

34TH RUBY McKNIGHT WILLIAMS AWARDS DINNER
10.3.19 • PASADENA HILTON • 6PM



Congratulations on 100 years,

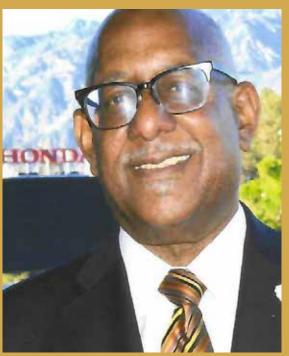
NAACP Pasadena!

I appreciate your dedication to providing equal opportunities through jobs and education in our community.



- **f** @SupervisorBarger
- **y** @KathrynBarger
- @@SupervisorKathrynBarger KathrynBarger.LACounty.gov

MESSAGE FROM BRANCH PRESIDENT, ALLEN EDSON





Greetings,

Tonight, the Pasadena Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is celebrating our Centennial in Pasadena, at the 34th Annual Ruby McKnight Williams Awards Dinner.

Thank you all for celebrating this historic achievement with us. The Pasadena Branch has strived for what is right and will continue to fight for what is right in the City of Pasadena.

Diversity and inclusion have long been the hallmarks of the Branch since its founding by John Wright, September 8, 1919, before it was fashionable, in all aspects of life in Pasadena. The Branch lead the court battle for the desegregation of the Brookside Plunge, the selection of the Rose Queen and her Court, and the desegregation of the Pasadena Unified School District.

If you were to take an informal poll of the African American residents of Pasadena, they will all express their love for Pasadena, without providing any specific reason. Growing up in a family environment where the NAACP was front and center in the conversation, I surmise that their love for Pasadena is due to the work of the NAACP and the courage we have instilled in the community, to let their voices be heard.

The Branch continues fighting for what is right, and to be successful, we need to work together as a community. The NAACP has joined with the Interdenominational Ministrial Alliance (IMA), in a Civic Engagement Project for the 2020 Election cycle. We are working to provide voter education with workshops, candidate forums and get out to vote

The Branch is working with Innovate Pasadena in the budding Innovation/Technology sector growing in Pasadena. We have been hosting a walking tour (STEM Crawls) in Old Pasadena, of start-up companies, with stem students in middle school through Community College, to expose young people to the opportunities that exist in the industry and open their eyes to the possibilities of their creativity.

The Branch is reaching out to our Membership and interested parties to support us in these endeavors.

Tonight is all about the Celebration! In the words of the Pointer Sisters, "I'm so Excited, I just can't fight it, I'm about to lose Control, and I think I like it."

Peace Be Upon You All

Allen Edson, President, Pasadena Branch NAACP



Incarceration Trends in America

> Between 1980 and 2015, the number of people incarcerated in America increased from roughly 500,000 to over 2.2 million.

- > Today, the United States makes up about 5% of the world's population and has 21% of the world's prisoners.
- > 1 in every 37 adults in the United States, or 2.7% of the adult population, is under some form of correctional supervision.

Effects of Incarceration

- > A criminal record can reduce the likelihood of a callback or job offer by nearly 50 percent. The negative impact of a criminal record is twice as large for African American applicants.
- > Infectious diseases are highly concentrated in corrections facilities: 15% of jail inmates and 22% of prisoners – compared to 5% of the general population – reported ever having tuberculosis, Hepatitis B and C, HIV/AIDS, or other STDs.
- > In 2012, the United States spent nearly \$81 billion on corrections.
- > Spending on prisons and jails has increased at triple the rate of spending on Pre-K-12 public education in the last thirty years.

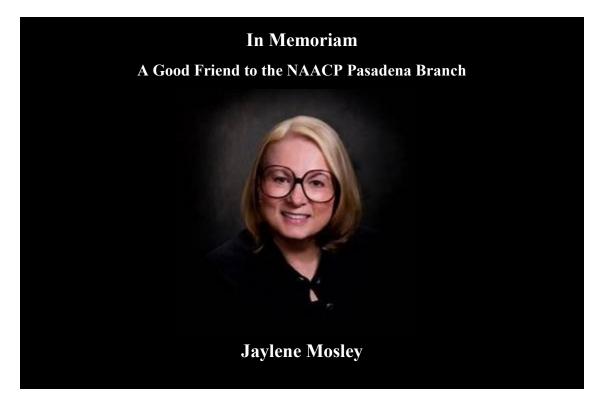


Join Today!

If you care about fighting the disparities that are still too prevalent in America, the NAACP is the place where you can make a difference. Please see any NAACP member tonight for information.

NAACP Pasadena Branch 595 Lincoln Avenue Suite 103 Pasadena, CA 91103 Open M-F, 10am to 2pm Call 626.793.1293 naacppasadena@gmail.com

Annual Dues - \$30







Derrick Johnson

President and Chief Executive Officer

October 3, 2019

PASADENA BRANCH NAACP:

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and gratitude as you convene for your 34th Ruby McKnight Williams Awards Dinner and celebrate 100 years of service! It remains my honor to advocate alongside you in the equal opportunity and social justice work of the NAACP. We stand firm in our vision of a society in which all individuals have equal rights without racial discrimination. Thank you for your ongoing, steadfast commitment to this work.



This is a definitive period for African Americans across the country. This year, we commemorate the 400th year since our African ancestors were brought to this side of the world. While those four centuries have been marked by systemic oppression and trauma, out of that pain we have witnessed Black triumph. We have seen the birth of Black leaders who have brought civil rights and social justice to new heights, leaving a lasting mark across the globe. Many who have faced racial segregation and injustice have taken heed from our civil rights movements.

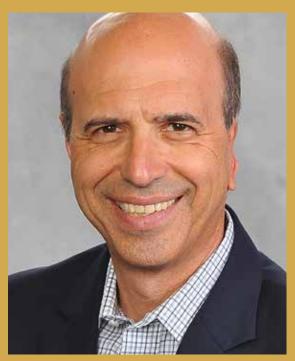
As we look back on our history, we must continue to march toward a more equitable society. It is imperative that we mobilize our communities for the 2020 Census and presidential election. Elections and the Census have consequences. The Census determines the number of congressional seats each state will have, and it is the precursor to redistricting. One of the most effective ways to suppress the Black vote is by gerrymandering us into oppression. There is simply too much at stake for our communities to let this happen. We must resolve to keep the momentum going of our last midterm elections, when we elected the most diverse Congress in our nation's history and elevated the discourse around civil rights. The trajectory of our democracy rests squarely on our shoulders.

Representing many of the nation's fiercest, most dedicated, most experienced activists and pioneers of the cause; we must get counted and we must turn out and vote. Together, in record numbers, we can steer our country back toward the path of freedom and justice.

In solidarity,

Derrick Johnson President and CEO

HONORARY CHAIRPERSON DARRYL DUNN, ROSE BOWL OPERATING COMPANY





Darryl Dunn has served as the CEO & General Manager of the Rose Bowl Stadium since 1999. He is responsible for managing all aspects of the facility, including contract negotiations with prospective events, ongoing relationships with existing tenants and all financial, marketing, and operational needs for the stadium.

He is extensively involved in long range planning for the facility and spearheaded the planning and execution of a \$183 million renovation for the historic facility beginning in 2011. Recently, he negotiated thirty-year agreements with tenants UCLA and the Tournament of Roses and long-term agreements with sports marketing companies IMG and Legends. In the spring of 2016, Dunn oversaw the approval of a multi-year music and arts festival at the Rose Bowl beginning in 2017 in partnership with worldwide promoter AEG.

During his tenure, the Rose Bowl has hosted four National Championship Games in college football, the annual Rose Bowl Game, Copa America, numerous international soccer matches, including hosting the national teams of Brazil, Columbia, Mexico and the United States, as well with clubs such as Barcelona, Real Madrid and Manchester United. Concerts have included the record breaking U2 2009 event, as well as Justin Timberlake, Beyonce, Jay Z, Kenny Chesney and many more. Mr. Dunn also serves as the primary representative of the City of Pasadena to American Golf Corporation related to the operation and long term planning for Brookside Golf Course, a 36-hole public golf course in Pasadena. Prior to coming to the Rose Bowl, Mr. Dunn worked for the Los Angeles Lakers, Los Angeles Raiders, Los Angeles Clippers and World Cup 1994 Organizing Committee.

