

PANELISTS: iCreate Seminar



KENDRICK DEAN is a multi-award winning record producer and composer who has produced or written for 5 Grammy Nominated albums. Some of his hits include Chris Brown “Say Goodbye” (Billboard #1), Mariah Carey “I Stay In Love” (Billboard #1) and Trey Songz “Last Time”. Kendrick began his music career in 2004 when he was first credited as a producer on mega group Destiny’s Child final album Destiny Fulfilled. A former high school history teacher, and University of Florida graduate; Dean used his classical, jazz and gospel music background to make a seemingly seamless transition into the music business.



Darnley Scantlebury III, known to most as **DONNIE SCANTZ**, is a Music producer, Musician and Songwriter.

Born in Freeport, Grand Bahama, Donnie grew up in Houston, Texas, and graduated from the renowned High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. Other famous HSPVA graduates include Robert Glasper, Beyoncé Knowles and Bryan Michael Cox.

Donnie received a Scholarship to Howard University and majored in Jazz Studies/Music Business. He is also the co-owner of The DS3 (Entertainment) Group, a full service events, new media and branding boutique agency specializing in the needs of emerging brands and creatives in the entertainment community. DS3 utilizes an international network to approach branding,

entertainment, new media and technology services for indie artists, producers, songwriters and bands striving to attain success worldwide.

Scantz is a two-time Grammy nominee for “Yeah!” on Usher’s 2004 LP “Confessions” and a Dove Award recipient for Out of Eden’s 2003 LP “This Is Your Life”. He produced “Pimpin All Over The World” for Ludaxris and has worked with artists such as Aaliyah, Toni Braxton, J. Holiday, Danity Kane, IDEAL, Chris Brown, Rihanna, Jhene Aiko, Miguel, Lloyd, Keri Hilson and many others. “I Don’t Wanna” sung by Aaliyah, co-written and co-composed by Donnie, appeared on both the Next Friday and Romeo Must Die movie soundtracks and reached #5 on the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs charts and #35 on the Billboard Hot 100.

He is the founder of State of Emergency, a music and extreme lifestyle allegiance dedicated to producing R&B, Pop, Hip-Hop and Rock, which melds computer-driven beats with live musicians, combining elements of rock and hip-hop to produce a sound like nothing you have ever heard, and that’s precisely the point. “I’m still using my conventional methods of production, but I also want to challenge myself and challenge the ears of the industry, I want to create a whole other beast in the sense of how people respect musicianship” says Donnie Scantz.

Drawing on the deep pool of musicians in Atlanta and Los Angeles, Scantz is crossing boundaries and breaking down barriers every day in the studio, and the energy and inspiration from the resulting man-meets-machine sessions are palpable on every track.



INGA NANDI WILLIS began her musical career under the guidance of the late Lisa “Left Eye” Lopes of recording group T.L.C, Nandi signed as a recording artist to LaFace records in 1994, and later signed as a songwriter to Grammy Award winning Producer Dallas Austin. In 1999, Nandi co wrote “You Know What’s Up” featuring left eye for Donell Jones which held the #1 spot on Billboard for eight weeks. In addition she penned the lyrics for Twisted, sung by

Anthony Hamilton and featured on Carlos Santana's Arista Records release 'All That I Am.'

In 2004, Inga founded The Mogul Group, a global entertainment consulting firm whose territories now include Europe, Asia and Africa. Current Clients include Rick Ross, TLC, Trey Songz, Outkast, Olympic Bonze Medalist Aja Evans and songstress Keri Hilson.

Inga served as a film consultant on the VH-1/Viacom documentary 'Last Days of Left Eye' as well as the TLC biopic 'CrazySexyCool.'

Inga Nandi Willis is a proud graduate of Howard University, a touring Keynote speaker, a member of ASCAP having served repeatedly as a touring ASCAP panelist representing the experience of songwriter, booking agent, publisher and talent manager.



LARRY GRIFFIN JR. was born in August 1976 in Waco, Texas, and grew up there in a Christian household. In Junior High school he began learning alto sax and piano throughout his teen years. As a Christian, S1 began playing piano for Sunday school at his local church, which developed his insight on music even more. After forming a hip hop group with his cousin, Myth, back in 1996, S1 would eventually venture into making beats and The Art of Production. In 1999, he received his Associates Degree in Applied Science: Studio/Audio Engineering.

From 2007-2008, S1 began competing in National Beat Competitions (iStandard, Red Bull Big Tune & Sha Money's One Stop Shop) across the U.S. In those competitions, he would go on to win either 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place along with acquiring many new fans and meeting people including Major label executives and Industry big wigs. Participating in these competitions and conferences allowed S1 to build relationships in the Industry.

