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New Orleans

# Data

News Weekly

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Books By Black Women to Read this Summer

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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

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# Pink Power

## *The Meaning of Barbie: Living the Dream*



Angela L. Young and a group of NOLA Barbies took over Prytania Theatres at Canal Place for the Barbie the Movie premiere.

**Angela Young**  
CEO, ALY Media

Across the country, it was an epic weekend for women and little girls all over America. This past weekend the movie Barbie topped the box office, raking in \$155 million. In the City of New Orleans,

ALY Media Owner, Angela Young hosted a screening of the movie. It was filled to capacity and fun was had by all. But the craze over the film led her to begin to research Barbie and its meaning. What she found surprised her, for something she deemed as positive had some negative connotations. In response to these conflicting definitions, Young, who

usually helps craft other people’s stories decided to pen her own thoughts on the meaning of Barbie. Below is a short commentary regarding the meaning of Barbie for the empowered women of New Orleans:  
What started as an idea grew into a perfectly curated night of fun for local Barbie lovers. My sister Daph-

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

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### DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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NOLA Barbies representing success, elegance, intelligence, and excellence.



This past weekend the movie Barbie topped the box office raking in \$155 million dollars.

ney and I grew up on all things Barbie. We had EVERYTHING (Barbie Dream House, Corvette, Summer Home, Skipper, Barbie Winnebago, clothes galore, and MORE. A few days ago, Daphney and I decided to go see the premiere and thought

of asking our network to attend. My Mom jokingly said, "Nobody is gonna want to go see that but you and Daphney." Less than 24 hours later, 30 people RSVP'd to attend, and more wanted to come but the theatre was sold out. What

does that mean? Barbie is a hugely impactful phenomenon.

So, I googled the definition of Barbie. And what I found made me angry. It was negative and demeaning. The Urban Dictionary was insulting. I then asked my friends,

family, and associates to text me what Barbie means or meant to them. Who was or is Barbie to you? Here are some of the responses: fierce, determined, strong, made me dream BIG, fashionable, independent, a boss, daring, etc., etc.

When Black Barbie was created, it gave Black girls a chance to see themselves as astronauts, lawyers, real estate moguls, doctors, scientists, teachers, lifeguards...whatever.

Cover Story, Continued on page 4.

# ROUSES MARKETS

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**2023 TRAINING CAMP SCHEDULE**

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	MONDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	THURSDAY
JULY 28	JULY 29	JULY 31	AUGUST 4	AUGUST 5	AUGUST 6	AUGUST 10

**ROUSES MARKETS** **OFFICIAL SUPERMARKET OF THE NEW ORLEANS SAINTS**



## Cover Story



The ladies painted the town pink Thursday night for the premiere of Barbie.

## Cover Story/ Continued from page 3.

er our imaginations let her be...she was!

So, this weekend we attended the SOLD OUT 7 pm showing of the Barbie Movie at Prytania Canal Place Theatre; we were all dressed in PINK of course! You saw Skater Barbie, Disco Barbie, Sporty Barbie, Avant Barbie, Professional Barbie, Dr. Barbie, Fashion Forward Barbie, and MORE!!! I ordered a sprinter to pick 14 of us up from my home so we can ride together...we met the rest of the Barbies at the theatre! All in all, we had an AMAZING time celebrating our intelligence, elegance, success, and excellence. Which all began as little girls playing with Barbie, and imagining the sky was the limit for our lives. Now we are all here Living the Dream.



NOLA Barbies are always photo ready!



## Voices for the Heart: Community-Based Event

For the **New Orleans** Area  
August 05, 2023, at 10:00 AM CT

Attend Virtually or in Person  
**New Hope Baptist Church**  
1807 Rev. John Raphael, Jr. Way, New Orleans, LA 70113

 [Registration Information >](#)



A presentation lead by heart specialist:  
**Tara Hrobowski, MD**  
Advanced Heart Failure/Transplant Cardiologist



The event will be moderated by:  
**Ms. Kathie O. Clark**



We will be joined by a special guest, who will share their personal experience with ATTR-CM  
**Randy Peters**  
Patient Living with ATTR-CM



