

# allure

### Allure Best in Clean Beauty



Eu'Genia Shea Butter Everyday Formula

With facilities in Ghana, this organic brand harvests **shea butter** at the source. Available in Lavender, Grapefruit, and unscented, each tin of **Eu'Genia Shea Butter Everyday Formula** draws moisture into your skin — and supports shea-nut pickers in West Africa. The velvety texture will keep you coming back for more.



# VANITY FAIR

#### Vanity Fair – Pregnancy Staple



#### VANITY FAIR

#### Eu'Genia Shea Butter Pregnancy Formula in Grapefruit

Early last fall, towards the end of her first pregnancy, Naa-Sakle Akuete slipped into a state of hyperbolic discomfort. "Third trimester, I was, like, 'Get me out of this body. There's an alien growing inside me!" Akuete said by phone from Virginia, where she recently relocated from Brooklyn. (Baby Amele, born in November, is very much human.) "The one thing that I did not have to worry about was stretch marks because I pretty much swim in shea butter." Akuete's lineage with the ingredient goes back to colonial-era Ghana, where her grandmother worked as a midwife. "In Ghana, shea butter is known as women's gold," she said, describing its wide-ranging benefits for expanding bellies and sensitive newborn skin. In 2000, decades after the family settled in the States, Akuete's mother, Eugenia, found her way back to shea butter, launching a bulk-supply business to help support small-scale women producers. When her mother temporarily fell ill in 2013, Naa-Sakle left her finance job to run the operation. Soon after came Eu'Genia: a handsomely packaged line where shea is front and center-not the 20th ingredient, added Akuete. The range includes an everyday tier (80 percent shea, found at Credo and Follain) and a pregnancy formula (90 percent), which comes in lavender, unscented, and grapefruit-the last of which has been Akuete's go-to, with that classic nutty-citrus pairing. There's also a dermatologic-grade version (IOO percent), which makes the baby, with her small patch of eczema, something of a poster child. "I'm sorry," she interjected with a laugh: "I'm holding my daughter and she's going in and out of consciousness. Do you remember that Guiliani fart moment? If you hear that, it's not me, I promise!"

\$60 at Eu'Genia



# VOGUE

Vogue – Mother Knows Best

VOGUE This Ghanaian-American Entrepreneur Started a Shea Butter Business Inspired by Her Mom



32-year-old Naa-Sakle Akuete has an MBA from Harvard, but the best business professor she's ever had just might be her mother, Eugenia. In 2014, Akuete launched <u>Eu'Genia Shea</u>, a line of high-quality shea butters that are packaged in beautiful, embossed tins. Founding her own company wasn't the path Akuete had in mind while she was in school, but the move proves that the nut doesn't fall far from the tree.

Akuete's parents and two older brothers fled to the United States in the late 1970s to escape the chaos caused by a coup in Ghana. They settled in Maryland, where Akuete was born, and worked hard to provide a good education for their children. In 2000, when Akuete went away to boarding school in Massachusetts, Eugenia moved back to Ghana to take care of her ill mother. While she was there, she launched a bulk shea butter distribution business, which she named Naasakle International, after her daughter. Eugenia also became the first president of the <u>Global Shea Alliance</u>, an organization that advises governments and NGOs about shea butter standards, fair trade, and sustainability.





### O Magazine Editor's Beauty Favorite





# marie claire

#### Marie Claire – Rebels with A Cause

■Rebels With A CAUSE @WORK

They say well-behaved women s and bucked expectation



Best of all, Nas 1 healthy, and they get to share th

NAA-SAKLE AKUETE

Founder and CEO,

Eu'Genia Shea By KELSEY McKINNEY

in 2013, her

SAID, 'SCREW IT. I'M NOT DOING THE SAFE THING.

- Nao-Sakle Akuete





#### NYTimes Must Have Mother's Day Gift



Eu'Genia Shea's gift set, which includes four small tins of shea butter in mix-and-match fragrances.

