

ESSENCE

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SHOT CALLERS, CLASS OF 2013



LAUREN MAILLIAN BLAS

Described as a "serial entrepreneur" by *Fast Company*, Lauren Maillian Blas is the founder of Luxury Marketing Branding and founding partner of Gen Y Capital Partners, a venture firm focused on growing early-stage tech companies founded by Gen-Y entrepreneurs. Blas is the former founder of Sugarleaf Vineyards, the only winery owned and operated by African-Americans in Virginia.

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