

<sup>NEW</sup> Pittsburgh Courier  
**MOE**  
MEN *of* EXCELLENCE

**Friday, September 13, 2024 at 6 p.m.**  
**Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Downtown Hotel**

#NPCMOE2024

600 Commonwealth Place - Pittsburgh, PA 15222





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# CHANDI CHAPMAN

## Celebrity Host

Chandi Chapman is an Emmy award-winning and two-time Edward R. Murrow-winning anchor/reporter for WTAE-TV, Pittsburgh's Action News 4.

Chapman's Mid-Atlantic Emmy wins and nominations have highlighted breaking news, weather, combating the heroin epidemic, confronting bullying in schools, fighting racial inequality and uncovering the culture behind our favorite cuisines. They have also focused on her community service and her skills as a writer.

When Chapman worked in Allentown, Pa., she was given a proclamation from the city for being the first African American female anchor at WFMZ-TV and earned two National Association of Black Journalists Salute to Excellence Award on her story that illustrated how all races came together to fight discrimination in the 1940s. Chapman has won numerous Associated Press and state broadcast association awards, including Best TV Personality. She was one of the New Pittsburgh Courier's Women of Excellence in 2021.

Chapman has held positions in the industry that include producing, editing, shooting, web producing, assignment desk duties and managing.

Chapman started working at WTAE-TV in Pittsburgh while finishing up her degree in communication at the University of Pittsburgh. There she worked on the assignment desk and produced newscasts. She's excited to be back in the area working at the station that helped her get started in the industry. She enjoyed producing and learning all aspects of the business, but Champan yearned to be a reporter.

So it was off to Youngstown, where she was a producer/reporter.

Chapman also worked in Steubenville, at WTOV-TV, where she was a full-time reporter and had the opportunity to fill-in as an anchor. Then she decided to go to Myrtle

Beach, S.C., where she anchored several newscasts, learned to shoot and edit. She was on the investigative team and was an education reporter.

Before coming back to her home state, Chapman was a morning anchor and consumer reporter for WTVM-TV in Columbus, Ga.

Chapman said the best part of being a journalist is “affecting others in a positive way and being able to find out valuable information and give that knowledge to those who would otherwise not have the chance to learn from it.”

While attending high school, Chapman was involved in numerous activities and clubs and held several pageant and scholarship program titles, including 1998 Lawrence County Junior Miss. Chapman was the first African American to hold the title of Lawrence County Junior Miss and the first person to win the talent portion doing martial arts. Chapman has been the only person to win Lawrence County Junior Miss, Pennsylvania's Homecoming Queen and place in America's Homecoming Queen in the same year.

Chapman has been involved in Circles in Columbus, which is part of a national movement to end poverty and Girls Inc., which is an organization that helps young women, especially ones who come from low-income households. She volunteers to host and judge programs from national organizations to local churches. Her volunteerism was also one of the reasons Chapman grabbed

the attention of Pittsburgh Magazine and was named one of the Top 25 Most Beautiful People in the publication.

Outside of the newsroom, Chapman enjoys cooking, traveling, watching mystery and comedy movies and practicing martial arts whenever she gets a chance.

She's been studying Tae Kwon Do since she was 6 years old and received her black belt when she was 9 years old and has studied Tang Soo Do.



NEW

Pittsburgh Courier

MEN of EXCELLENCE

LEGACY HONOREE

Robert Hill

Retired, Vice Chancellor of Public Affairs - University of Pittsburgh

CLASS OF 2024 HONOREES

James Willie Anderson Jr.

Elder, King of Kings Baptist Church  
CEO, Jiggity Marketing LLC

Demario Andrews

Site Director, Family Support Center  
Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh

Rev. William A. Baker IV

Discipleship Pastor  
Macedonia Church of Pittsburgh

James M. Carter

Life Coach  
Achieva

Kiel Chapman

Production Manager  
PPG

Robert Cherry

Chief Executive Officer  
Partner4Work

Bernard Clark Jr.

Head Football Coach  
Robert Morris University

Micheal “Mike” Dean

Community School Site Manager  
Pittsburgh Public Schools  
Radio Personality, WAMO

J.E. Clark Delanois

Managing Director and Credit Division  
Head of Private Banking  
BNY Mellon

Chuck Durham

Business Diversity Manager  
City of Pittsburgh

Dr. Shawn Keith Ellies, Cmdr., CPP, CPTED, CPD, PSA

Protective Security Advisor and Adjunct Professor  
University of Pittsburgh

Rev. Brian Carswell Flannagan Sr.

Field Service Provider Solutions Specialist  
Eastern Region  
FedEx Corporation

Michael Lee Gay Sr.

Detective  
Pittsburgh Bureau of Police-Intelligence Unit

Sam W. Gibson

Executive Director  
We The People 412

Rev. Jerrel T. Gilliam

Executive Director  
Light of Life Rescue Mission

Nathaniel K. Goodson

CEO, The Promise Center of Homewood  
Owner, Nate's Landscaping & Hauling

Ricky Hardy

Program Manager,  
Family Foundation Through Community Human Services  
Owner, RH3 Commercial Cleaning LLC

Lance J. Harrell

Director, Workforce Development and  
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion  
Master Builders’ Association of Western Pa., Inc.

Saint “Larry” Harris

Supervisor, South Pittsburgh Peacemakers  
South Pittsburgh Coalition for Peace

Mark D. Henderson

Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer  
University of Pittsburgh

Dr. Chuck Herring

Director, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion  
South Fayette Township School District

Edgar G. Jackson Jr.

Owner  
Hysyde Lounge and Excellent Care Professionals

Emmanuel D. Key

Owner  
ZoliCare Enterprise LLC

Terence King

Teacher  
Wilksburg School District

Michael A. Knight

Fiscal & Contracting Supervisor  
City of Pittsburgh

Sebastian Lacy

Vice President of Equity & Culture  
YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh

Majestic Lane

Chief Equity Officer  
Allegheny Conference on Community Development

Mike Logan

Founder  
Logans Heroes

Clyde D. Manns Jr.

Owner, EIT Basketball Training  
Site Supervisor, Greater Valley ACTES

Kevin J. Miller

Chaplain and Dean  
Imani Christian Academy

Pastor E. Keith Moncrief

Senior Pastor  
Kingdom Light Ministries International

Bishop Marvin C. Moreland

Jurisdictional Bishop  
Pennsylvania Western First Ecclesiastical  
Jurisdiction Church of God In Christ

James Myers Jr.

Senior Director, Business Investment  
Allegheny Conference on Community Development

Michael C. Nelson

Senior Manager of Security Operations  
Duquesne Light Co.

Michael J. Nichols

Retired, Public Works Laborer, City of Pittsburgh  
Volunteer Reader, Pittsburgh Public Schools

Robert Poston

Youthbuild Supervisor and City Parks Manager  
City of Pittsburgh Department of Parks and Recreation

Timothy Powell

Clinical Director  
UPMC

Johnathan D. Rideau

BU Mission Assurance Manager  
Northrop Grumman

Shawn A. Shannon

Central Access Supervisor  
Wesley Family Services

Alphonso Sloan

Retired Police Detective, Pittsburgh Bureau of Police  
Artist, Method Lab Studios LLC

Morton D. Stanfield Jr.

Senior Vice President of Community Development  
Dollar Bank, Federal Savings Bank

Brian Vincent Starks

Marketing and Community Outreach Liaison  
Pittsburgh Public Theater

Alfred B. Valentine

President  
100 Black Men of Western Pennsylvania

Wendell E. Wade Jr.

Vice President, Branch and Business Center Manager  
PNC Bank

Dr. Evon Walters

Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Community  
Engagement, Community College of Allegheny County

Terrel R. Williams

Teen Outreach Program Manager  
Homeless Children's Education Fund

W. Eugene Wilson

Owner, Cloud 33 Premium Cigar Lounge  
Basketball Coach

James D. Wimberly III

General Manager  
Block by Block

Dr. Michael Young

Mellon College of Science Associate Dean for Diversity,  
Equity and Inclusion and Associate Professor of  
Mathematical Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University

# ROBERT HILL

## Legacy Honoree

### Retired Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs, University of Pittsburgh

Robert Hill was born in St. Louis and raised in New York City.

As a child, he was inspired by the motion picture, "Around the World in 80 Days." As an adult, Hill flew around the world in 30 days, encountering numerous adventures.

In business, he worked at the world headquarters of haberdasher Brooks Brothers and at United Airlines, both in Manhattan.

The calling to higher education was irresistible. From City University of New York, Hill moved to equal opportunity officer at the American campuses of Fairleigh Dickinson University.

At Syracuse University (SU), Hill prevailed over 114 other candidates for the position of vice president and special assistant to the chancellor for Affirmative Action, assuming the role while still in his 20s.

At SU, he established a high-octane Affirmative Action agenda to racially integrate the faculty, staff, and student body with talented men and women.

Hill also created an anti-sexual harassment policy under Title IX of the 1972 education amendments.

In 1983, Hill, as vice president for program development at SU, launched Coming Back Together, the first-in-the-nation Black and Latino all-alumni reunion program, and in 1987 kicked-off an accompanying scholarship fund drive.

Hill's call as official communicator came when he emerged as the spokesman for SU as vice president for public relations. In that role, he handled the historic bombing of Pan American Flight 103, accounting for the death of 35 SU students.

After moving to Pennsylvania and California University of Pennsylvania (PennWest today), Hill became the Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh, in 1999. During his time at the Uni-

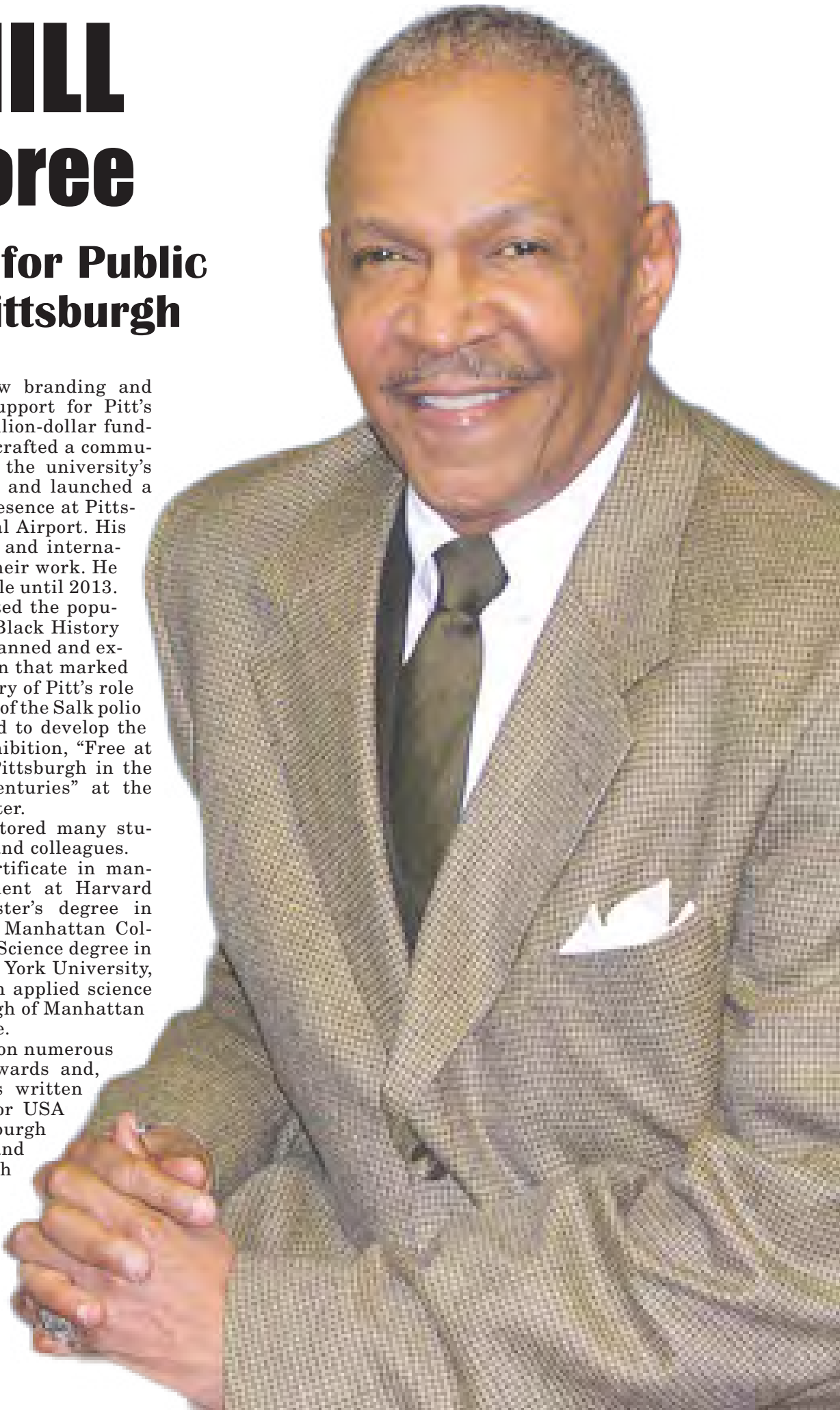
versity, he oversaw branding and communications support for Pitt's record-breaking billion-dollar fundraising campaign, crafted a communications plan for the university's 225th anniversary, and launched a Pitt advertising presence at Pittsburgh International Airport. His staff won national and international honors for their work. He remained in this role until 2013.

At Pitt, Hill created the popular K. Leroy Irvis Black History Month Program, planned and executed a celebration that marked the 50th anniversary of Pitt's role in the development of the Salk polio vaccine, and helped to develop the award-winning exhibition, "Free at Last? Slavery in Pittsburgh in the 18th and 19th Centuries" at the Heinz History Center.

He also has mentored many students, employees, and colleagues.

Hill earned a certificate in management development at Harvard University, a master's degree in management from Manhattan College, a Bachelor of Science degree in business from New York University, and an associate in applied science degree from Borough of Manhattan Community College.

Robert Hill has won numerous communications awards and, among others, has written opinion columns for USA Today, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, and the New Pittsburgh Courier.



# The New Pittsburgh Courier salutes the ‘Men of Excellence’ Class of 2024!

The New Pittsburgh Courier’s “Men of Excellence” awards recognizes local African American men who inspire others through their vision, leadership, exceptional achievements, and participation in community service. They are men who exemplify extraordinary stature, poise and integrity. Time and time again, these men influence those around them to go beyond the norm and strive for greatness. They are champions of our eco-

nomic empowerment and diversity, the backbone of our business, religious and educational organizations, and driving forces in politics and service. Together, let’s welcome our “Men of Excellence,” the Class of 2024!

