MSNBC Kicks Off Growing Hope College Tour April 25 at TSU

MSNBC kicks off the Growing Hope College Tour on Friday, April 25 with a visit to Texas Southern University hosted by Alex Wagner.

“NOW with Alex Wagner” will broadcast live at 3 p.m. CT from Texas Southern’s University Plaza, near the Tiger Walk, just in front of the Sterling Student Life Center. MSNBC hosts and contributors will also be onsite for meet and greets with fans from noon to 7 p.m. local time.

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Communications Student Accepted Into Acting Conservatory

Sierra Randolph-Williams, a Radio, Television and Film major and Theatre minor, has been accepted into the prestigious Stella Adler Conservatory in Los Angeles. She was among 800 actors who auditioned in Chicago at the United Residential Theatre Association. Stella Adler is a two-year professional acting conservatory. The Conservatory is a 20 hour per week program that prepares the student for creative challenges in the acting profession. Randolph-Williams was also recruited by the New School in New York. Randolph-Williams was coached for the auditions by Dr. Dianne Jemison Pollard, professor of Theatre. She will graduate from Texas Southern University in May 2014 and start at Stella Adler September 22.

Attorney Joe Jamail, Jr. slated as Texas Southern University Spring Commencement Speaker

Texas Southern University has announced that attorney Joseph D. Jamail, Jr. will be the keynote speaker for its Spring Commencement Ceremonies set for Saturday, May 10 at 9:30 a.m. in the H&PE Arena.

Known as the undisputed King of Torts, Jamail has tried more than 500 cases and has achieved more than 200 verdicts and settlements in excess of $1 million. He was lead counsel in the Pennzoil v. Texaco case yielding a verdict of more than $10.53 billion. He is profiled and featured in numerous publications and television programs and a lecturer for bar associations, universities and colleges throughout the country. He is featured in the recent publication America’s Top Trial Lawyers Who They are & Why They Win. The University of Texas at Austin has designated the Jessie Jones Hall at the Law School as the Joseph D. Jamail Center for Legal Research.

Jamail is a graduate of The University of Texas where he received his B.A. in 1950 and his J.D. in 1953. Has been lead counsel in over two hundred personal injury cases where recovery either by verdict or settlement, was in excess of $1 million.

Jamail is a member of the American Bar Association; fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers; fellow, International Academy of Trial Lawyers; an advocate, American Board of Trial Advocates; recipient of the 1993 Houston Texas Exes award; and recipient of the 1996 University of Texas Distinguished Alumnus Award. He was named Texas Monthly Magazine’s “The Lawyer of the Century” and named “King of Torts” by Washington Post, Chicago Tribune and other publications among many other attributes.

TSU Tidbits

12 Years a Slave: Hollywood, History and the Law

TSU’s Thurgood Marshall School of Law and the Department of History have joined forces to bring phenomenal historian Paul Finkelman, visiting professor of law at Louisiana State University to speak to the student body, faculty and staff through his presentation, “12 Years a Slave: Hollywood, History and the Law”. The presentation will take place Tuesday, April 15 in the Public Affairs Building, room 114.

Urban Planning Professor Quoted

Jeffrey Lowe, professor of urban planning and environmental policy, was recently quoted in the Houston Chronicle article “Starkweather neighbors use history to fight for preservation.”

Click here to view the complete article

Faculty/Staff Campaign Update

The Faculty/Staff annual giving campaign is continues to ride the momentum of its great start in reaching the $200,000 goal. Totals coming out of the Mid-Campaign Breakfast were $149,273 with 53% participation. COST is in the lead with monies raised at $22,652 while TSU DPS and Parking have achieved 100% participation. The Victory Celebration is slated for Thursday, April 17 in the COST Atrium.

Johnson Elected Veterans Civic Council President

Taiwan Johnson, TSU’s Veterans Affairs program coordinator, was recently elected by special board meeting as president of the Veterans Civic Council (VCC). VCC is an organization of Texas college and university VA program administrators, VA personnel, Texas Veterans agencies, and community partners. In addition, Texas Southern University will serve as the site of VCC’s conference October 15-17, 2014.

