Hamilton, Fairfax, University, Santee, Cheviot Hills & Richard A. Alonzo High Schools with Webster, Pio Pico, Audubon, Orville Wright & Palms Middle Schools

Present

African American Family Day

2015

Supporting Your Child’s Full Potential
Hamilton, Fairfax, University, Santee, Cheviot Hills, Richard A. Alonzo, Palms, Webster, Pio Pico, Audubon, and Orville Wright Schools

Present

African American Family Day
Supporting Your Child’s Full Potential

Saturday, April 25, 2015
9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Registration & Continental Breakfast begin at 8:30 a.m.

Keynote Speaker

Wes Hall
Author and Radio Personality

Special Guests

Reginald Hudlin
Writer, Film Director and Producer

Jay Ellis
Actor and Producer

Hamilton High School
2955 South Robertson Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90034

April Monroe, African American Family Day Program Coordinator
Ajh5599@lausd.net
Agenda

8:30 - 9:00  Registration and Continental Breakfast  (School Cafeteria)

9:00 - 9:30  Welcome  (Auditorium)

  Black National Anthem – Tiffany Holmes, Caitlyn Lemle,  
  Nia English, Tailer Hill, Summer Hoskins, Amanda Francois-Hays  
  Stephanie Omuson, Hamilton High School Black Student  
  Union President  
  Gary Garcia, Hamilton High School Principal

Invited Guests

  Dr. George McKenna III, LAUSD School Board Member  
  Steve Zimmer, LAUSD School Board Member  
  Honorable Karen Bass, Congresswoman 37th District  
  Cheryl Hildreth, Instructional Superintendent,  
  Educational Service Center West, LAUSD  
  April Monroe, African American Family Day  
  Coordinator, Hamilton High School

9:40 - 10:30  *Workshop Session 1  (Technology Building)

10:30 - 10:45  Break  (Technology Building)

10:50 - 11:40  *Workshop Session 2  (Technology Building)

11:45 – 12:10  Speakers  (Auditorium)

  Special Recognition – Jay Ellis, Ryan Smith and Tremeal Bradford  
  Keynote Speaker – Wes Hall  
  Special Guest – Reginald Hudlin

12:15 – 1:15  Lunch (School Cafeteria) and Art Show  
  College Fair – Communities in Schools  
  Supa Lowry Brothers Special Performance  
  Voices through the Mic

1:15 - 1:30  Closing

*Workshops are in designated classrooms in the Technology Building.  
Parents/guardians may choose any two workshops listed on the following pages.  
All workshops are presented twice.
Workshops

1. Creating and Maintaining a College Culture at Home
   Room T-101
   Parent Panel: Tony Clemons, Alece Placensia, Life Griffith, and Yvette Battle

   During this workshop, parents of younger students will be able to ask questions and learn best practices from a panel of African American parents of current and former high school seniors who have successfully completed the college application process. This panel will provide parents opportunities to:

   • Have an open and honest conversation about the college application process.
   • Learn from panel members about their experiences with the application process.
   • Find ways to access available resources to successfully apply to college.
   • Understand ways to prepare for college at each grade level.
   • Establish a network of parents who can be supportive in preparing their children for college.

2. How to Pay for College
   Room T109
   Facilitated by: Ifeanyi Onyejiji (Fulfillment Fund)

   This workshop will provide a thorough overview of the financial aid process for college. Parents will discover how to make college affordable for their families. Included in this presentation is:

   • A breakdown of the total cost of a college education
   • Details of the major federal and state grants
   • Scholarship resources
   • Advice on what students/parents can do now to prepare for the financial aid process
3. Effective Parent /Teacher Communication
Room T-116

Presenters: Stephanie Lartielier (Hamilton), David Martinez (Palms), Angela Tolela-Haderle (Webster), and Charles Walls III (Pio Pico)

This workshop will provide parents with effective communication tools to help them connect with their child’s teachers. Parents will explore their rights and responsibilities in order to help educate their child. Among the questions addressed:

• How should I respond when I receive a phone call, email or note home?

• When do I speak or meet with the teacher?

• How do I help my child communicate with the teacher?