**Rod Doss**  
Editor and Publisher



BACK ROW: COURIER GRAPHIC DESIGNER WARREN KING, COURIER SALES DIRECTOR ASHLEY JOHNSON, COURIER MANAGING EDITOR ROB TAYLOR JR. FRONT ROW: COURIER ASSISTANT TO THE PUBLISHER STEPHAN BROADUS, COURIER EDITOR AND PUBLISHER ROD DOSS, COURIER OFFICE MANAGER ALLISON PALM.

## WE’RE MORE THAN JUST A UTILITY

At DLC, we want our communities to thrive. That’s why we partner and volunteer with dozens of nonprofits in our community. **Meet a few of our community partners powering change at [DuquesneLight.com/community](https://duquesnelight.com/community).**

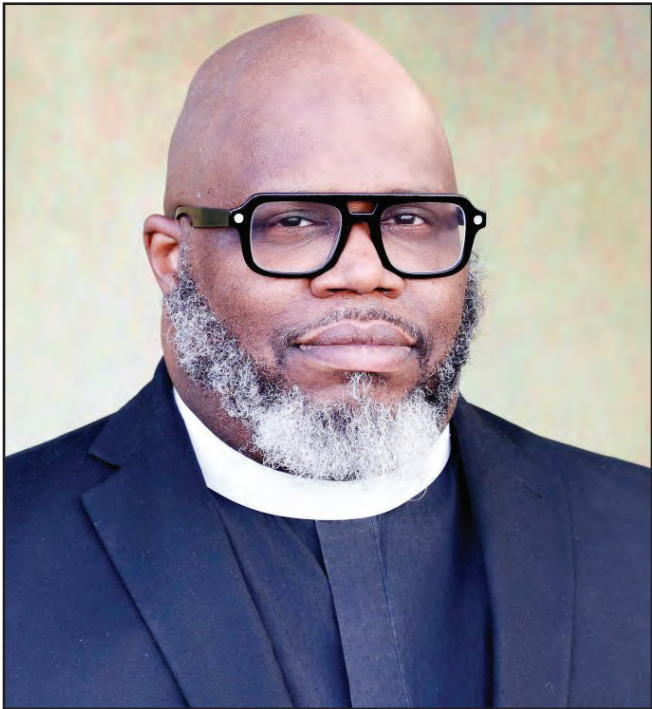


Class of 2023  
Honorees

- LEGACY HONOREE**  
**Glenn Mahone**  
**HONOREES**  
Philip Austin  
Edward Baiden  
Antoine Bailey  
Lonnell Becoate  
Jalal Black, Sr.  
Day Bracey  
Rev. Gary L. Brock, Sr.  
Wade Brown  
Aubrey Bruce  
Rex A. Burton, III  
Jeff Capel  
Bishop Lee C. Carter, Jr.  
Ross Chapman  
Melvin C. Cherry, Jr., MSW  
Sam Clancy, Sr.  
Henry ‘Hank’ Commadore  
Brian A. Cook, Sr.  
Nick M. Daniels  
Craig Dawson  
Emmanuel Ramon DeAnda  
Andrew Dixon, M.Ed.  
Dion Dupree  
Christopher Floyd, A.S.T., B.A., MCJ, PhD  
Dwayne C. Fulton  
Eric Harper  
Michael James Harper  
Pete Henderson  
Boniface Igba  
Rodger Jay  
George C. McClure  
Anthony Mock  
Clay Moorefield.  
Brandon F. Mosby, F.D.  
Khari Mosley  
Richard Newell  
Jean-Pierre Nsanza-bera  
Phillip D. Palmer  
Rev. Raymond Porter, Jr.  
Ray Roundtree  
Dr. Simeon Saunders  
Leighton Seawright  
James A. Shealey  
Dr. Paul David Spradley  
Byron Stripling  
Carlitez Thompson  
Phillip Lee Thompson, Jr.  
Thomas R. Walker, Jr.  
Rev. George Williams  
Curtis Youngblood

JAMES WILLIE ANDERSON JR.

Elder, King of Kings Baptist Ministries  
CEO, Jiggity Marketing, LLC



DEMARIO ANDREWS

Site Director, Family Support Center  
Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh

Demario Andrews is an individual whose life’s work in human services began at an exceptionally young age. From the age of 13, Andrews’ commitment to improving the lives of others has been evident, shaping him into a dedicated and impactful figure in his field. His journey through human services is not just a career, but a life-long passion, marked by numerous achievements and a deep-seated dedication to empowering youth and communities.

Raised in Worcester, Mass., Andrews’ early involvement in community service began with local youth agencies, where he volunteered his time and energy to support young people in need. His efforts did not go unnoticed; by his late teens, he had already made significant contributions to various programs, demonstrating a natural ability to connect with and inspire those around him. His dedication earned him widespread recognition, culminating in a prestigious honor when he was awarded the Key to the City of Worcester. This accolade symbolized the city’s appreciation for his tireless work and his positive impact on the community.

As Andrews transitioned into adulthood, his commitment to human services only deepened. His career path took him through several prominent youth agencies. From the Boys & Girls Club to the YMCA to several different youth centers, he honed his skills and expanded his influence. These roles allowed him to work directly with young people from diverse backgrounds, providing mentorship, guidance and support. His ability to relate to and motivate youth became one of his defining traits.

In each of these positions, Andrews demonstrated an exceptional capacity for leadership and innovation. He developed and implemented programs aimed at addressing various challenges faced by at-risk youth, including educational barriers, socio-economic hardships and mental health issues. His work was characterized by a

James Anderson Jr. is the founder and CEO of Jiggity Marketing, an integrated marketing communications company established in 2015. Being connected to the Pittsburgh Gospel music scene for over 20 years, Anderson wanted to assist local artists behind the scenes so they could concentrate on their craft. It is the goal of Jiggity Marketing to turn “Vision to Reality.”

Anderson was born in the Homewood section of the city in 1974 to Rev. James W. Anderson Sr. and Barbara Anderson. He graduated from Westinghouse High School and attended Point Park University. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Integrated Marketing Communications. Anderson has two beautiful daughters, Crystal and Bridgett.

Anderson has been a member of King of Kings Baptist Ministries for eight years. While at King of Kings, Anderson has been a very active head of the marketing ministry, Brothers Keeper mentorship program. He serves on the Board of The King’s Community Center, and he was ordained as an Elder in 2018.

In 2023, Anderson launched his own podcast, “Creative Conversations with JA.” The podcast gives a safe space for creatives and other public figures to talk about trending topics that affect the culture.

Anderson has a strong passion for youth. Through the Creative Conversations podcast, Anderson will be partnering with The King’s Community Center to establish a creative arts camp for youth ages 10-17. It is Anderson’s long-term goal to establish a creative arts academy for youth and young adults.

hands-on approach, ensuring that his initiatives were not only well-conceived, but also effectively executed and continuously improved based on feedback and evolving needs.

Currently, Andrews serves as a key figure at the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, where he is a Project Manager for one of their Family Support Centers. In his role, he focuses on initiatives that address disparities and promote opportunities for underrepresented communities. His work involves collaborating with local organizations, developing strategic programs, and connecting people to resources that lead to equitable outcomes for all individuals.

Andrews’ journey is a testament to his unwavering commitment to human services and his belief in the power of community.



Class of 2022  
Honorees

- LEGACY HONOREE**  
**Tim Stevens**  
**HONOREES**  
Will Anderson  
Georin Aquila  
Michael Jeffery Blackwell  
Yardon Brantley  
Brian E. Broome  
John M. Burwell  
Keith Butler  
Damon Carr  
Clifford “Sly Jock” Charlton  
Derrick Lyndell Clark Sr.  
Eric Cofield  
Hon. Kevin E. Cooper, Jr.  
Chris Curd  
Richard A. Eanes  
James Edwell, Jr.  
Jason England  
Randy K. Ford  
Richard L. Ford III  
Rev. Craig L. Giles  
Samuel L. Gill  
Jay A. Gilmer, Esq.  
Dexter Hairston  
Donny E. Hamilton, Jr.  
Mark Hutchinson  
Rev. Andrew Jackson  
Mark C. Johnson  
Jason S. Jones  
Tracy Kelly, Jr.  
Adam “DJ Blakk Steel” Lewis  
Owen J. Macklin, Sr.  
Joseph McCain  
Ronald Moncrief  
Malcolm E. Nowlin  
Nelson Nyirongo  
Rev. Theodore E. Pugh, Sr.  
Curtis Randle El III, MBA, AIFA  
Carl Redwood, Jr.  
Leon U. Rockymore  
Ron Smiley  
Pastor Michael H. Smith  
Rev. Geoffrey E. Tate II  
LaMarcus Thurman  
Derrick L. Tillman  
Donald C. Walker III  
Anthony “Tone” Walls  
Mike Warfield  
Dr. Johnathan JeVon White  
Jamar White, MBA  
Rev. Dr. Richard W. Wingfield  
Ashley G. Woodson

## REV. WILLIAM A. BAKER IV

Vice President, Strategic Initiatives and Continuing Education  
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary  
Discipleship Pastor, Macedonia Church of Pittsburgh

Rev. William A. Baker IV serves as Pittsburgh Theological Seminary's Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Continuing Education, providing oversight of the PTS Neighborhood Collaborative.

A Pittsburgh native, Baker also serves on the executive leadership team and as the pastor of family life and discipleship at Macedonia Church of Pittsburgh, where he oversees more than a dozen ministries and a team of lay leaders. He also works as an adjunct professor of Black church history at Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary and as an adjunct professor in the Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies at Duquesne University. Reverend Baker also serves as assistant chapel preacher and chapel team member at Geneva College. Previously, he was the chapel director, theology teacher, and college career counselor at Imani Christian Academy.

Reverend Baker is a graduate of Oral Roberts University (B.A., New Testament Theology) and of Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary (M.Div.) and is pursuing his Ph.D. in communication and rhetoric studies at Duquesne University. He is a Baptist pastor or-

ained at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, North Versailles.

He is most proud to be the husband of Denise H. Baker and the father of Uriah, Noah, William, and Simeon Baker.



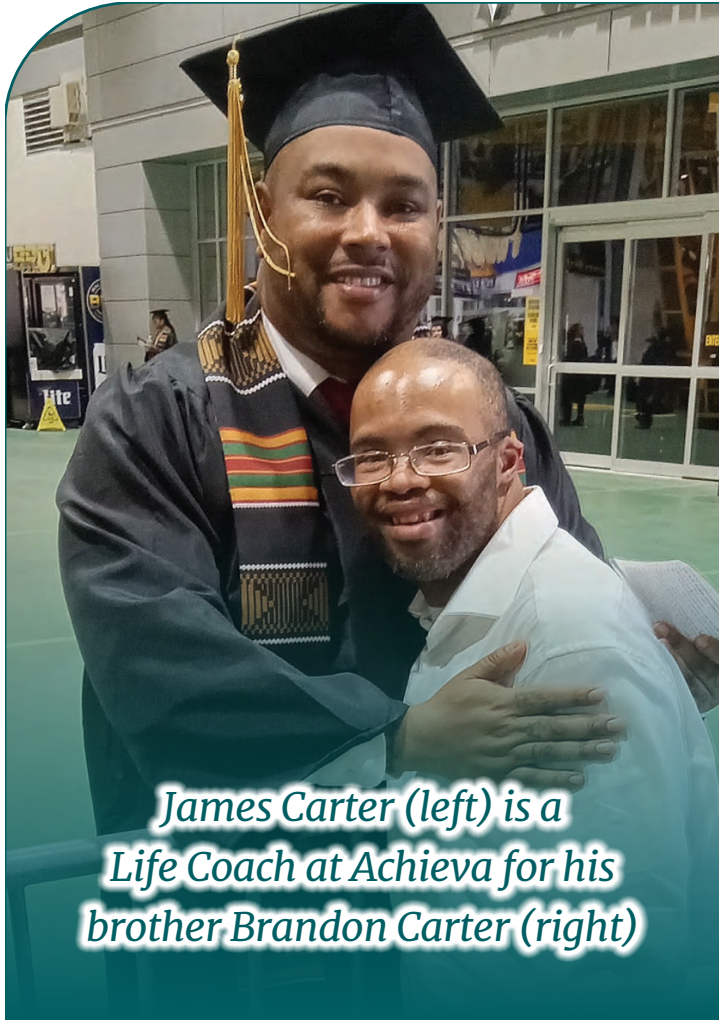
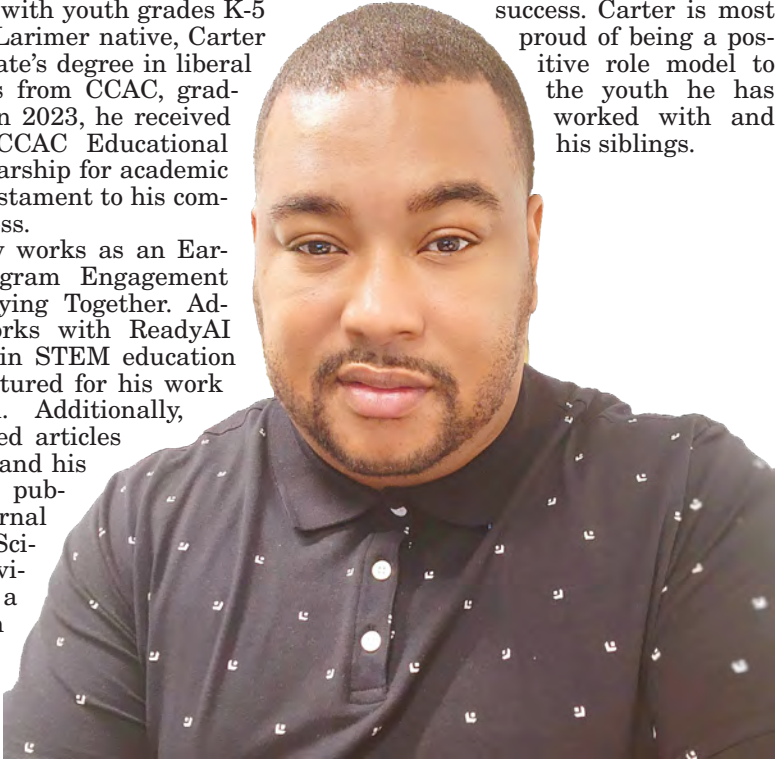
## JAMES M. CARTER

Life Coach  
Achieva

James M. Carter is an educator, mentor and advocate with over 12 years of experience working with youth grades K-5 in Pittsburgh. A Larimer native, Carter earned his associate's degree in liberal arts and sciences from CCAC, graduating in 2024. In 2023, he received the prestigious CCAC Educational Foundation Scholarship for academic achievement, a testament to his competence and success.

