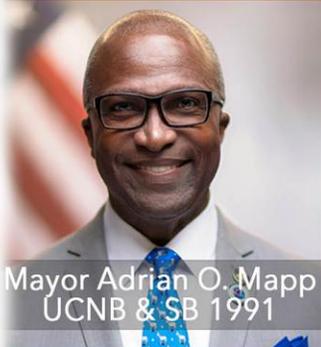
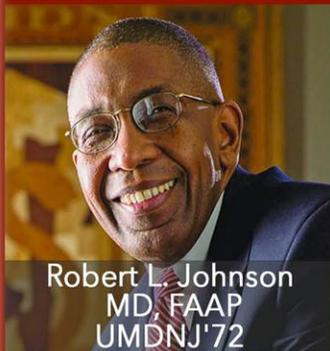
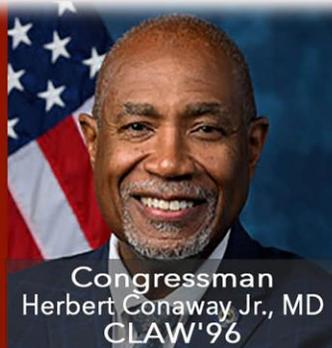


**RUTGERS AFRICAN-AMERICAN ALUMNI ALLIANCE RAAA, INC.**  
**22ND ANNUAL HALL OF FAME AWARDS CEREMONY**  
*“Unbroken Excellence: Honoring Our Roots, Empowering Our Future.”*



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025**  
**HYATT REGENCY HOTEL**  
 2 Albany Street • New Brunswick • New Jersey • 08901



**Margaret "Marty" Gillis**  
Douglass College Class of '75  
Rutgers Business School '80  
RAAA Hall of Fame 2016  
McDonald's Owner/Operator



**Congratulations**  
**RAAA Hall Of Fame**  
**On Your 22nd Year**

**The Gillis Organization invites you to visit us!**

**18 NJ Locations**

- Avenel** ~ 1256 St George Ave;
- Cliffwood Beach** ~ Rt 35 and Amboy Ave;
- East Brunswick** ~ 361 Rt 18 S.;
- Edgewater** ~ 549 River Road;
- Fort Lee** ~ 2152 Lemoine Ave;
- Freehold** ~ 3636 Rt 9;
- Hackensack** ~ 343 River Street;
- Hackensack** ~ 193 Essex Street;
- Little Ferry** ~ 319 rt 46 E;
- Neptune** ~ Hwy 33 and 35;
- Neptune** ~3542 Rt 66;
- North Brunswick** ~ 979 Rt 1 (inside Walmart);
- Northvale**~ 240 Livingston Street;
- Point Pleasant** ~ Ocean Ave & RT 35;
- Woodbridge** ~ 330 Rt 9 North
- Sayreville** ~ 970 Rt 9;
- Somerset** ~ 940 Easton Avenue;
- South Plainfield** ~ 909 Oak Tree Road;

**7 NY locations**

- Albany** ~ 161 Washington Avenue Extension;
- Glenville** ~ 241-243 Saratoga Road;
- Hudson** ~ 153 Fairview Avenue;
- Schenectady** ~ 1673 Union Street;
- Schenectady** ~ 500 Curry Road;
- Schenectady** ~ 1637 Altamont Avenue;
- Wynantskill** ~ 65 Main Street



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
P.O. BOX 001  
TRENTON  
08625  
(609) 292-6000

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
GOVERNOR

October 4, 2025

Dear Friends,

It is an honor to welcome all those in attendance for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hall of Fame Ceremony, hosted by the Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance, Inc. (RAAA, Inc.).

Since its inception, the RAAA, Inc., has stuck by its mission and continues to foster and enhance unity amongst alumni, students, faculty and staff of African ancestry via programming and active participation. Organizations like RAAA, Inc., are invaluable to the diverse communities New Jersey is home to, and we are grateful for the volunteerism, networking, scholarship, and RU pride the organization has embedded into our State, and beyond.

This annual event serves as an opportunity to recognize the noteworthy achievements of the alumni who have made significant contributions to their community and their respective fields. This year's theme "Unbroken Excellence: Honoring Our Roots, Empowering Our Future" honors those individuals representing various disciplines that reflect all three campuses and communities of Rutgers University.

As Governor, I am proud to recognize the RAAA, Inc., for their commitment to enhance unity and networking across the university and beyond. I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate tonight's honorees:

**Ruby Charles Noble; Congressman, Dr. Herb Conaway; Iana Daniels; Robert L. Johnson; Shanda Johnson, PH.D.; Simone Mack-Bright (Keeper of the Legacy); Mayor Adrian O. Mapp; Honorable Stacey L. Meisel; Frederick Morton, Jr., Esq.; Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Angela P. Pettis; Joan Reeves; Sharon Stroye; and Nyree Wright.**

Best wishes for a remarkable event, and please know that the entire State of New Jersey stands behind you as you continue to effect positive changes at Rutgers University and the community at large.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phil Murphy".

Philip D. Murphy  
Governor



William F. Tate IV, President

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
Winants Hall • 7 College Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Web: [rutgers.edu](http://rutgers.edu) • Email: [president@rutgers.edu](mailto:president@rutgers.edu)  
Phone: 848-932-7454 • Fax: 732-932-0308

September 23, 2025

Dear Honorees,

It is my privilege, as the 22nd President of Rutgers University, to congratulate each of you on your induction into the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc. Hall of Fame. This recognition acclaims your personal achievements and reflects the spirit of excellence that defines Rutgers alumni.

This year's theme—*Unbroken Excellence: Honoring Our Roots, Empowering Our Future*—points to the legacy of Paul Robeson, Class of 1919, whose courageous pursuit of truth and justice still informs Rutgers and the world. Like Robeson, you have honored your roots by building upon the sacrifices and triumphs of those who invested in your journey. And like him, you exhibited leadership by opening doors of possibility, serving as role models for our students, and strengthening the bonds between Rutgers and the communities we serve.

Your professional journeys embody the Rutgers Edge—the unique ability of this university and its alumni to transform challenges into opportunities, to lead with distinction, and to create lasting impact across every field of endeavor.

In that spirit, I encourage all who gather this evening to invest in the future by supporting the Paul Robeson Scholarship. Social mobility matters. Your contributions honor Robeson's enduring example and ensure that today's students—like the honorees celebrated tonight—will have the opportunity to thrive, lead, and carry forward the legacy of unbroken excellence.

On behalf of the entire Rutgers community, I offer congratulations on your many accomplishments. We celebrate you today, we honor your legacy, and we look forward to the ways you will continue to embody the university's motto, "*Sun of righteousness, shine upon the West also.*" Today, we interpret our motto as a charge for the enlightenment of learning to shine equally upon society—and I urge you to share your resources so that the next generation of Rutgers learners may carry that light forward.

With respect and admiration,

William F. Tate IV  
President

# Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance

## *Greetings, Friends, and Family*

On behalf of the Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc. leadership team and family, I welcome you with joy and the blessings of this remarkable event. Thank you for your response to our invitation to join us at our *22<sup>nd</sup> Hall of Fame, “Unbroken Excellence: Honoring Our Roots, Empowering Our Future.”* This induction ceremony is an awards dinner that honors the achievements of graduates of African descent from all divisions and campuses of Rutgers University.



In our *36<sup>th</sup> year* of existence, we are proud to honor these *13 new inductees alongside our 150 past honorees*. We are pleased to have identified these distinguished Alumni in various career fields who have served our communities this year and in the past. This event serves as the soundboard and vehicle for Alumni to reconnect with one another and more importantly, with the Rutgers University community. Our honorees also serve as a testament to the greatness that has been created and polished at Rutgers University through the achievements of these esteemed alumni. *Ruby Charles Noble, Congressman, Dr. Herb Conaway, Iana Daniels, Robert L. Johnson, Shanda Johnson, Ph.D., Simone Mack-Bright (Keeper of the Legacy), Mayor Adrian O. Mapp, Honorable Stacey L. Meisel, Frederick Morton, Jr, ESQ, Lt. Col. (Ret.) Angela P. Pettis, Joan Reeves, Sharon Stroye, and Nyree Wright.*

To our community partners, friends, family, and sponsors, we sincerely appreciate your in-kind and financial support in making this evening a success. We thank you all for the energy and love you have placed into this organization’s mission and strategic vision. We will continue to serve Rutgers University and its surrounding communities, where our Alumni live and work.

