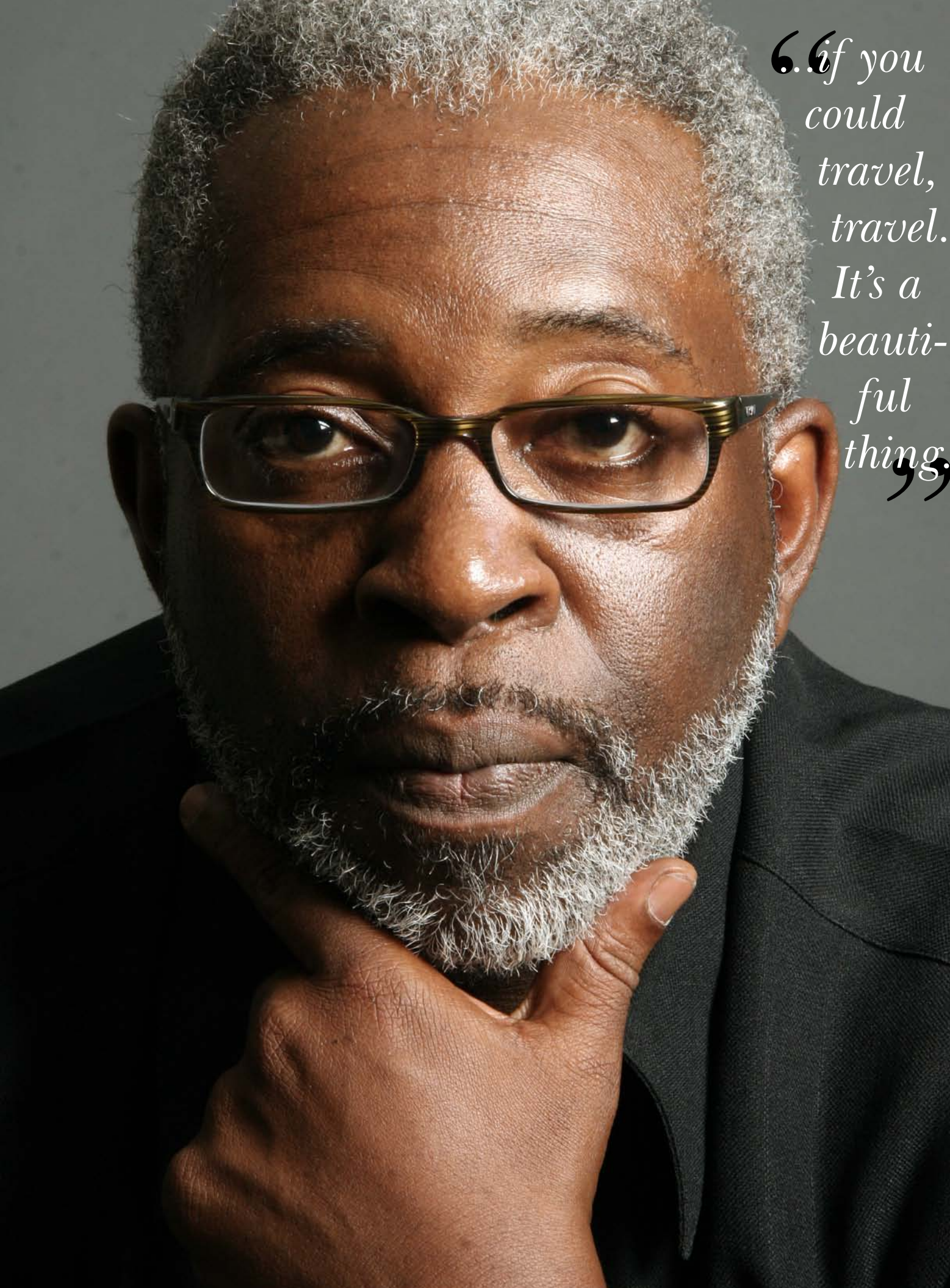


THE
HEART
OF
THE
WORLD
IS
BLACK
BEAUTIFUL LOVE & COMMON KNOWLEDGE



“If you could travel, travel. It’s a beautiful thing.”