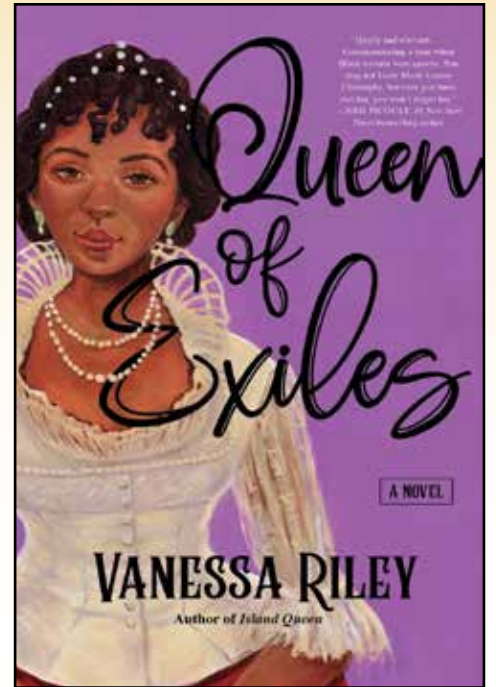
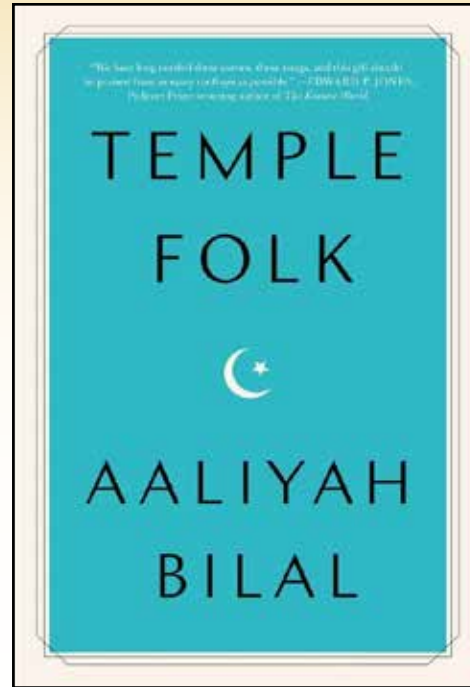
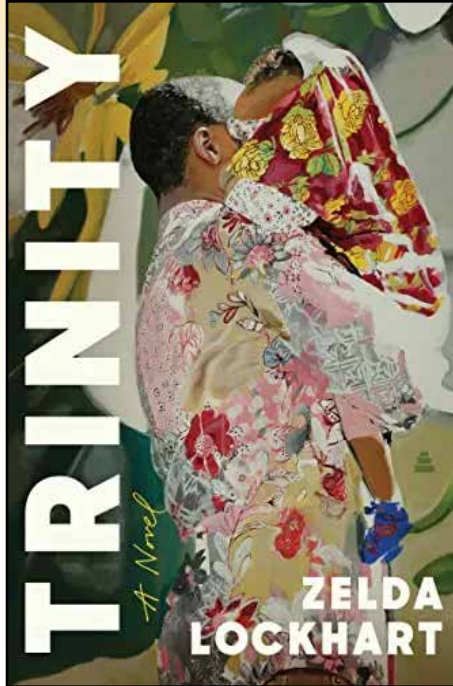
NOLA Barbie's are strong, fierce, confident, secure, independent, professional etc.



# Books By Black Women to Read this Summer

Charity Nelson  
Blavity.com

Black women writers are showcasing their talents this July! They've released works across different genres and they are giving readers stories in traditional formats but rendered through their own unique perspectives. This month, 21Ninety has put together a list of books from Black female writers across a vast collection of genres from romance to literary fiction, classic romance to short story collections. The stories here explore topical issues such as being Black and Muslim in America, the stories are also situated in themes of love and romance. But no matter what they explore, these books provide a look into how and what Black women are thinking, talking and caring about.



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# Senior Juvenile Court Judge Tammy Stewart Passes Away at Age 53

**Elise Schenck**  
Data News Weekly  
Contributor

This week, Tammy Stewart, the most senior judge on the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court bench, passed away according to court officials and family. She was 53.

Stewart rose to the office winning her post to occupy the bench in Section B in 2009. Winning multiple terms easily, in her most recent bid in 2020 she won without opposition.

Before becoming a judge, Stewart worked for the Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office and as a private attorney. She had also served as a temporary juvenile court judge under appointments by the Louisiana Supreme Court be-

fore winning the seat.

Stewart graduated with a bachelor's degree from Southern University at New Orleans and earned her law degree at Ohio State University.

Her dedication as a judge who truly served with honor, dignity, and integrity is noted by many who speak of her amazing life and impact.

"The City of New Orleans lost a devoted public servant who was committed to fairness and the principles of justice," said Mayor LaToya Cantrell in a statement.