NASA to Host STEM Prospective Teacher Institute

Would you like to improve your marketability and resume? Are you interested in becoming a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math) teacher? If so, NASA is offering the fully funded Live and Learn Free Summer 2014 NASA Pre-Service and Prospective Teacher Institute at the Johnson Space Center. The deadline to apply is Friday, April 25. Applicants must meet requirements for participation. For more details click http://bit.ly/10mhrZ or contact Dr. Collette Bloom at 713-313-1317.
Career Spotlight
One-on-One with Javier Pinkey

Through a myriad of strategies, methods, and resources, TSU’s Office of Career Services provides graduate and undergraduate students with the valuable tools and necessary skills needed for their ultimate career growth and development. The “Career Spotlight” series was implemented to champion TSU students who used these tools to assist them with reaching their ultimate career goals. Robinson goes one-on-one with Dr. Antoinette Roberson:

What is your title and responsibility with NASA?
I am a Contract Specialist. I administer and manage some of NASA’s most important and visible contracts that support the International Space Station (ISS).

How did you prepare for the interview with NASA?
By reviewing the agency’s mission and organizational structure. This also helps you prepare questions for your interview to ask to gain insight into the agency/organization.

What are the benefits of working for an agency like NASA?
The benefits of working for a federal agency such as NASA include competitive pay, excellent health and retirement benefits, also flexible work scheduling.

What do you feel is the most significant skill/qualification an employee should have?
In my experience the most successful employees are resourceful. You may not know the answer or how to complete a task initially, but those employees who lead are able to know where to go to find the answers they need. Resilience is key but cannot be taught.

What advice do you have for other students who are pursuing career opportunities with federal agencies?
To get into the top companies you have to set yourself apart from your peers.
a) Manage your appearance. You may be the smartest or most qualified for a role but if you don’t LOOK the part you may very well miss a life changing opportunity. Refrain from getting visible tattoos and piercings that make you APPEAR to be less professional.
b) Make the BEST grades that you can possibly make. Your GPA is a key factor when recruiters are selecting from the applicant pool.
c) Look for opportunities EVERYWHERE. Go to job fairs, look online, and the career center, etc. I found a lead for a career at a conference that lead to an interview during a lunch break at a job.
d) Place yourself in places where you are more likely to find opportunities. A job at the mall may pay more however, a job on campus in your college places you closer to teachers, deans, and recruiters who may have valuable information that can change your career.
e) ALWAYS have your resume handy. An astute job seeker will keep their resume on-hand at ALL times. You should have a general resume in your e-mail (that you can send from your smartphone), on your jump-drive, and in your vehicle at all times. You don’t want to miss your opportunity because you weren’t ready.
f) Prepare for your interview thoroughly. Go on interviews often to sharpen your interview skills. It does not matter if you want the job but prepare a narrative while preparing for your interview that paints you

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Growing Hope is a MSNBC initiative that invites viewers to engage with the brand and share their hopes for change around issues that impact their communities. The “Growing Hope” series will include live events, online activations and special on-air programming. By sharing hopes online, at events, and through social media, the MSNBC audience can grow together as a community with the power to make a difference.

The MSNBC space was one of the most popular at the Essence Music Festival in New Orleans last year, remembers TSU Associate Vice President Eva Pickens. “People from all walks of life were tweeting their hope for America, then running to take pictures as their statements showed up across the reflection pond. It was very interactive and exciting to see. Of course, we expect hundreds of thousands to show up at Texas Southern as well. We are definitely inviting everyone and planning for a huge audience.”

Pickens said invitations, letters and flyers have gone out to community groups, other colleges and schools, non-profits, church leaders to invite their congregations and parishioners. TSU students, alumni and employees. But one does not need an invitation to attend. The event is free and open to the public. Parking is available in the university’s east and west garages; one at Cleburne and Tierwester (near Yates High School) the other at Blodgett and Ennis (near the H&PE Arena). Then visitors can take a small stroll down Tiger Walk and write in their hope for America.

TSU’s V-Lot will be closed, beginning Wednesday, April 23 and reserved for production crews, electricians and MSNBC representatives.

