

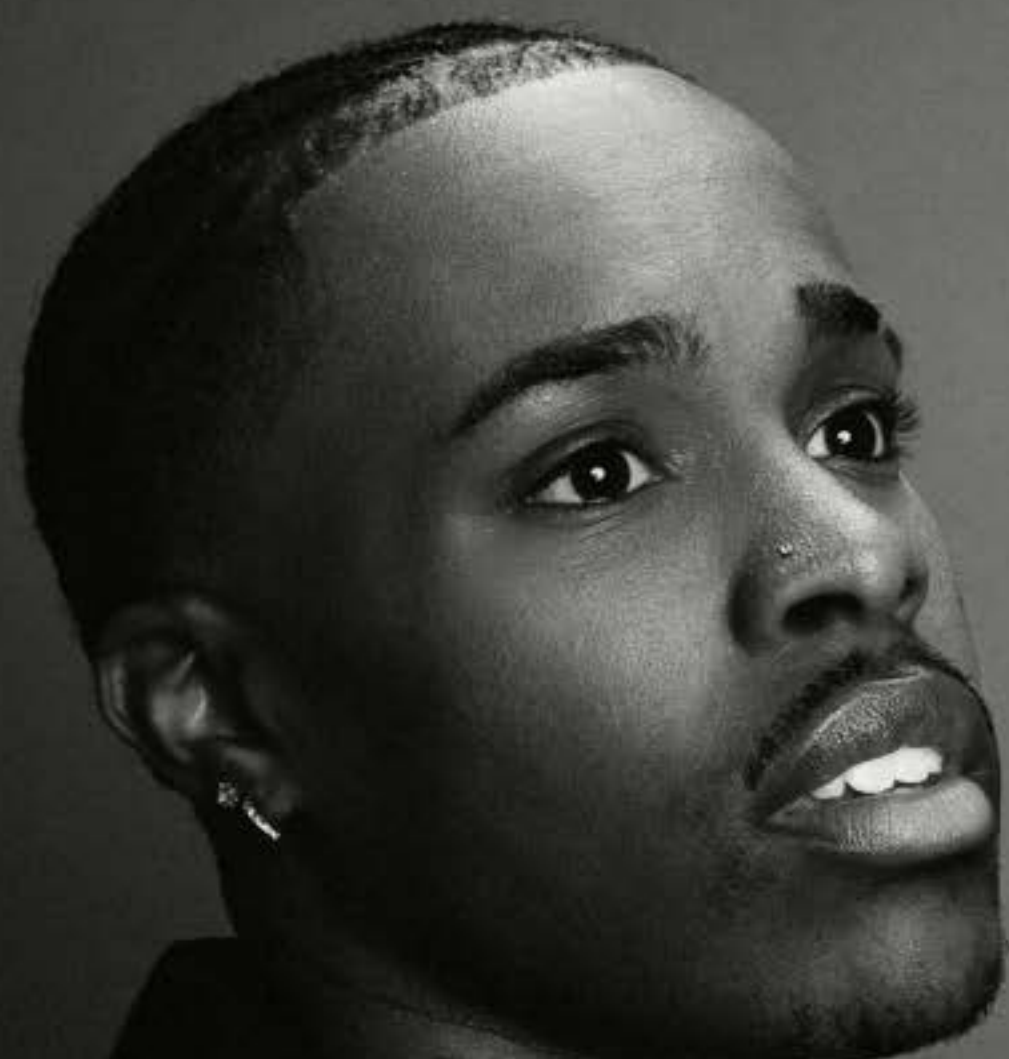
BILLIARDS

VMSSOA

DECEMBER 2024

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

**A WORD
FROM
BILLIARDS:
MUCH
LOVE**



**TAVON
LAMONT**
FROM VA BEACH TO
BROADWAY,
CHASING EGOT DREAMS



TAVON LAMONT'