Dunn has been involved with several local and national non-profit organizations. He is very proud of serving as the honorary co-chair of the annual NAACP Ruby McKnight Williams Awards Dinner for the past 10 years, and views participating in the 2019 event as a special honor given that the Pasadena branch of the NAACP is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

He has also received numerous community, business and neighborhood awards for his commitment to others, including being named by the Los Angeles Business Journal as one of the most 500 influential people in Los Angeles.

A native of Connecticut, Mr. Dunn resides in Santa Clarita and is married and has two children.

CHAIRPERSONS JUANITA WEST TILLMAN & TOMMY MCMULLINS



Juanita West Tillman





Tommy McMullins

Greetings

We are excited to be 100 YEARS Strong as the need for advocacy for Social Justice still exists. It is our pleasure to welcome each of you to this Pasadena NAACP Branch Centennial Celebration and the 34th Ruby McKnight Williams Awards Dinner. Although, this evening is dedicated to tonight's honorees we honor and appreciate each of you who has supported the Branch in some way through these 100 years.

As we continue to grow and adapt to the changing times, needs, and interests of our community, we are fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to meet the challenges before us.

During these times, we continue to be inspired by the camaraderie and general kinship that is shared at this annual event. Your consistent presence and financial support help the Pasadena NAACP Branch continue to thrive as it works to improve the quality of life for all citizens of the community. Thank you for spending this October evening with us as we continue celebrating One Hundred Years!!

Warm regards,

RMW Event Chairpersons

CONGRESSWOMAN JUDY CHU



CELEBRATES THE

PASADENA BRANCH OF NAACP 34TH ANNUAL RUBY MCKNIGHT WILLIAMS AWARDS DINNER

"CELEBRATING 100 YEARS STRONG"

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF TONIGHT'S HONORES!

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October 3, 2019

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Pasadena Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People 34th Annual Ruby McKnight Williams Awards Banquet. I thank this year's executive officers and banquet Chairs, Juanita West Tillman and Tommy McMullins for organizing this evening's awards dinner.

The Pasadena NAACP is celebrating its 100th year in our community. This milestone is a testament of their leadership and advocacy, addressing the needs of our community. The California State Legislature appreciates the focus of the NAACP and their fight for racial and economic justice, climate change, education, criminal justice reform, and civic engagement.

I congratulate the Ruby McKnight Williams Award honorees for their relentless efforts to bring solidarity to a divided society. And I am proud to represent the Pasadena Branch of the NAACP and in the State Legislature.

Sincerely,

State Senator Senate District 25

bothing I Portantimo

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE



NAACP PASADENA 100TH ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS STRONG

Congratulations on the 100th Anniversary of the NAACP Pasadena. Thank you for fighting for political, educational, social, and economic equality in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all persons.

October 3, 2019

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CHRIS HOLDEN
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 41st District

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In recognition of dedicated service to the affairs of the community and for the civic pride demonstrated by numerous contributions for the benefit of all the residents of Los Angeles County



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Chaje of the Board
Superviser, Fourth District

Julia J. Auli

Supervisor, Second Districts

Supervisor, Third District



October 3, 2019

To Friends and Supporters of NAACP, Pasadena Branch:

It is an honor for me to extend a cordial welcome to the 34th Annual Ruby McKnight Williams Awards Dinner of the NAACP Pasadena Branch. I am confident everyone will enjoy an exciting and successful event.

For over a century, the NAACP has been one of the great champions of civil rights and equality in this nation, and has been a motivating force and a strong supporter of our City's cultural diversity.

Congratulations as the NAACP Pasadena Branch celebrates 100 years, and best wishes to tonight's honorees.

Sincerely,

TERRY TORNEK

Mayor

TT:jls



CITY COUNCIL



October 3, 2019

Dear Friends:

As the Pasadena NAACP Branch celebrates its 100th anniversary (1919-2019), I would like to commend the organization on being actively involved in the local community. Having the opportunity to write this tribute letter has given me a chance to reflect upon how the Pasadena NAACP Branch has worked to make our city a better place.

I sincerely believe that the work of the NAACP, at both the national level as well as in our Pasadena Branch, is central to the diversity that we see today on the Pasadena City Council today. If not for the foundation laid and continuously cultivated by the Pasadena Branch, I might not have the opportunity to serve on our City Council and to build upon the work of the Pasadena NAACP Branch through my efforts as an elected representative.

During its 100 years of being actively involved, the Pasadena NAACP Branch worked to desegregate the recreational facilities and the swimming pool at Brookside so they could be used by all citizens. This desegregation effort was ensured through a 1939 court case. Because of this particular accomplishment of the Pasadena Branch, I have been able to build upon the efforts some 80 years later. In collaboration with aquatics center leadership, a program that offers young people opportunities to learn more about competitive swimming, diving, water polo, and junior lifeguard skills has been established. The "Get in the Swim" program is an ongoing program in partnership with one of our local middle schools. The program would not exist today without the foundation laid through the work of the Pasadena NAACP Branch 80 years ago.

The Pasadena NAACP Branch continues to be a dynamic force for good. The support and service the Pasadena Branch provides our community are of tremendous value and importance. Congratulations on a century of answering the call of humanitarianism and volunteerism. This is a milestone to be honored and celebrated.

Tyron Hampton

Vice Mayor & City Councilmember, District 1



HON. JOHN J. KENNEDY COUNCILMEMBER - DISTRICT 3

October 3, 2019

Dear Friends,

Tonight, we proudly celebrate 100 YEARS of service to the Greater Pasadena Community by this revered and respected civil rights organization – The Pasadena Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The Pasadena NAACP was established 10 years after a multiracial and multi-religious group birthed the national body. Our Pasadena NAACP is a vanguard for justice.

"Constitutional Law," as we Americans know it, came largely about due to legal battles fought and won by NAACP lawyers, including Charles Hamilton Houston, the Dean of Howard University School of Law, and his protégées Thurgood Marshall; Wiley Branton; Constance Baker Motley; Spottswood Robinson III; and, locally, Samuel Sheats; and Walter Shatford.

The iconic *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court case in 1954, that originated out of Topeka, Kansas, outlawed separate but unequal schools. Since then, the Pasadena NAACP has fought and won its own desegregation case in *Spangler v. Pasadena Schools* in 1976.

So, tonight, we celebrate the legacy and ongoing importance of the Pasadena NAACP as it continues to fight for justice for African Americans and all Americans. May it continue to thrive and trail-blaze justice! Let us defeat the enemies and foes of equal opportunity, quality public education for all, full employment, environmental justice, prison reform, unbiased policing, and voting rights.

We commend the Pasadena NAACP and all those respected members who served in various capacities in the organization: John R. Wright, its founder; Edna Griffin, M.D.; Ruby McKnight Williams; Marjorie K. Wyatt; Dr. James King; Fred Valentine; Dr. Ned Munger; Ralph Riddle, and many others.

To the members, leaders, and friends of the Pasadena NAACP, we say THANK YOU for your continued service!

Respectfully yours,

John J. Kennedy

John J. Kennedy

NAACP PASADENA BRANCH HISTORY & OFFICERS

The NAACP Pasadena Branch has been an active civil rights organization in Pasadena, California for 100 years. It was chartered by the National Office on September 8, 1919, and was the 16th charter issued by the National NAACP.

The Branch was founded when a small group of citizens answered the call of John Wright to respond to the needs of minority people in Pasadena. Their first step was to build an organization which served as the voice of all those denied the basic dignities rightfully due human beings, especially African American citizens in the City of Pasadena.

Ruby McKnight Williams, for whom the annual Awards Dinner was named, served Pasadena for over 50 years. Her achievements were many and she received countless awards for her tireless efforts in serving our community. Mrs. Williams' greatest service was to the Pasadena NAACP Branch. She served as the branch president in 1959, 1960, 1969, and into the 1970's. During this period, the branch supported two national precedent-setting civil rights cases.

The Pasadena Branch is one of only three locations in Southern California with an office open five days a week run by volunteers. The volunteers are citizens of Pasadena/Altadena who respond to the call of humanitarianism and volunteerism without regard to race or ethnicity.

