

Generation RAP

G-RAP CREW

Standing (l to r)

Elijah Alibek Jarad Wright
Percy Robinson III
Grace Clarice Cole
Ogechi Ofodu
Kayla Henderson
Tania Taylor
Brandon D. Kinney Jr.
TeMyia Jones

Sitting (l to r)

Halston McClellan
Elijah Carter
TaLeah Richards
Sydney Brooks
Isaiah Jackson
Jasmin Robinson

TWELVE
MAGAZINE

By TaLeah Richards and
Ogechi Ofodu

LOCAL TEENS TAKE THEIR VOICES TO RADIO

When you bring teens, hot topics, and a few microphones together, you get *Generation Rap*: the HOTTEST teen talk show on the planet. *Generation Rap (G-Rap)*, sponsored by Carter Broadcast Group and created by Carl Boyd, is a teen talk show that airs every Saturday morning 8a.m.-9a.m. on Kansas City's own 103.3 FM. The youth

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leadership radio program aims to facilitate entry into higher education and the sometimes unwelcoming adult world with the help of its mentors Dyan Devereaux, India Williams, Erika Brice, and Jim "Grand Dad" Nunnelly. Each mentor adds a different style of input to the teens' effort to better their skills when it comes to teamwork, time management, confidence, networking, and communication.

"Miss India is very motivational and everything she does for us is to better our future," said member Sydney Brooks. "She's a little tough on you but once you complete the task you realize without her hard motivation you wouldn't have been able to pull off that task."

The teens' job is to execute the entire show concept, which includes securing guests, creating an outline, and assigning members to specific segments. Members also rotate hosting and producing roles. New members shadow the production meeting and shows to become more comfortable.

Ogechi Ofodu, who has been a member for six months, landed the host position soon after joining G-Rap which is rare. "I felt excited and anxious to get on the mic. During my first show they made us ask questions. The people were very inviting and chill," said Ofodu. "I immediately felt comfortable, so I joined with two of my school friends."

Mentor India Williams explains, "My goal is for each member to understand the importance of civic engagement. Members are giving listeners a better understanding of daily challenges faced by young people". In addition to community service, Williams also wants the teens to find themselves. "G-rap provides students with an outlet to improve skills such as communication, teamwork, persuasion, accountability, and many others... an overall sense of appreciation for their peers and community."

The program encourages alumni to visit during his or her college breaks and share their experiences with members. Many have shared the fact that *Generation Rap* has granted them scholarship opportunities for college, and lifelong friendships.

Mentors Williams, Devereaux, and Brice consistently push the G-Rap members to show their personalities on the mic weekly. The phrase 'build your brand' is one quote shared by the mentors on a daily bases. It is

all part of their attempt to motivate all members to start their individual journeys while updating their resumes. Not only do the mentors meet with members twice weekly, but they also go out of their way to share educational opportunities to support each member's goals.

"Being a member of *Generation Rap* is such a fulfillment. It gives me the opportunity to be a voice of the people at such a young age," said member Percy Robinson.

The show airs live every Saturday morning on KPRS 103.3 FM for an hour starting at 8AM. Listeners are sure to learn something when they tune in, so as members say at the end of each show: "Don't get it Twisted!"



Kayla Henderson, 16

School: Shawnee mission northwest

Interests: Broadcast journalism

After high school I would like to attend Florida A&M University. In 10 years I hope to be a television or radio personality.

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Jasmin Robinson, 18

School: Lee's Summit West HS

Interests: Broadcast journalism, theatre, and music

My plan after high school to attend college for broadcast journalism
In 10 years I will be an anchor or reporter on a national television network.

Elijah Carter, 15

School: Grandview High School

Interests: Baseball and Broadcast journalism
After high school, I would like to attend college on a baseball scholarship, and any additional scholarships pertaining to my interest.

In 10 years I'll be playing in the MLB, while applying my degree in broadcast journalism on Sports Center.

Grace Clarice Cole, 15

School: Bishop Miege High school

Interests: Singling and Generation Rap

After high school I plan to attend college and study abroad. In 10 years I see myself being a host of a talk show like The Real

Sydney Brooks, 17

School: Lee's Summit West High School

Interests: I'm interested in fashion, makeup, hair, nails and almost anything else that involves beauty.

Plan after HS: My ultimate goal after high school is to go to the University of Southern California and complete law school.

In 10 years I'll be finished with law school and working at a community-based organization. I will also have a part-time job of doing hair, nails and makeup just for fun.





Te'Myia Jones, 15

School: Raytown high

Interests: dancing

After high school I would like to beauty school for two years, and then enroll into college. In 10 years I would like to own my own hair salon outside of Kansas City. My main purpose is to live a good life, and hang around positive people.

TaLeah Richards, 16

School: Lees Summit West High a School

Interests: Performing arts- film specifically
Plan after HS: To attend a performing arts college and improve my skills in acting, directing, and producing. In 10 years I'll live in California working on set either with the tech crew or as an actress for a new movie coming out.

Tania Taylor, 16

School: AC Prep

Interests: music producing, rapping, and singing
After high school I would like to attend college and major in English.
In 10 years I would like to be on the best sellers list for my trilogy, and producing one of the hottest albums in the country.



Percy Robinson III, 16

School: Hogan College Prep Academy

Interests: Reading, Writing, Netflix, and Socializing

Plan after HS: To attend Howard University and major in Education. In 10 years I'll be a teacher at an elementary school while earning a Master degree in Human Resources.

Halston McClellan, 15

School: Lee's Summit West HS

Interests: animation, dance, music producing and fashion.

After school I plan to attend California state university with a major in music. In 10 years I will be producing some of the hottest artists in the world.

Ogechi Ofodu, 17

School: Lee's summit West High School

Interests: Film Directing/Acting, Writing, Poetry, and Singing

In 10 years I'll be an established film director, actress, singer/rapper, poet, and human rights activist. Also, starting my first film studios or record company.



Isaiah Stephen Jackson, 15

School: Blue Springs South HS

Interests: I enjoy public speaking, football, student government, and being active at my church.

I plan on attending University of Missouri-Columbia to study broadcast journalism and Business Management In ten years I would have graduated with my Master of Business Administration, and pursuing a career in corporate America.



Brandon D. Kinney Jr., 14

School: Grandview Senior HS

Interests: Baseball, Jazz band, Marching band, volunteer work, Grandview teen council (I'm VP), robotics, and biking
Plan after HS: I plan to attend college and study engineering or pre-medicine.

In 10 years I'll either be working as a biomedical engineer, designing/creating the latest medical technology to better diagnose & treat patients, including creating innovative prosthetics. Or, I'll be completing my residency as a physician in the field of pediatrics or surgery.