



# bdpatoday

ICYMI 06.23.18 | In Case You Missed IT

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## Black Twitter Reacts to Virtual Influencers: Is *Shudu* 'art' or 'an appropriation'?

► **LONDON** — *Women's Wear Daily (WWD)*, a fashion-industry trade journal sometimes called "the bible of fashion" is reporting new influences and fashion technology (FashTech) disruptions rapidly emerging in the fashion industry. *TV One* recently opined and asked the question, "Why book a Black model, when you can create one, right? Wrong." Do Black models have a future?

London-based digital artist, Cameron-James Wilson, created a fake black model, an avatar, whom he calls "**Shudu**" and has since gained almost 130,000 Instagram followers on "her" account. *WWD* also stated the notion of an avatar is commonplace among gamers but fairly new to fashion. In 2016, Louis Vuitton cast a video game character for its spring 2016 campaign, and just last month, a new figure named Lil Miquela, also rumored to be a "computer-generated image" (CGI), made headlines in *Highsnobiety*, the *Financial Times* and *New York Magazine*.

But when it comes to high fashion, **Shudu** represents an entirely new reality as a very glamorous digital 3-D supermodel. As a 3-D model, **Shudu** further blurs the line between "digital" and "reality". **Shudu** can not talk, nor is **Shudu** artificially intelligent; however, she has influential messages to share. According to *WWD*, through avatar modeling, both established designers and start-ups can bring "empowerment" and "diversity" to the fashion industry, where both are now so often being called into question. **bt**



— Sources: *WWD*, [shudu.gram](http://shudu.gram), and *TV One*  
photo: [shudu.gram](http://shudu.gram)

## The Walt Disney Company Signs Amended Acquisition Agreement To Acquire Twenty-First Century Fox, Inc., For \$71.3 Billion In Cash And Stock

▼ **BURBANK, CA // BDPA Los Angeles //** — The Walt Disney Company announced this week it has signed an amended acquisition agreement with Twenty-First Century Fox, Inc. ("**21st Century Fox**"), for \$38 per share in cash and stock. Disney will acquire 21st Century Fox immediately following the spin-off of the businesses comprising "New Fox" as previously announced.



Under the amended agreement, 21st Century Fox shareholders may elect to receive, for each share of 21st Century Fox common stock, \$38 in either cash or shares of Disney common stock. The overall mix of consideration paid to 21st Century Fox shareholders will approximately be 50% cash and 50% stock. The stock consideration is subject to a collar and is expected to be tax-free to 21st Century Fox shareholders. The 21st Century Fox businesses to be acquired by Disney remain the same as under the original agreement. Since the original agreement was announced, the intrinsic value of these assets has increased, notably due to tax reform and operating improvements.

This acquisition will significantly increase Disney's international footprint and expand the content and distribution for its direct-to-consumer (DTC) offerings, which include **ESPN+** for sports fans; a Disney-branded streaming video-on-demand service launching in late 2019 that will feature **Disney**, **Pixar**, **Marvel** and **Star Wars** films along with a host of exclusive original content and library titles; and its ownership stake in **Hulu**. **bt**

— Source and photo: *Walt Disney Company*



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Celebrating National BDPA's 40th Conference  
and BDPA-DC's 40th Anniversary in 2018

## Let's Define Your "BDPA" | Big Data & Predictive Analytics -or- Billion-Dollar Programs Available?

Founded in 1975 as *Black Data Processing Associates* by Earl A. Pace, Jr. and the late David Wimberly, National BDPA was created to bring underrepresented communities together whose members were employed in information technology, programming, operations, and related computer science fields for the purpose of professional development and academic enrichment. Today, BDPA remains an international organization with its diverse membership of professionals and students engaged at every level across all industry verticals. BDPA and its Mission Partners continue to develop community engagement programs in support of a stronger technical workforce for America's information and communications technology (ICT) pipelines.

## Student Information Technology Education and Scholarship (SITES)

Throughout the year, local BDPA chapters conduct SITES training programs for youth in their communities. These programs are designed to expose students to new information technology (IT) and cybersecurity (CS) concepts of computer and data science giving them the expertise to develop applications. Several BDPA chapters will participate in regional competitions throughout the country to further prepare their students. BDPA chapters are able to send one (1) team of 3 to 5 students to the National BDPA Technology Conference to compete for scholarships and internships with teams from other BDPA chapter cities across the United States.

## National High School Coding Competition (HSCC) and Mobile App Showcase

Our HSCC Program was founded in 1986 by Dr. Jesse Bemley, of Washington, D.C. What started as a two-team event between Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, GA has grown to over 20 teams of various high school students from local BDPA chapters throughout the nation. Local HSCC and Jr. Dev programs, such as our Mobile App Showcase, are uniquely designed to introduce our Youth to the field of Information Technology to encourage them to seek higher levels of education, and groom many of them to become our next generation of IT and Cyber professionals. Industry mission-partners provide funding and support.