• Since I’m not a teacher, what can I do to help my child in school and with school work?

4. Success in Middle School including Culmination Requirements
Room T-104

Presenters: Alexis Flenorl (Audubon), Nikysha Gilliam (Audubon) and John Ghong (Wright)

This workshop will provide parents with information and resources to help their child succeed in middle school. The workshop also includes important changes to middle school graduation requirements that parents should be aware of. Parents will learn about:

• The importance of attendance

• The student support systems in place for middle school students

• Ways that parents can be involved at the school site

• The new middle school culmination activity and certificate of completion policy
5. Helping IEP Children Reach Their Full Potential  
Room T-117  
**Presenters:** Ashley Dale (AP-EIS Special Ed), Anna White (Hamilton), Barbara Hinton (Hamilton), Luther Waters (Audubon), and Chanel Smith (Hamilton)

This workshop is for parents of students with special needs. Parents will be given information on programs for students receiving a high school diploma and for students receiving certification of completion. Parents will learn about:

- Services offered to students with disabilities, including the Resource Specialist Program and the Special Day Program
- Other specialized programs designed to serve students with moderate to severe disabilities
- How students with IEPs can apply for accommodations through the College Board
- College and University Special Education Services
- Post-Secondary Options

6. Transitioning from Middle School to High School  
Room T-207  
**Presenter:** Gary Garcia (Hamilton)  
**Panel:** High School Seniors  
- Santee – India Wagoner  
- University – Sara Flamer  
- Hamilton – James Key, Steven Wash, Destiny Griffin, Chantel Wiggins, Simone Smith, and Alexandria Clemons

This workshop is for parents of current 8th grade students. Parents will be given information to help prepare their child for the transition from middle school to high school. Parents will:

- Have an opportunity to ask questions of current seniors about what to expect in high school and how to best prepare for it
- Receive information about summer bridge programs
- Learn about the School for Advanced Studies (SAS) Gifted programs
- Learn the difference between middle school graduation and high school graduation
- Learn about the new LAUSD A-G high school graduation requirements
7. Helping your Child Reach His/Her Full Potential  
**Room T-107**  
**Presenters:** Mandla Kayise (Hamilton Community Representative) and Yolanda Snell (City of Angels)

Whether your child is struggling to meet minimum expectations or falling short of what you believe he or she is capable, you may be looking for ways to motivate, inspire or facilitate his or her highest level of achievement. This workshop will provide parents with tools and strategies to foster self-direction, personal growth and academic success. Areas covered include:

- How to get your child organized around his or her goals
- How to build and manage a network of support around your child’s goals and needs
- How to engage teachers and counselors around your child’s academic goals
- How to identify and nurture your child’s learning interests and goals

8. The Nuts and Bolts of High School Graduation and College Entrance Requirements  
**Room T-108**  
**Presenters:** Karen Sackett (Hamilton) and Sherymaria Makkar Bacon (Hamilton)

This workshop will provide families and students with a clearer understanding of:

- LAUSD high school graduation requirements (classes of 2013-2015; class of 2016; classes of 2017 and beyond)
- The differences among admission requirements for the University of California (UC), California State University (CSU), and private colleges
- The differences between meeting minimum college admissions and being a competitive college applicant
- An overview of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) system
- Understanding when and how to obtain fee waivers
9. Protecting Our Children/Students  
Room T-205  

**Presenters:** Hugo Acevedo (Palms), Aisha Powell (Hamilton), and Keith Mott (LAPD), Keith Frierson (Community member), Rockisha Roland (Hamilton)

This workshop will provide parents with information and resources to detect whether their child is being diverted from reaching his or her full potential because of such distractions as gang affiliation, tagging crews, drug use, etc. Other issues that will be reviewed are:

- The importance of providing limits for children such as setting a curfew
- Resources in the community
- Resources in the schools
- Positive discipline strategies

10. Parent Guide to the Common Core State Standards  
Room T-102  

**Presenters:** Firoza Kanji (LAUSD-ESC West) and Farhad Mahmud (LAUSD-ESC West)

This workshop provides an overview of the newly adopted Common Core State Standards and how these standards impact instruction and assessment in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Participants will learn about the implementation of Common Core State Standards in the District.

