

# CHASE THE DREAM

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Volume 1, Issue 1

## Message from the Founder/CEO



**Helina Teferra Mekonnen**

Salutations! Chase the Dream will celebrate its fifth anniversary in just a few

months and has come a long way in providing historical and entertainment news to its readers. These past two issues have been good for Fahari Magazine as it increased its subscriber's number. We work hand in hand with other organizations to bring the best of what we consider to be valuable. I have been working in getting connected with other publications or sources to broaden our company's scope and furthering our delivery. To get Chase the Dream where it is today, we all had to contribute our share and expertise. My heartfelt gratitude goes out to the editors, photographers, writers, event organizers and most of all to you, our readers and customers. At Chase the Dream, we truly chase the dream!

## Message from the Co-founder



Greetings! How fast time goes by! Isn't it amazing that we have already 5 months into 2014? Yes, time flies. But we, at Chase the Dream, Culture, Arts & Beauty are also making great progress in our endeavor to create cultural unity between peoples of African descent. We had quite productive months, through which we sponsored an art exhibition by Artist Larry Poncho a couple of months ago. The artist is known for his fabulous "Afrocentric" poncho designs, in addition to his colorful paintings. Having been an art collector since the 1980s, I

was enthusiastically working on this particular project. An admirer of hand-woven garments, hand-crafted jewelry and accessories, I love fashion and working with artist Larry was great fun. It was heart-warming to witness that the show attracted numerous art enthusiasts. On the other hand, in my capacity as co-founder of the African-American Music Organization (AAMA) and being a Gospel singer myself, I am pleased to announce that our company Chase the Dream is closely collaborating with the AAMA in terms of coordinating

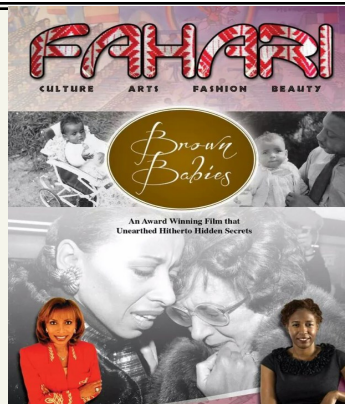
## In this issue:

<b>Message from the Founder/CEO</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Message from the Co-founder</b>	<b>1-2</b>
<b>Our Publication</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Staff Writers</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>News Briefs</b>	<b>2-3</b>
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Announcements</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Opinions</b>	<b>5</b>

## Special points of interest:

- Brief highlight of what we have up to
- Brief highlight of our upcoming events
- Announcements
- Viewers opinions

an upcoming event in June 2014 marking Black Music Month. This special event will celebrate the life and musical career of the late singer/song writer, D.C. Native Marvin Gaye at the Howard Theatre. The AAMA, a 501(c) non-profit organization has been honoring the late Marvin Gaye every year in April for over two decades now, marking his birthday and the day he was murdered on the first and second days of April, consecutively. Marvin would have turned 74 this year, had he been alive. AAMA has been demonstrating lessons of life through music and poetry and help young people to be creative, instead of engaging themselves in destructive activities on the streets, something we, at Chase the Dream are striving to realize as well.



### *Our Publication is on the move*

It is encouraging to witness the ever increasing number of readers of our Fahari, the bi-annual publication that brings news, information, articles and feature stories related to topics of African descent from all corners of the globe.

“Fahari” meaning Pride in Swahili, a language widely spoken in the Eastern wing Africa saw the light of day just a few years ago, but has a wide readership, collaborators, advertisers and columnists. Our Spring/Summer 2014 edition, with great feature stories about wedding culture, the power of art in terms of getting messages across to the society in tackling issues of great concern to the society and more will be released mid-May.



**Helina Teferra with Dr. Mendenzi, Author**

## **News Briefs**

### *Discussion on Black Movies Held*

The Founder of Chase the Dream Culture, Arts & Beauty and Editor-in-Chief of Fahari Magazine, Helina Mekonnen took part at an event discussing the role of black Hollywood movies. The discussion, initiated by IKG President Anthony Browder was held on March 15, 2014 at IKG's Resource Center in Washington, DC. Three movies that hit the cinema in 2013 and 2014, i.e. “The Butler”, “Twelve Years A Slave” and “Mandela – A Long Walk to Freedom” were assessed by Anthony Browder, historian and educational researcher. The event was attended by numerous

individuals, artists and stakeholders. Chase the Dream's Founder made a brief speech, admiring the effort of the IKG in facilitating such a forum that enables peoples of African descent exchange ideas about issues related to their history, arts and culture, as well as their ancestry. Browder emphasized that movies should aim at educating the public about their past, such as the producers of the abovementioned movies attempted to showcase in their respective works.