Carter currently works as an Early Learning Program Engagement Specialist for Trying Together. Additionally, he works with ReadyAI as an instructor in STEM education and has been featured for his work on EdSurge.com. Additionally, he has co-authored articles for Medium.com, and his work has been published in the Journal of the Learning Sciences. Carter previously worked as a Special Education Paraprofessional and Classroom Monitor for Propel Charter School, collabo-

rating with teachers, staff, and parents to mentor students to success. Carter is most proud of being a positive role model to the youth he has worked with and his siblings.



James Carter (left) is a Life Coach at Achieva for his brother Brandon Carter (right)

Congratulations  
James Carter!

2024  
Men of Excellence Honoree

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Class of 2021  
Honorees

LEGACY HONOREE  
Bishop Loran E. Mann  
HONOREES

Byron T. Allen  
Michael Barnes  
Stanley Bell  
Roy Blankenship Jr.  
Thomas Burley  
Johnnie Burton  
Stephan Davis  
Derrick Davis  
Roger W. Davis, Ed.D.  
Luther J. Dupree Jr.  
Kelton Edmonds, Ph.D.  
Vincent D. Elliott  
George Fleming  
Allan Francette  
Robert B. Fulton  
Eric Gibson  
Damon Givner  
Clyburn Halley  
Chris Howard  
Brent Jernigan  
Elijha David King  
Tayon Mitchell  
Alton Mitchell  
Kelly E. Morrissey  
Justin Nwokeji  
Shabaka Perkins  
Anthony W. Pipkin  
Michael Potter  
Jace Ransom  
Charles J. Reeves  
Christopher W. Robinson  
Ronald B. Saunders  
Leland Scales  
Ryan S. Scott  
William Simmons, M.D.  
Terry Smith  
George C. Spencer Sr.  
Mark Stuckey  
Daniel Taylor  
Shawn Thomas  
Chester D. Thompson, DSc.  
Curtis Upsher Jr.  
Robert D. Walker  
Thomas Washington Jr.  
Rev. John C. Welch, Ph.D.  
Rep. Jake Wheatley Jr.  
Brandon White  
Marlin Woods, CPC  
Dante Works

KIEL CHAPMAN

Production Manager  
PPG

For the last 20 years, Kiel Chapman has been working in the chemical engineering field in several locations across the country. Although he calls North Carolina home, he finds Pittsburgh to feel very similar to his home state with its friendly and supportive community.

At a very young age, Chapman knew he enjoyed science and mathematics. As the youngest of five children in household, Chapman often find a quiet place in the house to read his chemistry book and science magazines. His high school teacher encouraged him to pursue a chemical engineering degree in chemistry upon seeing his enthusiasm for the subject in her chemistry class and Science Olympiad competitions after school. While attending North Carolina



State University, Chapman stayed committed to helping others reach their goals through minority mentorship, as a resident advisor on campus, and through community service as vice president of the N.C. State chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers.

Chapman graduated from N.C. State University with dual bachelor's of science degrees in chemical engineering and chemistry.

During college, Chapman developed a love for traveling and has visited over a dozen countries. While abroad he studied topics like high throughput automation at the Universität Rostock in Germany and art history in Vienna, Austria. Chapman also volunteered with Habitat for Humanity in the Dominican Republic to help build houses and schools.

Helping others has always been a theme in Chapman's life. A career in engineering has provided the means and opportunity for Chapman to help others through products and across different industry sectors such as pharmaceuticals, where he helped make asthma and diabetes drugs while receiving certification from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in fermentation technology. In New Kensington, Chapman showed leadership as a production supervisor at Philips Respironics for several years. Now at PPG in the specialty chemical department, Chapman helps make the photochromic dyes used in Transition lenses and OLED dyes used in cell phones and televisions.

A caring father and supportive husband, Chapman continues to find time to stay involved in his community by attending his local church, donating blood, mentoring youth in STEM activities, and practicing Tang Soo Do martial arts with his son and wife.

ROBERT CHERRY

Chief Executive Officer  
Partner4Work

As CEO of Partner4Work, Rob Cherry leads Allegheny County's workforce development agency into the future. Cherry is a seasoned workforce development leader who came to the role and to Pittsburgh in 2021 from Milwaukee. Partner4Work researches local labor markets and connects employers and job-seekers to the needed resources. Under his leadership, Partner4Work also serves as the anchor organization for Pittsburgh's federal Workforce Hub designation, helping to convene local leaders and federal designees around the topic and driving progress on action items. In March 2024, Cherry was appointed by the U.S. Department of Labor to chair the national Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship.

As a trusted workforce development and public policy executive with extensive experience providing professional leadership and direction, Cherry is committed to a thriving workforce. He is an active champion for businesses and job-seekers, implementing programs, policy initiatives and community engagement.

Under Cherry's leadership, Partner4Work focuses on connecting funding, expertise and opportunities to develop a thriving workforce in the Pittsburgh area. The organization oversees workforce programs for adults, dislocated workers, and youth, and plays a critical role in addressing the region's workforce challenges through innovative solutions and strategic partnerships.

Cherry previously served as the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) in Wisconsin, managing six bureaus.

Before DWD, Cherry spent five years at Employ Milwaukee, the workforce development board serving Milwaukee County, in roles including Vice President of Planning and Development, Chief Development and Partnership Officer, and Director of Career Exploration.

He is most proud of developing and implementing the Career Plus program that consisted of year-round com-

bined workforce training, subsidized improvement, and social-emotional development delivered to City of Milwaukee citizens ages 15-24.

Cherry spent his early career at the Community Advocates Public Policy Institute and the Center for Urban Population Health.



Class of 2019  
Honorees

LEGACY HONOREE  
WILLIAM E. STRICKLAND JR.  
HONOREES

AARON ALDRICH  
KEVIN ALTON  
ANTHONY ANDERSON  
WAHAD ANSARI  
BRANDON BAKER  
EDDIE BELL  
ISAIAH CRESENT BEY  
PASTOR NEVILLE A. BROOKS  
REV. DR. DARRYL T. CANADY  
ANTHONY CARLISLE, PHD  
BISHOP DONALD O. CLAY JR.  
HARVEY COLE JR.  
PARRISH DAVENPORT  
AUSTIN A. DAVIS  
CHARLES DESHAZER, MD  
DONALD GRAY III  
CHARLES GREER SR.  
AKIL "ESOOON" GRIFFIN  
DEAVON HAMMONDS  
BARNETT HARRIS SR.  
REV. DR. JAMES H. HARRIS SR.  
NELSON E. HARRISON, PHD  
LEN HAWKINS  
CAIN HAYES  
DENNIS HENDERSON  
LEONARD HOLT  
ERIC HOWZE  
REV. JAMES E. HUNT  
ANTHONY JEFFERSON  
REV. TORREY O. JOHNSON  
WAYNE JONES  
ROBERT M. JONES JR.  
SHANNON LAWHORN  
JEFF MALLORY  
GORDON MANKER  
BROTHER MARLON MARTIN  
JOHNNIE MIOTT  
WILLIAM MITCHELL SR.  
BRANDON PHILLIPS  
DARELLE A. PORTER  
ORONDE SHARIF  
JEROME TAYLOR, PHD  
BERNARD TAYLOR JR., EDD  
ADAM C. WALKER  
DARRELL L. WARDEN  
MARK WEIR  
ERIC L. WELLS  
ANTHONY WILLIAMS  
DOUGLAS WILLIAMS SR.  
RYAN D. WOOTEN

# BERNARD CLARK JR.

Head Football Coach  
Robert Morris University

Bernard Clark Jr. enters his seventh season as head coach of the Robert Morris football program in 2024. Clark, a native of Tampa, was named the third head coach in program history on Dec. 19, 2017.

Prior to RMU, Clark spent four years at the UAlbany (2014-17), where he served as the assistant head coach and linebackers coach for the Great Danes before being promoted to associate head coach, defensive coordinator and linebackers coach in 2015. While at Albany, Clark's defense ranked ninth and finished in the top 20 in eight different categories the NCAA FCS in 2017. In his first season at Albany, Clark's defense led the nation in turnover margin (+1.25) and fumble recoveries (20).

Clark began his collegiate coaching career at James Madison in 1998. He spent two seasons with the Dukes coaching the defensive ends before moving to Liberty, where he spent four years with the Flames from 2000-03, tutoring the linebackers and special teams.

As a player, Clark was a key contributor at linebacker for the University of Miami as they claimed national championships in 1987 and 1989.

As a sophomore, Clark was named the MVP of the 1988 Orange Bowl after help-

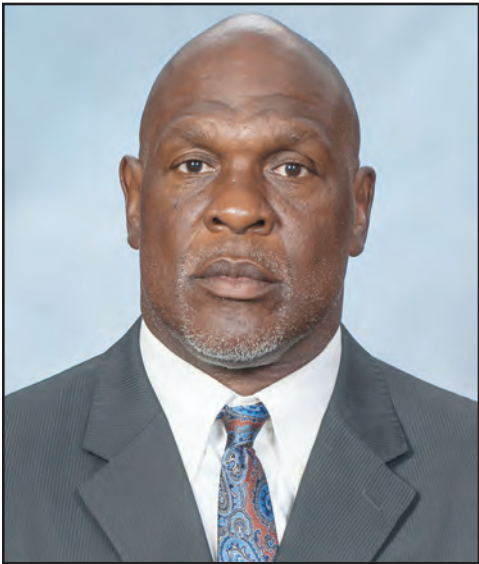
ing lead Miami to a 20-14 victory over Oklahoma and the national title.

A third-round pick by Cincinnati in the 1990 NFL Draft, Clark played two seasons with the Bengals as well as one year with the Seattle Seahawks. He also spent time in the Arena Football League with the Orlando Predators.

Clark was inducted into the Orange Bowl Hall of Fame as part of the Class of 2022.

In 2022, Clark's first book was published—"Ascension: A Coach's Guide to Becoming a Better Man, Father, and Husband."

Clark and his wife, Tammy, reside in Clinton, Pa.



# MICHEAL 'MIKE' DEAN

Community School Site Manager, Pittsburgh Public Schools  
Radio Personality, WAMO 107.3

Micheal "Mike" Dean, a beloved radio personality for WAMO 107.3, has made significant strides both on the airwaves and in the community. Known for his dynamic presence as an emcee, Dean's influence extends far beyond the radio booth.

A product of Perry Traditional Academy, Dean furthered his education at Edinboro University. It was there he began his radio career at WFSE-FM 88.9, which paved the way for an internship at WAMO-FM 106.7. Graduating in 2002, Dean swiftly transitioned from a board operator to a prominent on-air talent. Among his many career highlights, an impromptu interview with Timbaland stands out, a testament to his quick thinking and exceptional interviewing skills.

Dean's commitment to the community is equally noteworthy. He started as a substitute teacher in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. Driven by a desire to make a more substantial impact on students' lives, Dean applied for and secured a role as a Community School Site Manager. In this capacity, he continues to inspire and support the district's youth, demonstrating his unwavering dedication to their growth and well-being.

ing.  
Mike Dean exemplifies what it means to be a community champion, seamlessly blending his talents in radio with his passion for public service.



Pittsburgh Courier Men of Excellence Honoree

CONGRATULATIONS

LANCE HARRELL

Director of Workforce Development and Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

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CLARK, JR.

## Class of 2017 Honorees

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LOUIS ‘HOP’ KENDRICK

### HONOREES

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VERNARD ALEXANDER

JOHN AYERS

BARATA BEY

HAROLD L. BLYE

KENYON R. BONNER

FRED BROWN

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BRIAN BURLEY

KEVIN CARTER

LLOYD CHEATOM

BRANDON D. CONEY

CHRISTOPHER

EDMONDS

FREDDIE FIELDS

REV. DR. WILLIAM R. GLAZE

DONTA GREEN

PHILIP GREENE JR.

ROBERT (JON) HAIRSTON

ANTHONY HAMLET, EDD

LEONARD HAMMONDS II

RAHMON HART, EDD

JERRY HARVEY

RICHARD L. HATCHER II

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JEROME JACKSON

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DONNIE KYTE

GABRIEL MEDLEY

RICKY MOODY

DAVID L. MOTLEY

VICTOR MUSGROVE

DAVID I. ODOM

EMIOLA JAY ORIOLA

KYLE PERDUE

ROBERT J. POWELL

DWAYNE RANKIN

RICHARD A. STEWART JR.

JAMES E. TAYLOR, PHD

JOSH TAYLOR

TERRELL THOMAS

DARRYL T. WILEY

PHILLIP K. WOODS, EDD

JAMAL WOODSON

AYODEJI YOUNG

## J.E. CLARK DELANOIS

Managing Director and  
Credit Division Head of Private Banking  
BNY Mellon

Joining BNY in March 2021, J.E. Clark Delanois collaborates with the Wealth Management business to implement the overall credit strategy and the related policies for Private Banking/Lending, ensuring credit quality and compliance with organizational policies and regulations, and plays a senior role in communicating with the regulators. Delanois is based in Pittsburgh



## CHUCK DURHAM

Business Diversity Manager  
City of Pittsburgh

Chuck Durham’s career is a remarkable journey of dedication, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to public service. With a degree from Duquesne University and over three decades of dedicated service to the City of Pittsburgh, Durham has crafted a legacy marked by transformative impact and inspirational leadership.

Durham began his career with the City of Pittsburgh as a Fiscal Auditor. In this role, he quickly demonstrated his exceptional ability to enhance financial performance through innovative strategies and a keen understanding of market dynamics. His efforts in this position were not just about driving revenue, but setting a standard of excellence that would shape his future endeavors.

Today, Durham serves as the Manager of Business Diversity, a role he undertook at the direction of Mayor Ed Gainey. In this pivotal position, he was given the significant assignment to create a diverse and welcoming city where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. His mission: to increase representation by Minority, Women, Veterans, and LGBTQ+ businesses on city contracts.

Under Durham’s stewardship,



and has management responsibility for the Private Banking Credit Risk Team and Asset Recovery Team.

Delanois joined BNY Mellon from Northern Trust where he spent much of his professional career, most recently as the Senior Credit Officer of the Central Region covering six midwest states. His responsibilities included overseeing and managing the credit approval process and loan structuring of transactions, including the loan documentation unit, to high-net-worth individuals, families, and business owners and managing the risk function for deteriorating credits.

