



Class of 2024 Passport to the Future Graduation

May 25, 2024 9:00AM-1:00PM

Santa Ana College

President's Message

Dereck E. Moore



Working Together To Empower Our Community

Greetings! I am a passionate leader, dedicated mentor, and forward-thinking philanthropist committed to creating lasting change. As the President of 100 Black Men of Orange County, Inc. (100BMOC), I am honored to be part of an organization dedicated to empowering the African American community one student/family at a time.

Thank you for joining us for our annual Seniors Graduation Ceremony for the Passport to the Future Program. The members of the 100 Black Men of Orange County are grateful for the community's continued support for the program which is dedicated to helping create socially, conscious, responsible young adults.

The Passport Program has provided the participants with a forum to focus on promoting self-awareness, relationships, history, leadership, social responsibility, and community service. The program curriculum stresses working within the triangle for success (home, school and community) to achieve the stated goals.

I would like to thank the Education Committee members for another year of hard work. I bid congratulations to the graduating seniors. We wish you well and best wishes in the future and we hope to see you during college breaks and keep in touch via social media.



Program

Procession.....	Senior Class
Prayer	Dereck E. Moore
Selection.....	Devin Moore (class of '24)
Welcome Remarks	Dereck Moore
Introduction	Jeff Freeman
100 BMOC Member Remarks....	Dr. John Danley
Sponsor Recognition/Remarks..	Greg Hogan
Introduce Guest speaker.....	Dr. Ian Williamson
Guest Speaker	Lance Holman
Standing in the River Poem.....	Senior Class
STEM Presentation	Ernest Garrison
Senior Presentations	Dr. Ian Williamson
Senior Check Presentation	Dereck Moore
Diploma/Closing Remarks	Jeff Freeman
Refreshments (Food)	All



Guest Speaker



Lance S. Holman
President and CEO,
Holman Capital Corporation

Mr. Holman has over 30 years of corporate and public sector finance experience in product development, capital deployment, and institutional investments. Mr. Holman is President and CEO of Holman Capital Corporation. He manages the company's mission, strategic direction, and operational planning. He has also worked for SunTrust Equipment Finance & Leasing Corp. and Banc One Leasing Corporation originating and structuring tax-exempt lease and debt obligations for public agencies. Mr. Holman has extensive experience financing equipment, aircraft, real property, technology, infrastructure, and building efficiency transactions with a broad range of borrowers and investors. Prior management positions include Ford Motor Credit in global product strategy and US Bank in institutional investments.

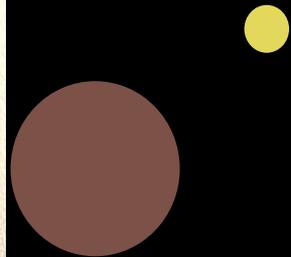
He is the author of numerous articles on finance and is a frequent speaker at banking and public finance conferences nationwide.

Mr. Holman earned his undergraduate degree in Public Finance at Indiana University and went on to earn his MBA & M.S in Finance at the University of Colorado in 1993. He presently resides in Orange County, California.

Khalil Woodard

<i>Next Step:</i>	<i>4-year Univ</i>
<i>Major:</i>	<i>Accounting</i>
<i>Field:</i>	<i>Accountant</i>
<i>Dream Travel Destination</i>	<i>Italy</i>
<i>Graduation Mentor:</i>	<i>Sean Thomas</i>

My name is Khalil Woodard and I attend Hillcrest high school. I've been in the program for 6 years. I plan to go to California state university San Bernardino majoring in accounting. One highlight from the passport program is the rocketry program. I enjoyed learning how to make a rocket from scratch. One thing the program taught me is to be early to everything. The program prepared me for the next step by teaching me communication and leadership skills.



Carter “CJ” Sims

Next Step: Santa Ana College

Major: Undecided

Field: Undecided

Travel: Holland

Grad Mentor: Doug Barry

Hi, my name is Carter “Cj” Sims. I have been in the passport program for the past two years. In the Fall, I will be attending Santa Ana College. Then my plans are to transfer to San Diego State University (SDSU) or a different university in California.

