

I AM my Sista's Keeper

Sista's Keeper

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Sistas Support The Cause

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Talented Teen Contestants

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Zendaya

Shake It Up! star
talks her new
album & book

*Gratitude
Issue*

- Sistas tell us what they are THANKFUL for



Shakin' It Up

Disney star **Zendaya** is ready to take the next step in her career. Fresh off the hit shows, *Shake It Up* and *Dancing With the Stars*, she has released a self-titled debut album.

Zendaya wants you to know that she is just a regular girl like you. Her self-titled debut album is a reflection of that: she wants to connect with her fans through her music and show that she is real and relatable.

The singer/dancer/actress, who just turned 17 in September, has been inspired by the great entertainers like Michael Jackson and Beyonce.

Dancing With The Stars

Earlier this year, Zendaya competed on the ABC hit show *Dancing With the Stars* and eventually came in second place.

She says that her experience on was the hardest thing that she has ever had to do.

"It was both physically and mentally challenging because ballroom dancing was something that I had never done before," she says.

"It helped me develop a real work ethic so I'm proud of my performance."

That experience also brought her an all-new and wide range of fans. "I used to just have the young kids as fans, but because of *DWTS*, I now have parents and grandparents who are fans of mine," she says.

She Loves The Arts

Zendaya has always had a passion for the arts and says that she can't see herself doing anything else.

"It's a give and take type of thing when it comes to my high school experience," she says.

"I may miss school dances and homecomings but I'm also doing something that I love and getting to travel and sing. Not many kids my age can say that."

Rhythmic Pop

Zendaya's self-titled debut album was released in September and calls her genre of music "rhythmic pop"...a mix of hip hop/ R&B and pop.

"I did a lot of co-writing on this album and the songs are tailor-made to fit me, my voice and my style," she says.

"This is my music so my album sounds like me because it comes directly from me. I'm not singing

what someone put in front of me. I have the input on what I will be singing for the rest of my life."

Zendaya credits her parents, who have always been supportive of and nurturing to her dreams, for her success. She and her father moved from Oakland, California to Los Angeles to that she could audition.

"It was a big sacrifice that I, my dad and my mom made because she stayed home while we traveled."

Her Sista's Keeper

Zendaya has two older sisters who are in their 30's but she is still close to them despite their age difference.

"It's important to have them around to keep me grounded," she says.



Zendaya describes being her sista's keeper as being connected and sticking together to help each other. "We are all girls so we go through a lot of the same issues and problems," she says.

"It's all about growing and getting through those issues together. I may not know something but another girl may so it's only right that we help each other along."

About Zendaya

Full Name: Zendaya Maree Coleman

Birthday: September 1, 1996

Hometown: Oakland, CA

Favorite Color: Pink

Favorite TV show: *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*

Favorite food: Burritos

Favorite Dessert: Coffee ice cream

What's on your iPod? Beyonce' & Michael Jackson

Fun Fact #1: Zendaya started dancing when she was 8 years old!

Fun Fact #2: Zendaya is a vegetarian!

Fun Fact #3: Zendaya's secret dream is to walk on the runway of a fashion show during Fashion Week!

Fun Fact #4: Both of Zendaya's parents are teachers!

Fun Fact #5: Zendaya's motto is: "Don't forget to smile!"

Fun Fact #6: Zendaya's name means "to give thanks" in Shona (her father's native language)

Put Zendaya on "Replay"



Request "Replay"
on Radio Disney & purchase the single on iTunes.

<http://www.zendaya.com/>