A package on Mom's doorstep from Eu'Genia Shea, a company launched two months ago by the former Wall Street analyst Naa-Sakle Akuete, is a thoughtful Mother's Day gift for reasons both practical and symbolic. Yes, pure shea butter is among the best all-natural moisturizers — a luxurious present for a woman who's surely earned a little pampering. (Plus, it works wonders on stretch marks, though you didn't hear it from me.) But Eu'Genia's backstory makes the gift all the more sweetly fitting. Akuete founded the company with, and named it after, her own mother, who is herself an entrepreneur: She runs the company that supplies Eu'Genia with its shea nuts. It's a girl-power operation all the way down: Eu'Genia works with all-female cooperatives in northern Ghana, providing above-average wages and job training to the workers who harvest the nuts — many of whom are mothers themselves.

The brand offers a variety of products depending on your level of need — everyday, pregnancy and dermatological — but I think you're best off with the cute little gift tin. It allows you to mix and match fragrances (my own mom, Susan, favors grapefruit) and, if you want to really outshine your siblings, choose the subscription option and replenish it automatically as often as she pleases.

\$40, order by May 7 and select the overnight option to ensure shipping by Mother's Day, eugeniashea.org.





#### InStyle Cover InStyle Amanda Seyfried's Go-To Moisturizer





# More than Cosmetic

INSTYLE MARCH 202

PARTIES, PRAGUE, AND A HOLLYWOOD FILM PAVED THE WAY FOR BEAUTY AMBASSADORS AND MANK CO-STARS LILY COLLINS AND **AMANDA SEYFRIED** TO BOND BY MAYA ALLEN

#### How did you first meet?

Heavenly Bodies Met Gala in 2018 and started talking, all these things we had in common. A few months later went to Prague to do a commercial together. Four months after that we shot *Mank*. It was very kismet. **MANDA SEYFRIED**: The commercial was a lit-

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LC:WhatI admire is that our (creative) team, speciically makeey, had to think in gradations of gray to color tomes. The intricacies of thinking in black and white as opposed to the bright, bold colors we wantee up, I feed becautiful."

#### esting. lecause I was playing someone so specific [actress on Davies]. I knew it was going to be a long process ime there. It's meditative sitting for two and a hal s and being completely transformed, with the wig prick, and false evaluahes. I'm usually attracted that feel like me, pared-down and raw. did you end up reviving your skin?

I do at sight are really important to me. I'm using anome Carringwe Henring such relationing Dual Bissence, and 'm obsessed with the small. I used to wan you for twice a day. Dual because I an Workstraing my which use we day, and in sight, when I wake up, I feel beautiful. I.C. After manageum, you shaft beid styp, a low using the Destingues are seen as for hydrations and matrients. This Desting and the start of the start of the start of the Destingues and the start area presents, but it makes such a difference. On camera, represents, but it makes not a difference. On camera, represents, but it makes not a matter to feed an it diministed as passable.

Who has given you the best beauty advice? AS: My mom caught me trying to wear mascara whe was in middle school, which if don't think is that your but she just wouldn't allow it. She'd tell me less is mo id efinitely get it now. UC: My mother also always said. "The less there is or

ur face, the less there is to go wrong throughout th y." It's about embracing your quirks instead of vering them up. The things that make you difference beautiful.

MARCH 2021 INSTYLE 79





#### Woman's Day - Support Indie Businesses Year Round







# **COSMOPOLITAN**

#### **Cosmopolitan Best Butters**

#### $\equiv$ cosmopolitan



### 2

#### The Assortment of Scents

Eu'Genia Shea Everyday Gift Set, anthropologie.com \$21.00

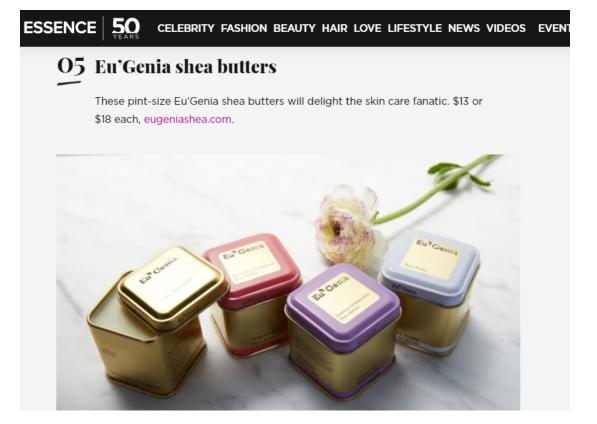
SHOP NOW

Inside this tin box gift set is a sampling of four different shea butter variations: all natural, 100 percent shea butter, essence of lavender, and essence of grapefruit — all of which are made with a highly concentrated formula to soothe even the driest skin.



