National Coalition on Black Civic Participation’s UNITY ’08 program is designed to invigorate the electoral process and to ignite a new movement of civic engagement, social responsibility, community spirit and cultural expansion in the Black community. This renaissance in the Black vote must come from the institutions rooted within the community which have the most influence in affecting civic behavior –the Black church, Black newspapers and radio stations, civic groups, historically black colleges and small black businesses, hip hop activists, labor and grassroots organizers, young professionals and you.

Join UNITY ’08 Today!

☐ Yes, I want to get involved with UNITY ’08 in my community. Count Me In! Please send me more information on how I can volunteer.

☐ Yes, I will make a donation to the UNITY ’08 Voter Empowerment Campaign

Your UNITY ’08 donation will help us to:

- Register new Black voters
- Engage Black youth to register and vote in the 2008 election
- Mobilize the Black community to turnout in record numbers on November 4th
- Recruit and train volunteers to serve as poll workers and monitors to help protect voters on Election Day
- Protect voters by expanding services on the UNITY ’08 Voter Assistance Hotline 1-866-MYVOTE1
- Conduct Exit Poll to report Black voter turnout and voting rights problems

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Organization

Phone

Mobile

E-mail

Donation

*Here’s my donation of:

☐ $25  ☐ $50  ☐ $75  ☐ $100  ☐ $250  ☐ $500  ☐ $1000  ☐ Other $__________

*Unity ’08 is a program of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation is a 501©3 non-partisan, non-profit organization. Your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For more information on NCBCP or to make a donation online visit our website: www.blackcampaign.org

Please make checks payable to: National Coalition on Black Civic Participation

1900 L Street, NW, Suite # 700

Washington, D.C 20036

Credit card contributions are also accepted. Please check one: ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express

Credit Card Number__________________________  Expiration Date__________________________

For more information on UNITY ’08 or National Coalition on Black Civic Participation please call 202 659-4929 or visit www.blackcampaign.org
The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP) is a 501c3, non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to increasing Black civic engagement and voter participation. NCBCP was founded on May 6, 1976. For thirty-two (32) years, the NCBCP, through its member organizations, state and local affiliates, and strategic partners, has served as an effective convener and facilitator at the local, state and national levels of efforts to address the disenfranchisement of African Americans and other marginalized communities through civic engagement.

UNITY '08 is a unified, non-partisan, national civic engagement and voter empowerment program of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP). NCBCP consists of over 80 of the nation's most powerful organizations, 12 state-based NCBCP affiliates and partners joining forces to make history in the 2008 Election. Representing a membership base of close to 15 million people, Unity '08 is determined to increase Black voter turnout and make sure each vote is counted on Election Day.

UNITY '08 GOALS

1. Registering thousands of new voters nationwide
2. Increasing Black voter turnout
3. Expanding the Black electorate by increasing the youth, women, immigrant and formerly incarcerated vote
4. Educating national, state and local candidates about issues important to our communities.
5. Reducing Election Day voter disenfranchisement through aggressive registration verification, voter protection, and voter preparation public awareness campaign.
UNITY ’08 TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

UNITY ’08 Highlights
UNITY ’08 Takes It To The Streets!.... registering voters, bringing the community’s issues to the forefront of the 2008 Election -- in town hall meetings, Economic Forums, BYV Justice Speakouts, rallies, Presidential debate watch parties, Power of the Sister Vote events and other activities educating voters on the issues, their voting rights, and motivating them to vote on Election Day!

In the 2008 South Carolina, Alabama and Georgia Primaries, Jeff Johnson hosted BYV! Justice Speakouts at Historically Black Colleges and Universities to engage young people on the issues and how to take action at the polls on Election Day.

During the 2008 Primary election, Texas Black Youth Vote and students at Prairie View A&M University protest the removal of their on-campus voting poll location by marching 7.2 miles to the new poll location to vote on the first day of early vote.

Unity ’08 Pittsburgh Coalition sponsored a packed house Presidential Debate Watch party during the PA primary. Hill Harper stopped by and participated in the discussion.

Unity ’08 Power of the Sister Vote event hosted by Bev Smith and Susan Taylor inspired and motivated Black women leaders in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia to register and get-out-the-vote in their respective communities.

Coalition Building and Training is Key to UNITY ’08 Success...
National Coalition on Black Civic Participation expands field capacity in 13 key states hiring state & local directors and Black Youth Vote! organizers in AL, FL, GA, IL, LA, MI, MO, MS, NC, OH, PA, TX, and VA.

Inaugural Operation Big Vote Training Academy in New Orleans with leaders and activists from National Urban League, AFL-CIO, People’s Agenda, CBTU and APRI among others.
“Vote First” is a new Get-Out-To-Vote (GOTV) strategy for the Unity ‘08 Campaign that urges Black voters to early vote, vote absentee and go to the polls early on November 4th. NCBCP Unity ‘08 Campaign has enlisted political satirist and comedian Shang to spread the word.

Shang’s involvement and leadership will spearhead, “Vote First” a grassroots movement geared toward the hip hop generation urging African Americans to vote early. “In this historic election there will be long lines, major drama at the polls, and we all know the voting machines always break down in the ‘hood,” explains the boisterous comic. “There are a lot of people that would like to suppress the black vote. The games to prevent us from voting have already started. Imagine their disappointment when black folks flip the script and show up early instead of waiting until the last day to vote.”

As Melanie L. Campbell, executive director and CEO of NCBCP, points out, “Voting early will reduce problems at the polls. We’re encouraging people to find out the first day to vote in their state. Some states start early or absentee voting at the beginning of October. In states that do not allow early voting, we’re urging the black community to be among the first in line to cast a ballot. Shang’s involvement will help to get the word out to black youth, they listen to comedians, rappers, and radio hosts.”

The NCBCP is reaching out to the public and black media to get the “Vote First” message to the masses. In addition to radio public service announcements available for airing, the organization has web banners, church fans, and other materials promoting early voting. They’re also urging voters to join one of the marches to the polls being coordinated across the country by churches, civic organizations, individuals, fraternities and sororities on the first day of early voting.

Shang adds, The black community made it happen in Jena. If 40,000 Black people could drive thousands of miles into the middle of nowhere to free the Jena Six, every eligible black voter should be able to make it to their local polling place to change America. Yes y’all, we can overcome, and we can do it by Voting First! – vote early, vote absentee or go early to the polls on November 4th.”

Before you go to the Polls:

1. **VERIFY** your Registration Status BEFORE Election Day – Make sure you are listed on the registration roll by calling your **local Board of Elections**.

2. **VERIFY** your polling location before **ELECTION** Day. Call **1-866-MYVOTE1** (1-866-698-6831).

3. **BRING YOUR I.D. Don’t Leave Home Without It!** To be safe, bring your voter registration card, driver’s license, government issued photo ID. If you have problems voting call **Election Protection @ 1-866-OUR-VOTE**.

4. **VERIFY** the date and location to vote early or absentee in your state @ [www.blackcampaign.org](http://www.blackcampaign.org) then **VOTE FIRST!**

5. **Be a part of history – VOTE FIRST!** – After you cast your ballot, text “blackyouthvote” to 69302.

**DON’T LEAVE YOUR POLLING PLACE WITHOUT VOTING. VOTE NOV. 4, 2008**