

Michaela Angela Davis

An expert cultural critic and writer, Michaela Angela Davis has been exploring the power of urban style, race, gender, and hip-hop for nearly two decades.

Having begun her career under the mentorship of Susan L. Taylor at the incredibly successful *Essence*, Davis went on to become founding fashion director at Vibe, and later editor-in-chief of *Honey*, a premiere magazine for 18 to 34-year-old urban women that, under her editorship, was the number one growing women's title at the time.

Over the years, Davis became known for her insightful perceptions and seasoned opinions, penning fashion and culture commentary for publications in the US and worldwide. A stylist to such celebrity icons as Mary J. Blige, Oprah, Prince, and Donald Trump, Davis was often consulted on film and television sets for her fashion forward sense and intuition.

Her interests went further than fashion, however, as she maintained a close pulse on the developing urban culture and its roles and influence in society today. Perhaps best known for her work with Take Back the Music, Davis founded the initiative to promote the next generation of the hip-hop movement to focus on the musical value of the genre instead of the negative, often sexist attitudes that are so prevalent now.

A dynamic woman known for her insightful perceptions of popular culture, Davis is currently developing "Urbanista," a multi-media platform she dreamt up to address the lack of publications, resources, and media outlets dedicated to urban influenced women. Also devoted to several philanthropic efforts, she serves on the board of Black Girls Rock!, ImageNation, The Brooklyn Community Arts and Media High School, and conducts her own monthly career-mentoring program, Salon de Shine.