

**For immediate release  
January 25, 2023**

**For Black History Month, Black CSUN Alum Gives Back with \$4,000  
Scholarship to Students Alongside Jazz Legend Christian McBride  
Performance**

***Check Presentation Ceremony at the Soraya Valley Performing Arts Center  
on Feb 2nd, 2023 @ 7p***

*Former Education Leadership doctoral student is now an Adjunct Professor,  
Instructional Coach and Founder of Educate U, a career coaching service for  
students.*

Tarzana, California, Release: January 25, 2023. *For Immediate Release*

On Thursday Feb 2, 2023, CSUN's Black Alumni will celebrate both Jazz at Naz and a scholarship award. Dr. Shani Chen, a Caribbean native and CSUN Black Alumnus (2017 graduate) will award \$4,000 to two graduate students. As a former education leadership doctoral student, Chen fundraises money through her scholarship program dedicated to providing additional financial resources for BIPOC college students.

"It's so Important to give back. For so many first generation students like myself, factoring the extra costs such as books and other living expenses are overlooked after paying tuition - going to college is expensive enough," said Chen. This scholarship was inspired by her father's passing alongside supporting a Jamaican student, who was a double major, working two part-time jobs and struggling financially to buy books. "This student was doing her best but it wasn't enough and then it was an 'aha' moment to create this scholarship." The student scholarship is in its fifth year and has raised over \$25,000 for 12 scholars.

As an educator and social entrepreneur, Chen works in the community as a career instructional coach at a local charter school and founded Educate U, a career & financial literacy training & mentoring program to positively impact students' lives. Her organization designs and implements programs for BIPOC youth to obtain sustainable careers in underrepresented industry sectors. In addition, she was a Linked Learning grant recipient from the James Irvine Foundation and continues to conduct research on career and technical education issues.

The Jazz at Naz is a month long celebration in honor of Black History Month celebrating music and culture. The evening will feature a live performance with "eight-time Grammy Award-winning bassist Christian McBride leading a Big Band and Gospel choir in an exuberant and powerful musical tribute to Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr., Muhammad Ali, Malcolm X, and Barack Obama—heroes of the Civil Rights movement," according to the Soraya Performing Arts Center.

Connect with Educate U

[Website](#) | (323) 250-2496 | [shanichen@educateuniversity.com](mailto:shanichen@educateuniversity.com)



**BLACK  
HISTORY  
month**

Please join the Black Alumni Association and CSUN's The Soraya  
as we collaborate to celebrate Black History month!

In celebration we would like to offer BAA  
members and a guest 50% off your ticketed  
purchase to Christian McBride's The  
Movement Revisited at The Soraya.

**BLACK HISTORY EVENT**



**CSUN.** | **BLACK ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION**

Powered by a relentless energy and boundless love  
of swing, eight-time Grammy Award-winning bassist  
Christian McBride leads a Big Band and Gospel  
choir in an exuberant and powerful musical tribute  
to Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr., Muhammad  
Ali, Malcolm X, and Barack Obama—heroes of the  
Civil Rights movement celebrated at The Soraya  
during Black History Month.

“  
“Injustice anywhere is a  
threat to justice everywhere.”  
—Martin Luther King, Jr.  
”

If you are interested in attending please email us at: [black.alumni@csun.edu](mailto:black.alumni@csun.edu)  
by 8 p.m. on Thursday, January 26, 2023, with you and your guest's first and  
last name. We will contact you with further information.

Connect with Educate U

[Website](#) | (323) 250-2496 | [shanichen@educateuniversity.com](mailto:shanichen@educateuniversity.com)

**For immediate release  
June 25, 2022**

**The Third Season of Educate University's Guest Speaker Series Now Open for Applications**

***The United We Stand LA/NY guest speaker series is looking for young people living nationwide who are truly passionate about their careers, industries, and futures***

Tarzana, California, Release: June 25, 2022. *For Immediate Release*

[Educate University](#) - the educational organization on a mission to empower youth with the tools they need to transform their lives and their communities - is excited to announce that the third season of its United We Stand LA/NY guest speaker series is now open for applications.

Designed to highlight a new generation of leaders and discuss current trends in the fields of Entrepreneurship, Politics, Finance/Money, Academia, Media, and Technology, the United We Stand LA/NY is specifically looking for influential, high-energy young people between the ages of 18-35 from BIPOC communities throughout the United States who are excited about their careers, industries, and futures.

Series speakers will share their stories with high school students to help them prepare for their own futures, all in an effort to break down social and economic barriers that perpetuate generational inequality.

To learn more about Educate University or to sign up for the third season of the United We Stand LA/NY guest speaker series, click [here](#).

**Connect with Educate University**

[Website](#) | (323) 250-2496 | [shanichen@educateuniversity.com](mailto:shanichen@educateuniversity.com)