The heart of the world is black

Andre Wright is known for many things. His role at the club, his competitive nature & most of all, his concern for the youth. We got a chance to sit down with him and pick his brain on the subtle things that we all overlook. We also found out where his motivation comes from and what it took for him to get to where he is at...

Dear Sir, please state your name, title and what you do.

My name is Andre L. Wright Sr. , I am the education director at Jackson St. Boys & Girls Club.

How would you label the state of our people?

Everybody caught on to this thing, of, translucence into entrepreneurship. Really, its been there to catch on fire it’s just those who open their eyes to see it. Can’t really put a title on it, because its like the leap year, it comes and goes - give every 5 years it might be around - then you sleep on it every 5 years. That’s the way it basically is, you gotta catch it.

What was your reasoning behind enlisting in the military?

I proceeded in the military because I didn’t have any more money, all my grants & scholarships ran out in college. So I went in the military to basically finish my education & to travel. I started off as Airborne / Air Assault then I went ranger school. You know I really enjoyed jumping out of planes & it was just playful, it was fun & games but then by then it was already 10 years so I might as well stick it out for the long haul. So all we was seasoned veterans, in the field that I labeled in. I was a grunt, 13 seconds expectancy on life on the battlefield the time I exited the plane. But, then I was able to go change my M.O.S. to orthopedic’s. But, basically with that grunt M.O.S., you can work in a hospital but when a conflict or anything comes out being with the ready deployment group and plus stationed with the rangers we always had a two-hour time base to proceed and go on. My family went with me, you know, everywhere I went we went - to see other countries and get festive with the people of that country. It was great, I advise everybody - if you could travel, travel. It’s a beautiful thing.

How did you sustain, with a family?

Communication & love. You know, you take on this base of a female, that’s the foundation & then you want the foundation to grow & that’s with children and knowledge plus you proceed to get knowledge between one another. You will never be able to take a step forward without that next step & you become one you’re equal.

In terms of politics, what would you say makes a ‘lawmaker’ outspoken?

Lifestyle, meaning your upbringing. What was instilled in you as a kid, because remember - when you walk outside that door, your last name, you’re representing your ancestors. Your grandmother, your grandfather, his father, his mother on down the line. So when you take that step outside, you know, you’ll think you’re not seen but you’re seen all the way up until you grow - you succeed in life. & the way the candidacy is running now with Barack & he succeeded well through life you know. You know, there was eyes, he can thank people that he never met personally and that goes forth for all of us, because there is always someone blessing us, with another blessing a day.

