

Rashida Jolley

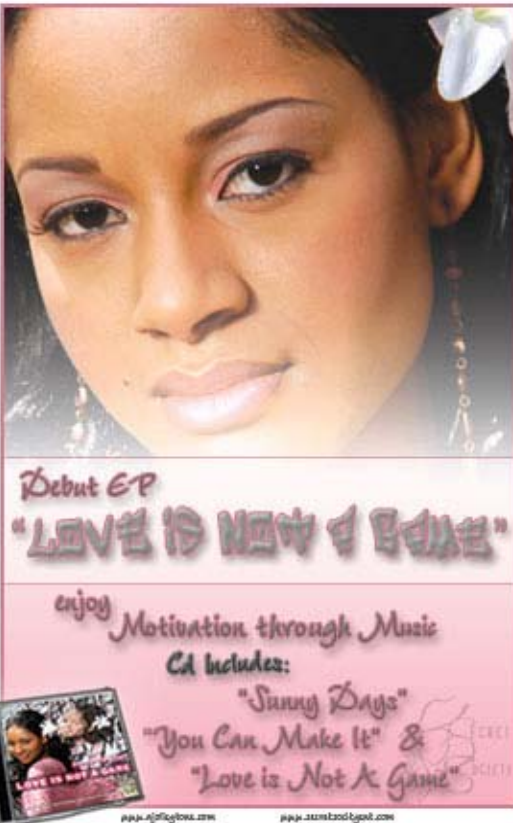
Rashida T. Jolley, Miss District of Columbia 2000, has a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Nyack College. She is a national motivation speaker, harpist, vocalist, songwriter, composer, arranger, and recording artist who has appeared on several television programs ranging from MTV and BET to TBN, FOX5, E! Cable Show, C-Span, and Belgium TV. She has been featured in the Washington Post, Washington Times, US Weekly Magazine, Washington City Paper, the Afro-American as well as the radio program Voice of America (VOA). Also, a former Miss America contestant, she was one of seven finalists for the Quality of Life Award at the 2001 Miss America Pageant.

The product of a great family line of musicians and motivational speakers, Rashida has a diverse background in speaking and performing at juvenile detention centers, high school and middle school assemblies, universities, churches, national embassies, and the US Congress. She is the youngest member appointed by the President to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS and presides on the Howard University Advisory Board for Nursing. Rashida has partnered with numerous community and health organizations around the country such as Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families, Florida Department of Health, Arkansas Department of Health, Congressional Black Caucus, Best Friends for Girls Foundation and Project Reality.

Rashida's goal is to continually empower and educate people on the benefits of abstinence. A speaker for Club Varsity, the Ambassadors Agency and Project Reality, Rashida combines her vast knowledge of pop culture with entertaining renditions of Top-40 music to expose the lies of our media saturated times. Her presentation includes her personal experience of making a decision at a young age to remain abstinent until marriage, while also providing STD statistics, discussing media influences, self esteem, self control, self respect parental involvement, goal setting and lifestyle tips for healthy relationships. Aside from her national speaking, she successfully testified on abstinence education before the New Jersey Senate Education Committee. Rashida routinely briefs congressional representatives, congressional staffers, and political organizations on abstinence education.

Rashida moderated the 2002 Black Women's Expo "Teen Seminar" with Jesse Jackson, Sr. and Judge Hatchett as panelists, and was a news reporter for the Renaissance Foundation's "World Net Daily Program." She is a recipient of the 2001 Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award from Generations United as well as the 2004 Tomorrow's Leader Award from the Black America's Political Action Committee. She has received an abundance of awards, citations and accolades from public and private elementary, junior high and high schools for her outstanding contributions to students, parents and the community.

This songstress has brought the melodic tones of her voice to thousands of people nationwide. Rashida's many vocal and harp performances at concert halls, embassies, universities, schools, conferences, political functions and other venues has produced numerous awards and many industry accolades. This gifted musician has performed at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The Lincoln Theater and sang the national anthem at the DC United Soccer Game at Robert F. Kennedy Stadium as well as the Washington Wizards vs. Memphis Grizzlies NBA game. Recently, Rashida opened up for R&B sensation John Legend and has released her internet chart topping debut CD, "Love is Not a Game" followed by the Project Reality produced "Wait For Me."



Rashida Jolley **Speaker- Harpist- Singer**

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