

Each year we partner with Caribbean Professionals Alliance and Florida Summer Homes to celebrate Women's History Month (March), with an annual "*Maxi & Mimosa Women Empowerment Brunch*," to honor 5-10 individual women from various cultures while enjoying a tasty brunch, that becomes a "*Sisterhood Affair*," when we share stories of how we've overcame cancer, domestic violence, bullied, child abuse and may other obstacles. Our Women of Kulture 365, show such strive in all that they do by empowering and inspiring women throughout their community and back home. Then in October, we host another brunch in celebration of cancer survivors or chronic illnesses, both held at Brio Tuscan Grille (Winter Park, FL). Our motto is, "We are a Survivors, A Warriors by design, I am a Fighter in Life......I am Strong, I am Beautiful, I am Imperfect, I am Loved!



### Anita Singh (born Guyana) Owner of PS Freight Systems/Community Advocate

Anita Singh has been in business since 2003 with her husband Paul, representing various shipping companies as a domestic sales agent in the Central Florida Area. She's always looking to expand into new areas. Their currently have agents in Ocala, Clermont, Poinciana & Ft. Lauderdale area and have draw on more than 20 years combined experience in the shipping industry, working with the industry's most reputable companies. Anita has supported many Caribbean organizations and cultural events within Florida and back home.

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#### Continues with Christy Lynch

# Christy O Lynch (African) President/CEO Christy Matchmaker, Founder Heart of Africa, CEO of Style by Christiana



Christy Lynch was born in Lagos, Nigeria. She is a wife, mother and business woman. Her company Style by Christiana, LLC involves: Image Consulting, Professional Matchmaking, Custom jewelry design, Event planning and Reality TV production. She is also the founder and organizer of the Afrocentric Orlando Event: A cultural event that highlights African arts and entertainment in celebration of Black History Month. Her inspiration steams from the passion of not only sharing the richness of her Nigerian culture and heritage, but to bring some class and pizazz into the African culture, in order to eliminate the misconceptions and stereotype that surrounds Africa. The event is also a fundraiser in which donations benefit black organizations in the local community. As a woman of culture, Christy's starting point to empowerment is to Affirm that you can do whatever you want. Never give up on your dreams. "One of the many goals I set for myself is the

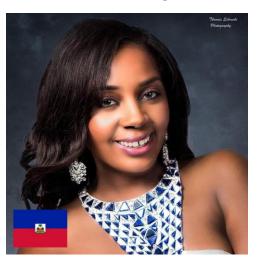
notion that as long as I can dream it, it shall be done! You must also own your good qualities with pride, it will reflect in your attitude. Friends in my inner circle always hear me say that: I love me!" When you need a confidence boost, Recite your positive qualities in front of a mirror. Support YOU as you do others. When nervous, repeat, "You can do it." Tell yourself how terrific you are. Learn to take full responsibility for your thoughts and actions. It's YOUR choice to adopt criticism or even allow criticism from others to rule your thoughts and your behavior. Remember Those famous words -"Nobody can make you feel inferior without your permission." You CAN choose to brush off criticism and feel good about yourself or let it define you. Someone may call you ignorant but you're not ignorant, unless you decide to agree. So, make the choice to think well of you. Be kind to yourself. This will not only help you focus on you, but will help you believe that you deserve good. Give yourself a break when you're tired. Take a bath. Buy the lotion or coffee that costs a few dollars more than the cheap brand. Self-kindness can blossom into self-love from which self-empowerment can grow. Create a support team. Buddy with someone who's also trying to improve by Cheering each other on. Or, create an informal group of people who meet to encourage each other. Only allow positive people into your life by letting go of negative people, because we do tend to absorb another person's negativity. That's why it's good to avoid the negative or toxic ones who bring you down and make you feel like you're not capable. Love yourself enough to not allow negative people to hurt you. Educate yourself by Learning more. Like they say, knowledge is power. Learn skills! Adult Ed classes and books teach how to do a so many things. Learn to build your own website, create a newsletter, start a blog, etc. You'll feel more competent. Find the right person to tutor you instead of feeling inadequate about not understanding how it is done. Challenging yourself to be able to do something you couldn't makes you feel more empowered. Music Bio Another passion of hers is singing. Christy has been singing since the tender age of Five. She was known among her elementary school mates as the class entertainer. Her genre is a fusion of Pop, Jazz and Afro-beat. Her music inspiration includes: African music legend: Fela Anikulapo Ransom-Kuti and Tina Turner. She took up singing professional as a teenager with a local band in her native-born city of Lagos in Nigeria.

