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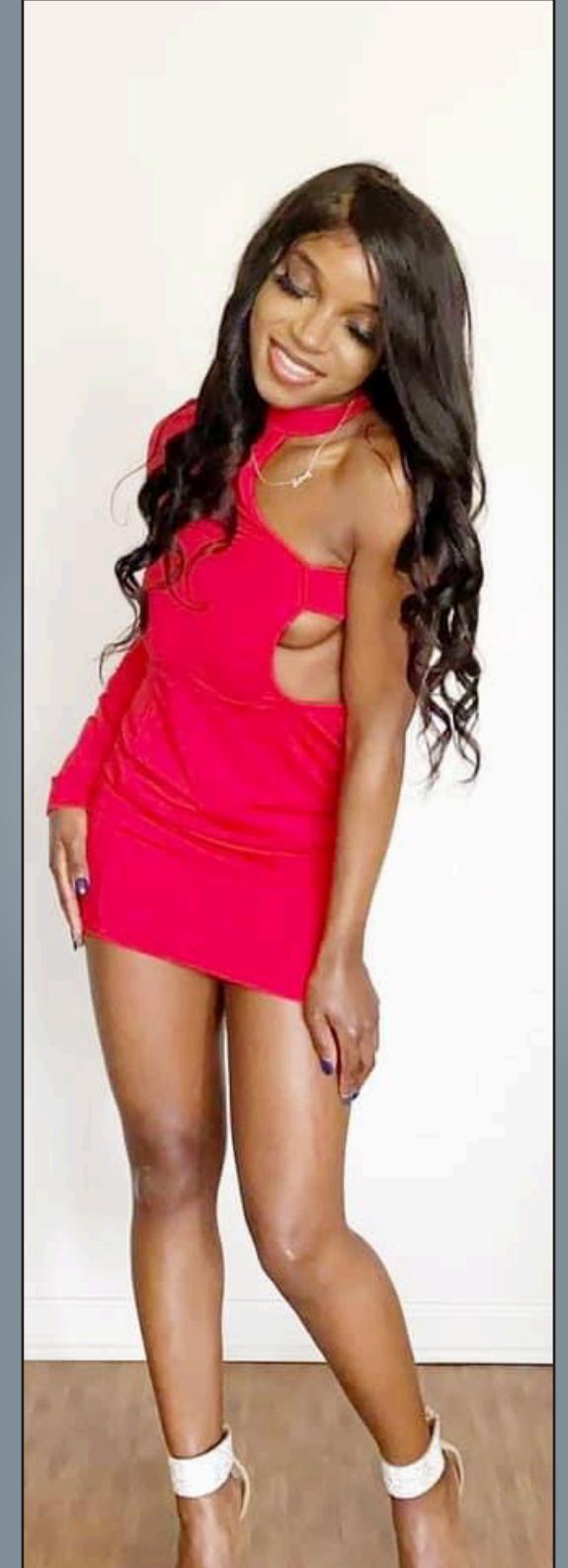


**Jessica
Robertson**

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My name is Amaya, I am 9 years old. I have been cheering since 2019. At first I got into it because it was something to do and I wanted to try it out. Once I got the hang of it I fell in love with the sport. My aunt told my mom about the movie *Cheer*, so we watched it and I decided that

Navarro College is where I want to go. I work hard and practice hard to win and to improve my skills. Every time I learn a new skill I'm a little closer to achieving my dream and that is to be one of the top cheerleaders out there. Yes there have been several times

that I have wanted to give up and quite but I think about it and push myself harder to become better and I keep going. My goal is to become the next Gabi Butler. I look up to her and I wish one day I can meet her in person. She is my inspiration.



Amaya



Amaya





Charlene Messer is dedicated to improving the wellness of her community.

A passionate advocate for youth and food activist, Messer is on a mission to spread greater awareness about the importance of sustainable food systems and healthy living. She credits her late grandmother Ardith Ransom for her passion for cooking. Messer said by preparing meals after school she discovered what would become part of her platform today.

As founder and executive director of Elegant Bouquet Kitchen, Inc. created in 2013, Messer is now promoting food equity, urban gardening, nutritious food and wellness. She has spent the past decade connecting residents to high quality produce grown at local urban gardens and food demonstrations.

A fellow of the Cloud Institute for Sustainability, Messer is involved with numerous community partnerships including gardening initiatives run by La Casa De Don Pedro and the Rutgers Newark-Princeton Institute, Newark Science and Sustainability, Inc., Urban Agriculture, and more.

Messer has a background in public service and spent 18 years in government. She served as secretary to former Irvington Mayor Wayne Smith and earned a Bachelor's of Science in Public Administration from Kean University.

Messer is currently an Assistant Program Director with Youth Advocate Programs, Inc., a national nonprofit organization addressing youth incarceration. A devoted volunteer to the American Cancer Society, she also has served on the New Jersey Advisory Council to Whole Cities Foundation, St. James Social Service Corp., and contestant in the Ms. Full Figured NJ USA Pageant.

Messer resides in Newark, New Jersey with her 23-year-old daughter, Leasia Sharmaine Hicks, her inspiration for nurturing the next generation of "garden to table" enthusiasts and urban gardeners.

Photographers Credits (If Any): Charles Mitchell SONIC, Irvington, NJ



Charlene
C. Messer



**Charlene
C. Messer**





Dawna Lee Heising

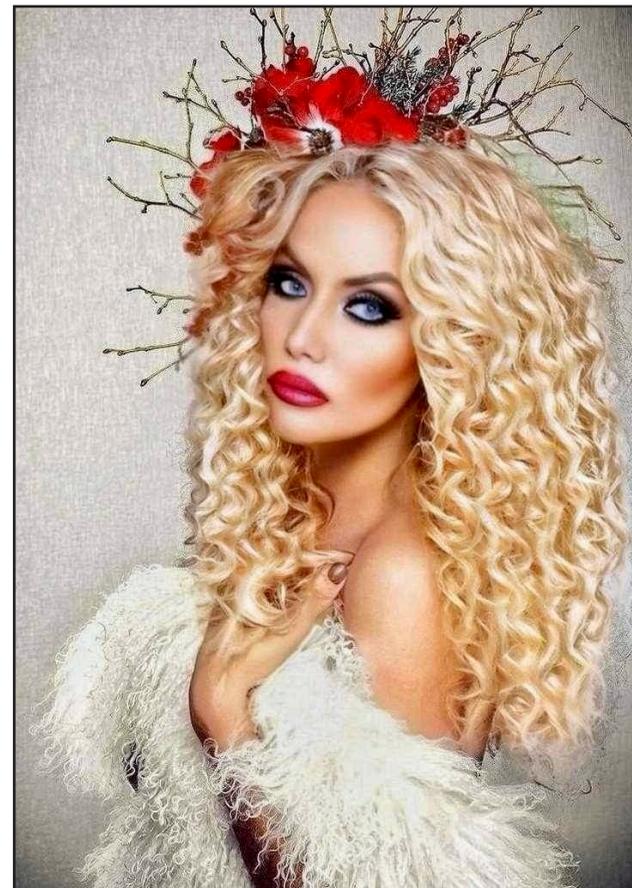
Dawna Lee Heising has acted in over 220 feature films, including Param Gill's "Bad President", starring Eddie Griffin, and "Alien Storm", starring Tom Arnold. She has won over 630 film festival awards, including over 330 Best Actress awards. Dawna is trained in Tang Soo Do martial arts, ballet, and pole dancing. She is a former Miss Los Angeles Chinatown, Ms. US World, Ms.

World, Ms. Universe, Miss San Francisco Universe, Miss Orange County Universe, Miss California Hemisphere and Mrs. California United States, among many other titles. She was the Queen of the 2021 Kaiju Film Festival, the 2019 Hollywood Silver Screen Film Festival Queen, and the 2018 WIND International Film Festival Queen. She has a B.S. Degree in Business Management and MBA from

Pepperdine University. Dawna is the VP of Aki Aleong's Mustard Seed Media Group. Her uncle is legendary director of photography Tak Fujimoto ("Silence of the Lambs", Sixth Sense") and her cousins George Daugherty and David Wong won a Primetime Emmy Award for "Peter and the Wolf on Broadway".