The Branch sponsors the ACT-SO enrichment program (Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics) designed to recruit, stimulate, improve and encourage high academic and cultural achievement among high school students. These students are given the opportunity to participate in 24 categories of competition in the sciences, humanities, business and performing and visual arts. Local winners compete at the National level for gold, silver and bronze medals along with cash scholarship awards. In addition, the Pasadena Branch awards over \$10,000 annually in scholarships to local high school graduates.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OFFICERS

Allen Edson President Richard Horton, First Vice President Marilyn Mays, Second Vice President Nicole Bernard, Third Vice President Juanita West Tillman, Secretary Lynnette West-Cater, Treasurer

MEMBERS

Florence Anang
Dominick Correy
Allisonne Crawford
Lois Gaston
Elbie "Skip" Hickambottom
Jacqueline James
Robert Jenkins
Tommye Martin
Marilyn Mays

Honey Milloy Alma Stokes Aaron Wheeler Michelle White

PAST PRESIDENTS

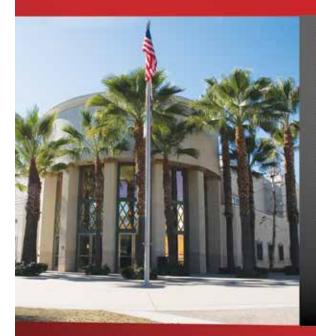
Mr. John Wright (1919 Organizer) Rev. A. R. Shattuck (1st President) Carl Anderson Charles Bereal Joe Brown Bryan Caldwell Dr. I. B. English Niles Garett Dr. Edna Griffin

Lyn Hattersley Charles Johnson George Jones John Kennedy Ursula Long **Ruby McKnight Williams** Steven Mack Rev. Elbert Moore Gary L. Moody Taylor Morton Thomas Nelson Effie Sapp Samuel Sheats Fletcher Smith A. R. Traylor Lorenzo "GIP" Traylor Rev. W. A. Wilkes Delano Yarbrough



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LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Written by James Weldon Johnson

Lift ev'ry voice and sing

Till earth and heaven ring

Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;

Let our rejoicing rise

High as the list'ning skies

Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us.

Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,

Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,

Bitter the chast'ning rod.

Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;

Yet with a steady beat,

Have not our weary feet

Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,

We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered.

Out from the gloomy past,

Till now we stand at last

Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,

God of our silent tears,

Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;

Thou who has by Thy might

Led us into the light.

Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Least our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,

Lest our hearts.

Drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;

Shadowed beneath Thy hand,

May we forever stand.

True to our God

True to our native land.

RUBY MCKNIGHT WILLIAMS

Ruby McKnight
Williams, for whom
this dinner and
award were named,
served Pasadena
for over 50 years.
Her achievements
were many and she
received countless
awards for her
tireless efforts in
serving our community.



Mrs. Williams'

greatest service was to the Pasadena NAACP Branch. She served as the branch president in 1959, 1960, 1969 and into the 1970's. During this period, the branch supported two national precedent-setting civil rights cases.

In 1958, the Pasadena NAACP determined that in her honor an award should be given to those who demonstrate excellence in community service. In 1983, in recognition of Mrs. Williams' dedicated service to the cause of civil rights and human dignity, she was given the honor of President Emeritus.





PROGRAM

Presentation of Colors Color Guard, Blair High School, Sergeant Turner

Pledge of Allegiance Darryl Dunn, Honorary Chair,

Welcome Allen Edson, President, NAACP Pasadena Branch

Greetings Mayor Terry Tornek

IntroductionDarryl DunnMaster of CeremoniesDanny Parker

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" Video Presentation (words on p18)

Invocation Rev. Madelyn Manning

DINNER

Presentation of Scholarship Recipients and ACT-SO Participants

Juanita West Tillman, Event Chair

Special Recognition of Centenarians Joanna Foster / Todd Johnson / Annie Williams

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS Danny Parker

Ruby McKnight Williams Award Arzella Valentine, Woods-Valentine Mortuary

Arts Award Floyd Norman

Community Award Pablo Alvarado, Pasadena Community Job Center

Education Award Dr. Yahia Abdul-Rahman, Author, Founder of Muslim Schools

Youth Award Jordan Patton, ACT-SO Silver Medalist, Original Essay

Civic Award Phillip A. Washington, CEO, L. A. Metro

President's Award

Laura Farber, Tournament of Roses, President

Corporate Award

Kaiser Permanente, School of Medicine

Small Business Award

Little Red Hen, Barbara Shay, CEO

Faith/Cultural Award Imam J.D. Hall, Actor

Faith/Cultural Award
Bryan Takeda, Pasadena Japanese Cultural Center
Faith/Cultural Award
Rabbi Marvin Gross, Retired CEO, Union Station

Faith/Cultural Award Rev. Kerwin Manning, Pasadena Church

John Wright Leadership Award Joe Brown, Past NAACP President, Community Leader

Closing Remarks Allen Edson, President, Pasadena NAACP

Benediction Rabbi Marvin Gross

Dancing will be held in the California Room after the program



RUBY MCKNIGHT WILLIAMS BANQUET COMMITTEE

BANOUET COMMITTEE

Darryl Dunn, Honorary Chairperson

Juanita West Tillman, Chairperson

Tommy McMullins, Chairperson

Florence Anang

Norma Bell

LaWanda Burnes

Anne Marie Hickambottom

Leslie Hickambottom

Tommye Martin

Alma Stokes

Carlette Thompson

Otis Triplett

Lynnette West-Cater

Samella Yarbrough

Jo Yeargin

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INVITATION AND PROGRAM COVER DESIGN

Timothy McMullins

(PUSD and Cal Poly Pomona Graduate)

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Michael Fernandez

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PROUDLY SUPPORTS

PASADENA NAACP CELEBRATING 100 YEARS STRONG

Congratulations & Best Wishes
2019 Ruby McKnight Williams Award Honorees



NAACP / MAURICE MORSE 2019 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Pasadena Branch NAACP awards annual scholarships to high school seniors in honor of Maurice Morse, a retired Pasadena Unified School District educator, a long-term member and supporter of the NAACP.

Ahmoray Arana	Pasadena High School / University of California Riverside
Joseph Brumfield	Maranatha High School / San Diego State University
Samanatha Harris	Marshall Fundamental School / DePaul University
Shirley Magee	Alhambra High School / Cal State University Los Angeles
Madison Manning	Flintridge Preparatory School / Howard University
Kelsey Mumford	Ramon Cortinez School / University of the Arts London
Cayce Pamplin	Marshall Fundamental School / Pasadena City College
Dylan Robinson	Cathedral High School / Cal State University Fullerton





We want to congratulate the NAACP for dedicating 100 years to striving for equality in our political, educational, social, and economic systems in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all people.

Congratulations to the 34th Annual Ruby McKnight Williams Awards Dinner 2019 Honorees

Ruby McKnight Williams - ARZELLA VALENTINE Arts Award - FLOYD NORMAN Youth Award - JORDAN PATTON Community Award - PABLO ALVARADO Civic Award - PHILLIP WASHINGTON Education Award - YAHIA ABDUL-RAHMAN Faith/Cultural Award - RABBI MARVIN GROSS Faith/Cultural Award - IMAM J D HALL Faith/Cultural Award - REV. KERWIN MANNING Faith/Cultural Award - BRYAN TAKEDA John Wright Leadership Award - JOE BROWN President's Award - LAURA FARBER Small Business Award - LITTLE RED HEN, The Shay Family College Scholarship Awardees

We commend the educators that were influential in the lives of the awardees. We encourage youth, college students, and second career professionals to consider a career as a teacher! Contact us for more information.

Contact Us! (323)343-4300

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MASTER OF CEREMONIES DANNY PARKER





A Pasadena native and Muir High graduate, Danny Parker received a BS in Industrial Engineering, an MBA and a JD – all from Stanford University. His corporate legal, financial and strategic planning experience has been in various industries – construction materials, real estate development, music, financial services and tech. For professional athletes, he negotiated and structured business deals.