The Common Core State Standards are a starting point for transforming the way we practice the art of teaching and for building stronger conversations among teachers, grade levels/departments, schools and states. There will be a consistent expectation throughout the country about what our students need to know and be able to do at each grade level and in each course of study. The Common Core State Standards are a set of core understandings we want our students to have to be prepared for college and their careers.
11. Advantages and Dangers of Social Media  
Room T-206  
**Presenters:** Chineye Teems (Webster) and Rickey Teems (Community Member)

Today’s technology has made life more convenient in many ways. Smart phones, tablets, the internet, texting, etc. have made it possible to disseminate information rapidly. While students need to be tech savvy to be competitive in today’s society, as parents we need to be well informed about how to properly use social media while avoiding its dangers. If you don’t know some of the following terms and their implications, then this is the workshop for you.

- Selfies
- Snap Chat
- Vine
- KIK
- Instagram
- Twitter

Room T-204  
**Presenter:** William Ponder (College Board Consultant)

This session will provide an overview of Big Future, a comprehensive, student-centered college and career planning resource developed by the College Board. Discover the interactive online tools and features available to connect students to information about admissions, financial aid, and more.
Student Conference Agenda

8:30 - 9:00* Registration and Continental Breakfast (Cafeteria)

9:00 - 9:30* Welcome (Auditorium)

9:30 - 9:40 Students go to Auditorium

9:40 - 9:45 Student Welcome - Kenneth Turner (Hamilton BSU Sponsor)
    Eugene Durrah (DiDi Hirsch), Ebreon Farris (UCLA EAOP Site Coordinator),
    Favre-Smith (Communities in Schools), Stephanie Omuson (Hamilton BSU President),
    Taylor Johnson (Fairfax BSU President), Destinee Ross (University BSU President)
    and Ariel Alston (Santee BSU President), Kamil Fields (Former Hamilton BSU President)

9:45 - 9:55 Dr. Jonli Tunstall (Director of UCLA VIP Scholars)

9:55 - 10:40 Workshop 1 - The Cultural Connection (Auditorium)
    Facilitators: Kenneth Turner, Dana Henry and Erin Favre-Smith
    Student Performances
    • Tiffany Holmes - Singer (Hamilton)
    • Stephanie Omuson & Nia English - Spoken Word (Hamilton)
    • Imani Williams - Singer (Hamilton)
    • University HS Step Team
    • Adrian Smith - Spoken Word (Hamilton)
    • Preston Parker - Singer (Hamilton)
    • Shyra Thomas - Spoken Word (University)
    • Hamilton HS Dancers

10:40 - 10:50 Break

10:50 - 11:20 Workshop 2a (For Middle School Students - Room T201)
    High School Seniors Panel Discussion
    Hamilton, University, Fairfax, and Santee
    Ice Breaker - Prizes
    Facilitators: Dana Henry and Erin Favre-Smith
    High School Student Panel: Stephanie Omuson, Destinee Ross,
    Taylor Johnson, and Myles Miller

A panel of Black Student Union and Communities-in-Schools student leaders will speak about their experiences as high school students, the transition from middle to high school and the paths they have taken to prepare themselves for high school graduation and college acceptance. This will be followed by a question and answer period.

Continued on page 12
10:50 - 11:20  **Workshop 2b** (For High School Students—Auditorium)

**College Student Panel Discussion**

**Facilitators:** Ebreon Farris, Mathew Williamson, and Eugene Durrah

**College Student Panel:** Kamil Fields (UCLA), Amira Heath (UC Irvine), Ameinah Thomas (UCLA), Deante King (CSULB), Ajaye Thompson (CSULA), EZMoney Harper (UCLA), Alexander Wilson, Jr. (UCR), Breahna King (CSULB), Antonio Henry (UCLA), and Dierdre Zackery-Qualls (CSUN)

This workshop will provide high school students with important information on reaching their full potential. What does this look like in high school? Guest college students will speak about the paths they took to get into college and about their current college experiences. Students will have an opportunity to ask the panel questions about college and to learn strategies about how to be prepared for their transition to college.