Photos Credits: Mark Oeffler





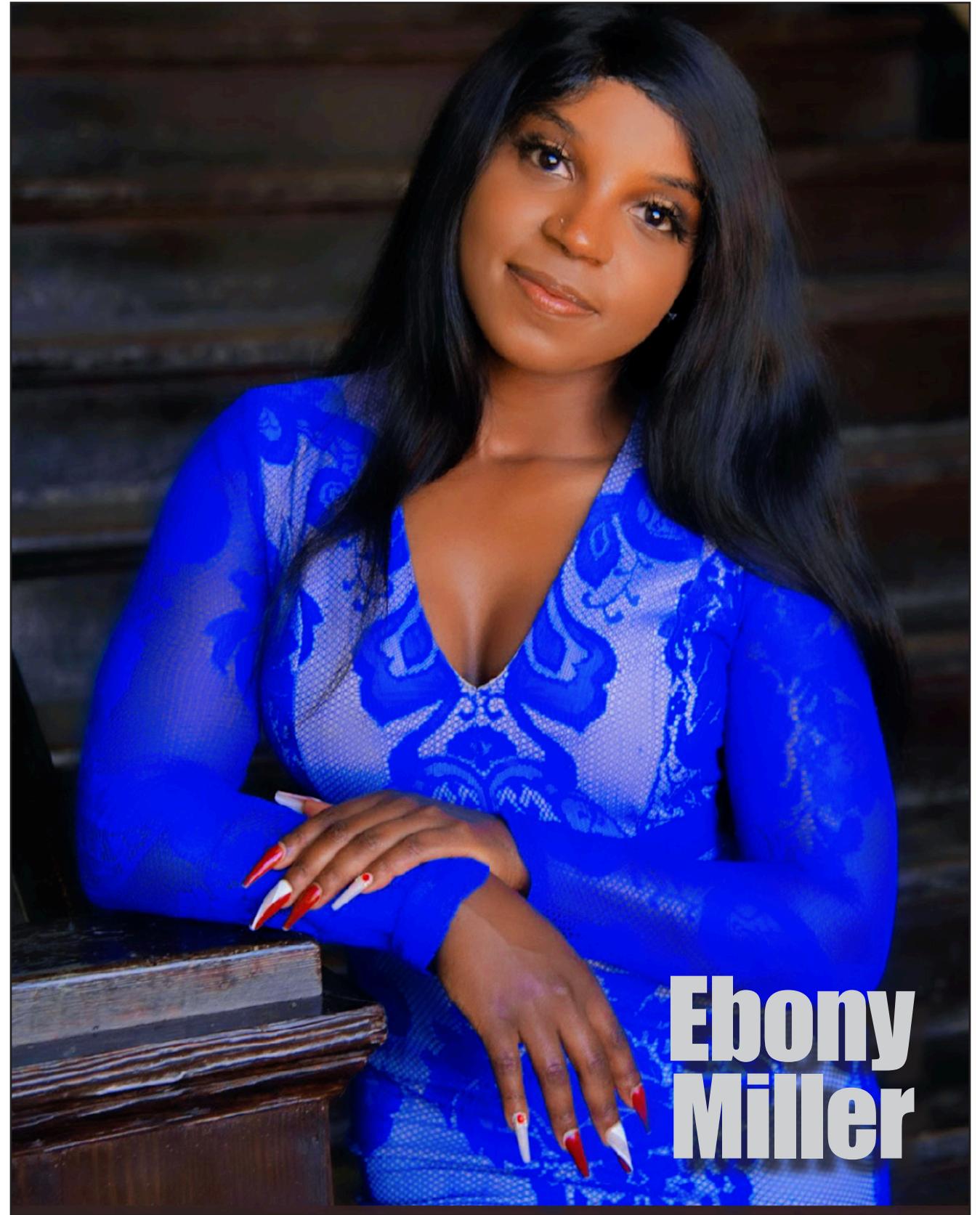


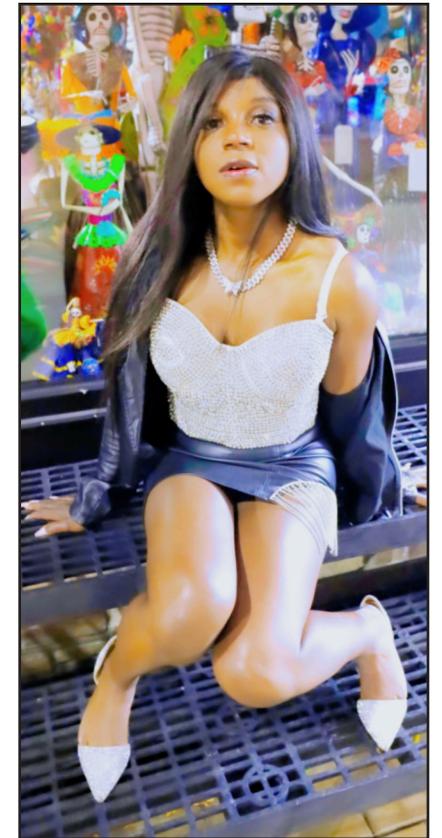
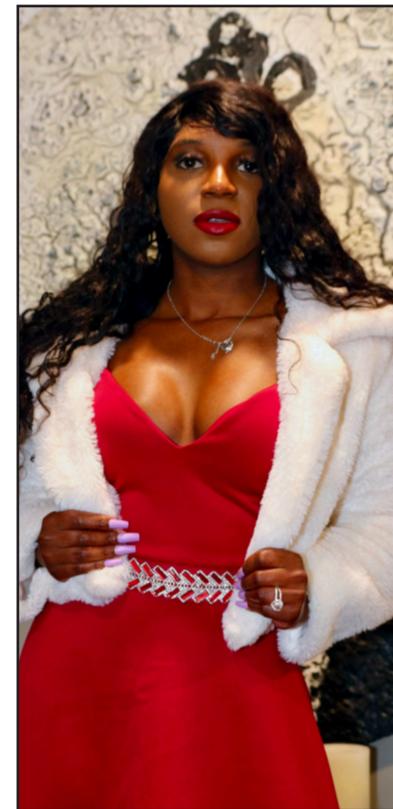
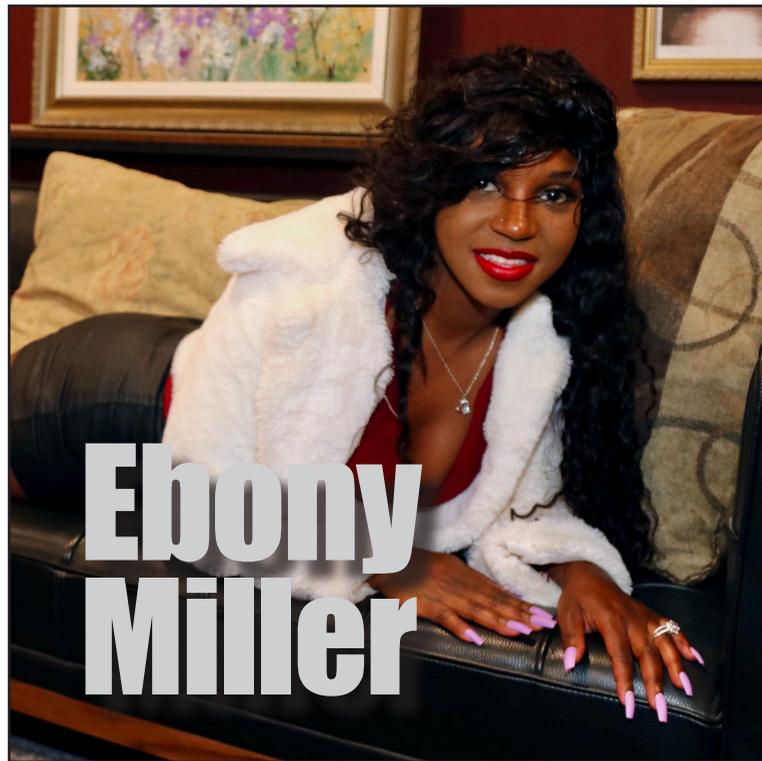
**Dawna
Lee Heising**



Bachelors in Media and Information from Michigan State University helped myself be apart of Power 96.5 radio station, Valentus fitness and health care Representative, actor in Detroit and community rep. for children. Now as a model I can help with various venues, businesses, photographers and artist to have their vision make a difference.

Photographers Credits (If Any):
 Photographer: Facebook: JJ Drayton-Kennedy Jeremiah Rose Flikkdigital Ira Paul Duane L Fisk Lindey Farrell George Ansara (Vault Entertainment) Quan Jackson Michael Gonzolez Andy Krieger Instagram: J. Weems (offixialboobi) Mikegonzalezphoto







I am Jessica Lynn Robertson

Mom of three, wife, model Scout, social media influencer, beauty, queen, pageantry judge, published print model, and also own and operate a free promotional page called UnitedModelsUS on Instagram that I use to promote other aspiring models.