***Please enjoy this evening and fellowship with our New and Past Honorees.***

Anthony C. Culpepper, Jr.  
RAAA President  
2015 Hall of Fame Honoree



# City of Plainfield, N. J.

## The Plainfield Municipal Council Hereby issues this Councilmanic Resolution

### CELEBRATING AND CONGRATULATING MAYOR ADRIAN O. MAPP ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE RUTGERS AFRICAN-AMERICAN ALUMNI ALLIANCE (RAAA), INC. 22ND ANNUAL HALL OF FAME

WHEREAS, the City of Plainfield proudly recognizes Mayor Adrian O. Mapp, a trailblazing, dynamic, and history-making leader who has become the first four-term mayor in the City's history; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Mapp is not only a dedicated public servant but also a proud Rutgers University alumnus, embodying the Scarlet Knight spirit of excellence, perseverance, and service to others; and

WHEREAS, under Mayor Mapp's inspired and visionary leadership, the City of Plainfield has experienced a true renaissance - marked by vibrant economic development, improved quality of life, and a renewed commitment to public safety and community pride; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Mapp's work reflects the very values Rutgers University seeks to instill in its graduates - leadership, integrity, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to building a better and more just society; and

WHEREAS, his historic tenure and transformative efforts have positioned Plainfield as a model for municipal progress and have inspired residents, business owners, and civic leaders to believe in the city's bright future; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his remarkable achievements and alignment with Rutgers' legacy of producing impactful leaders, Mayor Adrian O. Mapp is being inducted into the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc. 22nd Annual Hall of Fame, an honor reserved for those who exemplify excellence and uplift their communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Plainfield, County of Union, State of New Jersey, does hereby enthusiastically honor and congratulate Mayor Adrian O. Mapp on this prestigious recognition, and expresses its pride in his continued efforts to lead Plainfield into a future filled with opportunity and promise; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mayor Adrian O. Mapp as a joyful and enduring testament to the City's admiration, appreciation, and gratitude for his extraordinary service and dedication to the residents of Plainfield and to the ideals of Rutgers University.

ADOPTED BY THE UNANIMOUS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PLAINFIELD

- The Honorable Steve Hockaday, President & Councilman-At-Large
- The Honorable Darcella Sessomes, Vice President & Councilwoman, Second Ward
- The Honorable Robert K. Graham, Councilman, First Ward
- The Honorable Julienne Cherry, Councilwoman-At-Large, First and Fourth Wards
- The Honorable Richard Wyatt, Councilman-At-Large, Second and Third Wards
- The Honorable Charles McRae, Councilman, Third Ward
- The Honorable Terri Briggs-Jones, Councilwoman, Fourth Ward



Attest:  Date: September 15, 2025  
Abubakar T. Jalloh, R.A.C., City Clerk



THE SENATE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE HOUSE, TRENTON, N. J.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

By Senate President SCUTARI, Assemblywoman CARTER, and Assemblyman KENNEDY

WHEREAS, The Honorable Adrian O. Mapp, the highly esteemed Mayor in the City of Plainfield, will be inducted into the Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance Inc. Hall of Fame during its Twenty-Second Annual Hall of Fame Ceremony on October 4, 2025; and,
WHEREAS, The Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey are pleased to acknowledge Adrian O. Mapp upon this felicitous occasion and commend his outstanding professional accomplishments, which have secured for him this prestigious accolade; and,
WHEREAS, Born on the island of Barbados, Adrian O. Mapp immigrated to this country in 1977, settled in Plainfield, and furthered his education with a baccalaureate in accounting from Rutgers and an MBA from Fairleigh Dickinson University, which provided the foundation for a remarkable career in finance and a significant tenure in the employ of Bristol Myers Squibb; and,
WHEREAS, Since taking the oath of office as Mayor of Plainfield, Adrian O. Mapp has embarked upon a progressive agenda that has redefined the City's economic and social landscape, and, under his exemplary leadership, the citizenry has benefited from sweeping public safety advancements, most vividly articulated by strategic law enforcement investments resulting in a forty-percent drop in crime and safer neighborhoods; and,
WHEREAS, With Adrian O. Mapp at the helm, Plainfield has consistently improved its financial standing with a balanced budget, thus securing the highest rating from Moody's for six consecutive years, and, fortified with private investment totaling more than \$1 billion, the City now boasts 5,000 new residential units and more than 500,000 square feet of retail space to invigorate the business district; and,
WHEREAS, Re-elected in 2017 and 2021, Adrian O. Mapp has earned acclaim as the first three-term Mayor in Plainfield history, which bears witness to an eminently satisfied electorate and one that deeply appreciates repaved roadways, enhanced transit services, and increased property values; and,
WHEREAS, His energy and enthusiasm have characterized his steadfast efforts as the founder and Chair of Plainfield Now Inc., as President of the New Jersey Urban Mayors Association, as Chair of the New Jersey Black Mayors Alliance for Social Justice, and on the Boards of the African American Mayors Association and the New Jersey League of Municipalities, and, an abiding sense of commitment has garnered for him an array of accolades from organizations that include the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club of Plainfield/North Plainfield, and the National Forum of Black Public Administrators; and,
WHEREAS, A faithful congregant of Saint Mark's Episcopal Church, Adrian O. Mapp has been upheld in his life's endeavors by his beloved wife, Amelia, and he takes great pride in his daughters, Shermona and Ayisha; and,
WHEREAS, Within all the spheres of his life and work, Adrian O. Mapp has created a model worthy of emulation and set a standard of excellence toward which all others might strive; now, therefore,
Be It Resolved by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:
That this Legislature hereby salutes Adrian O. Mapp, pays tribute to his meritorious record of service, dedication, and achievement, and extends sincere best wishes for continued success in all the days to come; and,
Be It Further Resolved, That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the Senate President and the Assembly Speaker and attested by the Senate Secretary and the Assembly Clerk, be transmitted to the Honorable Adrian O. Mapp.

Attest:



Addison B. Hinrichs
Secretary of the Senate



Dana M. Burley
Clerk of the General Assembly

Nicholas P. Scutari

Nicholas P. Scutari
President of the Senate

Craig J. Coughlin

Craig J. Coughlin
Speaker of the General Assembly

**Congratulations  
To  
The Honorable Mayor Adrian O. Mapp  
on  
Your induction into the  
Rugers African American Alumni  
Alliance Inc.  
(RAAA)  
22nd Annual Hall of Fame**



**Linda S. Carter  
Assemblywoman  
LD - 22**



Congratulations

*Angela Pettis*

on her induction to  
the Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance, Inc. Hall of Fame!

Your leadership, commitment, and excellence have inspired us all. This prestigious honor reflects your remarkable achievements and lasting impact throughout the community.

You have made history and we could not be prouder.  
We love you Ang!

**The Black Owt Squad**

Dusty Downs, Torra Waynick, Stacey Carver, Kent Edwards,  
Taz Hurst, Jean Lamothe, and Michael White

# CONGRATULATIONS

To the Rutgers African-American Alumni  
Hall of Fame Honorees



## ROBERT L. JOHNSON, MD, FAAP

Congratulations to Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Dean Robert L. Johnson on being honored at the 22nd Annual RAAA Hall of Fame Ceremony. Your leadership, service, and unwavering dedication to excellence continue to inspire the Rutgers community and beyond.