Prior to 2013, Delanois held various senior-level positions and was instrumental in the company’s efforts to expand existing relationships and develop new lending and investment opportunities across various suburban markets for Wealth Management.

His experience includes time working at NBD Bank, now JP Morgan Chase, as a commercial lender, where he was selected to participate in a highly competitive formal credit training program as part of a two-year commercial lending training program. After successfully completing the program, he was placed on a commercial banking team, making commercial loans to middle market companies and real estate developers.

Delanois has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Illinois Chicago, Graduate of Cannon Trust School for Trust I, II and III and Graduate of The Advanced Leadership Institute’s Executive Leadership Academy program.

Within his career, Delanois has been honored and awarded with: Chairman’s Absolute Quality Award - Northern Trust 2012 & 2009; Signature Service Spirit Team Award—Northern Trust 2012 & 2009; Chairman’s Diversity Advocate Award—Northern Trust 2008; Inducted into the Alumni Leadership Academy—UIC Business June 2005; and honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award—UIC Business Alumni Association June 2001.

the city has made impressive strides in expanding the participation of diverse businesses in municipal contracting. His leadership has been instrumental in developing and implementing policies that prioritize inclusivity, ensuring that these underrepresented groups are not only visible, but actively engaged in city projects. Durham’s efforts are driven by a profound belief in the power of diversity to drive innovation, strengthen the community, and ensure that all voices are heard and valued.

What sets Durham apart is his deep-seated passion for making a positive difference in the community. His career trajectory—from Fiscal Auditor to Manager of Business Diversity—is a testament to his ability to effect real change.

Durham’s story is a beacon of what can be achieved through dedication and a commitment to inclusivity. His career is a testament to the positive impact that one person’s dedication can have on a community, and his legacy will continue to inspire and uplift others for years to come.

## Class of 2014 Honorees

### LEGACY HONOREES

HONORABLE JUSTIN M.  
JOHNSON

HONORABLE LIVINGSTONE  
JOHNSON

### HONOREES

EMMAI ALAQUIVA

CASTER D. BINION

CECIL E. BRAZOS III

REGINALD E. BROWN,  
F.A.H.M.

COUNCILMAN REV.

RICKY V. BURGESS

BISHOP OTIS L. CARSWELL

WINFORD R. CRAIG

PARADISE GRAY

ELWIN GREEN

JEFFREY GRUBBS

PAUL TERRANCE HARPER,  
PhD

EUGENE E. HARRIS

GEORGE HOWARD

MELVIN HUBBARD EL

LANCE HYDE

BILLY JACKSON

CHARLES CHERNOR

JALLOH

KEVIN L. JENKINS

REV. THOMAS E.

JOHNSON JR.

REV. CORNELL D. JONES

DARRYL E. JONES

R. BLAINE JONES II ESQ.

ABASS B. KAMARA

BRANDIN KNIGHT

BOB McCALL

EVERETT M. McELVEEN

NATE MITCHELL

RICHARD L. MORRIS

JOSIFANI MUNYIKA

MOYO BS, MS

K. CHASE PATTERSON

DR. CHENITS PETTIGREW

JR.

CLYDE WILSON PICKETT

CURTISS E. PORTER, PHD

RICHARD G. PORTIS

JAMES REID

GREGORY T. ROGERS, JD

CHARLES A. SAUNDERS

PASTOR MICHAEL H.

SMITH, M.A.R., CPC

ERIC C. STRONG

J. T. THOMAS

PAGE THOMAS

FRANK C. WALKER II

WAYNE N. WALTERS

HOMER L. WALTON ESQ.

JESSE WASHINGTON

HONORABLE RALPH P.

WATSON

DERRICK WILSON

REGINALD B. YOUNG

DR. SHAWN KEITH ELLIES, Cmdr., CPP, CPTED, CPD, PSA

REV. BRIAN CARSWELL FLANNAGAN SR.

Protective Security Advisor and Adjunct Professor  
University of Pittsburgh

Commander Shawn Ellies started with the University of Pittsburgh Police Department after graduating from the Police Academy in 1997. During his time at Pitt, he has served as patrol officer, shift sergeant, shift lieutenant, administrative lieutenant, commander of special emergency response team, commander of operations, and director of security. He currently holds the position of Commander of Pitt P.D. and Protective Security Advisor and teaches several criminal justice and law courses as an adjunct professor at Pitt.



Ellies also served in the United States Army for 23 years. He earned a doctorate degree in administration and policy studies from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Education, a master's degree in public policy and management from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA), and a master's degree in leadership and management from Duquesne University.

Ellies is currently the president of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), and he has led the chapter through various national initiatives and local community service projects.

Ellies is a deacon and active member at the Shalom Apostolic Church, and he is devoted to his family. Each year through his resources within the university, he supports local churches and food pantries with food donations. He volunteers his time and expertise to families in need and non-profit organizations wherever the need arises.

MICHAEL LEE GAY SR.

Detective  
Pittsburgh Bureau of Police-Intelligence Unit (Protection Detail)

Detective Michael L. Gay Sr., born January 1970 to the late Emanuel Gay and Sandra-Jo Sidney, is a 30-year veteran for the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police. Officer Gay worked at Zone 2 (Hill District) as a beat officer, patrolman, then the Weed & Seed car. In October 2000, he became the Community Resource Officer at Zone 5 (East End). Unsure at first about the new assignment, Officer Gay went to work and began to build working relationships between the various community groups, school faculty and students, churches and business owners through-



out the 13 communities in the district. He became a certified driving instructor for the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police and was heavily involved with the creation of the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Youth Program's annual "Cops and Kids" summer camp.

He is currently serving on the executive protection detail for Mayor Ed Gainey.

Officer Gay grew up in the Garfield community and has always had a special commitment to his neighborhood and the people who live there. Officer Gay is a proud graduate of the Peabody High School Class of 1987. He earned an associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Eastern Gateway Community College. In his spare time, Officer Gay dedicated most of it volunteering as a coach/mentor for the Garfield Gators Youth Sports (football), the men's softball team (Garfield Gators), and as a board member for the Pittsburgh Softball Federation.

Officer Gay lives with his wife, Cheryl, is a father of six children (Aaron Sr, Lamont, Junay, Anyssia, Michael Jr., Michelle), and has 10 grandchildren (Aaron Jr., Briona, Theodore III, Jalaya, Za'Viya-ha, A'Miyah, Ava, McKenzie).

Field Service Provider Solutions Specialist-Eastern Region  
FedEx Corporation

Reverend Brian Carswell Flannagan has made significant contributions, both professionally and as a ministry leader, within the Greater Pittsburgh community. Over his 11-year tenure with FedEx, Rev. Flannagan has demonstrated exceptional commitment and value across various roles. He began his career in 2013 as a Linehaul Specialist 2 and has since earned three promotions. He currently holds the position of Field Service Provider Solutions Specialist in the Eastern Region, where he is responsible for sourcing and educating businesses about the FedEx Ground Contracting Opportunity across five states.

In 2015, Rev. Flannagan became a licensed realtor in Pennsylvania and played a pivotal role in establishing an award-winning real estate business alongside his wife, Miadia. The Carswell Flannagan Real Estate Team has facilitated the purchase and sale of over 100 properties in Western Pennsylvania. The team is also dedicated to community enrichment through workshops and seminars on homebuying and financial wellness.

In 2017, Rev. Flannagan was ordained into Christian Ministry by the late Bishop Otis L. Carswell at Potter's House Ministries of Pittsburgh, where he served diligently in various leadership capacities. In 2019, he began his role as a Chaplain for the historic Westinghouse Bulldogs football program, providing spiritual guidance, mentorship,

and encouragement to the next generation of men.

In 2023, Rev. Flannagan founded Agape Community Ministries, an organization dedicated to embodying and sharing the Agape love of God as described in 1 Corinthians 12:31. Agape Community Ministries aims to operate without geographical or demographic limitations, spreading the Agape Love of Jesus Christ.

Reverend Flannagan considers his greatest achievements to be his 11-year marriage to his wife, Miadia, and his role as a father to his son, Brian Jr. His profound passion for God, family, and community fuels his relentless pursuit of excellence.



Class of 2012  
Honorees

- LEGACY HONOREE**  
**AARON A. WALTON**  
**HONOREES**  
LOUIS T. ALEXANDER  
LARRY D. ANDERSON SR.  
DAVID J. ATKINS  
KEVIN BOLDING  
TTYRONE BROOKS  
ARCHIE L. BROWN  
COACH WILLIAM BROWN  
TONY BYERS PHD  
WILLIAM M. CARTER JR.  
JONAS CHANEY  
CHARLES COOK  
FREDERICK B. CRAWFORD  
WAVERLY DUCK  
ERVIN DYER  
ERIC EWELL  
BISHOP JOSEPH L.  
GARLINGTON SR., PHD  
JUAN GARRETT  
PASTOR GREGORY  
GREENE  
STEVEN GRIFFIN  
STANLEY HOLBROOK  
CDR. ERIC HOLMES  
RODNEY K. HOPSON PHD  
ELLIOT HOWSIE, ESQ.  
CALVIN L. JACKSON JR.  
BRANDON R. JENNINGS  
VINCENT O. JOHNSON  
CHIEF CHARLES R.  
JONES JR.  
FREDRICK O.  
KENDRICK PHD  
JOHN R. LAYMON JR.  
REV. DR. LAMAR D. LEE JR.  
BRACE S. LOWE  
FREDERICK A. MASSEY JR.  
DARREN MCCORMICK  
JESSE JAMES MCLEAN JR.  
LINWOOD MITCHELL  
LARRY C. PICKETT  
CHARLES M. POWELL SR.  
JULIUS LEE REDD  
FREDERICK REDMOND  
LARRY S. SMEDLEY  
HARVEY JAMES SMITH JR.  
KERRY A STITH  
WILL THOMPkins  
DR. ROBERT L. THOMPSON  
DR. MORRIS E. TURNER  
EUSTACE UKU  
CHRISTOPHAS WALKER  
RICARDO J. WILLIAMS  
DAVID A. YOUNG

SAM W. GIBSON

Executive Director  
We The People 412

Sam W. Gibson can be described as an individual whose unwavering commitment to community service and advocacy has left an indelible mark on the local community. Gibson is a very transparent individual; he is the embodiment of dedication and reliability when it comes to serving the community. His extensive experience in government, non-profit agencies and private organizations showcases over a variety of skill sets that have contributed significantly to the well-being of the community.

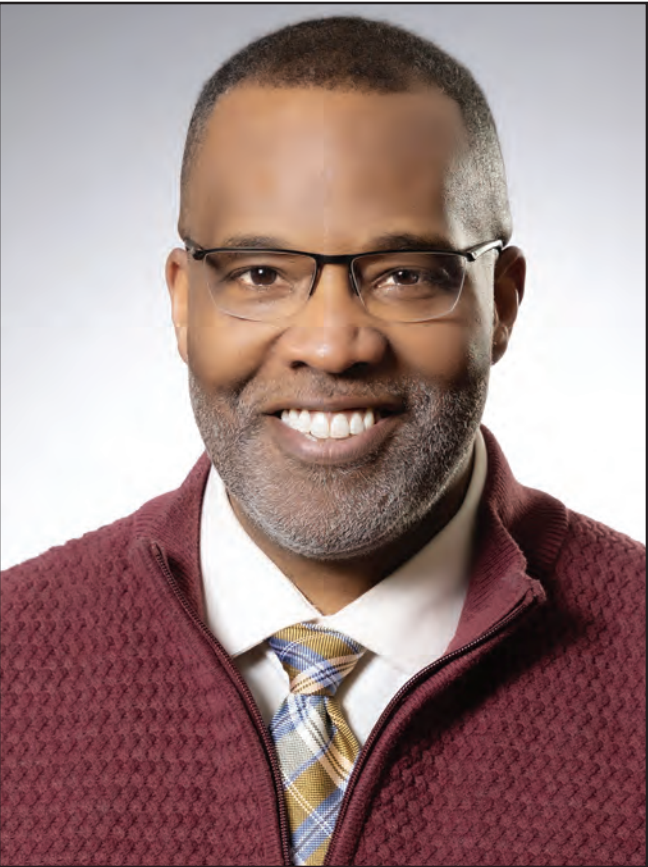


REV. JERREL T. GILLIAM

Executive Director  
Light of Life Rescue Mission

Reverend Jerrel T. Gilliam is the executive director of Light of Life Rescue Mission, an organization dedicated to helping clients identify and address the root causes of homelessness and addiction. Under Gilliam’s leadership, the faith-based organization fosters a culture of safety and healing through a trauma-informed approach. Widely regarded as a thought leader, he has developed innovative solutions for homelessness, affordable housing, and community transformation. Committed to making Pittsburgh a more welcoming place for those facing housing and food insecurity, Rev. Gilliam has successfully forged alliances with trusted community partners to provide comprehensive services to homeless women, children, and men throughout the city. He is married to Dr. Shannah Tharp-Gilliam, and together they have seven children and two grandchildren. They reside in Pittsburgh.

As a single father and grandfather, Gibson has dedicated more than 20 years to mentorship, ranging from children and youth to the elderly, with a special focus on underrepresented populations. His passion for public service and community support is evident in every aspect of his work. One notable example of Gibson’s commitment is his past campaign for Magisterial District Judge, demonstrating his willingness to step into leadership roles to effect positive change. Gibson currently serves as a board member for the Uhimwe Project, co-chair of the LGBTQ+ chapter of the NAACP Pittsburgh chapter, and lead deacon and head of security for his worship center. He has actively participated as a board member for the Pittsburgh Pride Festival and holds a pivotal role as the first African American Communication Chair Board Member and Advisor to the President of The Steel City Stonewall Democrats. Furthermore, his role as a key community partner with P.A. United in the Southwest Pennsylvania area underscores his commitment to collaborative efforts for community improvement. Gibson takes pride in his membership with the MAD DADS organization, where he has dedicated being the best role model he can be. His involvement in this organization reflects his dedication to addressing critical issues of drugs, gangs, and violence in Allegheny County through mobilization, training, and guidance. Under Gibson’s leadership, We the People 412 has thrived as he served as the executive director for the past six years. The vision of this organization—a community and nation where civic engagement, education, and advocacy foster a society where the principles of democracy and equality thrive—is a testament to Gibson’s forward-thinking and progressive outlook. Gibson envisions empowered individuals working together to build a better, more just world for all. His tireless efforts, strategic leadership, and collaborative spirit have earned him the utmost respect from those in the community. Gibson wholeheartedly dedicates himself as an invaluable asset to any endeavor that seeks to create positive change and foster community growth.