I was that little girl, looking at all of the teen magazines and dreaming about being in them. When I was 16 I went to my first modeling interview with Wilhelmina models, and to my surprise I was chosen. However I was unable to accept because my grandmother was sick with cancer and she needed me more. Now that my

children are further in age, I am pursuing and achieving my lifelong dreams.

I have held titles such as Miss Nelson County peoples choice award, Miss Belle of Charlottesville 2007, Miss Sunburst USA East Coast first runner-up, and Virginia's Fabulous Dolls Ultimate Grand Supreme 2014.

Although fashion is my passion in my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my family and being outdoors. I enjoy hunting, fishing, gardening, woodworking, art, reading, crocheting and volunteering in my community.

Photos Credits: Gray O'Neal and Wayne Robertson



**Jessica
Robertson**



**Jessica
Robertson**



Joanne M Cherisma

My name is Joanne M. Cherisma. I have a Bachelor in Nursing and I am also an author.

In 2016, I started Beyond The Abuse, Inc. in order to bring awareness on abusive relationships and provide hope, empowerment, support and confidence to the victims. And since, I have been using my voice and my writing as an outlet for those who can understand the slings and arrows of life at many speaking

engagements, DV events and workshops in the United States, Canada, and Haiti.

In 2018, I published "I Never Thought I Would Be A Statistic" in which I shared a testimony of how I overcame an abusive marriage.

In June 2019, I received the "Among Us Award" for my strength to overcome adversity and to go on to thrive and help others, and for my courageous,

conquering, and victorious spirit.

In October 2022, I received the "Domestic Violence Survivor Award" for all the work that I have been doing to bring awareness on Domestic Violence.

When I am not working, I am at the gym, I write, sleep or dance. I love to dance.



**Joanne
M Cherisma**





Karen Rice

“Discovering Faith, True Beauty and Confidence”

During and After Cancer

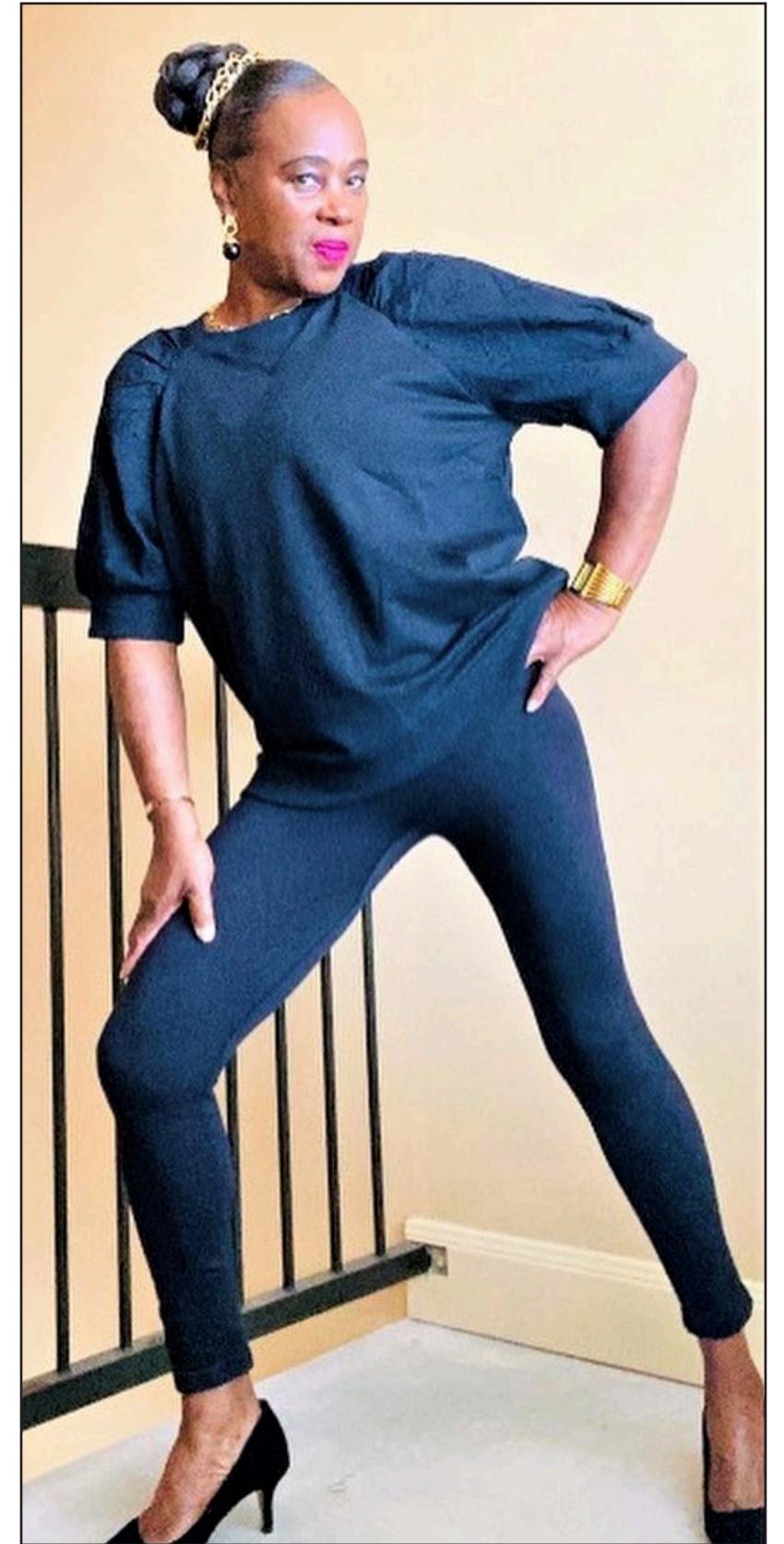
Without questioning, this is how I conquered through my diagnosis of cancer, not once, but twice. Without questioning, when going through a serious illness, you learn to know what faith truly is, along with finding the true meaning of beauty and how you really feel about yourself. I know this all too well because I have experienced many trials and tribulations in my life. Through it all, I gained strength that I never knew I had, and much more confidence in myself, which led me to loving myself all over again. I had a new beginning, all on my own.

After going through so much in my life, things were going well, until it happened. I had a head-on collision with not only breast cancer, but colon cancer as well, and it changed my entire outlook on life. I thought I had endured rough years before but going through cancer was the rest of the iceberg. There is nothing like it. You wonder, what in life had you done so wrong to have this placed upon you. You began asking, why me. Yet through my tragedies and all that I had to endure, it all became an awakening for me, in which I received and gained all the strength and encouragement I needed to conquer. Through it all, not only did I find the true meaning of life, but more on how I viewed myself. Through all the chemo, radiation, the pain I endured, I still felt pretty good about

me. I found myself looking in the mirror even more during this time, because I thought what I was dealing with something that would drastically change me, but as I viewed the imperfections on my body I now must live with, over time it got better, and instead of feeling sorry for myself, I embrace it. I'm still among the living, who am I to complain.

Whether we are dealing with an illness or any other negative feelings about ourselves, our lives, as well as our bodies, we need to be our on-cheering section. Through all my mishaps, I still see myself as beautiful, and it is real. I have come to realize that even going through such a dark time, I still have a life to be lived, and I am going to live it to the fullest. When I think about the individuals that are no longer among us due to such a horrific disease, I'm truly grateful, and I will no longer take my life for granted. Life is precious, and we don't realize it until we come close to losing it. When I think of the “gift of life” that was given to me twice over, I knew I did not have a moment to waste. I would never say having or going through cancer is a gift, surviving it, receiving a second and third chance at life to spend with your family, is the gift. Yet, through it all, I did not allow the disease to take away who I am, or what I stand for. I am a survivor, as well as an example to show that it can happen, and that I can go on and look and feel just as beautiful, inside, and out, and it shines brighter.

Yet through my tragedies and all that I had to endure, I received and gained all the strength and encouragement I needed to conquer. I will say that the areas of my body that were interrupted will be a constant reminder I had cancer,





**Karen
Rice**

and at times, it does bother me, I'm human, but within a moment or two, I look past it, because those areas could be covered up. Your true self and beauty is within and when you feel beautiful on the inside, it shows so clearly on the outside. Just because I had cancer, does not mean cancer had me. We as women should never allow anything, or any circumstance to steal our joy, nor our self-esteem, even while cancer is taking you through many emotions and many unanswered situations. At times you feel black-balled. And I for sure know with cancer, many times you are too weak to even think about your looks, because you're not always feeling your best, but at times we must try, even a little bit and fight past it and keep living. Through any tragedy, we are and always will be beautiful and unique! Women, we all know that our bodies take lickings, yet we keep on ticking.

