



For Immediate Release

**ANGELA MCKENZIE CONTINUES HER SALUTE TO BLACK HISTORY MAKERS WITH A TRIBUTE CONCERT
AND FEATURE BROADCAST FOR THE LEGENDARY MUSIC TELEVISION PRODUCER RALPH MCDANIELS;
THEN CONCLUDES WITH INTERVIEWS FROM AUTHORS SANA BUTLER & DASHAUN JIWE MORRIS**

RALPH MCDANIELS BROADCAST CAN BE STREAMED & DOWNLOADED AT: [HTTP://WWW.ARCHIVE.ORG/DETAILS/IR-09-24](http://www.archive.org/details/IR-09-24)

New York, NY (February 1st, 2010)...Angela McKenzie launched her *Salute To Black History Makers* series with a tribute to Jamaican, Reggae music icon Bob Marley. She now continues by revisiting one of Initiative Radio's most popular programs of 2009 - her exclusive interview with Ralph McDaniels, the man who is credited with providing a television audience for urban music content ahead of channels like MTV and VH1. Over twenty-five years ago McDaniels created the one hour show Video Music Box (VMB) and found it a home on New York City's public broadcasting station WNYC-TV. McDaniels was given the moniker Uncle Ralph by music industry peer Kool DJ Red Alert, in response to his role in breaking many of today's most famous musicians, for entertaining generations of young people and for his tireless work in the community. On this special edition of Initiative Radio, Angela re-airs excerpts of her exclusive chat with McDaniels along with interviews with friends and fans of McDaniels including Kool DJ Red Alert; Wes Jackson, President and Executive Director of Brooklyn Bodega and the Brooklyn Hip-Hop Festival respectively; rising Hip-Hop emcee Homeboy Sandman and fledgling female emcee Dama Nilz; and also shout-outs from music industry insiders. To further celebrate McDaniels contribution to the music industry and his community, young Hip-Hop talents will come together on Friday, February 19th at the Bowery Poetry Club located at 308 Bowery in Manhattan's lower east side, to perform in his honor and to celebrate his role as a music industry maverick and Black History Maker. Showtime is 10:00 PM and a \$10.00 donation will be accepted at the door. Showing support for this tribute are Whole Foods Market, XXL Magazine, Best Buy, Brooklyn Bodega, DJ sKnow, Black Star Music, Elan F, Fighting For Futures and VR Photo.

About Author Sana Butler

Sana Butler is a special correspondent for Newsweek International and has previously worked at the Wall Street Journal, CNBC and ABC World News Tonight with Peter Jennings. Raised in Connecticut, she attended Georgetown University and earned a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University. In her first book *Sugar of the Crop: My Journey to Find the Children of Slaves*, Butler shares her eye-opening and uplifting conversations with the sons and daughters of parents who had survived the most barbaric period in U.S. History. In her travels from the Los Angeles residence of a millionaire to nursing homes and churches across Kentucky, Virginia to Mississippi, she got to know many remarkable men and women – most in their nineties or older – who were raised by former slaves. Overwhelmingly, these progeny of America's black pioneers were brought up in loving, hardworking, patriotic families and instilled with pride, ambition and a determination to contribute to the re-building of what was to be a new America. To stream or download Angela's interview with Butler, visit: <http://www.archive.org/details/IR-09-25>

About Author Dashaun Jiwe Morris

In his book *War of the Bloods In My Veins: A Street Soldier's March to Redemption*, author and motivational speaker Dashaun Jiwe Morris examines a life wrought with sadness unknown to many Americans. Jiwe's transition from a child full of promise to the boy who commits his first drive-by at age 11 is a tragic tale of modern childhood. It is this pivotal moment when the reader knows that his relationship with the Bloods is no fleeting romance but a long-term commitment. Neither the passing of friends, fears for his own safety, nor the guilt which plagues Jiwe, are enough to extricate him from the grip. It is later, through a high school football coach, that Jiwe finds a substitute father; one of a few adults looking after his best interest. When he is recruited by Delaware State University on a football scholarship, he has every reason to look forward to a future in the NFL. Things are even looking up on the personal front, as he has found true love and is awaiting the birth of his first child. However, his past catches up with him and he is charged with attempted murder. Prison time, though lonely, allows Jiwe time to reflect on the true purpose of a gang; to protect and support the community. Now, he looks to reform the very concept of "gang culture". *War of the Bloods In My Veins* is a revelation for the vast majority of Americans, including those familiar with urban communities as well as those who see themselves as separate. What Jiwe wants readers to know is that no one is separate or removed from the bleak truth related in his book and that, if ignored, the current definition of gang culture will claim many more victims. To stream or download Angela's interview with Jiwe visit: <http://www.archive.org/details/IR-09-26>

Bob Marley Tribute – stream or download

<http://www.archive.org/details/IR-09-23>

About Initiative Radio with Angela McKenzie

Initiative Radio with Angela McKenzie (IRAM) whose tag line is *Food for the Mind and Music for the Soul*, is a nationally syndicated, weekly, one hour, public affairs program that focuses on the philanthropic and altruistic activities of corporations both for profit and not-for-profit, intergovernmental organizations, persons of repute and everyday people. Each edition features a guest who is working towards the greater good in the community, at the national level or the world at large and added to the show's talk element are selections from every imaginable musical genre to compliment the topic of the day. The program broadcasts daily on multiple outlets of National Public Radio, Pacifica Radio, Public Radio International and some college stations.

IRAM is a not-for-profit project that falls under the auspices of the 501 (c) (3) charitable organization The AMcK Initiative, Inc. The program is funded solely by the generosity of loyal listeners and supporters of the public radio and public television mediums. Core listeners are college educated, business professionals, along with a growing youth audience as the show consistently highlights the work of emerging young artists, musicians and youth-led, charitable initiatives. To hear encore broadcasts of IRAM visit www.angelamckenzie.com/initiativeradio.html.

For more information on all of the above contact Angela McKenzie at amck83@hotmail.com

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