

Day 2 PACHA: Private-Sector Engagement- Innovative and Strategic Partnerships

DaShawn Usher

Founder + Executive Director,
Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative (MOBI)

Associate Director, Communities of Color
GLAAD

dusher@glad.org | dashawn@mobi-nyc.com

DaSHAWN USHER

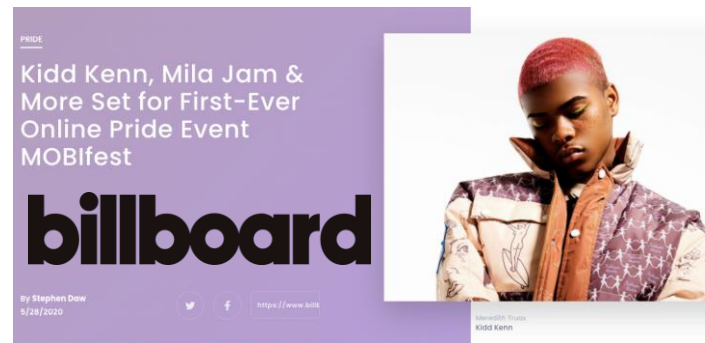
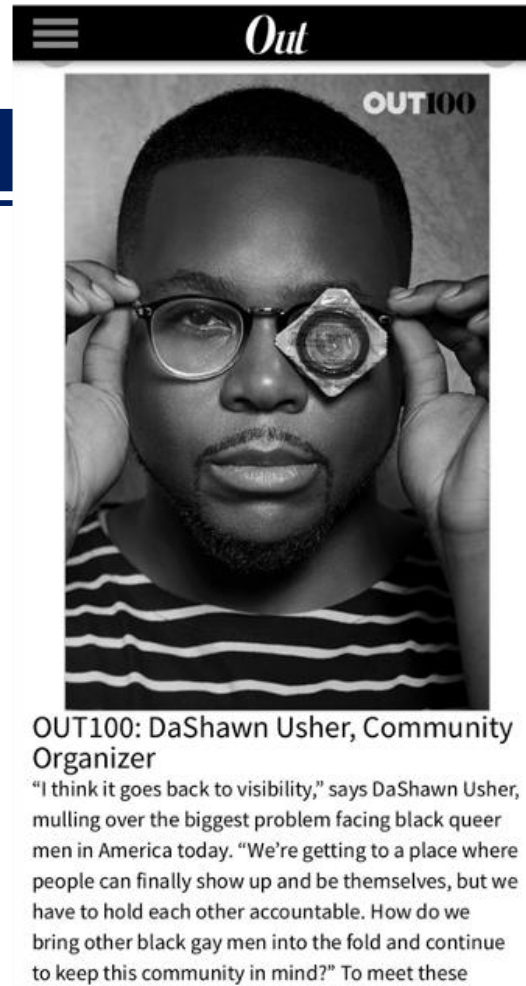
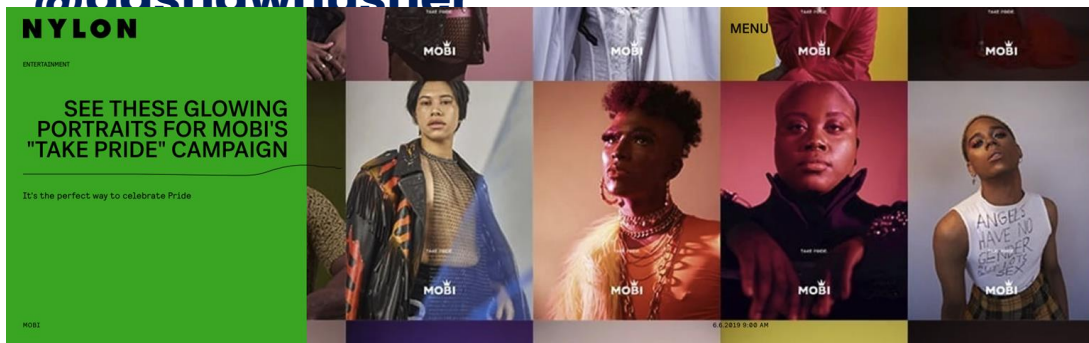
he/him/his

Associate Director, Communities of Color
GLAAD

Founder + Executive Director,
Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative (MOBI)

Writer, Executive Producer,
Community Mobilizer, Culture Curator

@dashawnusher

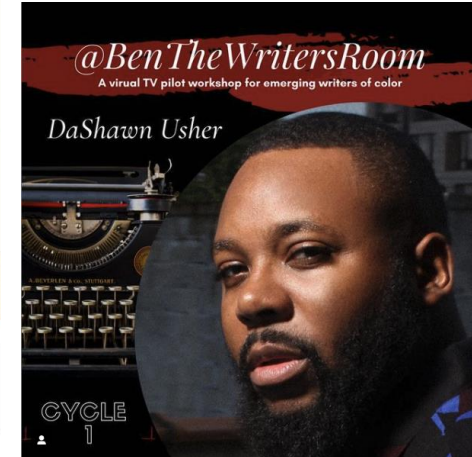


GLAAD Launches Digital Content Series Neon to Highlight Black LGBTQ People, Stories

7:00 AM PST 2/6/2020 by Chris Gardner



Courtesy of GLAAD



All Engagement MUST be Community Driven

Culture is Community

Media Impacts Culture

How do we cultivate culture for HIV impact?



MOBI

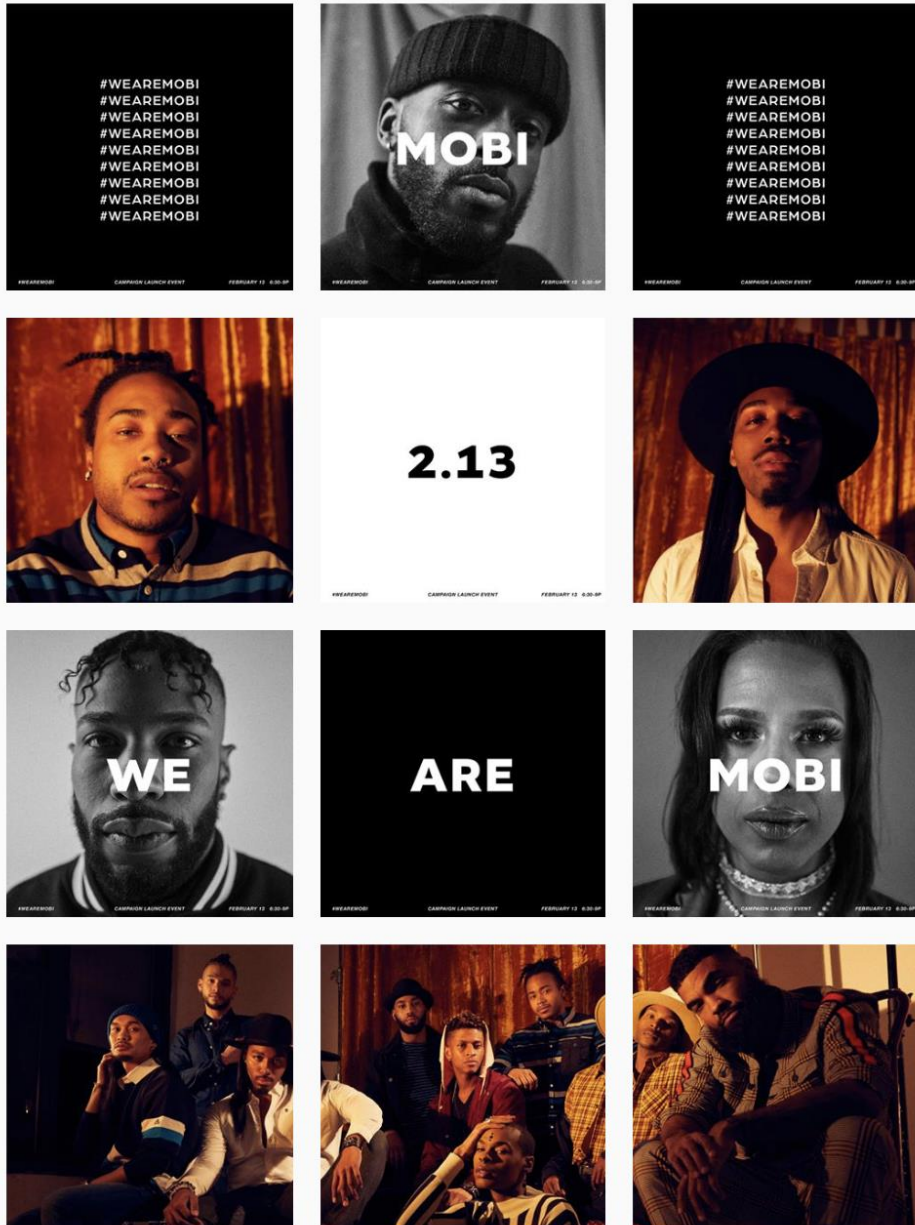
MOBILIZING OUR BROTHERS INITIATIVE

is a series of curated social connectivity programming for Black gay men and queer people of color to see their **holistic self** while promoting community, wellness, and personal development.



MOBI-NYC.COM

MOBI Brand

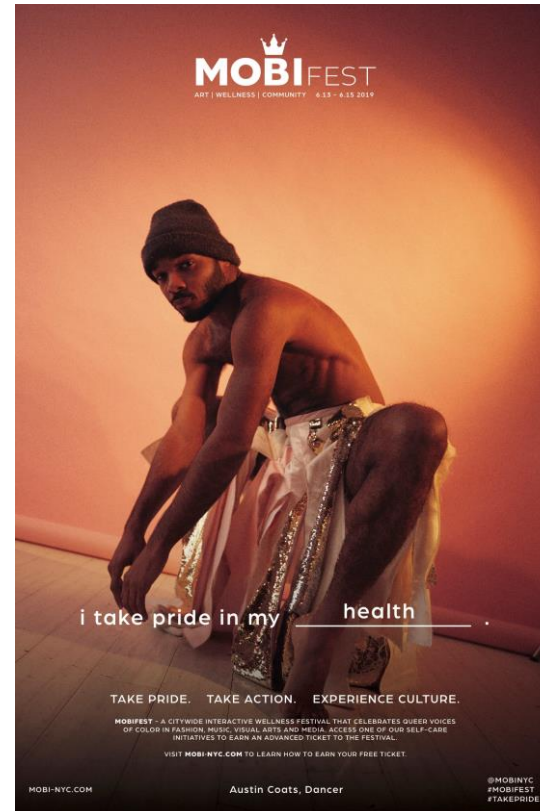


MOBI FEST

ART | WELLNESS | COMMUNITY

MOBifest is an interactive arts experience that celebrates Black Queer voices in fashion, music, visual arts and media. With a focus on wellness, MOBI connects individuals to opportunities to better themselves before and during the event.

