

# VOICES

Second Quarter

April 2005

## LOE Awards Celebration Tickets On Sale

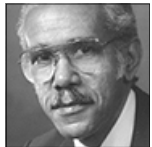
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*AGBM presents the 1st Annual Dr. John T. Chissell Optimal Achievement Award*

Sponsors needed for the 2005 Legacy of Excellence Awards Celebration. Call us at 410-637-5451 to support this vital initiative.

**SEE YOU ONLINE**

## David C. Miller, M. Ed: A Village Dad with Powerful Life Lessons

There have always been Men in our communities and in our society who are or have become -- to use a term coined by Mr. Bandele Adeyami, Executive Director of Men On The Move -- "Village Dads." "Village Dads" are Men who not only mentor, inspire, chastise and create opportunities and provide resources for their own children, but also mentor, inspire, chastise and create opportunities and provide resources for the children in their neighborhoods and communities. In some instances, many "Village Dads" are filling a void. In the eyes of "Village Dads" our children represent our future. There are many "Village Dads" in neighborhoods and communities throughout our global village who are creating opportuni-



*Village Dad and Urban Leadership Institute Chief Visionary Officer David Miller*

ties and resources, "filling voids" for our children and providing them with powerful life lessons. David C. Miller, M.Ed. is such a man -- a "Village Dad." Miller is a thirty-something, educator, social entrepreneur and community activist. He has written and developed life-transforming programs for young and adolescent African American males which help them, among other things, to redefine manhood, challenge

## Well Said

"Some succeed because they are destined to, but most succeed because they are determined to."

— **Unknown**



## AGBM Prepares for 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Legacy of Excellence Awards

Throughout the year, they have made many contributions to the African American community with their long hours of dedicated work-- a beautiful example of unselfish love. We appreciate their investment of time and talents to positive endeavors that support, empower and uplift the African American community and in particular, its males. Awards are bestowed to five outstanding individuals who exemplify the five principles set forth in the gateways of our web site. *continued*

## Money Matters

According to a report in the April 2003 edition of USA Today, two-thirds of employees are concerned about their families' financial security in the event of premature death. However, most of those employees polled do little or nothing to change the situation.



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**DAVID MILLER, M. Ed.**

current myths and stereotypes about masculinity, and positively channel anger and negative energy into positive energy. He is the Co-Founder and Chief Visionary Officer of The Urban Leadership Institute, LLC in Towson, Maryland and the author of an inspiring and boundary-transcending work, *“Lessons I Learned From My Father: A Collection Of Quotes From Men Of African Descent.”* Mr. Miller moderates through *“Lessons I Learned From My Father: A Collection Of Quotes From Men Of African Descent,”* an intimately profound discussion on *courage, marriage,*

*sex, fatherlessness, character, love, anger, justice, advice, manhood, raising boys, making mistakes, friends, work ethic, life, death, our mothers and money* among Men from the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. And Mr. Miller has something to say about these issues as well. On the issue of “love,” Miller, in his book, makes the following poignant observation: “One of the most important yet undervalued human emotions is love. Throughout time love has repaired relationships, ended family disputes and helped parents get through hard times. Love always will be the universal emotion that we all seek regardless of color, class or demographics. When we begin to explore the notion of a father’s love, this becomes an important emotion that must be factored into raising healthy boys. The love between a father and a son can be priceless! In many respects the power of love can be witnessed when you see a father helping his son complete a task for the first time; get his first ‘A’ on a spelling test; ride a bike; and make his first shot on the basketball court. In many instances, we underestimate the

power of a loving father through the media’s negative portrayals we tend to regard the role of fathers as merely breadwinners. This portrayal minimizes fathers to a paycheck versus human beings capable of showing love toward other males. Love is the fundamental emotion that we need to reduce the likelihood that our sons will fill jail cells, recovery houses and cemeteries!”

**THE 2005 LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS CELEBRATION**

This year's celebration will take place at the Eubie Blake National Jazz Institute & Cultural Center in Baltimore City and will include the presentation of the Dr. John T. Chissell Optimal Achiever Award. Festivities will begin with a reception at 2 pm designed to give the nominees, event sponsors and dignitaries an opportunity to meet and network. Tickets are only \$30 in advance (\$40 at the door). For information about tickets, journal ads or a sponsorship call AGBM at 410-637-5451 or send emails to us at [info@agoodblackman.com](mailto:info@agoodblackman.com).



**SEE YOU THERE!**



**POET'S CORNER**

**OPEN ME**

I remember where my heart is  
Because I hear it,  
it beats louder and louder  
In my silent docile prism  
And to me,  
Life is like a hug from a sweet little girl.

- Hakim

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**HEALTH NEWS BRIEF**

The prevalence of diabetes among African Americans is about 70% higher than among white Americans. Infant mortality rates are twice as high for African Americans as for white Americans. The 5-year survival rate for cancer among African Americans diagnosed for 1986-1992 was about 44%, compared with 59% for white Americans.



- [www.blackhealthcare.com](http://www.blackhealthcare.com)

First Annual

**FATHERHOOD COOKOUT**

Reclaiming Fatherhood: A Celebration of Men  
**Saturday June 18, 2005**  
from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.