One of the highlight of the was when we learned how to build rockets and talked to a NASA astronaut in the process of building our own rockets.

I have learned many things while being in the passport program but my biggest “take away” is the motto, “If you want to get somewhere fast do it yourself, but if you want to go far do it with others.” The passport program has made me into a better young man and a more knowledgeable one. I now understand the value in appreciating different people and perspectives while treating everyone with respect. Most importantly, if you’re on time you’re late. Be early or on time.



Wasim Abdelmanan

Next Step: Flight school

Major: Pilot

Field: Aviation

Dream Travel Destination: Dubai

Grad Mentor: Ken Kirkpatrick



Being part of the 100 Black Men Program has helped me grow to be a better person overall. This program has helped me understand myself better and has also equipped me with essential skills and leadership abilities.

The program has provided a supportive environment where I've had the chance to explore and reflect on my own identity. Through discussions, workshops, and interactions with mentors, they helped me realize my strengths, weaknesses, and aspirations.

In addition, the 100 Black Men Program has been useful in my skill development journey, practical exercises in teamwork and problem-solving. I've had numerous opportunities to enhance my abilities. These skills are not just important for academic or professional success but are also useful for personal growth and building strong relationships with others.

Furthermore, the program has played a pivotal role in shaping me into a more effective leader. Through mentorship and hands-on experiences, I've learned what it means to lead with integrity, empathy, and vision. Whether it's advocating for important causes or standing up for what is right. I've discovered how to inspire others and make a positive impact on my surroundings.

I choose to pursue a field in aviation and become an airline pilot. I plan to impact the community in my field through leadership, self-awareness, and skill development by making it to where I'm trying my hardest to always be the bigger man in certain situations and act if theirs something going on. I will work on the skills that I lack and treat others how I want to be treated. I will use the skills I learned to make not only my life better but also the ones around me.



Mehcai Wilson

Next Step: Community College

Major: Welding

Field: Welding

Grad Mentor: Maurice Sanders

My name is Mehcai Wilson I am a senior at South high School. This was my first year participating in this program. The program has been very helpful throughout the year with college admission and building good ideas for life.

100 Black Men of Orange County has helped me build character and make new skills and friends. Many of the sessions were super helpful especially the one where we talked with the alumni about college life. The alumni helped me to consider different directions in life that I can take. The program has made me confident in my future choices as a welder and saving money while attending community college. After community college I plan to transfer to a 4-year university. I'm super grateful to have such a diverse collection of mentors as they have helped me out and always been there for me.

I realize now that the time I have taken to go to this program has improved me as a person. This program has made me feel more confident as a black man in the world. It has allowed me to be a light in our community helping with the younger people in the program. This program has led me towards being a better man overall. 100 Black Men of Orange County has allowed me to build character and progress me towards my future. Thank you very much 100 Black Men of Orange County for developing me into a better man.

Jordan Carson

Next Step: Arizona State Univ
Major: Business Administration
Field: Business
Grad Mentor: Jamal Munnerlyn

My name is Jordan Carson. I am a senior at Great Oak High School in Temecula. I've been a part of this wonderful passport program for the past 2 years. My future plans after high school is to attend Arizona State University. I will major in Business Administration.

Even though I have only been with the passport program a short time, I've had great experiences and learned a lot. One of my favorite experiences was last year when we learned about and started building our own rockets. This was exciting to me because everything was hands-on and it was something I had never done before.

In the program, I have learned about self reflection and the importance of building relationships. I have learned to not wait and take initiative because that's what leaders do in time of need. The power of networking is needed as I move up in life meeting new people and gaining access to new opportunities. This program has prepared me with these tools that I have learned. If am in need there are mentors I can connect with for advice or guidance as I take my next step in life onto college.



Cameron Baker

Next Step: UC Irvine

Major:

Econ / Political Science

Field: Political Consulting

Travel: Spain

Grad Mentor: Jasper Jackson



My name is Cameron Chase Baker. I've been in the passport program for two years. I'm excited to say I'll attend UC Irvine with a double major in Political Sciences and Economics and a minor in history. I also plan to get a Master's in business to start a consulting or advisory firm in government and civics.