When I look back now and see how far I've come, I have to say, I thought right away that my cancer diagnoses were truly a death sentence, because you're not sure if you're going to make it. Cancer has taught me not to blink twice on life, my eyes are wide open, living my best life. I also realized after surviving cancer both times, that I was about to face new beginnings, new hope, do and see more with a whole new perspective on life. I share my story with others hoping to make a positive impact on someone who is ill or otherwise, where they can proceed life in a whole new way. I am 67yrs of age now, and I am cherishing each day, each moment, and through it all, I feel that I'm at my best. I am more confident in myself, as well as grateful. I am starting over, doing things I should have done before cancer.

One day, after one of the many surgeries I had during my breast cancer period, and I could remember it as if it was yesterday, I experienced something so real, so peaceful, something of a miracle, that I had to write it down. I turned that experience into a poem, and I called it

"Peace". I took that poem, along with many others I had written, writing had become therapy for me. I am hoping that anyone who may have the opportunity to read my poems, gets out of them, what I placed in them, they are as real as poems could ever be. My most recently published book is titled, "Cancer, Yet Cancer Again, but I will not Die, before I'm Dead". I titled it that, because I truly feel that you should not stop living, because you have cancer, and that is exactly what I almost did. I heard the word cancer and wanted to give up. I am a realist, a regular everyday woman, who have overcome many obstacles, which took me to writing, trying to produce inspirational stories. If I had not gone through all that I did, I would have never anticipated such.

The scars and mishaps that are now attached to my body due to cancer, are just that. They are symbols for someone else's inspiration and hope. I am thankful, because if I had not struggled, I would not have found my true strengths. Not allowing anything to stop me. I am a true example that you can survive cancer, not once, but twice, providing you get to it in time. I am not saying all will be easy, I am not saying all will survive it, what I am saying, is to have faith, fight with all you have, then hold on. I honestly believe, when and if you survive a horrific tragedy or a horrible disease such as cancer, it is for a reason. You have a purpose, and through that purpose, faith, compassion and strength, your true self is born again.

