

Faith & SOUL

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say Rejoice.

NEWS MAGAZINE
Vol.6 No. 56 AUGUST 2012



Faith & Soul News Magazine..... We are there for you: Essences Festival, The National Urban League Conference, Grand Openings and more see inside.....



Galatians 6 vs. 9 (KJV)

***And let us not be weary in well doing:
for in due season we shall reap, if we
faint not***

***In this issue: Essence Festival, The National
Urban League Conference, Aaron Moses, IRS
urges Taxpayers, Dr. Toni farewell, Sports &
Cookin for Football Season, senator Landrieu's
Bipartissan Support, congratulations to Ben
Berthelot and more.***

Faith & Soul News Magazine loves you all.

Thank you for all the Support!!!!!!!

***Blessings to all the Teachers, Staff, Students and
Parents, may this school year be a blessing to
everyone. Faith & Soul supports you all!!!***

Enjoy Reading!!!!!!!!!!

***My prayer to Haiti: Don't forget Haiti
and don't forget New Orleans!***

***Keep the faith and hope, know that the Love of God is
closer than you think. Smile everyday and make others
smile too. God Bless, Melinda***

****Articles and views expressed in this publica-
tion do not necessary reflect the views of Faith &
Soul News Magazine and its staff.***

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Publishers' Pointers



Melinda C. Sylvester on her 49th Birthday. I sent my mother flowers for my birthday. I was glad and happy she is my mother she chose life. What will you do on your birthday? Always-Celebrate with Love!

As I celebrated my 49th Birthday; I want to thank all of Faith & Soul's staff, readers and advertisers for allowing me to share my dreams. You all have a special place in my heart. Much Love to you all! Because of you I celebrate Life. God said chose Life. "I came to give you Life more abundantly says the Lord. I want to wish Life in abundance for everyone.

Go Register to Vote!! It is your freedom, do it for your children and grandchildren. Remember someone paid for it. In closing always thank Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior for his life and being on the cross so that our sins are forgiven. And by his Grace we are free from sins.

Blessings, Peace & Love, melinda

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The Essence Music Festival is a music festival held in New Orleans for three days during the fourth of July weekend. More than 300,000 thousand people from all over poured into New Orleans for the three day event. It featured performances from several artists such as Mary Mary, Anthony Hamilton, Aretha Franklin, Mary J Blige, Fantasia, Kevin Hart, Tyrese, Trey Songz, and Kirk Franklin.

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God Bless,

Melinda C. Sylvester





Rapper's CD, 'Manifestation,' about holding on to God's promises, seeing them unfurl

By Donald Lee

Min. Aaron Moses the next big thing in Christian rap wants those within an ear shot of his voice to know that their dreams, fueled by their faith, will come into fruition, if they dare to stand unmoved by circumstances that may suggest otherwise.

"Believe beyond measure; never stop believing," says the Baton Rouge, La., rap artist and founder of HopeMusic & HopeMovies Entertainment. "Philippians 1:6 tells us that He who began a good work in you shall perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

"So, just believe. When belief stops believing, you continue to believe," Moses says. "When your money don't believe in your dream no more, you continue to believe. When your body, your emotions and every fiber of your existence other than your soul refuse to believe in your dream, *you believe in your dream, that you can do all things through Christ which strengthens you* (as Philippians 4:13 states)."

And that strong conviction that he preaches is what his audience hears emphatically throughout his album "Manifestation," which was released in May and can be purchased on iTunes or Amazon.

In talking about the title song "Manifestation," Moses, 26, shares how it depicts his life's transformation.

"At this stage of my life (six years ago), I had totally made up my mind that I was no longer going to prostitute my gift to the world, and I was going to present it holy before Christ," Moses says.

He shares the meaning of the opening stanza in "Manifestation." The line goes: *The realest quote I ever wrote, didn't bother to put friends on it, it's time for it to manifest, my whole family depend on it ...*

"What I meant by that was my life had to change in order for a lot of people around me to change," says Moses who'd lived a hard life, having battled drug addiction and having buried his mother who died of AIDS at age 45 in March of 2006.