**Linda Powell and Helina Teferra at S4S Event**  
*Sisters4Sisters Fundraiser*

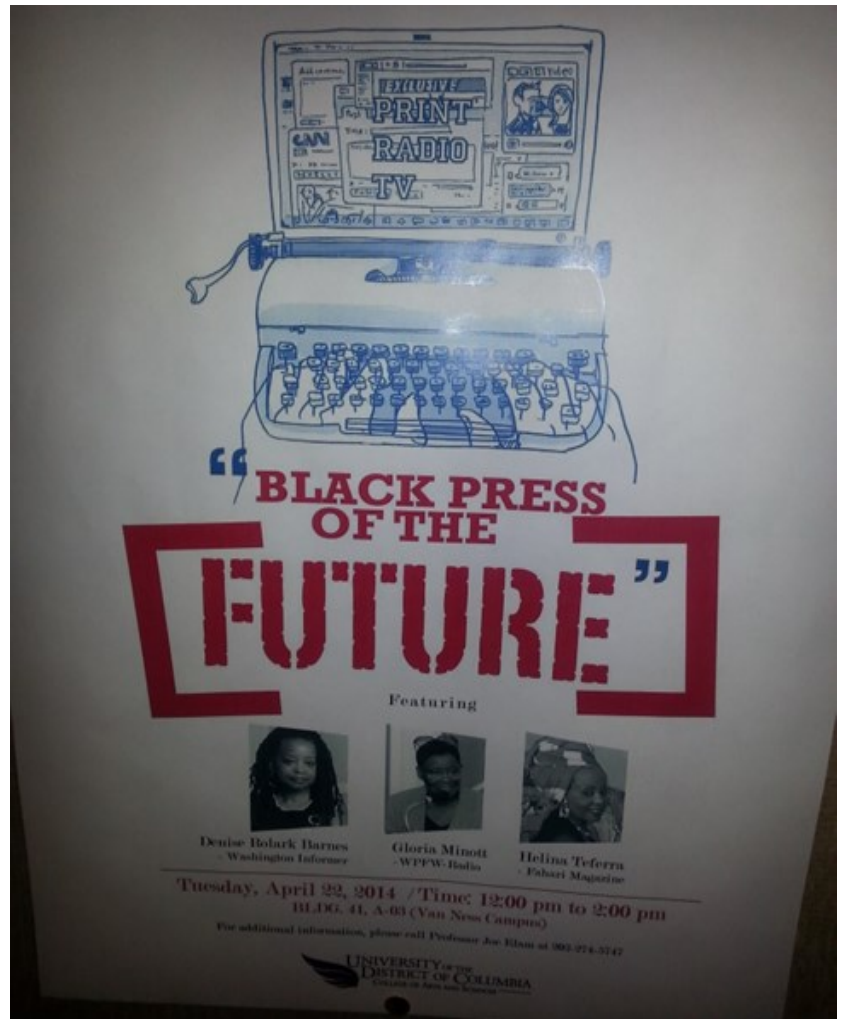
On February 6, 2014, the founder and co-founder of Chase the Dream attended a fundraising event jointly organized by Sisters4Sisters Network, Inc. The two organizations have been working in partnership for the past 3 years and supported each other's cause. Both Helina Mekonnen and Linda Powell are members of Sisters 4 Sisters, Network, Inc. a non-profit organization, which was founded in 2002 with a mission of connecting like-minded business and professional women. In a bid to promote the non-profit organization's cause, the founders of Chase the Dream have decided to dedicate a column on their company's bi annual publication, Fahari Magazine that exclusively features S4SN members under the title "Our Sisters' Voice".

### **Staff Writers**

We have gifted writers from different walks of life contributing to our magazine. They each cover different and interesting happenings to inform our loyal readers. These permanent writers include; Susan Roberts, Tsehay Tessema, Cheryl Woods, Timkehet Teffera, Aaron Thomas and our own Linda Powell. Fahari Magazine is open to any freelance writing from talented and skilled writers. If interested, please let us know by sending us a message via our Contact Us box on our website at [www.chasethedream-web.com](http://www.chasethedream-web.com)

### **Fahari Editor-in-Chief attended Seminar**

Chase the Dream Founder Helina Mekonnen and Editor-in-Chief of its Voice Fahari Magazine was among the speakers at the black press seminar organized by the UDC Journalism Club on April 22, 2014. The seminar, attended by UDC's communication and other students took place at UDC's Van Ness Campus under the theme "Black Press in the Future." The other speakers, apart from Fahari's Editor were WPFW's Gloria Minott and Washington Informer's Denise Rolark Barnes. It was a great learning forum for everyone.





### **Upcoming Events**

A Cultural Forum will take place in a few months, featuring Joni Wertz, the Queen of Head Wrap. Head wrap is one of the treasures for people of African descent since the slavery days. This event will be showcased in a fashion show, along with the fabulous Afrocentric ponchos. The actual date, time and location is yet to be announced.



*Helina Teferra with Sharon Bullock, Metamorphosis Boutique Owner*

### **Announcements**

Chase the Dream has already started planning its upcoming event, though the actual date is yet to be announced. The company's looking for talented dancers and models to work as freelance contributors during this event. There will be great live music, as well as fashion shows during this event, and therefore, we will need serious and talented people to help us accomplish a successful event. If interested contact us via our Contact Us box on our website at [www.chasethedrem-web.com](http://www.chasethedrem-web.com)



*Models of Fahari Culture, Arts & Beauty*

## **Opinions**

Our readers thoughts highly matter to us, it's where we get the motivation to proceed with our delivery.

***“There is an African proverb that says: “To know where you’re going, you have to know where you come from!” I mentioned this proverb, because Chase the Dream’s vision and goal reminds me of this very fact. Your effort of exploring our common origin and looking for a brighter future through cultural unity is wonderful. I would also like to emphasize that we, the children of Africa, need to create more intimacy between us, irrespective of which country we are from or wherever we live. I feel this is missing now.”***

**Malian musician Cheick Hamala.**

***“You are exposing various peoples throughout the African Diaspora and the world, to our inherent value, culture, and beauty. I want you to continue to do what you are doing! We have a heightened sense of awareness and self worth when we are in touch with the richness of our heritage. We are a beautiful people. It shows in the way we walk, talk, dance and LIVE. Fahari Magazine creates a visual that reflects the beauty of who we are. Fahari assures that we continue to provide a global identification in the DIASPORA that reflects our ancestry and supports the bridge for people of African descent around the globe.”***



**Ms. Juanita Britton, business woman, art promoter, public relations expert and philanthropist.**

**Peggy Morris(left), Helian Teferra(middle), and Wanda Harris(right)**