



Day Care Council  
of New York

*Educated Children Are Our Future*



# CELEBRATING UNSUNG HEROES

## AWARDS AND GOSPEL BRUNCH Saturday, October 14, 2017

### **Welcome**

Executive Director, Andrea Anthony

Board President, Lorenzo Newby

### **Greetings**

First Lady of the City of New York, Chirlane McCray

Administration for Children's Services, Commissioner David Hansell

District Council 1707, Executive Director Kim Medina

### **Presentation of the Community Partner Award**

### **Presentation of the Public Service Award**

### **Networking**

### **Brunch**

### **Presentation of the Child Care Community Awards**

### **Gospel Concert**

ARC Choir

### **Closing**



## Master of Ceremonies

### ATHENA B. MOORE

DIRECTOR, NORTHERN MANHATTAN OFFICE FOR  
MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Athena Moore serves as Director of the Northern Manhattan Office for Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer. She manages a diverse portfolio which includes overseeing constituent services and working collaboratively with city agencies to address community and quality of life issues throughout the borough. Ms. Moore brings over 20 years of experience to her position. Her expertise through the years has spanned working with all levels of city, state and federal government, and serving on non-profit boards and as a liaison to various community based and civic groups, including Black Agency Executives, Human Services Council, 125th Street Business Improvement District, Manhattan Community Boards, the MBPO African Immigrant Task Force, among others. Ms. Moore holds a B.A. from Oberlin College and an M.S. in Urban Policy and Management from the New School for Social Research. Ms. Moore is the proud mother of an 11 year old daughter.

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## Community Partner

### TREY WILDER

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, THE OMNI AGENCY



Mr. Wilder joined Omni in 2011 bringing over 18 years of Commercial Insurance experience. As a Producer and Senior Vice President, Trey is responsible for growing existing markets as well as identifying new revenue streams and potential markets. Working as a client's advocate, he strives not only to obtain the most competitive terms, but also to build and design a creative Risk Management program second to none. Trey has obtained the Certified Insurance Counselor designation (CIC) and is a graduate of the University of South Carolina. He maintains a clientele of 60 child care programs throughout New York City. Trey is known as a true professional who places the needs of his client first and foremost in helping them navigate the insurance arena.



## Public Service Honoree

### SHARON FRANCIS

BUDGET SUPERVISOR/TEAM LEADER  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Ms. Sharon Francis was born in Kingston Jamaica and migrated to the United States during the early eighties. She is a wife and proud parent of three children, currently residing in Brooklyn and enjoying the strong multi-cultural lifestyle and eatery of the borough and its many other qualities of life.

Ms. Francis graduated from the New York City College of Technology with an AAS degree in Accounting and BS degree from Hunter College, also in Accounting. Ms. Francis' career in Head Start and Childcare began in 1990 as a bookkeeper at the Mennonite Head Start. She later went on to an accounting and supervisory position with The Miracle Makers Inc. in 1993. Her assignments were to oversee the child care and Head Start budget and related payroll actions. Ms. Francis' many years working with the MMI fiscal staff and assisting other contractors whenever needed, helped to prepare and strengthen her outreach skills guiding her to the path of her current career. In 1999 Ms. Francis joined the child care Budget Unit at the Agency for Child Development (ACD/ACS) at 30 Main Street in Brooklyn, as a budget analyst. Currently she is one of the Early Learn budget team leaders.



## Child Care Community Honoree

### JOAN-ANN BOSTIC

BOARD CHAIR, ATLED/LUCILLE ROSE DAY CARE CENTER

Joan-Ann is the Chair of ATLED, Inc., a not-for-profit agency dedicated to public service which fosters education at all levels in Queens County, NY, particularly the young, enabling them to increase their skills, abilities and future life. ATLED is the sponsoring Board for Lucille Rose Day Care Center in Far Rockaway, NY. Joan-Ann retired from Pfizer, a fortune 100 pharmaceutical company, after 30 years of service. She joined Pfizer as a plant chemist and retired as a Corporate Director of Employee and Labor Relations.

Joan-Ann has a Bachelor of Science from CUNY Queens College and a Master's Degree in business from Columbia University's School of Business. She is a member of the Day Care Council's Advisory Committee, the 100th Street Block Association, the NAACP and Urban League. Joan-Ann is married to Ernest Bostic, Jr. and they have two children.



