October 2011

2011 "Remember to Believe" Summit for African American Male Students



The purpose of the Summit is to address the ongoing concerns that the parents, students, schools and community are wrestling with today. Those concerns are attrition rates, academic achievement, social and personal responsibilities, suspension, and incarceration rates of our youth.

It is our believe that if we wait

for others to address our youth and their issues, the outcome will be what we see now: low selfesteem, lack of goals and dreams, and poor academic motivation, thus creating frustration, which leads to aggressive behaviors that ultimately ends up with incarceration or death (both physical as well as psychological).





The Summit is presented by 100 Black Men of Madison, Inc. and will be held on 18 November from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at American Family Insurance company, 6000 American Parkway, Madison, Wisconsin.

For more information, <u>click here</u> to view the Summit flyer.

2011 Backpacks for Success Picnic

Over the past 15 years, the Hundred Black Men of Madison, Inc. (100 BMM), a 100% volunteer, 501(c)(3) organization, has provided over 22,000 backpacks containing school supplies and books (at no charge) to area disadvantaged children at our annual Backpacks for Success Picnic for elementary and middle school students of all ethnicities and genders.

This year's event was again held at Demetral Park in Madison, Wisconsin, on 20 August 2011.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors, volunteers, members and participants for making this year a success.

Below are pictures from this event.

Calendar of Events

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to view the entire 100 BMM 2011 Calendar of Events.

October 2011

18 October 2011 Adoption of Orchard Ridge Elementary School Reading Program

November 2011

8 November 2011 Adoption of Orchard Ridge Elementary School Reading Program

15 November 2011 2nd Annual Celebrating Diversity Symposium

17 November 2011 Board of Directors Meeting

18 November 2011 2011 "Remember to Believe" Summit for African American Male Students

19 November 2011 General Membership Meeting

19 November 2011 2nd Annual High School Spoken Word Poetry Competition "Can You Spit?"

22 November 2011 Adoption of Orchard Ridge Elementary School Reading Program

MISSION

The Mission of the 100 Black Men of Madison, Inc. is to improve the quality of life within our communities and enhance educational and economic opportunities for all African Americans.

VISION

100 Black Men of Madison, Inc. seeks to serve as a beacon of leadership by utilizing our diverse talents to create environments where our children are motivated to achieve, and to empower our people to become selfsufficient shareholders in the











economic and social fabric of the communities we serve.

VALUES

100 Black Men of Madison, Inc. is committed to the intellectual development of youth and the economic empowerment of the African American community based on the following precepts: respect for family, spirituality, justice, and integrity.

CONTACT INFORMATION

100 Black Men of Madison, Inc. P.O. Box 787 Madison, WI 53701 <u>E-Mail | Website</u>

Join Our Mailing List!



Get Ready - Voting Laws Have Changed

For you to exercise your constitutional right to vote, identification will be required in 2012. A Wisconsin driver's license, Wisconsin ID card, or passport will work, as long as it expires after 11/2/2010 (the last November election). Your ID does not need to show your current address.

If you do not have a Wisconsin ID, you may obtain a free ID from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). See <u>http://www.cityofmadison.com/election</u> or call (608) 266-4601 for more information.

- 21 February 2012 Spring Primary
- 3 April 2012 Spring Election
- 14 August 2012 Fall Primary
- 6 November 2012 Presidential Election

A Few Words with 100 Black Men A Fresh Perspective on a Variety of Issues

Have you ever been witness to the birth of something new? Well, if not, your wait is over. This is the inaugural installment of "A Few Words with 100 Black Men." This will be an eye-opening opinion and editorial voice without the desire to be condescending or adversarial. "A Few Words with 100 Black Men" will be specifically designed to give you insight into the inner workings of the 100 Black Men of Madison (The 100). Over the course of the next several months, "A Few Words with 100 Black Men" will provide you with explicit and uncompromised thought on the general strength of your community. It will outline how



J.R. Sims

The 100, through its many programs, works in conjunction with you to provide a solid base from which we can all grow in knowledge and power.

Each and every month, this column will provide a fresh perspective on a variety of issues with the focus being on intellectual honesty and real life solutions. Each installment will feature a guest writer from among the membership of The 100. We will provide relevance and wisdom that intend to make an impact in our community.

No problem is too large or too obscure to escape notice. If it affects one of us, it affects all of us. The problem may be underachievement in our schools, surges in the prison population, healthy lifestyle choices, financial literacy, mentoring, or economic empowerment. From soup to nuts, from A to Z, it will be addressed here.

We plan to talk about our success and our failures, our triumphs and our tribulations, because only by shining the light of truth on the insidious specter of failure in our community can we spawn serious solutions, and out of serious solutions, come serious results.

In short, you are witnessing the beginning of an excitingly new and different story. Join us here each and every month while we take the experiences of the past and apply the knowledge gleaned to the trials of the future.

Always keep in mind that The 100 is your partner. Our focus is the health, safety and advancement of our youth and our community. And although at times you may not like what we have to say and you may not agree with what we have to say, you will realize that what we have to say needs to be said and nobody else was willing to say it.

This column will be your journey with the final destination being truth. At times, the journey we will take you on may seem as complicated as a trip to the moon, and other times as straightforward as peddling a bicycle.

Don't let it sweat you, since the truth is too strong to be denied; you should just sit back and enjoy the ride.

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J.R. Sims is the Director of Public Relations for 100 Black Men of Madison, Inc.

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