

About Us

"If Lions were historians, hunters would no longer be heroes." This powerful African proverb encapsulates the mission of the **Orange Mound News Network (OMNN)**. Founded by **Anthony Amp Elmore**, OMNN aims to reclaim and reshape the narrative of **Orange Mound** through the power of **filmmaking, education, and content creation**. Our goal is to challenge the negative stereotypes and biased portrayals that have long plagued our community, creating a positive space for **family, Black culture, history, and education**.



African Proverb

"If Lions were Historians Hunters would no longer be Heroes"



**Memphis 9th District
Congressman Steve Cohen**

Please click on this image Congressman Cohen at Elmore's Orange Mound Home to present honor

Our Journey and Mission

Orange Mound, established as the first community in America built for **Blacks by Blacks**, has a rich history often overshadowed by negative stereotypes. Mainstream media and societal biases have painted **Orange Mound** as a "ghetto," contributing to a 30% decline in property values while surrounding communities have prospered. The **Orange Mound News Network** was created to counter this narrative and highlight the true spirit and resilience of our community.

Anthony Amp Elmore, a five-time world karate kickboxing champion, filmmaker, and community activist, has been a beacon of change in **Orange Mound**. With over five decades of community service, Elmore has dedicated his life to uplifting **Orange Mound**. From becoming a homeowner at 19, establishing businesses, to founding the **Proud Black Buddhist World Association**, Elmore's contributions have been immense.

Connecting Communities Through Culture and History

Elmore's journey in **cultural diplomacy** began when he was invited to Kisumu, Kenya, by [Governor Anyang' Nyong'o](#) to attend FESTAC, the largest African and Black Art festival in the world. It was here that Elmore's vision for a deeper connection between **Africans** and **African Americans** took root. During his visit, he engaged with students at **ARYA Primary School**, performed a song about Kenya's founding father Tom Mboya, and proposed a pen pal program that evolved into a robust educational and cultural exchange.

Our journey in African Cultural Diplomacy began in 1990 when the **Orange Mound** Memphis-produced movie "**The Contemporary Gladiator**" premiered in Kenya. This marked a significant milestone in Elmore's mission to foster cultural exchange and understanding. The film's premiere in Kenya not only showcased Elmore's work but also solidified his role as a **cultural diplomat**.

Back in Memphis, Elmore established a partnership between **Cherokee School in Orange Mound, Tennessee**, and ARYA Primary School in Africa. This collaboration marked the beginning of the [African Cultural Diplomat Exchange Network \(ACDEN\)](#), which aims to bridge cultural gaps and foster mutual understanding. By leveraging digital technology, Elmore transformed the traditional pen pal program into a 21st-century paradigm of **education and communication**.

Innovative Programs and Digital Integration

The **Orange Mound News Network** integrates platforms like **Disqus** for interactive discussions and **WhatsApp** for real-time communication, ensuring seamless exchange of comments, documents, pictures, videos, and other information. This digital approach not only facilitates communication but also connects our community with global audiences.

Elmore's home, known as the "**Orange Mound Black Memphis Hollywood**" movie production center, serves as a cultural hub hosting events, educational programs, and film productions. This space symbolizes Elmore's commitment to preserving and promoting **Black culture and history**. His work includes creating the first independent 35mm film in Memphis Film history, ["The Contemporary Gladiator," which is also the first kickboxing film in world film history](#). This groundbreaking achievement highlights the cultural and historical significance of Elmore's contributions, which deserve recognition from the **United States National Film Registry**.



1987 Scene shot in Orange Mound Amp's Backyard

Click on the above image to see a Memphis Channel 5 News Story. Elmore's film being the 1st Kickboxing film in world Film History deserves to be honored by the United States National Film Registry that select films not as the best but films are selected because of their cultural and historic significant to America.

Fighting for Legacy and Positive Change

Anthony Amp Elmore's journey is not just about personal accolades but about creating a lasting legacy for **Orange Mound**. Elmore notes I am the first and only Kickboxing World Champion who has a Biopic movie. Most important is that Blacks are known mostly for traditional sports like football, baseball, basketball, track and others whereas we show that African/Americans excelled in not only non traditional sports, whereas in Memphis Elmore via writing, producing, directing and starring in the 1st 35mm theatrical film in Memphis film history shows that an African/America lead the way in Art. Filmmaking is the most powerful art form in the world and the first Independent Film to show at movie theatres in Memphis was made in "Black Orange Mound in Memphis." White Supremacy, Racism and Black on Black Racism in Memphis obscures this Black Memphis history.

Elmore efforts to educate youth about **Black Memphis history**, challenging **white supremacy**, and fight **black-on-black racism** are commendable. Through the **Orange Mound News Network**, Elmore aims to provide a platform for positive news, inspiring stories, and educational content that empowers the community.

Despite facing challenges and a lack of recognition, Elmore continues to advocate for change. His call to **Black elected officials** to support and acknowledge the rich history of **Orange Mound** is a testament to his dedication. **"As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'Silence is betrayal. "**

"There comes a time when silence is betrayal." "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." "In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."





**Orange Mound
News Network**

Please share our website

orangemoundnewsnetwork.com



Anthony "Amp" Elmore Sr.

A Vision for the Future

The **Orange Mound News Network** represents a new dawn for our community. By using **filmmaking, education, and content creation**, we are building a positive network that celebrates our rich heritage and promotes family values, cultural understanding, and educational excellence. **Anthony Amp Elmore's** life and work are a testament to the resilience and strength of **Orange Mound**, and through OMNN, we aim to inspire pride and unity within our community and beyond.

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