



Name: Khadijah "Kay" Polly

Where are you from? Born and raised in Los Angeles, CA; College at Grambling State University in Louisiana; now living in Houston, TX (I represent all 3 states, lol)

Hobbies: Traveling, shopping, wine tasting, volunteering with my sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and serving as Vice President of my Grambling Alumni Chapter (DLW Alumni Chapter)

Name of Business: Kay's Kettle Corn

Business Location: Pasadena, TX (suburb of Houston, TX)

Age and/or Age of Business: I'm 33 years old; my business is 2 years old.

How do you feel about natural hair and/or natural beauty? I absolutely love it. I've worn my hair natural for 32 out of the 33 years of my life. I left L.A. and went to the other LA (Louisiana) for college and the weather got the best of me...but that was short lived. Although I've always been comfortable with my hair, I love that the natural hair movement that is happening now has given me new ideas on how I can wear my hair. Now that I run my own business I have even more freedom to experiment with color, and styles. I've wanted to cut my hair for almost 10 years and I finally did it!! I've retired the Puff and bun for now.

Your hair regimen? I recently got a taper haircut. I wet my hair at night and apply coconut oil, twist the front/ top and sides. I also use Shea Moisture prod-

ucts like their leave-in conditioners and their curl & style milk. I sleep on a satin pillow case, no bonnet or scarf, those make me hot.

What service do you provide? Gourmet kettle corn delivered to your home or office and a monthly subscription box for kettle corn lovers called "Auto POP Club". It's also sold in Sweet Dreams Gourmet, a cute boutique candy shop in Houston, TX. We also provide popcorn bars for weddings and special events.

Motivation/Inspiration for starting your business/service: I've always had an entrepreneurial spirit. I knew one day I was going to work for myself, but I just didn't know how. I prayed for a product that I would love, was scalable and would open doors for me to share my love for entrepreneurship with children, and philanthropy. I've had a few other small businesses (event planning, candle making, bridal resale shop), but kettle corn just took off! I LOVE snacks, so it makes total sense. I've been making popcorn since I was a kid, so this has come full circle.

Any exclusive info or great news you would like to share? I'm working on two e-books. One book is on following your dreams called "Make your dreams POP". When I went sky diving last year on my birthday, I decided to live fearlessly, which lead me to quit my full time job to focus on Kay's Kettle Corn. I hope that by sharing my story I can inspire others to set a plan and accomplish their dreams. The second book is a how-to guide on starting a home-based popcorn business. I started out making popcorn for friends and family at home and I want to share my knowledge with others. It's a fun "side hustle" that's inexpensive to get started. These ebooks will be available at the end of April.