Parker currently provides financial and legal services to vending machine manufacturers, logistics firms, a pharmaceutical company and a social media tech firm. Locally, he chairs the Robinson Park Recreation Center Renovation Project Steering Committee, serves on the executive committee for the Man Cave portion of the So Cal Women's Health Conference and is a member of the Garfield Heights Neighborhood Association Home Tour Planning Committee.

As a Stanford alumnus, he is a Class Correspondent for Stanford Magazine; Class Reunion Chair; created and manages a national program that matches students and alumni for summer dinners; and after serving as President of the National Stanford Black Alumni Association, now serves as a board member of the Stanford Black Alumni of Southern California.

A raw vegan, Parker is obsessed with nutrition; a huge sports fan, he lives and breathes LA Dodgers baseball and Stanford football; he follows politics, particularly at the federal and state level, closely; and he loves old school soul music, which he quite frequently quotes.



Congratulations, Arzella!

For more than 60 years, Wood Valentine Mortuary has provided excellent service to the family of Jessica Blount Springfield Valentine.

In memory of Rev. George Godfrey & Mother Eva Etta Newton Blount Bailey,
Matriarch Candace Barnes, Donald Lee Blount, James Earl & Gloria Blount, James Robert "Jay" Blount,
Miss Mary Frances Bonner, Mary E. Blount Clemmons, Kathryne Blount Johnson Cummings,
Deacon Earl Etter & Lucretia B. Newton, Deacon George Vinton & Deaconess Dora Jones Peters and 9 year old
Alton Todd we sincerely thank you.

Jessica Valentine

I am equally grateful. In memory of my family members Sarah Henderson, James Monroe & Arteria "Artie" Washington, Deacon John Thomas & Deaconess Pearline Bailey Thomas and Arthur Quentell Hawkins.

Lois Gaston



RUBY MCKNIGHT WILLIAMS AWARD ARZELLA VALENTINE





Arzella J. Valentine was born in Denver, Colorado and raised in Mount Olive, Arkansas. At a young age she discovered that she loved poetry and won speech competitions throughout Arkansas. Arzella moved to California upon graduation from high school and received an AA Degree from Pasadena City College. Later, she sharpened her writing skills at UCLA. She met and married Fred W. Valentine, and became his business partner. Together they purchased James Woods Mortuary in 1954 from Fred's uncle, and built the business we know today as Woods-Valentine Mortuary. Arzella has been a Licensed Funeral Director for more than fifty years and now serves as President of Woods-Valentine Mortuary. She has also worked as a Licensed Life Insurance Agent for many years.

Arzella is a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend to many. She is a long-time member of Friendship Baptist Church and a sincere Christian woman. She has served in many capacities throughout the years such as member of the Finance Committee, Bylaws Committee, and Chair of two National Tea fundraisers. For years she also wrote the New Members column for the church newsletter.

Arzella has served in numerous organizations. Some of her many community involvements through the years include serving as a Board member of the Pasadena NAACP, the Pasadena Urban League, Jack and Jill of America and Pasadena Altadena Links. She also is past member of the Soroptimist Club and has volunteered at Pasadena Elementary Schools and libraries for a number of years, reading to children. She has presented at many Career Day events in the public schools also.

Arzella has received numerous awards. Among them: Women In Action's "Wind Beneath My Wings" Award, NAACP, National Negro Women and Pasadena Work West "Business Awards." Arzella and her husband were Grand Marshals of the Pasadena Black History Parade in 2004.

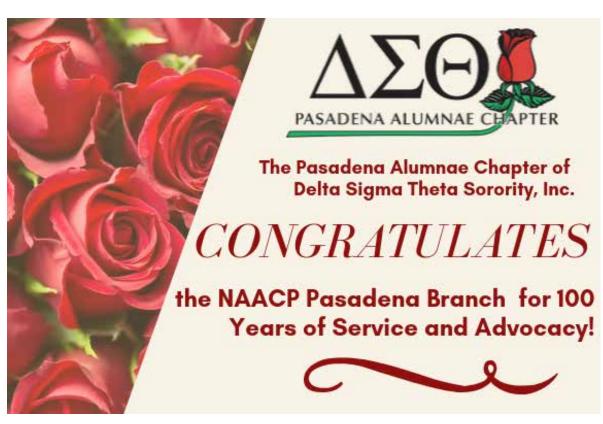
At the age of 75 Arzella wrote and self-published her first book "Growing Up In Mt. Olive." It is a heart-warming collection of poems and short stories, about growing up in a small, loving community in the deep south. Three years later she wrote her second book "Return to Mt. Olive."

Although retired from full time service, Arzella still consults and advises the funeral home staff on a regular basis. She is an icon in her community and continues to support and bless others.

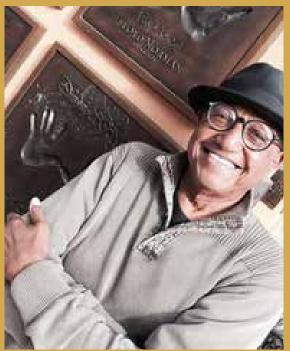


Congratulations! Pasadena NAACP and RMW Honorees

Mzuri & Djekaty



ARTS AWARD FLOYD NORMAN





Floyd Norman has been working in the entertainment business a very long time. He began his professional career while still in high school working as an assistant on Archie Comics. Enrolling in Art Center College of Design in the early fifties he dropped out of school when offered a position at Walt Disney Studios. Floyd learned his animation ropes doing the tedious, grunt work of an apprentice inbetweener in Walt's prestigious story department working on The Jungle Book and life has never been the same.

When Walt Disney departed in the late sixties, Floyd decided to leave the studio as well. He and his partners formed their own production company to produce educational media. Many exciting projects passed through the studio doors and it was a great learning experience for the fledgling filmmakers. However, there were many jobs to follow. Television commercials, animated segments for Sesame Street, Via Allegra, and the dancing Soul Train. Then, there was a seven year stint at Hanna-Barbera doing The Flintstones, Scooby Doo and lots of other unforgettable animated stuff.

Floyd returned to Walt Disney Animation Studios in the nineties. However, after completing story work on three animated features he moved north to Pixar Animation Studios to develop Toy Story2 and Monsters, Inc. By the year 2000, it was time to retire but Floyd chose to ignore the lawn chair and kept on working. Wearing his retiree badge he continued to work at Disney's studio even though he was no longer employed. Floyd illustrated children's books and worked on toys and games in the Consumer Products Division of the company. After working on a number of special animated projects for Walt Disney Animation Studios, the studio bosses realized he wasn't going to go away. A few weeks ago he was offered a job and he took it. Floyd has recently been rehired, and returns to Disney animation after a ten year absence. "Some artists can walk away," says Floyd. "However, I plan to die at the drawing board." If you know Floyd Norman you know he means what he says.

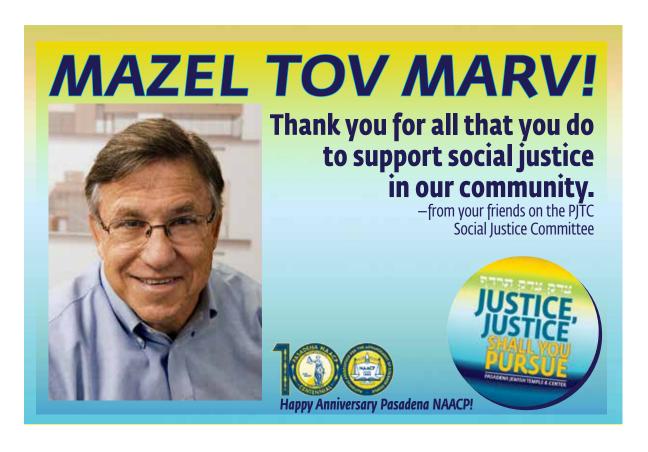


Pasadenans Organizing for Progress congratulates its board members

Pablo Alvarado and Rabbi Marv Gross

Pablo Alvarado is receiving the NAACP Community Award in recognition of his work making Pasadena a more socially and economically just community.

Rabbi Marv Gross is receiving a NAACP Faith/Cultural Award in recognition of his work promoting faith and cultural diversity in Pasadena.