In-person Engagement: 6,000+
2020 Virtual Engagement: 3,300+

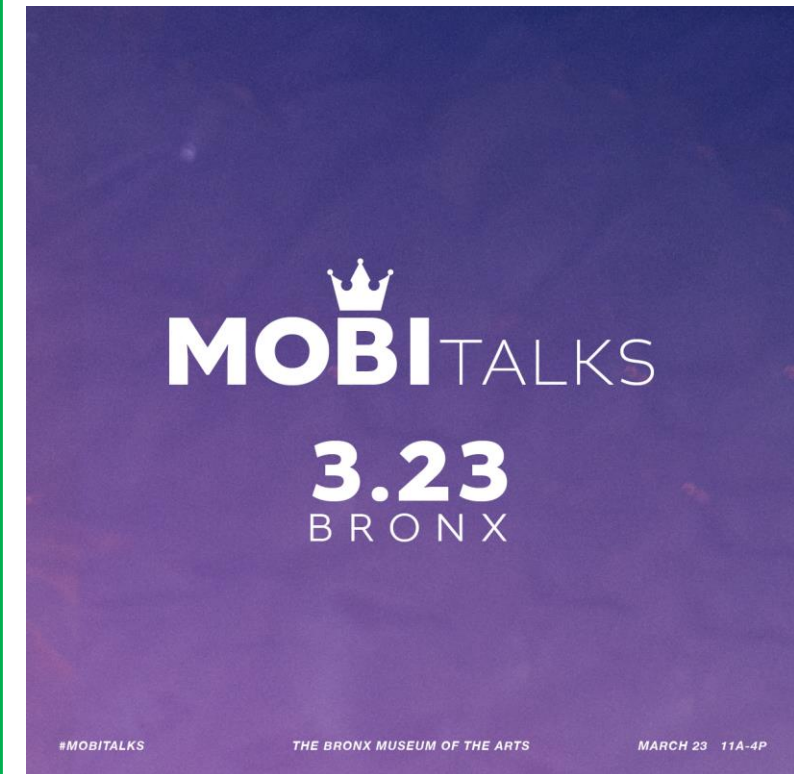


MOBITALKS

MOBITalks, a personal and professional development series for Black gay men which launched in September 2017.

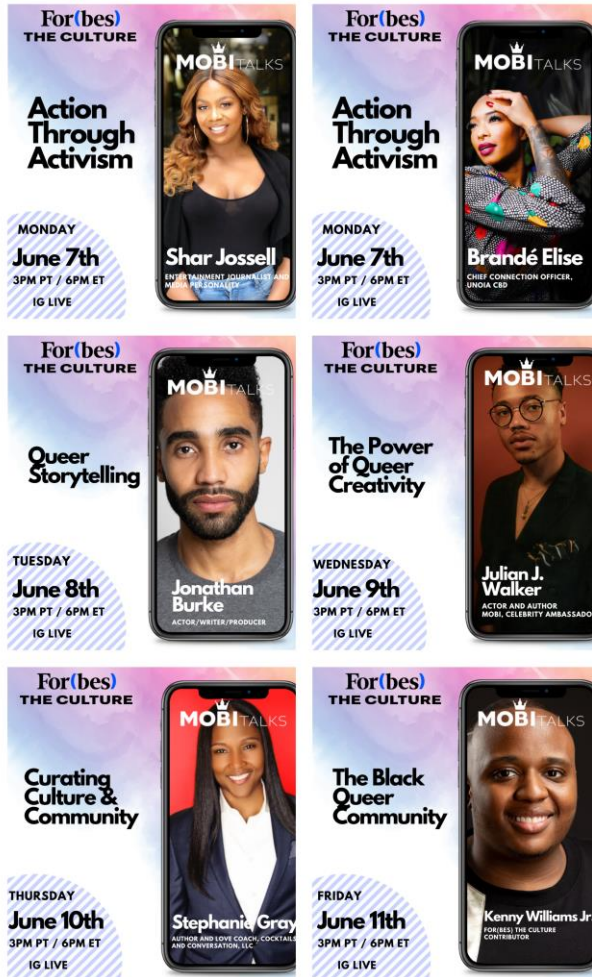
Locations: Brooklyn, the Bronx, Harlem, Queens, Atlanta, Birmingham, Newark, and Washington D.C.

In-person Engagement: 1,100+
2020 Virtual Engagement: 118,180+



MOBI-NYC.COM

MOBI X FOR(bes) THE CULTURE:
MOBITALKS DIGITAL SERIES



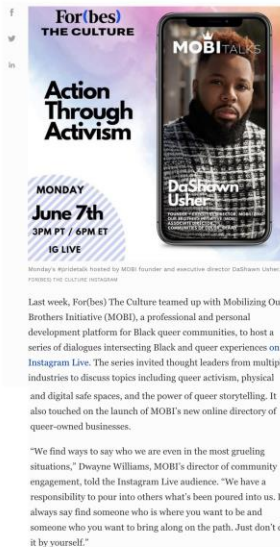
Forbes

Jun 17, 2021, 06:57pm EDT | 418 views

'Don't Do It By Yourself': Leaders Share Thoughts On Pride, Representation And Black Queer Agency.

Joshua Burrell Contributor
Forbes Fellows Contributor Group D
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Earn a Merit-based College senior award covering community and DEI.

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Last week, For(bes) The Culture teamed up with Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative (MOBI), a professional and personal development platform for Black queer communities, to host a series of dialogues intersecting Black and queer experiences on Instagram Live. The series invited thought leaders from multiple industries to discuss topics including queer activism, physical and digital safe spaces, and the power of queer storytelling. It also touched on the launch of MOBI's new online directory of queer-owned businesses.

"We find ways to say who we are even in the most grueling situations," Dwayne Williams, MOBI's director of community engagement, told the Instagram Live audience. "We have a responsibility to pour into others what's been poured into us. I always say find someone who is where you want to be and someone who you want to bring along on the path. Just don't do it by yourself."

MOBITALKS

For MOBITalks this year, MOBI partnered with For(bes) the Culture to host a weeklong of live conversations via MOBI's and For(bes) The Culture Instagram accounts. In 2017, Forbes magazine founded For(bes) the Culture. The mission of For(bes) The Culture is to create equitable pathways for Black and Brown professionals.

Following the weeklong series, Forbes magazine featured an article that recapped the MOBITalks conversations.

MOBIFEST

ART | WELLNESS | COMMUNITY

MOBifest is an opportunity for the Black gay and queer communities and their allies to foster connectivity between entertainment, art, and community health and wellness.

The festival fully integrates creative performance content with service messaging to influence digital engagement of resources and creative education.

The festival occurred on Thursday, June 3rd, 2021 and was available for viewing until June 30th.

mobi-nyc.com





MOBIFEST

ART | WELLNESS | COMMUNITY

WORLDWIDE THURS JUNE 3
7P-10P EST

PERFORMANCES BY **ASIAHN · BIG FREEDIA · CAKES DA KILLA · DAMEZ DEWAYNE PERKINS · DURAND BERNARR · JASH JAY · J-ROCK · MATTMATT RAYBEAM · OLIVIA LUX · SEVNDEEP · VICTOR JACKSON**