Thank You,

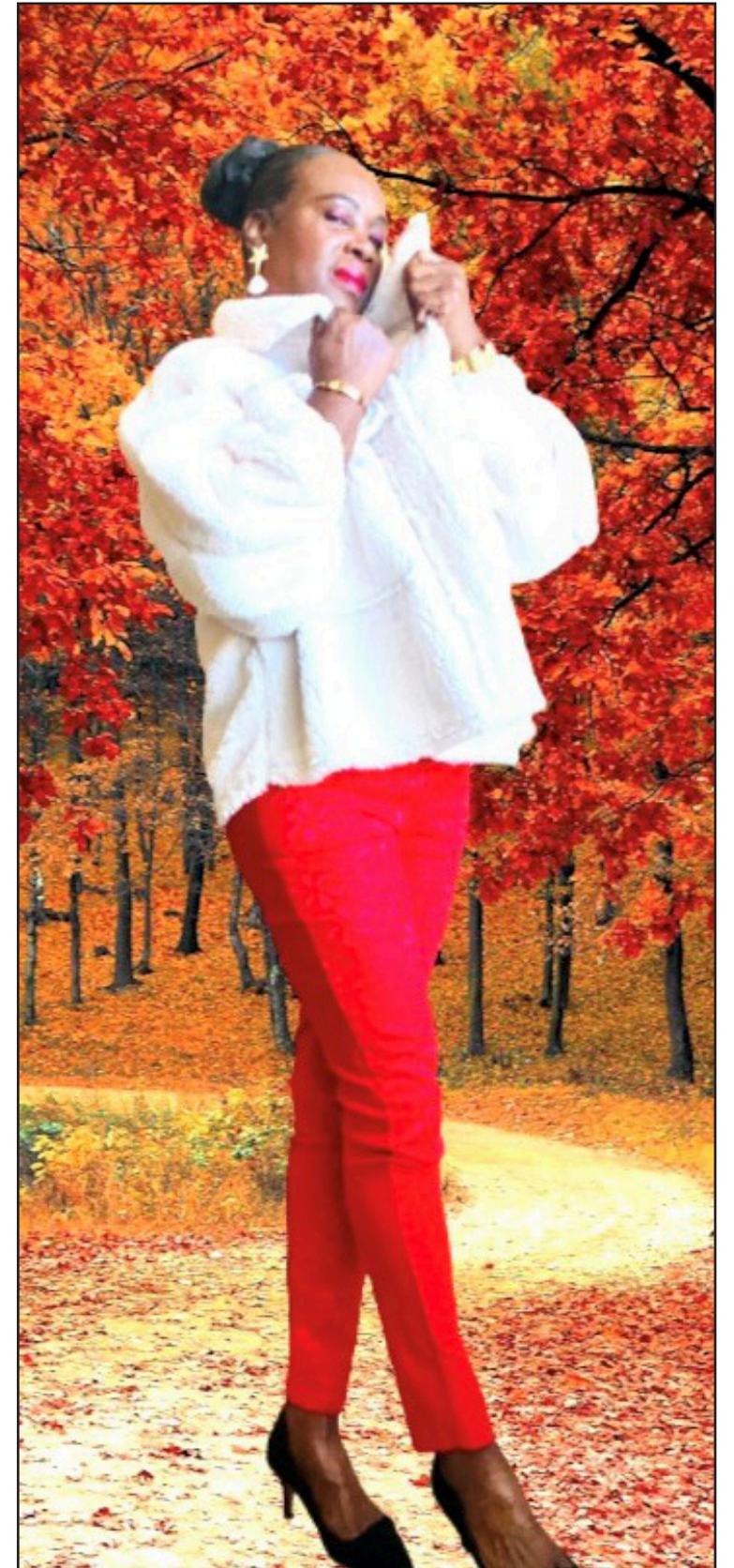
Karen Rice/x2 Cancer Survivor

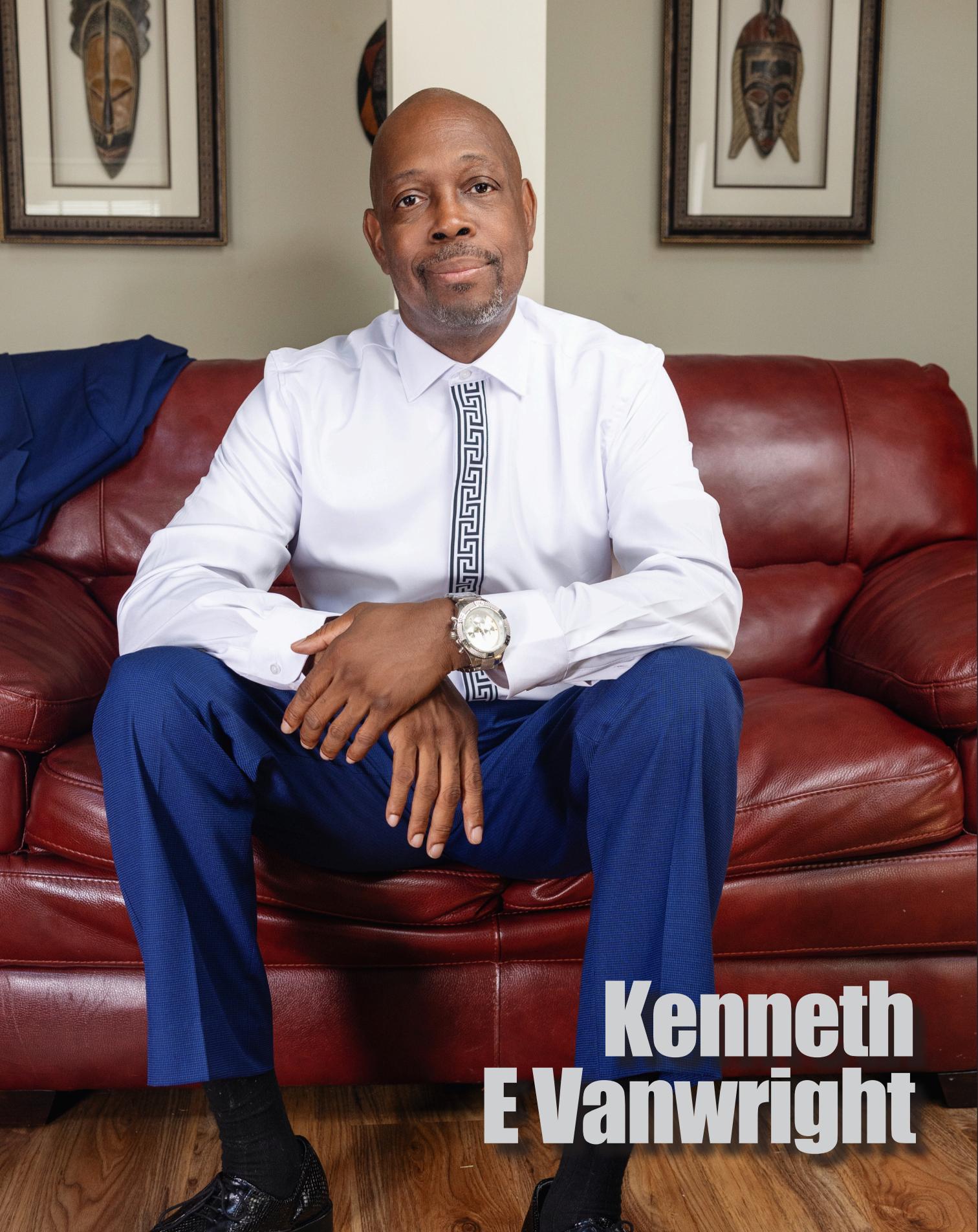
Author

@KarenRi79930503/twitter

linkedin.com/in/karen-rice-44053335

Photos Credits: Self/Family/JC Penney's

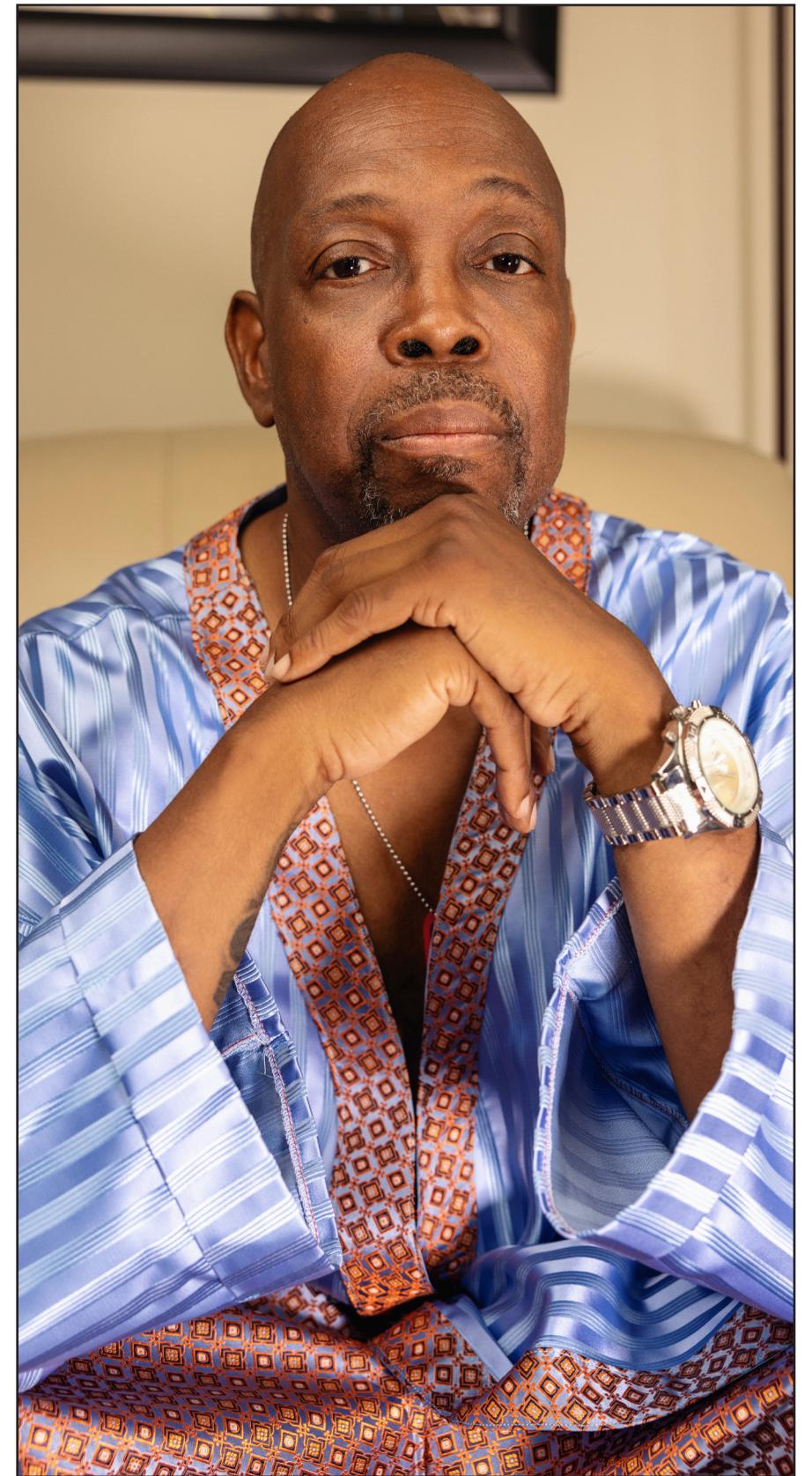


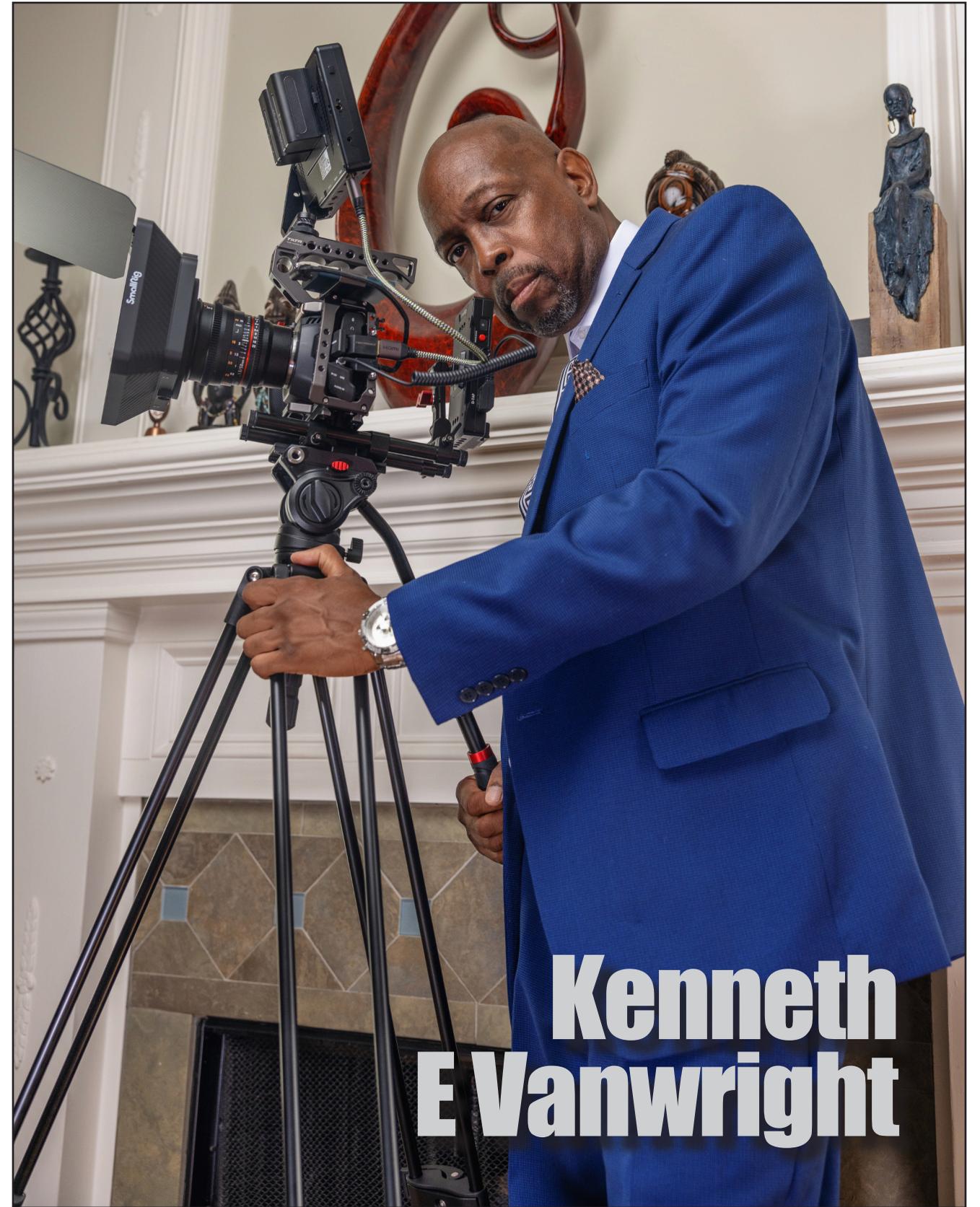


**Kenneth
E Vanwright**

I am KENNETH VANWRIGHT, a multi- award winning, multi- talented filmmaker. I've worked on the sets of THE BONE COLLECTOR, THE TAKING OF PELHAM 123 (both of which starred DENZIL WASHINGTON). I've worked on SPIDERMAN (NY), GODZILLA (NY), THE THOMAS CROWN AFFAIR, I AM LEGEND, LAW AND ORDER just to name a few.