COMMUNITY AWARD PABLO ALVARADO





As a youth, Pablo Alvarado was raised in a village lacking running water and electricity. Working since he was five years-old, Pablo spent several years as a day laborer in the United States, giving him first-hand knowledge of what it means to live and work at the lowest rung of society. This knowledge has stayed with him as he has dedicated his life to reducing the suffering of migrants in the United States. Pablo believes that if you protect those at the bottom of our society all of us are lifted.

Pablo co-founded the Institute of Popular Education of Southern California in 1991, Los Jornaleros del Norte day laborer band in 1996 and the National Day Laborer Organizing Network in 2001. He has won numerous awards and recognitions, including receiving the Next Generation Leadership Fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation, which recognizes entrepreneurial, risk-taking and fair leaders who seek to develop solutions to major challenges of democracy. In 2004, Pablo was also recognized by the Ford Foundation's "Leadership for a Changing World Program." In August 2005, TIME Magazine named Pablo among the 25 most influential Hispanics in the US.

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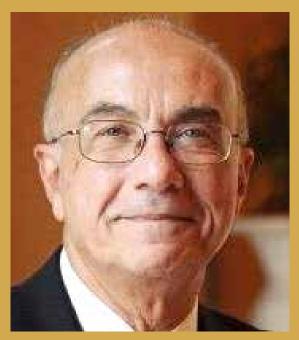
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EDUCATION AWARD DR. YAHIA ABDUL-RAHMAN





Dr. Yahia Abdul-Rahman is founder of the LARIBA Banking Group LBG and Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer LARIBA - Bank of Whittier, National Association.

Author of two books on Interfaith-Based RF (ribit/Riba Free) Banking: "The Art of RF (Riba Free) Islamic Banking and Finance", published in January 2010 and November 2014 by John Wiley & Sons and Translated to Turkish – and "LARIBA BANK - Islamic Banking, Foundation for a United and Prosperous Community" published in 1994.

He is Co-Founder of - the first ever in the world - pilot Interfaith Movement beginning in 1978 with the Catholic Church (Rome) and the Islamic Center of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA) and he Co-Organized with Mayor of Pasadena (Mr. Bill Bogaard) the first Multi-Faiths Prayers at the Footsteps of Pasadena City Hall in Response to the Heinous Crime of 9-11.

Dr. Rahman served as "Invited Imam" in many US and Canadian cities, UK, Turkey, Tunisia, Kazakhstan, Switzerland, Singapore, Thailand, South Africa and India. And he is the Former Chairperson of the Islamic Shura Council of Southern California, which is the umbrella organization of over 65 Islamic Centers and over 600,000 Muslims in Southern California. In addition, he helped in founding many Muslim community centers and schools in the USA and Canada since 1968. Dr. Rahman and his wife are the Founders of the New Horizon Schools in Southern California.

The Author of many lectures and research presentations on the Economic System of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, Raising a Viable Model Family in the West, Building Bridgeswith other Abrahamic Faiths Members, The History of Islam and the Muslims, The HolyLands in the Eyes of the People of Abraham (Jews, Christians and Muslims), Interfaith Communications and Introducing Islam to the Non-Muslims in the West. A recognized Jurisprudence (Judeo-Christian-Islamic Law) researcher and advisor in the fields of: RF Banking and Finance, Family rulings, Business Arbitration and Strategic Planning.

He has been involved in the management of non-profit Civic and faith-based Organizations; has extensive experience in Investment Banking, Commercial Banks and in Financial; an invited speaker at major International Islamic Finance Forums; Portfolio Manager and Pioneer of the first ever Riba-Free Stock Investment Guidelines; and worked in the Oil and Gas Industry in the USA for over 14 years.

Somehow Dr. Rahman finds time for hobbies that include writing, reading, researching and lecturing about the history of faiths and nations, walking, hiking and swimming. He is interested in building Institutions and organizations both in business and community affairs and activities.

WHAT IS ACT-SO?

The NAACP's Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics is a yearlong achievement program designed to recruit, stimulate, and encourage high academic and cultural achievement among African-American high school students.



ACT-SO includes 29 competitions in STEM, humanities, business, and performing, visual and culinary arts. Almost 300,000 young people have participated in the program since its inception.

ACT-SO HISTORY

1976

Vernon Jarrett presented his concept for ACT-SO an "Olympics of the Mind" to the DuSable Museum of African American History.

1977

The NAACP Board of Directors adopted a resolution to accept ACT-SO as an official sponsored NAACP youth achievement program that would be sponsored by local NAACP units, conduct an annual local competition and bring a contingency of gold medalists to the annual National ACT-SO Competition.

1978

The first National ACT-SO competition was held in Portland, Oregon with seven cities participating: Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New Orleans and St. Louis.

2004

Mr. Vernon Jarrett lost his battle with cancer at 82.

PRESENT

ACT-SO sustains approximately 200 programs nationally. Over the past thirty years, over 300,000 have participated in the program.

2015 and Beyond: NAACP ACT-SO continues to promote growth, excellence and innovation to position ACT-SO competitors as "Leaders For Tomorrow and Beyond."



ACT-SO Chair Marilyn Mays

ACT-SO Co-Chairs Karen Herrera, Aida Torres and Lois Gaston Row 1: Left to Right Jordanne Guidry, Dorian Guerrero, Mariah MacMurphy, Kaitlyn Ng, Gabbie Perkins,Tzeital Paras- Caracc

Row 2: Left to Right Marilyn Mays, Chance Gentry, Miranda Kleir, Amber Serrano, Kayla Collins, Aida Torres, Sandra Collins

Row 3 : Left to Right Karen Herrera, Hugh Alexander, Olgaliver Garcia , Isabella Ponce , Jordan Patton, Andre Collins , Frank Valenzuela



YOUTH AWARD JORDAN PATTON





Jordan Patton, a senior at Marshall Fundamental Secondary School, is a Pasadena native. He attended Pasadena Rosebud Academy from kindergarten to 4th grade. He is very passionate about social issues pertaining to the Black community and often advocates for positive change.

At Marshall Fundamental, Jordan is currently Vice
President of the Christian Club and Black Student Union,

treasurer of the Model United Nations (a club he started there) and Secretary of the National Honor Society. He still finds time to volunteer for community organizations. He is a Pasadena Tournament of Roses Student Ambassador, serves the homeless at Union Station, and was a youth leader for the Pasadena Educational Foundation's summer program.

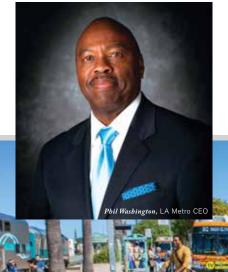
In his free time, Jordan enjoys drawing and creating compelling fictional stories that embody themes that are close to his heart - truth, perseverance, and equity. He wrote a paper titled "America's Unjust Criminal Justice System" for the VIPs summer program at UCLA. Later, after weeks of being mentored by a writing expert that NAACP ACT-SO matched him with, he submitted his improved Original Essay and won a gold medal at the local competition in Duarte, California in April, 2018. Last July, Jordan traveled to Detroit, MI and became a Silver Medal champion at the National Competition.

Jordan said, "Being apart of ACT-SO was an experience I will never forget. My mentor, Ms. Elizabeth Coopersmith helped me tremendously. Her critiques helped me solidify my thoughts and chaperones for my branch (Pasadena/ Duarte 1054) made sure that our trip to Detroit was one to remember. The amount of dedication ACT-SO mentors put into helping perfect my work of art is amazing. I met so many talented individuals along the way from all walks of life. I have found a new family. My Branch has celebrated my accomplishments.

He continued, "The national competition in Detroit was phenomenal and the amount of black excellence was breathtaking. Meeting people from all across the country who expressed their passion for Arts and Sciences truly inspired me to strive for greatness. Everyone was super helpful and supportive, including my chaperones. The ACT-SO Social is something you do not want to miss next year."

Jordan further stated, "I encourage more students of color to participate in ACT-SO to not only to meet extraordinary people and mentors, but to develop their own phenomenal talents and skills. In addition, I want to encourage everyone to register and VOTE in the 2020 presidential election! Regardless, of your age, let's help get out the vote and elect candidates who strive to make America a better place for everyone for generations to come, regardless of race, gender or ethnic background."