"I was always a leader of men," he says. "But being intricately involved with the yoke of bondage and contrary spirits, I allowed myself and those who were around me to become isolated and stagnated (regarding) the things of God.

"So, when I speak of 'I didn't bother to put no friends in it,' I'm speaking of the time when I no longer needed to be validated by people who were around me to accomplish that which I was created to," Moses says. "In other words, the life that God created for me to live was more important than the opinions of those who were around me."

And when Moses began to put things in to their proper perspectives, he began to see the physical manifestations of the promises of God in his life. As today's youth would say, "This CD go *hard*." **Cont. on page 8**



Pictures by: Mrs. tonia Askins. Above left: President Obama, Top Right: Marc Moriel, President of The Urban League/attendees and bottom right: Crowd at the Urban League Convention.



Marc Moriel highlights small businesses, youth at Urban League conference speech in New Orleans
By: Brenda Andrus & Melissa Tyler

Former New Orleans mayor, Marc Moriel, spoke at the National Urban League conference on Thursday, July 26, at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, a day after President Barack Obama addressed the conference. This year's theme for the three-day conference was "Occupy the Vote: Employment and Education Empower the Nation."

Morial's speech was backed by his motto, "you can make it, if you try." He stressed the importance of investing in small businesses and emphasized encouraging the youth during his presentation.

"Everybody should have a fair share, not just some," Moriel said. "Everyone should have equal opportunity, prosperity with broad base. It's up to the American people to see what direction we should go."

According to Moriel, give jobs to our states and not other countries, investing in small businesses. He said help should be sought to train workers, and no one is to be left behind regardless of who they are and their appearance.

"Nobody that works in America should be poor," Moriel stated. "When working folks had money in their pockets, businesses did well because they spent money. It's about passing opportunity.

"You got to earn your success, and opportunity starts at home by spending time with children," he said.

Morial noted good jobs, quality education, inexpensive housing, reasonable college costs and affordable healthcare as pillars for the youth. He said children cannot walk their neighborhoods or go to the movie theater, and there are dozens, different ages and races, gunned down in Atlanta, New Orleans, Chicago and Cleveland.

"Those young people had dreams," he asserted. "It takes family and parents to provide the path for our future." *Continue on page 12*

Cont. from page 6 *Rapper's CD*

There are 12 tracks on it. Each offers a candid look into this artist's heart. Each one ministers greatly to the souls of its listeners while captivating them with hardcore beats and a voice that sounds fresh off the streets.

The first track on the CD, "Welcome," introduces listeners to an album that promises to sustain their attention with "custom-made" beats that keep their heads bobbin', anointed lyrics that spit Holy Ghost fire and heart-felt messages powerful enough to make a thug weep. Those who are *about that (thug) life*, after listening to these songs, will receive an impartation of wisdom that is sure to redefine their definition of manhood.

The lines in the song are "a representative of the struggles that I came through as a child," says Moses, who wrote his songs and is the album's executive producer. "And also, the song represents me as a person beyond music. It represents me as a preacher, my testimony. And also I wanted people to be able to see Christ in me without the commercialized version of Christ.

"I wanted people to be able to take someone like me (as a positive example) who abused ecstasy pills, smoked marijuana, who dropped out of high school, who made countless bad decisions and completely turned my life around for His glory," says Moses, who will be getting his associates degree in entertainment technology from Baton Rouge Community College in the fall.

On the third track, "Keep Me Going," Moses shares, *It might be your grandparents, it might be your kids, there's somethin' that's inside of you that's tellin' you don't quit.*

"It might be your old man, it might be your pastor," he says in the song, there's somethin' that's inside of you that's tellin' you don't slack up. Go hard or go home, or play sick and stay home. Better bring you're A game. I'm Monday night in the Super Dome. I keep going for the prostitutes, keep goin' for the drug addicts, keep goin' for the drug dealers, my momma had a drug habit. I seen victory and I liked what I saw, so He must keep showing, it's that thing that keep me goin'... "

In other words, there's something on the inside of individuals, the song explains, that gives them that extra incentive to strive for a better life and refuse to give up.

