

POLITICAL COUPLE KICK-OFF 'POLITINI' WEB SERIES ON THEGRIO.COM
8-week run begins February 26 and will feature unique blend of politics and pop culture

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Married Politicos Danielle and Aisha Moodie-Mills of the weekly politics and pop culture talk show, *Politini*, are expanding their popular podcast from the airwaves to video with the production of a new series for theGrio.com.

The eight-week mini-series will feature *Politini*'s "Poliwood Round-Up," and "Is THIS the New Normal?" segments, staples of their weekly podcast, which covers the hottest topics trending from Hollywood to "Poliwood" (the couple's term for new Washington, as they see it) every Wednesday and Friday beginning on Wednesday, February 26.

"This video series is a tremendous way to catalyze the energy, enthusiasm and sometimes outrage that is generated on social media by current affairs and popular culture. From Netflix's *House of Cards* to climate change and election cycles, people want to be a part of a bigger conversation" said Danielle. "*Politini* sparks dialogue that integrates our social, cultural and political selves—so it's exciting to create a space where people can connect twice a week—watch, listen, react and share—moving beyond breaking news to engaging news."

Politini began airing on BLIS.fm in January 2013 and has been downloaded over 40,000 times. Guests on the weekly show have included executive director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African-Americans, David Johns; actress and transgender advocate Laverne Cox; and former NFL-player and LGBT advocate, Wade Davis, discussing a wide range of topics like cultural appropriation, feminism 2.0, and LGBT equality. The show is the brainchild of the couple, who was married in August 2010 and became the first lesbian couple featured on the wedding pages of *Essence*. Together, the two founded the FIRE Initiative housed at the Center for American Progress and have served as Senior Fellow and Advisor to the think tank since November 2010. FIRE explores the policy intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality. In addition, they appear regularly on MSNBC offering political commentary as guests on a variety of shows including the "Melissa Harris-Perry Show" , "Jansing & Co" and "Up with Steve Kornacki."

"*Politini* on theGrio comes right at the perfect time for the 5-year-old African-American daily online news and opinion platform, and we are thrilled to work with the team that is bringing great content to so many in our community," said Aisha.

TheGrio.com, one of the largest video-centric online communities geared towards the African-American experience and perspective, is expanding its original video content with series like Goldie Taylor's "Breaking Black" and Jacque Reid's "Single & Living Fab."

David Wilson, co-founder and managing Editor of theGrio says, "Our website always strives to be in sync with the most important issues affecting our readers and followers and offering that dialogue in compelling ways. We look forward to what Aisha and Danielle add to the conversation with their very special brand, *Politini*."

About *Politini*: *Politini* is the most downloaded talk show on BLIS.fm, an urban digital radio network. The weekly talk show serves politics and pop culture up with a *twist!*, connecting viewers to the personal side of politics. Executive producers and co-hosts, Danielle and Aisha Moodie-Mills, have each been recognized as one of the Root 100's most influential African Americans in the country, and as one of the top Forty Under 40 national LGBT leader by *The Advocate* magazine. They have been lauded as a "power couple to watch" by *Black Enterprise*, *Politico*, and *The Root*. Tune in to their live show every Thursday at 8pm(EST) on blis.fm. Learn more at www.moodiemills.com.

About theGrio: A division of MSNBC, theGrio is a daily online news and opinion platform devoted to delivering stories and perspectives that reflect and affect African-American audiences. The video-centric interactive community is populated with both aggregated and original content on topics ranging from breaking news and politics to health, business, and entertainment.

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