# Program

## Registration Open

VIP Area: Inductee, Past Inductees, Sponsors, RU Officials, Vendors, Others

2<sup>nd</sup> Registration Area: General attendees

**GENERAL RECEPTION • Hyatt Regency Atrium (open bar)**



## Saxophonist David Cross

### HOF Inductees Formal Entry

*RAAA Leadership, Past HOF Honoree, then New Inductee*

### MC Greetings and Welcome

*Alfred A. Edmond, Jr., RAAA 2005 HOF Honoree*

Black National Anthem “Lift Every Voice”

*Tangie Cobb Vocalist*

### INVOCATION

*Rev. Ernest Mitchell III, Rutgers College 1982*

### 6:30 PM Recognition and Acknowledgements of Guests

*Dr. Diane Hill, RAAA 2013 HOF Honoree*

*Assistant Chancellor, University-Community Partnerships*

### RAAA Hall of Fame Committee Greetings

*(Co-Chairs) Deandrah Cameron & Anthony C. Culpepper, Jr*

### RAAA President Greetings

*Anthony C. Culpepper, Jr*

### DINNER

*Ralph Stowe: Jazz For Prostate Cancer Awareness band plays*

### Presentation and Induction of 2025 Inductees

*(MC Alfred A. Edmond, Jr., and Anthony C. Culpepper, Jr.)*

### Closing Remarks/Announcements

*Anthony C. Culpepper, Jr., RAAA President*

### Benediction

*Rev. Ernest Mitchell III, Rutgers College 1982*

### After-party

*Ralph Stowe: Jazz For Prostate Cancer Awareness band plays*

## *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

*The Black National Anthem (1900)*

*Words: James Weldon Johnson • Music: John Rosamond Johnson*

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty,  
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us  
Sing a song full of hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory won.



Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;  
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our star is cast.



God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who hast by Thy might led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,  
True to our God, true to our native land.

*This history of struggle is such a massive part of the American experience that we can't talk about America without talking about African-Americans. And James Weldon Johnson's poem "Lift Every Voice and Sing" is an integral part of that fight for freedom.*



## ***History of the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc.***

**In the spirit of the predecessor organization (Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance), which was founded in 1989, the organization was relaunched in 2001 by several Alumni on the New Brunswick campus when it hosted its first annual Family and Friends Day during the Homecoming weekend. The event allowed Alumni to network and attend Homecoming festivities, which many had never experienced while at Rutgers. The event became the soundboard and vehicle for Alumni to reconnect with one another and, more importantly, the Rutgers community. Throughout the years, RAAA, Inc. has maintained an ever-increasing presence on campus, enhancing relationships with both the student body and the University.**

Incorporated in 2006, Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. It is an association primarily, but not exclusively, of African-American, Afro-Caribbean, and African Alumni encompassing all of Rutgers University's undergraduate and graduate schools. RAAA Inc., an all-volunteer organization, operates independently of the University to support educational programming and cultural awareness. It primarily depends on membership dues and corporate and private donations to fund all programs and events.

RAAA, Inc. strives to foster and enhance unity among alumni, students, faculty, and staff of African ancestry through our programming and active participation in the lives of our students. Our goal is to harness the potential of our alumni network, aiming to be the voice of our constituents and effect positive change at Rutgers University and within the broader community. It is our obligation as Alumni to support, encourage, and develop our students while providing them with opportunities that may or may not have been afforded to us, as we continue to highlight and celebrate the contributions of our fellow Alumni.

Our Hall of Fame event fosters our mission of highlighting and celebrating the contributions of our Alumni family. It also provides the community we serve, specifically the student body, with access to and awareness of the world outside of Rutgers University.

### **Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance Founding Members:**

Maryke Alburg RC86, Wayne Bradley CC74, Bobby Coney GSNB85, Anthony C. Culpepper, Jr. LC85, Alfred Edmond, Jr. RC83, Kelvin Evans RC84, Charles Gray LC70, Jerome Harris RC69, Yvette Murry RC88, Arthur Nisbeth RC88, Gina Nisbeth RC88, the late Rhonda Pope RC83, Octavious Reid III LC86, J.C. Williams DC84, Kimberly Williams RC88; ***Student Founders*** Karen McGruder SCIL 91, and the late Arrigo Rogers RC92 was inducted posthumously.

### **Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc. Founding Members:**

Marilyn Coleman COE94, Anthony C. Culpepper, Jr. LC85, S. Kendall Hall RC88, Juanita Lewis RC87, Ida McIntyre RC89

## Hall of Fame

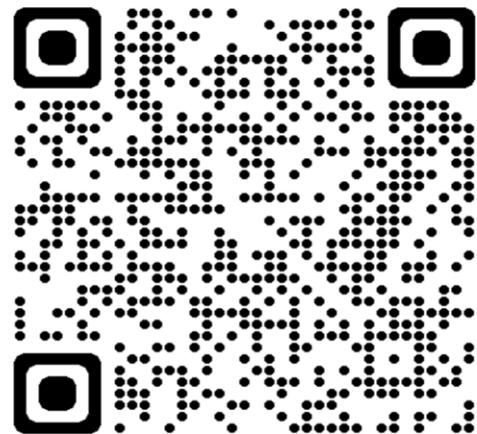
### Planning Committee and Volunteers

**Co-Chair Deandrah Cameron and Anthony C. Culpepper, Jr.**

*Bertha Aiken, Cheryl Dennis, Dr. Diane Hill, Karen Moore, Valerie Anderson, Wayne Abbott  
Simone Mack-Bright, Dr. Charise Breeden-Balaam, Catherine Guillaume-Sackey, Crystal Pyne,  
H. Qawi R. Austin, Denniston Bonadie, Ukachi Anonyuo, Donita Devance*

### **RU Engaged! BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!!**

*As this is your home, we encourage you to become active family members of our ever-growing community. As a larger and more active community, we have the potential to have a more influential presence within the Rutgers community and the broader community. It will allow us to be a more visible and accessible support system for both students and Alumni. For those with limited time, please “get in, where you fit in.” Getting in, undoubtedly, involves providing financial support to the organization through membership dues. Increasing both our membership and volunteer base will create more opportunities for students, Alumni, and community programming.*



### *Congratulations*

to my special friend and *Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority* sister,  
*Joan Wiggins Reeves* on being inducted into the 2025 Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance Hall of Fame.  
What a joy it is to see you honored. Lots of love.

*C. Yvonne Morris-Phipps*

# Thanks

to

Our Community Partners,  
Sponsors, Patrons, and Student Supporters



**RUTGERS UNIVERSITY**

**University Equity and Inclusion**

Tau Chi Chapter Inc. of Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Incorporated

Gillis Foundation (HOF Honoree)

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Delta Kappa Sigma Chapter

City of Plainfield • McCarter & English, LLP • Gibbons P.C.

University – Community Partnerships/Center for Health Equity & Community Engagement

Delta Sigma Theta, Xi Nu Fall Line 1991, New Brunswick Area NAACP

New Designs for Life • Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Central Jersey Alumnae Chapter

Clayton State University • Black Women Physicians Association • Cole Schotz P.C.

Rutgers University - New Brunswick Campus • Rutgers University Foundation

Carolyn Walcott - patron



**RUTGERS**  
African-American  
Alumni Alliance

# 22ND ANNUAL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION



**RUTGERS**  
CAMDEN



**RUTGERS**  
NEW BRUNSWICK



**FOUNDATION**



**RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK**  
Student Affairs



**RUTGERS**  
NEWARK



**RUTGERS UNIVERSITY**  
University Equity and Inclusion



**RUTGERS-CAMDEN**  
Division of Diversity, Inclusion,  
and Community Engagement



**Edelman**

**McCarter &  
English**



**COLE SCHOTZ P.C.**



**EMMAN PHOTOGRAPHY**



**CROSSROADS**  
THEATRE COMPANY

DIRECTED BY  
NATAKI GARRETT

**CRUMBS  
FROM THE  
TABLE OF  
JOY**

FROM 2X PULITZER PRIZE WINNER  
LYNN NOTTAGE

**RUTGERS AFRICAN AMERICAN ALUMNI ALLIANCE**  
**NIGHT**

**OCTOBER 30TH 7:30PM**



ENIH AGWE



GABRIYÈL BARLATIER



CLOTEAL L. HORNE



LEE ALEXANDRIA  
HARRINGTON



JAMIL A.C. MANGAN

**PROMO CODE: RUBKA**



# Heartfelt Thanks



*Scarlet and Black Embrace: Welcome to Legacy*

*Donita Devance*

**2024 HOF Honoree,**

*Tennille Robbs,*

**2023 HOF Honoree • USSF**

*Oliver Quinn*

**2016 HOF Honoree**

*M. Wilma Harris*

**2016 HOF Honoree,**

*Rutgers University Board of Trustees*

*Dr. Diane Hill*

**2013 HOF Honoree,**

*Rutgers University Newark Campus*



[www.njlbcf.org](http://www.njlbcf.org)

# We proudly support

## Congressman Herb Conaway

Congratulations to Congressman Herb Conaway on his well-deserved induction into the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance, Inc. Hall of Fame, honoring his remarkable achievements and service. We also extend warm congratulations to all the other inductees on receiving this distinguished recognition.

