Simone Arianne Bile's is an American artistic gymnast. Bile's is the 2016 Olympic individual all-around, vault and floor gold medalist, and balance beam bronze medalist. She was part of the gold medal-winning team dubbed the "Final Five" at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

Who would have known after being born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and being adopted as the youngest of three siblings, Kaepernick would go on to achieve such greatness? Before he started his professional football career, Kaepernick began his pro-football career in 2012, set an NFL record for most rushing yards by a quarterback in a game. Kaepernick was also instrumental in protesting of what he deemed as wrongdoings against African Americans and minorities in the United States.

Born in Texas and raised by adoptive parents, from a young age, Jamie Foxx never went without the love and support of a mother or father, but it wasn’t the typical mother/father dynamic. He was put into the care of his grandparents as an infant and he attributes much of his success to the love, care and encouragement of his grandmother. Jamie Foxx is an Academy Awards, Grammy, and Golden Globe recipient.

Celebrating Black History

History of Black History Month

Black History Month can be traced all the way back to September of 1915. In that year, historian Carter G. Woodson and Minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History – also known as the ASNLH. This organization was dedicated to researching and promoting the achievements of not only black Americans but all prominent people of African descent. This group would go on to sponsor a National Negro History Week in 1926. The month of February was chosen because the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass are in that month. After learning of this week dedicated to the achievements of black Americans, many communities around the country began to organize local celebrations.

Source: https://fostermore.org/25-celebrities-and-athletes-you-didnt-know-were-adopted/
THE MENTOR: Jay Z.
The Protégé: Kanye West.

“Before he was a world renowned rapper, Kanye West was producing full-time over at Roc-A-Fella records, helping to make Jay Z's 'The Blueprint' the classic that it now is. Eventually, and for all the wrong reasons, Roc-A-Fella signed him as a rapper, with Jay Z even admitting that they were reluctant to do so. But in the end Jay kind of took 'Ye under his wing.”

www.capitalxtra.com/

The Connecting Youth Mentoring Program is always looking for mentor volunteers for our youth. If you can take at least 2-hours a month of your time to show a youth that possibilities are endless, please contact Rachael J. Chambers, Mentor Coordinator at 609.439.4215 or rchambers@anchorhousenj.org.

Thank you.

IT IS FEBRUARY FUN!
WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HAVE FUN WITH YOUR MENTOR?

- Spaghetti and Marshmallow Tower Challenge (you can eat the marshmallows afterward!)
- “Act it out!” Go to the library find a play, and read it out loud
- Make your own board game and play the game you made (this is so much fun!)
- “Check mate!” Teach each other how to play chess or checkers, get a book from the library to figure out how
- Make a bird feeder. Do your research on what types of birds are in your area. Find out about each bird's preferred habitat and diet. With the right food, you may be able to attract some birds that you don't normally see otherwise


www.j-pinimg.com/736x/05/48/42/05484210c789d15ca702f0e7b97a5d3f-center-ideas-job-search.jpg
The members of the Youth Advisory Council were asked what Black History month means to them and gave varying thoughts and feedback:

- One member expressed that Black History month is when you get in touch with your roots, family background and basically knowing about where you came from. She recalls learning about Black History month when she was younger and was taught about who fought for specific rights of African Americans but feels that as she got older it is more about recognizing what changes have occurred over the years as well as the obstacles that African Americans continue to face.

- Another member spoke about growing up in Jamaica and not formally learning about Black History in the school setting like most American youth but said that she learned from hearing her family members tell stories that impacted and stayed with her into adulthood. A third member voiced that as he got older Black History seems so much more important to him than when he felt that it was something that teachers taught for several weeks in February.

YAC members were encouraged to reflect on some inspirational African American figures that have made a difference in their lives:

- Harriet Tubman who a member stated is especially inspiring to her as Ms. Tubman overcame her own difficult situation to sacrifice and help others.

- Dr. Martin Luther King who preached about loving one another and recognizing people for who they are and not the color of one’s skin.

- Marcus Garvey Jr., a Jamaican native stood out for another member who felt that his leadership in the area of the Pan-Africanism movement and Universal Negro Improvement shows his intelligence and strength.

- An uncle who was patient and understanding and showed this specific YAC member how to take responsibility, be mature and put others first.

- Another member said that her great-grandmother was a young girl during slavery and met and fell in love with her great-grandfather although the two of them were not permitted to be together until years later when slavery was abolished.

The members shared some of their favorite quotes from historical African Americans:

“Hate is too great a burden to bear. It injures the hater more than it injures the hated “
- Coretta Scott King

“If there is no struggle, there is no progress.”
- Fredrick Douglas
### Group Calendar

**FEBRUARY 2018**

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<td>7 Public Speaking Workshop 5:00-6:15 pm @Greenwood (All Programs)</td>
<td>8 Beautiful Me-Group @ Shelter 4:30-5:30 pm</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27 YMCA Gym Activity</td>
<td>28 Blacks In Wax: Honoring Influential African Americans Foundations Academy 5:00-6:30 pm</td>
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**Getting Connected:**

- **Shelter**: 609-396-8329
- **Anchorage**: 609-989-1625
- **Connecting Youth**: 609-439-4215
- **Outreach**: 609-218-5630
- **School Outreach**: 609-396-8329
- **NJ Abuse Hotline**: 877-652-2873