

## August is National Black Business Month

Entrepreneurship can be a tough road, but with passion and perseverance, it can lead you on a successful journey.

Former **President Barack Obama** once said "If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress." Media Mogul **Oprah Winfrey** said that "You have to know what sparks the light in you so that you, in your own way, can illuminate the world."

These quotes ring true and will hopefully ignite a new spark into aspiring entrepreneurs. This month is **National Black Business Month**, the perfect time to recognize Blackowned businesses across the country and to highlight their important role in the community, as well as to the national economy. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Blacks/African Americans owned approximately 124,551 businesses, with about 28.5% (35,547) of these businesses in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector, the highest percentage of any minority group.

Black PR Wire salutes black-owned businesses across the country and encourages you to continue to dream big and pass it forward. Vice President Kamala Harris said it best: "If you are fortunate to have opportunity, it is your duty to make sure other people have those opportunities as well."

Our call to action is to continue to support and encourage Black-owned businesses in our communities this month and every month. By simply patronizing black businesses, we can help them to grow, thrive and reach new heights.



## **Special Salute to the Olympic Athletes**

**Jesse Owens**, a black athlete from the United States, was the star of the 1936 Olympic Games.

Wilma Rudolph was an American sprinter, who became a

world-record-holding Olympic champion and international sports icon in track and field following her successes in the 1956 and 1960 Olympic Games. **Usain Bolt**, is a Jamaican retired sprinter, widely considered to be the greatest sprinter of all time. He is a

world record holder in the 100 meters, 200 meters and 4  $\times$  100 meters relay. An eight-time Olympic gold medalist, Bolt is the only sprinter to win Olympic 100m and 200m titles at three consecutive Olympics (2008, 2012 and 2016).

As the 2020 Olympics continues, we stand in awe of determination from these talented athletes who have exceptional stories to tell of how they beat the odds to get

to where they are today. The 2020 Olympics, played in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, has been even more remarkable and triumphant with the determination to perform without a crowd - a first in the history of the Olympics.

Yet, as we all know, these athletes have and will continue to rise above it all, and shine. We salute you all and thank you for your commitment to this nation.



Black **PR** Wire, Inc. is a premier news distribution service center that delivers to the very core and pulse of the Black community. The company holds a comprehensive listing of over 1,200 Black-owned

publications and media, as well as provides services it to social service and grassroots organizations and influential leaders throughout the United States and the Caribbean. Plus, we provide our services

in English and Creole. To find out more about Black PR Wire, Inc., call us toll free at 1-877-BlackPR or visit the website at: WWW.BLACKPRWIRE.COM.



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## **Power Profiler: Van Jones**



**Anthony Kapel "Van" Jones** started **Dream Corps** with both a powerful mission and a set of values that places love and empathy at the forefront of all that we do. He set out to work transforming systems like mass incarceration and creating access to the green and digital economies. He encourages his team to be courageous in choosing common ground to deliver real solutions for people who are locked up, left behind, and left out — even when it feels hard to be civil in such a divided time.

Van is an American news and political commentator, author, and lawyer. He is the co-founder of several non-profit organizations, a three-time New York Times bestselling author, a CNN host and contributor, and an Emmy Award winner.

Jones served as **President Barack Obama**'s Special Advisor for Green Jobs in 2009, and is a distinguished visiting fellow at Princeton University.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

This section is designed to keep you in the know and on the go. Check out some of the latest happenings in Black communities throughout the country this month.