# ESSENCE

### **Essence Best Holiday Gifts**







### **MSNBC with Tamron Hall**





# FAST@MPANY

### Fast Company – A Labor of Love

## FAST@MPANY

#### BY ELIZABETH SEGRAN 5 MINUTE READ

Two months ago, Naa-Sakle Akuete, a Harvard Business School graduate and Wall Street analyst, launched a body cream product line Eu'Genia Shea, named after her mother. For Akuete, who is 28, starting this business had very little to do with money and everything to do with love, family, and passion.



Naa-Sakle Akuete and her Mother

In 1979, Akuete's parents fled Ghana because of a coup that had caused instability and unrest in the country. They sought asylum in the U.S., taking odd jobsranging from newspaper delivery to security guard positions-to earn enough money to send their children to good schools. Akuete herself flourished, attending a good New England boarding school, Wellesley College, and





#### **Elle Canada Cover** Elle Canada Hydrating Head to Toe



The combination of for going makeup and suddenly having all thread thread to be well to a kin care means that many people with a backward with proposed backward Cech, a celebraty facility and the second se The combination of for going makeup and suddenly having all



Try Bastide Lavande in LoveEau de Tolette Spray (SI65 for 10 ort.). WAyr Frozen lime, see sait, cypress and birch give this Lavender-drenched juice a crisp efferves-cence that com-plements the stark brilliance of a surny winter morrina.

winter morning.

YOUR SENSES

Por:STIMULATING

#### ELLE V LOVES



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Try Eu Genia She

Every Day Shea Butter Balm in Grapetruit (Some Shea) (\$18).

Why Abit of this baim

composed mainly of unrefined shea-nut butter

and a touch of grapefruit, goes a long way toward softening hair, healing chapped cheeks and

oothing thirsty hands

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For: HYDRATING HEAD TO

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LAVANDE

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acoliting also-leaf estract to lift drt from clogged pores without causing irritation. For details, see Shopping Guide.





ELLE BEAUT

"Growing up in Canada, I rarely saw someone in a magazine or on television who reflected the way I looked. Now, the beauty industry is taking active steps to become more diverse and [portray] what people around the world look like, and that indusive approach is going to help redefine beauty. For me to be a face of CoverGirt a brand I've always used, I hope it shows Canadians that no matter your culture, religion, age, orientation or skin tone, we can all be recognized as beautiful."

- Taketing providing SANGEA MATL, who and develop her had prove a Canada Care Call and a sub-







Hello! Magazine Body Talk







### F Project Mention 2021





Wouldn't it be great to have an intensive moisturizer that wasn't bad for the earth, something that felt like it healed as it moisturized, and actively did good for the world as well? The answer is Eu'Genia Shea. Our line of clean multi-purpose moisturizing balms is the perfect replacement for the chemical or petroleum jelly based product in your purse.



#### **Osmia Mention 2020**

KIN HEALTH V ABOUT US V SKIN QUIZ



#### **EU'GENIA SHEA**

"Green beauty is about making good decisions," says Naa-Sakle Akuete, CEO & Founder of <u>Eu'Genia Shea</u>. "Buying green means resisting calls for ethereal and amorphous positivity and focusing your dollars on change you can see (both in the mirror and in the world around you)." I first discovered Eu'Genia Shea at Anthropologie, where the little tins of ethically sourced shea butter tempted me by the cash wrap. The more I researched the brand, the more I fell in love with their <u>top-to-bottom sustainable</u>





# mindbodygreen

Mind Body Green Mention Dec 2019

mbglifestyle

functional nutrition toaching tlasses supplements

Products we love.

Not interested in going the DIY route? We get it—especially since there are so many excellent products that use the ingredient already. Here, a few for hair and body.