## Full Membership | \$100.00 per year

Professional BDPA Membership is open to anyone interested in supporting BDPA's mission, while embracing new trends in technology, telecommunications, cybersecurity, information technology (IT), or Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). To apply, join, or renew, visit: [BDPA.org](http://BDPA.org)

## Student Membership | \$25.00 per year

Students from middle school, high school, community college, vocational training, any college or university may join by visiting [BDPA.org](http://BDPA.org) or apply for sponsored complimentary memberships by simply emailing current resumes to: [resumes@bdpadc.org](mailto:resumes@bdpadc.org)

Advertising rates for channel Landing Pages and digital Publications range from \$400.00 to \$2500 per year

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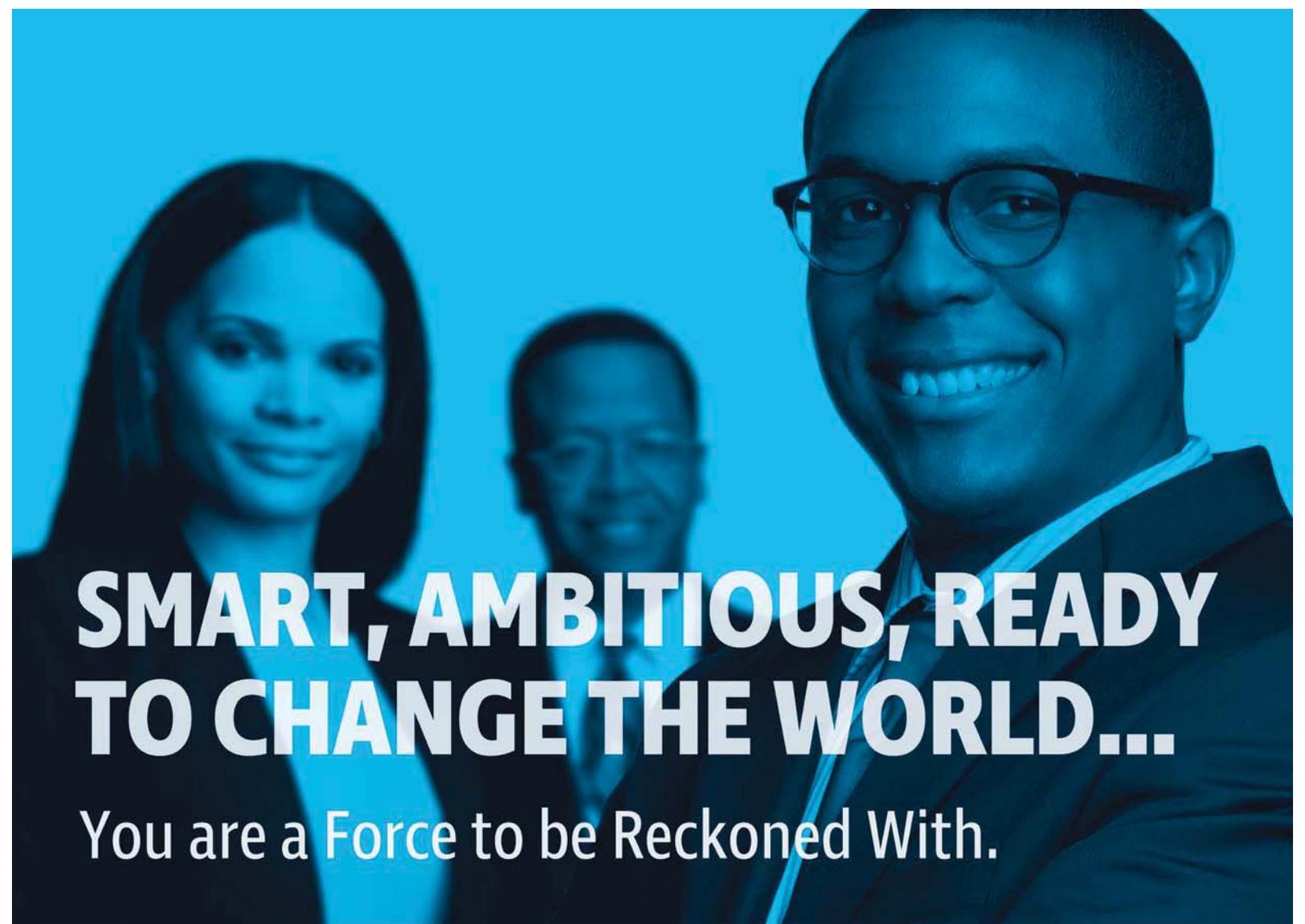
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Diversity is of particular importance to our Company. As the premier provider of audio content in this country, we have both the privilege and the obligation to provide content that is compelling to those subscribers that we have today and to those we want to have tomorrow. We need diverse voices in this Company to ensure that we know what is important to all of our potential listeners.

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