"This brother is real, and I'm feelin' that," says Baton Rouge radio personality Guy Brody.

Moses says the chief thing his music is written to do is point people to the Lord.

"Christ has made salvation available to any and everybody who is willing to receive Him in their hearts, according to Romans 10:9,10," Moses says. "That is what's most important."

Visit Moses at <http://www.facebook.com/hopemusicLLC>. Follow him on Twitter at @hopemusic. To book him, call Lakeisha Moses at (225) 278-1789 or e-mail themanifestation@yahoo.com.

Donald Lee is founder-pastor of Kingdom Living Christian Center in Dallas and a free-lance journalist. He can be reached at pastordonjlee@yahoo.com. (F&S)

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IRS Urges Louisiana Taxpayers to Avoid Tax Scams

NEW ORLEANS, LA — The Internal Revenue Service today encouraged taxpayers to guard against unscrupulous individuals trying to persuade them to file false claims for refunds.

The latest scam recently surfaced in North Louisiana and is also likely present in other areas. It encourages unsuspecting individuals to pay a fee for preparation of a false tax return. Scammers convince taxpayers to believe they should file a return to qualify for “free money” under a bogus stimulus program. The IRS has noted an increase in similar scams across the country. Many scams target unsuspecting taxpayers who normally do not have a filing requirement.

“Unscrupulous promoters deceive people into paying good money for bad advice. Some promoters charge large amounts to prepare false tax returns. In other situations, identity theft is involved,” said IRS Spokesman, Dee Harris Stepter.

Promoters of these scams often prey upon low income individuals and the elderly. The latest scam targets recipients of Social Security, disability benefits or public assistance. These schemes build false hopes and are often spread by word of mouth among unsuspecting and well-intentioned people telling their friends and relatives.

“Be very careful of whom you trust for tax advice. Be careful of whom you trust with your money and your personal information. Remember, in the end, the taxpayer is responsible for information on their tax return,” said Stepter.

Taxpayers should be wary of any of the following:

- § Offers of free money with little or no documentation required.

- § Claims for payments under a fictitious “Stimulus” program.

- § Promises of refunds for “Low Income – No Document Tax Returns.” MORE ON IRS.COM

Landrieu SUCCESS Act Amendment Gets Strong Bipartisan Support

Senator plans to introduce stand-alone version of the
SUCCESS Act that received 57 votes.

WASHINGTON – Senator Mary L. Landrieu, D-La., Chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, plans to introduce the Success Ultimately Comes from Capital, Contracting, Education, Strategic Partnerships and Smart Regulation (SUCCESS) Act of 2012 as a stand-alone bill after the same language received strong bipartisan support in the Senate today as an amendment.

Sen. Landrieu offered the SUCCESS Act, which would spur small businesses job growth and boost entrepreneurship, as an amendment to S. 2237, the Small Business Jobs and Tax Relief Act. The SUCCESS Act, which received 57 votes, including support from five Republicans, is the result of multiple committee hearings, including three roundtables hosted by Chair Landrieu earlier this year to explore strategies, tools and methods to strengthen the ecosystem of entrepreneurship.

“It is a monumental feat in today’s political climate for legislation to receive 57 bipartisan votes before the United States Senate. As such, I am proud that the great work of the Small Business Committee received such overwhelming and bipartisan support today,” Sen. Landrieu said. “The SUCCESS Act is the product of three outstanding and informative roundtables our committee hosted since February and is made up of numerous bipartisan provisions offered by members of the committee.

“I’d like to thank each and every one of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle who helped craft this amendment and all those who voted for it. I intend to build off today’s success and offer the language of the amendment as a stand-alone bill. Our goal will be not just to pick up the 57 Senators who voted for the SUCCESS Act today but to win over the other senators necessary to pass this bill. It is my hope that we will revisit this bill again this year and get our small businesses the assistance they need to grow our economy.”