A decorative border of pink flowers with green leaves surrounds the text. The flowers are arranged in a rectangular frame, with some flowers appearing to be in the corners and others along the sides.

*Rutgers*

*African- American Alumni Alliance, Inc.*

*22nd Annual Hall of Fame Ceremony*

*Congratulations Honoree*

*Joan Reeves*

*It's your time to shine!!*

*Theodore N. Stephens, II*

*and*

*Rita D. B. Butts Stephens*

*Congratulations*



**MAYOR ADRIAN O. MAPP**

**On your induction into the  
Rutgers African American Alumni Hall Of Fame**

**From  
THE CABINET**

**ZENOBIA FIELDS**

**ABBY LEVENSON**

**OREN K. DABNEY**

**BEVERLY MORRIS-GILL**

**SHEP BROWN**

**JAMES ABNEY**

**JOHN LOUISE**

**KENNETH CHILDRESS**

**DAVID MINCHELLO**

**AJ JALLOH**

**JAZZ CLAYTON-HUNT**

# *Congratulations to a Queen Angela Kemp Pettis*



*Kindred Spirit of Kindness  
Leveler of Laughs  
Assiduous Agent of Change  
Jersey City Gem  
Soul-Stirring Sensei of Sisterhood  
Beautiful Butterfly of Boldness  
Lioness of Loyalty  
Audacious Artisan of Authenticity  
Lady of Legendary, Life-altering Looks  
Titan of Truth-telling  
Courageous Conduit of Compassion  
Dynamic, Distinctive, and Devoted Diva of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Forever Fly  
Never Modulated  
Never Duplicated*

*Now...Headlining Hall of Famen*

For over 30 years, we have marveled at the magnificent magic that is you. We honor you for designing a life that is a glowing example of what love looks like when it is lived out loud. In doing so, you elevate everything and everyone around you.

In Love and Sisterhood,  
Xi Nu, Fall 91

Congratulations to the Honorable Stacy L. Meisel,  
United States Bankruptcy Judge, on your  
induction into the 2025 RAAA Hall of Fame.

Thank you for your exemplary service to the  
bankruptcy practice  
of the District of New Jersey.

Hellring Lindeman Goldstein & Siegal LLP



Hellring Lindeman Goldstein & Siegal<sub>LLP</sub>

# Congratulations



## Shanda Johnson

**PhD, APN-C, FNP**

Immediate Past President,  
Rutgers School of Nursing Alumni Association

### **RUAAA Hall of Fame Inductee**

We proudly salute Dr. Shanda Johnson (BS '97, MS '01, PhD '14), a distinguished alumna and inspirational nurse leader dedicated to advancing nursing education, enhancing clinical practice, and eliminating health disparities.

#### **Lead with Rutgers Nursing**

Interested in changing careers? Our 14-month, second-degree program offers a fast-track to a bachelor's in nursing. It's just one of the undergrad and graduate offerings at Rutgers School of Nursing — ranked among the nation's best by U.S. News & World Report. Learn more at [nursing.rutgers.edu](https://nursing.rutgers.edu).



Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

**CELEBRATING ANGELA PETTIS**

2025

ANG

sorors

sisters

commitment excellence discipline

**R** RUTGERS

# ANGELA PETTIS

**ANGELA PETTIS**

**Congratulations, Ang!**  
 We proudly celebrate your induction into the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance Hall of Fame. Your leadership, trail blazing spirit, and unwavering dedication inspire us all.  
 With love and sisterhood,  
 Your SPEC and FAV (Torra & Claudine)



Congratulations

## Soror Shanda Johnson



On being inducted into  
RAAA's 22<sup>nd</sup> Hall of Fame Class!!  
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

Delta Kappa Sigma Chapter

***Hall of Fame Honorees “Community Is Action”***

**Class of 2004:**

Mr. Alonzo Adams • Ms. Marcia Brown, Esq. • Ms. Jennifer Lewis  
The Late Clement Price • The Late Mr. Arrigo Rogers (awarded posthumously) • The Late Dr. Ivan Van Sertima, ***Honorary Life Member***: Dr. Prosper Godonoo, former Director of the Paul Robeson Cultural Center

**Class of 2005:**

Dr. Leonard Bethel • Mr. Denniston Bonadie • Mr. Alfred A. Edmond, Jr. • Dr. Olubayi Olubayi •  
\*Dr. Randal Pinkett, ***Honorary Life Members***: Mr. Donald Brown (Retired) and Dr. Ilene Rosen, School of Engineering, Office of Student Development

**CLASS OF 2006:**

Dr. Treena Livingston Arinzeh • Dr. Robert Atkins • Dr. Leroy Darkes Mr. Dallas Grundy • Ms. Cheryl Wilson

**CLASS OF 2007:**

The Late Dr. Walter Gilbert Alexander, II • Colonel Janmichael Graine • Ms. Aliya S. King • Mr. Wally Torian • Ms. Cheryl Washington

**CLASS OF 2008:**

Mr. Lawrence Hibbert • Dr. Joyce Harley Wilson • Dr. Jeffrey Robinson • Dr. Lois Green • Mrs. Terry Whitt Bailey • Mr. C. Regan Almonor • Dr. Kamal Khan, ***Honorary Life Member***: Dr. Francine Essien

**CLASS OF 2009:**

Ms. Raquel Bristol, Esq • Dr. Leroy Hines, Jr. • Ms. Beverlyn Grissom • Dr. Allison Frazier Jackson

**CLASS OF 2010:**

Dr. Emeka Akaezuwa • Mr. Brian Crockett • Senator Nia H. Gill • Ms. Nina Moseley • Mr. Rey Ramsey, ***Honorary Life Member***: The Late Reverend Fred C. Clark

**CLASS OF 2011:**

Ms. Judith Aidoo • The Late Mrs. Evelyn Sermons Field • Dr. Leon Green • Mr. Randy Green • Dr. Jacqueline Young

**CLASS OF 2012:**

Mr. Khai Harley • The Late Dr. Don N. Harris • Ms. C. Maxene Vaughters-Summey • Justice Tiffany Williams • The Late Reverend Ernestine Winfrey

**CLASS OF 2013: “*Branching Out: Deeply Rooted and Grounded in Love*”**

Mr. Wayne Abbott • Justice Cheri Beasley • Dr. Diane Hill • Mrs. Jennifer Jones Austin • Justice Michael Shipp

**Class of 2014: “*Shoulder to Shoulder*”**

Mr. Emmet Dennis, Jr. • Mr. James I. Plummer • Dr. Eve Remsen Sachs • Dr. Frederick Tyson • Mrs. Deborah Walker McCall

# Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance

## CLASS OF 2015: *“Activism: The Song of Freedom”*

Mr. Anthony C. Culpepper, Jr. • The Late Dr. Robert Curvin • Mr. Bill Davis • The Late Senator Ronald Rice, Sr. • Ms. Lisa *“Sister Souljah”* Williamson

## CLASS OF 2016: *“Continuing the Legacy”*

Ms. Marty Gillis • Ms. M. Wilma Harris • Mrs. Michele Meyers-Shipp • Mr. Frank McClellan • Mr. Olivier Quinn • Dr. Nyeema Watson, **Keepers of the Legacy Recipient:** Mrs. Veronica Bethel