Class of 2011  
Honorees

- LEGACY HONOREE**  
**ERIC W. SPRINGER ESQ.**  
**HONOREES**  
KENNY BLAKE  
MEL BLOUNT  
SCOTT L. BROWN  
MARIO C. BROWNE  
KIRK M. BRUCE  
CARLOS T. CARTER  
FRANK G. CHESTER  
GREGORY JAMES  
COLLIER SR.  
JAMAAL CRAIG  
CHARLES T. CURRY PHD  
LEE DAVIS  
FREDERICK DOUGLAS SR.  
BARON ‘B.B.’ FLENORY  
JOHN L. FORD SR.  
AARON GIBSON  
KEVIN GIBSON, MD  
REV. GLENN G.  
GRAYSON SR.  
EDWARD J. GREENE  
L. C. GREENWOOD  
UHURU HOTEP ED.D.  
ROGER HUMPHRIES  
KENNETH L. HUSTON  
CHRIS IVEY  
STEFFAN R. JOHNSON  
THEODORE W. JOHNSON  
HERBERT V.R.P. JONES  
PHD  
JOSEPH J. KENNEDY IV  
ANDREW M. LEE  
ALBERT MERRITT  
TY MILLER  
KENNETH J. NESBIT  
SAIHOU OMAR NJIE  
PAULO NZAMBI  
GRADY ROBERTS JR. PHD  
ANTHONY G. ROBINS PHD  
ROBERT ‘ROCK’  
ROBINSON  
HON. WILLIAM RUSSELL  
ROBINSON  
HOWARD A. RUSSELL JR.  
PASTOR TIM SMITH  
MARK CLAYTON  
SOUTHERS  
RICHARD W. TAYLOR ESQ.  
JOE WILLIAM TROTTER JR.  
DWAN B. WALKER  
KEVIN WATSON  
GEORGE A. WEBB SR.  
CHARLES WHITE  
JOHN WILSON III  
RICHARD WITHERSPOON  
JASIRI X  
**IN MEMORIAM**  
JOHN ADAMS  
DAVE EPPERSON  
ARMON GILLIAM  
EL GRAY  
NATE SMITH

# NATHANIEL K. GOODSON

**CEO, The Promise Center of Homewood  
Owner, Nate's Landscaping & Hauling**

Raised in Penn Hills in the 1970's, Nathaniel Goodson was providing community services by cutting neighbors' lawns at age 9. Inspired by his parents' work ethic, not only was he an entrepreneur, but he was also a Junior Olympian at this early age. He graduated from Penn Hills High School in June 1989.

Goodson has engaged in several business ventures over the past 20 years that have flourished, such as landscaping and hauling, a car wash and a food truck. Throughout his years, Goodson is known for his unwavering dedication



to his work and community. Goodson is an individual of exceptional character, with a strong drive to make a positive impact in the community. Over the past five years, Goodson had envisioned a new venture and in March 2022, he founded the Promise Center of Homewood, which is a non-profit located in Homewood.

Back in 2020, a pastor who worked for the Lutheran Church contacted Goodson, giving him first right of refusal to purchase the church, and along with the purchase was a "Promise" to use the building to continue serving the community. He saw the efforts that Goodson made to employ residents and contribute to efforts that supported the children.

Goodson grasped the opportunity gladly, selling some of his existing property to consolidate his efforts to purchase and renovate the former Lutheran Church. If there was a bump in the road, he hit every one of them, but he succeeded.

To date, the Promise Center of Homewood is located at 7825 Hamilton Avenue. It provides services for 50 to 65 youth ranging from ages 5 to 13, providing out-of-school time services covering literacy and homework assistance, arts and crafts, recreational activities and nutritious meals.

# LANCE J. HARRELL

**Director, Workforce Development and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion  
Master Builders' Association of Western Pa. Inc.**

As the Director of Workforce Development and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at the Master Builders' Association of Western Pennsylvania (MBA), Lance Harrell plays a pivotal role in shaping the construction industry's future.

In his role at the MBA, Harrell focus-



es on increasing minority participation within the union trades and MWDBE union contractors. Harrell is driving the Emerging Contractor Development Committee to help develop MWDBE contractors.

He firmly believes that exposure to the trades is essential for young people. Inspired by the work of the late Nate Smith, Harrell passionately advocates for the education and inclusion of minority individuals' participation within the union trades. In echoing Marian Wright Edelman's words, Harrell believes, "You can't be what you can't see." This belief in education's power enlightens and gives hope for a more inclusive future.

Harrell has served as a mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. Currently, he sits on the boards of Operation Better Block, the Young Preservationists Association, Industrial Arts Workshop, Reimagine Reentry, and Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh.

"A solid foundation is essential in construction; without it, the entire structure is compromised. The same principle applies to life—education is the foundation for success."

# RICHARD HARDY

**Program Manager, Family Foundations Through Community Human Services  
Owner, RH3 Commercial Cleaning, LLC**

Richard F. Hardy is a Program Director for Family Foundations Early Head Start (Family Foundations) in Pittsburgh. Family Foundations provides early, continuous, intensive, and comprehensive child development and family support services to low-income families with children from birth to age 3.

As an infant and early childhood mental health expert with impactful creativity, communication and leadership skills, Hardy specializes in strategic thinking that masterfully aligns an organization's work with its mission, vision and core beliefs.

Prior to joining Family Foundations, Hardy held various positions advocating for low-income and at-risk families, and promoting the social-emotional health of infants and adolescents with an aim of positively impacting the trajectory of children's lives.

Additionally, Hardy is an innovative entrepreneur and business owner who relentlessly uses self-discipline, creativity, and evidence-based judgment to grow his cleaning company (RH3Commercial Cleaning, LLC) and other successful capital ventures.

Hardy is a proud member of the Prince Hall Free &

Accepted Masons and an active member of Mount Ararat Baptist Church, serving on the Board of Trustees.

Hardy earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Lincoln University of Pennsylvania.



“Raise a ruckus and make a change. You may not always be popular, but you’ll be part of something larger and bigger and greater than yourself.”

—Samuel Jackson, actor and producer

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## Class of 2010 Honorees

### LEGACY HONOREES

**WENDELL G. FREELAND ESQ.**  
**ROBERT L. PITTS**  
**ROBERT R. LAVELLE**  
 (POSTHUMOUSLY)  
**HONOREES**  
 CURTIS AIKEN  
 KEVIN AMOS  
 JAMES J. BARNES ESQ.  
 JOHN BETTIS III  
 T. RASHAD  
 BYRDSOON  
 KEVIN W. CAMERON  
 ANDREW CHEESEBORO  
 JOHN J. CLARK  
 RYAN CLARK  
 ROBIN COLE  
 CLARENCE F. CURRY  
 ERIC DICKERSON  
 THOMAS W. DOUGLAS  
 DARNELL DREWERY  
 DR. STEVEN EVANS  
 CARLO ANTON FONTENOT  
 EDWARD GAINEY  
 LOUIS M. GOMEZ  
 HAROLD HAYES  
 TERRANCE HAYES  
 NEDDIE C. HOLLIS  
 MSW, LCSW  
 SHELDON L. INGRAM  
 REED D. KIMBROUGH  
 ELIE KIHONIA  
 ROBERT KINDRED  
 R. DANIEL LAVELLE  
 REV. DR. LORAN E. MANN  
 ALEX MATTHEWS  
 DWIGHT MAYO  
 A. FULTON MEACHEM JR.  
 MAX F. MILLER  
 THOMAS A. MOTLEY  
 TONY NORMAN  
 LEON D. PAMPHILE, PHD  
 DARREN K. PARR. ESQ.  
 ALAN D. PERRY  
 JAMES L. RICE  
 VICTOR A. ROQUE  
 WILLIAM T. SIMMON. ESQ.  
 WINSTON M. SIMMONDS  
 TERRY M. SMITH  
 LYNN SWANN  
 JOHN TATE  
 FRANK L. TORBERT JR.  
 JOHN M. WALLACE JR., PHD  
 LOUIS E. WALLER III  
 ROB WILSON

## SAINT 'LARRY' HARRIS

**Supervisor, South Pittsburgh Peacemakers  
South Pittsburgh Coalition for Peace**

Saint "Larry" Harris has dedicated his life and career to community organizing for peace and social change. Growing up in Beltzhoover and as a graduate of Carrick High School, Harris witnessed firsthand the devastating effect violence has on a community. From that early exposure, he committed himself to ending violence in South Hilltop neighborhoods.

In early 2016, Harris became program director of Voices Against Violence, where he successfully managed program operations and provided strategic leadership for workers. One of Harris' greatest accomplishments



## MARK D. HENDERSON

**Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer  
University of Pittsburgh**

As chief information officer, Mark D. Henderson is responsible for the development, implementation and delivery of technology that supports the academic, business and research missions of the University of Pittsburgh and its more than 40,000 students, researchers, faculty and staff across five campuses. He oversees more than 300 full-time and 150 student staff members in Information Technology who are responsible for the university's central IT functions and services—including academic systems, communication and collaboration, enterprise solutions, information security, IT professional services, personal computing, research computing, software distribution and technology infrastructure.

Henderson serves on the board of directors for the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, as well as the Keystone Initiative for Network Based Education and Research, Pennsylvania's only statewide research, education and community network, which serves a collaborative community of more than 135 education, health care, economic development, library, government and public media organizations.

Henderson has more than 40 years of experience comprising both higher education and private sector information technology. Corporate appointments include Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Procter & Gamble and GE, where he worked as a leader in Global Shops IT Operations and Global Network Operations.

Henderson previously served as chief information officer at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. There, he created and leveraged technologies to fulfill the university's strategic plan, implemented efficiency initiatives, and partnered IT staff with faculty mem-

was fostering community connections and networks and driving collaborations with local organizations and businesses, making a tremendous and noteworthy impact on the lives of the youth and families in South Pittsburgh.

In 2019, Harris joined the South Pittsburgh Coalition for Peace team and was quickly promoted to team leader for the South Pittsburgh Peacemakers. Their reputation and connections in the community provide them access to leaders and influential decision-makers in street organizations.

Before joining the Coalition, Harris served as the first president of the Beltzhoover Consensus Group and worked with Steel Smiling to help bring more awareness to the plight of inner-city youth while bridging the gap between community members and mental health support through education and advocacy.

Harris is also the CURE Program Supervisor for South Pittsburgh Coalition for Peace's Peacemakers, overseeing violence interrupters and outreach workers while maintaining operating schedules to provide effective coverage for key areas to achieve objectives. Harris is big on fostering positive employee relationships through communication, training and development coaching. Under Harris' direction and tireless effort, the Peacemakers have made tremendous strides in reducing violence in the South Hilltop communities through intervention, mediation and mentoring to high-risk youth.

Harris holds an associate degree in science. He is also certified in adult and youth mental health First Aid. He is an avid chess player, enjoys basketball, youth mentoring, and has his heart in community development.

bers to improve support and win research grants from government-based and private grant institutions. Prior to arriving at the University of Illinois, Henderson was interim vice president and chief information officer for information technology services at Case Western Reserve University. His other roles in higher education include serving as the interim vice president and chief information officer at the University of Maryland and director of infrastructure services at the University of Cincinnati.

Henderson grew up in Pittsburgh and earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration, with a concentration in information systems, at Xavier University in Cincinnati.



## Class of 2009 Honorees

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**(Posthumous)**  
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 HOWARD  
 SLAUGHTER JR.  
 WALTER SMITH JR.  
 DEE THOMPSON  
 IRVIN WILLIAMS  
 OSCAR WORTHY  
 JUDGE JOSEPH WILLIAMS III

# DR. CHUCK HERRING

## Director, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion South Fayette Township School District

For three decades, Dr. Chuck Herring has been a trailblazer in education, championing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB). As the DEIB Director at the South Fayette Township School District, he's transforming the educational landscape by creating a culture where every individual is respected and valued.

Dr. Herring's innovative approach tackles school-based trauma head-on. He educates colleagues on best practices and



implements restorative measures to support students who've faced challenges. His work goes beyond mere acceptance, actively celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures within the district.

But Dr. Herring's impact extends far beyond a single school district. As one of the founders of SHOUT (Social Handprints Overcoming Unjust Treatment), he's empowering students across Western Pennsylvania to create safe, culturally-responsive spaces in their schools. This student-led organization, guided by the Handprints Heal Footprints framework, has blossomed into a regional movement under his leadership.

Recent accolades include being named one of PennWest Edinboro University's Distinguished Alumni and receiving a Jefferson Service Award from Multiplying Good in 2024. These honors underscore Dr. Herring's status as an internationally respected figure in education.

Dr. Herring's journey is a testament to the power of dedication, innovation, and unwavering commitment to equity in education. His work continues to shape the future of learning, creating more inclusive and empowering spaces for students and educators alike.

# EDGAR G. JACKSON JR.

## Owner Hysyde Lounge and Excellent Care Professionals

Born in Aliquippa and raised between Aliquippa and Atlanta, Edgar Jackson embodies the spirit of resilience, hard work, and entrepreneurial excellence. Aliquippa shaped Jackson's early years and instilled in him the values that would later define his career.

Jackson's journey began with his education at Aliquippa High School, followed by a transformative experience at Job Corps in Charleston, West Virginia, where he studied culinary arts. His passion for cooking was clear early on, but he was also influenced by the entrepreneurial spirit of his aunt and stepmother, both successful in the beauty industry. This dual interest led Jackson to South Hills Beauty Academy, where he made history as the first Black man to become a certified nail technician at the school.

Balancing his career in the beauty industry, Jackson returned to his first love—cooking. He further honed his culinary skills and became a sous chef at The Carlton, a prestigious Pittsburgh restaurant. But Jackson's ambitions extended beyond the kitchen. He ventured into entrepreneurship, opening Ambience, a full-service salon on the North Side, which thrived for 13 years under his leadership.

His business portfolio today is a testa-

ment to his versatility and vision, with ventures that include The Lunchbox, a popular breakfast and lunch spot; Hysyde Lounge, a vibrant bar and grill; Excellent Care Professionals, a home healthcare agency; and All About You Realty & Services, which manages nearly a dozen properties for long-term and short-term rentals.

Jackson's impact extends far beyond his business ventures. He is a compassionate leader who employs over a hundred people and is deeply committed to uplifting the Black community.