**"I AM A
LEGEND
IN THE
MAKING"**

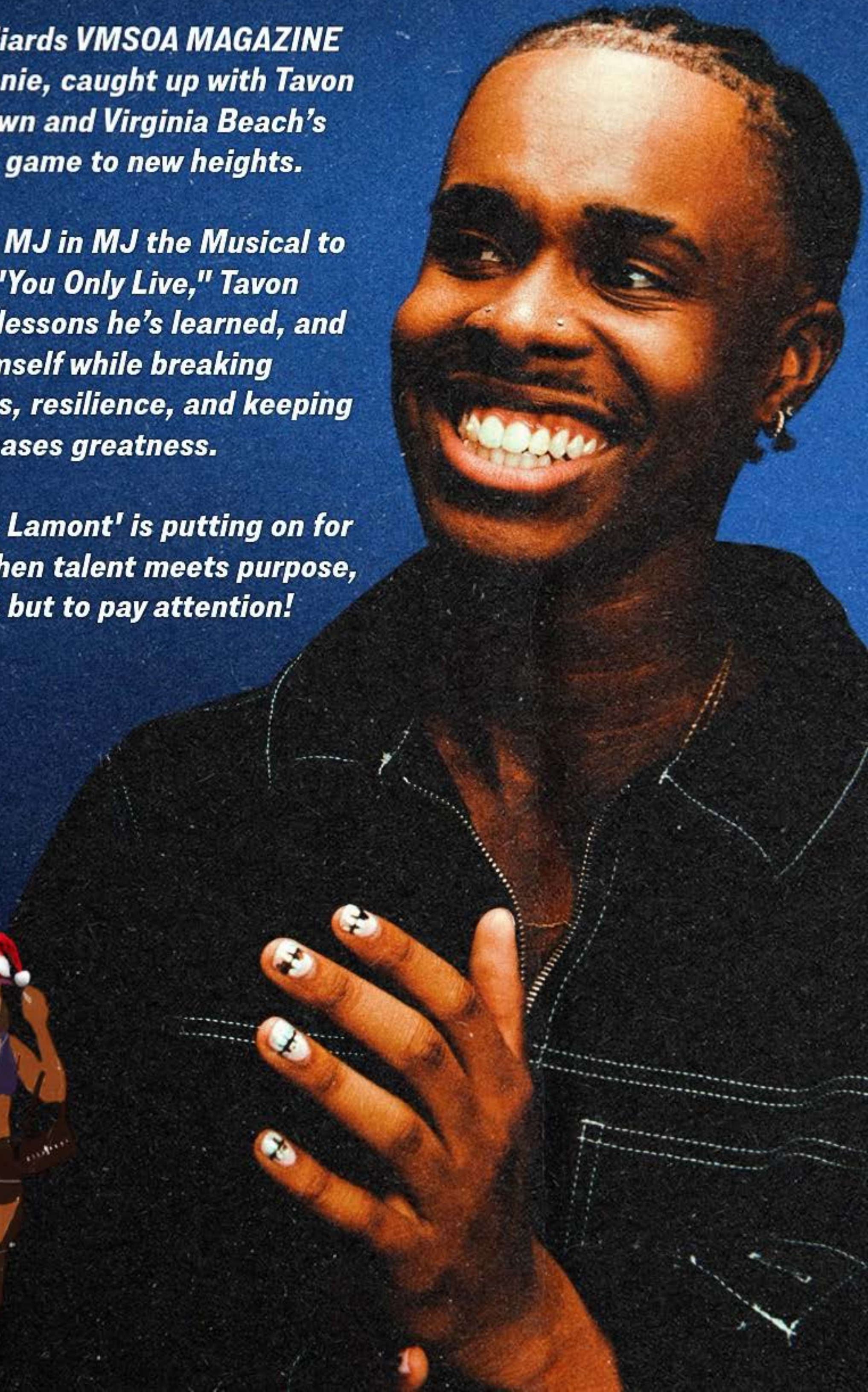


TAVON LAMONT'

This month, Host of Billiards VMSOA MAGAZINE AND MUSIC, Vania Alonnie, caught up with Tavon Lamont'—Broadway's own and Virginia Beach's pride—who's taking the game to new heights.

From shining as Middle MJ in MJ the Musical to dropping his hit single "You Only Live," Tavon shared his journey, the lessons he's learned, and how he stays true to himself while breaking barriers. He talked roots, resilience, and keeping the vision alive as he chases greatness.

Swipe to see how Tavon Lamont' is putting on for the 757, proving that when talent meets purpose, the world has no choice but to pay attention!