11:30 - 11:45  **Special Guest - Jay Ellis** (Auditorium)

**Actor and Producer**

11:45 - 12:10*  **Keynote Speaker and Guest Speaker**

(Auditorium)

Join parents in the auditorium for keynote and guest speakers. Introduction by Stephanie Omuson, Hamilton Black Student Union President

12:15 - 1:15*  **Lunch, College Fair and Art Walk**

(Cafeteria)

1:15 - 1:30*  **Closing**

*Students will be with parents/guardians. See Program Agenda (page 2).
WES HALL is one of the nation’s leading experts in the area of working with ‘Young Men of Color.” As an educational consultant to Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), he provides professional development to teachers throughout the district in the area of “Relationship Building, and Success Strategies for Re-engaging Disengaged Students.” As an independent contractor for LAUSD, he works with Dr. Brenda Manuel, in the LAUSD Student Unit at PCSB, and heads up the department’s young men of color initiatives.

Wes created one of the few elective courses in the country that is directed specifically to young men of color. After years of research and working with economically challenged youth, he developed a curriculum that helps disengaged students connect a quality education to their future financial well-being. The course is offered at Omaha South High School, in Omaha, Nebraska. Students receive credit toward their graduation for successfully completing the course. The elective is in its third year, and Wes remains a consultant to the class.

In 2001, Wes was selected and featured in the nationally published “Black Enterprise” magazine and was named a “Successpert,” which is an expert on the topic of success. He was featured in the Washington Post newspaper for his innovative work with boys of color and for his creative approach to helping teachers build successful relationships with students who come from diverse backgrounds.

Wes is the author of You Are the Money! He recently released his new children’s book, Jack and the Sly Fox. The book helps young readers understand how to use their natural “gifts and talents” to attract wealth and abundance. He is the host of a weekly radio program entitled, “The You Are the Money Radio Show,” which airs every Thursday at 11a.m., on L.A.Talk Radio. Wes currently resides in Los Angeles, California, where he continues his work of positively impacting and transforming lives.
REGINALD HUDLIN

Special Guest

REGINALD HUDLIN has created, written and or directed such beloved films as House Party, Boomerang and BeBe’s Kids, which are some of the most profitable and influential films of his generation. Hudlin received a Best Picture nomination from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for producing Quentin Tarantino’s Django Unchained, starring Jamie Foxx, Leonardo DiCaprio, Christoph Waltz, Kerry Washington and Samuel L. Jackson. The film won multiple awards including two Oscars and two Golden Globe Awards and is one of the top grossing westerns of all time.

Hudlin is the executive producer and writer of the Black Panther animated series, which premiered following a popular five-year comic book run. He was also executive producer of The Boondocks animated series. Hudlin is currently reviving the Milestone comic book line, including a live action series for signature character Static Shock.

From 2005-2009, Hudlin was the first President of Entertainment for B.E.T. Networks, creating some of the networks highest rated shows during his tenure. While there, he launched a profitable home entertainment division and revamped the news division, which went on to win more than a dozen awards in that period.

Recently, Hudlin directed episodes of Murder In The First, New Girl and Marry Me. Hudlin executive produced the last three NAACP Image Awards. Hudlin was also the executive producer of Governor’s Awards, presenting four Oscars. Last summer, he partnered with The AMPAS and The Hollywood Bowl to produce a live cinematic concert experience titled: The Black Movie Soundtrack, which was a critical and commercial success.
JAY ELLIS is the new series regular for the B.E.T hit series, The Game. Ellis starred as Bryce “Blueprint” Westbrook, a brilliant Stanford grad and recipient of the Heisman Trophy. Jay can also be seen sharing the screen with Terrence Howard in the Farrelly Brothers’ film Movie 43. His other credits include guest-starring roles on Hart of Dixie, How I Met Your Mother, NCIS, and Grey’s Anatomy.

