

## BIOGRAPHY



**ILYASAH SHABAZZ** (pronounced ILL-YAH-SAH SHAH-BOZZ) is an author, producer, and motivational speaker, as she lectures to capacity audiences across the United States. Her coming-of-age Random House publication, *Growing Up X*, has won critical acclaim—including nomination for an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Non-Fiction Literary Work, a United Press International book of the week, and a BET.com best book list. She recently completed *Young Malcolm*, a children’s illustration

book slated for a Spring 2012 release with Simon & Schuster Publishings: Atheneum Books.

Ilyasah has served for approximately twelve years in the Entertainment Industry working for the William Morris Agency, TimeWarner Music Group, KEDAR Entertainment, abc’s *All My Children* & *One Life to Live*, and Spike Lee’s *40 acres + a mule* filmworks. She is Executive Producer of a 2010 television pilot, *the ‘X’factor*, a compilation of in-studio and on-location interviews of leaders in Education, Entertainment, Sports and Politics, as well as ordinary citizens making a difference in their communities. Ilyasah is a Project Advisor for the PBS award-winning *Prince Among Slaves* documentary, and serves on the New York City Opera’s Artistic Committee.

Ilyasah organized training programs to encourage higher education for innercity at-risk youth for the City University of New York Office of Academic Affairs. She served twelve years on the Executive Youth Board for the City of Mount Vernon Office of the Mayor; and, as Director of Public Relations, Director of Public Affairs & Special Events, and was later promoted to Director of Cultural Affairs. She served as an official member of the United States delegation that accompanied

President Bill Clinton to Capetown, Soweto and Johannesburg, South Africa to commemorate the election of President Nelson Mandela. Shabazz is a mentor for We Are Family Foundation—an organization founded by legendary songwriter/musician/producer Nile Rogers, dedicated to inspire, educate and promote the vision of global family through building bridges between cultures. She continues to mentor at various group homes, lock-up facilities and high schools through production of ***The WAKE-UP Tour™: X-Tra Credit Forums***—her exclusive youth empowerment program.

As a world traveler, Ilyasah **has** retraced her father's footsteps to the Holy City of Mecca. She explored religious and historical sites in Egypt and in Jordan as the guest of Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Hussein. Ilyasah has participated in Interfaith dialogue study programs under Rabbi Nancy Kreimer and Dr. Aziza Al Hibri. Ilyasah served as a member of the American Interfaith Leadership delegation that participated with Malaria No More Foundation to provide 2 million bed nets, ultimately saving the lives of 95% at-risk children in Mali, West Africa. Ilyasah is honorary Co-Chair of *All For Africa*, a campaign which aims to plant 1 million oil palm trees on 17,000 acres of land to 'knockout poverty'. She is trustee of the *Malcolm X & Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center* and the *Malcolm X Foundation*.

Ilyasah Shabazz holds a Masters of Science in Education & Human Resource Development and a Bachelors of Science in Biology. **For further information, please visit [www.ilyasahshabazz.com](http://www.ilyasahshabazz.com)**