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The Rev. William A. Baker IV serves as vice president for strategic initiatives and continuing education at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

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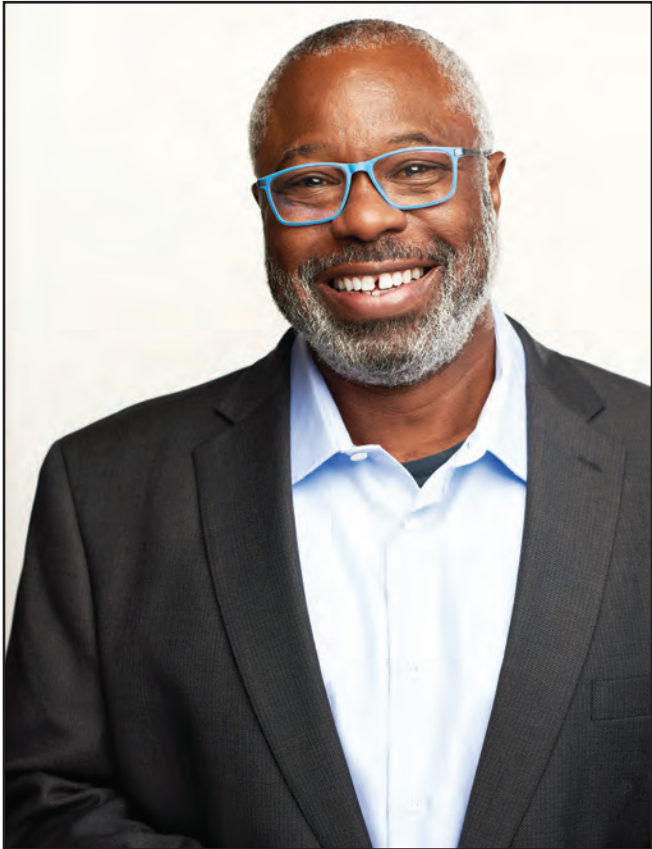
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AARON A. WALTON  
DeWITT WALTON  
ALONZO W. WEBB JR.  
DWIGHT WHITE  
(POSTHUMOUSLY)  
JOHN M. WILDS  
JUDGE DWAYNE D.  
WOODRUFF



## EMMANUEL D. KEY

**Owner**  
**ZoliCare Enterprise, LLC**

Emmanuel Key hails from Detroit, where his parents emphasize faith, service and education which led him to pursue Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Chemistry at Western Michigan University, where he was also a member of the football team.

His extensive career in corporate America spans over 36 years, where he gained expertise in coaching, sales, training, management, marketing, banking, and executive leadership.

Key retired from corporate America in April 2023. His role in medical device sales allowed him to coach vascular and cardiovascular surgeons, interventional cardiologists, and radiologists. This firsthand experience highlighted the severity of chronic diseases like diabetes. Key's diagnoses of diabetes in 2015 challenged him to manage his health through diet and exercise, freeing him from medication dependence. As a lifestyle coach for pre-diabetes and diabetes, he now considers it his personal ministry to help others on similar paths.

Key founded ZoliCare Enterprise, LLC, in September 2023. The company officially launches in early 2025, with Key serving as a distributor of medical products.

Key's commitment to the community extends beyond healthcare. He mentors through the 100 Black Men of America as the treasurer for the Western Pennsylvania chapter and as a Board of Directors member of MACAC (Mount Ararat Community Activity Center). Additionally, Key actively supports organizations serving the African American community and has coached various youth sports such as football, basketball, track & field and cross country.

Key is a devoted husband and father of three adult children.

Key's dedication to health, mentorship, philanthropy, and family exemplifies the positive impact one person can make. He hopes his story serves as an inspiration for others striving to create meaningful change.

## TERENCE KING

**Educator**  
**Wilksburg School District**

Terence King is a fifth-grade educator at Turner Intermediate in the Wilksburg School District. He has been teaching there for 21 years and is also a proud graduate of the former Wilksburg High School. King has always been about the children and demonstrating a compassionate desire to inspire and motivate them to discover their best selves. He believes that every child deserves a great education and should be afforded the opportunity to achieve at any level. He also believes that helping children discover a gateway to success is vital in their ability to become productive members of society.

During his tenure, King has been an active participant in various committees within the Wilksburg School District.

A consortium of universities involving Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), California University of Pennsylvania, Point Park University and CCAC utilized King as a research advisor on the committee Black Men Teaching, whose mission was to raise the percentage of African American males attending teacher preparation programs within the state of Pennsylvania. While on the committee, he became the commencement speaker at the upcoming graduation ceremony for the IUP Department of Education.

King received his Bachelor of Education

from IUP and his Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Gannon University. He loves spending time with his wife, Épryl (also an educator), his daughter, Aiyanna, and son-in-law, Kameron.

He is the proud son of John and Brenda King, long-standing community members in the district where he teaches. He is also a part of a long line of educators in his family. He truly loves and appreciates his brother (Chris), sister (Jewel), all of his other family members, friends, and the relationships that he has developed over the years.



## MICHAEL A. KNIGHT

**Fiscal & Contracting Supervisor**  
**City of Pittsburgh**

Michael A. Knight is an accomplished accountant with a robust background in both private and public finance sectors, currently serving as an Accounting Supervisor for the City of Pittsburgh. With over a decade of experience in government accounting, Knight expertly oversees multiple HUD grant funds, ensuring compliance, accuracy, and efficiency in financial reporting and grant management. His role involves supervising the preparation and execution of contracts, grant applications, and legislation, as well as providing fiscal oversight for sub-recipients.

Prior to his current position, Knight spent over six years as a Treasury Accountant with Eat'n Park Hospitality Group, where he managed the company's daily cash position, performed cash forecasts, and oversaw bank reconciliations across multiple divisions.

Knight holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Clarion University, where he was actively involved as Vice President of the Accounting Club and a member of the football team. His commitment to community service is evident through his leadership roles in various youth athletic organizations, including co-founding the

North Side Youth Athletic Association and serving as Finance Director for the Southwestern Pennsylvania Youth Athletic Initiative. He has also volunteered for five years with the Steel City Kickers, where he has served as a coach, co-commissioner, and vice president of the organization. Recognized for his contributions, Knight has been honored with several awards, including the New Pittsburgh Courier Fab 40 Award, Pittsburgh Magazine's 40 Under 40 Award, and was a finalist for the Jefferson Service Award.



# SEBASTIAN LACY

Vice President of Equity & Culture  
YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh

Sebastian Lacy, Vice President of Equity and Culture at YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh (YWCA GP), has extensive experience in Nonprofit Management, Human Resources, and DEIA. He leads the development, implementation, and oversight of the Center for Race & Gender Equity and Human Resources services and programs.

His leadership extends to directing advocacy and systems change efforts, particularly in race and gender equity. He developed and led internal and external advocacy efforts aligned with YWCA USA's public policy priority areas, including economic empowerment, health and safety, racial justice, and civil rights.

Lacy spearheads transformative projects such as the Monthly Action Conversation on Race, the 21-Day Racial and Social Justice Challenge, and team engagement events like the Global Week Without Violence, the Alzheimer's Walk Challenge, Pay Equity, and Unite to Heal PA.

Before his role at YWCA GP, Lacy most recently served as the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Manager at Carnegie Mellon University for the Mellon College of Science (MCS), Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. During his tenure at MCS, he developed and oversaw their inaugural DEI program—the Empow-

ering Dialogue on Race and Diversity series—and redesigned MCS's Diversity Statement. He also chaired the All-Gender Inclusive Restrooms Campus Initiative and was a member of the Benefits Committee that implemented staff parental leave. He was recognized as a champion for staff engagement in CMU spotlight articles "Lacy Energizes Staff Through Engagement" and "The Heart of a Champion."

Lacy has an expansive 27-year career in Human Resources Management, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility, encompassing nonprofit management, social services, healthcare, and higher education. He has over a decade of experience developing and managing progressive and innovative human resources business services, staff engagement, professional development and learning initiatives, and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility programming.

He champions eradicating racism, adverse policies, biases, inequities, and discriminatory practices and is a passionate advocate for Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) for women, underrepresented, marginalized, socioeconomic, and LGBTQIA+ communities. He is a change agent who addresses inequities in gender pay, housing, employment, education, social justice, and public accommodations.

Lacy curated Three Rivers Youth's Nellie Leadership Awards and the Human Resources and Learning Institute and chairs the Voting Is Power Pittsburgh Regional Coalition. He has twice been a Vibrant Pittsburgh Index Champion. His leadership in human resources led him to be named Leader of the Year for the 2024 Engaging Pittsburgh: Innovative People Practices Awards,

presented by the Pittsburgh Human Resources Association. He has also been selected to participate in Leadership Pittsburgh XLI.

Lacy says, "My work is not just about eradicating racism, adverse policies, biases, inequity, and discriminatory practices. It reflects a deep-rooted and unwavering commitment to integrating diversity, equity, and inclusion across all organizational platforms and initiatives, fostering a culture of belonging and respect."



# MAJESTIC LANE

Chief Equity Officer  
Allegheny Conference on Community Development

With over 20 years of experience as a social entrepreneur, municipal leader, and non-profit executive, Majestic Lane brings a passion and drive for innovative solutions, and planning grounded in equity. Lane serves as the Chief Equity Officer of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. In this role, Lane is responsible for the Conference's efforts to advance economic opportunity and inclusion for the 10-county region of Southwestern Pennsylvania. Central to his work is his commitment to driving strategic growth and purposeful impact in the communities he services.

Lane previously served as the Deputy Chief of Staff and the inaugural Chief Equity Officer for the City of Pittsburgh's Office of Mayor William Peduto. In that role, he established the city's first Office of Equity where he oversaw the administration's efforts to ensure opportunity for all residents in the key areas of education, workforce development, safe & healthy communi-



ties, and digital inclusion. In that time, he reformed the Equal Opportunity Review Commission and increased spend by \$2 million with Minority Women & Disadvantaged Business Enterprises with the City of Pittsburgh.

Lane has served as a director on several boards including the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania, Green Building Alliance, Repair the World, and Partner4Work, and is also a member of the Board of Fellows at the University of Pittsburgh's Institute of Politics.

A sought-after thought-leader in his field, Lane has spoken at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and the University of Newcastle (UK). Because of his leadership, he has been recognized with numerous awards celebrating his achievements in government, community development and economic development, including being named as a "City Innovator to Watch Post-Pandemic" by Bloomberg Cities Network and the 2022 Impact 50 award from City & State Pennsylvania.

Lane attended the University of Pittsburgh and currently resides in Pittsburgh.



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## MIKE LOGAN

### Founder Logan's Heroes

Mike Logan was born in Saint Clair Village, raised in Whitaker Projects in West Mifflin, and graduated from McKeesport Area High School, where he played football under the famed coach George Smith. He earned an athletic scholarship to West Virginia University. Logan assisted in many programs on campus and volunteered at the Mountain State Network. He made the Athletic Honor Roll in 1996 and had a Hall of Fame career at WVU which led him to be drafted into the NFL.

The Jacksonville Jaguars selected Logan in the second round.

In 2001, Logan was signed by the Pittsburgh Steelers, bringing him back to his hometown. He was elated to pursue his dream of winning a Super Bowl but also excited about the opportunity to provide resources for his

friends and family. He achieved both goals, winning Super Bowl XL and starting his non-profit foundation, Logan's Heroes. Heroes' mission is to raise money and resources for educational programs that come from distressed and disadvantaged situations. He established relationships with educators from local schools. During the football season he would spend his only day off going to different classrooms, speaking to children. During the off-season, he would host pizza parties for the classes that had the best attendance, behavior, and grade point averages. His desire to help kids get on the right track was noticed by District Judge Kevin Cooper, who was also the Senior Pastor of Mulberry Community Church. Cooper had a truancy, education, and crime prevention program that Logan collabo-



rated with.

Logan attends Macedonia Church of Pittsburgh under the leadership of Senior Pastor Brian James Edmonds. He is a facilitator in a men's Bible Study group and is a member of the New Disciples Ministry. However, his first ministry is that of his own home, which consists of his marriage to his beautiful wife, Jennifer Logan. He has five children; Trey, Mika, Mikhi, Reign and Kingston.

## CLYDE D. MANNS JR.

### Owner, EIT Basketball Training Site Supervisor, Greater Valley ACTES

Clyde D. Manns Jr. is a versatile professional with a distinguished career in basketball coaching, player development, and community service. Graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Administration of Justice from the University of Pittsburgh, Manns has dedicated his life to both the sport and the holistic development of athletes.

Currently, Manns serves as the Regional Lead Youth Development Coach for the Cleveland Cavaliers and Head Women's Basketball Coach at the Community College of Allegheny County. In these roles, he oversees comprehensive basketball programs, organizing camps, clinics, and skill development sessions for young athletes ranging from 8 years of age and up. His work extends to mentoring high school athletes through the complexities of the recruiting process and providing individualized training for collegiate and professional players through his venture, Elite Individual Training (EIT).

Outside of coaching, Manns' playing career in professional leagues like the IBL and USBL further enriches his coaching acumen, underscoring his deep understanding of the game and dedication to sportsmanship.

Recognized for his contributions to youth basketball camps and induction

into the Pittsburgh City League Hall of Fame and Ammon Recreation Center Hall of Fame, Manns remains committed to empowering athletes and making a lasting impact in his community. His tireless efforts in sports and social rehabilitation programs exemplify his holistic approach to mentorship and leadership, where he continues to inspire and uplift individuals to achieve their fullest potential.



## KEVIN J. MILLER

### Chaplain and Dean Imani Christian Academy

Kevin J. Miller, an experienced educational leader, devoted father, and faithful husband, leaves an indelible mark on everyone he encounters across various settings—church, community, and work. His leadership by example sets a high standard, and over the past 25 years, he has dedicated himself to supporting men in need, helping them regain their footing. Miller's selfless giving often goes unnoticed, as he humbly bridges gaps in people's lives without seeking recognition.

Recently, completing his pursuit of an MBA, Miller continued to generously support OFAAFO (ONE FOR ALL ALL FOR ONE), a group of friends who continue to advance the "One For All All For One" lifestyle, an inspiration for Black excellence and pride, sharing his resources with unwavering kindness. Beyond that, he actively contributes to the local AAU basketball organization, Rise High Elite, and serves in the youth ministry at Petra International Ministries.

Within the school system, Miller is a trusted leader. Teachers and coaches seek his advice when handling challenging situations. As a pivotal member of the leadership team at Imani Christian Academy, he approaches every encounter



as an opportunity to address all aspects of the school. Miller challenges others to give their all and then some, ensuring success for every student.

His commitment elevates the standard for everyone who crosses his path.

Miller consistently seeks innovative solutions to challenges. His forward-thinking approach benefits the entire school community. Moreover, Miller actively encourages parent involvement, fostering strong relationships between parents, teachers and students. Under Miller's leadership, the athletic program flourishes. Collaborating with coaches, he not only develops their skills but also promotes Godly character and sportsmanship among students. Miller's impact extends far beyond the classroom, leaving a legacy of excellence and compassion.