## CLASS OF 2017: *“Come, Let Us Build”*

Mr. Thomas Ashley • Mr. Shawn Austin • Councilwoman Mildred Crump • Dr. Inez Phillips Durham • Ms. Vickie Donaldson • Ms. Kathryn Finney, **Keepers of the Legacy Recipient:** Mrs. Kendall Hall

## CLASS OF 2018: *“Going Back To Our Roots”*

Ms. Valerie Anderson • Mrs. Racheal Ankrah-Fosu • Ms. Regina Belle • Mrs. Carolyn V. Chang • Rev. Derrick Green • Ms. Brenda Hopper • Mr. Richard Roper • Dr. Kendell R. Sprott

## CLASS OF 2019: *“And This Shall Be Called Legacy”*

Dr. Linda Caldwell Epps • Honorable Dana Redd • Honorable Victoria Pratt • Honorable Gregory Sleet • Mr. Vaughn L. McKoy • Mr. Eugene “Gene” Armstead • Mr. Jerome “Jerry” L. Harris, Jr. • Mr. Paul Leroy Robeson, Sr. (inducted posthumously), **Keepers of the Legacy Recipient:** Mr. Denniston Bonadie

## CLASS OF 2020: *“Nevertheless”*

Vesta Godwin Clark • Dr. Leah P. Hollis • Frank Hundley • Marshall Jones, III • Dr. Teri Lassister • Anton Lendor • Dr. Beverly Lynn • Julius Robinson • Dr. Claudia Schrader

## CLASS OF 2021: *“And It Will Take A Village”*

Julienne Cherry • Dr. Jacqueline Douge • Dr. Barbara Gaba • Natasha Hemmings • Shawna Hudson, Ph.D. • Matthew B. Johnson, Ph.D. • Dr. Yetunde A. Omede • Otis Rolley III • Maurice Russell Grey • Dr. Michael Whitt, **Honorary Life Member:** President Jonathan Holloway

## CLASS OF 2022: *“Community is Action”*

Maisha Aziz, Esq. • Amina Bey • Clive Davis • Sandra Dieudonne, Esq. • S. Kendall Hall • Joshua W. Martin, III • Shalonda Tanner • Dr. Edward Ramsamy • **Honorary Life Member:** Phoebe Haddon Chancellor of Rutgers University-Camden

## CLASS OF 2023:

Ukachi Anonyuo • Corinne Bradley-Powers • C. Edward (Chuck) Chaplin • Michèle S. Delisfort • Mimi Dixon • Dwayne J. Middleton • Claudio Mir • Christopher Fabor Muhammad • MSgt Tennille Robbs • Darrell K. Terry, Sr.

**Honorary Life Member:** Bruce and Deborah Morgan • **Keeper of the Legacy:** Jim Savage

## CLASS OF 2024: *“Because We Did, Others Will”*

Toacca Bailey Rutherford • William Michael Barbee • Dr. Pamela Brug • Sandrine Desamours • Donita Devance • Patricia A. Fields • Dr. Talya K. Fleming • Dr. Lorgia García Peña • Katrina T. McCombs • Assemblyman William (Bill) W. Spearman • Jennifer Webb-McRae • Monica Weeks

Please visit [www.rutgersblackalumni.org](http://www.rutgersblackalumni.org) for unabridged biographies of past and present Hall of Fame Inductees.

## “Keepers of The Legacy Award”

As an all-volunteer organization, our most cherished assets are our people. This award represents the **“Pinnacle of Dedication and Appreciation,”** whereby Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc., recognizes an individual who has demonstrated a sustained commitment to the preservation and continuous expansion of our community.

The efforts of each Legacy recipient will be manifested in the words, deeds, and support of the RAAA, Inc. as a means to foster its sustainability and growth. The **“Keepers of the Legacy”** recognition is a testament to our sincerest appreciation for those committed to preserving and continuing the legacy of RAAA.

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” – Margaret Mead.*

### **PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS:**

*Veronica Bethel (2016), S. Kendall Hall (2017),  
Denniston Bonadie (2019), Jim Savage (2023)*

## *Legacy*

**Live** it, not language it, nor languish in it.

Do so **Eagerly** and energetically, always giving with a **Glad** and generous heart,

**Accountable**, affirming through our actions, for our actions are the very thing that tells our story.

**Coming** together to create, to collaborate as community builders and not as critics

**Yielding** and yearning to fulfill our purpose, our God given purpose of being loving and in service of one another.

***Determined, Committed, Persistent, Consistent, Resilient, Passionate, Loving, and Patient.***

***And this shall be called Legacy.***

*Kendall Hall wrote this poem as a tribute to Dr. Leonard Bethel for his forty-plus years of service to our community. The poem was recited initially during the closing ceremony of Africana’s 40th Anniversary and Retirement gathering for Dr. Leonard Bethel in March 2011.*

## Alfred A. Edmond Jr.

### EMCEE

*Rutgers College 1983, 2005 Hall Of Fame Honoree*

Alfred A. Edmond Jr. is an accomplished session moderator, live interviewer, and keynote speaker for both virtual and in-person events, widely recognized for his expertise on business and economic trends, entrepreneurship, personal finance, leadership development, and mentorship. He appears regularly as an expert/commentator on national television, radio, streaming, and podcast programs.

An award-winning multimedia journalist, Edmond is SVP/Executive Editor of Black Enterprise, responsible for providing brand, marketing, and content leadership as a member of the multimedia company's senior management team. Edmond serves as writer, co-producer, and host of the Black Enterprise interview series, including Beyond the Hype and Your Money, Your Life, which is streamed live on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube, as well as on BlackEnterprise.com.

Prior to his current position, Edmond served as SVP/Chief Content Officer, overseeing all media platforms of Black Enterprise, including events, video, digital/website content, social media, print, and other content distribution properties. From 2008 to 2010, Edmond served as SVP/Editor-in-Chief of BlackEnterprise.com, helping to lead the transition from a single-magazine publisher to a digital-first media company. From 1995 through 2008, Edmond was chief editor of Black Enterprise magazine.

Edmond is also co-host, with Girlfriends Pray Founder Dee C. Marshall, of [\*B. Lifted Up!\*](#), a nationally syndicated, faith-based podcast program of the Mocha Podcasts Network, airing at 5 p.m. EST on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays on H.U.R. Black Voices/Sirius XM Channel 141.

Edmond is a passionate, prolific, and highly sought-after mentor to several generations of entrepreneurs, professionals, and leaders across a range of diverse industries and professions. In 2022, he served as a mentor for Pharrell Williams' Black Ambition nonprofit initiative, supporting the funding of ideas and companies led by Black and Hispanic entrepreneurs.

Edmond is a co-author, with Zara D. Green, of the book [\*Loving In The Grown Zone: A No-Nonsense Guide to Making Healthy Decisions in the Quest for Loving, Romantic Relationships of Honor, Esteem and Respect\*](#). He is currently at work on his next book, *What A Grown Man Knows: Revelations, Truth and Wisdom On The Journey To Esteemable Manhood*, scheduled for publication later this year.

Edmond pursues and promotes health and fitness as foundational to business, financial, and life success. A natural bodybuilder, he competes as a member of the Drug Free Athletes Coalition (DFAC) and was a member of Team USA at the 2017 and 2018 DFAC World Finals in the amateur bodybuilders 50-plus Masters class. He also competes as a member of the United States Bodybuilding Federation (USBF) and the Organization of Competition Bodies (OCB). Edmond earned an OCB Masters Pro Card in 2019 and a USBF Masters Pro Card in 2021.



## **Ruby Charles Noble RC'98**

Ruby Charles Noble is a dynamic Digital Communications Strategist with a career span of publishing, fashion, media production, and medical communications. Passionate about storytelling, she focuses on amplifying diverse voices and perspectives, ensuring equitable representation across industries. Whether through fashion, generational narratives, or business missions, Ruby's work is rooted in culture and the power of shared experiences.