CONGRATULATIONS

Phil Washington, LA Metro CEO

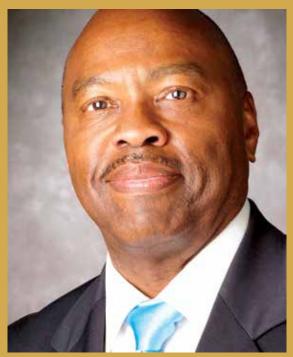
for receiving the NAACP Civic Award. Thank you for your commitment to the community.

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CIVIC AWARD PHILLIP A. WASHINGTON





Phillip A. Washington was unanimously selected CEO of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) by the Metro Board of Directors on March 12, 2015.

As Metro CEO, Washington manages a total balanced budget of \$7.2 billion for FY20, is responsible for overseeing \$18+ billion in capital projects, and provides oversight of an agency with nearly 11,000 employees that transports 1.2 million boarding passengers daily riding on a fleet of 2,000 clean-air buses and six rail lines. LA Metro is the lead transportation planning, programming and financing agency for LA County. As such, it is a major construction agency that oversees bus, rail, highway and other mobility-related infrastructure projects – together representing the largest modern public works program in North America.

Washington was a key leader in the 2016 successful effort to pass a new half-cent sales tax in Los Angeles County, which garnered 71.15% voter approval. Measure M will allow Metro to

build 40 major highway and transit projects over the next 40 years, create 778,000 jobs and provide \$133.3 billion in economic impact for the region.

Washington came to Los Angeles from Denver where he served as the CEO of Denver Regional Transportation District since 2009, after serving as assistant general manager of RTD for nearly 10 years before being named CEO.

In Denver, Washington led and implemented the FasTracks program, one of the largest voter-approved transportation expansion programs in the country. Under his leadership, Denver's West Corridor Rail Line project was completed under budget and eight months earlier than scheduled, and the award-winning Denver Union Station project was completed five months early and is realizing tremendous revenue/value capture from the surrounding development.

Also in Denver, Washington implemented the first and only \$2.2 billion transit public-private partnership (P3), which is still in operation. His emphasis on measuring and managing agency performance led to a nearly 90% on-time bus and rail service, and 96% ADA on-time performance.

and honors. In 2019, he testified before the U.S. Congressional Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. In 2018, he was awarded the Honorable Ray LaHood Award (former U.S. Secretary of Transportation) by the Women in Transportation Seminar (WTS) for his outstanding contribution in promoting opportunities to advance and advocate for women in the transportation industry. In 2017, he was awarded the Judge Harry Pregerson Public Service Award for his service to U.S. military veterans. In 2016, he was chosen by the National Safety Council as one of the CEOs Who "Get It" – an honor bestowed on CEOs who demonstrate leadership in safety at the highest levels. In 2014, he was selected by the editors of Engineering News-Record as one of the Top 25 Newsmakers of 2013. Washington was named 2013-2014 Outstanding Public Transportation CEO of the Year in North America by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). In 2012, he was awarded a White House Transportation Innovators Champion of Change Award. In 2009, he was appointed by Colorado Governor Bill Ritter to serve on the State of Colorado's Workforce Development Council helping the state create a 21st century workforce. In 2007, he was appointed by the mayor of Denver to head the Host Transportation

Originally from the South Side of Chicago – the Chicago housing projects of Altgeld Gardens – Washington is a 24-year veteran of the United States Army, where he held the rank of Command Sergeant Major, the highest non-commissioned officer rank an enlisted soldier can achieve. He retired from active duty, as a disabled veteran and was awarded the prestigious Defense Superior Service Medal for exceptional service to his country. He holds a B.A. in Business from Columbia College, an M.A. in Management from Webster University, and is a graduate of the Harvard University Kennedy School for Senior Executives in State and Local Government. He is also a past chair of APTA.

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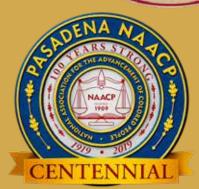


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PRESIDENT'S AWARD LAURA FARBER





Tournament of Roses® President Laura V. Farber provides leadership for the 131st Rose Parade® and the 106th Rose Bowl Game® on January 1, 2020.

Farber has been a volunteer member of the Tournament of Roses Association since 1993. She was appointed a Tournament Chairperson in 2004 and a Tournament Director in 2010. Throughout her extensive Tournament career, Farber has served on and chaired various committees including Decorating Places, Formation Area, Judging and Membership Development. She was elected to the Executive Committee in 2012.

Professionally, Farber is a partner in the Pasadena law firm of Hahn & Hahn, where she practices civil litiga-

tion with an emphasis in employment disputes. Additionally, Farber is a member of the American Bar Association, where she serves as the State Delegate for California in the House of Delegates, Chair of the Latin America and Caribbean Initiative Council, a member of the Rule of Law Initiative Board, a member of the Steering Committee of the Nominating Committee, a former member of the Board of Governors representing the State of California, past chair of the Commission on Youth At Risk, past chair of the Solo Small Firm and General Practice Division, past chair of the Young Lawyers Division and past member of the ABA Journal Editorial Board. She has also served as member of the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, and as a member of the Minorities in the Legal Profession Committee, and she served as President of the Barristers, the LACBA's young lawyers division. She is also a member of the State Bar of California, California Women Lawyers, Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, National Association of Women Lawyers, Mexican-American Bar Association, Latina Lawyers Bar Association and the Hispanic National Bar Association.

In addition to her many years of service in the Tournament of Roses, her civic activities include being a member of the board of directors of the non-profit Clazzical Notes, a four-year member of the board of directors for the YWCA, a member of the school site council for Marengo Elementary School in South Pasadena from 2007-2010, and an officer of the South Pasadena Middle School Booster Club. Ms. Farber also serves as a member of the Rose Bowl Legacy Foundation Advisory Board and the Rose Bowl Legacy Foundation Museum Committee.

She has been named one of the top 50 women lawyers in Los Angeles and featured in the Los Angeles Business Journal. In 2003, she received the American Bar Association's Commission on Ethnic and Racial Diversity in the Profession – Spirit of Excellence Award and, in 2004, she received the YWCA San Gabriel Valley Women of Excellence in the Law Award.

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Farber's native language is Spanish. She earned her bachelor's degree, cum laude, with departmental highest honors, in 1987 from University of California, Los Angeles and her juris doctor, cum laude, in 1990 from Georgetown University. She is admitted to the bars of California, the District of Columbia, Ninth and D.C. Circuits and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Farber and her husband, Tomás Lopez, reside in South Pasadena and have two children, Christopher and Jessica. Her hobbies include music, tennis and reading.



Presenting Sponsors





Conference Chairs: Hon. Kathryn Barger and Lisa Stevens

Suggested Attire: Pink and Pearls

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



2020 Tournament of Roses President Laura Farber

POWER BREAKFAST SESSION

7:00 a.m.



Must RSVP at www.socalwomenconference.com

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Holly Robinson Peete

November 1, 2019

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FREE

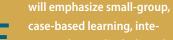
9:30 a.m. Panel Discussion with Dynamic Speakers 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Workshops 7:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m. EXPO and Health/Beauty Exhibits



View website for details and registration:
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CORPORATE AWARD KAISER PERMANENTE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine, located in Pasadena, CA, will be welcoming its charter class of 48 students in July 2020. The school's educational approach



and health systems scienc-

es. The school will approach anatomy instruction through imaging, plastination, and cutting-edge technologies like augmented and virtual reality.

The school will prepare students to become excellent clinicians and lifelong learners. Clinical training will begin in the first month of a student's first year, and will take place primarily in Kaiser Permanente facilities. Students will learn in an environment that embraces diversity of thought, experience, and culture, and values their well-being.

Students also will work in local community clinics to learn about the challenges for patients in under-resourced communities. They will learn what it takes to be change agents in the clinical setting and beyond. This holistic approach to medicine will support the development of physicians with the knowledge, skills, and passion to lead the transformation of healthcare in our nation and help diverse communities thrive.

The Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine will graduate doctors who will reflect the diversity of America, and who will be catalysts for change in every field of medicine wherever they choose to make their careers.

Learn more at medschool.kp.org.







NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Program

Environmental and Climate Justice Program Goals

Environmental injustices, including climate change, have a disproportionate impact on communities of color and low income communities in the United States and around the world. The NAACP ECJ Program was created to provide resources and support community leadership in addressing this human and civil rights issue by advocating for these three objectives:



- 1 Reduce Harmful Emissions, Particularly Greenhouse Gases
 We combine action on shutting down coal plants and other toxic facilities at the local level, as well as building of new toxic facilities, with advocacy to strengthen development, monitoring, and enforcement of regulations at federal, state, and local levels. Also includes a focus on corporate responsibility and accountability.
- 2 Advance Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy
 We work at the state level on campaigns to pass renewable energy and energy efficiency standards
 while simultaneously working at the local level with small businesses, unions, and others on developing
 demonstration projects to ensure that communities of color are accessing revenue generation opportunities in
 the new energy economy, while providing safer, more sustainable mechanisms for managing energy needs for
 our communities and beyond.
- 3 Strengthen Community Resilience and Livability
 We work to ensure that communities are equipped to engage in sustainability/climate action planning that
 integrates policies and practices on advancing food justice, advocating for transportation equity, upholding civil
 and human rights in emergency management, and facilitate participatory democracy.

SMALL BUSINESS AWARD LITTLE RED HEN / BARBARA SHAY





Organic foods without being preachy; traditional menus, 50 years and now one of the oldest, black-owned business in Altadena, can only describe the Little Red Hen restaurant under the ownership of this year's NAACP Small Business award recipient, Barbara Shay.

Barbara was 17 when her mother bought the Little Red Hen. Her brother, Lonzia Shay ran the business for many years until Barbara took over. Throughout the years it has remained committed to good food and good service with a friendly environment.

Barbara says the Little Red Hen is her "spin on soulful delicious recipes" and cooking helps to put her displaced hostility in a pot and mix it up. Barbara also has her own cooking show "Cuttin' Up in the Kitchen," on Pasadena Media and YouTube.

Barbara is a life-long Pasadena resident who over the years has explored a variety of business ventures. She is the mother of four children, Danyal, Naderah, Annisa and Amir Faquir. Barbara has made it her mission to provide homemade food that provides comfort to all and keeps her mother's dream alive.

FAITH/CULTURAL AWARD IMAM J. D. HALL





For the past 40 plus years Imam J. D. Hall has earned his living as a professional actor, writer, director and voiceover artist. He has acted in numerous TV shows including "Fresh Prince of Bel Air, iCarly, and Lincoln Heights. On stage he has written award winning plays, directed and performed in classics like Shakespeare's "Hamlet", "Othello" and "Romeo and Juliet."

He was the first Black actor to play the coveted role of lago in a professional theatre production anywhere in the world, in the L. A. Globe Theatre's production of "Othello" in 1978; He also directed the production.

In 1983 he was the first Black man to run for the Presidency of a major entertainment union when he ran for the Presidency of the Screen Actors Guild at which he had been a Board Member for three years. He received 20% of the vote, one point shy of

the percentage that Rev. Jesse Jackson received that same year when he ran for the Democratic Nomination and got 21% of the popular vote.

As a writer Imam J. D. Hall was in the first cohort of writers in Disney's Minority Writers Program. From 1990 to 1992 he was a salaried writer at Disney Studios in Burbank.

Imam Hall provided voice work on more than 500 TV shows and films. Shows such as "Star Trek", "Cagney & Lacy" and "Hill Street Blues", and such films as "The Hulk", "Black Panther", "Undercover Brother" and "The Scorpion King." His voice can also be heard as Frederick Douglass in the "Lincoln Show" and as Brer Fox on the "Splash Mountain" ride, both at Disneyland. From 2001 to 2009 he was the Narrator of Disney World's "Hall of Presidents," inheriting the job from Maya Angelou and passing it on to Morgan Freeman. He is also the Narrator at The Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN.

This is but a small sampling of Imam Hall's work in his "subsistence gig." If you are interested in more you can Google him either as Imam J. D. Hall or J. D. Hall – Actor. There is an R&B singer by the same name J. D. Hall and Imam Hall wants everyone to know that that is not him.

In 1979, Allah (God) guided Imam J. D. Hall to Islam. "I was doing a play at the Inner City Cultural Center. The character I was playing had Muslim characteristics in that he did not drink and he was from the desert and every other character considered him honest and truthful. I knew little or nothing about Islam at the time. I was traveling by bus and the bus would pass by the Islam Center of Southern California on Vermont Ave.

So one day I got off hoping to get some information on Islam that would give me insight into the character I was playing. It was closed but I was invited to come back the following Sunday. I did and I have been studying, striving and growing in Islam ever since.

I have experienced all five of the Pillars of Islam and many of its duties; I have given the call to prayer, led the prayer, given the Friday sermon, washed and buried the dead, married the living, blessed the newborn, counselled individuals and couples who were in need of it, given lectures and talks to Muslims and non-Muslims alike and generally tried to be of help and service in any capacity I was capable of, to anyone in need of me.

This is now my primary occupation (work), performing to the best of my ability the daily tasks that Allah assigns to me in order to move myself and others closer to the remembrance and presence of Him.

This is the best and most important activity any human being can undertake.

I thank Allah for choosing and preparing me to work in His cause. Allahu Akbar! (God Is Greatest!) Ameen!"

FAITH/CULTURAL AWARD BRIAN TAKEDA





Bryan Takeda is President of Affinity Associates, a promotional products, marketing and program management business located in Monrovia, CA. Bryan is extremely active in the Japanese American community. He has served as a board member and has held several officer positions at the Pasadena Japanese Cultural Center since 1986. He has also helped to start many organizations and programs in the Japanese American community including Mirai Nihongo Gakuin – Pasadena Japanese Language Academy, the Nikkei Federation, the Southern California Japanese American Leaders Forum, the Rising Stars Youth Leadership

Program and the Pasadena-Mishima Friendship Youth Exchange Program. He also serves on several boards including the California Japanese American Community Leadership Council, the California Association of Japanese Language Schools, the Pasadena City College President's Asian Advisory Council and the Pasadena Japanese Cultural Institute.

Bryan holds the rank of yondan (4th degree black belt) in Kendo and was a member of the U.S. Kendo Team at the 1976 World Kendo Championships in London, England. Bryan earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from UCLA. Bryan and his wife Jeri have two daughters, Lauren (31) and Courtney (27).

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Mirai Nihongo Gakuin, Pasadena Japanese Language Academy, Founder and President, 2016 to present / California Japanese American Community Leadership Council, Board Member, 2001 to present / California Japantowns Internship Program Committee / Nikkei 2000 conference facilitator / Nikkei Federation, Los Angeles, CA. Founder and President, 1996 to present / 1998 Nikkei Federation Community Leadership Conference organizer / Rising Stars Youth Leadership Program 2002 to present, founder / Rising Stars Alumni Japanese Speaking Parents Association of Children with Challenges, Program founder / Ties That Bind Committee Chair: 2002, 2006, 2008 and 2011 community conference organizer / Southern California Japanese American Leaders Forum Founder and Chair / Pasadena Japanese Cultural Center. President from 1996 to 1998 and 2000 to 2002. Board member since 1986 to 2016 / Pasadena-Mishima Friendship Youth Exchange Program founder / Japanese American Leadership Delegation Program to Japan, 2000 / Pasadena City College, Co-Chair, President's Asian Advisory Council, 2007 to present / California Association of Japanese Language Schools. Board Member and Textbook Management Committee Chair, 2006 to 2017 / Exchange Club of Pasadena, President, 2006 to present / Volunteer basketball coach, Flintridge Preparatory School, 2004-2006 / Nisei College Diploma Project member, Los Angeles, 2005 / Girl Scouts Spanish Trails Council Board Member, 2002 to 2004 / Pasadena Japanese Athletic Association Bruins, volunteer youth basketball coach for over 30 years.

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Congratulations to this year's Ruby McKnight Williams Awardees!

Chris R. Holden

Assemblymember 41st Assembly District

FAITH/CULTURAL AWARD RABBI MARVIN GROSS





Rabbi Marvin Gross has over 40 years of successful experience as a nonprofit executive, congregational rabbi, community and political organizer, fundraiser and social justice advocate.

