



blues babe  
FOUNDATION

# A letter from Jill Scott



Hey, everybody!

Thanks so much for visiting the official Web site of the Blues Babe Foundation. I'm really excited to finally launch the Foundation. It's been a longtime dream of mine to create a vehicle through which I can partner with individuals and corporations to help urban youth succeed.

Believe it or not, I know how hard it is. After my junior year at Temple University, I had to drop out. I ran out of money. Fortunately, I options, via my poetry and that for a lot of urban the only way they'll have lot in life and achieve their

I'm not trying to make it this Foundation, I've got the team that's joined the ground, we're going everybody from big folks. This younger potential. It's our job to opportunities to express we do that, if we believe in faith and time in them, I

I've achieved a lot because people give me their love which is my grandmother, Foundation, we're taking a some support for those We all know that it takes more than talent to succeed. I hope you join us as we work to help our youth to make their dreams come true.



was blessed to have some my music. But, we all know youth, a college degree is a chance to improve their dreams.

out like, because I started "the answer". Along with me to get this thing off to need a lot of support, corporations to regular generation has a lot of provide them with the that potential positively. If them and put our money, think they'll surprise us.

I had some amazing and support, not least of Blues Babe. With this small step towards creating who've shown the ability.

Blessings,

*Jill*

# Mission



For students from lower income or distressed backgrounds, education continues to be the sure path to better opportunities and a better life. A successful completion of undergraduate studies helps not only prepare youth for the transition to adulthood, but also opens worlds of possibilities and puts them squarely on the road to realizing their dreams.

The brainchild of Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriter and poet Jill Scott, the Blues Babe Foundation was formed for the purpose of nurturing college-bound students of color, ages 16-21, artistically and academically. The Foundation seeks to provide financial support and mentoring for those students who have shown the aptitude and commitment to their education, but whose families may not have the resources to ensure completion of their undergraduate degrees. In addition to its support of young people through their public schools, the Foundation will also fulfill its mission by including support of community centers and community-focused organizations as part of its scope.

While the goal of the Foundation is to grow to be national in its reach, the initial focus is on students in distressed areas of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Camden, New Jersey; and the Delaware Valley. Not one to distance herself from her humble beginnings in Philadelphia, Jill was inspired by events in her own life to ensure that other deserving young people would not find their education stalled due to lack of financial support. With the formation of the Blues Babe Foundation, she is able to further manifest her long-term commitment to education and enrichment.

# What is the meaning of Blues Babe?



“Blues Babe” is the affectionate nickname given to Jill’s grandmother because of the bluish tint in her brown complexion. To this day, Blues Babe continues to provide inspiration for both her family and for others around her. Of her grandmother, Jill told Essence Magazine: “My grandmother came from a different era, a different time, telling her story without saying any words. She would hum while she cooked and cleaned. But more important, she would hum and sing praises. To have someone with that kind of “herstory” express herself without words is a kind of wealth that you can’t put any price on. Sometimes when I sing, I get close to that place. Then I can go deep into the history of who we are as a people.” That the Foundation was named in her grandmother’s honor serves as a reminder that multigenerational solutions to community problems not only link past to present, but can provide a roadmap for future success.

## **Highlights of Foundation’s Accomplishments to date**

- In the spring of 2003, the Blues Babe Foundation made a donation of over \$60,000 to the graduating class of the Creative Arts High School in Camden, New Jersey. Further, all members of this class who maintain at least a 3.2 grade point average will receive a yearly stipend for the next three years of their undergraduate education. In 2005, school will be renamed the Jill Scott High School.
- For Jill’s video directorial debut—for label mate Jeff Bradshaw’s single “Slide”—she incorporated Creative Arts High School’s drama class and not only provide a memorable experience for these young people, but behind-the-scenes access and an inside look at how music videos are produced.
- In 2002, in conjunction with E! Entertainment Television, the Foundation donated desktop computer systems to Philadelphia’s Meredith School, Jill’s elementary school.

# Support Blues Babe



## Corporate Support

Being a good corporate citizen is good business. Because of the Foundation's focus on pre-college and college-aged youth, a partnership with the Blues Babe Foundation connects your brand to the elusive youth market. Not only will your brand reach youth, but also their parents and guardians. Contact the Foundation and we'll create a mutually beneficial partnership that will further your corporate goals and objectives.

## Individual Support

Let's make a difference together! Your financial support not only helps make dreams come true, but also inspires youth to dream. Contact the Foundation to set up your tax-deductible donation [info@bluesbabefoundation.org; Subject: I want to donate!]

## Supporters

Blues Babe Foundation thanks the following partners for their generous and continued support.

### **E! Entertainment Television, Inc.**

E! Entertainment Television, the 24-hour network with programming dedicated to the world of entertainment, is a subsidiary of E! Networks (currently available to more than 78 million cable and direct-satellite subscribers in the U.S.). E! Networks also operates E! Online (www.eonline.com), the number-one entertainment Website that provides the latest daily news and celebrity inside information in a fun, irreverent tone.

### **URB Magazine (www.urb.com)**

URB Magazine's mission is simple: Capture the most exciting and essential elements of music and underground culture. With an unwavering focus on the vanguards of hip-hop and electronic music, URB not only covers the ever-expanding world of new music and culture, they define it. With more than 12 years living and working to celebrate and perpetuate the global underground, URB has helped create a massive new audience hungry for substance in their entertainment. URB is America's leading source for international urban culture.

### **Kiehl's (www.kiehls.com)**

Founded in 1851 in New York City as a family-owned pharmacy, Kiehl's products are now available internationally. The company's products blend cosmetic, pharmaceutical, herbal, and medicinal knowledge developed and passed on through the generations. Thus the company is able to maintain the high quality skin, hair and body care treatments that customers have come to expect for over 150 years.

# Long-range Projects



## **Camp Jill Scott**

Plans are in the works for a camp for underprivileged children that would allow them to experience a few weeks in a rural environment, and provide them with an alternate experience to the urban reality they are faced with daily. A projected inauguration of the camp is expected in the summer of 2005.

## **Clean Up Your Neighborhood Program**

Urban renewal begins at the community level. Quite often city officials cannot be persuaded to invest resources in a community until they see that there is a demand. As part of the Foundation's efforts to create a better environment for students and their families, it will sponsor community cleanup drives that will involve, among other activities, trash and graffiti removal and the creation of community gardens.

## **Contact the Foundation**

Thanks for your interest in the Blues Babe Foundation. In order to reach us, please call 215.xxx.xxxx or email the Foundation at [info@bluesbabefoundation.org](mailto:info@bluesbabefoundation.org)