#### Continues with Christy Lynch

Christy has been traveling the globe, following in her passion for music. She has lived in such countries as: Indonesia, Kazakhstan, The Philippines, Canada and of course Nigeria and the United States of America. Christy was a performing member of "The Choral" on a talent grant, at Florida Community College at Jacksonville. In 2003, she earned a degree in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences from (FSU) Florida State University. During her stay in Canada, she performed gigs with the Brian Strand Blues band. Christy spent 4 years in Kazakhstan, during which she won the hearts of many with her performances in Atyrau. She collaborated with the popular, local Jazz artists of the Meri Group. Her first live concert was a back-to- back performance at the Atyrau Philharmonic in September of 2004, followed by two consecutive days of live performances at the Atyrau Drama Theater in April of 2005. She also participated in the Aktobe Jazz festival of 2005, in which alongside the Meri group, they were awarded the Outstanding Performance Award. Her weekly gigs at the upscale FIESTA Restaurant in Atyrau, was very popular among locals and expatriates. She has also graced many social events and numerous multi-national company social functions with her performances. Christy has also been featured in numerous local newspaper and magazine publications as well as local television in Kazakhstan. In Manila, Christy's singing was popular within the expatriate community. She was a regular feature at the semi-annual Australian-New Zealand (ANZA) Jazz event in Makati City, Philippines. Christy successfully launched her first Afro-Pop CD on May 17, 2011 at The Shang Grand Tower, Manila, Philippines and the event was widely covered in the Philippines press. The debut, 12 track album is a fusion of pop, jazz and Afro-beat. The songs include: Move Me, Soul of Gold, Search Is Over, Secret Lover, For Goodness Sake, Losing You. Precious One, Sensations, You Told Dirty Lies, My Search Is Over – Remix, Move Me – Remix and Move Me – Extended Bonus Track. Christy is an independent record and TV Producer, operating under her company name: Style By Christiana, LLC. She wrote the entire lyrics and also worked with music arrangers on all songs on her debut album, "Move Me." Songs are currently available for purchase itunes.apple.com, Amazon and a host of other online stores. In March of 2012, Christy launched her new single, "Swagger," which was produced and launched in her native: Lagos, Nigeria where it was received with good reviews in the press. Christy's new reality TV show, "Christy The Matchmaker" will debut on a major network in Africa in 2018 and can be viewed by a worldwide audience. The show highlights her new joint venture with Blissfully Feminine called: The Romance Tour, which kicks off in November 2017. She'll be flying American bachelors and bachelorettes to mother land Africa and helping them find love matches with native Africans and part of a cultural experience. Her goal and passion is to help people enhance their love lives while empowering them as well. For further info, checkout www.EliteRomanceTour.com Email: Christylynchsbc@gmail.com

#### Continues with Chrystelle Jean

# Chrystelle Jean (born Haiti) - Ambassador Women of Kulture 2017-2018 CEO of La Perle Management, Child Advocate & Ambassador for Word & Action, Inc.,



Chrystelle migrated from her homeland of Haiti in 2007 where she started her career as a Radio Host. In 2006, before her arrival to the United States, she hosted a cultural show on a local radio station from her hometown of Gros-Morne. She was Crowned Miss Gros-Morne in 2005. As a result, she became one of the most popular figures and show hosts in that region. Once in the United States, Chrystelle found modeling to be a dream career. In 2010, she decided to attend one of the most prestigious modeling schools in the US, John Casablanca Modeling School (own by Elite Management). She modeled for several big companies and showcase her catwalk in front of millions. Chrystelle also won the title of Miss Florida Super Model in 2015 in Orlando, Florida. In addition, the business side of Chrystelle is evident through her graduation in Hotel and Business Management in 2012.