US representative Troy Carter took to Facebook to write about Judge Stewart and get impact. Stating how she served with dedication and a commitment to "fairness, integrity, and compassion" to New Orleans. Carter added that he



Judge Tammy Stewart served with honor, dignity, and integrity. She will be missed by family, friends, and colleagues. Data News Weekly gives our condolences to this great New Orleanian.

shares his sincerest condolences to her family and that her life, legacy, and impact on the community will be remembered forever.

"It is with our deepest regret and unbelievable sadness that we announced the passing of our beloved colleague, friend, and Senior Judge on the juvenile bench Tammy Stewart," said Orleans Parish Juvenile Court Judge Candice Bates Anderson. "Tammy leaves behind to cherish her memory her son, mother, sister, and one brother. Tammy always fulfilled her duties as a judge. She will be terribly missed."

"She was an extraordinary individual, admired and treasured by her colleagues. Her passing is a great loss to the court and the New

**Tammy Stewart,**  
Continued on page 7.

## State & Local News

### Microsoft TechSpark Program Expands to Louisiana

*Names NOLAvate Black's Sabrina Short a TechSpark Fellow*

#### New Orleans Agenda

NEW ORLEANS (July 20, 2023)

- Microsoft announced today that it will be expanding its TechSpark Program nationwide to foster inclusive economic opportunity, job creation, and innovation in the Greater New Orleans Region naming Sabrina Short TechSpark Fellow in the State of Louisiana.

"With only 8 percent of Black people in the technology industry and only 1% in executive and c-suite positions, there must be strategic collaboration among stakeholders in the ecosystem to get untapped BIPOC talent trained, but also provide the resources and support to get them hired. I am excited to spearhead local efforts and build on the great work that is already being done in New Orleans." Sabrina Short, Microsoft TechSpark Fellow.

Sabrina Short is the Founder and CEO of NOLAvate Black, a talent sourcing and recruitment company that connects underrepresented technology talent to companies committed to building inclusive teams. The organization is most known for



Sabrina Short

its Annual Conference Black Tech NOLA, which has convened technologists in the city for 5 years.

NOLAvate Black conducted a Tech Talent Survey in partnership with GNO, Inc. and Lucid (now Cint) in 2021 to understand the needs of underrepresented talent exploring technology careers. The survey results emphasized the need for affordable job training, ca-

**Microsoft,** Continued on page 7.



## Orleans Parish Assessor's Office Special Notice

Attention property owners: all persons liable for taxes on Real Estate (and/or improvements), Personal or Movable Property, and/or Public Service Corporations are hereby notified in conformity with law that the actual valuations listed for assessment purposes for the year 2024 in the Parish of Orleans have been completed and said Assessment Rolls will be opened for inspection and correction **between the 17th day of July through the 15th day of August, 2023, during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Our meeting locations are:

**City Hall**, Room 4E01, 1300 Perdido Street

**Algiers Courthouse**, 225 Morgan Street

**Lakeview Christian Center**, 5885 Fleur De Lis Drive



**Appointments can be made online at [www.nolaassessor.com](http://www.nolaassessor.com) or by calling 504.754.8811**

The offices will be closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays. All assessment information is available on our website at [www.nolaassessor.com](http://www.nolaassessor.com)

**Erroll G. Williams**  
Assessor, Parish of Orleans



# Doubts and Fallout Continue in the Carlee Russell Case

Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior  
National Correspondent

CrimeStoppers has reversed its decision to return over \$63,000 in donations intended to help find Carlee Russell after her kidnapping story came under scrutiny, the latest fallout from what many now believe was a hoax.

The 25-year-old Alabama woman claimed she was kidnapped after stopping to assist a toddler wandering alone on Interstate 459 on July 13th.

However, she reappeared at her home two days later.

Initially, the organization that offers anonymous tips about criminal activity pledged to return the funds raised during the two-day search for Russell.

CrimeStoppers has now said they've decided against it because of the suspicions surrounding her story.

Alabama police have also expressed reservations about the alleged abduction, revealing that Russell had conducted suspicious internet searches about kidnappings before the incident occurred.

Those findings have added to the uncertainty surrounding the case.

Still, Russell's boyfriend, Thomas Latrell Simmons, has pleaded with the public to stop cyberbullying Russell.

Simmons emphasized the importance of considering her mental



Carlee Russell

health and urged people to avoid targeting her online.