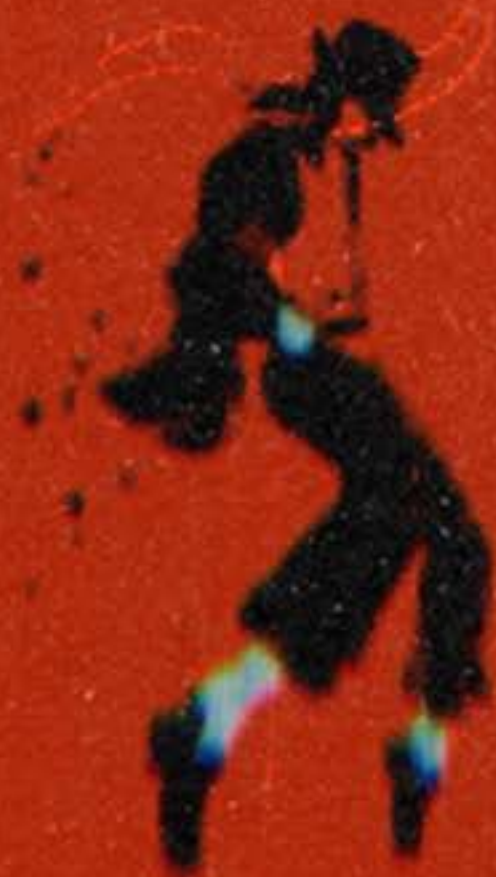
**VANIA: WELCOME TO
BILLIARDS, TAVON! IT'S SO
EXCITING TO HAVE YOU HERE.
LET'S DIVE RIGHT IN—WHO IS
TAVON LAMONT'?**

**TAVON LAMONT: THANKS FOR
HAVING ME! TAVON LAMONT IS A 757
VIRGINIA BEACH NATIVE. I'M AN
ENTERTAINER, PHILANTHROPIST,
HUMANITARIAN—AND, HONESTLY, I'M
A LEGEND IN THE MAKING.**

**TAVON
LAMONT'**
FROM VA BEACH TO
BROADWAY,
CHASING EGOT DREAMS

VANIA: PERIOD! SO, YOU'RE FROM VIRGINIA BEACH. HOW HAS YOUR UPBRINGING THERE INFLUENCED YOU AS AN ARTIST?

TAVON: MY FAMILY ALWAYS IMMERSED ME IN SO MUCH CULTURE AND MUSIC, SO I GOT TO EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT SOUNDS AND DIVE DEEP INTO THE ARTS. I WAS INSPIRED BY ARTISTS WHO CAME BEFORE ME, LIKE PHARRELL, MISSY ELLIOTT, ADRIENNE WARREN, AND THOMAS ANTHONY WAYNE. GOING TO GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS REALLY GAVE ME THE SPACE TO EXPLORE AND GROW MY LOVE FOR THE ARTS.



**TAVON
LAMONT'**
FROM VA BEACH TO
BROADWAY,
CHASING EGOT DREAMS

VANIA: YOU'VE BEEN ON THIS JOURNEY FOR A MINUTE, FROM GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL TO BROADWAY, STARRING AS MIDDLE MJ IN MJ THE MUSICAL. WHAT'S IT LIKE BEING PART OF SUCH AN ICONIC SHOW?

TAVON: MAN, IT'S A MARATHON. I'VE BEEN ON BROADWAY SINCE DECEMBER 2021, AND EVERY DAY I REMIND MYSELF HOW BLESSED I AM. PERFORMING AT THIS LEVEL TAKES A LOT, BUT I'VE LEARNED TO STAY IN THE MOMENT. I LISTEN TO CHERISH THE MOMENT FROM CHEETAH GIRLS 2 BEFORE EVERY SHOW TO KEEP MYSELF GROUNDED.

VANIA: CHEETAH GIRLS 2?! I LOVE THAT. YOU'VE MENTIONED BEING INSPIRED BY DISNEY MUSICALS LIKE HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL AND JUMP IN!. WHAT IS IT ABOUT THOSE PROJECTS THAT STICKS WITH YOU?

TAVON: THEY'RE SO UNDERRATED! I DIDN'T EVEN REALIZE THEY WERE MUSICAL THEATER WHEN I WAS WATCHING THEM AS A KID. THEY SHOWED ME THAT SINGING, DANCING, AND ACTING COULD ALL COME TOGETHER IN ONE.

