

Shanara “The MouthPeace”
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SHANARA “THE MOUTHPEACE” EMBEDS AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY INTO *BLACK*.

CHICAGO—Shanara “The MouthPeace” reminds African Americans of their origins by noting historical and powerful figures in African and African American history in *BLACK*. On July 23, Shanara “The MouthPeace” performed *BLACK* in the 20th Annual Gwendolyn Brooks Open Mic Award as a semifinalist. “This piece was originally made for a gig at a diversity event in Black History Month for a large corporation,” said Shanara “The MouthPeace.” “Furthermore, as a person and an artist, it is a season in which I feel a gravitational pull and influence to celebrate my African and Black lineage.” It emphasizes the celebration of the African diaspora year round. *BLACK* will officially be released on Aug. 13 on www.mouthpeacestar.com. Supporters are encouraged to share and trend the video by using #BLACK, #QueensBeLike and #BlackHerStoryInJuly.

BLACK was produced by Shanara “The MouthPeace,” but filmed and edited by David Weathersby from Subverse Studios. The music video was recorded in Oz Park, which simultaneously embodies the beauty of nature and roots of the African American legacy. In addition, she reveals the purpose behind this spoken word.

“This piece paints a portrait that everyone, regardless of their background, should see. It is not beneficial for me to preach to the choir. That is limiting,” said Shanara the MouthPeace. “*BLACK* originally celebrated Black culture and history. It just so happened that I talk about women in this piece. Ayinde, who is featured in this spoken word, celebrated himself as a Black man.”

Shanara “The MouthPeace” credits Sandria Washington, Robin Anderson and Pilar Awodola Songfemi Audain-Reed for permission to film during Annual Gele Day Photoshoot and Park Takeover. MouthPeace Entertainment expresses gratitude for every participant in the performance and interviews.

Rashaad Mubarak, a social media intern for MouthPeace Entertainment, was onsite for the production of *BLACK* and shared his opinion. “The energy and words evoke an image of kings, queens, activists, philanthropists, entrepreneurs, athletes and mentors who have revolutionized African and African American history through their efforts and contributions,” said Mubarak.

