



THE FLOW 2006



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CANDACE BLAKE - A SHOE IN FOR SUCCESS

Candace Blake's love for stylish footwear escalated while she was employed at Nine West. "I am such a critic when it comes to shoes, I either like it or I don't," the New York native says. "When viewing the shoes in Nine West's showroom or when I was out shopping, I would look at each shoe and think about what would make the shoes look even better."

After Blake started sketching designs for fun, the compliments on the fun, yet fashionable styles began pouring in. After receiving such favorable responses, Blake says she made up her mind to pursue her own namesake line of chic footwear.

"I knew that I could express myself through my shoes," the 24-year-old designer says. "I might not have that freedom working for another designer. Besides, I did have my goal to be an entrepreneur. What better company would there be for me to run than a shoe company with my own line of shoes?"

"I am a young African-American female and I have dreams and goals for myself. I never wanted to just have dreams though," she says. "I am the type of person that works hard to get what I want."

The persistence and hard work paid off with Blake's debut launch of feminine, corporate-savvy footwear that easily converts from power boardroom meetings to after-work cocktails with girlfriends. Already on back-order, the collection consisted of sexy high-heel leather and suede pumps and tailored leather boots.

"Success to me is setting goals and paths for myself and then constantly working to achieve them regardless of the obstacles that come my way. It means constantly reaching for the top without giving up."

In the near future, customers can purchase Blake's collection online. For more information, visit CandaceBlake.com.

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