeavors. Attendees will have the opportunity to freely rotate between the various concurrent workshops along with the college fair.

Workshops sessions are designed from the following areas:

- Career Choices
- College/Campus Life
- Financial Aid/Scholarships
- Life Skills
- Parent Support
- Academic Support
- Social-Emotional Learning & Development
- Health & Mental Wellness

Updated information (such as specific workshop sessions, presenters, and materials) will be made available through our website. Continue to check for updates.

What to Bring: (Several institutions will be offering onsite acceptance letters)

Seniors, Recent Graduates, College Transfer

Students:

- Copies of the most recent transcripts
- Current Class Schedule
- College Interest Essays
- Recommendation Letters
- Test Scores (ACT, SAT, etc.)
- Proof of the completed Common Black College Application (for eligible-participating HBCUs)

All Students

- Return Address/Information Labels
- Prepare a list of Questions
- Pen/Pencil/Notepad
- Backpack or Bag for collection of materials
- Resume

Recommended Lodging:

For our out-of-town guests, we recommend this preferred establishment for your overnight accommodations:

Preferred Hotel: Cleveland Marriott East, 26300 Harvard Rd, Warrensville Heights, OH 44122



Rest well in the recently renovated Cleveland Marriott East, the ideal choice for business trips and fun-filled weekend getaways when visiting Warrensville Heights, Ohio. Located just off the highway, our hotel places you near premier attractions like the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse and MGM Northfield Park. Make time for a delicious meal at River City Grille, the hotel restaurant offering classic American fare. Active travelers can maintain your exercise routine in the indoor pool or the 24-hour fitness center featuring cardio equipment and free weights. After an eventful day, find the familiar comforts of home, including high-speed Wi-Fi, flat-panel TVs and plush bedding, in spacious rooms and suites.

Rate: \$129.00 USD/Night (King or Queen Standard)

Available Dates: November 16 – 19, 2023 (Call hotel directly to negotiate other dates)

Reservations will need to be confirmed by October 27, 2023

To Make Reservation: Call (216) 378-9191 and request the “**DESTINATION HBCU COLLEGE FAIR**” group rate or [BOOK ONLINE](#).

Final Note:

You absolutely don't want to miss out on this incredible opportunity! Whether you're a first-timer or a long-time participant, we truly value your interest in our highly anticipated annual HBCU College Fair. Rest assured; your involvement will be absolutely life-changing for the students who attend. So why wait? Show your support for the HBCU College Fair and the incredible students of the Greater Cleveland area. It's time to mark your calendar and make sure your time at the fair is nothing short of extraordinary! For continual updates on the Destination HBCU College Fair, visit the college fair website at www.DestinationHBCU.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "JaMilla".

JaMilla L. Parker, President
Cleveland Council of Black Colleges Alumni Association
president@hbcualumnicle.com

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony".

Anthony H. Brown, Chair
21st Annual Destination HBCU College Fair
hbcucollegefair@hbcualumnicle.com