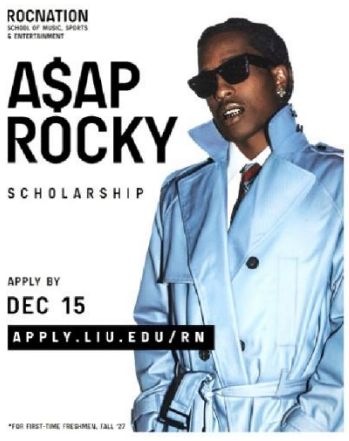
DETROIT NATIVE SUN

## A$AP Rocky announces Roc Nation School Scholarship

PRNewswire/ -- Multi-hyphenate artist, entrepreneur, actor, and fashion icon A$AP Rocky recently announced a four-year full-tuition scholarship for a student to attend the Roc Nation School of Music, Sports & Entertainment at Long Island University (LIU).

The scholarship will provide a first-time freshman student the opportunity to pursue a four-year education at the Roc Nation School while gaining access to an environment designed to connect academic learning with real-world opportunities across the entertainment industry.




Applications are now open and will close on December 15, 2026. To be eligible, applicants must be seeking enrollment at the Roc Nation School of Music, Sports & Entertainment as a first-time freshman for Fall 2027. Prospective students interested in applying should visit apply.liu.edu/rn for submission details.

"I'm a big believe in creating your own lane and giving people the opportunity to do the same," said A$AP Rocky. "There are so many talented young people with ideas, ambition and something important to say. This scholarship is about helping one of them turn that vision into something real."

The scholarship adds to a growing commitment from artists and industry leaders to support the next generation of talent at the Roc Nation School.

Other artists, athletes and entertainment leaders who have established scholarships for students attending the Roc Nation School of Music, Sports & Entertainment at LIU, include Grammy Award-winning musician, record executive and entrepreneur DJ Khaled, Grammy Award-winning artist Megan Thee Stallion and NBA All-Star LaMelo Ball, and Grammy Award-winning engineer and producer Young Guru, who also serves as Director of the Music Technology, Entrepreneurship & Production program.

The Roc Nation School of Music, Sports & Entertainment at Long Island University (LIU) is a globally renowned destination for world-class education, exceptional career development, cultural initiatives and philanthropic endeavors. The school prepares students for careers spanning entrepreneurship, music, sports business, management, performance and more through an esteemed faculty of university professors, adjunct industry leaders and special guest lecturers.

Located in Shawn "JAY-Z" Carter's hometown of Brooklyn, the school also provides Roc Nation Hope Scholarships to 25 percent of enrolled students, enabling recipients to graduate with a four-year full-tuition scholarship. Hope Scholars are selected from a pool of academically competitive, New York-based, first-time freshmen with the highest financial need.

## 4TH Annual HBCU First Look Film & TV Festival returns to Howard University November 5-7

PRNewswire/ -- The 4th Annual HBCU First LOOK Film & TV Festival (HBCUFLF) returns to Howard University November 5 -7, with STARZ as its inaugural presenting sponsor.

Under the theme "How to Be the Next," the three-day Festival will create an immersive experience connecting students and emerging creators with HBCU alumni actors, filmmakers, producers and industry leaders through screenings, master classes and interactive, hands-on sessions.

Actors and content creators Laya DeLeon Hayes (Doc McStuffins, Why Did I Get Married Again) and DaSan Frazier (Tough Love: Atlanta, Straw) will serve as the festival's 2026 I Aspire Ambassadors and host the Salute THEM Awards luncheon, where winners of the HBCU First LOOK Film Challenge, selected from over 450 entries, will be announced and awarded $5,000 and internship opportunity.

The luncheon will also celebrate the 2026 I Aspire 25, recognizing HBCU alumni across five categories: Visionaries, Changemakers, Storytellers, Filmmakers and Entrepreneurs. This year's honorees include Michael Strahan, Eva Marcille, Jamila Mustafa, Colby Muhammad Nixon and Tone Bell, among others.

STARZ, home to the critically acclaimed and award-winning drama "P-Valley" and the iconic "Power" franchise, continues to take the lead by creating opportunities for women and underrepresented audiences in front of and behind the camera. The network will participate in key programming during the festival, further underscoring its commitment to supporting diverse talent and emerging storytellers.

As one of the founding sponsors of the Festival, ANDSCAPE will celebrate its 10th anniversary, highlighting a decade of powerful storytelling at the intersection of sports and culture. The celebration will feature a special Clips & Conversations tribute with and Jesse Washington, showcasing memorable stories and ANDSCAPE's cultural impact.

The 2026 lineup includes producer Autumn Bailey-Ford, who will examine the increasingly global nature of film production, and actress and filmmaker Nicky Micheaux, who will lead a master class on the rise of vertical storytelling. Grammy Award-winning producers Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis will explore the relationship between music and film.

Creator-focused sessions will feature Alexis Powell, creator of The Jennifer Hudson Show's viral "hit" Spirit Tunnel; Howard University alumnae and content creators Jade & Jadah; media personality Jamila Mustafa; and independent filmmakers and producers the Vanzant Brothers. Actress and I Aspire 25 honoree Kennedi Reece, who appears on CBS' Beyond the Gates and featured in Netflix's upcoming A Different World reboot, will participate on a panel.

New this year, aspire TV hosts a Clips & Conversation spotlighting its expansion into original scripted programming with New State of Mind, an HBCU-set comedy from producer Bentley Kyle Evans that follows first-year students navigating college life.

"HBCU First LOOK was created to build a pipeline that turns exposure into experience," said Sheila Eldridge, founder of the HBCU First LOOK Film & TV Festival. "This year, 12 Howard University students are helping produce the festival, lending a direct voice to programming and interactive elements presented. It's truly produced by students, for students—giving them a seat at the table and an active role in bringing the festival to life."

Black Girl Vitamins will host Fueling Your Future; a two-day wellness and career activation centered on how physical well-being supports the sustainability needed for creative careers.

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