



Craig Stokes has always had an interest in apparel and styling - a passion he attributes to his mother. "My mom used to explain colors and styles to me and was a huge advocate for using basic, classic clothing to help stretch our wardrobe", Craig says. This idea of being both cool and classic stuck with Craig and ultimately led him to create, produce, and host *Style Minute*. "Fashion and the way we dress is our subconscious attempt to express how we feel and who we are at the moment. The show gives people the tools to express themselves according to their "Personal Palette" as well as their personality."

In 2008, amidst the unprecedented race to the White House, Craig decided to create a line of apparel that refrained from showing support for one candidate or another but would proudly proclaim three simple words - "MY VOTE COUNTS". The MY VOTE COUNTS line of t-shirts was extremely successful and received international television exposure. The t-shirts were sold at college

bookstores, worn by celebrities, billionaires, and former United States presidents. This was a perfect segue into forming Craig Stokes Productions and *Style Minute*.

In addition to creating apparel lines and hosting *Style Minute*, Craig also hosts live events such as fashion and award shows, step shows, one-on-one interviews, and is often requested for public speaking engagements. He recently launched *Style University* (commonly referred to as *Style U*), his lifestyle fashion-based tour, for colleges and universities across the country. In 2010, Craig was asked to join the United Negro College Fund's HBCU EmpowerMe Tour which is hosted by Tatyana Ali and features other celebrities as Malik Yoba, Hill Harper, and Randall Pinkett from *The Apprentice*.

Craig Stokes is originally from West Palm Beach, Florida and grew up in Fayetteville, North Carolina. He is the CEO of Craig Stokes Productions and Apparel & Co, a Captain in the US Air Force Reserves, and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. In 2004, he graduated from North Carolina A&T State University with a degree in Architectural Engineering and Aerospace Sciences and received his Master of Business Administration (MBA) in May 2006 from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.