BALLROOM SEGMENT CURATED BY **TENZ MAGAZINE**

RAP CYPHER HOSTED BY **BRY'NT** FT. **40 B.A.R.R.S. · BARZZ · FLYKINGI · MEDINO GREEN**

MOBIFEST.LIVE

Hangouts

HOSTED BY **JULIAN J. WALKER**

SPECIAL GUEST
TENZ

JUNE 1
6PM ET / 3PM PT

MOBIFEST

Hangouts

HOSTED BY **JULIAN J. WALKER**

SPECIAL GUEST
BIG FREEDIA

JUNE 1
6PM ET / 3PM PT

MOBIFEST

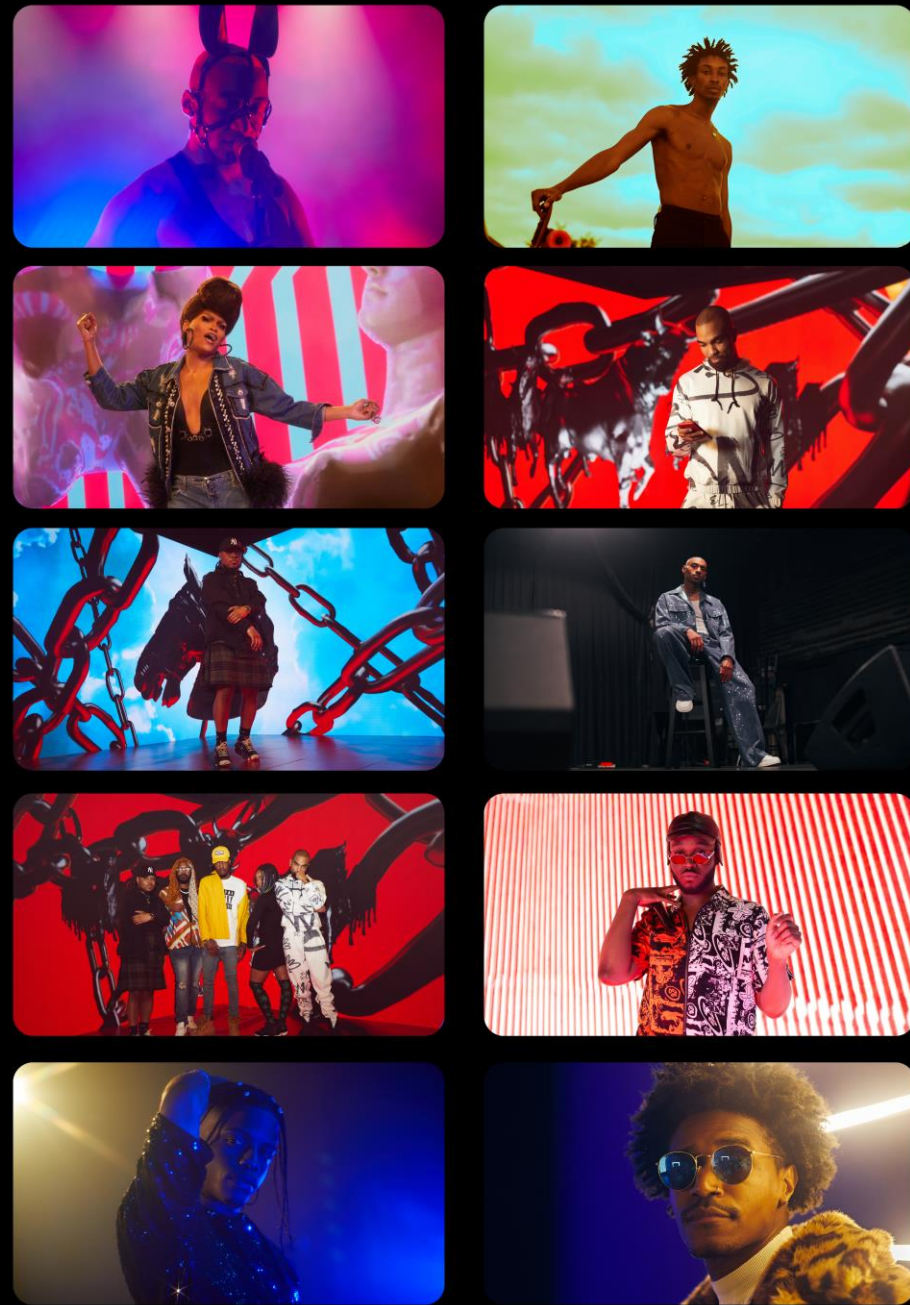
Hangouts

SPECIAL GUEST
OLIVIA LUX

HOSTED BY **JULIAN J. WALKER**

JUNE 1
6PM ET / 3PM PT

MOBIFEST



MOBI FEST

ART | WELLNESS | COMMUNITY 6PM - 6.04, 2020



BMAJR



MILA JAM



SAUCY
SANTANA



DYLLON
BURNSIDE



PARIS
SASHAY



MYKAL
KILGORE



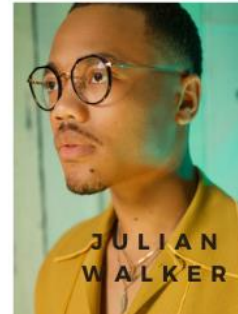
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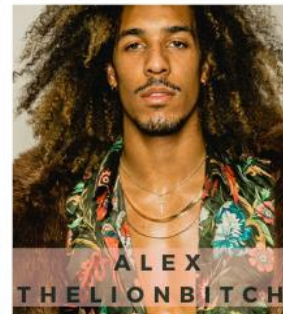
HARMONICA
SUNBEAM



SHANTONI
XAVIER



TWIGGY
GARÇON



ALEX
THELIONBITCH



OSCAR NÑ
(PAPIJUICE)

MOBI FEST

ART | WELLNESS | COMMUNITY 6PM - 6.04, 2020

Community Partners



MOBIFEST.LIVE



MOBITalks Digital Film Series Highlights Queer Communities of Color

The first installment of the three-part series drops Friday, May 1.

by Sam Manzella 4/23/2020

In search of something queer to watch while quarantined? *Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative* (MOBI) has got you covered.

On Wednesday, the New York City-based advocacy group announced the 2020 revamp of MOBITalks, its new digital film series highlighting the work and lived experiences of LGBTQ people of color. (MOBITalks is usually a community networking event held in-person, but organizers went digital this year to expand its reach.)

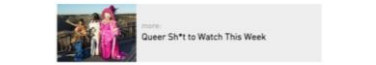
The series will consist of three 15-20-minute films, all of which will be released digitally throughout the month of May on MOBI's website.



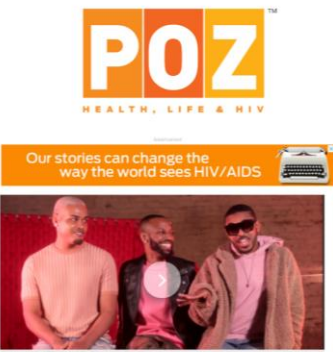
Each of the shorts were filmed by LaQuann Dawson, an NYC-based photographer and videographer. They combine interviews, musical performances, and skits to tackle topics like sex, mental health, and other lived experiences unique to LGBTQ communities of color.

Founded by DaShawn Usher in 2017, MOBI aims to curate events for queer communities of color in NYC. The initiative is funded by a grant from the NYC Department of Health and is currently in its third year of programming. MOBI has tapped A-list talent for previous MOBITalks, like *Queer Eye's* Karamo Brown, *Boomerang* screenwriter Ben Cory Jones, and activist DeRay McKesson, who have all participated in past live events.

Below, watch the trailer for MOBITalks—and keep an eye out for the first short film, *Sex*, which drops next Friday, May 1. (*Mental Health* and *LGBTQ Experience*, the second and third installments, will be released on May 15 and May 29, respectively.)



Sam Manzella
Brooklyn-based writer and editor. Probably drinking iced coffee or getting tattooed.
@sammanzella



Losing Your Virginity and Defining Healthy Love [VIDEO]

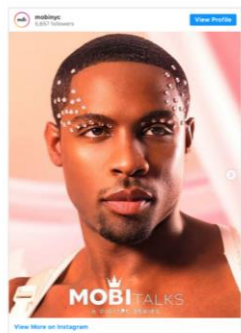
Black queer men of MOBI talk about it all—including OnlyFans, HIV and adult films—in this digital video series.

May 8, 2020 - By Trenton Stachura

SHARE COMMENTS PRINT

Do you regret losing your virginity to the person you lost it to? How old were you when you first had sex, and did you use protection? While we're being candid, what's your best relationship advice? And how would you describe Black gay love?

The answers to these and many more questions await in the short film *Stepping Into Control* (link on the image above to watch). It's the first in a series of three by Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative (MOBI), a New York City-based group that aims to elevate the voices of queer communities of color as they pertain to issues around mental health, sex and LGBT experiences.



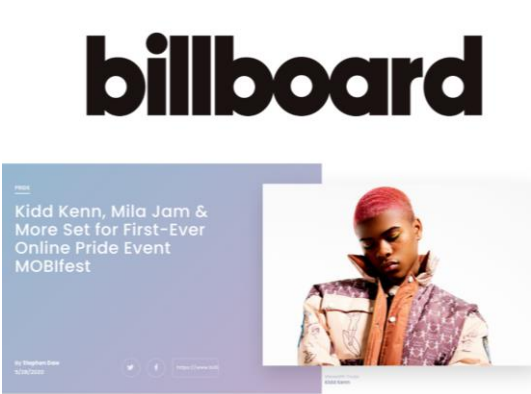
The videos, about 15 to 20 minutes long, transform the popular MOBITalks live series into an artistic digital format, making it available to the public in the process.

Stepping Into Control explores facets of sex through vignettes, dance sequences, discussion groups, profiles and more, shot by videographer LaQuann Dawson. A delightful narrative element arrives in the form of "Can You Feel What I'm Saying?" a short story written and narrated by James Earl Hardy (of the popular *Dr. House* novels) and illustrated and animated by Khalid Rosemin and LaQuann Dawson.

Other segments include playwright Donja R. Love, gay adult film actor Deangelo Jackson, model Isiah, rapper Riqi Angelov and a range of advocates and community members who discuss everything from overcoming shame to advocating for yourself in sexual relationships—including as a fat Black person or as a femme or transgender person.

If you want to learn more about MOBI, read the Out magazine profile from 2018 titled "*Mobilizing a Black Queer Community NYC's New Initiative Is Talk of the Town*." You can also find out more about the initiative, which is funded by the New York City Department of Health, on [MOBI's NYC.com](#). The three videos in the MOBITalks digital series will premiere on Friday, May 1, at 8 and 10.

In related news, you can read about Love's recent play, penned while he marked 10 years of living with HIV, in the POZ article "*Donja R. Love and HIV Take Center Stage in 'Sex in Sex'*," which includes video clips and interviews.



On Thursday (May 28), the Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative (MOBI) announced the official lineup for their first-ever online MOBifest. The festival, which normally takes place over three days in New York City, will be streamed at MOBI's website on Thursday, June 4 at 6 p.m. EST.

The festival, which celebrates "queer contributions to the arts, wellness, community and culture," will feature appearances and performances from queer acts of color, including Mila Jam, Kidd Kenn, Saucy Santana, Twiggy Pucci Garçon, Mykal Kilgore, BMAJR, Harmonica Sunbeam, Papi Juice, Paris Sashay and Shantoni Xavier.



Mila Jam Wants to Showcase a Joyful Trans-Inclusive Love in Eye On You' Video

MOBifest is also teaming up with community partners including GLAAD, Gilead, Human Rights Campaign Foundation, The New Group, Out in Tech, The National Black Justice Coalition and many more, along with a grant from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to produce their annual festival in the time of coronavirus.

"The goal for MOBI has always been to link our community with various health and wellness activities while celebrating contributions to the arts, entertainment, and culture," DaShawn Usher, MOBI's founder, said in a statement. "The pandemic has negatively impacted the world, especially queer people of color, so it was even more important for us to be resilient and continue to build community because there just aren't that many options for us. Many pride events already exclude Black and Brown bodies. MOBifest seeks to center the most marginalized and showcase our continued resilience."

Tune in to MOBifest on June 6 at 6 p.m. EST at [mobifest.live](#).



Wanda Sykes, Tituss Burgess, Wilson Cruz, and Richard Brooks board Noah's Arc reunion episode

Not only is Noah's Arc coming back for the *Rena* Chronicles, the cult classic Logo series is also bringing in some virtual guests.

Joining the show's core four, played by Darryl Stephens, Rodney Chaster, Christian Vincent, and Doug Spearman, are guest stars *Wanda Sykes*, *Wilson Cruz*, *Tituss Burgess*, and *Richard Brooks*.



The groundbreaking series—Logos first scripted effort—centered on four Black gay men named Noah, Alex, Ricky, and Chance, as they navigated relationships with friends and lovers in Los Angeles. The show, created by Patrick Ian Polk, ran from 2008 to 2009. After ending on a cliffhanger, a feature-length conclusion titled *Noah's Arc: Jumping the Broom* was released theatrically in 2008.

The reunion takes place 10 years after Wade (Jensen Atwood) and Noah's wedding, with the four pals now in the middle of a worldwide public health crisis and global social justice movement. While Sykes, Burgess, and Brooks are all new to the show, Cruz returns to his recurring role as Dr. Junius Vargas.