Refusing to settle, Chrystelle is currently pursuing her bachelor's degree in health studies with a concentration in Healthcare Management and plan to continue with her master's in Public Health. An opportunity to bring Haiti to the spotlight in a very positive way. Chrystelle Jean is proud to represent her beloved homeland, Haiti at the Miss Supranational 2016 pageant on December 2nd in Poland.... Thank you for helping her to represent Haiti in Poland with pride. Chrystelle is a child advocate and an ambassador to Word and Action - a Miami based philanthropic organization that fights against child sexual abuse. During her two-month- stay in Haiti for the 2016 Miss Haiti Pageant, Chrystelle has managed to introduce Word and Action's project to the UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund), as she tried to foster new ways for potential collaboration toward tackling child sexual abuse in Haiti. On December 2016, Chrystelle travelled to Poland and Slovakia where she represented her beloved homeland, Haiti at the Miss Supranational 2016. Chrystelle was at the center of this international even that was broadcasted in over 140 countries. Coming from Europe, on December 24, 2016, Chrystelle received "THE DEDEE BAZIL AWARD" from a community radio station, Radio Condimental/ Power 1012.1 for her dedication, courage, and commitment as an advocate and humanitarian. Chrystelle has already started to write her first book. She hopes to share her modeling experience during her unique journey in Europe, her work as a W&A Ambassador, and her vision on social issues especially the epidemic of child sex abuse. Lastly, Chrystelle has launched her managing company, "La Perle Management" in order to coach and prepare young models who are aspired to pursue a modeling carrier. Email: chrystellejean1@gmail.com

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Continues with Coco Johnston, Laiz Rodrigues & Tricia Simpson



### Coco Johnston (Asia (Vietnam) - Asian American Chamber

Having moved from Honolulu, HI to Southern CA and now firmly planted here in Central Florida. I can now call Clermont my home for the past 10 years. I am currently the Marketing Director at Metro Title Group, located in Metro West. We facilitate real estate closings. I've been in the title closing/home warranty industries for over 30 years. My activities include being a 2-term President of the AACC (Asian American Chamber of Commerce) here in Central Fl. Our vision is to help our members prosper and grow and to serve as a bridge between our many Asian American communities. American business community of Greater Orlando. I also belong to AREAA (Asian Real Estate Association of America). We are dedicated to promoting sustainable homeownership

opportunities in Asian American communities by creating a powerful national voice for housing and real estate professionals that serve this market. My husband John and I have been married for 31 years. We have a blended family living with our daughter, Amber and our granddaughters, Bailey 18 and Charlie 11.

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## Laiz Rodrigues (born Brazil)

## **CEO Brazilian American Bus. Council, World Affairs Council of Central FL, Midsized Budget United Arts CF**

Liaz Rodrigues is an Attorney in Brazil. She graduated in 1985 at PUC-RJ one of the most prestigious Universities in Brazil. Laiz has worked in the Orlando Community since 2008. She is the creator and Editor at The Hotspotorlando. She also dedicated part of her time to the Central Florida Brazilian American Chamber of Commerce and now is the Executive Director at the Brazil America Business Council <u>www.brazilamerica.org</u>. In 2015, Laiz received the award of 25 most influential Hispanics by Vision Magazine –HCCMO.



# Tricia Simpson (born Barbados) Artist & CEO of Nappy-n-Happy

Tricia was born in the beautiful Caribbean Island known as Barbados in 1974. Art has been a part of my life growing up in Barbados with the Tropics of the ocean and the colorful lush botanical beauty of inspiration. As a self-taught artist, most of my pieces are of a simple line of Afro-Caribbean and Rasta-Man Flow. I also enjoy photography....and I believe that having a simple way of "life allows all of us to feel the rhythm of life."

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Continues with Attorney Sasha Watson, Sue Thompson



Attorney Sasha Watson, Esq. (born Jamaica) - Chair HAWM

Attorney Sasha Watson, Esq., is Chair of the Immigration Practice Group at HAWM LAW, PLLC. In this capacity, Ms. Watson concentrates on assisting individuals and organizations with all aspects of the immigration process. As an immigrant, Sasha has gone through almost all stages of US immigration from non-immigrant visas through naturalization and can relate to immigrants and their families in a unique and intimately familiar way. Moreover, she has been admitted as a testifying expert on behalf of the Florida Bar on immigration related issues. As an immigration attorney, Ms. Watson has consulted on international immigration reform projects on behalf of international countries evaluating and reforming their own immigration policies. Additionally, she handles matters involving business litigation, auto accidents and catastrophic personal injury on behalf of individuals

throughout the State of Florida. Ms. Watson also serves as a legal and business consultant throughout the Caribbean. She has consulted on various consultancies funded by the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Organization of American States (OAS). Sasha is committed to serving the Florida community and routinely handles pro bono matters for individuals and families that would otherwise not be able to afford legal representation. Read more on Attorney Watson at http://hawmlaw.com/watson Email: swatson@hawmlaw.com