My passion has always been writing and creating. Because of a tragedy in my daughter's school, I started creating scripted cartoon animations dealing with issues such as BULLYING, SUICIDE and PEER PRESSURE. When I decided to start writing non-animated scripts, I took up filmmaking meaning purchasing and learning cameras, purchasing, and learning audio equipment, purchasing, and learning lighting and finally my favorite learning video editing, all with the intention of watching my personal scripts come to life. I was fortunate enough to win one of the INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL'S Award's on my first effort at writing a screenplay. I've been on the sets of many big productions as well as many small and large Indi-productions, each of which I took something away meaning knowledge. I have personally funded all my personal film projects because I believe in each one of them. My latest film (and first feature length) JACQUILYNN THE RIPPER, released in 2023 on multiple streaming networks and platforms has garnered great reviews from both the critics and the fans.







**Megan
Elizabeth**

Photographer:
Tonya Barnes Photography
Instagram: Tonyabarnesphotography
Facebook: Tonya Barnes Photography
Instagram: Tonya_Barnes_Photo



Megan Elizabeth

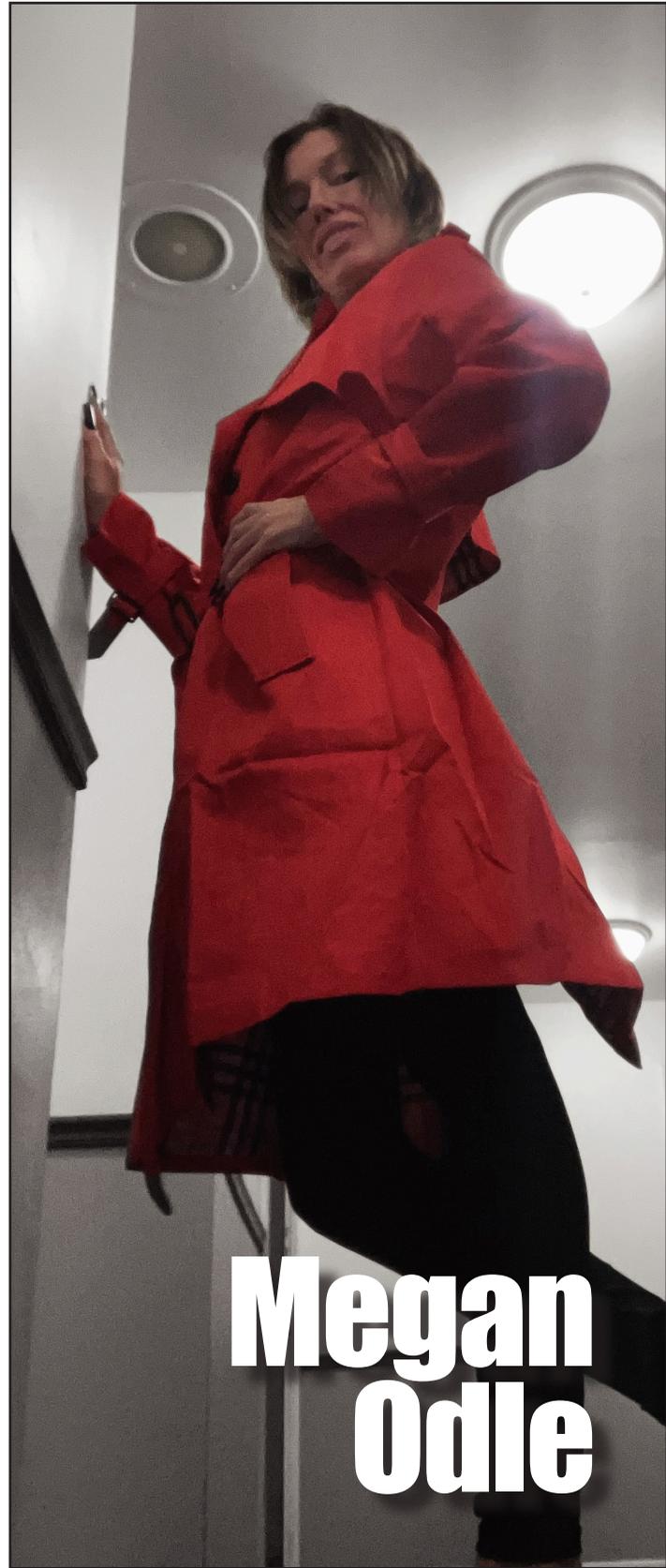




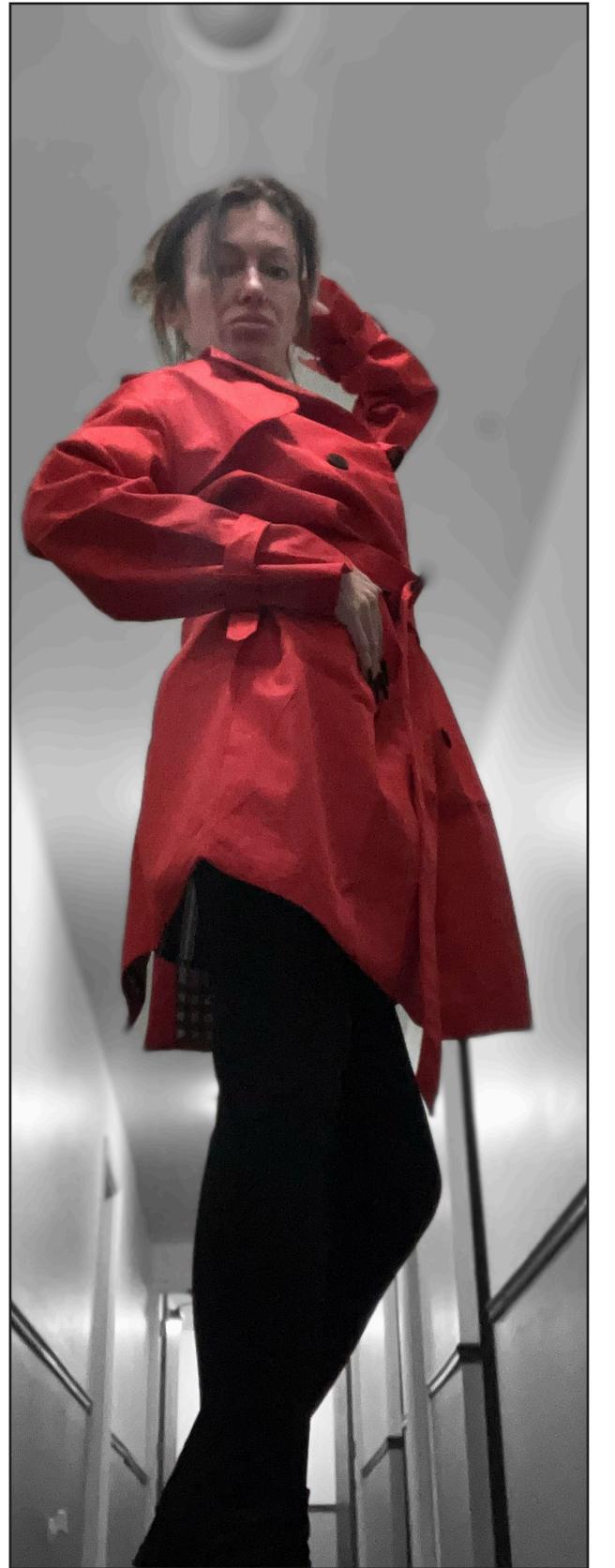
My dreams are to continue to be a psychic, medium and a model in multiple cities. I would love to do a tour. My goals are to overcome obstacles with myself, and to get more tattoos as an artist. I am quite a deep individual. It is a beautiful way of how I express myself.

