

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

RNDC proudly celebrates Black History Month, a time to acknowledge the rich culture and achievements of Blacks/African Americans. We have an ongoing commitment to a culture of inclusion, where diversity is celebrated and where every person can be her or his authentic self. RNDC truly values the unique perspectives, experiences, and contributions of our diverse associates, communities, and business partners.

Name: Christopher Carroll

Job Role: District Manager

Work Location: Oakland, California



Why is Black History Month important to you?

Black History Month, in my opinion, is extremely important because it reminds society of all the great things that Black men and women have accomplished and contributed to society. It's too often that Black people are seen in a negative light in the media. A lot of time is spent focusing on when Black people mess up or make poor choices; however, so many amazing successes have come from the Black community, and this is the month where we as people can honor what they gave to us. People like Martin Luther King Jr., Harriet Tubman, and Barrack Obama have, and do, work tirelessly to better our communities and make a difference for the betterment of the world. It's people like these that create inspiration in our Black youth and show them a path to success and positivity. Especially with our current social climate, Black History Month shows our world that anyone can make a difference, can inspire positive change, and is proof that inclusion and love of all people is how we find serenity and peace within our nation.

What would you like our RNDC/YMCO family to know about you? Briefly, tell us your story - personal and/or professional. What makes you uniquely you?

Growing up, I was always outgoing. No matter what I was interested in, I always strived to be the best at everything I was involved in and to be successful. I knew I wanted to go to college even when I was in elementary school and it was in my college years that I discovered my love of sales. What I loved most was the interaction with new people and being able to build relationships as well as using my knowledge and expertise to find what best suited my buyer's needs. Also, I love to win!

It's for these reasons that I find myself ecstatic to be a part of the RNDC/YMCO family. I get to sell brands I believe in, develop an amazing team, and in doing so, I've been able to build so many new friendships and relationships that I cherish every day.

To tie in with our 2020 Black History Month theme, tell us about any family traditions or fond memories that involve music. Why is music important to the Black Experience?

Every year for Christmas my family has a big gathering. No matter what everyone is going through or what is happening, we always end up singing! We're basically a big choir and sing songs of various genres as a family which is the most fun. My family is all musically inclined, so it just makes for an extremely fun time when we all can just let go of all our stresses and just enjoy each other's company singing.

Tell us about your taste in music. What is your favorite music genre? Who are your favorite music artists, past or present? Why?

I have a vast musical interest as I listen to all genres; however, I do tend to lean toward Pop, EDM, and Country. I grew up around music as I come from a musical family. My dad played the drums for the church I grew up attending, and my aunts are all singers and sang (and still sing) for the choir at the church. This created a love for music within myself, and it created a want to branch out and discover other genres of music, as well as, spiked my interest and want to get into dance.

Growing up, I've done hip hop, tap, and jazz dance. My parents always told me I didn't know how to sit still as kid because I was always dancing every chance I got. I even did a little bit of praise-dancing as a young child. This led me in the direction of theater which I participated in high school as well as college. I had a preference for musical theater because it combined my love of singing, dancing, and acting.

As for artists, I absolutely love Adele. She sings with so much soul and expression which makes her very relatable and beautiful to listen to. I also, thoroughly enjoy listening to Uzo. Her songs are so much fun and express the idea of self-love and body-positivity, something I believe everyone can relate to.

What is your favorite adult beverage?

I don't have a particular preference of brand, but I do have a preference for wine, particularly Cabernet Sauvignon.