## PASTOR E. KEITH MONCRIEF

### Senior Pastor Kingdom Light Ministries International

A native of Pittsburgh, Pastor Keith Moncrief is an anointed gift to the Body of Christ and Pittsburgh community. In 2010, Pastor Moncrief assumed the Senior Pastorate of Missionary Temple Ministries; now renamed Kingdom Light Ministries International, located in Pittsburgh.

As a spiritual leader, Bible teacher, gifted Psalmist and music producer, "Pastor Keith" displays a great passion for the Kingdom of God and believes in the power of The Word to transform lives. Pastor Keith committed his life to the Lord at age 17 and soon after, realized that God had plans for him that encompassed a global reach.

In January 1974, he joined the Greater Pittsburgh Christian Temple where renowned pastor and founder Bishop Timothy Williams Jr. mentored his early years in the ministry. Pastor Keith attributes much of what he has learned about Levitical Protocol, Biblical music min-

istry, and true worship to his tenure at Christian Temple.

Endowed by God with the gift of music, Pastor Keith has traveled the world sharing Gospel music with a wide range of audiences. He founded The Gospel Family, an ensemble who toured extensively across the U.S. and Europe for over two decades. Pastor Keith is a resident clinician at the annual Gospel Connection choir workshop in Assisi, Italy.

In 1981, Pastor Keith united in marriage and vowed to partner in life and ministry with his lovely wife, Deborah. They are the proud parents of Krystyn, Aryka, LaNelle and Charles. He has three amazing grandchildren, Christian, Sydney and Nia, who are the light of his life.

Pastor Keith believes that continually seeking the face of God is key to staying synchronized with divine timing and seasons. He endeavors to attain ultimate destiny by utilizing his gifts and talents to glorify God.



# BISHOP MARVIN C. MORELAND

**Jurisdictional Bishop**  
**Pennsylvania Western First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Church Of God In Christ**

The ministry of Bishop Marvin C. Moreland has been touching lives for more than 35 years. Bishop Moreland was saved and filled with the gift of the Holy Ghost during a Spirit-filled revival that changed his life forever. Not long after, he accepted the sovereign call of God, to ministry, on November 27, 1983, under the leadership of his pastor and mentor, the late Dr. James A. Watkins. The anointing and gift of ministry was apparent on his life and he was ordained an Elder in the Church Of God In Christ Inc., in 1985. Bishop Moreland served



faithfully and assisted in ministry at the Deliverance Temple Ministries Church Of God In Christ until the demise of his late pastor. Bishop Moreland began his pastoral ministry and was appointed as Senior Pastor of Deliverance Temple Ministries Church Of God In Christ in August of 1998. Under his leadership, Deliverance Temple has grown spiritually and numerically. His innovative approach to worship, delivery of God's Word and his genuine love for people has caused the ministry to be a shining light and a beacon of hope in the surrounding communities.

In November 2023, Bishop Moreland was consecrated to the office of Jurisdictional Prelate by Bishop J. Drew Sheard, Presiding Bishop of the Church Of God In Christ, overseeing the Pennsylvania Western First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, presiding over the 35 churches that span from Erie to Johnstown.

Bishop Moreland was educated in the Aliquippa School District, Airco Technical Institute of Pittsburgh, California State University, Harty Bible Institute, Moody Bible Institute and Liberty University.

Bishop Moreland is married to his companion in ministry, Evangelist Charisse D. Moreland, and they are the parents of six children and 17 grandchildren.

# JAMES MYERS JR.

**Senior Director, Business Investment**  
**Allegheny Conference on Community Development**

James Myers is the Senior Director of Business Investment at the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. He is responsible for cultivating and establishing relationships with prospective businesses, developers, investors, and entrepreneurs in the Pittsburgh region as well as nationally and internationally. Myers works collaboratively with elected officials, economic development organizations, and private industries on a wide range of legislative and policy issues. Also, he serves as a public representative at political, business, and community engagement events.

Prior to joining the Allegheny Conference, Myers was the Director of Community and Business Development at Riverside Center for Innovation, where he provided resources for small businesses. He led a pro bono partnership with Reed Smith to connect entrepreneurs to legal services. Myers spearheaded a merger with Riverside Center for Innovation and Urban Innovation21 to provide business development programming to startups and existing companies.

He has served on several boards in-

cluding McAuley Ministries, Hill District Development Growth Fund, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Community Advisory Board, City of Pittsburgh Equal Opportunity Review Commission and Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board. Myers earned his B.A. in Business Management from Carlow University and is a graduate of CORO Center for Civic Leadership. Myers has a professional career path that extends to roles as an educator, advocate, coordinator, director, and consultant.



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James Myers, Jr.



# CONGRATULATIONS

## Majestic Lane and James Myers, Jr.

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# MICHAEL C. NELSON

Senior Manager of Security Operations  
Duquesne Light Company

Michael C. Nelson, Head of Security at Duquesne Light Company, is deeply committed to ensuring the safety and security of the organization. With over 25 years of experience in the security industry, Nelson is known for his steadfast approach to tackling complex challenges and implementing robust security measures.

Throughout his career, Nelson has consistently prioritized comprehensive security solutions. He oversees all aspects of physical security, including access control, video surveillance, and intrusion detection, ensuring strict adherence to compliance requirements.

Nelson's dedication to professional growth is evident in his recent graduation from the 2024 Executive Leadership Academy cohort at The Advanced Leadership Institute.

Before his tenure at Duquesne Light Company, Nelson spent 21 years with the Pennsylvania State Police, where he developed his expertise in security management and honed his leadership abilities. His background in military service further reinforces his disciplined and integrity-driven approach to security.

In addition to his professional achievements, Nelson holds the prestigious Certified Protection Professional (CPP) cer-



tification from ASIS International, which recognizes him as board-certified in security management.

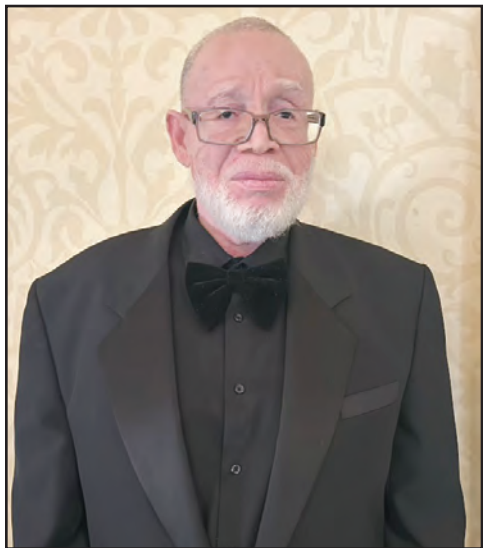
Nelson's life outside of work is defined by his commitment to mentoring the next generation of security professionals and his active involvement in the community. A devoted family man, he values spending quality time with his loved ones and contributing to the community's well-being.

A native of Pittsburgh, Nelson's journey is marked by a blend of professional excellence and personal integrity.

# ROBERT L. POSTON

YouthBuild Supervisor and City Parks Manager  
City of Pittsburgh Department of Parks and Recreation

Robert (Bob) Poston, a lifelong resident of the City of Pittsburgh, graduated from Peabody High School in 1971 and after graduation, he pursed a career as a draftsman at the Pittsburgh Institute of Technology (PIT). After graduating from PIT, Poston started his career with Wean Engineering and soon was transferred to their California location. While in California, Poston was in a horrific car accident where the vehicle he was riding in



was hit by a train. Miraculously, Poston survived and once stable, he returned to Pittsburgh where he opened his own business, Poston Contracting, which he operated for over 20 years.

As the oldest male sibling of eight, Poston has always been accustomed to looking out and taking care of others. In 1987, he began working for the Garfield Jubilee as an instructor and YouthBuild supervisor. YouthBuild is a federally funded program that partners with youth to build skillsets and mindsets that lead to lifelong learning, livelihood, and leadership. In his role as a YouthBuild instructor and supervisor, Poston has mentored and trained thousands of young people between the ages of 16-24.

In 2000, the City of Pittsburgh hired Poston to work at the Mellon Tennis Bubble, while still maintaining his fulltime role as the YouthBuild supervisor for the Garfield Jubilee. Nearly 25 years later, Poston is still a dedicated city employee and can be found doing what he loves every day, but especially on Saturday mornings, where he manages the children's tennis clinics.

While Poston is proud of his accomplishments and his contributions to the community, his family and friends are what he cherishes most.

# MICHAEL J. NICHOLS

Retired Public Works Laborer, City of Pittsburgh  
Volunteer Reader, Pittsburgh Public Schools

From time to time, Michael Nichols will be out and about, maybe doing some shopping, when a kid will point to him.

"Mommy, he read to me," the kid would say to his mother.

For Nichols, hearing that just makes his day. It makes him want to read some more to the kids. Thirty-two years later, he's still reading to the kids at Pittsburgh Public Schools.

Nichols, a Pittsburgh native, grew up in West Oakland, and graduated from Schenley High School in 1979. In 1988, he joined the City of Pittsburgh's Public Works department, and stayed there for 32 years before retiring in 2020. These days, he's in his 33rd year of reading books—some lighthearted, some serious—to kids, many of whom are now adults. When Madison Elementary was open in the Hill District, Nichols read to students there.

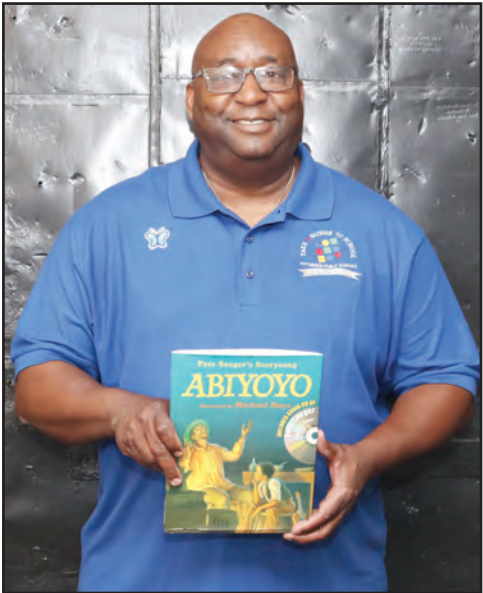
Today, he reads to kids at Miller, Phillips, King, Morrow, and more. "It's very important that more Black men come into the schools and read to the children often," Nichols said. "Not just one day out the year, but every day."

Nichols said if more Black men committed to some consistent schedule—once a week, once every two weeks—it would help the kids in more ways than one.

"To see a Black man in the school makes a very powerful impact in their lives," Nichols said.

Nichols has overcome some challenges. His son, Robert, died just over a decade ago. Nichols also beat prostate cancer and COVID-19.

He marches on. "I'm going to continue... under God's will," Nichols said.



# TIMOTHY POWELL

Clinical Director  
UPMC

Timothy Powell has been an employee at UPMC health systems for the past 35 years, where he has performed in a few different roles as a nurse. With 33 years of experience specializing in

cardiology as a bedside and procedural nurse, nurse manager, and director, his expertise thrives within the invasive and non-invasive cardiovascular patient care specialty.

Powell holds an associate degree in nursing from Community College of Allegheny County, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Drexel University, and a Master of Science degree in Nursing from Drexel University. Additionally, through Drexel University he is certified in Nursing Leadership in Health Systems Management.

In his current role, Powell has embraced the role of Clinical Director of Cardiology Services, in which he supports the UPMC Heart and Vascular Institute Service Line and hospital patient services for UPMC facilities within the northern region of the City of Pittsburgh.

Through his compassion and work ethic, Powell has also been recognized as a recipient of the Mary Ann Scully Excellence in Cardiology Nursing award given by the American Heart Association and UPMC.

In his spare time, Powell loves spending time with family, listening to live music, exercising, and traveling.



# JOHNATHAN D. RIDEAU

**BU Mission Assurance Manager  
Northrop Grumman**

Johnathan D. Rideau is an accomplished aerospace and defense professional currently serving as the Mission Assurance Aurora Site Manager for the INS Business Unit at Northrop Grumman. With over two decades of experience in engineering and quality management, Rideau has a proven track record of delivering critical projects that support national defense and global peacekeeping efforts.

Rideau earned his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in 2000 and later obtained a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh in 2010. His career began at COMPUNETIX, where he honed his skills



as a Customer Support and Field Engineer. He then joined BPMI, where he advanced through several key roles, including Senior Supplier Quality Engineer, Senior Project Engineer and Principal Quality Engineer, culminating in a management role focused in supply chain cyber and physical security.

Rideau then transitioned to Raytheon as a Senior Manager of Mission Assurance, before assuming his current role. His extensive expertise encompasses people leadership, project and program management, and mission assurance management. He is proficient in aerospace standard auditing, cybersecurity management, and continuous improvement methodologies, including Lean and Six Sigma.

Throughout his career, Rideau has been recognized for his significant contributions, including the successful launch of critical satellite programs and the establishment of a new aerospace hardware manufacturing facility. His leadership has been instrumental in rebuilding teams and ensuring the successful delivery of vital systems that enhance global defense operations.

Rideau's commitment to excellence is underscored by his certifications as a Lead Auditor, Disaster Recovery Representative, and Quality Manager, along with his Lean/Six Sigma Green Belt designation. He continues to drive innovation and quality in the aerospace and defense sector, contributing to the safety and security of our nation worldwide.

Rideau enjoys spending time with his family and friends, traveling, trying new foods, and collecting bourbon.

# SHAWN A. SHANNON

**Central Access Supervisor  
Wesley Family Services**

Shawn Shannon is a dedicated community leader, passionate mentor, and committed family man who has made a lasting impact on the lives of countless individuals. With a career rooted in youth advocacy and mental health support, Shannon's journey began as an activities coordinator at a local facility for adjudicated youth, where he first discovered his calling to help adolescents navigate life's challenges.

As a role model within his own family, Shannon has taken on the responsibility of mentoring his nephew and younger cousin, providing them with the guidance and support needed to thrive. This commitment to fostering growth and development extends beyond his family, as he has dedicated his career to helping others through his work at Wesley Family Services. Through his various positions within the agency, Shannon has played a crucial role in shaping the futures of many young people, offering direction and encouragement to those in need. Shannon has also made significant strides in addressing mental health issues among adults, providing essential support and resources to individuals struggling with their well-being.

Shannon's most impactful role was his involvement in the reentry program at

the Allegheny County Jail, where he assisted inmates in transitioning back into their communities.