Overall, I've had many memorable experiences with the passport program. It was through this organization that I was able to learn about volunteering opportunities such as CAPOC's (Community Action Partnership Orange County) VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program, where I filed taxes for those in need. Other experiences include the rocket certification launches for STEM, the Black History Month parade, and volunteering for the OC food bank on MLK Jr. Day.

Passport taught me the importance of punctuality and first impressions, such as keeping my shirt tucked in and being early if I can't be on time. Additionally, I've expanded my self-awareness and self-management skills as a young man. Another subject I also learned about was the history and culture of the Black community, which helped me to be proud of my culture and community. I also gained financial literacy through the Chase Bank course.

For a while, I often struggled with taking initiative and pushing myself to tackle demanding work. But this program helped me realize many distinct things about myself and what I can and should do to account for this. I'm grateful for the knowledge and opportunities my mentors provide, shaping me to be who I am today. Because of this program, I'm more confident about my future, myself, and my responsibilities, and have grown tremendously as a result. Thus, I thank the program and its mentors.



Aidan McMichael

Next Step: Saddleback College
Major: Physics
Field: Undecided
Travel: South America
Grad Mentor: Roland Gilbert

My name is Aidan McMichael, and I am a graduating senior at El Toro High school. I have been a part of the 100 Black Men of Orange County Passport program for two years. This program has helped me improve my leadership skills.

While being in the passport program, I've learned lots of different skills to help me with college, and my future in general. The passport program has taught me skills like self awareness, communication, and STEM skills. The passport program also gave me lots of networking opportunities so that no matter what I wanted to do there were options for me.

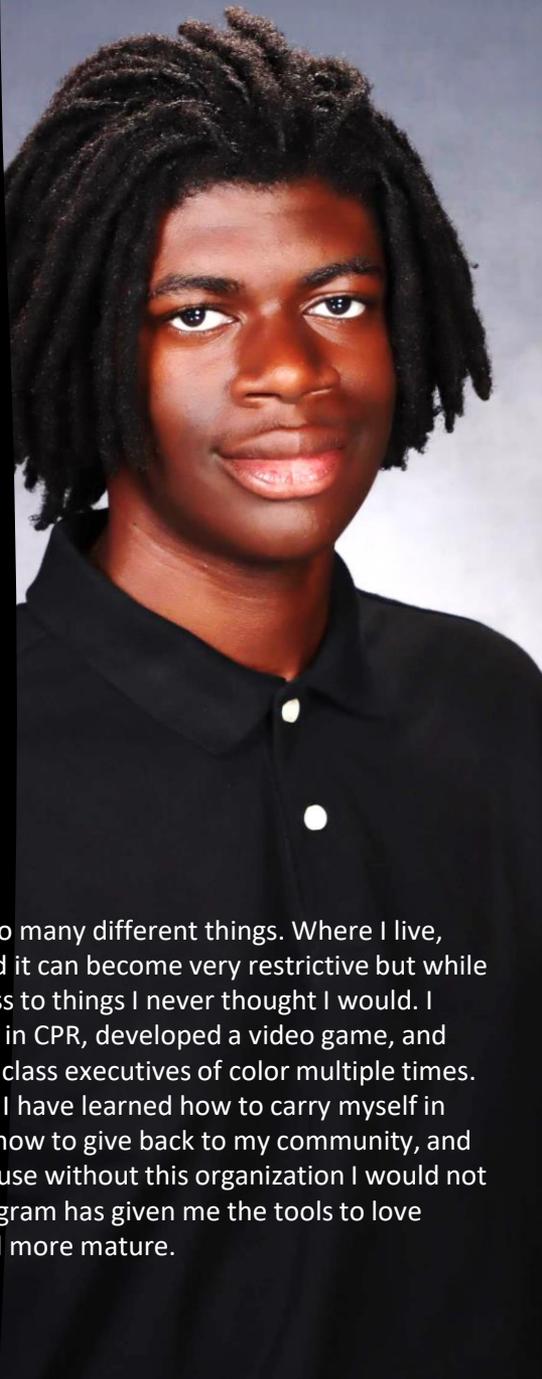
My favorite activity I did during the Passport program was the rocketry sessions last year. I learned a lot about building rockets, aerodynamics, and it was the best feeling to see my rocket soar in the sky. The Passport program has prepared me heavily for my future past high school. The passport program prepared me for my future by teaching my important life lessons about being a leader and setting an example for others to follow. After graduating I will be attending Saddleback College and majoring in Physics

