

## Kani flashes fall fashion at A. E. Student Union

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Staff Reporter

Although it was not originally planned and traffic attempted to stifle his visit to North Carolina Central University, fashion designer Karl Kani made it to campus.

As he walked in the student union, a student yells "Central is blowing up. We got Karl Kani."

Quite cordial in his manner, he spoke to students about the business and answered questions from students concerning how to succeed in the fashion industry.

Kani, a 28-year-old New York native, describes those early years in establishing his line of clothing on the streets of New York as extremely difficult.

Despite the ups and downs of being short changed by



Karl Kani stands with Lou Barnes in the Student Union.

investors, and using his shop as an apartment, Kani has arrived, and continues to soar in the fashion world.

The competitive nature of the business has not keep him from hanging with the major fashion designers, Ralph Lauren, Calvin Klein, and

Guess.

Kani said, "Black people need to understand the power that they have in this world. Black people run the garment industry."

John Wallace, the newest member of the New York Knicks, can be seen wearing

the Kani sneaker.

Also, ladies be sure to look out because Kani will soon establish a female clothing line, as well as businessmen attire.

Surprisingly, he did not receive any formal education in fashion design. However, his desire to represent the black fashion community allows him to continuously knock down barriers, and climb to the top.

Kani does encourage the youth to continue their education.

"Sometimes you do pay a price," Kani said in reference to not getting a college degree.

He recently signed a contract with the Hudson Belk company where his clothing will be featured.

His fashions are also featured in the Source and Vibe

magazines, where they are modeled by rapper Nas.

According to Kani marketing staff member Theresa Scott, last year's sales grossed approximately \$59 million.

Scott, who has been with Kani for three years, spoke with students about gaining internships.

"Its been great working with Kani," says Scott.

Joyce Ellis and Minnie Forte, members of the NCCU English Department, tracked Kani down during his promotional tour at a local mall.

They encouraged him to visit the campus and their reason for doing so was quite simple.

"He's a young black male with a vision. He seized an opportunity to excel. He is soaring," Ellis said.

Forte agreed, "He is creative, committed, and conscious."

## Have You Ever...

- ... had more than one sexual partner?
- ... had vaginal or anal intercourse without using a condom?
- ... had oral sex without using a condom or dental dam?
- ... had sex while stoned, high, or drunk and you can't remember any details?

If you answered "YES" to Any One of these questions, you may want to consider taking advantage of the **FREE** and **ANONYMOUS** testing offered by the Student Health Services on **December 2, 1996** in observance of **World AIDS Day!** Testing will take place from **8:30 - 12:00** and from **1:00 - 4:00**.

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