

# A Journey of Black Hair

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**Angelique Washington**

*Photos Courtesy of HAIRADOX HAIR CARE CENTER*

phenomenal MC Angella Lewis, kept the expo stoked throughout. Seventeen local and creative vendors lined the walls of the venue with spectacular products and food items. The Braid Battle was thrilling to watch. I marveled at the talent of the competitive hair stylists as they battled it out for the best-braided client. In my opinion, they were all winners.

Numerous door prizes were won by ticket-holding participants. The young and gifted Angelique Washington blessed us with Spoken Word. In addition, Chef Extraordinaire Mr. Michael Little and the SLE staff catered a mouth-watering meal.

The Fantasy Hair Style Show hit the Richter scale! The models captivated the audience with a combination of bold colors and high energy mixed with a shot of edgy. The audience could not get enough of them.

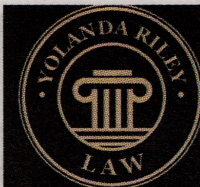
Peoria's 309 Line Dancers were definitely the dessert of the expo. They closed out the afternoon with their sassy and show-stopping vibes.

Mrs. Bilal-Ali's final address to the audience was a reminder of our black hair history, the importance of unity, community and the much-needed support of black businesses.

Next year's expo will require formal attire. If I were you, I'd get busy getting my rep together. You'll be wise to purchase your tickets as soon as the information is released. So, get that dress, that tux, and that date, and please don't be late!

Mrs. Bilal-Ali, thank you for being authentic in all that you do and all that you are. Your destined relocation has added such value and joy to the citizens of Peoria!

Dear Reader, always remember our journey of black hair is diverse. It is complex and it is ever evolving!



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