



Stone Soup Leadership Institute's
Story of the Week: Illai Kenney
Week of February 28 - March 6, 2021

Sunday: Thrive Global: Sustainability for Black Communities



#SundayThoughts: This week's story on @AriannaHuff's @Thrive Global, shines the light on award winning environmentalist and social justice leader Illai Kenney. Together with her mother Felicia Davis, a leading figure in the African American sustainability community, Illai is carrying on a powerful legacy of creating sustainable solutions and education programs for Black communities.

Thrive Global link: <http://bit.ly/3dUO4NK>

@feliciadavis @howarduniversity @hbcugreenfund
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#howardalumni #HBCU #sustainability #blacksustainability
#greenliving #broweryouthawards

Monday: Quote: Illai Kenney



#MondayMotivation: Illai Kenney inspires Black college students at Howard University and other HBCU's (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) and challenges them to get involved with sustainable initiatives like the HBCU Green Fund that helps finance large scale green infrastructure and renewable energy projects in Black communities.

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Illai Kenney
HBCU Green Fund
Washington D.C.

Tuesday: Hero Report: Illai Kenney, HBCU Green Fund

Be inspired by this short video featuring Illai Kenney who shares her journey from age 12 when she co-founded Georgia Kids Against Pollution to encourage governments, businesses, and adults to protect the planet from ruin. Now as Howard University alumni, working with Howard's Office of Sustainability, Illai spearheads projects that envision large-scale and long-term sustainability programs and educational support for HBCU campuses.

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/8luR2WQnPao>

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Wednesday: Honor Roll: HBCU Green Fund

#CalltoAction: Illa Kenney's goal is to raise \$1 Billion for The HBCU Green Fund to finance large-scale green infrastructure and renewable energy campus projects at HBCU's (Historically Black Colleges and Universities).

Join the movement to make HBCUs sustainable:

www.hbcugreenfund.org

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Illai Kenney's Press

Her Voice & Her Vision



Wednesday: Illai Kenney's Press: Her Voice, Her Vision

Illai Kenney, award winning environmentalist and social justice leader, uses her voice to share her vision for moving toward a sustainable future. Her articles are featured in leading environmental and literary publications. Illai was one of the very first (and only young) people to write a published article for the Huffington Post. https://www.huffpost.com/entry/moving-toward-a-sustainab_b_43805

@huffpost @nrdc_org @GCSEglobal @earthislandjournal
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#blacksustainability #greenliving

Thursday: Young Heroes Fund

Be inspired by this short video of youth leaders of color: Illai Kenney, Destiny Hodges, Jerome Foster II, Feliza Fenty, Benita Davis, and Shilpa Jain- all featured in our forthcoming book, *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Heroes*. Demi Weitz, Tiara Ganegama and Sam Jacobs invite you to contribute to the Young Heroes Fund to provide them with mentors, partnerships, and financial support to scale their sustainability projects and organizations.

<https://youtu.be/0unLf3FsFK0>

Illai Kenney, HBCU Green Fund @HBCUGreenFund
Destiny Hodges, Generation Green @Generation_Green
Jerome Foster II, One Million of Us @OneMillionOfUs
Feliza Fenty, Virgin Gorda Youth Leadership Initiative
Benita Davis, Policy Forum Guyana @PolicyForumGuyana
Shilpa Jain, Yes! @yeschangemakers
Demi Weitz, @RWQuarantunes
Tiara Ganegama, Youth Force, Sri Lanka @YouthForce_2019
Sam Jacobs, @ResourceGeneration

Please join us in support of the work their work for climate, social, and economic justice. Your support makes all the difference! <https://bit.ly/3p0yCBM>

#StoneSoupYoungHeroes #sustainability #YouthForceSriLanka
#hbcugreenfund #environmentaljustice #blackenvironmentalist
#OneMillionOfUs #impactsofpollution





SUSTAINABILITY FOR BLACK COMMUNITIES

Illai Kenney
Georgia/Washington D.C.

Illai Kenney understood that marginalized communities like hers will be the communities most negatively impacted by issues like global warming and climate change. And as a kid, she felt like she didn't have a say. "We are the ones who are going to be most impacted by the decisions being made. But what recourse do we have? We can't vote. We can't lobby. It was a daunting realization to come to." That the planet, and her right to a healthy, sustainable future, could be being ruined because of the decisions of a generation disconnected from her own, was disempowering. So in 2003, at age 12, she decided to form the nonprofit Georgia Kids Against Pollution, to do something about it. This journey towards a more sustainable world culminated with the founding of the HBCU Green fund – a fund which supports projects that reduce energy and water usage on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

From the forthcoming book
Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Heroes

Friday: Sustainability for Black Communities

#FridayReads Read the inspiring story of Illai Kenney whose hero journey started when she was 12 years old and experienced how Black and Brown communities had become toxic waste dumps for polluting companies in Atlanta. This awakening set her on a path to demand the city and state's leaders to improve healthy living standards and increase sustainability practices, especially for communities of color.

Thrive Global Link: <http://bit.ly/3dUO4NK>

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CLIMATE JUSTICE IS SOCIAL JUSTICE

These power plants dump all the pollutants into the Black and low-income communities. Somebody needs to let them know that yes, you do have a choice, you aren't forced to live with this stuff- and you can make a difference if you want to.

ILLAI KENNEY

ACT NOW!

Saturday: Climate Justice is Social Justice

#SaturdayThoughts: At the age of 13, Illai Kenney led her first protest against a gas and utility company. The demonstration made it into the company's shareholders report—the gigantic company heard them! In her eyes, its important for youth and adult leaders of all races and backgrounds to demand climate justice for everyone.

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