**TAVON
LAMONT'**
*FROM VA BEACH TO
BROADWAY,
CHASING THAT DREAM*

VANIA: SPEAKING OF GROWING UP, YOU'VE BEEN PERFORMING SINCE YOU WERE YOUNG. WHERE DID THAT PASSION COME FROM?

TAVON: MY GODMOM, FOR SURE. SHE GOT ME INVOLVED WITH PRAISE DANCING AT CHURCH, AND THAT'S WHERE IT ALL STARTED. I THINK THE MOMENT I REALIZED I WAS REALLY TALENTED WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. I SANG GOD BLESS THE CHILD BY BILLIE HOLIDAY IN CHORUS, AND MY TEACHER WAS LIKE, "WAIT, YOU CAN ACTUALLY SING!" THAT'S WHEN I KNEW.



**TAVON
LAMONT**
FROM VA BEACH TO
BROADWAY
CHASING FOOT DREAMS

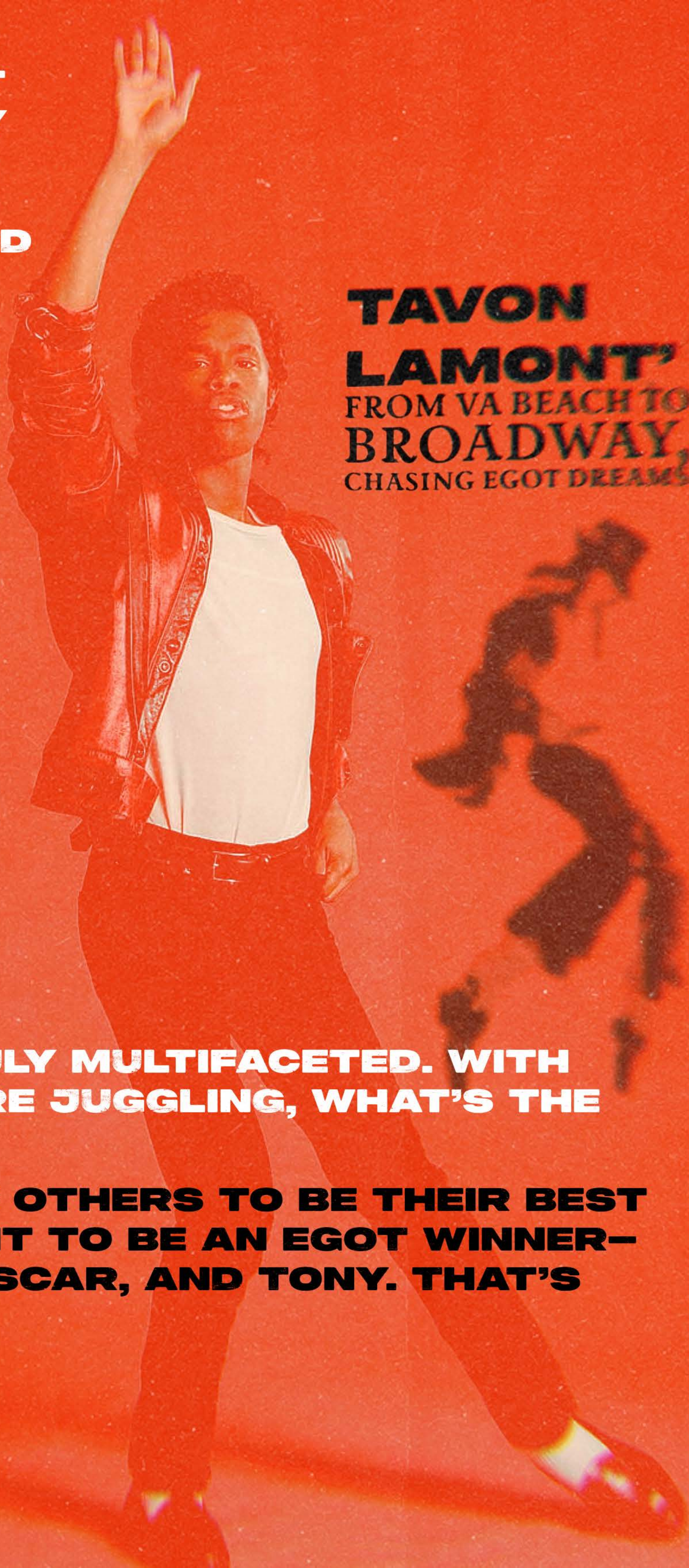
VANIA: YOU'RE NOT JUST A BROADWAY STAR, THOUGH. YOUR SINGLE YOU ONLY LIVE DROPPED RECENTLY AND IS MAKING WAVES. WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOUR MUSIC CAREER?

