



MEDIA ADVISORY*MEDIA ADVISORY***MEDIA ADVISORY***MEDIA ADVISORY**

**“The year of the Super Hero” says The Office of African American Male Achievement
Oakland’s African American men and boys problem solve community issues using
creativity as their superpower.**

What: Consistent attacks on Black men and boys in America have inspired a movement to awaken the power within our youth and communities. The Office of African American Male Achievement (AAMA) joined forces with Artesteem to address destructive issues at home and abroad as a part of their “Self as Super Hero” themed 11th Bi-Annual ManUp! Conference. Youth ages 7 to 18 will develop a superhero symbol offering solutions to local community problems, which will be unveiled January 15, 2016 at the FOX Theater. AAMA will close the day with their signature workshops led by talented African American men from Oakland Unified School District. Grades 2-12 are welcome, with a half-day for grades two to five. Food and t-shirts will be provided. To register, visit <http://www.ousd.org/aama>.

Where: Oakland High School
1023 MacArthur Blvd.
Oakland, CA 94610

When: Saturday, October 3, 2015 - 8:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Who: Oakland Unified School District students, AAMA Manhood Development Program instructors, community members, The Bay Area Chapter of 100 Black Men members, San Francisco Bay Area Morehouse Alumni College Association, Kumi Rauf of I love Being Black, and Attitudinal Healing Connection, with additional speakers and guests:

- **Christopher P. Chatmon**, Executive Director of the African American Male Achievement Department, Oakland Unified School District
- **Artesteem**, Art and Literacy Program
- **Demont ‘Peekaso’ Pinder**, Visual Artist
- **Black Sheroes**, Performance Art Troupe

Contact: Credentialed news media are invited to attend. Send RSVP and interview request to Tanara Haynes prior to the event at [510.879.4618](tel:510.879.4618) or Tanara.Haynes@ousd.org.

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*Since 2010, OUSD has made explicit and systematic attempts to improve the fortunes of black males, highlighted by the creation of the **Office of African-American Male Achievement (AAMA)**, a department devoted to fostering practices that accelerate the development of African-American boys. Many of its initiatives are designed to impact the issue, which received the most scrutiny in a recent Urban Strategies report—disproportionate suspension rates for black males. A tremendous amount of work remains in this area, but OUSD has implemented a series of measures to help reverse a trend, which limits the potential of not only black youth, but also the Oakland community as a whole.*