



ASK DEANNA! Real People, Real Advice

Ask Deanna! is an advice column known for its fearless approach to reality-based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

I've spent quite a bit of money on dates and dining trying to get a relationship but I get nothing in return. I try to hold on to chivalry and follow the rules on dates. I'm a perfect gentleman at the movies, at dinner and I pay for everything. I'm tired and now feel that women need to get with the program and spend as well. I'm tired of watching other men do the same. How do I let a woman know I want to date her but I'm not willing to part with my money too soon?

Roger
Atlanta, GA

Dear Roger:

If you're complaining then it's obvious you're trying to be impressive by spending money you don't have. If "getting something" drives your motivation for dinner and dating then you got what you deserved. Nothing. You should lead by example. Before your next date, have a money discussion and determine who's paying or if you'll go. It's none of your business how other men spend their money, and you shouldn't hate the player or the game.

Dear Deanna!

My 20-year-old daughter had been living with her dad and his wife. He informed her that she would have to move out at the end of year so she didn't pay her car payment for two months. She has a job but her car got repossessed. And although I'm in a bad place myself with two minor daughters, I tried to support her. My daughter is now angry with me, which is making me feel guilty. Am I wrong to feel guilty about my daughter's situation?

Anonymous
Los Angeles, CA

Dear Anonymous:

Your husband had the right idea of making your daughter responsible. At age 20, there's no excuse for not paying her own bills; so losing the car is her fault. As a mother, you feel her pain; as an adult, you have to allow her to mature, make mistakes and grow up. Realize that your daughter is an adult while you focus on the small kids. On another note, your daughter should be in college so she can become independent and eventually not rely on anyone for financial support.

Dear Deanna!

I'm a young man and I'm saved. I love the Lord with all my heart but now I realize that the temptation of the flesh is making me weak. I was sexually active before my walk of faith and now I feel as if I'm going to slip into fornication again. How do I stay strong with this and not give in to this sinful pleasure?

Douglas
Omaha, NE

Dear Douglas:

The act of celibacy requires prayer and divine intervention from above. This is a worldly sin that can't be conquered alone by man. Pray for steadfast guidance and determination to abstain from sex as you strive in faith to guard your temple until you have a wife. There will certainly be some rough days and long nights, but that's always better than sacrificing your salvation for lust of the flesh.

Write: Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211 Website: www.askdeanna.com.

Apollo Theater to get oral history

NEW YORK (AP) — Columbia University and the Apollo Theater Foundation plan to create an oral history of the famed Harlem theater that launched the careers of Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson and other music legends.

The Apollo Theater Oral History Project will feature interviews with performers as well as cultural figures and politicians who helped make Harlem one of the nation's most vibrant communities.

Planned as part of the landmark theater's 75th anniversary in 2009, the project is scheduled to be completed in 2010 and will include an online component. The audio and video archive will be housed at Columbia and open to the public a year later.

"We want to document the Apollo's legacy and its place in American popular culture and African-American history and music," said



Ella Fitzgerald

foundation president Jonelle Procope. "It allows us to begin talking to a range of people who were connected to the Apollo and its history."

Among the 30 to 40 people who will be interviewed for the project are Leslie Uggams, Fred Wesley and Robinson.

Uggams, a Broadway and TV actress and singer, won a Tony Award in 1968 for best actress in a musical for "Hallelujah, Baby!" She just finished an off-Broadway run in "First Breeze of Summer."

Procope said Uggams began performing at the Apollo at age 8 and grew up in the



Leslie Uggams

theater. "She can talk about what it was like behind the scenes and who else was there," Procope said.

Robinson, lead singer of the Miracles in the 1960s and 1970s with such hits as "You've Really Got a Hold on Me" and "The Tears of a Clown," was inducted into the Apollo Legends Hall of Fame this year. His early performances there showed "you had to be at the top of your game," Procope said.

Wesley performed at the Apollo as recently as May. The jazz and funk trombonist is known for transforming the music of James Brown

and the Count Basie Orchestra, and arranging for such artists as Ray Charles and Lionel Hampton.

The Apollo is "the living legacy of the Harlem Renaissance — an enduring beacon of hope and vitality in our times," said Mary Marshall Clark, director of Columbia's Oral History Research Office, which will produce the project with the foundation. The project will include an educational program for public school children.

Earlier this year, the Apollo launched the creation of an archive of historic documents, photographs and other memorabilia.

The Apollo for many years struggled financially amid rumors of sweetheart deals and dubious bookkeeping. In 1991, the Apollo Theater Foundation was founded to operate the theater, which is owned by the state. A \$96 million capital campaign to renovate and expand the theater is currently under way.

Union

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contract with Perry's production company, "House of Payne." The company produces "House of Payne" and the upcoming TBS show "Meet the Browns." No contract has been signed.

Reportedly, Perry's attorney, Matt Johnson, said that the four were fired because of poor work performance. Griffin, Moore, Brown-Jackson and Ferrell had worked on more than 100 episodes of Perry's series, now syndicated on FOX. The three remaining writers were asked to stay on, and two did.

"Up to that point, we wrote 100 episodes of 'House of Payne,' said Ferrell, who was fired on his 3 year-old son's birthday. "The show won three Image Awards last year — one, for the best comedy on television, and we just had a 'table read' in Atlanta with Tyler Perry and the actors. We got a standing ovation on the scripts we wrote, and his exact words were, 'These are golden!' This was just a week ago. So that was just totally ridiculous and absurd that it was because of our work.

"And logically, it doesn't make sense. You wouldn't hire people and let them write 100 episodes for you... TBS was so pleased with the show that they gave him another 26 episodes. So he brings us back to write the rest of the

126 episodes. We wrote 16 of them, and then all of a sudden he's not pleased with our work? That just doesn't make sense."

While Johnson stated on behalf of the company, "We continue to work toward a resolution of their contract," Ferrell accuses his former employer of actively seeking retribution.

"The day after he fired us,

they called the Writer's Guild and wanted to go union," Ferrell disclosed. "He fired us Monday, and wanted to go union Tuesday morning. So basically, he's just throwing it in our face(s) saying, 'OK. You guys brought this to me — trying to make me go union. So I'm going to go union so I can avoid all the flack, but I'm going to fire you, so you

won't receive any of the benefits from it."

The WGA has filed unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board, claiming the four were fired unjustly and that Perry's company bargained in bad faith.

Kimberly C. Roberts writes for the Philadelphia Tribune, The Hollywood Reporter also contributed.



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

DRESSED TO IMPRESS

Potential customers examine a Rohini Bedi design during the Nancy Justice and A Link To Fashion Trunk Show at the Four Seasons Hotel in Las Vegas. International fashion designer Rohini specializes in infusing American taste with her India heritage to design formal and wedding clothing.