- Free food • Games
- Entertainment
- Resource Information

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Sponsored by the Urban Leadership Institute, Maryland Voters Restoration Coalition- Unlock D Bloc Campaign & Baltimore Rising



**SPOTLIGHT ON JHAHBRIEL C.E. MOORE, SR.**

Jhahbriel C.E. Moore, Sr. is a 32 year old gifted poet and he is on a mission. When asked when he discovered his love of writing he quickly responds, “ I began writing in

the eighth grade. I always had ideas and stories running around in my head and one day I began putting them down on paper.” Moore’s poetry often reflects the pain, happiness and growth he has personally experienced over the years.

When describing his writing style Moore says, “What I write about and how I write comes straight from God to me. Instead of reacting to things, I just wait on God and he instructs me and gives me what to write”. He continues with excitement, “Something just takes over me and before I know it my pen is moving faster than my mind”. Jhahbriel, pronounced (Jhah -bree -L), plans to publish a book of poetry in the near future. Moore, a single father of a thirteen year old

son, also plans to write a book called “Looking Through Brown Eyes”. The title is derived from looking at himself through the eyes of his son. “Often we hear stories about single mothers, but we don’t hear as much about the single fathers”. Moore admits that being a single father has challenges. “Working a 9 to 5 is nothing compared to raising a child. I mean, with peer pressure and bad influences from other kids who disrespect adults and curse. It’s a constant battle. I try to instill into my son that he is a prince”. But Moore also admits that the rewards of being a father are wonderful. “Just seeing him accomplish things, whether in school or in sports. It just makes me so proud. My son is my best friend”. Moore acknowledges that he is blessed to have three strong black women to help him raise his son: his mother, grandmother and sister. Moore is also the president of Moore 4U Entertainment, LP. Moore hopes that Moore 4 U Entertainment will be a catalyst for explosive positive growth in the music

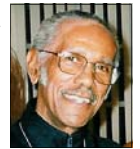
and poetry industry. To those that are pursuing a dream and facing obstacles, Moore offers this advice, “Be yourself. Be true to yourself and don’t listen to negative talk and always follow your heart. And remember everyday above ground is a good day. You may read poetry by Jhahbriel C.E. Moore, Sr. at [www.timbooktu.com](http://www.timbooktu.com)



Jhahbriel C.E. Moore, Sr

***The Dr. John T. Chissell  
Optimal Achievement  
Award***

The 2005 AGBM Legacy of Excellence Awards Celebration will mark the first presentation of the Dr. John T. Chissell Optimal Achievement Award. This award



is not only intended to commemorate and preserve an extraordinary legacy, but to also recognize an African American male student who has demonstrated a proficiency in math, the science (s) and/or medicine. AGBM, Inc. created this award to celebrate the best possible emotional, intellectual, physical, spiritual and socio-economic aliveness, which was promoted and practiced by the quintessential physician, community activist and father of “Optimal Health,” Dr. John T. Chissell. Each year, during AGBM’s LOE Awards Ceremony, this award will highlight the brilliant and committed life of Dr. John, and the recipient of this prestigious award will be asked to advance the legacy of Dr. John through academic excellence, community service and the promotion of the principles of “Optimal Health.”

***Moments In Black History: Jesse Owens***

James Cleveland Owens was born in 1913 in a small town in Alabama to Henry and Emma Owens. On May 25, 1935, at the Big Ten Conference Championships, Owens broke three world records and tied a fourth, all in a 70 minute span. In the 1936 Berlin Olympics,



he won four gold medals: 100 meter dash in 10.3 seconds (tying the world record), long jump with a jump of 26' 5 1/4" (Olympic record), 200 meter dash in 20.7 seconds (Olympic record), and 400 meter relay (first leg) in 39.8 seconds (Olympic and world record). Source: [www.jesseowens.com](http://www.jesseowens.com)



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**In This Issue...**

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**AGBM RESOURCES FOR FATHERS**

**American Prostrate**

**Society** located at 7188 Ridge Road, Hanover, MD 21807. You can reach them by telephone at 410-859-3735 or fax them at 410-850-0818. Visit them in on the Web at [www.ameripros.org/](http://www.ameripros.org/)



**Gary's Homework Help Page**

is an award-winning homework help web site created by entrepreneur and certified management

trainer Gary Johnson that provides resources for teachers and educators and thousands of pages containing information for math, geography, language, art and literature homework assignment. Visit the web site for Gary's Homework Help Page on the Web at: [www.homeworkhelppage.com/](http://www.homeworkhelppage.com/)

**National Diabetes Information Clearing House** – 1 Information Way, Bethesda, MD 20982-3560. Telephone: 1-800-860-8747 or 301-654-3327.

Fax: 301-907-8906. Visit them on The Web at [www.diabetes.niddk.nih.gov/](http://www.diabetes.niddk.nih.gov/)

**National Fatherhood**

**Initiative** is located at 101 Lake Forest Boulevard, Suite 360, Gaithersburg, MD 20877. For general information, Mondays through Fridays from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, call 1-800-790-DADS. Its office telephone number is 301-948-0599 and fax is 301-948-4325. Find them on the Web at: [www.fatherhood.org/](http://www.fatherhood.org/)