Now, S1 is the main producer of the group Strange Fruit Project. His style and production range includes R&B, Soul, Underground and Urban/Crossover Pop . As a platinum-selling producer, S1 has worked with artists such as Beyoncé, Kanye West, Jay-Z, Babyface, Erykah Badu, Stat Quo, Rhymefest, Rah Digga,

Ghostface Killah and Little Brother, as well as being a core member in Erykah Badu's electronic band, The Cannabinoids.

Prominent collaborations include Kanye West's "Power", off of his 2010 album *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy*, and Beyoncé's "Best Thing I Never Had" off of her album 4.



TONY G: Tony G is the Director of A&R, G-unit Records | G-Note Records. Worked/A&R'ed on projects with: 50 Cent, DJ Pauly D, Kidd Kidd, Paris, Tony Yayo, Lloyd Banks and more.



KAWAN 'KP' BRATHER, also known to many in the music industry as "KP" is the CEO of Ghet-O-Vision Entertainment and the Senior Vice-President of A&R for Atlantic Records, where he oversees the recording projects for T.I., CeeLo and Goodie M.O.B. Formerly Vice-President of Artist & Repertoire at Sony BMG urban music, he approved and oversaw debut projects for Omarion, John Legend, and Kanye West's new venture "G.O.O.D.". The public's response of buying these artists in magnanimous quantities and having obscene amounts of radio spins and video airplay confirms that not only is he doing his job extremely well, but that his instincts are dead-on. KP's ear for good sound earned him this prestigious title at Sony, a label deal called "Ghet-O-Vision", as well as the first "Rising Star" award from musical writing veteran John Whitehead's foundation in 2005. The youth keeps KP's artists on their radar. KP the executive is on radars

of entertainment power players that common folk have only heard their name or read about. Will Smith's team tapped KP to A&R the entire soundtrack for his Blockbuster hit film "Hitch", following up from the "Shaft" soundtrack he A&R'd and executive produced previously on his Ghet-O-Vision label. KP was named #7 A&R in the world by Songquartars—listed one below musical genius and star-creator David Foster.

In a little more than a decade, the name KP has become synonymous with hit records. L.A. Reid, then head of La Face Records was busy pioneering the powerful Atlanta sound from R&B to Hip Hop and tapped 21-year-old KP to handle the La Face roster for Artist & Repertoire. KP transformed local friendships with high school peers into deals that would change their lives forever as well as how the world viewed musical talent hailing from Georgia. With L.A., KP guided the burgeoning careers of local friends turned multi-platinum selling artists Goodie M.O.B., diamond-selling hip hop duo Outkast, and newly introduced entertainment dynamo Usher. Helping them all to reach their true potential, the public invested in sold-out concerts, overflowing record sales and popularity that would spread across the world. From that point on, Atlanta became "Hotlanta" and major groundwork was put in place that created a platform for future hit recording artists Ludacris and Ciara. In the process of helping to secure the La Face roster to maintain staying power, KP had a feeling about another local rap artist, T.I. KP courted T.I., coaching him as he developed his talents and became star-quality. As soon as KP was offered a label deal to create Ghet-O-Vision, T.I. became the premiere artist on his label and debuted with first album "I'm Serious". KP guerilla marketed, & pushed for T.I. to get airplay, wguke placing him in the right situations which resulted with T.I. become one of rap music's hottest-selling artists.

Before La Face moved to New York, KP supervised production for artist Pink, and after guiding her through a powerful debut album, she became an instant success. Soon after, KP wanted to see how much of a success he could be on his own. Word was released that he was a free agent and labels commenced their flow of offers. Sony music came strongest, vying for the young man behind the hit artist; the one who pays such attention to detail that he is hands-on even down to what the artist wears onstage. KP was hired as a VP of A&R and within two years was promoted to Senior VP of A&R for urban music.

Although he's a young man with a discography that would make many in his field (senior and junior) wonder how he did it, he has remained humble. Integrity and consistency is the legacy he will leave in the music business. Longevity is the goal.. For those who do know what Kawan "KP" Prather means in the record business, being on his radar can prove priceless.



REGGIE OSSE: Reggie Ossé, also known as Combat Jack, is a former hip hop music attorney and executive, and also the former managing editor of The Source. Currently, he is the host of the podcast The Combat Jack Show as well as host of the Complex TV show of the same name.

A first-generation Haitian-American, Ossé graduated from Cornell University. There he became a member of Kappa Xi chapter of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity. He later received his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. He has represented hip-hop producers and entertainers, such as Jay Z, Damon Dash, Roc-a-fella Records, DJ Clark Kent, Nice & Smooth, Capone-N-Noreaga, Deric "D. Dot" Angelettie, Ski Beats, and others, starting from an internship in legal affairs for Def Jam Recordings[1] in 1989. After 12 years of practicing law in the music industry, he retired and wrote *Bling*,[2] a book documenting hip-hop's history and fascination with jewelry. He also served as the Vice President of Audio/Music DVD at MTV Networks[3] and later managing editor of The Source.[4]

Ossé has blogged for byroncrawford.com, hiphop.com, xxlmag.com, and his own site – daily-math.com. He began hosting The Combat Jack Show, an internet radio show dedicated to hip-hop discussions and interviews, in August 2010. Combat Jack's co-hosts include Dallas Penn, Premium Pete, DJ Benhameen, AKing, and Just Blaze.