TAVON: I'VE GOT A COUPLE MORE SINGLES COMING, AND AFTER THAT, I'M PLANNING TO DROP AN EP. I LOVE ALL GENRES OF MUSIC, SO I'M TAKING TIME TO FIGURE OUT EXACTLY WHAT SOUND I WANT TO HONE IN ON.

VANIA: YOU'RE TRULY MULTIFACETED. WITH EVERYTHING YOU'RE JUGGLING, WHAT'S THE ULTIMATE DREAM?

TAVON: TO INSPIRE OTHERS TO BE THEIR BEST SELVES. AND I WANT TO BE AN EGOT WINNER—EMMY, GRAMMY, OSCAR, AND TONY. THAT'S THE GOAL.

**TAVON
LAMONT'**
FROM VA BEACH TO
BROADWAY,
CHASING EGOT DREAMS



TAVON

LAMONT'

FROM VA BEACH TO
BROADWAY,
CHASING EGOT DREAMS

VANIA: YOU'VE GOT THE DRIVE TO GET THERE. HOW DO YOU STAY GROUNDED WHILE CHASING SUCH BIG DREAMS?

TAVON: I KEEP A TIGHT CIRCLE OF PEOPLE WHO AREN'T YES-MEN. THEY TELL ME WHEN I'M WRONG, AND THEY HOLD ME ACCOUNTABLE. I ALSO BELIEVE IN CONSTANTLY LEARNING. MICHAEL JACKSON SAID, "STUDY THE GREATS AND BECOME GREATER," AND THAT'S WHAT I TRY TO DO EVERY DAY.

VANIA: BEFORE WE WRAP UP, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO SHARE WITH THE BILLIARDS FAMILY?

TAVON: JUST THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME. THIS HAS BEEN AMAZING, AND I'M SO GRATEFUL FOR ALL THE SUPPORT.





**CATCH TAVON LAMONT IN OUR
SPECIAL EDITION OF BILLIARDS
VMSOA DIGITAL MAGAZINE AND
FOLLOW HIS JOURNEY ON
INSTAGRAM @TAVONLAMONTT.
UNTIL NEXT TIME, REMEMBER—
VIRGINIA & THE DMV ISN'T JUST FOR
LOVERS; IT'S A SANCTUARY FOR
DREAMERS.**



B I L L I A R D S

Thank you to everyone who has been part of our relaunch since September! As 2024 comes to a close, Billiards is still moving full steam ahead, and we owe it all to your support. You've been driving us to bring VA and DMV stories and talent to the forefront, and we're beyond grateful. Here's to you-our community, our inspiration. Thank you, and Happy Holidays!

**AARON J. ANDERSON,
AMANDA R.,
ANGUZ BLACK,
BILLIARDS VMSOA TEAM,
BRANDON FOXWORTH,
CRAIG LINDSAY,
DEJA UNIQUE,**

**SOLOMON LANGLEY,
THE BILLIARDS CANVAS TEAM,
TREZURE B. COLES,
TYYE HARRELL,
WALÉ ADEBIYI,
WILLIAM APPIAH**

**DIAMOND BROUGHTON,
DJ GHUD VIBES AKA DIAMOND RIDDICK,
JAY PRIME,
JOHN DOUGLAS THOMPSON,
KAIYLA GROSS,
LOREN B.,**

**LUIS RIVERA FIGUEROA,
NIA SAFARR BANKS,
NIA SIMONE BLONDELL,
NILE PRICE,
OTIS BROOKS,
PORTER TAYLOR,
PROFESSOR D. WILLIAMS-EL,**



B I L L A R D S

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