To celebrate the show's 15th anniversary, *Noah's Arc: The Rena* Chronicles will premiere concurrently on Logo, Entertainment Weekly, GLAAD, and Patrick-Ian Polk Entertainment's YouTube and Facebook pages on Sunday, July 5 at 8 p.m. ET/5 p.m. PT. Before the episode, there will be a talk-show party featuring clips from the series and testimonial videos from fans. After the episode, the cast will stay for a Noah's Arc Post-Reunion Q&A moderated by *Queer Eye's* Karamo Brown and streaming on EW.com.

The event is presented by Gilead Sciences and will raise money for various Black LGBTQ non-profit organizations like *Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative* (MOBI) and *Casa Ruby*.

For more information on the event, check out the [event page](#) and/or the [charity fundraiser](#). It's supporting.



Donja R. Love, the prolific, award-winning Afro-Queer playwright, continues to advocate for marginalized voices through a new writing workshop for people living with HIV. The program, Write It Out!, runs for 10 weeks of online virtual sessions from Sept. 26 to Nov. 19. Participants will meet twice a week—5 to 6 p.m. Eastern time on Tuesdays and Thursdays—as they work on creating new plays with Love as their lead instructor and acclaimed post-playwright Timothy DuWhite as program manager. The free program includes eight one-hour workshops that will challenge participants to discover and write in their true voice.

Love told TheBody that people living with HIV of all ages, from all over the world, are encouraged to apply, whether this is their first time writing, or their 500th. "We are excited for writers of all levels to apply," he says. "I don't want people to think they have to have a degree or a certain amount of production; none of those things matter. If you've never written a monologue or even a poem, you can still submit."

Applications for Write It Out! are currently open and being accepted through Aug. 31. Love and DuWhite spoke with TheBody in exclusive interviews, revealing anything that anyone interested in this inaugural program might want to know.

Writing Is for Everyone

Encouraging writers of all levels to apply is especially important to DuWhite, who premiered his first play at Dooen Place in 2018. For him, confidentiality matter less than having something to say. "I've never had a program like this," he shared. "When I wrote *Nexttime*, I just kind of scraped it together as I was going along." That experience has proved transformational and set him up to continue creating new works, including his second play, which had its first reading on Zoom last week.

Though playwrighting was new to him in 2018, DuWhite felt well supported by Dooen Place. The organization provided him with ample resources and taught him the basics, like "what a stage manager was." That makes DuWhite the perfect program manager for Write It Out!, as he will be able to anticipate the needs of participants and help them articulate what it is they may not even know that they need to know.

When asked about what he wants the applicants to write about, DuWhite says, "Whatever they want. I'm interested in people who are curious about themselves and the world around them, who want to find ways to articulate their curiosity."

He continues, "The intent of this program isn't for HIV-positive writers to write plays solely based around HIV. We're not trying to get all of these folks to give the world better HIV narratives." The goal is to provide a safe space for people living with HIV to explore and write. Period.

Inspired to Help People Living With HIV Write It Out

The concept for Write It Out! was born last fall at the Signature Theater in New York while Love watched performances of one in two, his semi-autobiographical play about a Black man navigating his HIV diagnosis.

Love wrote his very first play after receiving his diagnosis nearly 10 years ago. He says that the process left him feeling "lighter and softer, but also stronger as I began the journey of living as a person with HIV." The privilege of putting his life down on page is something Love has frequently expressed a desire to give other people. This reflection brought him to an "aha moment," around what it would mean to create and hold space for other individuals living with HIV, so that they could tap into writing their feelings out.

Tuning to his professional connections, Love reached out to the Lark Theater, Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative (MOBI), the Each-Other Project, and Adam Odessa-Rubin, founding artistic director of National Queer Theater, for assistance in bringing this vision to life.

During the run of one in two, Odessa-Rubin and his team helped support Love's vision of ensuring that the play's intended audience—Black folks living with HIV—actually got to see the show. This included developing outreach and engagement programs, acquiring grants from Gilead to subsidize—and in some cases give away—tickets to the show, and securing speakers to lead post-show talk backs.

Odessa-Rubin says that Write It Out! was particularly attractive to him because "writing can be incredibly healing for the mental health aspect of living with HIV. It's a powerful way to work through stigmas and internalized shame." Inspired by Love's vision, Odessa-Rubin reached out to Tim Viola of Broadway Cares/Equality Fight AIDS, who helped secure funding for the program.

But then COVID-19 shut everything down.



Donja R. Love and More Launch New Playwriting Workshop for People Living With HIV

Write It Out! marks a partnership with the writer, poet Timothy DuWhite, National Queer Theater, The Lark, Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative, and the Each-Other Project.

The program will include Black queer poet Timothy DuWhite, who joins as program manager.

Applications will be accepted August 1-31 and should include a bio and writing sample. Virtual workshops will take place September 26- November 19, with the first public showcase set for December 1 (United AIDS Day). For more information, visit [NationalQueerTheater.com](#).

the grio

Karamo Brown talks hosting 'Noah's Arc' reunion after 12-year hiatus

the grio

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Previous MOBI Coverage



MOBI—Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative—will be hosting a series of talks around New York with the goal of empowering queer men of color.

BY LES FABIAN BASTHWAITE
WED, 2017-09-20 15:50

37 SHARES

Twitter Facebook

Unless you disconnect completely, it's virtually impossible to escape Trump: If he's not threatening to destroy an entire country or coyly bolstering white supremacy or tweeting something distractingly offensive, it's only a matter of time before he inevitably does. His influence is everywhere, but that influence is double-sided. There's now a common enemy: the object of our dissatisfaction, frustration, and outrage. Never have things been so clearly and distinctly black and white—figuratively...mostly. Trump is the greatest galvanizing force both for good and evil I've experienced in my lifetime. And it's scary. And it's thrilling.

"The things that make us different, those are our superpowers," Lena Waithe said at Sunday's Emmys ceremony when she and Aziz Ansari snatched a historic trophy. "Every day, when you walk out the door, put on your imaginary cape and go out there and conquer the world—because the world would not be as beautiful as it is if we weren't in it."

DaShawn Usher and his cadre of super friends are on a mission to conquer the world and spread a little more beauty—with the help of a grant from the NYC Department of Health. Ten years of public health and community organizing experience under his utility belt, Usher has recruited his friends to help him build a coalition to inspire, connect, and empower young queer men of color. Launched this July, the result is MOBI, Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative.

"When I thought about the team—I mean, it helped that everyone was my friend, one, but two—it was really important that everyone had their own special skill-set," Usher says. "And I thought it was a perfect opportunity for us to showcase our different talents, particularly as a community, to show that we can all come together for a larger cause because we really care about the events that we're putting on and the things we want to do."

The first of those events, MOBItalks, swoops into town this Saturday, featuring Native Son founder Emil Wilbekin, *Real World* alum and television host Karamo Brown, writer and political commentator Richard Brookhiser, and rapper Jay Boogie.

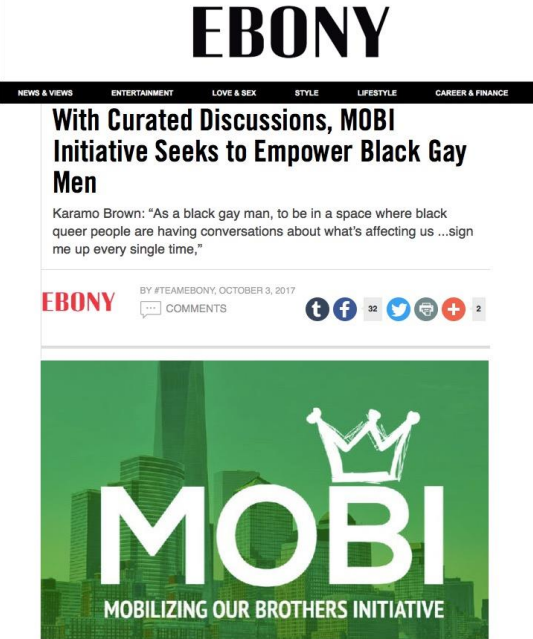
Related | Jay Boogie Enlightens on 'Jesus Loves Me Too'

"We wanted it to be different, to feel different, we didn't want it to be like an institute or feel like a summit or a health fair," Usher says of MOBItalks, "so we decided: Let's just have conversations. Why don't we get experts or influential people in respective fields to talk about the themes we think are important, but also to talk about the personal and professional side of those particular themes?"

He continues, "So when we think about sexuality, identity, creative expression, and development, how do those other intersectionalities play into their lives? We know their stories can be very impactful when shared with the larger community."

MOBI has two more New York talks scheduled for the fall—Bronx on October 7, featuring actors Darryl Stephens and Rico Pruitt, and Harlem on October 21, featuring BLM activist DeRay McInneson and Beyoncé stylist Ty Hunter—and a larger MOBItalk scheduled for May 2018. And after that (and after that grant runs out) Usher hopes to expand MOBI to cities across the country, especially that most vulnerable of American regions to the South.

Usher says he wants people to walk away from MOBItalks "knowing that there are people who care.



With Curated Discussions, MOBI Initiative Seeks to Empower Black Gay Men

Karamo Brown: "As a black gay man, to be in a space where black queer people are having conversations about what's affecting us ...sign me up every single time."

BY #TEAMEBONY, OCTOBER 3, 2017

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MOBIFest: Addressing the State of Healthcare for Black Queer People



TAGS: George M. Johnson, George's LGBTs, LGBTs, MOBIFEST, Black Queer, Blackness, Black Community, Black Gay Men, African American, NYC, New York City, Harlem, Brooklyn, Chelsea, Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative, Dashawn Usher, MOBI



When Dashawn Usher started the Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative, it was simply an idea to re-engage the Black Queer community in NYC, in an effort to create change against the social detriments of health that continue to impact our community. More than a year later, his initiative has attracted some of the top influencers and activists, leading the movement that gives Black Queer folk a seat at the table, and the ability to take an investment in their own health outcomes.

This week, MOBI embarks on an even bigger project named MOBIFest—a three-day festival that will bring various parts of the Black Queer community together to celebrate life and culture, and most importantly take a vested interest in one's own health. MOBIFEST is an interactive arts experience that celebrates Black Queer voices in fashion, music, visual arts, and media. With a focus on wellness, MOBI connects individuals to opportunities to better themselves before and during the event.

The greatest part about this festival is that it is fully sponsored, meaning there is free entry into all of the festivities being provided.