BERNARD 'FOCUS' EDWARDS JR is an Atlanta-based Grammy Award–winning producer who first rose to fame when signed to Dr. Dre’s Aftermath Entertainment. Since then he has produced tracks for Christina Aguilera, Jennifer Lopez, Beyoncé Knowles, 50 Cent, Busta Rhymes, Bishop Lamont, Tony Yayo, Stat Quo, Outlawz, The Game, Jay Rock amongst others.

Focus... is the son of the late Bernard Edwards, co-founder of disco and R&B band Chic.[1] He was born in Manhattan, New York, and raised in the Tri-State Region.[1] Edwards, Jr credits his father with his love for the production side of music, which he developed from an early age, attending numerous studio sessions with his father.[1]

Focus...’s production talents were first recognized by Dr. Dre when an artist Edwards, Jr had produced, Daks, greatly impressed the Aftermath label head.[2] Dre decided to not only sign up Daks but also his producer Focus... so that the two could then continue working together.[2]

The beginning of 2009 saw Focus... leave Aftermath after seven years with the label.[3] In an interview with HitQuarters in 2010 Focus... explained the reasons for the departure:

“I left ‘cos I was really working hard and forgetting everything else. I wasn’t spending time with my family ... I forgot about life outside of the studio. And we weren’t putting out enough music to do that, and so it just made sense for me to just say, “Dre thanks for everything, you taught me a lot and let me show you what I can do“.[2]

In 2014, Focus... returned to Aftermath Entertainment as an official staff producer.



Since birth, it seems as if **ASIA BRYANT** has been in constant transition. At eight months old, Asia’s mother made the decision to move the family away from

the crime and violence of inner city Patterson, NJ to the more family oriented Charlotte, NC where Asia began performing wherever she could and later to Charleston, SC. Shortly after the move, Asia faced a series of tough life obstacles; including the divorce of her parents, which came especially hard for the “daddy’s girl” who would never see her father again due to the strain of the separation. A few years after, she suffered a tragic loss of her younger brother to an asthma attack. Asia says, “I guess music became a release, a way to get away from everything, a way to talk about what was going on without actually saying the words, I could just write songs about it.”

In 2001, Asia decided to take control of her own life and the many changes within it. Determined to pursue her dreams, she ran into Craig A. King at a local restaurant – a talented producer who has worked with Ray Charles, Quincy Jones, Kanye West, Aaliyah, Will Smith, and more. Only moments into their encounter, Craig decided to take Asia under his wing. With the help of James “Choirboi” Bennett (personal A&R and best friend to Ludacris) they began to groom Asia in the ethics of songwriting, composition, and performing. After a few years, touring, opening for some of the biggest acts in the game including Ludacris, Kanye West, TI, Young Jeezy, Life Jennings and many more the trio began to plateau and then halt all together.

In the end of 2011 Asia knew it was time to stand on her own two feet and take on the music industry solo. From years of writing for herself, Asia began to write songs for other artist. With no time at all Asia has placed records with Iconic Artist like Akon, Jennifer Lopez, Pitbull, Drake, Miley Cyrus, Lil Wayne, and so many more. Writing with some of the biggest producers in the game including Quincy Jones and Co-writing with the likes of Chris Brown, Sam Hook, DJ Mustard, Mike Will Made It, and Rock City, Asia has quickly made great buzz and name for herself.

Her previous EP “Analog Girl x Digital World” released in 2012 had songs feature in various shows such as MTVs “Real World Las Vegas”, “16 and Pregnant”, Oxygens “Bad Girls Club”, “Single Ladies”, ABCs “Don’t trust the B in APT 23”, “Shark Night 3D” the Movie, “The inevitable defeat of Mr. Pete”. Her Christmas EP “Christmas In Asiaville” featured one of its songs in the Nationally broadcasted Kmart Commercials.

March of 2014, Asia signed to Rondor/Universal Music Publishing Group, spearheaded by Kevin Hall who is excited about Asia taking her writing to new levels.

Never Forgetting her Artist roots, Asia is gearing up to release a project all her own that embodies Asia’s urban/ alternative/world sound yet still oozes the soul of all of those who have influenced her like Prince, Aaliyah, Mariah Carey, Tina Turner, Jimi Hendricks, The Beatles, and Lalah Hathaway.

Asia is well on her way to creating a Musical Journey to be remembered. Join us for the ride.