Shannon is a loving husband and the proud father of two daughters and one son. His ability to balance his professional responsibilities with his family life is a testament to his character and the values he holds dear. Shannon's life and career are marked by a deep commitment to helping others, and his contributions have made a lasting difference in the lives of those he has touched.



# ALPHONSO SLOAN

**Retired Police Detective, Pittsburgh Bureau of Police  
Artist, Method Lab Studios, LLC**

Alphonso "Fonz" Sloan graduated from Peabody High School in 1989 where he excelled in art. In 1991, he attended the Art Institute of Pittsburgh and graduated in 1993. Also, in 1993 he applied for a position as police cadet with the City of Pittsburgh Police Department. In February 1995 he was hired with the department which was the start of a 29-year career. the beginning of a 29-year career.

In 2006, "Fonz" was promoted to detective and was tasked with the formation of a graffiti unit to investigate vandalism within the City of Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh Police Graffiti Unit was a success and resulted in the prosecution of hundreds of offenders in the 16 years that it was in existence. Sloan, along with his two partners, were awarded a National Fraternal of Police Merit Award for the arrest and successful prosecution of an offender who defaced 125 buildings and accumulated \$700,000 in damages.

He has worked with numerous youth and school programs to educate young people on the possibility of a career in law enforcement or a career in art/graphic design. Sloan has been an outspoken advocate against police brutality.

Sloan created a program to engage

youth in healthy interactions and dialogue with police to reduce the possibility of a violent encounter with law enforcement.

In 2021, Sloan founded Method Lab Studios, LLC, where he works as an artist and graphic designer.

In his retirement, Sloan continues to volunteer his time as an artist, speaker and community leader.



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# MORTON D. STANFIELD JR.

**Senior Vice President of Community Development  
Dollar Bank, Federal Savings Bank**

As a lifelong resident of Pittsburgh, Morton Stanfield is proud of his work to build a community where young people can flourish and make an impact. When many of his peers left for opportunities in other cities, he chose to stay and become a leader, driving our region forward and investing in our future so that more of our youth choose to stay.

As the Senior Vice President of Community Development and Community Reinvestment Act Officer for Dollar Bank, Stanfield is responsible for the execution of community development initiatives across Dollar Bank's footprint, including Western Pennsylvania, Northeastern Ohio, Virginia, and Western Maryland. Over his more-than-18-year career in the banking industry, Stanfield has held roles in retail banking and corporate lending.

Stanfield is a graduate of Carlow University, where he was named a 2022 Carlow Laureate honoree—an award granted to alumni whose work, thought and action demonstrate the highest standards of professional accomplishment and leadership. He is also a graduate of the Stonier Graduate School of Banking, the Wharton Executive Leadership Program, the Pennsylvania Bankers Association Advanced School of Banking, Leadership Pittsburgh Class XXX, and The Advanced Leadership Institute at the CMU Tepper School of Business.



Stanfield serves on the board of directors of several community organizations, including as Vice Chair of the Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium, the Kappa Scholarship Endowment Fund, the Mount Ararat Community Activity Center, Neighborhood Allies, and Bridgeway Capital.

Morton was born and raised in the East End of Pittsburgh and currently resides in Highland Park. In his free time, Stanfield enjoys reading, working out and spending time with his family and lifelong childhood friends. Stanfield is also a proud member of the Pittsburgh Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Inc.

# ALFRED B. VALENTINE

**President  
100 Black Men of Western Pennsylvania**

Alfred B. Valentine currently serves as the President of 100 Black Men of Western Pennsylvania. Valentine is a 15-year member, and he was a past chairman of Economic Empowerment, where he revamped the financial literacy program and coached the Dollars & Sense team at multiple national conferences.

He retired from PNC Bank in Pittsburgh as an Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager, responsible for leading a branch team to use PNC's wide range of services making banking easier and helping business and consumer customers achieve their financial goals.

For over 20 years, he was a sales leader at Pfizer Inc.,



where he excelled as an award-winning manager for over 11 years honing his leadership, mentoring, and strategic planning skills.

Valentine earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Point Park University. He is an avid golfer and Steelers fan and has combined his two loves by planning annual trips that allow them to attend a game and play rounds of golf. That has developed into a national group of Black men networking year-round. He also enjoys entertaining family and friends and is known for preparing wonderful meals.

Valentine is a resident of the North Hills area of Pittsburgh. For over 30 years he has been Jill's husband and the proud father of Domonique.

# BRIAN VINCENT STARKS

**Marketing and Community Outreach Liaison  
Pittsburgh Public Theater**

Brian Vincent Starks is currently the Marketing and Community Outreach Liaison for Pittsburgh Public Theater, responsible for print and digital collateral distribution at events in the city, Allegheny County and online groups identified by Pittsburgh Public Theater. While attending Peabody High School, Starks was given an apprenticeship by the Pittsburgh Black Theater Dance Ensemble. He has an extensive acting resume, including film and television roles on "New York Undercover" and "All My Children." He has been featured in American Express, Kodak and K-Mart commercials. He has also starred in stage productions of "The WIZ" in Connecticut, "To Kill a Mockingbird" at the New Hazlett Theater and August Wilson's "Two Trains Running," "A Raisin in The Sun" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream in Harlem" at the Pittsburgh Public Theater.

Starks has been a mentor all of his adult life, starting as the founding member of The Mechanical Wizzards Breakdancing group in the early '80s. He formed the group training young men and women from the community in Chicago and Pittsburgh.

He also taught accredited Breakdancing classes for the New York City



Board of Education at Robert F. Wagner High School. Upon moving back to Pittsburgh, Starks has continued to mentor youth at community-based programs as the YMCA and the Boys and Girls Club. At the Pittsburgh Public theater, Starks has led tours and mentored at-risk youth by sharing how acting and the arts is a positive outlet for expression and growth that can transfer to other areas of their lives.

Starks also provides community service to the elderly living in Homewood senior homes with transportation and life care support.

He is a proud father of three (Jonathan, Jocelyn and Cullen) and grandfather of six and counts his life a living testimony from God—to be a blessing of community service and loving support to others.

# WENDELL E. WADE JR.

**Vice President, Branch and Business Center Manager  
PNC Bank**

Wendell E. Wade Jr. is a native Pittsburgher and a lifelong resident of the Beltzhoover community. Coming from a large family with an emphasis on structure and achievement, Wade has always been driven to show up every day, follow instincts and approach his work with a strong ethic and will to be successful.

After graduating high school from Perry Traditional Academy, Wade went on to Norfolk State University to pursue a degree in Mass Communications and Business. While attending NSU, Wade set his sights on a career in the radio and television business. To that end, Wade spent time studying and working as an intern in places like the ABC affiliate WVEC-TV and WNSB 91.1 Norfolk State Broadcasting. Wade was instrumental in producing the very first Hip-Hop mix show in the history of Norfolk State Public Broadcasting.

As time progressed, Wade decided to study real estate sales and he earned a realtor license in the state of Pennsylvania. While studying and practicing real estate sales and agency, Wade also accepted two roles simultaneously at



WPXI-TV (Channel 11) as a part-time studio camera operator and at PNC Bank in the Inside Sales Department.

Currently, Wade manages PNC's Miracle Mile Branch and Business Banking Center, located in Monroeville.

Wade is passionate about working with small businesses and has won many accolades during his tenure at PNC Bank.

# DR. EVON WALTERS

Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Community Engagement  
Community College of Allegheny County

Dr. Evon Walters currently serves as the Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Community Engagement at the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC). His 28 years of experience in teaching, research and executive leadership includes being a 2003 Fellow of the American Council on Education. In 2020, he was the recipient of the prestigious Paragon Award for new Presidents,



where he was one of 28 community college presidents who were recognized by the Phi Theta Kappa national honor society.

Over the past six years, he has presented nationally and published multiple articles highlighting the central role of community colleges in workforce development and student access/success. Highlighted within these presentations and publications has been some of CCAC's groundbreaking initiatives that he has spearheaded. Much of these initiatives involved partnerships with local and national entities on issues associated with workforce development, enrollment management and increasing post-secondary access/success to the region's historically under-represented and economically disadvantaged population.

A proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., he is married to Rhonda Walters, who is the Vice President for Talent Acquisition at the Allegheny Conference. They have a son, Evon Jr., who is a senior in the North Allegheny School District.

# W. EUGENE WILSON

Owner, Cloud 33 Premium Cigar Lounge

By day, W. Eugene Wilson works for a real estate/property management firm. By night, he owns Cloud 33 Premium Cigar Lounge. A graduate of Wilkinsburg High School, known as a student-athlete in the sport of basketball, Wilson went on to receive a full athletic scholarship to the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. He had an excellent career there, scoring over 1,200+ points and graduated with a bachelor's in English/Writing.

He then went on to receive his master's from Point Park University in Athletic Leadership. He was also a head basketball coach for high school boys, including Wilkinsburg, Westinghouse, Baldwin, Ringgold and Woodland Hills.

Wilson is happy to claim that he has helped more than 30 student-athletes play basketball on the collegiate level, through his high school and AAU program DTP Elite. "Helping our youth step outside the box and create opportunities for themselves are what's important to me," he said. "We focus on



growth and development of the individual through a team aspect."

After 11 years as a coach, he decided to follow another passion, which includes golf and cigars.

"Understanding that you only get one life, why not go after the things that make you happy—my wife, family, cigars and golf?"

In 2023, he opened Cloud 33 Premium Cigar Lounge, located in the Penn Hills Shopping Center. This was a thought for over 10 years and finally came to fruition in April 2023. He takes pride in providing a mature and sophisticated experience at his lounge.

"Our goal is to make everyone comfortable and create enjoyable experiences. We are looking forward to what the future holds as we embark on this new journey. We would like to thank all the supporters for Cloud 33, and we will continue to deliver and BE PREMIUM."

# TERREL R. WILLIAMS

Teen Outreach Program Manager  
Homeless Children's Education Fund

Terrel R. Williams is currently the Program Manager for the Homeless Children's Education Fund's Teen Outreach Program. His role is managing the Teen Outreach Program, creating opportunities for students affected by homelessness and housing instability, establishing relationships with post-secondary programs, and creating a continuum model for high school students to establish a lucrative career.

Williams was born and raised in the Hill District. He graduated from Schenley High School in 1999 and sought out to make a name for himself.

As the author of "Salvation of a Street Poet" and "Ballads of a Street Poet," Williams spent time reading, studying, and writing before entering Carlow University to attain a Bachelor of Arts in Theology and Master of Education.

Before securing a position at HCEF, Williams spent time working in the Children's Youth & Family services department of DHS (Department of Human Services). His primary goal was to assist foster care youth with life-changing experiences and opportunities to grow academically.

In his private time, Williams is a family man. When asked about his energy to serve, he said: "As long as I have my wife and kids, I can walk through fires."

Williams is a servant seeking ways to spread awareness of the importance of faith, love and charity. As a member of Macedonia Church in the Hill District, Williams has worshipped and worked with the Macedonia Teen Youth Ministry and devoted his life to Christ.



# JAMES D. WIMBERLY III

General Manager, On-Street Services  
Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership

James D. Wimberly is currently a General Manager with the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, managing on-street services through the Partnership's Clean and Safe Program. In his role, he oversees and manages the on-street teams who service the Pittsburgh Downtown Business Improvement District.

Wimberly came to the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership with over 30 years of management experience. Prior to joining the PDP, Wimberly spent 29 years in the millwork industry with The

Empire Company. He spent 19 of those years as a Field Service Manager, covering territories in Eastern Ohio, Western Pennsylvania, and several states in the northeastern U.S.

Wimberly originally hails from Detroit, and relocated to Pittsburgh in March 1995 due to a promotion with the Empire Company. He completed his education online at Kaplan University with an Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

In 1996, he joined Friendship Baptist Church in Manchester, which later relocated in the East End and became Inner City Ministries. Wimberly was ordained into the Deacons Ministry in May 1998.

He preached his initial sermon and was licensed in September 2019, and then enrolled at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. At PTS, he obtained a Graduate Certificate of Urban Ministry through the Metro Urban Institute, of which he was an MUI Student Fellow. He entered the Master of Divinity program. In May 2024, he graduated with a Master of Divinity.

Over recent years, Wimberly has received several certificates for personal and ministerial enrichment, as well as a proclamation from the City of Pittsburgh in 2019 for expressions in arts and culture.



# DR. MICHAEL YOUNG

**Mellon College of Science Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
and Associate Professor of Mathematical Sciences  
Carnegie Mellon University**

Dr. Michael Young is an Associate Professor of Mathematical Sciences and the Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Mellon College of Science at Carnegie Mellon University. In his role as Associate Dean, Dr. Young collaborates closely with departments and units to develop and implement policies, programs, and training initiatives that enrich the academic and professional experiences of students, staff, and faculty. His primary research interests lie in Discrete Mathematics, focusing on graph theory and combinatorics.

At CMU, Dr. Young leads several programs aimed at promoting diversity and inclusivity in the sciences. He oversees the Summer Scholars Program, which provides undergraduates from institutions nationwide the opportunity to engage in research and receive mentorship over the summer. He also developed and oversees the Data Analytics for Science Immersion Experience (DASIE) Workshop, a collaborative effort between CMU, Dow, PPG, and Accenture, designed to introduce students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other minority-serving institutions to data analytics and connect them with industry experts.

Dr. Young is at the helm of the ASCEND Mentor Network, a national initiative supporting the National Science Foundation's ASCEND Postdoctoral Fellows in the fields of astronomy, chemistry, material science, mathematics, and physics. Additionally, he serves as a mentor and advisor to the Tartan Scholars Program and the Rales Fellows Program, both CMU initiatives that provide resources aimed to unlock the full scientific potential of their scholars.



Throughout his career, Dr. Young has launched numerous national initiatives and held various leadership positions to address race and inequity in education, including the Designing for Equity by Thinking in and about Mathematics project with Pittsburgh Public Schools. He has been instrumental in recruiting and mentoring graduate students and postdoctoral scholars of color through organizations such as the Mathematicians of Color Alliance, the Center for Minorities in the Mathematical Sciences, and Mathematics Enrichment through Diversity and Learning (MEDAL). Currently, he is leading a national study examining departmental policies and practices that foster supportive environments for graduate students from underrepresented groups in the mathematical sciences.

Before joining CMU, Dr. Young was a tenured faculty member in mathematics at Iowa State University, where he was appointed by the governor to serve on the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from the University of Florida and both his Master's and Ph.D. from Carnegie Mellon University. Originally from Jacksonville, Florida, Dr.

Young now resides in Highland Park with his wife, Simone, and their daughter, Leila.

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