

Sports & Entertainment

‘Everybody Hates Chris’ star Tyler James Williams along with Grammy winners Tamla Mann and Adam Blackstone serve as the magical mentors at Disney Dreamers Academy

Golden Globe winning actor Tyler James Williams, plus Grammy winners Tamela Mann and Adam Blackstone, among celebrities lending time to coveted mentoring program; Williams named event's "DREAMbassador;" Disney-created mentorship initiative for 100 teens poised for 18th year from March 26-30.

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla., March 24, 2025 /PRNewswire/ - Golden Globe-winning actor Tyler James Williams, along with Grammy Award-winning artists Tamela Mann and Adam Blackstone, will serve as magical mentors for this year's Disney Dreamers Academy, the popular Walt Disney World Resort mentoring program that supercharges the career dreams of high school students nationwide and kicks off in Florida this week.

Williams, who first gained fame for his role in the hit sitcom "Everybody Hates Chris" and now plays Gregory Eddie in ABC's Emmy Award winning comedy "Abbott Elementary," will be the program's "DREAMbassador," meaning he will spend significant time during the March 26-30 event interacting with the 100 Disney Dreamers by sharing his career journey, participating in several career focused workshops and serving as a key figure at the



Williams, who first gained fame for his role in the hit sitcom "Everybody Hates Chris" and now plays Gregory Eddie in ABC's Emmy Award winning comedy "Abbott Elementary." (Photo/Courtesy: Disney Dreamers)

always emotional commencement ceremony. He'll be joined by an extensive list of other celebrity mentors which include celebrated musicians, actors, aerospace engineers, fashion stylists, renowned educators, designers, producers and Disney executives. Blackstone, a renowned musician, bassist, musical director and producer known for his work with top R&B musical artists,

will offer students insights into the urgency and tenacity that fueled his rise from playing drums as a toddler in his local church to collaborating with some of the biggest names in music and television. Blackstone won his first Grammy Award for best musical theater album for "Hell's Kitchen." Mann, who won a Grammy Award for best gospel performance/song, will participate in the

event along with her well-known husband David, an actor and comedian famous for portraying "Mr. Brown" in Tyler Perry's Madea films and "House of Payne." Other celebrity participants include comedian and radio host Rickey Smiley; soft rock band Infinity Song; fashion influencer Jerome Lamaar; and New York's Hot 97 radio personality DJ Suss One, among others.

Each year, Disney Dreamers Academy selects 100 exceptional students from thousands of applicants, who share their personal stories and future aspirations through essay submissions. These Disney Dreamers, along with a parent or guardian, are invited on an all-expenses-paid trip to Walt Disney World in Florida for an inspiring, multi-day experience supported by presenting sponsors Sprite and Delta Air Lines as well as participating sponsors AdventHealth, Zero-G, Dolby and the Orlando Magic. This program reflects Disney's dedication to supporting high school students from varying backgrounds and communities and empowering the next generation to think big and pursue their dreams. Since its inception in 2008, Disney Dreamers Academy has inspired over 1,700 students from all over the country, opening doors to endless possibilities as they embark on their future paths. Many graduates have gone on to become storytellers, artists, engineers, innovators, journalists, and more, with some even returning as mentors to guide the next generation of Dreamers. For more information, visit DisneyDreamersAcademy.com. Regular updates about Disney Dreamers Academy are also available at Facebook.com/Dis-

neyDreamersAcademy and Instagram.com/disneydreamersacademy. ABC's Emmy Award winning comedy "Abbott Elementary" airs Wednesdays at 8:30pm on ABC, next day on Hulu. About Disney Dreamers Academy Established in 2008 at Walt Disney World Resort, Disney Dreamers Academy's mission is to inspire high school students from varying backgrounds and communities nationwide to dream beyond imagination through insightful content from uplifting experts, mentors and sponsors. Each year,100 high school students are awarded a trip to Walt Disney World Resort in Florida to experience this five-day immersive and transformational program. For more information, visit DisneyDreamersAcademy.com, or follow on social media at Facebook.com/DisneyDreamersAcademy and Instagram.com/disneydreamersacademy/. www.DisneyDreamersAcademy.com @DisneyDreamersAcademy @DreamersAcademy #ddaDisney #Be100

Jurassic Quest, North America’s biggest dinosaur, event makes annual visit to Memphis on April 11-13; Tickets now on sale

Visit the age of the dinosaurs when the continent’s most popular and scientifically accurate prehistoric adventure comes to Agricenter International Expo Center

MEMPHIS, Tenn.- March 19, 2025 – North America’s most popular interactive dinosaur event Jurassic Quest® has been thrilling millions of guests for over 10 years, and area families will soon get the chance to walk among the nation’s most scientifically accurate tour with the biggest herd of photorealistic dinosaurs when it visits the Agricenter International Expo Center April 11-13!

Jurassic Quest provides unforgettable adventure, transporting families through 165 million years of the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods to roam among true-to-life versions of the creatures that once ruled the Earth. Loved by millions, Jurassic Quest is filled with the most hands-on activities, educational and fun event for families of all ages: •Lifelike, scientifically accurate dinosaur herd (some move and roar!) •REAL fossils like T-Rex teeth, a triceratops horn and much more •Live dinosaur shows all day & meet baby dinos!

•The largest rideable dinosaurs in North America •Interactive science and art activities including a giant fossil dig •Dino rides, bounce houses and inflatable attractions •“Triceratots” soft play area for junior explorers •Photo opportunities, face painting, and more! Additional Tour Highlights for 2025: Catch the one-of-a-kind interactive Raptor Training Experience regularly throughout the day, meet and pet the sweet interactive baby dinosaurs hatched only at Jurassic Quest: Cammie the Camarasaurus, Tyson the T-Rex, and Trixie the

Triceratops. Take your family on “The Quest,” a self-guided scavenger hunt-style activity where budding paleontologists can become Jr. Park Rangers, and learn all about the dinosaurs and time periods with the help of a fun and fact-filled video tour. The Jurassic Quest Herd: Jurassic Quest works in collaboration with leading paleontologists to ensure each dinosaur is painstakingly replicated in every detail, from coloration to teeth size, to textured skin, fur or feathers, drawing on the latest research about how we understand dinosaurs looked and moved. From the towering T.rex to the

sky-scraping Spinosaurus to learning about lesser-known species, intricate details and lifelike movements provide an unparalleled level of realism that captivates children and adults alike. From the largest predators to playful baby dinos, dinosaurs are grouped in realistic scenes with others in their eras, allowing guests to experience them as they were when they roamed Earth millions of years ago. TICKETS & LOGISTICS Advance purchase online is recommended to ensure desired date and availability at www.jurassicquest.com, or tickets are available on-site.

Admission: Tickets available online (Save 15% with promo code QUEST15) GENERAL ADMISSION includes access to the dinosaur exhibits, arts and crafts activities, and live dinosaur shows. KIDS ULTIMATE TICKETS are the best value for ages 2-10, adding unlimited access to stationery and walking dinosaur rides, fossil dig, and inflatable attractions (individual tickets also available on-site). Note: maximum weight for rides is 140lbs. Guests can walk through the dinosaur experience at their own pace, and strollers are permitted. Free entry for chil-

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