



## HBCU IN LA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM Summer 2018 Highlights

The **HBCU in LA Summer 2018 Internship Program** was another educational, empowering and job creation summer for our HBCU in LA cohorts. We welcomed 27 students to Hollywood this summer, more than doubling the number of cohorts placed during our inaugural program just last summer. Students were placed into key internship roles across the industry working in Legal, Finance, Creative Development, Human Resources, Production/Post, Digital Media, PR/Marketing, Music and other areas within TV and Film.

We kicked off the summer with our *HBCU Hollywood Welcome Week* treating students to tours and information sessions at studios, networks and agencies. Followed by our Thursday evening Speaker Series, allowing students to hear and learn from industry leaders and organizations. We were honored to have Kenya Barris, creator of the Emmy-nominated series “Black-ish” for ABC, President Universal Television Pearlana Igbokwe, former Disney Executive VP Production Tendo Nagenda, Grammy Award Winning Composer Rickey Minor and Writer, Producer Wendy Calhoun among our guest speakers. The sessions focused on professional development and exposure to the myriad of career pathways within the entertainment industry.

The program received interest from a number of industry leaders and organizations including:

- **Ava DuVernay’s ARRAY** team hosting a special behind the scenes tour of the new ARRAY Creative Campus. The visit also included a panel discussion with members of *Queen Sugar* production staff as well as members of ARRAY’s maverick leadership team. It was one of those, “*If you can see it, you can be it*” moments for the students.
- **Live Nation Entertainment**, our newest industry partner, hosted the students for its inaugural Diversity Spotlight session, “The Black Experience in Music & Entertainment” with its black employee group, BE Nation LA, followed by a live roof top performance and networking event. Students were joined by leaders and employees for a provocative and powerful conversation around the challenges, experiences and realities faced by black talent in the music and entertainment industry.
- **Sony Pictures Entertainment** hosted a “Recruitment 101” session to help prepare the students for what it takes to land a job and succeed in Hollywood.
- **United Talent Agency (UTA)** hosted, “*A Peek behind the Curtains*” for a look into the world of talent agencies. Our HBCU in LA cohort, Jonathan Kee, moderated the panel discussion with UTA Agent Alyssa Lanz, writer/director/performer Rochée Jeffrey and Artist First Manager Kevin Parker. Jonathan was given the rare opportunity of having his internship extended and moved onto a desk the last month his internship experience with UTA!

The summer ended with our inaugural **HBCU IN LA Industry Recruitment Event**, making it possible for our cohorts to meet with industry representatives that included, Warner Bros., Disney, UTA, ID-PR, TNT/tbs, ICM and more. This successful event led to several students receiving job offers and relocating to LA to begin their careers!