## **Sue Thompson (born American)**

**President/Founder Globe Peace Network, Artist & Photographer** Sue Thompson quickly grew to appreciate the beauty, richness and complexity of the land and people around her. "My earliest memories of West Orange County include wandering through the orange groves and the long walk home from school," she says. Growing up in a large citrus farming family, Sue Thompson of Winter Garden quickly grew to appreciate the beauty, richness and complexity of the land and people around her. "My earliest memories of West Orange County include wandering through the orange groves and the long walk home from school," she says. Now an accomplished artist, international photographer, and founder and president of the <u>Global Peace</u> <u>Network,</u> Thompson has traveled the world photographing social conflicts and civil unrest to raise awareness and compassion for those who are struggling. "I want to spread hope," she says. "To let people, know that someone cares. It matters that each of us find whatever gift

or talent we can share and that we do it. And no matter where you want to go, you can get there if you work hard enough and want it bad enough." Sue Thompson's resolve has allowed her to photograph White House civil rights events; the female Peshmerga military forces by invitation of Iraqi Kurdistan officials; famed civil rights leader and attorney Fred Gray of Alabama, a defender of Rosa Parks and the men exploited by the Tuskegee Syphilis Study; and peaceful Sanford, Florida leaders after the death of Trayvon Martin.

### Continues with Sue Thompson & Vianne Floyd

Thompson's most memorable moments were meeting Dr. Joseph Lowery, renowned American civil rights leader, social activist and minister in the United Methodist Church, at the 50th Anniversary March on Washington and being the first American to visit with Fidel Castro's brother, Martin Castro, at his historic family compound in Cuba. Locally, visitors to Winter Garden Village at Fowlers Groves can enjoy Sue Thompson's famed "Orange Crate" statues located around the plaza. "I came up with what I thought was the common denominator on how to represent each group of 'citrus people' in the art," she says. "As a child, each of us had a special purpose for the old wooden orange crates. I witnessed a million uses for them, including bookshelves, forts, or even a desk. How versatile they were for all of us children of the citrus industry." Thompson was thrilled to be able to showcase her young granddaughter as well. "When the statue of my granddaughter, Haley, was chosen I felt a special kind of satisfaction," she says. "I could show through my art that we are created perfect as we are. Haley, who was born with cerebral palsy, was a perfect choice with her crooked little legs and her heart. She is beautiful, loving and strong, and I am a proud grandma to see her likeness standing at the entrance circle." Looking to the future, Thompson hopes to continue her work bringing peace and hope both locally and worldwide. "I have an amazing, fulfilled life," she says. "Many people appreciate my gift and my work. They know that it is from my heart. My photography has brought me the greatest reward. Bringing awareness, inspiration and assistance to others has brought me more joy and fulfillment than anything else I have accomplished."

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# Vianne Floyd (born in Trinidad and Tobago) – Founder of My People App

Vianne moved to Brooklyn, New York with her family in 1972. Vianne is married and has a 28-year-old daughter. Growing up, Vianne faced challenges which caused her to have low self-esteem about herself and her ability to be successful. Faith, taught to her by her grandmother, and her determination to overcome her adversities, is what drives her in her life. In 1987, Vianne became a commercial Flight Attendant with Eastern Airlines and in 1989, left commercial flying to become a corporate Flight Attendant for a Fortune 500 corporate flight department. Keeping with her willingness to step out on faith, Vianne saw that there was a need for providing Flight Attendant services to Corporate Flight Departments and in 1997, she started a company called Jett Sett Management LLC., to provide Flight Attendant Services to Corporate Flight Departments.

While running the business and providing Corporate Flight Attendant services for 25 years, she also worked as a Corporate Flight Attendant. Being one of a few persons of color in the corporate aviation industry, Vianne strived in this industry and sat on various committees to mentor and support future Flight Attendant candidates.

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#### Continues with Vianne Floyd

Due to her career as a Flight Attendant, she traveled all over the world and experienced many different cultures. While traveling, one of the experiences Vianne wanted to enjoy was the ability to connect and easily find things of interest based on her cultural lifestyle, which gave her the idea to create the My People At app. With her entrepreneurial spirit, willingness to try new things, and her experience of traveling the world, she started to work on the concept of a social media app to connect people to places, events, and interests based on who they are, their culture, ethnicity, and cultural lifestyle. Without any technology know how, in 2015 called Vianne started My People at Network LLC. A development team was hired to develop the app platform for IOS and Android devices. The app is called My People At and is now available on Apple and Android devices at <a href="https://www.mypeoplenet.com">https://www.mypeoplenet.com</a>. Vianne is on the Board of Directors of Utility Resource Group, LLC, the Marsh Pointe Homeowners Association, and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Chapter of Fort Myers, Florida, where she also volunteers twice a week.

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