Russell went missing shortly after contacting 911 to report a toddler in a diaper walking along the highway.

Her mysterious return home on foot further deepened the mystery.

While her mother, Talitha Robinson-Russell, remains firm in her belief that Carlee was abducted and subsequently returned, law enforcement continues investigating

the circumstances surrounding her disappearance.

The case has brought attention to the struggles faced by Black families when dealing with missing person cases.

African Americans often encounter delays in police investigations and are sometimes labeled "run-aways" immediately.

In contrast, cases involving missing white women and children are urgently treated and re-

ceive national attention.

According to 2021 FBI data, Black people account for 31% of missing person reports despite making up only 14% of the US population.

White people represent 54% of such reports and 76% of the population.

Derrica Wilson, co-founder of the Black & Missing Foundation, underscored the significance of not losing sight of the broader picture.

Wilson told CNN that she currently has nearly 6,000 cases of missing Black people in her database, many of which remain unsolved.

She asserted that Russell's case is an anomaly and that the focus should remain on helping the countless missing individuals of color who need assistance.

Wilson highlighted that disappearances in the Black community often stem from issues such as human trafficking, domestic violence, and mental health incidents.

Wilson stated that amplifying the cases of missing Black people remains an uphill battle, urging the public to continue raising awareness.

"For our community, we can't lose sight of the bigger picture," Wilson said. "We are disappointed that there are inconsistencies with her (Russell) story, especially when there are a staggering number of people of color who are still missing, and they need our help."

## Microsoft, Continued from page 6.

reer coaching, access to entry level jobs and mentorship. In response to the survey, industry leaders from across the country organized the Inclusive Tech South Foundation (ITSF), a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization focused on offering solutions to promote employability, retention, and advancement for Black, Indigenous and People of Color in the technology sector.

ITSF will launch the Explore Tech Talent Accelerator later this year supported by a Microsoft grant to provide digital skilling and career coaching to BIPOC job seekers.

"We are honored to be selected by Microsoft and will work together

with them to advance a transforming technology culture and economy in the region. New Orleans is a thriving hub for technology and innovation. We will continue to position under-resourced communities in pathways that support job growth in the city and surrounding areas." -Ruby Smith Love, ITSF Board Member. This Fellowship represents the first time TechSpark has worked in Louisiana.

"Since we launched TechSpark in 2017, we've helped communities secure more than \$125 million in funding and helped create thousands of jobs," said Kate Behnken, Corporate Vice President, Microsoft Philanthropies.

"By expanding TechSpark to all 50 states, we hope to continue our

hyperlocal, partner-driven work to help communities realize the potential of technology and foster greater economic opportunity."

Earlier this year, Microsoft announced the expansion of its TechSpark Program to tackle digital inclusion in four focus areas: digital access, digital skills, computer science education, and digital transformation with local based organizations. Since its inception in 2017, TechSpark has helped its eight communities secure more than \$125 million in community funding, skill 55,000 people, and create 3,300 jobs. Read more about Microsoft TechSpark here.

If you have questions about TechSpark in Louisiana contact sabrina@nolavateblack.com.

## Tammy Stewart, Continued from page 6.

Orleans Justice System," Orleans Parish Chief Judge Ranord Darenburg said.

"Her passing is a great loss to the Court and the City she so loyally served. On behalf of our entire team at the DA's Office, we extend our deepest sympathies to her family and loved ones. May God give them strength during this difficult time," said District Attorney Jason Williams.

Williams also noted, "The Honorable Judge Stewart was a cherished family member, respected judge, and a true champion of justice. It was a privilege to know and work with her; the impact of her life's work made the City of New Orleans a better place."

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### Job Opportunity

#### Freelance Writers Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for freelance writers to join our team print and digital team. We need writers who can cover New Orleans news stories, ranging from local high school sports, community events, City Hall and entertainment. Experience in print is necessary, experience in digital and social media are encouraged.

Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email your resume and 3 writing samples to: [terrybjones@bellsouth.net](mailto:terrybjones@bellsouth.net) and [datanewseditor@bellsouth.net](mailto:datanewseditor@bellsouth.net).

We can't wait to hear from you!

### Job Opportunity

#### Administrative Assistant Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for an administrative assistant.

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If you are interested, please email your resume to: [terrybjones@bellsouth.net](mailto:terrybjones@bellsouth.net)

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OF THE  
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JUST FOUND  
TOO HARD  
TO SAY

LAUREN JAUREGUI //  
TRACK 03

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