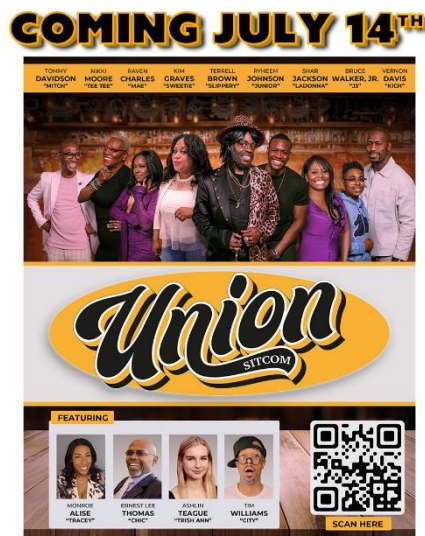


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
July 13, 2023

CONTACT:
Michelle M. Bailey (202) 702-6404 | michelle.bailey1@dc.gov

The Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment announces the "Union" world premiere July 14th exclusively on Streaming Platform DCE

OCTFME launches its first scripted series featuring all-star appearances by Tommy Davidson, Earnest Thomas, Shar Jackson, Vernon Davis, and DC based creatives.



Washington, DC) - The Office of Cable Television, Film, Music, and Entertainment (OCTFME) is thrilled to announce the highly anticipated premiere of the pilot for the original scripted series "Union" on Friday, July 14. The premiere will be available for streaming exclusively on the free global platform DCE (District of Columbia Entertainment), bringing a delightful blend of comedy and local talent to audiences worldwide.

Set in the heart of Northeast Washington, "Union" was filmed at the iconic Union District Oyster Bar and is one of the first sitcoms about a bar filmed in an actual, operating bar. The debut of boasts industry veterans, along with a stellar cast of talented local creatives to deliver an entertaining and engaging viewing experience. It promises to deliver a fresh and hilarious take on life in Washington, DC showcasing the unique charm, humor, fellowship and diverse perspectives of the local community. Through its engaging characters, relatable storylines, and top-notch performances, the pilot aims to captivate audiences worldwide, highlighting the rich cultural tapestry of the region.



“Union stands as a testament to Washington, DC solidifying its position as a prime destination for original content production. The involvement of top actors, athletes and award-winning producers exemplifies the immense talent and creativity attracted to our vibrant city,” says **LaToya Foster**, OCTFME Director. “At OCTFME, we are incredibly proud of our talented OCTFME production team and the DC creatives who have made OCTFME history in bringing Union, our first scripted series, to life.”

Emmy-award winning actor and comedian Tommy Davidson, known for his memorable roles in "Proud Family" and "In Living Color," brings his comedic genius and infectious energy to the “Union.” Also joining Tommy and the cast to create must-see moments on screen is veteran actor **Earnest Thomas**, affectionately known as Roger “Raj” in the classic sitcom "What's Happening!!," and "Everybody Hates Chris." Additionally, talented actress and singer **Shar Jackson**, known for her role as "Niecey" in the popular sitcom Moesha, adds her charm and charisma to the show. And two-time pro bowler and Super Bowl champion **Vernon Davis** formerly of the San Francisco 49ers, Denver Broncos, and Washington Commanders, is also a star player as a member of the “Union” ensemble cast.

Union District Oyster Bar owner and President /CEO of District Union Films, Russell Webster is visionary creator and executive producer who brought the project to **Bruce Walker**, OCTFME Associate Director of Television and Entertainment. As co-executive producer on the project, Walker says, “We have been fortunate to form a highly creative team to create a show that captures the essence of our city and the people that make D.C. so authentic. Union is not just another sitcom, it is a celebration of human connections, shared experiences and the power of laughter. This production gave DC creatives the chance to work and grow their careers with established actors, and a renowned director, producer and writer who have years of experience in the sitcom world!”

Bill Boulware, an award-winning producer, screenwriter and the co-creator of hit series “227,” “The Parkers,” “The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air” and many more hit series, serves as head writer for "Union," infusing his seasoned storytelling skills into the show. Highly talented, award- winning director **Chuck Vinson** was an indispensable part of the crew, providing his talent as a director on Union. Vinson is best known for his work as a director on a variety of hit shows including “The Cosby Show,” “Sister to Sister,” “Living Single,” “The Steve Harvey Show,” and a several comedy specials!

HOW TO WATCH “UNION”:

To access the DCE global streaming network, visit Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV or Roku and download the channel. Also available on mobile through iPhone or Android by downloading DCE TV or DCE Network via the App Store. Watch Anytime, Anywhere.



SCAN ME
TO WATCH DCE
ON THE WEB



DOWNLOAD
THE APP FOR
(ANDROID OR APPLE)



About OCTFME

The Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment (OCTFME), an award-winning District of Columbia Government agency, leads the city's extensive efforts to build and support a sustainable film, music, and entertainment creative economy and labor market. Additionally, OCTFME serves as the city's cable television service provider regulator and as the customer service hub for cable subscribers.

OCTFME's extensive portfolio includes:

- The District's government cable access channels [District Council Channel](#) (DCC), the [District of Columbia Network](#) (DCN), and the [District Knowledge Network](#) (DKN)
- [DC Radio](#) (96.3 HD4), OCTFME's owned and operated digital radio station, in partnership with Howard University's WHUR.
- [District of Columbia Entertainment Network](#) (DCE), OCTFME's 24-hour streaming platform available worldwide on ROKU, Apple TV, and Amazon Fire TV as well as iPhone and Android mobile devices (download the DCE Network App or at [DCENetwork.com](#)).
- The handling of all of the District's filmmaker production needs including **permits, city services, and logistical support**, job placement assistance, workforce development and the [DC Film, Television, and Entertainment Rebate Fund](#) (DC Rebate Fund).
- Providing additional support to the creative community through the [Creative Affairs Office](#) (CAO) and [Mayor Muriel Bowser Presents: 202Creates](#) initiative. CAO showcases and preserves the District of Columbia's rich creative communities throughout all 8 Wards.

For more on OCTFME: (202) 671-0066 or www.entertainment.dc.gov. Follow OCTFME on [Facebook.com/entertaindc](https://www.facebook.com/entertaindc), [Instagram.com/entertain_dc](https://www.instagram.com/entertain_dc), [Twitter.com/entertain_dc](https://twitter.com/entertain_dc) and [TikTok/entertain_dc](https://www.tiktok.com/entertain_dc).

###