Ruby began her career at Thomson Reuters, a global media powerhouse, where she spent over 20 years in various strategic roles, culminating as Content Lead. In this capacity, she led teams in producing and managing high-impact content across 100+ digital assets. She streamlined editorial workflows, developed strategic content roadmaps, and ensured seamless cross-functional collaboration between editorial, marketing, and product teams. Her expertise in media extends to fashion journalism, where she spent nearly 15 years as a writer and editor. She contributed to Examiner.com and founded Sly Magazine, an online publication dedicated to fashion, gadgets, and lifestyle, providing a platform for emerging designers and industry voices.

Beyond media, Ruby is deeply committed to social impact and humanitarian efforts. She has actively served on the Fundraising Committee for the American Cancer Society, Brooklyn Chapter. She is a dedicated advocate for Stand Up To Poverty, a nonprofit organization that delivers medical aid to underserved communities worldwide. She has participated in missions to provide critical healthcare services to those living in extreme poverty, driven by her unwavering commitment to serving humanity.

A proud Haitian-American, Ruby is a cultural advocate and serves on the committee for Haitian Day at Gracie Mansion, NYC, celebrating and promoting Haitian heritage. She is also the co-founder of KreyolCon™, an initiative dedicated to advancing Haitian music on the global stage, bridging cultural gaps, and providing artists with greater visibility. In the realm of media entrepreneurship, Ruby is the co-founder of TENOIR TV, a streaming platform dedicated to amplifying diverse cultural content creators.

TENOIR TV not only provides a space for independent productions but also supports creators in securing funding for their projects. Among her notable productions are series such as Wagwan, Sakapfet, and Que Lo Que, which featured the late Haitian singer Michael Benjamin (Mikaben), further solidifying her impact on the Caribbean entertainment landscape. Committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB), Ruby serves on the DEIB committee for West Orange Public School, where she actively works to foster inclusive educational spaces for students—including her own daughter—ensuring that all voices are represented and valued. With a career dedicated to storytelling, advocacy, and cultural empowerment, Ruby continues to use her expertise to drive meaningful conversations, create platforms for underrepresented voices, and bridge gaps between industries, communities, and cultures.

## **Congressman, Dr. Herb Conaway GS-C'15**

Dr. Herb Conaway, a proud lifelong resident of Burlington County, is the son of a teacher and a nurse. From an early age, he was inspired by his parents' dedication to serving their community, which shaped his desire to give back. After graduating from public high school, Dr. Conaway pursued his passion for medicine, earning an undergraduate degree from Princeton University, a medical degree from Jefferson Medical College, and a law degree from Rutgers Law School in Camden.



Dr. Conaway began his career by serving in the U.S. Air Force, where he rose to the rank of Captain in the Medical Corps at McGuire Air Force Base. During his four years of service, he worked as a general medical officer and advanced to assistant director of the primary care clinic.

After completing his internal medicine residency, Dr. Conaway practiced in primary care settings before transitioning to an academic career. He became a clinical professor at an inner-city community hospital, where he mentored and taught the next generation of physicians.

For 25 years, Dr. Conaway served the residents of New Jersey's 7th Legislative District as an Assemblyman. In the New Jersey Legislature, he chaired the Health Committee and served on the Budget Committee and the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. Dr. Conaway played a pivotal role in advancing significant health legislation, sponsoring New Jersey's school funding formula, improving fiscal accountability within school districts, integrating technology into core curriculum standards, and modernizing public school nutritional policies. He also championed legislation addressing environmental protection, property tax relief, veterans' services, and public safety.

As a Member of the House of Representatives, Dr. Conaway will continue to advocate for an economy that benefits the families of New Jersey's 3rd Congressional District. He is committed to protecting access to healthcare, ensuring environmental protection, and supporting our service members and their families while bolstering our national security.

## Iana Daniels

RC, SCILS'98, MAJ (ret) U.S. Army

Ms. Iana J. Daniels serves as the Chief of Engineering, Construction, and Logistics for the Defense Coordination Element-Kuwait (DCE-K), in support of the Office of Military Cooperation-Kuwait (OMC-K). Her responsibilities include overseeing the host nation's project approval process for construction, maintenance, and repair projects, as well as coordinating with all stakeholders to address concerns and promote transparency.

Iana attended Rutgers College and the School of Communication and Information Sciences (SCILS), graduating in 1998 with a double major in Communications and Political Science. She was part of the Education Opportunity Fund (EOF) program and a member of the West Indian Student Organization (WISO) during her time at Rutgers. Iana earned three varsity letters as a 400m sprinter on the Rutgers Women's Track and Field Team. Since graduation, Iana has returned as a speaker at the MARK Leadership Conference in 2018, sharing her experiences with mental health.

She became a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Gamma Kappa Chapter in 1994 and served as the chapter historian. Iana served two terms as the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) president, sharing her second term with a Lambda Sigma Upsilon Latino Fraternity member. She also served as the Undergraduate Member-at-Large for the Eastern Region of the National Pan-Hellenic Council and the National Pan-Hellenic Representative for Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. on the New Jersey State executive board. The highlight of her post-college service in Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. includes serving as a National Military Advisor, Southeastern Region executive board member, and establishing a chapter in the country of Trinidad and Tobago.

Iana retired from the US Army with the rank of major after 21 years of service. She began her military career in 1998 as an enlisted member. Iana served in various logistics positions before commissioning into the Army Engineer Regiment in 2005. As an officer, her assignments have included platoon leader, company commander, rear detachment commander, and small group leader at the Army Engineer Captains' Career Course, as well as Kuwait Construction Program Manager.

Post-retirement, Ms. Daniels worked as a contractor for AGEISS, Inc., supporting 9th Air Force/Air Force Central as the Gulf Region Engineering Program Manager. Iana's military awards include a Bronze Star, Joint Service Commendation, and three Meritorious Service Awards. Iana was an Army paratrooper and jumpmaster who earned the Senior Parachutist Badge. She also received the U.S. Army Engineer Regiment's Steel and Bronze Orders of the DeFleury. The U.S. Army Engineer Regiment awards the DeFleury Medals for professional excellence and service to the regiment.



## **Robert L. Johnson, MD, FAAP**

*Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry  
Director, Division of Adolescent & Young Adult Medicine  
Dean, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School*



**Robert L. Johnson, MD, FAAP**, is The Sharon and Joseph L. Muscarelle Endowed Dean, Professor of Pediatrics and Director of the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (NJMS). His clinical expertise and research focus on adolescent physical and mental health, adolescent HIV, teenage violence, adolescent sexuality, health equity, and family strengthening. He has chaired the New Jersey Governor's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, the Newark Ryan White Planning Council, and the Board of Deacons at Union Baptist Church in Orange, New Jersey.

He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, former Vice Chair of the Community Prevention Task Force of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and a former member of the Board of the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education at the National Academies of Science. He has previously been the President of the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners, the Chair of the US Department of Health and Human Services' Council on Graduate Medical Education, a member of the National Council of the National Institute of Mental Health, a member of the NIH AIDS Research Council, and a member of the Institute of Medicine, Health Care Services Board. Dr. Johnson received his BA from Alfred University in 1968 and his MD from the College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark, New Jersey, in 1972.

Dr. Johnson has become a well-recognized spokesperson for adolescent issues. He addresses numerous local, state, national, and international audiences annually and frequently appears on television and radio. He has published extensively and maintains an active schedule of teaching, research, and clinical practice at Rutgers NJMS.

## **Dr. Shanda Johnson,** **Ph.D., MSN, BSN, APN-C, FNP**

Dr. Shanda Johnson is a distinguished nurse educator, clinician, scholar, and advocate whose career reflects a steadfast commitment to excellence in nursing, health equity, and community service. With over two decades of experience spanning clinical practice, academic leadership, mentorship, and advocacy, Dr. Johnson has become a respected voice in advancing healthcare access and culturally responsive care—particularly in underserved and minority communities.



She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the Rutgers College of Nursing, her Master of Science from the Rutgers Graduate School–Newark, and her Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing from the Rutgers University School of Nursing. She is a Board-Certified Advanced Practice Nurse (APN-C), specializing in family practice (FNP) with a subspecialty in pediatrics. She continues to provide direct patient care in a pediatric private practice in Plainfield, New Jersey.