Here's a calendar listing of the events:
THURSDAY, MAY 17th - Underbar at Row House 6:30 pm - 11 pm
 2128 Frederick Douglass Blvd, NY, New York 10026
 VIP Kick-Off Event powered by Gilead with beats by MOBIFest's DJ BMajr and drinks by Lamda Vodka.

*Afterparty: Trappy Hour at Harlem Nights- 2361 7th Ave, New York, NY at 11 PM

FRIDAY, MAY 18th - Studio 301 (Brooklyn) 7pm - 11pm
 Masc. Off Art Party
 301 Ten Eyck St, Brooklyn, NY 11206

Powered by Gilead, Join Art Curator, Jae Joseph as he curates an evening of intimate and immersive performance art featuring Jonathan and Jarrett Key and Rubby Valentin. Beats by MOBIFest's DJ BMajr and drinks provided by Luc Belaire.

SATURDAY, MAY 19th - Melrose Ballroom (Queens) 4pm - Midnight
 Music+Media+Magic Event

36-08 33rd St, Queens, NY 11106
 Join MOBI as we bring you our music, media, and entertainment event. The day begins with a panel discussion featuring queer men of color across the media and entertainment industries. Moderated by MOBI's Celebrity Ambassador, Julian Walker. Panelists include: Dyllon Burnside, actor (Pose on FX); Twigg Garçon, ballroom influencer; Dustin Ross, host of The Friend Zone podcast; Terry Torrington, STV founder; and Josh King, publicist & content producer for Singersroom and Rappersroom.

Festival headliner, Dawn Richard, formerly of Danity Kane, will be performing alongside other acts like BvNt, Harmonica Sunbeam, Brita Filter, Robert Ball, and more.

The day will continue with DJ sets from Kenneth Kyrell, B Majr and Adam R. from Papji Juice; a ballroom performance segment featuring DJ Byrell the Great, Icon Jack Mizrahi, and Jonovia 007. Plus community partners and other surprises. *Early arrival is strongly suggested as there will be plenty to do, see, and experience*

The greatest thing about this experience is that MOBI is only asking for one thing in order to get a VIP ticket. To take ownership of your health by visiting one of their local partners for a wellness check-in.

Dawn Richard is Bringing the Love & Support of the Queer Community to NYC's MOBIFest This Weekend



With her headlining set at MOBIFest, alongside her Black queer community, MOBIFest events are helping to spread the love.

Personalized, community-driven, and being led by our own Richard, Dawn Richard, former member of Danity Kane, is bringing the love and support of the Black queer community to NYC's MOBIFest. She's not just a performer, she's a community leader, and she's bringing the love and support of the Black queer community to NYC's MOBIFest.

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Dawn Richard Etches Her Own Spotlight



The former Danity Kane member talks about headlining at the first MOBI Fest, and a moment that changed her forever.

BY DAWNIE ROSE
 THU, 2018-05-10 12:13

When it comes to celebrating the label-free, gender-free, and genre-free self, former Danity Kane member Dawn Richard is a true testament of that celebration. Richard has recently teamed up with MOBI, an organization dedicated to helping Black gay and queer men find their holistic selves, and is the headliner of MOBIFest, their inaugural wellness festival, taking place May 17-19 in New York City.

"What I want to do is be a part of a team of people who say, 'It's okay, come this way,'" Richard told CHILL.

Alongside Dawn as the headliner, MOBIFest will also see performances from DJ B Major, DJ Adam R from Papi Juice, and ballroom curator Twigg Garçon. Dawn's highly anticipated set is sure to breathe life into the MOBIFest party. She hopes to bring every kind of person together and make them laugh, make them dance, and also leave them feeling more educated, particularly around sexual health and mental wellness.

Richard has been a long-time advocate of the LGBTQ+ community by providing free HIV tests at her concerts, hotlines and places to go for those who are bullied, and even clothing and shelter for fans at her festivals in NY and LA. So when she was approached by MOBI founder Dashawn Usher to partner up, it took nothing for her to say yes. Beyond what she was doing on her own, Richard talked about her search for a platform that wasn't looking for major roles, but was honestly trying to affect change in their community, and that was MOBI to her.

"They want to protect, and have a space and a platform for the LGBTQ+ community to be able to thrive and be able to have the resources they need to really get through, especially in a time where hate crimes are at an all time high," says Richard. "I think MOBI is special. It's something admirable."

Though Richard is no stranger in utilizing her platform to inspire goodness in the world, her life changed when she shared a special moment with a fan at one of her concerts: "I was privileged to speak with one of my fans who was in the Pulse nightclub shooting, and he told me his story. It was one of the hardest things for me to hear. From that moment, (two years ago), it changed my perspective on what I wanted to do and what I wanted to be apart of."

Working with MOBI, bringing communities together, and widening the conversation around sexual health in the Black community is something Richard is not letting go of so quickly either. She says, "For this is not a one off, you know, MOBI is stuck with me now. Whatever I can do to help facilitate and be a part of this program, I want to do it, because I'm in it for the long haul."

Our conversation began the question: why is there such a disconnect in Black and Latino communities from sexual health and wellness, and why don't we talk about it? Richard thinks the answer stems from culture and religion. And she's not wrong. It's incredibly taboo for us to speak on issues like sexual and mental health, because for many Black and Latino families those issues simply don't exist. And that's a problem.

"Black and Latino parents find hard to accept their children who are queer or trans because of the culture live in," Richard says. "More and more, there are so many young kids who are finding out early and accepting who they are but are so scared to do it because in school they're being bullied, and from teachers to parents, they're not talking to these children, and not talking to the youth. They're not saying 'It's okay to feel what you are. It's okay to be who you wanna be.' And we need more and more outside help to do that, because they don't have their homes, or anyone in their immediate circles who are willing to help them."

Both Richard and MOBI are hoping to change this narrative for Black and Latino communities, and believe social media will be instrumental in that change. Richard explains to CHILL, "It's so important to make sure that, even though we have all this access, it's used for good, because a lot of times it's not. The hard part is controlling what gets put out there, especially with cyberbullying. We have to facilitate and find an opportunity to show that social media can be benefited from if we use it in the right way."

Richard believes that once we are able to get past that, social media can hopefully become a tool not to hurt, but to educate. "I think everything is about education, on all fronts. Whether straight or gay, whether fluid or trans, whatever you are, green, blue, orange — there needs to be education for all parties on how to deal with certain circumstances, and right now there is a lot of ignorance, especially with social media."

She believes we can label less, we may find that we are all so much more of the same person. "I've always been very open about that within the lyrics of my music, that it's okay to be genderless, to be genre-less, whatever it is. It's okay to have that dialogue and talk about it. It's okay to refer to love in more than one idea of just man and woman. It's okay for straight men to have friendships in the gay community, and not be labeled as gay. It's okay to talk about these things."

The first thing we can do to educate ourselves as a community, so we can make that first step in finding the openness to talk about the things that may scare us. Dawn Richard and MOBI are making great moves in seeing that this first step happens sooner rather than later.

If you're in New York City, make sure to get your ticket to this year's MOBIFest - May 17-19, 2018. More information can be found at MOBI-nyc.com.

TAGS: ENTERTAINMENT, MUSIC

Dashawn Usher MOBI: Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative



With her headlining set at MOBIFest, alongside her Black queer community, MOBIFest events are helping to spread the love.

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Julian Walker is making space for queer black men in America

By Will Lanthier | REAL LIFE

MAY 3, 2018 - 3 MINUTE READ

Growing up in Mississippi, Julian rarely saw anyone on screen that looked like him. That's because he happens to be both black and gay.

MOBI FEST

ARTS | WELLNESS | COMMUNITY

MOBIFEST: A CELEBRATION OF QUEER CULTURE BY KENNETH COURTNEY JR.

Armed with her dancers and live band, music artist Dawn Richard took to the stage at the Melrose Ballroom in Queens, NY on Saturday, May 19th for an electrifying show during the inaugural MOBifest. Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative (MOBI) launched their citywide interactive wellness festival celebrating Black Queer voices in fashion, music, visual arts and media in New York City. Attendees gained VIP access to each day's events by taking ownership of their health by participating in free wellness services from of MOBI's community partners across the city.

The weekend kicked off on Thursday, May 17th with a launch party powered by Gilead at Harlem's Underbar with beats by MOBifest's DJ BMajr and drinks by Lambda Vodka. Day 2, brought guests across the bridge to Williamsburg, Brooklyn for MOBifest's "Masc Off: Art Party." Powered by Gilead and curated by Jae Joseph, the event was an evening of intimate and immersive performance art featuring live hair painting from Jonathan and Jarrett Key and a music performance from Rubby Valentin. Works from queer artists of color were exhibited in the gallery while attendees vibed to beats by DJ BMajr and sipped champagne provided by Luc Belaire. This all led up to day 3, which included a panel discussion featuring queer men of color across the media and entertainment industries moderated by MOBI's Celebrity Ambassador, Julian Walker. Panelists included: Dyllon Burnside, actor (Pose on FX); Twiggy Garçon, ballroom influencer; Dustin Ross, host of The Friend Zone podcast; Terry Torrington, Slay TV founder; and Josh King, publicist & content producer for Singersroom and Rappersroom.

Headliner, Dawn Richard performed alongside other acts including Bry'Nt, EarthTone, Harmonica Sunbeam, Brita Filter, Robert Ball, and more. MOBifest featured DJ sets from Kenneth Kyrell, B Majr and Adam R. from PapiJuice; a ballroom performance segment curated by Twiggy Garçon featuring DJ Byrell the Great, Icon Jack Mizrahi, Omari Mizrahi, and Jonovia 007.

MOBifest was presented by New York City Department of Health, Gilead, New York Blood Center's Project ACHIEVE, AHF, and Impulse Group NYC. Community partnerships included Welthe Images, Out in Tech, The Red Door Foundation, King Children, TENz, and DBQ. CHILL was the official national media sponsor of MOBifest.

To learn more about MOBI, please follow "MOBINYC" on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter: @MOBI_NYC, and visit www.mobi-nyc.com to stay updated on events.





cassius

LOOK GOOD, FEEL GOOD: MOBI TEAMS UP WITH SCOTCH & SODA FOR 'WELL & WELL-DRESSED' CAMPAIGN

The wellness initiative, which highlights queer brothers of color, is encouraging holistic health in combating adversity.