Included in the SUCCESS Act are a number of extensions of expiring or expired tax cuts for small businesses for 2012 and 2013 that were first introduced by Sens. Landrieu and Olympia Snowe, Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, in the Small Business



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Faith & Soul News Magazine welcomes Ms. Brenda Andrus , our Lafayette Area Editor and Mrs. Tonia Askins, our New Orleans Editor. Should you have story ideas or events please e-mail them @faithandsoulmag@yahoo.com. These ladies will have you cover.



Do you believe in Faith & Soul News Magazine's Dream, be part of the Team. Call us today for opportunities to write, take pictures, graphic design, film documentary, bookkeeping, administrative assistance and many more. WE WANT YOU!!!!!!

Morial said the legacy that must be left for the next generation will not be easy.

"Being from the Big Easy is knowing hardship, and victory has never come quickly," he contended.

"We know what we are fighting for, a country where everybody is playing by the same rule. If we don't keep fighting for the same thing who will?" he asked.

"Americans don't quit. We keep marching. It's time for believers to march with me, to fight with me," Morial declared.

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Sports in a Woman's Words..... Congratulations to Gabrielle Douglas and the whole USA Olympia Team, We are so proud of everyone.

How many of you watched the Olympics. It was great job by Team USA. I enjoyed watching sports I did not know about. It was great to see so many competition. Let's continue to support our athletes, many too a beating from the press. Gabby was criticized for her hair, Lola was talked about. But these athletes and others made it to London. They should be proud for that. Some won Gold. They should all be commended.

Okay, Ladies let's get ready for some Football. Preseason has started. Let's cheer for our favorite team. The superbowl will be in New Orleans in Feb. 2013. Get your gears out. have a football watching party or make it an outing with your girlfriends.

Cookin' for Football Games & Exercise

There are several great recipes for watching football games. We can have healthy food, when making meatballs use turkey ground meat, or turkey or chicken sausages. Instead of eating chips, get some peanuts or almonds (some nuts). For the drinks you may want to try health drinks, there are sodas with 0 calories.

For desert, you may want to try low sugar deserts.

Remember we may have the munchies so if they are healthy you can take in a little more. Also exercise doing commercial breaks. (Jumping jack will do or lunges)

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Faith & Soul News Magazine Congratulates Mr. Ben Berthelot on his new position as Director for Lafayette Convention & Tourism.



Faith & Soul News Magazine encourages Mr. Ben and the Lafayette Tourism to increase capacity for African American Tourism. As I travel across America lots of people are interested in the African American roots in the Lafayette and Louisiana area. There is a huge untapped market out there, many would like to have conventions in the Lafayette area. The tourism needs to support African American publications, Radio Stations, television Programs, Documentaries, Book Authors, Musicians and many talented professionals in the area. This will turn into lots of money for the area. Economic possibilities for the community.

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Dr. Toni says farewell to the Lafayette area and Louisiana; Faith & Soul News Magazine wishes her all the best in her career.



Dr. Toni resigned from her Sociology teaching position at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Dr. Toni will be greatly missed in a community that she has done so many wonderful things; beside teaching college students at the University she also played an active role in the community. Recently she was honored by Lafayette Consolidated Government for being one of the Distinguished Women in the Community. Dr. Toni also started a Sister to Sister Event, which was a dialogue for Women to learn about personal finances, health, education and other areas of their lives. She was the founder of Vanguard Education Services and many other programs; she is the author of two published books.

Faith & Soul News Magazine wishes her all the blessings in your new career in North Carolina, which Dr. Toni started on August 22, 2012.

Dr. Toni has definitely left a legacy in the Lafayette area. We want to salute her for her courage to step out and for all the students and young people lives she has greatly impacted.

Dr. Toni will always be a great friend to Faith & Soul News Magazine. We have worked together on many community projects. Dr. Toni, We Love You and May God continue to bless you!

I know the plans I have for says the Lord, plans to prosper and an expected end.

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