The gregarious Ellis is a self-proclaimed “Air Force Brat,” attending twelve schools in thirteen years, which has proven only helpful in Hollywood. “You have to learn to be the one to initiate conversation. I’ve had to adapt to different situations and always played the ‘new kid’ card.” Born in Fort Sumter, South Carolina, Ellis is an only child. His father is a career Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, and his mother is currently the COO of the Bank of Oklahoma. Just before high school, Jay and his family settled in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He attended Metro Christian Academy where he excelled academically, in athletics, and as the class clown. His athletic abilities earned Ellis a basketball scholarship to Concordia University in Portland, Oregon. There he was elected student body president, spent 2 years working with AmeriCorps in Oregon, and completed a successful internship with the Portland Trailblazers before deciding to ultimately follow his childhood dream of becoming an actor.

Upon moving to Los Angeles, Ellis worked in the fashion industry as a model and as a retail executive opening stores for True Religion, Reiss, and Kitson. Ellis used all his free time to study acting and pursue his career. His relentless preparation has paid off. “I auditioned 8 times, in 6 weeks for the role on The Game.” When asked about his success, Ellis said, “I feel like I’m going to school as the new kid again, but it’s so exciting.” For Jay Ellis, this can only mean good things. Jay loves to surf, has a sneaker collection that puts many collectors to shame, and is co-owner of spin and Pilates health clubs in Louisiana.
AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY DAY

April 25, 2015

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following individuals for their many contributions to the African American Family Day Conference.

**PROGRAM COORDINATOR**
April Monroe (Hamilton)

**FAMILY DAY EVENT COORDINATOR**
Mitzi Connor, Noble Designs International

**SCHOOL PRINCIPALS**
Gary Garcia (Hamilton HS)
Eric Davidson (University HS)
Carmina Narcoda (Fairfax HS)
Dr. Martin Gomez (Santee HSI)
Rhea Turek (Cheviot Hills HS)
Francis Esparza (Richard Alonzo CDS)
Peter Benefiel (Webster MS)
Dr. Moriuchi (Palms MS)
Charmain Young (Audubon MS)
Cristina Wantz (Wright MS)
Dr. Miranda Conston-Raoof (Pio Pico MS)

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**
Gary Garcia (Hamilton)
April Monroe (Hamilton)
Nasario Vasquez (Hamilton)
Camila Lacques (Hamilton)
Emmely Acquino (Hamilton)
Sandra Krist (Hamilton)
Kenneth Turner (Hamilton)
Teri Warner (Hamilton)
Stephanie Omuson (Hamilton BSU)
Simone Rahotep (Hamilton Parent)
Mitzi Conner (Community Member)
Keren Johnson (Community Member)
Mandla Kayise (Community Member)
Dana Henry (Communities in Schools)
Erin Favre-Smith (Communities in Schools)
Christine Ponce (Communities in Schools)

**PLANNING COMMITTEE CONTINUED**
Matthew Williamson (Communities in Schools)
Erica Doe (Communities in Schools)
Paola Schenkelberg (Communities in Schools)
Ebreon Farris (UCLA EAOP)
Fredy Nunez (Pio Pico)
Charles Walls (Pio Pico)
Keith Gage (Fairfax)
Tamala Crawford (University)
Tracey Fields (Palms)
Luther Waters (Audubon)
Nikysha Gilliam (Audubon)
Junsung Ghong (Wright)
Aja Davis (Wright)
Dr. Brenda Manuel (Student Parent Involvement Unit)

**PRESENTERS**
Tony Clemons
Alece Placensia
Life Griffith
Yvette Battle
Ifeanyi Onyejiji
Stephanie Lartielier
David Martinez
Angela Tolela-Haderle
Charles Walls III
Alexis Flenorl
Nikysha Gilliam
John Ghong
Ashley Dale
Anna White
Barbara Hinton
Luther Waters
Gary Garcia
PRESENTERS CONTINUED
Mandla Kayise
Yolanda Snell
Karen Sackett
Sherymaria Makkar Bacon
Hugo Acevedo
Aisha Powell
Keith Mott
Firoza Kanji
Farhad Mahmud
Chineye Teems
Rickey Teems
William Ponder
Chanel Smith
Keith Frierson
Rockisha Roland

SPEAKERS
Wes Hall (Keynote)
Reginald Hudlin (Special Guest)
Jay Ellis (Special Guest)
Dr. Jonli Tunstall (Guest Speaker)