By Stephanie Long

CULTURE

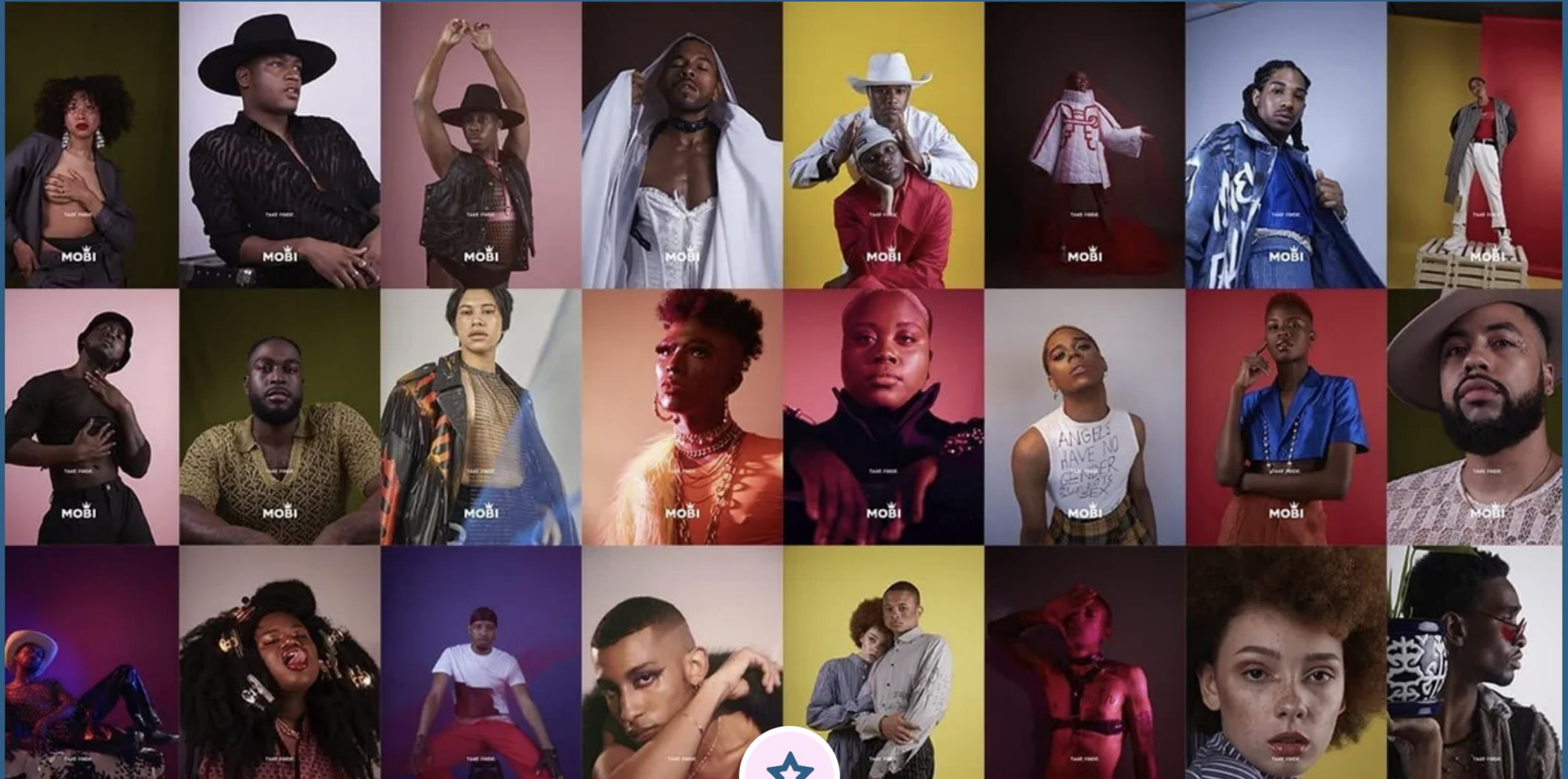
01.30.19

C.: Disparities are undoubtedly present throughout the wellness movement, with the mainstream wellness industry catering mostly to a white audience. In the last few years, the work Black women have done in changing the face of wellness has gained more visibility. Can you talk briefly about the work Black men have also been doing, and why this initiative—with a focus on queer brothers of color—is especially important?

D.U.: We know that health disparities continue to disproportionality impact communities of color, particularly the Black communities. Often, we are not treated as a whole person when engaging with providers. The focus tends to lean towards treating the symptoms and not the person. There is no consideration in the healthcare field for the systematic and social implications and oppressions that occur before we even step in the door. Our race and gender, as Black men, is always seen before our sexual identities even comes into play.

“

**CLOTHING BECOMES
OUR ARMOR. STYLE
BECOMES OUR CREATIVE
EXPRESSION.**





glaad



ACCELERATE COMPASSION

GLAAD Media Trainings

19 Trainings Completed
1,863 People Trained



New Celebrities + Influencers

79 Celebrities/Influencer Voices



Major US Scripted/Reality Program Includes HIV Storyline

1 Show Completed
2 Shows in Development

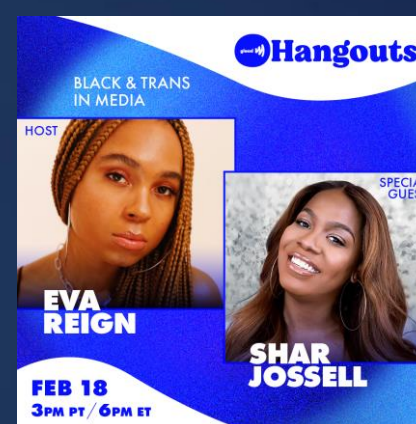


NETFLIX

amazonstudios



ACCELERATE COMPASSION IN ACTION



IMPACT: ACCELERATE COMPASSION

HIV Stigma and Faith Summit 2021

- 1,017 Registrations
- 465 People in the Panel Rooms
- 6,130 People Engaged (FB)
- 40,381+ People Reached (FB)
- 219 People Trained

Sessions included *Media Advocacy for People of Faith* (94), *How to Engage with the Press* (65), *Telling Your Story Through Social Media* (60)



NEWSFEED

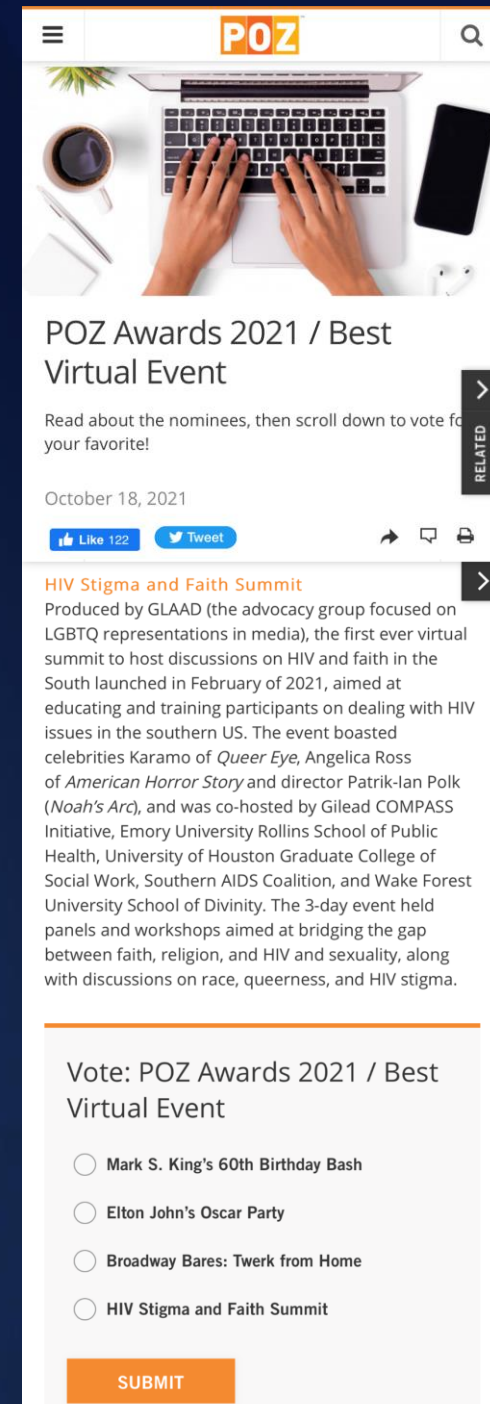
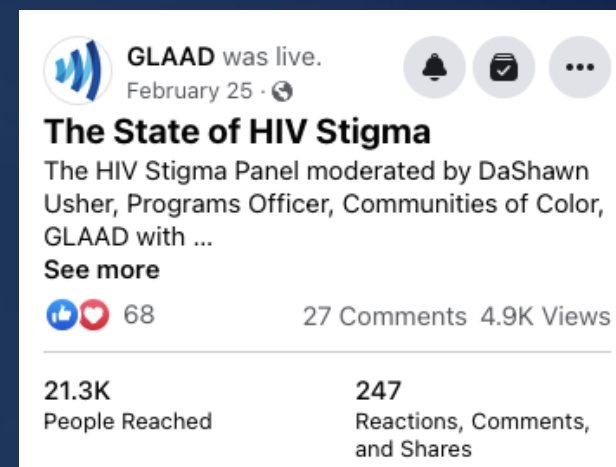
Join Celebs for the First HIV Stigma and Faith Summit [VIDEO]

GLAAD's free virtual summit runs from February 24 to 26. Here's how to join discussions on faith and HIV stigma in the South.

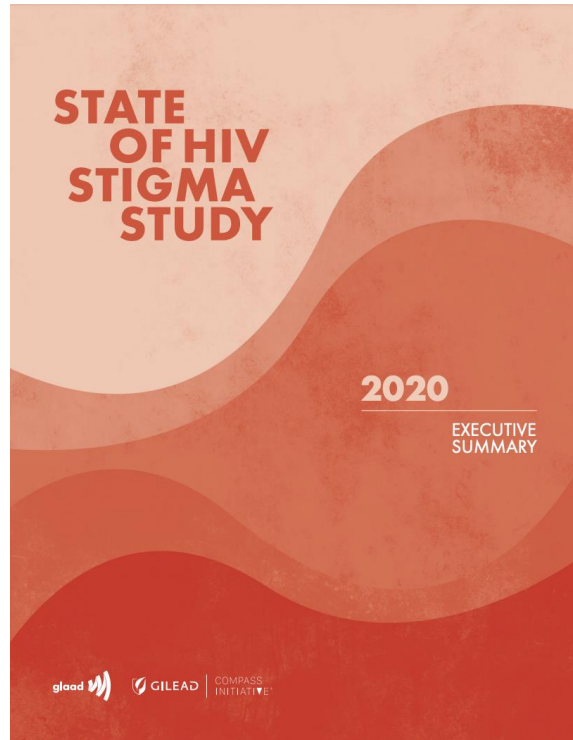
February 22, 2021 · By Trenton Straube



GLAAD has announced the agenda for its first HIV Stigma and Faith Summit, a three-day virtual event dedicated to training and educating leaders to better address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the South.



