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Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are preferred.

celeb bio

Dulé Hill

From Broadway to the big screen

Few people can say that they have faithfully sustained the same life passion from an age as young as 3, but Dulé Hill is a rare exception. The tap dancer and actor was born in 1975 in New Jersey, where he was raised by his Jamaican-born parents, Jennifer and Bertholomu Hillshire, a teacher and an entrepreneur, respectively. Hill discovered his talent for performance early in his childhood when he started learning ballet and tap dance at Marie Wildey Dance Studio. The

1980's Broadway musical "The Tap Dance Kid" was his first acting role, and it opened doors for 10-year-old Hill, who was able to work closely with tap icon Savion Glover. After that, he continued to land minor roles in musicals, and in 1989's Broadway production "Black and Blue." He also had the opportunity to work with Glover again in his teens, this time tackling more weighty material with his dance mentor: the music and choreography of the 1996 Broadway production "Bring in

Da Noise, Bring in Da Funk," an account of black history from slavery to the present. Even with his formidable experience as an actor at such a young age, Hill considered himself primarily a tap dancer, and he was so dedicated to furthering his career as a performer that he dropped his

college studies in order to keep pursuing roles. His impressive discipline continued to pay off, and he was given increasingly auspicious opportunities; in the early 90s, he had a brief stint working with Jim Henson studios when he was cast as one of the youths in the company's Saturday morning



Dulé Hill as seen in "Suits"

Sudoku

		7			3	8		
4								5
			2					
				2			9	
9	1		8	3				
2	3						7	4
	6				5	7	8	
		1						9
					1	2		

190728

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column,
and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

Solution on page 20

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children's show "CityKids." Soon after, he landed his first film role in "Sugar Hill" (1993), in which he played the teenaged version of Wesley Snipes' protagonist, a longtime drug dealer who attempts to escape his life of crime. Hill was given increasingly central roles as his career progressed, appearing in "She's All That" (1999), "Men of Honor" (2001) and "Holes" (2003), but it was on television that he really found his niche. He was cast as presidential aide Charlie Young in "The West Wing" and was an integral part of the show's stellar ensemble for its seven seasons. "The West Wing" ended in 2006, and Hill wasted no time — he jumped into a starring role in USA Network's "Psych" the same year and starred in that series until its finale eight years later. More recently, Hill has boarded another long-running series, "Suits." You can catch him as Alex Williams, a skilled and trusted attorney at Zane Specter Litt, when the ninth and final season of "Suits" premieres Wednesday, July 17, on USA Network.

FACTS:

- Born May 3, 1975, in Orange, New Jersey (age 44)

- Was taught to tap dance by his mother, who taught at Marie Wildey Dance School
- Studied business finance at Seton Hall University
- Was married to Canadian actress Nicole Lyn ("Student Bodies") for eight years
- Met his current wife, "Ballers" co-star Jazmyn Simon, in 2015 while filming that series together
- Was nominated for an Emmy for Best Supporting Actor in a Drama Series for "The West Wing"
- He and Jazmyn Simon welcomed their first child, Levi, in May 2019

QUOTES:

"I've had a lovefest with the [NBC] family, and they've had a lovefest with me ... I'm thankful. Any time you get to do what you love to do is a wonderful thing."

"Everyone in ['The West Wing'] is strong in their own right ... women and people of color are just as strong, if not stronger than anyone else in that world. I really have immense respect for Aaron [Sorkin] for developing that space."