Johnny “Slin-K” Brownlee II

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2. **Title:** Getting in our own Way: The Degradation of Student Organizations

3. **Category:** Informational / Motivational

4. **Format:** Lecture / Discussion

5. **Technical Equipment Request:** none
"Slin-K" is a young man from Pompano Beach, Florida, who fell in love with Hip Hop and poetry before he was old enough to hold a mic or write. Affectionately called Slin-K “The Renaissance Man” by professional colleagues, because he does so many things well and has a diverse array of knowledge and experiences. He is a creative and complex poet, known and respected in national poetry circles. He has opened for and shared stages with a number of nationally known acts the likes of (Taalam Acey, Black Ice, Asia, Devin T. Robinson X, Will Da Real One (R.I.P.), Desiree, Rebecca Butterfly Vaughns, Dana Gilmore, Shihan, Gina Loring, Jawon Johnson, and Poetri just to name a few). He's the former host, feature and house poet for FAU’s Black Student Union’s Urban Hang Suite.

A graduate of Florida Atlantic University, he is a ghostwriter, contributor, and blogger for a number of internet sites and magazines, for hip-hop and relationship articles. He is also a speaker, social commentator and workshop presenter. He has held numerous jobs in the entertainment industry, hosted numerous workshops, lectures, forums, participated in panel discussions and spoken at conferences and schools, in regards to entertainment, media, music business and various other social and cultural issues. Most notably the Florida Caribbean Student Association Conference, Big XII Conference for Black Student Government, National Black Student Union Conference, etc.

He has held a number of leadership positions in various organizations, school and statewide. The Former Director of FAU’s former agency Black Student Union & Multicultural Programming, while in college he helped create and develop programs and events, and continually fights for student rights and multicultural rights, while actively being involved in a number of clubs and organizations. He often speaks on student involvement, community involvement, leadership and civic engagement. He is the cofounder of the Men Molding Men and Always Be A Lady tutoring networks for young men and young ladies and a part of the MLK Celebration Committee for the City of Fort Lauderdale.
Why this proposed workshop should be presented?
All around the country many of our student organizations are suffering from a lack of funds, participation, care and involvement. There seems to be a civil war between old school and new school members, because our organizations are resulting to harmful and drastic measure that go against the purpose and principles on which the organizations were founded. Particularly important for students because student organizations, traditionally have been and have the potential to be more than just clubs, but agents of social, cultural and historical change, and institutions on our campuses and communities.
Abstract

Getting in our own Way: The Degradation of Student Organizations:
Across the nation our student organizations are struggling and student governments are struggling. Many seem to be on their last leg, past their prime, etc. Organizations don’t have the activism and sacrifice of students from the 60’s and 70’s, drive of the 80’s, survival skills of the 90’s or money and participation of orgs form the early 2000’s. We seek to see if it’s a generational problem or are other factor the problem

Session goal:
To figure out what factors are currently costing us members, stability, funding, involvement and respect of our former members, founders, elders and in some cases our institutions. We aim to find out is it a generational problem, educational, or do we take the power, prestige, and responsibility of student organizations and student involvement for granted. We’ll also identify 6 major problems facing our organizations and learn to identify them and combat them.

Session Outline: (Time can be tailored to conference, event or school specifics)

5 minute - introduction
45-75 minute - lecture/ open discussion
10 minute - wrap up / questions / Give contact information (with permission)