IMPACT: ACCELERATE COMPASSION



plus

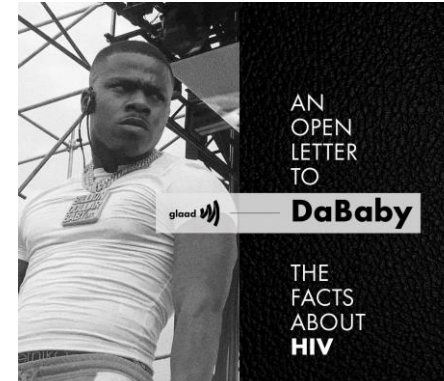
STIGMA ▶

Karamo Brown, Raquel Willis Headline HIV Stigma & Faith Virtual Summit



The free virtual event aims to train future leaders to better address HIV in the South.

By Donald Padgett
FEBRUARY 22 2021 5:36 PM EST



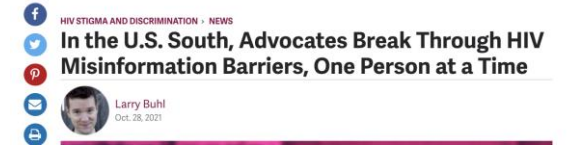
The Charlotte Observer

After DaBaby made 'insensitive' remarks about AIDS, these groups want to talk with him

BY JOE MARUSAK
UPDATED AUGUST 04, 2021 12:39 PM



Rapper DaBaby's music video is filmed in Charlotte neighborhood, Westchester.
BY STEPHANIE BUNAO | REEL GOATS



Lil Nas X performs onstage during the 2021 MTV Video Music Awards at Barclays Center on September 12, 2021.
Mike Coppola via Getty Images

GLAAD Insights Leads to Real World Impacts

Research + Advocacy = Media that Combats Stigma

yahoo/life

Exclusive: New GLAAD survey on HIV stigma and lack of knowledge about transmission shows 'how much work is left to do'



SHERYL LEE RALPH
ARTIST

2021 STATE OF HIV STIGMA

FOREWORD



DAFINA WARD
Executive Director
Southern AIDS Coalition

NEWS

OUT HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Half of Americans say they'd avoid an HIV-positive doctor

Four decades into the AIDS epidemic, misinformation is still rampant, according to GLAAD's "The State of HIV Stigma 2021."

“

“Fear comes from a lack of knowing. A lack of information drives the stigma, which feeds the feeling you have to hide. It’s a vicious cycle.”

DAFINA WARD, SOUTHERN AIDS COALITION

DaBaby: National Story, Local Headlines

VARIETY

**‘Open Letter to DaBaby’:
National LGBTQ and
HIV/AIDS Organizations Call
for Educational Meeting With
Rapper**

GMA

DaBaby meets with HIV advocates

During the meeting, leaders from groups such as the Black AIDS Institute, Gilead Sciences COMPASS Initiative Coordinating Centers and the National Minority AIDS Council provided DaBaby with facts about HIV, and some also shared their personal stories about what it's like to live with HIV.

WXII 12

**Community organizations send
letter to rapper DaBaby after
homophobic comments**

AL.COM

Alabama Life & Culture

**After DaBaby's HIV comments
these Southern advocacy,
education groups want a word
with the rapper**

3 WBTV Charlotte, NC
ON YOUR SIDE

LGBTQ groups send open letter to DaBaby, ask for meeting to educate rapper

The open letter to DaBaby shared these bullet points:

- People living with HIV today, when on effective treatment, lead long and healthy lives and [cannot transmit HIV](#). Treating HIV can suppress the virus to the point it is no longer detected. When it is undetected, it is untransmittable, the key message of the [U=U campaign](#).
- Approximately 1.2 million [people](#) in the U.S. have HIV. 13% of them don't know it, reinforcing the need for HIV testing and ending the stigma around HIV testing.
- People most vulnerable to HIV are the ones who have limited access to transportation, housing, healthcare, and social support. We should focus on advocating for resources in our community rather than stigmatizing women and LGBTQ people.
- Black Americans [account](#) for more HIV diagnoses (43%), people living with HIV (42%), and the most deaths among people with HIV (44%) than any other racial and ethnic group in the U.S.
- The CDC states that the U.S. South experiences the greatest rates of HIV and lags behind in providing quality HIV prevention services and care. According to AIDSvu, a program from Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health and the Center for AIDS Research at Emory University, 31,864 people are living with HIV in North Carolina, where DaBaby was raised.

Lil Nas X + VMAs = Lifting Up HIV Facts

EBONY

Lil Nas X Brings Awareness About HIV in the U.S. South During VMA's Performance

Lil Nas X's performance at the VMA's follows his announcement of the Montero **baby registry** that coincide with the releases of his *Montero* album on September 17. Each song on the album has listed a charity or organization that fans can donate to, including 13 HIV organizations that are part of the **Gilead COMPASS Initiative®**. The initiative has established a 10-year plan to commit \$100 million in support of hundreds of organizations working to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Southern United States.

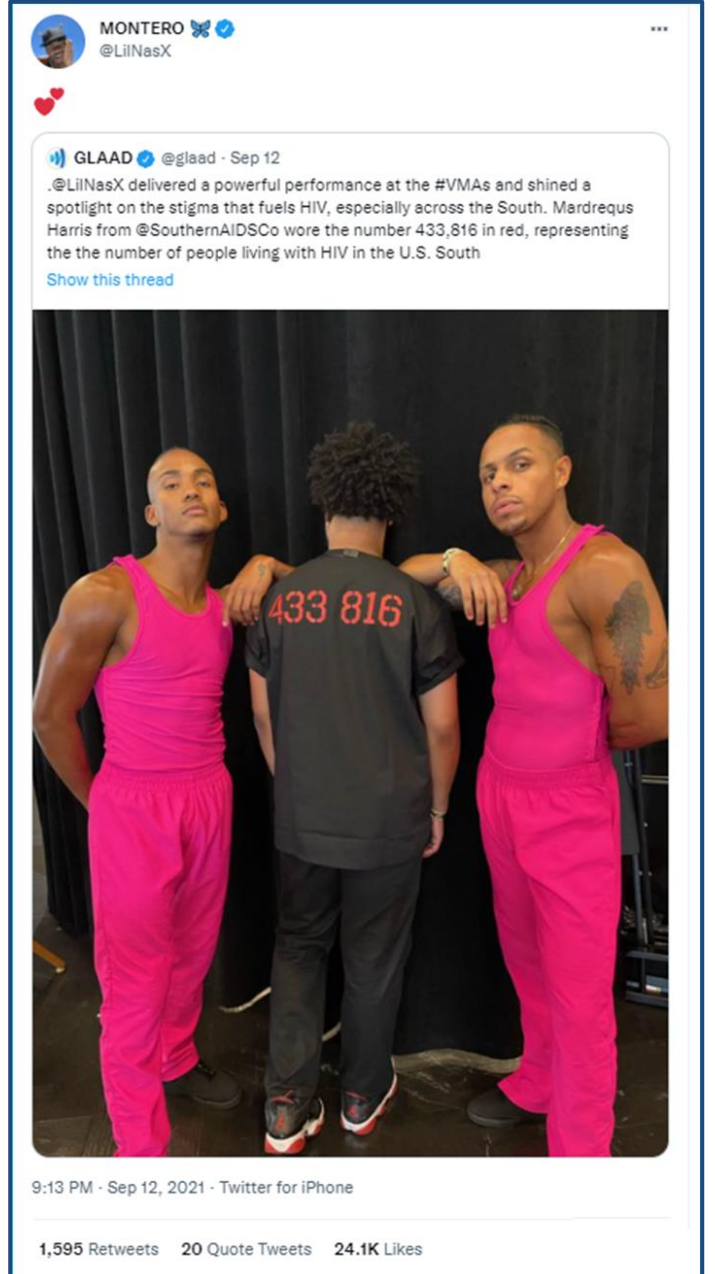
Dafina Ward, Executive Director of the Southern AIDS Coalition, a Gilead COMPASS Initiative Coordinating Center, expressed her excitement about partnering with Lil Nas X.

billboard

Lil Nas X Paid Tribute to Those Living With HIV During VMAs Performance

Lil Nas X has been a longtime advocate for HIV/AIDS education. Each song on his upcoming Sept. 17 album *Montero* has listed a charity or group that fans can donate to, including 13 HIV organizations that are part of the **Gilead COMPASS Initiative**, which made a more than \$100 million commitment over 10 years to support hundreds organizations working to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Southern United States.

- **281M+ media impressions**
- **75 unique stories**



HIV Stories Go Missing in TV & Film

Where We Are on TV

2020 - 2021

WHERE WE ARE ON TV: 2020 - 2021

Representation of Characters With Disabilities



PHOTO BY JESSICA SHERIDAN FOR GLAAD

GLAAD has tracked the presence of people with disabilities (PWD) across all series regularly on primetime scripted television for eleven years and continues to find the number of characters with disabilities disproportionately fewer than that of the actual population. According to the 2017 American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census, 12.3 percent of non-institutionalized Americans live with a disability. For the purpose of this report, GLAAD followed the guidelines of the American Disability Act (ADA), which includes those with non-apparent disabilities, including those with cancer, PTSD, and people living with HIV and AIDS.

Of our 773 series regularly on broadcast scripted series this season, 3.5 percent (27 characters) have a disability. This is a small increase from last year's high of 3.1 percent, setting a new record high percentage with the number of characters remaining equal.

NBC overwhelmingly leads the broadcast networks in terms of representing PWD, with 18 characters (12 percent of the network's series regulars) who also have a disability this season, an increase from last year's 13. These include characters living with PTSD on *Chicago P.D.*, *Law and Order: SVU*, and one new drama, characters with anxiety and depression on *Chicago Med* and *This Is Us*, and characters with mobility-related disabilities on *Supergirl* and *New Amsterdam*. NBC also features characters with chronic illness, diabetes, addiction, TB, and more. We hope to see others follow NBC's lead.