# THE ZOE REPORT

The Zoe Report – If You Hate Greasy Moisturizers, Try This



(f) 🌒 🖉 💌





@eugeniashea

# american spa





# Bustle

**Bustle Mention March 2019** 



Eu'Genia Shea



### Eu'Genia Shea Everyday Shea Butter in Grapefruit

#### Eu'Genia Shea

The lotion at most hotels doesn't do much for my dry skin, so I like bringing a small tin of Eu'Genia Shea Butter with me to avoid unsightly ash.

# \$12 Buy Now On Eu'Genia St

You've likely used at least one product in your life that's contained the miraculous, skin-softening ingredient that is shea butter. But it was probably nothing like the shea butter that the mother-daughter team behind Eu'Genia Shea creates. First of all, the body moisturizers are made with sustainablysourced, natural shea butter and includes other soothing ingredients like moringa oil and baobab oil. More importantly, however, the brand donates 15







#### The 4 Seasons Mention Feb 2019



work on the farm. Plus, Mariani says the product—that can be used all over the body—completely changed and moisturized her skin.



Well Insiders Mention Feb 2019





Balanced Hustler: Meet Naa-Sakle Akuete, CEO of Eu'Genia Shea



BEAUTY FOOD HEALTH

#### How Naa-Sakle Balances the Hustle

You left a career in finance to start Eu'Genia. What was that transition like and how did you deal with the change in atmosphere (I assume there's a big difference between a JP Morgan office and working on your own skincare line)?

There is almost nothing similar about my time in finance and my current work! I think the biggest positive gut reactions were not having to wear a suit every day and not having to wake up before 6 a.m.

There have been a few negatives—I made some of my best friends on the job and it's difficult to keep in touch when I'm so far removed from the equities world, but I'm managing. And I've found a really great network of entrepreneurs who have been integral to me maintaining my sanity.

What skills transferred from your first career? What did you have to learn when you started Eu'Genia Shea?

I'm not sure where I got this, but (for better or worse) I am capable of working for 12 hours without moving (save for the occasional bathroom break!). That has definitely come in handy as when you run your own business, work is never over and there is always more to do.

I had some experience with marketing in school, but theories are a lot different than spending your own money and expecting (slash desperately hoping for) results, so that's definitely something I had to learn on the job as well.



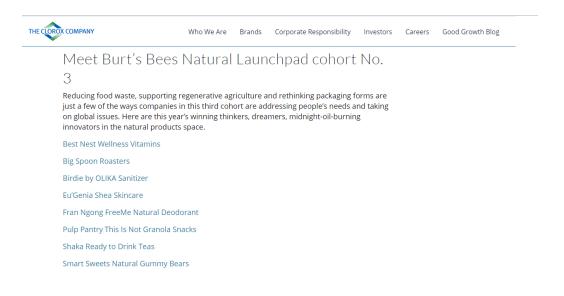
#### 4 New York Mention Dec 2018







### Burt's Bees Launchpad Mention Aug 2018





# INSIDER

#### **Business Insider Mention May 2018**

## INSIDER

### Eu'Genia Shea has streamlined the sheabutter production process, 'from the tree to customers'

Eu'Genia Shea's mission is to harness the power of shea butter to, in Akuete's words, "support as many women as possible, as holistically as possible."

The story starts with Akuete's mother, Eugenia Akuete. She was born in Ghana, left for the United States in 1979, and then returned in 2000, which is when she rediscovered her love of shea butter.

In Africa, shea butter has been used for years to reduce the appearance of stretch marks, soothe rashes, and as a cooking oil, according to the website for Naasakle International, the company Eugenia founded to import shea butter from Ghana to the US.





#### Sophie Uliano Review Jan 2018







#### **Tory Burch Foundation Mention 2018**



#### I was inspired to launch Eu'Genia Shea because...

My mother, who has overcome cancer, and given my family the best opportunities she could, is the inspiration behind Eu'Genia Shea.

#### Our mission is...

To support as many women as holistically possible, while providing high quality, all natural, and ethically sourced shea products to consumers.

#### What I did prior to starting my business...

Before I started <u>Eu'Genia Shea</u>, I was doing finance work as a Wall Street analyst. I pitched European stocks to investors in the United States then wrote research on American and European airlines.