## **Child Care Community Honoree**

**MARY CHENG**

EDUCATION DIRECTOR, CHINESE AMERICAN PLANNING COUNCIL

Mary Cheng began her journey at the Chinese-American Planning Council, Inc. (CPC) as a student in the School-Age Child Care Center at PS 130 in Chinatown, Manhattan. Seeing education as her calling, Mary went on to obtain her Bachelor Degree in Elementary Education from CUNY and her Master's in Early Childhood Education from Hunter College, with permanent teaching certification from New York State. Mary returned to CPC as a preschool teacher at Chung Pak Early Childhood Center and eventually worked her way up to become head teacher in the Universal Pre-K program. After seven years of teaching at Chung Pak Early Childhood Center, Mary became the Director of CPC's Little Star of Broome Street Early Childhood Center. For the past seven years Mary has continued to inspired volunteers, staff and parents to be caring and active participants in their students' lives. She was named CPC's Director of Early Childhood Education, overseeing the agency's six early childhood centers throughout Manhattan and Queens. Mary embodies CPC's mission to promote the social economic empowerment of Chinese Americans, immigrants and low-income communities.

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## **Child Care Community Honoree**

**CAROLYN FLASH**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR, AFRO AMERICAN PARENTS

Ms. Carolyn Flash has dedicated 32 years of her life to the development of children at Afro American Parents Day Care, a non-profit agency in Queens, New York. Carolyn started her career at Afro American as a teacher's aide, and rose through the ranks to her current position as Program Coordinator. She is described by her colleagues as loyal, helpful, generous and dependable. Carolyn is the epitome of a dedicated child care professional.



## Child Care Community Honoree

### JAMES NATHANIEL

CEO, HIGHBRIDGE ADVISORY COUNCIL

From the day that James Nathaniel graduated from Pace University in 1964 with a BBA degree, he has taken his passion for public service and paved a distinguished path for many to follow. Throughout his career, Mr. Nathaniel has earned positions in government with increasing responsibility. He began his career as a caseworker for the Human Resources Administration in 1965 and was promoted to the HRA Bronx Field Office two years later. While working, he completed his MSW in 1968 from Adelphi University and was promoted to the role of Special Assistant to the Commissioner of child care services. In 1973, Mayor John Lindsey created the Agency for Child Development. Mr. Nathaniel's promotions included the Resource Area Director for Northwest Bronx, the Director of Field Operations, and eventually Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Child Care Services overseeing operations for more than 500 child care programs.

Mr. Nathaniel retired from city government in 1995 and began working with Highbridge Advisory as consultant before becoming its CEO in 2003. Under his tutorage, Highbridge educates 800 children on a daily basis.

In addition to his BBA and MSW, Mr. Nathaniel received an MPA in 1980 from Baruch College.



## Child Care Community Honoree

### VAUGHAN TONEY

BOARD CHAIR, TABERNACLE DAY CARE CENTER

CEO, FRIENDS OF CROWN HEIGHTS

In a career spanning nearly four decades of exemplary public service and advocacy in the fields of early childhood education, legislative reform and community activism, Vaughan Toney has been recognized on numerous occasions for his lifelong commitment and leadership in public service. Mr. Toney currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of The Friends of Crown Heights Educational Centers, Inc., (FOCH), the largest not-for-profit provider of early childhood education with a network of 20 programs in Brooklyn, Manhattan and Staten Island. He is also the Board Chair of Tabernacle Day Care Center. Mr. Toney's dedication to public service spans 30 years beginning as a student intern with State Assemblyman Angelo del Toro; as a legislative assistant to Senator Leonard Stavisky; chief of staff to City Council Member Una Clarke, and chief of staff to the Rev. Dr. Lloyd Henry, representing the 45<sup>th</sup> Council District. In 2001, Mr. Toney narrowly lost an historic election bid to represent the 45<sup>th</sup> District in the New York City Council. As a community leader and activist, Mr. Toney has served as a member of the Kings County Hospital Advisory Board. He is a founding member of the Caribbean American Political Organization, past President of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District Democratic Club, and a former member of the Carlos Lezama Archives and Caribbean Cultural Center.

Mr. Toney is a graduate of SUNY Albany with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. He has also pursued studies toward a Master's degree in Public Administration at New York University.