Both ABC and CBS count three characters with disabilities, a two-character decrease for ABC and a steady hold for CBS. On ABC, the three characters with a disability include a wheelchair user on *A Million Little Things*, the lead of *The Good Doctor* who has autism, and Eric Winter from *The Rookie* who has a hearing

disability. On CBS, *Peter Dinklage* from *NCIS: New Orleans* and *Adam in the Room* are wheelchair users, while *Matty Webber* on *MacGyver* has dwarfism.

The CW has two characters with disabilities, a decrease from three characters counted last year. These are both returning: Sgt. Alex Menes in *Arrow*, *New Mexico* and *Murphy*, the blind lead of *In the Dark*. FOX only counts one character with a disability, a decrease from last year's three characters, *Dustin McPherson* on *9-1-1*, who has cerebral palsy.

On cable, there are eight (seven percent) LGBTQ characters with a disability. This is a percentage increase from last year, and two new characters. Returning characters *Bianca*, *Pray Tell*, and *Ricky on Paper* all are living with HIV. *San Callaghan*, a gay character with bipolar disorder, returns for the final season of *Shameless*. *Monroe Freeman* on *Lovecraft Country* lives with epilepsy, and *Aaron* from *The Walking Dead* is an amputee. *Frederick* from *Everything's Gonna Be Okay* includes two queer characters, *Mattie* and *Drew*, who are both autistic.

Seemingly only counts one LGBTQ character with a disability (one percent) this year, down from six last year. This is an area where streaming and improvise on these platforms look to new programming. As of now, the only LGBTQ character with a disability is *Ryan* on *Netflix's Special*, the protagonist who is a gay man with cerebral palsy. The show focuses on the interactions of his identity and should prove the way for more stories which empower people to share their authentic stories.

Representation of Characters Living with HIV and AIDS

Today there are still stigmas and harmful stereotypes surrounding those who are living with HIV and AIDS. GLAAD has a long history of commitment to combating HIV stigmas while working with media to tell accurate and truthful stories.

In 2015, GLAAD partnered with The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation and AIDS United to create a comprehensive media guide to work toward ending the stigmas. That guide is used to help educate the news media and content creators in entertainment on how to tell stories about people living with HIV and AIDS without defaulting to negative stereotypes. Television has

Studio Responsibility Index

2021

glaad
MEDIA
INSTITUTE

STUDIO RESPONSIBILITY INDEX 2021

represents a great opportunity to openly acknowledge acceptance of LGBTQ stories, break new ground, and invest in queer and trans talent and stories in an unprecedented way. Hollywood and the business of storytelling must be more nimble, more creative, more open than ever before. This year's SRI makes it clear, there remains significant work to be done to mainstream film releases to ensure that tomorrow's releases include us all – no matter the means of distribution our platform.

In our previous edition of the SRI, GLAAD challenged the industry to ensure that within the next two years, half of all LGBTQ characters tracked are to be people of color after several years of decreases. While we saw a significant growth this year (up to 40 percent or eight of 20 LGBTQ characters from 34 percent, even in this year's smaller number of releases), the studios have not yet met GLAAD's challenge or returned to their high of 57 percent LGBTQ people of color from our 2017 study. Last year, GLAAD also began to track LGBTQ characters who have a disability. This year shows an unacceptable and complete absence – a drop from the single character counted in the previous study.

More disappointing, there is a complete absence of stories of LGBTQ characters living with HIV, a group which still faces incredibly high levels of stigma and discrimination. Today, approximately 1.2 million Americans live with HIV. And their stories must be told, heard and seen. GLAAD and *Closed Science*'s *The State of HIV Stigma* survey found nearly 9 in 10 Americans believe "there is still stigma around HIV," and 85% agree that "people are quick to judge those with HIV." We've seen how culture can change when stories have a face, most notably with Billy Porter recently sharing his experience of living with HIV and receiving incredible waves of support. At the time of publication, the only upcoming film publicly announced from the eight studio distributors tracked which includes a character living with HIV is an adaptation of the Black Panther biography *Atlanta*. That *Atlanta* film at Universal Pictures with our director Greg Berlanti attached – though there has not been any recent news on the project. While we hope to see this project advance, it is clear that there are so many more stories to tell and so many more films needing to get made and seen.

In the past year, GLAAD challenged the TV industry to introduce new regular and recurring LGBTQ characters living with HIV in order to combat stigma. Now we are actively challenging Hollywood studios. GLAAD is calling on the distributors tracked in this report to urgently prioritize active development and theatrical release in coming years of stories featuring LGBTQ characters living with HIV. Our challenge – today and every day – is to continue driving, working, and collaborating with creators, executives, and studios to ensure the entertainment on our screens reflects the world in which we live and the audiences

who consume it. An audience who is changing, fast.

A Gallup poll released in February 2021 showed that at least 15.9 percent of Gen Z Americans (born 1997 to 2001) self-identify as part of the LGBTQ community – that is 1 in 6 adult members of Gen Z, people aged 18 to 24 in 2021.

Not only does this swift growth in LGBTQ people who are feeling more empowered to live authentically represent a significant consumer and audience base who must be considered, they also represent a new generation of employees and creatives who will be entering all industries. If studios and production companies wish to remain relevant and perceived as best-in-class prospective employers, they need to be prepared for this group.

GLAAD is here to be a resource and partner that innovates and collaborates with creatives to create culture change and impactful stories every day. Our GLAAD Media Institute serves as a valued resource to content creators, network and studio executives, brands and advertisers – through our advocacy and media training, national research, consultation services, elevating LGBTQ stories in media, and setting the authentic narrative for our community. Together, we'll advance and continue to move the needle forward for LGBTQ representation and inclusion in film.

Thank you for supporting our work and for your commitment to sustaining 100 percent acceptance. Let's get to work – there's lots to get done.



Sarah Kate Ellis
President & CEO, GLAAD

Call Hollywood to Action

npr

LGBTQ Characters Got More Movie Screen Time In 2020, GLAAD Study Finds

Caveats aside, GLAAD found a number of glaring gaps in LGBTQ representation in film. According to the report, theatrical releases from the major studios contained zero [transgender](#) or nonbinary characters for the fourth year in a row. There were zero LGBTQ characters with a disability. And there were no LGBTQ characters living with HIV.

VARIETY

GLAAD, LGBTQ+ Organizations Urge Emmy Voters to Support 'Pose'

"Pose" wrapped with the airing of its final episode on June 6. As the letter notes, this left scripted television with zero characters living with HIV and only 21 transgender regular characters.

Los Angeles Times

Billy Porter reveals he has been HIV-positive for 14 years

GLAAD responded to Porter's revelation in a statement from DaShawn Usher, the organization's associate director for communities of color.

"The tremendous levels of stigma facing people living with HIV today can only be broken by icons like Billy Porter showing the world that HIV is not at all a barrier to a healthy and successful life," Usher said before discussing advances in medications, prevention and other treatment that allow HIV-positive people to live long, healthy lives without transmitting the virus. He called those leaps in care and prevention "largely invisible" in the news and entertainment industries.

"When the groundbreaking show 'Pose' goes off air in a few weeks, there will be zero television characters living with HIV," Usher continued. "That is truly unacceptable when 1.2 million Americans and about 38 million people globally are living with HIV. Billy's powerful interview needs to be a wake-up call for media and the general public that it's time to end the stigma that people living with HIV face and to educate each other about HIV prevention and treatment."

WORLD
ECONOMIC
FORUM

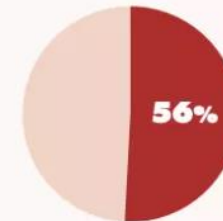
How the media could help end HIV stigma

Although more people surveyed for the GLAAD report recalled seeing positive media coverage about people with HIV in the past 12 months – 56% in the 2021 study compared with 52% in 2020 – [another survey](#) by the organization found a "drastic decrease" in the number of characters with HIV in US primetime dramas over the same period.

HIV Media Coverage

On a more positive note, 56% of non-LGBTQ respondents noted they are seeing more stories about people living with HIV in the media, up four points from 2020.

of Americans have seen stories about people living with HIV



Agree with Statement

Only 64% of those surveyed agree with the true statement that medications exist to protect someone from contracting HIV; only 42% agree with the true statement that people living with HIV who are on proper medications cannot transmit the virus.

64%

"Medications exist to protect against contracting HIV"

42%

"If on proper medication, people with HIV cannot transmit it"

56% of American's have seen stories about people living with HIV. Image: GLAAD

"People living with HIV continue to experience stigma, and stigma thrives in silence. Their stories must be told to show how people with HIV lead long and healthy lives, and cannot sexually transmit HIV when on proper treatment," Sarah Kate Ellis, CEO of GLAAD, says

Diversify Pipeline Storytelling



NEWS

Hollywood heavyweights line up to mentor LGBTQ screenwriters

Ryan Murphy, Reese Witherspoon and Greg Berlanti's production companies will shepherd finalists in the third-annual GLAAD List scriptwriting competition.

The competition opened just days after GLAAD released its [ninth annual Studio Responsibility Index](#), tracking the quantity, quality and diversity of LGBTQ characters in theatrical releases from the eight largest studio distributors.

While the 2021 index saw queer women outnumbering men for the first time, representation of bisexual, transgender, nonbinary, HIV-positive and disabled characters was lacking, according to the report's findings.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:


BEFORE I CHANGE MY MIND BY TREVOR ANDERSON & FISH GRIWKOWSKY	LIKE FAMILY BY BRANDI SPERRY & SHAUNA SPERRY
COLORS OF AVA BY WAYNE MAHON	MARGO & PERRY BY BECCA ROTH
HIT ME HARDER BY MAX RISSMAN	SISTER BY AZIA SQUIRE
IN THE CITY OF SHY HUNTERS BY SAM MCCONNELL	THE CABIN AT THE END OF THE WORLD BY STEVE DESMOND & MICHAEL SHERMAN
JESSE IS A FRIEND BY ALYSSA LERNER	TRAPEZE OF THE FLESH BY DAMON SANTOSTEFANO


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@BenTheWritersRoom
a virtual TV pilot workshop for emerging
screenwriters of color



DaShawn Usher

GLAAD Associate Director, Communities of Color

GLAAD

dusher@glaad.org

www.glaad.org



Founder + Executive Director,
Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative (MOBI)

dashawn@mobi-nyc.com

www.mobi-nyc.com