#### Ways that I stay creative...

I stay creative by writing. (Not that I'm particularly good at it, but it's fun!)

## What being a woman entrepreneur means to me...

Being a woman entrepreneur means being part of a strong, supportive and conscientious







#### Maxim Mention Sept 2017



Eu'Genia Shea Butter Gift Pack - It's no secret: women love a man who looks, feels, and smells good. This all-natural line of raw Shea butter products from Ghana will give you skin she can't keep her hands off with subtle, chemical-free scents. \$12.50-\$40.00

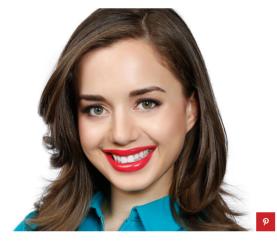
# Women's Health



#### Women's Health Mention Dec 2016

#### $\equiv$ Women'sHealth

#### Karissa Bodnar, founder of Thrive Causemetics



KARISA BODNAR

"In the morning, I cleanse with the <u>Clarisonic Smart Profile</u> using their <u>Gentle Hydro</u> <u>Cleanser</u>; it is my absolute favorite cleanser! Then I apply <u>Sahajan Protective Face Serum</u> all over my face, including my undereyes, followed by <u>La Mer Eye Balm</u> under my eyes and on my eyelids using my Clarisonic Opal to infuse the formula into my skin. Next, I gently massage <u>Sahajan Nourish Face Cream</u> into my skin, wait two to three minutes for the products to absorb, and then apply <u>Skinceuticals Physical Fusion tinted SPF 50</u>. I put <u>Eu Genia Shea Butter</u> all over my lips before applying makeup. In the evening, I use a cleansing towelette to remove makeup, cleanse with the Clarisonic using the Gentle Hydro Cleanser, apply Clarisonic's <u>anti-aging sea serum</u> all over my face, apply La Mer Eye Balm under my eyes and on my eyelids using my Clarisonic Opal to infuse the formula into my skin. Then, I gently massage Sahajan Nourish Face Cream into my skin and put Eu Genia Shea Butter all over my lips again before going to bed."





#### Huffpost Feature Dec 2016

#### Naa-Sakle Akuete, Contributor

Founder & CEO of Eu'Genia Shea, a mother/daughter-run social enterprise dedicated to empowering women. www.eugeniashea.org

# When Work Defines You

01/14/2016 03:00 pm ET | Updated Dec 06, 2017



Like many women, each aspect of my life is defined by perspective. Growing up in an immigrant family, my parents saved every penny to send me to the best schools — which left few pennies available for Christmas. I carry two passports, which means I sometimes feel I don't "belong" to any one country. I'm lucky enough to have those passports





#### **AmEx Feature Now Oct 2016**

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*Akuete's social mission is ingrained in her business model. Eu'Genia Shea's sales help fund the education of her suppliers' children.* 

Back in Akuete's basement-turned-production center, the smell of shea butter envelops you as soon as you open the door. There are framed photos of some of the children Eu'Genia Shea has sent to school hanging on the walls. Akuete met them and their mothers during her first visit to the production center in Damongo-a trip,



# SEPHORA

Sephora Accelerate Mention March 2016

SEPHORA Announces The Female Entrepreneurs Selected To Participate In Its Inaugural SEPHORA Accelerate Cohort

## SEPHORA

NEWS PROVIDED BY SEPHORA → Mar 08, 2016, 01:03 ET



#### Naa-Sakle Akuete, Eu'Genia Shea

Eu'Genia Shea makes shea-based products with at least 95% pure shea content. Their fully transparent supply chain empowers women and their families in Ghana.

"If you've been given the resources and opportunities to work for yourself, making sure your business supports the entire chain is an obligation not a choice; I couldn't live with myself any other way."





### **Root Mention**

### Eu'Genia Shea



Eu'Genia Shea

Naa-Sackle Akuete creates soothing shea products for her business, <u>Eu'Genia</u> <u>Shea</u>. Named for Akuete's mother, Eu'Genia specializes in shea butters for midwifery, so consider a gift for a new mother in your life.