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<http://www.bushflash.com/thanks.html>

On the Cover:

Time Seed I, watercolor, by artist Charles Mingus III, is from his *Mandalas* series, painted in the early 1980s. Mr. Mingus's work has been shown in group exhibitions and one-man shows in New York City and throughout metropolitan area and the state; in New Jersey, Chicago, and in Tokyo, Matsumoto, Fukushima and Tajimi City, Japan.

Visit: www.charlesmingus3.com

**Response to Feature Article
by Archon James H. Johnson, Jr.,
Alpha Tau Boulé**

**"Economic Globalization and
the Future of Black America"**

I read Archon Johnson's feature article in THE BOULÉ JOURNAL (winter 2005) with great enthusiasm, absorbing his philosophical and well-documented thesis that the momentum of economic globalization has not only stunted the pursuit of prosperity for African Americans, but is also having, in an eerie way, hurricane-like and tsunami-like impacts on the stability of the African American family. When breadwinners, either male or female, find that traditional routes to gaining strong footholds for permanent jobs are permanently closed because comparatively better access to raw materials, fossil fuels and human resources is found outside of the United States, then globalization can be compared to Katrina, Rita and all other natural disasters. The immediacy of the devastation of a natural disaster may be more profound, but the end result is no less intense: The economic ground underneath the feet of black people has been shaken, is shifting and may not solidify unless we take prescriptions like those recommended by Archon Johnson.

By way of this response, I am volunteering to work with Archon Johnson and others to establish the "boot camps" he outlines. I have the distinct honor – and responsibility – to have served as a lifetime member and a past national president of the National Black MBA Association, Inc., and I currently serve as president of Edison Charter Schools. Edison Schools was founded in 1992 and is the nation's leading partner with public schools and school districts seeking to provide a world-class education for all children. Edison students are achiev-

ing annual academic gains well above national norms. From my unique position, and in partnership with Archon Johnson, our respective boulés, and the NBMBAA and other business organizations, I believe that we can create effective curricula that will train the next generations of entrepreneurs through already established K – 12 "distribution channels" (e.g., charter and public schools). I can easily foresee that Edison's thirty-five charter schools, attended by a predominance of African American children, could be pilot sites for this agenda. Let us begin today. I will reach out to Archon Johnson to start the dialogue.

I am also convinced that in light of the article's suggestion that business plan competitions "should provide a national forum for aspiring entrepreneurs," Sigma Pi Phi and other fraternal organizations should seriously consider funding those winning ideas and putting collective force and weight behind them. Imagine the wave of success that would emanate from local boulés as they leverage their spending and investing powers to support those new technologies and businesses, bolstering the dreams of African American innovators and risk-takers. There is no doubt that we have sufficient elements to begin our own form of economic globalization: the practice of producing goods and services consumed in the U.S. ... but made for accelerating the regeneration of African American well being.

Fraternally,

Archon Leroy D. Nunery II
Alpha Boulé