In 2016, he retired after 21 years as CEO of Union Station Homeless Services, the largest and most comprehensive agency of its kind in the San Gabriel Valley. During his tenure at Union Station, the organization achieved an unprecedented level of growth and service provision.

As a Reform rabbi, he served congregations in San Francisco and Glendale, CA. In addition, he was an executive with the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles for nearly a decade. He has mentored and coached numerous emerging leaders and professionals in the nonprofit sector from diverse backgrounds.

Among his interests are homelessness and poverty alleviation, leadership development, and organizational growth and sustainability.

Gross currently serves on the Los Angeles County Measure H Citizens Oversight Advisory Board as an appointee of Supervisor Kathryn Barger. In addition, he is a member of the Executive Committee of POP! (Pasadenans Organizing for Progress) and is Chair of the Social Justice Committee of Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center.

Originally from Evanston, IL, Rabbi Gross was educated at Amherst College, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and Hebrew University in Jerusalem and has completed the Stanford University School of Business Executive Program for Nonprofit Leaders.

FAITH/CULTURAL AWARD REV. KERWIN MANNING





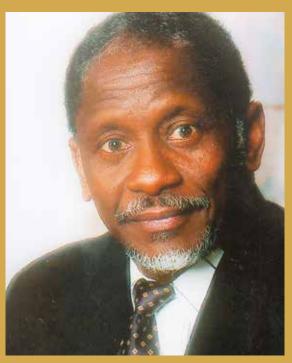
Pastor Kerwin L. Manning serves as the "Head Coach"/Senior Pastor at Pasadena Church...the church with no limits! This vibrant multi-racial, multi-ethnic church is actively pursuing the purposes of God by shepherding their community and serving the nations. Kerwin's energetic worship leading and dynamic speaking has allowed him to minister in an array of settings around the globe. From college campuses to international conventions, he has a God-given gift of ushering people into the presence of God.

Pastor Kerwin has dedicated his life to community transformation. Under his leadership Pasadena Church feeds over 15,000 meals to our community each year. He has also established Future In Focus, a non-profit organization committed to ensuring that our children and youth reach their full potential and destiny. One of his greatest honors is to serve as the current President of the Clergy Community Coalition of Greater Pasadena (CCC), working with faith and civic leaders to improve the quality of life for all people. Over the years he has participated in several other initiatives that promote a stronger community including the Pasadena Mayor's Prayer Breakfast Committee, the Pasadena-Altadena 20/20 Initiative, and Ambassadors for Peace Intervention Community Organization, to name a few.

Born and raised in Toledo, Ohio, Kerwin completed his undergraduate work at Anderson University, Anderson, Indiana with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion. He is a former President of the National Inspirational Youth Convention ("NIYC") of the Church of God. NIYC is one of the largest youth conventions in the United States that ministers to approximately 6,000 delegates annually. He has been in full-time ministry since 1990, serving the local and national church in several capacities. He calls himself an "All Purpose Back" doing whatever it takes to advance the Kingdom of God and serve people.

Since Easter 2001 Kerwin has led Pasadena Church along with his wife and partner in ministry, Madelyn, who is also a very gifted communicator and anointed psalmist. The tragedy of losing their 14 year old daughter Morgan in 2017 compelled them to establish "A Piece of My Heart Foundation", which exists to bring awareness, fund research and support families with CPVT, a rare heart condition. Their goal is to save lives... one heart at a time. They recently celebrated 27 years of marital bliss together and have two beautiful daughters, Madison Denise is a rising Freshman at Howard University, the Mecca of HBCU's; and Morgan Danielle is waiting for them in Heaven.

JOHN WRIGHT LEADERSHIP AWARD JOE BROWN





Joe was raised in Little Rock, Arkansas where he received his early education. He attended Arkansas Baptist College majoring in English & Religion. Later, he moved to Los Angeles and continued his educational pursuit at Cal State Los Angeles. He and his wife Yvonne have been married for 51 years and reside in Altadena.

He was appointed as a 5th District Commissioner for the Department of Social Services (DPSS) by Supervisor Mike Antonovich and reappointed by current Supervisor Kathryn Barger. His direct achievements for the 5th District was to chair the At Risk Youth & Gang Members Committee. Along with LASD, DPSS staff members, public hearings were conducted at DPSS Offices in Pasadena and LA County Exposition Park. Five (5) policy recommendations were presented and adopted by Commission Members and the Department of Social Services resulting in policy changes.

Along with other officers in Antelope Valley, Joe chaired and facilitated meetings to combat Section 8 housing discrimination of marginalized residents who were becoming unnecessarily homeless. It resulted in a successful MOU resolution with LA County Counsel and adoption by LA Board of Supervisors. The settlement throughout Los Angeles County remains in effect to this day.

Additionally, he and other commissioners continue to monitor and recommend ways to reduce the homeless situations in LA County Cities; and, attempt to move recommendations to\thru other commissioners and DPSS as directed by the 5th District Staff.

He co-chaired the Ad-Hoc Military Veterans Committee and with the support of other commissioners, an increase in employment opportunities occurred of the DPSS services. He remains active in the annual Veteran Day Event at Santa Anita Park (hosted by Supervisor Kathryn Barger). He actively assists DPSS to achieve its county & state goals for Cal Fresh participants.

To his credit, he is a past president of the Pasadena NAACP where he lead the Branch in many celebratory milestones; a 34 year retired Pasadena US Postal Supervisor; a graduate of the Pasadena Police Department 22nd Citizen Police Academy; Ordained Deacon; US Army Veteran (Sergeant); past chair of the Deacon Board and of Trustee Board at Metropolitan Baptist Church, Altadena; current Board Member of D'Veal Family Services; member of Gideons International; former Altadena Town Council Representative Census Tract 4301.03;

He has received numerous awards for his community service.

Joe will frequently be heard saying "I did my best, used what i had and expected to be criticized". He loves spending time with his grandchildren, great granddaughter (Brooklynn) and helping those who are less fortunate.

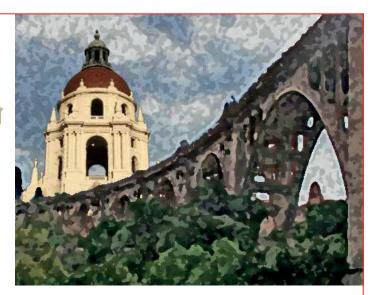
CONGRATULATIONS

to all the 2019 honorees and to the NAACP on their 100 anniversary!



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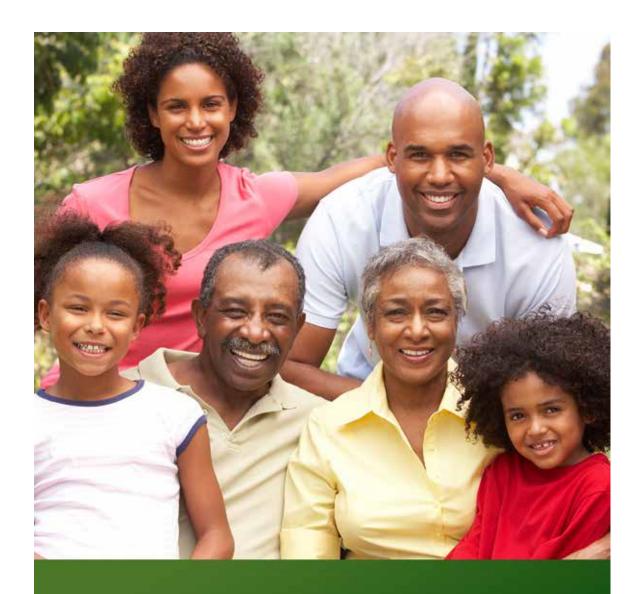
From left to right: Christopher Sistrunk, Ph.D., Loretta Erhunmwunsee, M.D., Rick Kittles, Ph.D., and Veronica C. Jones, M.D.

At City of Hope, we explore both human environments and the human genome to better understand the health needs of high-risk populations, and we strive to improve access to world-class cancer and diabetes care for everyone. We regularly engage underserved communities with culturally sensitive interactions in an effort to build trust and raise awareness of the importance of preventive care and early detection. Learn more at **CityofHope.org** or call **800-826-HOPE (4673).**





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