MSNBC kicked off the multi-market “Growing Hope” tour at the 9th annual Jazz in the Garden festival in Miami on March 15-16. The tour continues throughout the year with visits to local festivals across the country this spring and summer. The tour stops will feature unique fan elements including MSNBC host meet and greets and an opportunity to participate in the “Growing Hope” activation. Additional events and programming will be announced in the months ahead.

Viewers can find information about “Growing Hope” online at www.msnbc.com/growinghope. In the coming months, msnbc.com will unveil a digital Hope Tree, allowing users to virtually post a hope, explore hopes of others in their communities, and receive unique content about the issues that matter to them. “Growing Hope” will live on social media with #GrowingHope.

Please join us as we celebrate excellence in teaching, research and service!

Texas Southern University’s
2014 Faculty Excellence Awards Luncheon
University Museum

Tuesday, April 22, 2014
11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.
Program 12:15 P.M. to 12:45 P.M.

For more details, please contact the Office of the Associate Provost (713)313-1180
Javier Pinkey ...continued from page 2

in a certain light. Ideally the characteristics you highlight your go hand in hand with what is best for the position.

Have you had many personal challenges to face on your career journey?

There have been plenty of personal challenges, not the least of which is self-doubt. At the beginning of 2012 I was halfway through graduate school with NO job offers and I began to wonder if I made a good decision in going back to school. It is key to block out all negatives and maintain your focus toward your goals. Along the way I was told that I should look a different way or that I should stay in a certain position because it is ‘GOOD ENOUGH’. I would challenge you to ask ‘WHY can’t you get to where you want to be?’ Invest your time in positive persons who are like minded and moving in the same direction. It is amazing what those positive influences can mean in not only your career but in your life as a whole.

How important was the Career Center in helping you develop your career plan?

The Career Center was instrumental in assisting me with my career plan. A breakthrough for myself was finding an internship on Tiger Connect that gave me valuable experience that is STILL helping shape my career possibilities.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

As a government officer or director leveraging my contracting experience alongside my technical experience and education.
Women's Track Head Coach Pauline Banks Inducted into MVSU Hall of Fame

Pauline Banks, along with six other former Mississippi Valley State University standouts were inducted into the MVSU Athletic Hall of Fame on Saturday during a banquet at the H.M. Ivy Cafeteria on the MVSU campus. Banks was named the Most Valuable Player at Greenwood High School in track and field for a three-year span from 1983-86. She was also a Big 8 champion in the 100, 200 and 400 meters in 1986. She continued her success at MVSU in 1987 by being selected All-SWAC in the 200 and 400-meter dash. She was also selected in 1987, 1989 and 1990 as the MVSU Most Valuable Player for Outdoor Track & Field. Banks was selected All-SWAC in the 400 meters in 1988-1990. She was All-SWAC in the 4x400 relay in 1990. During her employment at Jackson State University, she became the first woman selected as head coach for the track and field team in 2003.

The JSU 4x400 relay team was selected NCAA Division I Mid-East All-Region Team. The 2008 and 2009 JSU indoor and outdoor track and field teams earned SWAC titles. Banks moved on with her trail blazing, becoming the first woman selected as head women's track and field coach at Texas Southern in 2009.

Williams Win Triple Jump at McNeese

Ian Williams was flying high for the Texas Southern "Flying" Tigers men's track and field team at the McNeese State Spring Time Classic outdoor track and field meet. Williams won the triple jump with a distance of 46 feet 7.50 inches. Jeffry Lacroix took second place in the 400 meter dash with a time of 47.53.

Robert Garza Starts Homerun Rally to 12-3 Win

Their big sticks were the dominating factor when TSU beat Arlington Baptist College 12-3 in the first day of the Texas Southern Invitational Baseball Tournament. Robert Garza and Andrew Garza were the heavy hitters in this game. Both Garzas hit homeruns to the same side of the field in the same inning. Robert Garza hit his shot over the left center field fence first for three RBIs in the sixth inning. Andrew Garza followed two batters later for a repeat performance with two RBIs. The Tigers started a scoring frenzy that gave them eight runs in the sixth for a 12-1 lead.
University Calendar 2013-14

TSU Events for April 2014 - May 2014 at a Glance

Tuesday, April 15, 2014
Health and Kinesiology Spring Blood Drive
Registration will be in H&PE Arena, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
For more information contact Dr. Reynolds at 713-313-1974