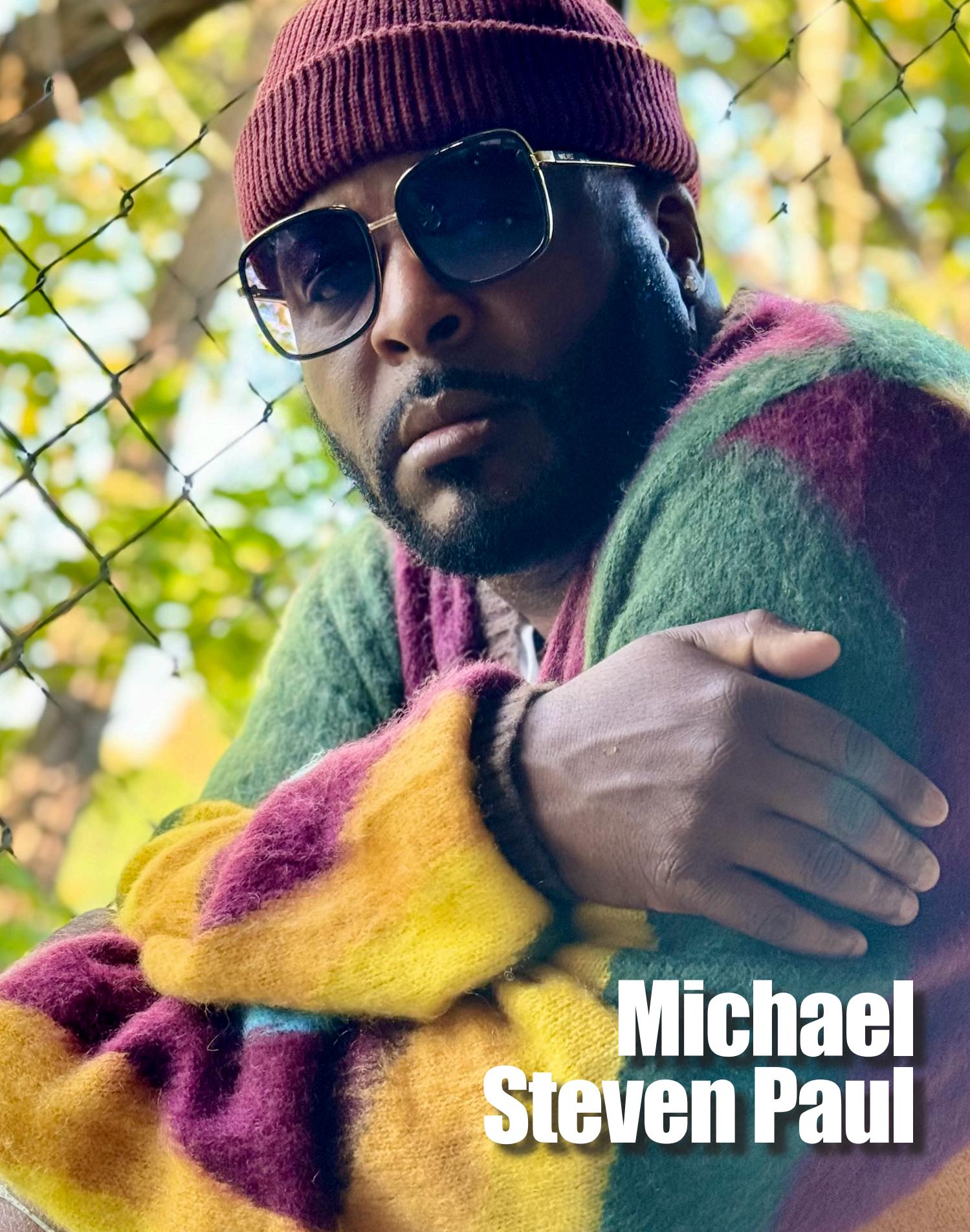


**Megan
Odle**



**Megan
Odle**

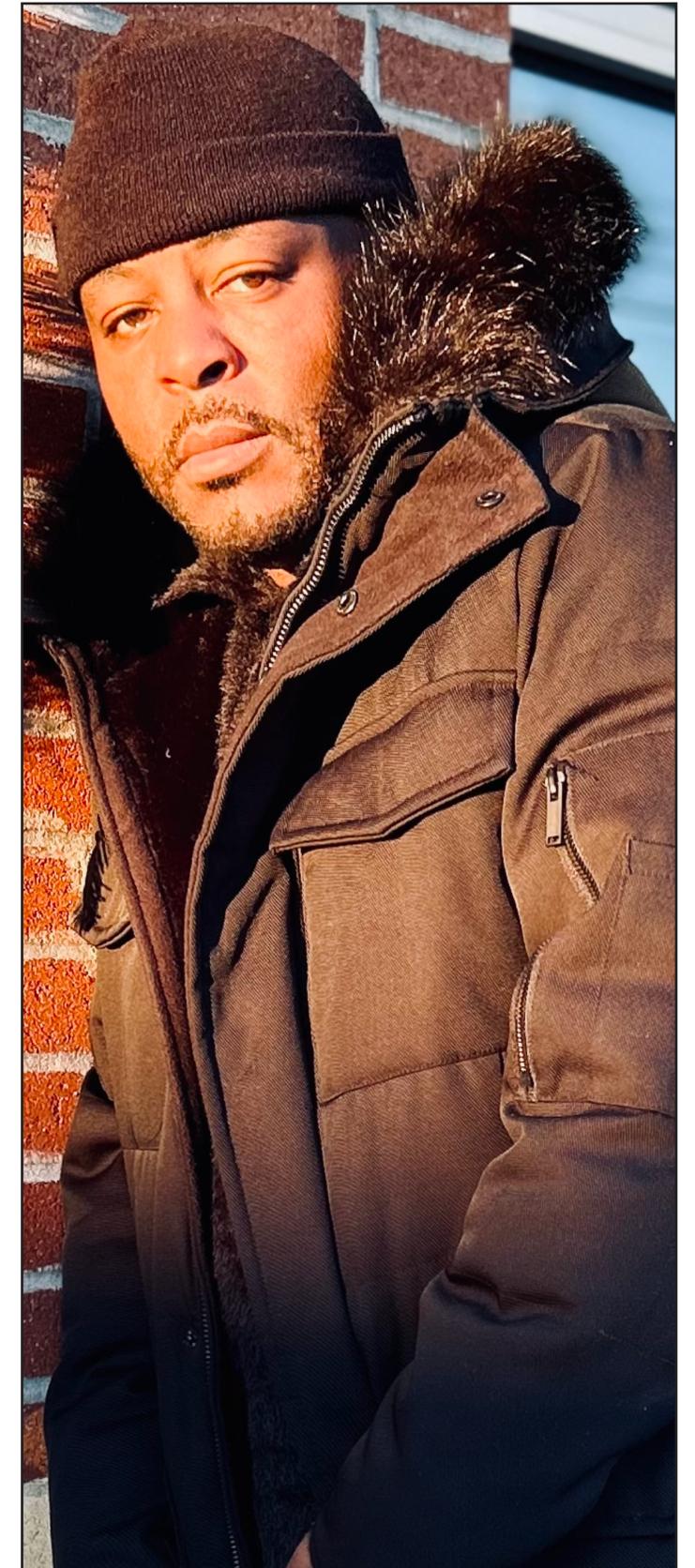


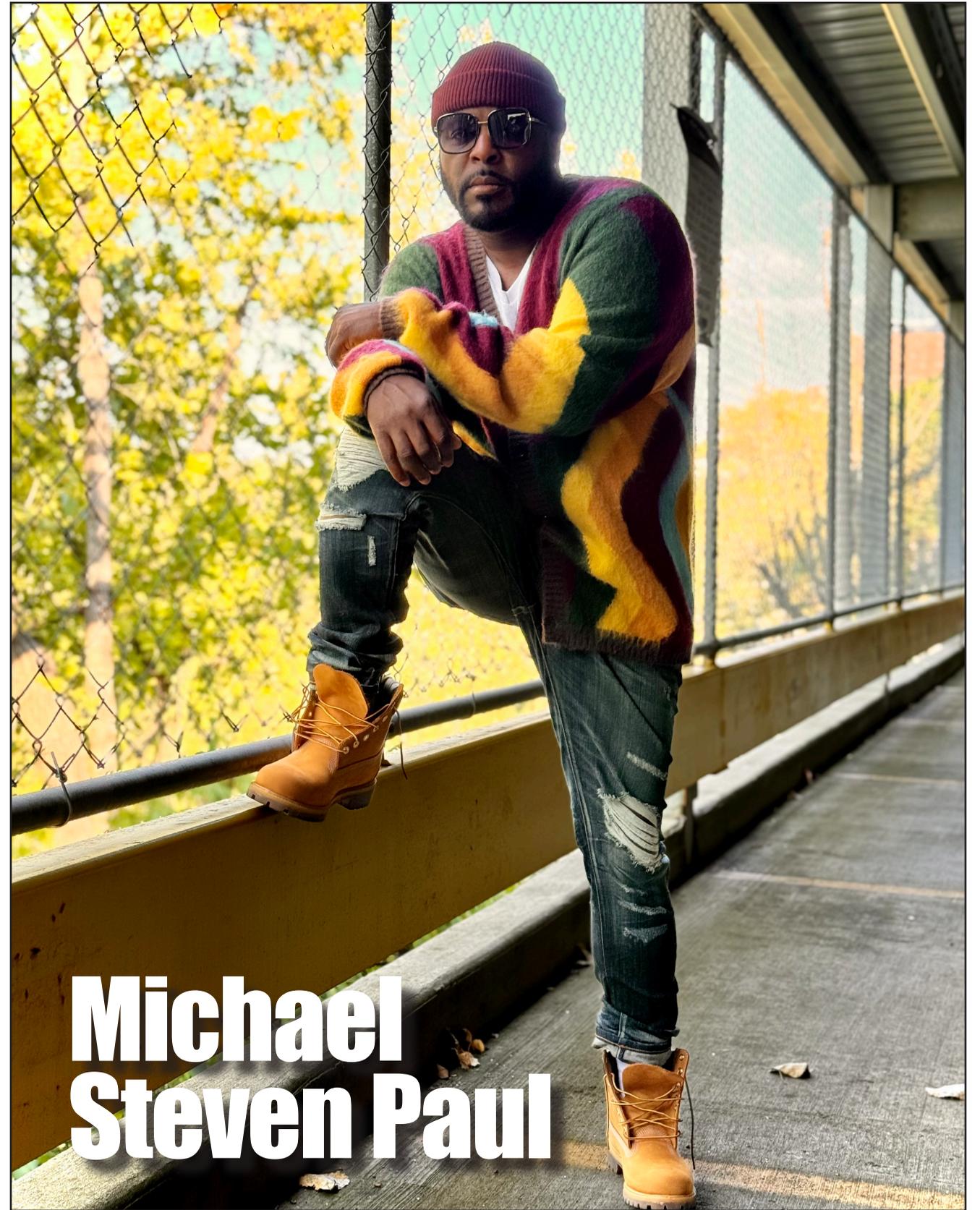


Michael Steven Paul

As i sit back and contemplate about all that I've accomplished and achieved throughout my music and film career, i can only think to myself how blessed i truly am to have sustained and maintained the level of success that i have attained. My dreams were not to be in the music industry. Nope not at all. I actually had dreams of becoming a filmmaker, firefighter or a lawyer. I would never cut off my nose to spite my face, i am very thankful for every bit of success that i have achieved. I never thought or even dreamt of having not just one but two Grammy nominations or for that matter 13 music awards. I never thought for the life of me that I'd be honored by the United States Senate, Congress, NAACP, United Nations and fast forward to 2023 The White House presenting me with the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award i have to thank Egypt Ulefe and Dr. Perry for nominating me for the honor. I'm also looking forward to accepting my official title of LORDSHIP as well as the 2023 filmmaker of the year award by way of The Black Men Rock Image Awards. When i look back at every single thing that has gotten me to where i am i can only say thank you to God The Most High. As far as my goals are concerned i just want to keep on the path of greatness that im on with my films. As a Writer, Director and Producer i will continue to release quality films to the masses. My latest film Hopeless ROMANTIC A Michael Steven-Paul Love Story can be streamed on Dame Dash's America NU Network. Thank you to BET for having me as a multi 106 & Park Freestyle Friday Judge as well as a producer of the week on Rap City. Thank you to Music Choice, Video Music Box and every other mainstream platform for keeping my music videos in rotation. Thank you to every radio and television personality that interviewed me. Thank you Bella Rae for always being the supportive and inspiring person that she is. Thank you for always being there and holding me down. Thank you to my entire publicity team, management attorneys and agents. And lastly thank you to every person whom has supported me and all of my endeavors.

Photographers Credits (If Any): Bella Rae
Bond for BELLA's EYE of Bella Bond Media





I AM SHE & SHE IS ME: Who is she? Isha Larie!

I'm a confident forever young 51-year-old, mature woman. Who has accomplished a great deal within a short amount of time. In this new chapter of my life, I have walked in 10 different fashion shows throughout central PA/NYC and Atlanta GA.

I believe in investing in myself, because if I don't believe in myself, how can I convince others to believe in me! I strive for success by keeping my portfolio current and vibrant. Attending networking and community events is a way of me keeping active in my present with and others.