Asa Paul

Next Step: Community College
Major: Fashion Design
Field: Fashion Entrepreneur
Travel: Iceland
Grad Mentor: Kent Fullerton

Hello everyone my name is Asa Paul and I have been attending 100 Black Men of Orange County for 5 years. I'm graduating from Murrieta Mesa High School on May 30, 2024. Afterwards, I will work throughout the summer and in late July I will be moving to San Diego to attend San Diego Mesa Community College to study Fashion Design. After two years in community college, I plan to transfer to Cal Poly Pomona to obtain my Bachelors of Science in Apparel Merchandising and Management with a concentration in Apparel Production.

This program has opened up my eyes to many different things. Where I live, there are not many activities to do, and it can become very restrictive but while being in 100 BMOC I have gained access to things I never thought I would. I have earned a certification in rocketry, in CPR, developed a video game, and have been in the same room with high class executives of color multiple times. In my time with the Passport Program, I have learned how to carry myself in the world, how to understand myself, how to give back to my community, and more. I am grateful to 100 BMOC because without this organization I would not be the young man I am today. This program has given me the tools to love myself, become mentally stronger, and more mature.





Akinyele Caldwell

Next Step: 4-year University
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Field: Mechanical Engineering
Travel: Japan
Grad Mentor: Orlando Guillory

My name is Akinyele Caldwell and I have been in the 100 black men program of Orange County California for five years. I have enjoyed being a part of this outstanding program. The 100 Black men program has helped me develop strong interpersonal skills with others and giving back to the community. I have learned on how to be accountable, responsible, and a respectful young black man and outstanding citizen for my community.

I've enjoyed the community and relationships that I have formed. These skills will benefit me for my future educational goals through college and everyday life. What I genuine love are the life lesson skills that I can take with me, money management, Connections, and Communications skills are very important. As someone who can sometimes not be a great communicator I've improved off of those factors and it's helped me a lot. I'll use these communication skills towards job applications and other life skills.

Being in this program allowed me to have a clear view on all my life goals in college and career choices. With outstanding mentors and representation of Black excellence lifestyle and that you can achieve anything, and the exposure to other jobs and Occupational skills and fields is something that is priceless.

Although I am a former Child actor that has had the chance and the opportunity to experience many things normal kids, I don't get to experience communication with successful Black men. 100BMOC holds a special place in my heart as a young African-American male with guidance in the world, and through the eyes of other men who have been there before me.



Awab Fadul

*Next Step: 4-year university
Major: Software and Mechanical Engr
Career: Mechanical Engineer
Dream Travel Destination: Dubai
Grad Mentor: Dr. John Danley*

My name is Awab Fadul and I am a senior at Cypress High School. I've been in the 100 BMOC Passport Program for the past 7 years. I started as a 6th grader before they were even allowed to be in the program.

This program has helped me tremendously in building critical thinking skills, especially from one of my favorite mentors, Mr. Otis, and it helped me change myself for the better in fixing my indecisiveness. I've always been one of a kind in many of my classes. Obviously this brought lots of attention to me, but 100 Black Men taught me how to deal with it and how to react.

This program not only teaches life skills but it also gives me experiences that I wouldn't have been able to have without it and has helped me build my future career. Because of the connections the 100 Black Men organization have given me, it has ensured me that my path into becoming a Software/Mechanical Engineer will be that much more useful and a straighter path to follow.

My most memorable moments in the organization were the STEM days which led me to want to follow my current career path. Even if I venture out to new places I will now always be a part of this community and I'll know that if I need help or if I want to help out my fellow brothers and sisters I can always come back to this community. The program cleared a lot of the obstacles on my path but I will still have to endeavor through most obstacles in the future and that won't be a problem because I was taught to fish not given one.



