

Yara Shahidi

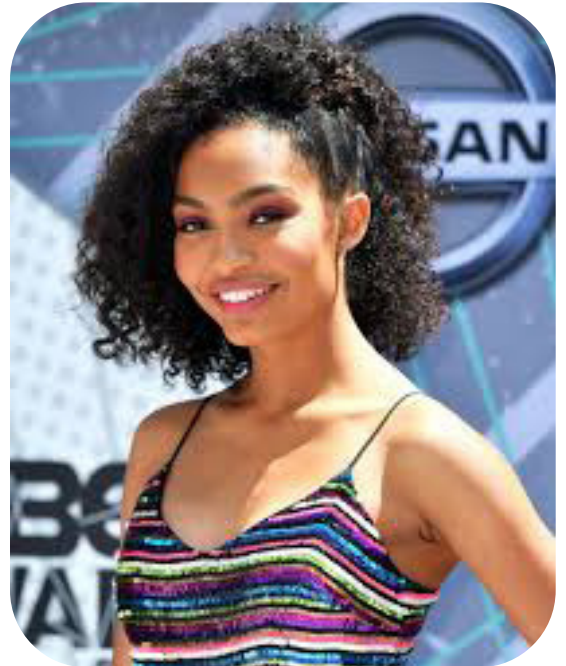
Yara Sayeh Shahidi was born on February 10, 2000, in Minneapolis, MN to a Black/Native Choctaw mother and Iranian father. Yara and her family moved to California when she was at a young age where she began her career starring in print and television ads for companies like McDonalds, Gap, Target, and Disney. Her film debut was in 2009, starring in the movie "Imagine That" alongside Eddie Murphy.



Yara has won several acting awards and been nominated for 27. She signed with Women Management modeling agency in NYC in 2016 to give women of color a bigger voice in the fashion industry. The important breakout role in her career was her supporting role in "Black-ish" and her subsequent starring role in the spinoff, "Grown-ish."



This breakout role won her the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series. Yara has also founded a production company called 7th Sun with her mother, which is now signed with ABC Studios to produce TV shows.



Yara is incredibly accomplished outside of her acting career; she founded Eighteen x 18 to encourage people her age to vote for the midterm elections in 2018. She is also a member of Harvard University's graduating class of 2022 with degrees in Sociology and African American Studies.

The societal impact that Yara has made speaks for itself: she spoke alongside Forever First Lady Michelle Obama about the importance of education for young women and uses her platform to speak publicly on racial justice and sexism, especially through her acceptance speeches and interviews. She is extremely vocal on social media and is an advocate for social justice and education. Her style, fashion, and hair have become iconic, promoting the beauty and intelligence of Black women everywhere.