One of my dreams is to walk the runway in NYC during Fashion Week for a major designer. Then be featured on the front cover of Essence magazine. As far as my acting aspiration, I would love to have the leading role in a Tyler Perry Film alongside a box office actor/actress.

The biggest challenge I've faced in this business is people are not loyal or honest and you have to be very mindful of whom you decide to trust with your career.

Alumni of Blake Business School of NYC, Medical Assistant Graduated 1994

Alumni of HACC Of York, PA, AS Degree 2010.

Isha McClean

Photographers Credits (If Any):
Glen Saliva-AMP, Nathan-AMP,
Autumn Neyler-AMP



**Ms
Isha Baby**

Ms Isha Baby



© Glen "The Silvaback" Silva



Natasha Ploeg



My name is Natasha. I am a born St. Lucian from Fond Assau. I am a proud mother of a beautiful daughter. I am in training to becoming a police officer. I work hard at my dreams and goals to be a good example to my daughter. A special word of encouragement to anyone suffering with mental health issues. You are not alone, and you don't have not do it on your own. There's help. Shout out to anyone who's being abused. Love shouldn't have to hurt. Abuse isn't just physical. Be kind to one another and lend a helping hand when possible.

Photos Credits: Chris Linton

The plus size design concept is the center of Built by Stacy. My motto is: "Designed with You in Mind" and is aimed to translate the essence of plus size design into fashion through innovative use of fabrics and form. Stacy Hogan is the Owner, Designer and Seamstress of Built by Stacy/BBS Clothier. The southern-born Wisconsin native was taught to sew at the age of 8 by her mother. Her tenacity and passion for design and clothing continues to drive her to create, innovate and break barriers with fashion.

Stacy is unique in her various collections and show her creativity, her sensitivity and originality in her use of textiles. She believes in creating plus size fashion that is not just visually appealing, but on trend and wearable. Stacy Hogan launched the Built label in December 2013. She has since created over 10 ready to wear and couture collections. Showcasing in NYFW, LAFW, Africa Fashion for Peace, Essence Music Festival, Pitch Black Fashion Week (ATL), Foster Beauty Fashion Week (VA) and the list goes on. Her work has

been featured on America's Got Talent, as well as local fashion showcases in Wisconsin and the Midwest.

Collaborating with photographers and models across the nation, BBS Clothier continues to wow and delight the audiences with fashion. The goal is to become a household name, and remind everyone to Get Styled, Get Measured, and Get BUILT!

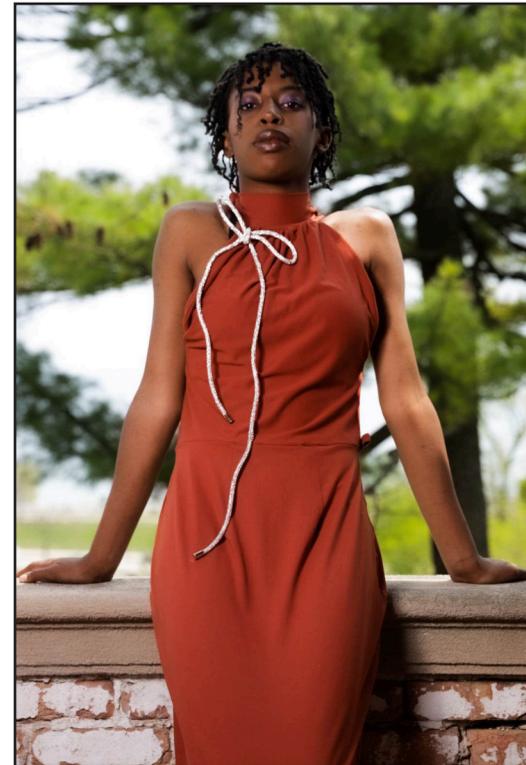
Photographers Credits (If Any):
Kareem Johnson - KJ Photography LLC





**Designer
Stacy Hogan**





Built by Stacy
Designed with You in Mind



**Stephanie Crawford
& Ashley Tucker**



Inspiring model following my dreams
Photographers Credits (If Any): Geno Eugene
Howard photography
Eugene Howard Photography

GLITZ



Dawnna Lee Heising



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