



America's Black Forum Episode Synopsis

Episode Number: 23-16
Week of February 2, 2026

This week on **America's Black Forum**:

Blacks and Dementia

A study recently published by the Journal of the American Medical Association suggests that the brains of Black people age faster than those of other races, leading to earlier symptoms of **dementia and Alzheimer's**. We speak to experts who share their thoughts on the study, as well as how lifestyle changes and preventative care could help slow the decline.

Black Beauty Collective

The beauty industry is a highly competitive one making emerging business owners work even harder to just be seen. And while Black brands make up only 2.5 percent of revenue in the beauty industry, Black consumers are responsible for 11.1 percent of total beauty spending. **The Black Beauty Collective** (online and storefront) was started by **Leslie Roberson**, a Chicago woman that wanted to make it easier for consumers to discover specifically black-owned brands for hair and beauty.

Tennessee's Black Owned Hotel

As the only black hotel owners in Tennessee, Dr. Amina James and Norland James created history. Despite having to overcome numerous obstacles, including bigotry and discrimination, they have established themselves as trailblazers in the hospitality sector thanks to their tenacity and persistence. Their hotel serves as a symbol of their dedication to quality, drawing visitors from many backgrounds who value their kind hospitality. As pioneers, they promote inclusiveness and diversity in the sector, opening doors for other black business owners.