BSU PRESIDENTS
Destinee Ross (University)
Sara Flamer (University VP)
Ariel Alston (Santee)
Channelle Miller (Santee VP)
Stephanie Omuson (Hamilton)
Chantel Wiggins (Hamilton VP)
Taylor Johnson (Fairfax)

HIGH SCHOOL PANELISTS
India Wagoner
Sara Flamer
James Key
Steven Wash
Destiny Griffin
Chantel Wiggins
Simone Smith
Alexandria Clemons
Stephanie Omuson
Destinee Ross
Taylor Johnson
Myles Miller

ART BY HAMILTON’S VISUAL ARTS AND COMMUNICATION CREW

COLLEGE STUDENT PANELISTS
Kamil Fields
Amira Heath
Ameinah Thomas
Deante King
Ajaye Thompson
EZMoney Harper
Alexander Wilson Jr.
Breahna King
Antonio Henry
Dierdre Zackery-Qualls

ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS
Camila Lacques-Zapien
Emmely Aquino
Adriel Ross
Diana Becnel
Cayla Preseley
Ayanna Harris
Dominic Calhoun
Diedre Zackary-Qualls
Diego Alva
Evelyn Hidalgo
Elizabth Arrazola

STUDENT PERFORMERS
Tiffany Holmes
Caitlyn Lemle
Tailer Hill
Summer Hoskins
Amanda Francois-Hays
Stephanie Omuson
Nia English
Adrian Smith
Imani Williams
Preston Parker
Shyra Thomas
Hamilton HS Dance Team
University HS Step Team
VENDORS
Noble Design International
City Fair Catering
Mama’s Pizza
Matthew Stumphy Photographer
City Print

SPECIAL THANK YOU
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Grifffen Bower (Communities in Schools)
Marlene Perez (Hami SAA)
Rocio Espinoza (Uni SAA)
Darren Kana (Fairfax SAA)
Ruby Gold (Palms SAA)
Danielle Davis (Webster SAA)
Victoria Gonzalez (Pio Pico SAA)
Tracey Harris (Audubon SAA)
Alieda Laduff (Wright SAA)
Luisa Yip (LAUSD Accounts Payable)
Connie Moore-Kelly
Celina Molina
Marci Garret
Lorena Vasquez
Teri Warner
Nathaniel Rock
Karsten Parker
Fornesha Torrence
Dr. Omar Cook
Lina Barron
Giselle Gonzales
Leon Jefferson
Arree Vary
Linda Johnson
Arlene Gamble
Malinda Lewis
Andrea Richardson
Anna Sorriano
Chea Hang
Charles Deed
Laura Marinez
Patricia Mungua
Arlene Weissmann
Adam Beckner
Michael Jackson
Narda Can

SPECIAL THANK YOU CONTINUED
Connecting Communities to UCLA (CCU)
BITA Student Leadership (Hamilton SLC)
BSU: Black Student Union
ASB: Associated Student Body (Hamilton)
Supa Lowery Brothers
Beyond the Bell
EL Student Leadership (Hamilton)
UCLA After School Program (Hamilton)
- Blue and Gold Scholars
CIS: Communities in Schools
DALLA- Dreamers Activists Leaders of LA
California Credit Union
First African American Family Day: 2013

Keynote Speaker:  Ryan Smith  
Director of Education Programs and Policy, United Way

Special Guest:  Paula Patton  
Actor, Hamilton Graduate, and Recipient of Hamilton  
2013 Distinguished Alumni Award

Second African American Family Day: 2014

Keynote Speaker:  Tremeal Bradford  
UCLA Admissions Officer

Special Guest:  Cedric the Entertainer  
Actor, Recipient of African American Family Day 2014  
Humanitarian Award

Third African American Family Day: 2015

Keynote Speaker:  Wes Hall  
Radio Host and Author

Special Guest:  Reginald Hudlin  
Actor, Recipient of African American Family Day 2015  
Humanitarian Award

Special Guest:  Jay Ellis  
Actor, Recipient of African American Family Day 2015  
Student Choice Award