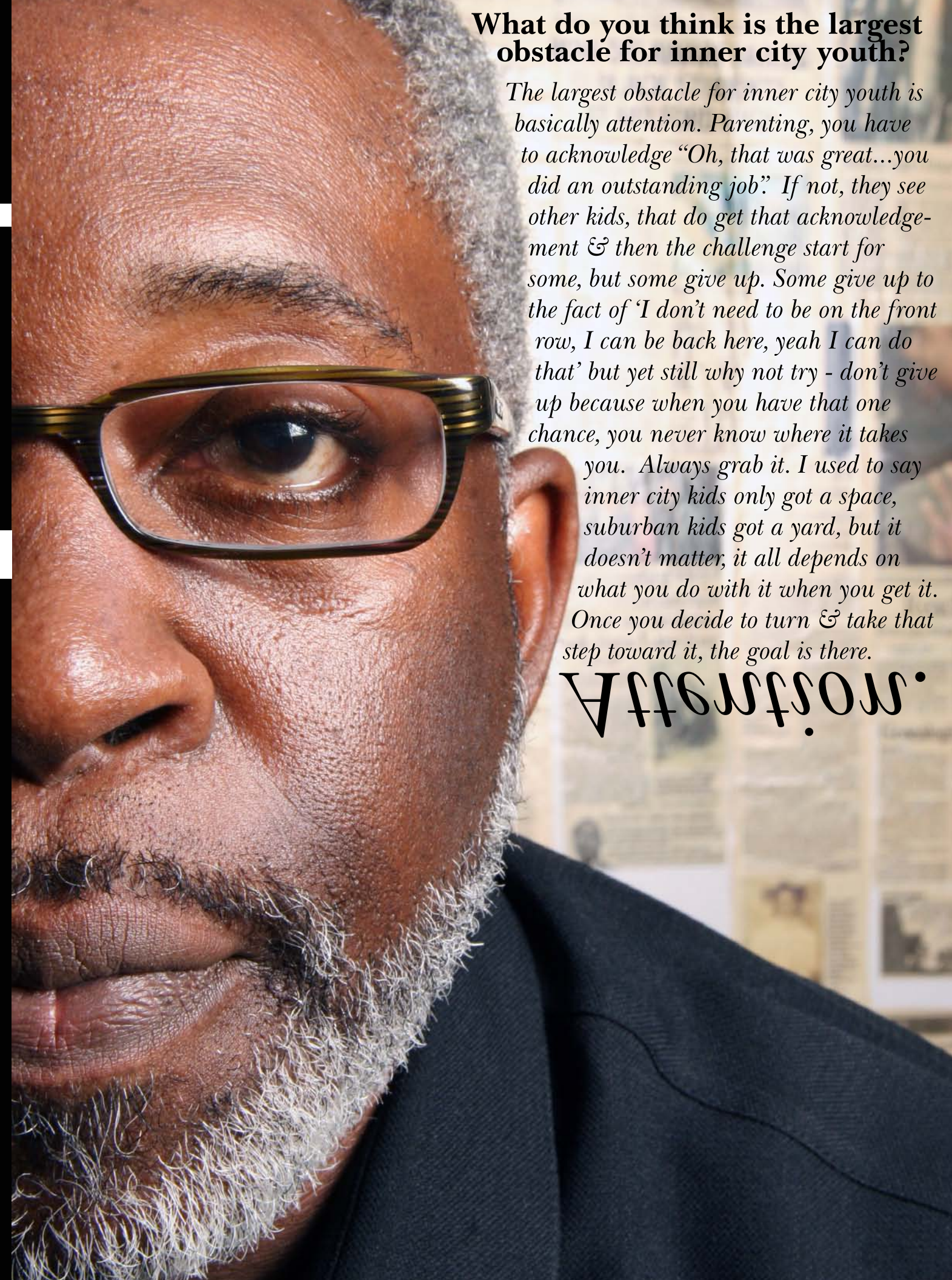


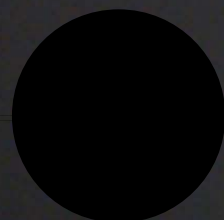
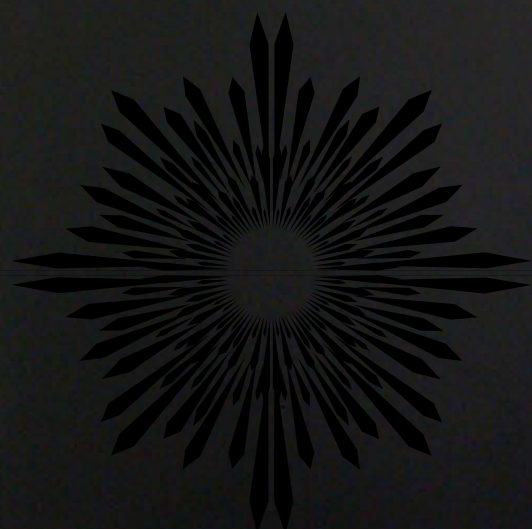
A portrait of a man with grey hair and a beard, wearing glasses and a black shirt, holding a string of colorful beads. He is looking upwards and to the right. The background is a solid dark grey.

“...& I felt as though this is my time from killing to healing.”

The largest obstacle for inner city youth is basically attention. Parenting, you have to acknowledge "Oh, that was great...you did an outstanding job." If not, they see other kids, that do get that acknowledgement & then the challenge start for some, but some give up. Some give up to the fact of 'I don't need to be on the front row, I can be back here, yeah I can do that' but yet still why not try - don't give up because when you have that one chance, you never know where it takes you. Always grab it. I used to say inner city kids only got a space, suburban kids got a yard, but it doesn't matter, it all depends on what you do with it when you get it. Once you decide to turn & take that step toward it, the goal is there.

Attention.





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coloroflife

somethinofnothin

Photography by André Wright Jr., Editorial by David Harris Jr., Shot at Digital Imagery Studios Wilmington, Delaware.



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