Happy Holidays DUBAC Members!

Fall term will soon be coming to an end and we thank you for the support you’ve given us in networking events, volunteering and leadership opportunities.

Please take some time to read through our newsletter for a look at all the great things that DUBAC has done and will do in 2020. As a friendly reminder, please don’t forget to make your annual gift giving donation to DUBAC. Our campaign goal this year is $5,000 and donations of any amount are welcome. Feel free to contact us for any questions, events or information you may have for us at DUBAC.philly@gmail.com.

Enjoy!

**EVENTS**

Diversity in Fashion NYC - **November 7, 2019**

Drexel’s turkey project - **December 12, 2020**

Sheku-Kannen-Mason concert - **December 17, 2019**

Ugly sweater holiday event DUBAC DC - **Dec 19, 2020**

Homecoming Brunch and Basketball Game – **January 18, 2020**

Women and Leadership Speaker Series – **April 2020 TBA**

Alumni Weekend Mixer – **May 15-16, 2020**

Student Life Awards - **May 2020 TBA**

William S. Pittman Graduation Ceremony - **May 2020 TBA**
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Continued...

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Alumni Engagement
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ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS
ALPHONSO McCLENDON

Alphonso McClendon (MS ’98) is Program Director and Associate Professor of Design & Merchandising in the Westphal College of Media Arts & Design at Drexel University. He researches and develops curriculum in merchandise management, product development and sourcing using product lifecycle management, enterprise resource planning and retail analytics software including AIMS360, Visual Retailing and Edited. McClendon has traveled extensively in Taiwan, China, Japan and South Korea for research, design and product development.

Additionally, McClendon investigates the influence of cultural aesthetics and representations on fashion, media and commerce. His book, Fashion and Jazz: Dress, Identity and Subcultural Improvisation (Bloomsbury 2015), explores the social, economic and political intersections of jazz culture and racial identity. Also, he published the article “Hot, Cool and Gone in the Twenty-First Century: Black Male Identity and the Embodiment of Early Jazz Improvisation” in Interactions: Studies in Communication & Culture (Intellect 2015).


APRIL LYNN JAMES

April Lynn James, classically-trained soprano and award-winning scholar with a PhD in Musicology from Harvard, founded the Maria Antonia Project to bring her research on operas composed by women out of the archives and onto the stage. She also turned her groundbreaking exhibit, In Her Own Hand: Operas Composed by Women 1625-1913 into a talk that she toured around NY State for several years. It lives on as a LibGuide.

An obsession with the works of Lewis Carroll sparked by the viewing of the Tim Burton film Alice in Wonderland led to the guardian angel of her sense of humor, Madison Hatta, Sonneteer, springing fully-formed into April’s consciousness in 2011. Madison’s whimsical rhymes discourse on such themes as madness, Time, career & family dysFUNction, and the importance of drinking tea. April plus Madison have published two chapbooks of “Madisonnets”—Madison Hatta’s Book of Unreasonable Rhymes, and Madison Hatta’s Book of Unrelenting Rhymes—through Philadelphia’s Moonstone Press.

April received her MSLIS from Drexel in 2017, and is currently Reader Services Librarian for Penn’s Kislak Center. She is increasingly interested in teaching, writing, and speaking about the connection between creativi-Tea, spirituali-Tea and wellness.

For more, see www.aprilplusmadison.com.
SHANE NELSON

Nelson (’17) is currently supporting students in The Center for Male Engagement at The Community College of Philadelphia. He recently received his master’s in Higher Education from Syracuse University. Shane supports DUBAC as the co-chair for the young alumni committee. As a local Southwest Philadelphian, Shane takes pride in finding ways to give back to the city through service. Shane volunteers with The Collective Success Network, his brothers in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and causes around the city focused on education. Shane enjoys traveling and finding ways to develop new skills. In his spare time, Shane meditates, cooks, and keeps up with his reading rotation.

INVURE BY LAUREN BRUCE AND SHANIA SMITH

Invure is an ed-tech startup that is on a mission to help high school students during their college search and selection process. We believe that all students regardless of their background should be prepared to select the right institution, the first time. That is why we decided to build Invure. We’re building a mobile app that allows students to make more informed decisions by providing them with information and recommendations to potential universities that best fit their interests. Our goal is to help students select the right school and graduate successfully while also supporting universities in their recruitment and retention efforts.

Information on the Founders:
The cofounders, Lauren ’18 and Shania ’19 are both LeBow College of Business graduates from Drexel. They used what they’ve learned at Drexel plus their real-world experience to solve an issue that they were passionate about. Anyone interested in reaching out to the founders can get in contact through their company email address below or reach out via their website.

Email: Invure@gmail.com
Website: Invure.org
Unrelenting Rhymes—through Philadelphia’s Moonstone Press.
THANK YOU PROVOST BLAKE FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT. WE WISH YOU MUCH SUCCESS ON YOUR JOURNEY.

SINCERELY,
DUBAC