"12 Years A Slave: Hollywood, History and the Law"
Public Affairs Bldg. room 114, 12:00 noon
For more information contact Dr. Cary Wintz, 713-313-7324 or Susan Bynum, 713-313-4273

Wednesday, April 16, 2014
Afro-Hispanic Regional Culture Show
Tiger Walk/Student Center, 12 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Department of Foreign Language Presents: International Festival
Tiger Walk in front of Student Center, 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.
Showcase of Culture, Fashion, Music and Dance

International Student Forum
Public Affairs Building, 3:00 p.m.

Athletic All Sports Banquet
Hyatt Regency Imperial Ballroom, 1200 Louisiana St., 77002, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 17, 2014
Faculty and Staff Campaign Victory Celebration
COST Atrium, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TLEC Presents: Balancing Teaching, Research/Scholarship and Service
RJT Library Exhibit Room, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Register online at http://tlec.tsu.edu

Central Intelligence Agency Information Session
School of Public Affairs, room 202, 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.
RSVP to placementservices@tsu.edu

Friday, April 18, 2014 - Sunday, April 20, 2014
TSU Theater Presents: DREAMGIRLS
Granville Sawyer Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.; 4:00 p.m.
Purchase tickets online at www.dreamgirlstsu.brownpapertickets.com

Monday, April 21 - Friday, April 25, 2014
Communications Week
MLK Building

Monday, April 21 - Saturday, April 26, 2014
Spring Fest
TSU Campus
Texas Southern University
2014 Spring Commencement

Saturday, May 10 - 9:30 A.M.
Health & Physical Education Arena

All graduation candidates will assemble in the Fairchild Building at 7:45 a.m.
The Processional will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Rehearsal for Graduation Candidates
Thursday, May 8
Health & Physical Education Arena
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Refreshments will be provided at both rehearsals

Dr. Perry Khepera Kyles’ Annual Egypt Sacred Lands Tour

This tour includes:
- Entrance into all tombs, monuments, and museums
- Stay in deluxe hotels (tips included)
- Breakfast and dinner everyday, lunch on five days
- Lectures and discussion at hotels and in the field by Dr. Kyles
- All travel
- A copy of Dr. Kyles’ limited edition book Kemet 101: An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian History and Culture
- Checklist and other important information to help you make the most of your journey
- 3-6 hours undergraduate/graduate credit (with approval of university)

Tour Price $3,200*

*In order to receive this discounted price you must:
Pay a $300 deposit when you register - Pay another $1,300 by June 1st - Pay the remaining $1,600 balance by July 10th

I would like to welcome you to our 2014 Sacred Lands Tour to Egypt. It will be my great pleasure to be your tour guide as you delve back into the world of your ancestors.

Through my books, lectures, and tours I have introduced thousands of people to the world of Ancient Egypt/Kemet and the mindset of the Great Kings and Queens of Ancient Egypt. You will see firsthand all of the popular monuments such as the Pyramids of the Ghiza Plateau (go inside Menkaur pyramid), the Great Step Pyramid that was designed by Imhotep, and the foremost Cairo Museum. You will also visit rarely seen temples and monuments such as the Tomb of Akhenaton, the Tomb of Khnumhotep II, and also the Coptic Museum.

Ancient Egyptians responded to all challenges with great ingenuity and determination. You will also learn how they applied these concepts to establish the most successful civilization in human history.

I encourage everyone to take this pilgrimage to see the lands of our African ancestors!! The place where Judaism and Christianity began!

Perry Khepera Kyles, Ph.D

Tours@drkyles.com | 832-409-4193 | www.drkyles.com

TSU E-News NOW Credits:
Marcie Brooks-Community Outreach; Andrew McCray-Media Writer/Graphics; Earlie Hudnall-University Photographer; Kendrick Callis-Communications Specialist; Amanda Beck-Creative Service Manager; Eva Pickens-VP of Communications

TSU News

The deadline to submit news or information for TSU E-News is Monday by noon. Submissions may be sent to callisk@tsu.edu or pickensek@tsu.edu. For any questions or comments, call Eva Pickens at 713-313-4205.