Clarke Harris

Next Step: Community College

Major: Business

Field: Entrepreneur

Travel: Italy

Grad Mentor: Dr. David Smith

My name is Clarke Harris and I'm a senior at Legacy Magnet Academy. This is my first year in the Passport program, and I have gained the opportunity to attend the UCI Summer Surgery Program this summer.

After graduating high school, my plan is to attend two years of community college at Irvine Valley College (IVC), and then transfer to a UC school where I will obtain my degree. I will be a part of the IVC Honors Program, which gives me access to more resources to further my academic development. I plan on using community college as a way to save money while taking my general education courses.

Some highlights from the Passport program were the game development sessions. These sessions were fun, and I got to learn about the different aspects of game design such as music, coding, and art direction. The Passport program has taught me the importance of being on time and having confidence in yourself. I believe that this program has prepared me for life after high school through the many opportunities that the program offers.

Devin Moore

Next Step: Community College
Major: Performing Arts
Field: Film, Acting
Grad Mentor: Greg Hogan

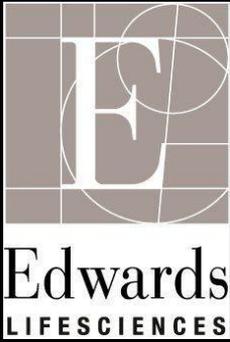


My name is Devin Charles Moore and I am a senior at San Pedro High School, where I am in the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet program. I have been a member of the 100 Black Men of Orange County Passport program for the past 2 years. The passport program has played a very instrumental role in how I see myself today as a black man in society. Through the passport program I had the opportunity to learn about multiple professional career paths, I received mentoring and support from professionals who have taken interest in my success. Through this experience I have also had the opportunity to learn more about myself and what I can do. Last year I was able to build an extraordinary rocket and this year I have been able to learn basic coding and programming.

The passport program has given me a foundation and exposed me to opportunities to learn and through their associations, given me a vision for my future. Because of the relationship that I have with 100 Black Men of Orange County I'm more confident I have the skills to begin my journey into higher education. I have also gained an appreciation of who I am and what I represent as a man of color. I know that I have a duty to my brothers to support them in the future and it will be my honor and privilege to lead them to success.

Understanding that I may encounter some of my own challenges along the way, I'm confident in knowing that I am also prepared to endure and to be victorious in whatever I set my mind to accomplish. Next year I plan to attend Junior College and my goal is to transfer into the University of Southern California after I obtain my Associates Degree.

2024 Sponsors



2023 – 2024 Class Advisors

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Dr. David Smith
Sean Thomas

Zachery Price

Freshman Class

Dereck Moore
Vyente Ruffin

Sophomore Class

Otis Boyles
Ken Kirkpatrick

Maurice Sanders
Dr. John Danley

Junior Class

Orlando Guillory
Mike Davis

Jasper Jackson
Derreck Ford

Senior Class

Jeff Freeman
Dr. Ian Williamson

STEM

Ernest Garrison

Zachery Price

100 Black Men of Orange County

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Orlando Guillory
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Alvin Blades
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At Large Directors



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Byron Mobley

Dereck Moore*

John Moore

Jamal Munneryn

Christopher Norwood

James Owens

Vyente Ruffin

Maurice Sanders

Mark Smalls

David Smith*

Sean Thomas

Lawrence Tucker

Demetrius Williams

Ian Williamson

Julius Wiseman

*Board of Director

Suited and Booted

The man who inspired the Senior's fit



Kenneth Marshall | Macy's Personal Stylist

Ken's innate passion and aesthetic eye for style, gives him the unique ability to create signature wardrobe looks. With his love for color palettes and play on patterns, his staunch build-out looks are both modern and fashion-forward, which captivates the eyes.

As a Personal Stylist with Macy's for 20 years, Ken has devoted his career to developing, coaching and encouraging men through his 3 signature phrases to hone their wardrobe skills, to build confidence, to boost their careers and better their lives:

~ if you don't feel good putting it on, we won't feel good wearing it

~ if you don't love it, leave it

~ if you see something you love, buy it when you see

Ken currently resides in Costa Mesa, CA with his wife Bernadeth who both enjoys road trips and international travel. He can also be found on social media platforms sharing his fashion for passion.