Currently, Dr. Johnson serves as an Assistant Professor at New Jersey City University (NJCU), where she also previously served as Program Coordinator for the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) program. In this role, she has helped shape the next generation of nurses through rigorous academic preparation and a strong emphasis on patient-centered, culturally competent care. Her leadership and mentorship extend across institutions, having precepted and guided undergraduate and graduate nursing students from Rutgers University School of Nursing, the University of Pennsylvania, Seton Hall University, Thomas Edison State University, and Felician University.

Dr. Johnson’s contributions to nursing education and policy have been recognized through her selection as a fellow of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s New Jersey Nursing Initiative (NJNI), where she was part of the program’s inaugural cohort aimed at preparing future nursing faculty. She is also an alumna of the Minority Nurse Leadership Institute (MNLI) and the Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) Program at Rutgers University–Newark, both of which focus on building diversity and leadership in nursing and biomedical sciences.

Her scholarship includes several co-authored publications in peer-reviewed nursing journals, and she has presented her work at national conferences through both poster and podium sessions. Dr. Johnson actively engages in professional service through memberships and leadership roles in key nursing organizations, including the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP), American Nurses Association (ANA), New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA), and the New Jersey League for Nursing (NJLN). She is the immediate past president of the Rutgers School of Nursing Alumni Association. She has served on the board of the New Jersey Collaborating Center for Nursing and the National Commission to Address Racism in Nursing.

In addition to her professional achievements, Dr. Johnson is a proud member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority, and the Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc.—organizations that reflect her dedication to sisterhood, service, scholarship, and community empowerment.

In March 2024, Dr. Johnson received a life-saving double lung transplant after a courageous five-year battle with terminal lung disease. This transformative experience has added a new dimension to her mission. Now, in addition to her professional roles, she actively advocates for organ donation, transplant awareness, and mental health support throughout the transplant journey. She shares her story to inspire others and promote education on the importance of organ donor registration, as well as the psychosocial aspects of healing and recovery.

Despite her many roles, Dr. Johnson values balance and connection, and she finds great joy in spending time with her son Tyrell, as well as with her extended family and close friends. Her life and career stand as a powerful example of resilience, compassion, and leadership in the nursing profession.

**Simone Mack-Bright RC'96**  
**(KEEPER OF THE LEGACY)**

Simone Mack-Bright of Union, New Jersey, currently serves as President of the Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance (RAAA, Inc.), after having held offices of increasing responsibilities. She is a former Senior Counselor for the School of Arts and Sciences Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program, and she has spearheaded a program that encourages alumni to return to campus and share information about their career paths with incoming EOF students. She held various positions with the EOF Professional Association of New Jersey (EOF PANJ) and was the founding Co-President of the EOF Statewide Alumni Association (EOF SAA). She chaired and co-chaired several statewide professional and student conferences for EOF PANJ.

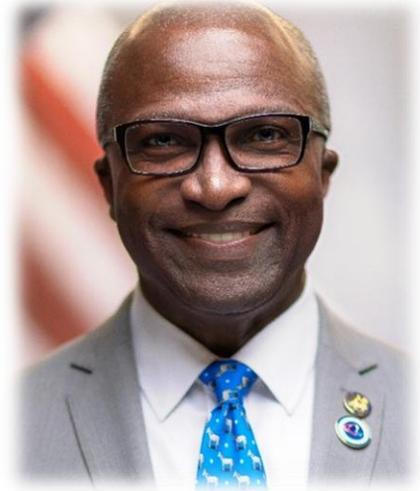


Simone has been an active participant in the Connections Pillar subcommittee of the Rutgers Alumni Association's (RAA) Long Range Planning Committee. Her insight and advice have enabled the RAAA, Inc. and the RAA to share information and collaborate on events. In October 2023, she co-chaired the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual RAAA, Inc. Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. She served on the core planning committee for the Black Alumni Collective National Conference, which Rutgers hosted in 2024. Mrs. Mack-Bright continues to support college students in her current role as Associate Director for Transfer Students at the Center for Advising, Persistence, and Success (CAPS) in the Division of Student Success and Retention at Kean University.

## Mayor Adrian O. Mapp

RC'73 & SSW'75

Visionary Leader | Fiscal Strategist | Community Advocate



Adrian O'Brien Mapp has served as Mayor of Plainfield, New Jersey, since 2014, leading the city through unprecedented economic growth, fiscal stability, and community revitalization. A native of Barbados, he migrated to the U.S. in 1977 and has been a resident of Plainfield since 1979. With a B.S. in Accounting from Rutgers University and an MBA in International Business from Fairleigh Dickinson University, Mapp has over 30 years of finance experience and a deep commitment to public service.

In January 2022, Adrian O. Mapp was sworn in for a historic third term as Mayor of the City of Plainfield. Since assuming office in 2014, he has pursued an ambitious agenda focused on rebuilding the city's economy and ensuring opportunities for all residents. Under his stewardship, the city is experiencing an economic renaissance marked by a billion dollars in new redevelopment projects. He has also successfully implemented progressive legislation focused on fairness and equity, including new laws requiring paid sick leave for workers.

As part of his effort to ensure equal access to opportunity, Mayor Mapp has implemented several major policy initiatives to address economic inequality and health disparities. These initiatives include *Plainfield Promise* and *Healthy Plainfield*. Most notably, *Plainfield Promise* aims to provide every child in kindergarten whose parent(s) or guardian(s) reside in Plainfield with a bank account for college savings and financial literacy training. It will also create a scholarship fund for economically disadvantaged high school graduates living in Plainfield to attend Union County College. It will also create targeted vocational and job training initiatives. Since 2018, the city has offered free Cisco classes and certifications to Plainfield residents, creating new career opportunities and enhancing the community's quality of life.

Mayor Mapp's successes and service have not gone unrecognized; he has received awards from numerous organizations, including the Plainfield Fire Officer's Association; the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce; the New Jersey Center for Science, Technology & Mathematics; the National Forum of Black Public Administrators (NFBPA); Genesis Seventh-day Adventist Church; and the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of ELKS of the World.

Mayor Mapp was honored by the Consulate General of Ecuador in New Jersey for bringing about change to the diverse cultures in the community, the Rotary Club of Plainfield/North Plainfield for his steadfast approach to enhancing the quality of life for residents and property owners in the city of Plainfield, and he received the Service Above Self Award from the Rotary Club of Plainfield.

Mayor Mapp is a member of the New Jersey Conference of Mayors (New Jersey CM), the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), the New Jersey State League of Municipalities (New Jersey LM), the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA), the New Jersey Legislative Committee, the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the Government Finance Officers Association of New Jersey (GFOA).

Mayor Mapp was born on the Caribbean Island of Barbados and migrated to the United States in 1977. He has resided in Plainfield for over 40 years and is married to his childhood sweetheart, Amelia Mapp, née Morris; they are the proud parents of two beautiful daughters, Shermona and Ayisha. Mayor Mapp and his family are active members of Saint Mark's Episcopal Church in Plainfield, where he and his wife, Amelia, were married over 40 years ago. Mayor Mapp served on the vestry as a devoted Sunday School Teacher and mentor for many years.

## The Honorable Stacey L. Meisel RC'91

United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of New Jersey

On September 24, 2015, the Honorable Stacey L. Meisel became the first African American and person of color appointed as a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of New Jersey. Before her judicial career, at the age of 29, Judge Meisel co-founded the law firm Becker Meisel LLC, now known as Becker LLC.

Currently, Judge Meisel is a co-author of both the *Consumer Bankruptcy Manual* and the *Consumer Bankruptcy Handbook*, Thomson Reuters publications. She is also a contributing author to *Collier on Bankruptcy*, a LexisNexis publication. Judge Meisel serves on the Election Committee for the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges' Rules Committee, having completed a three-year term on the Rules Committee followed by a three-year term as a Governor-at-Large. She also serves on the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey's Committee on Court Security, the Newark Vicinage Facilities Security Committee, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey's Security Committee, and the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey's Information and Technology Committee. She is a Judicial Advisor to both the Historical Society for the District Court for the District of New Jersey and the Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey.

Judge Meisel assisted on the Planning Committee for the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts 2023 *Roadways to the Bench: Who Me? A Bankruptcy or Magistrate Judge?* Additionally, Judge Meisel served for four years as the Judicial Co-Chair of the ABI's Mid-Atlantic Bankruptcy Workshop. Judge Meisel previously served on the National Association of Women Judges' Color of Justice Program Committee.

Before her appointment, Judge Meisel was very active with the Bankruptcy and Federal bars. She served on the New Jersey Panel of Bankruptcy Trustees and was the first African American woman in New Jersey to hold this position. She has served on the committee that recommends candidates to the Third Circuit for New Jersey bankruptcy judgeship vacancies three times. She was a member of the New Jersey Court Registry of Mediators. Judge Meisel also participated on the Lawyers Advisory Committee to the Board of Judges of the United States Bankruptcy Court, District of New Jersey, from 2011 until her appointment. She was a Trustee for the Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey. She also served on the American Bankruptcy Institute Advisory Board for the Mid-Atlantic Bankruptcy Workshop and was the co-chair of the 2011 Workshop Attendance Committee.

A firm believer in social responsibility: Judge Meisel volunteered for the Essex County Volunteer Lawyers for Justice from 2002 until her appointment; she helped launch the New Jersey Bankruptcy Lawyers Foundation in 2004; she served on the Board of Directors of the Children's Home Society of New Jersey from 2004 until 2010; she served on the Board of Directors for Legal Momentum—The Women's Legal Defense and Education Fund from 2014 until her appointment; and she served, first as a member and then as Treasurer, for the Board of Trustees for the Newark Boys Chorus School from 2013 until her appointment.

Judge Meisel has been presented with numerous awards and honors throughout her illustrious career, including: 2022 NJBIZ "Best 50 Women in Business," 2021 Fourteenth Annual Honorable Cecelia H. Goetz Award, 2015 International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation, New Jersey Chapter "Woman of the Year," Best Lawyers "Best Lawyers in America" from 2010 through 2015, and many more.



**Frederick Morton, Jr.**  
ESQ RU-NB'89 & RU-N-LAW '93

Frederick A. Morton, Jr. is the visionary behind TEMPO Networks, a popular media and entertainment company that is a dynamic celebration of all things Caribbean. Morton, a consummate creative thinker with impeccable credentials and a laser beam ability to execute, is determined, through TEMPO, to deliver the full scope of the Caribbean lifestyle to the world.

Born and raised in St. Croix, US Virgin Islands, to Nevisian parents, Morton was aware - even as a boy - that the Caribbean held an irresistible magnetism. As he is fond of saying, “it's people, it's history, it's culture, it's music, it's breathtaking scenery – no one can really deny that the Caribbean may just be earth's last Eden!” Morton dreamed of developing a platform that would deliver the complete joy of the Caribbean to people everywhere.

With characteristic drive and notable charisma, he achieved world-class qualifications that would someday help him realize his dream. A BA in economics and a Juris Doctorate in Law from Rutgers University and a Master's in Public Administration from Columbia University were just the beginning. As an attorney at the prestigious New York law firm, Simpson Thatcher & Bartlett, Morton represented numerous Fortune 500 companies. His stature rose even further when he became Senior Corporate Counsel, Johnson & Johnson, Chief Litigation Counsel, Viacom, and later, Deputy General Counsel, MTV Networks. Throughout his legal career, he has amassed an impressive portfolio of high-profile legal representation. His mentor was the famed attorney, Johnnie Cochran. Passionately, he also maintained his immersion in Caribbean culture and knew, with an almost prophetic sense, that he would one day combine the two and create a groundbreaking venture, which indeed he did – TEMPO Networks.

With this solid preparation and his background as a native Caribbean son at the ready, Morton brought forth a Caribbean TEMPO that has now influenced two generations of Caribbean people, serving as a dedicated platform to educate the world about the Caribbean’s amazing destinations and spotlighting its remarkable people and culture. “TEMPO has emerged as the ultimate platform for the entire Caribbean experience,” says Morton. “Caribbean people have a passion for living which shines through everything they do, and their destinations attract millions of visitors to their shores annually. TEMPO seeks to be a bridge, a gateway, to this culturally rich and trendsetting region we are privileged to call home.”

As Founder, Chairman & CEO, Morton is at the helm of an astonishingly vast undertaking to bring the Caribbean to the world, one that is withstanding the test of time and forging its way in a forever-changing industry and world. With characteristic assurance of a creatively (almost mystically) driven soul, Morton says of the future, “with unconditional faith in God’s promise, TEMPO will continue to grow in size and stature”. This is a man constantly erupting with ideas and too forward-thinking to rest on his already considerable laurels. “I like to say that it's not about eureka moments, but about a eureka lifetime” -- a lifetime he has devoted to the upliftment of the Caribbean.



**Lt. Col. (Ret.) Angela P. Pettis**  
RU Douglass College '93

Lt. Col. Angela Pettis enrolled at Rutgers University in 1989 and, within two years, became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Xi Nu Chapter. After earning a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Douglass College in 1993, she obtained a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Seton Hall University and a Master of Science degree from the University of Maryland School of Nursing's Nurse Anesthesia Program in 2010.

Lt. Col. Pettis has served her country with distinction for over 23 years in various roles in the D.C. Air National Guard, U.S. Air Force, and U.S. Air Force Reserve, while simultaneously demonstrating excellence in her challenging profession as a Nurse Anesthetist.

Today, she continues to provide general, regional, and monitored anesthesia in specialties such as General Surgery, ENT, Gastroenterology, Orthopedics, Podiatry, Neuro Spine, and Chronic Pain. Despite her challenging career as a Nurse Anesthetist, Lt. Col. Pettis continues to be active in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., as well as serving as a volunteer with the American Red Cross of Southern Maryland, where she has risen to become vice chair of its board.

Her military record is unequivocally impressive. During Operation Iraqi Freedom, she served at the National Naval Medical Center, treating soldiers who had suffered life-changing injuries. Throughout her time in the Air Force, she provided anesthesia services across 12 surgical specialties for active-duty service members, their families, and children.

Achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force is a significant accomplishment that can be highly competitive and challenging, especially considering the low representation of African American women in these ranks. (According to Air Force Times, "while Black members comprise about 13% of the Department of the Air Force's roughly 697,000 military and civilian employees, Black female officers make up less than 1% of the active-duty force.")

Lt. Col. Pettis retired in May 2024 after almost a quarter-century of service, and her military accolades include the following awards:

- Meritorious Service Medal (2 Oak Leaf Clusters)
- Air and Space Outstanding Unit Award (3 Oak Leaf Clusters)
- Air and Space Longevity Service Award (2 Oak Leaf Clusters)
- DC National Guard Commendation Medal

Lt. Col. Pettis continues to serve as the Board Vice-Chair of the Southern Maryland Chapter of the American Red Cross, where she was honored with the Distinguished Service Award in 2024 and the Rookie of the Year Award in 2023. She has been married to Andrew Pettis, a retired United States Air Force Chief Master Sergeant, for 22 years and has a daughter, Drew Pettis, who is following in her footsteps as a nursing student at the University of Maryland and is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Lt. Col. Pettis's unwavering dedication and deep commitment to service, both in her professional and military careers, as well as in her local community, continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.



## Joan Reeves SSW'76

For the past 55 years, Ms. Reeves has served her community with unwavering commitment and distinction. In 1979, she became one of the first African American women in New Jersey to serve as a District Office Manager in the NJ Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS). In this role, she oversaw case management, clerical, transportation, and supervisory staff, ensuring the delivery of critical services to children and families across all suburban Essex municipalities.



Under her leadership, thousands of children and their families received essential support. Her office was the first in the state to implement a pilot permanency planning unit focused on transitioning children from foster care to adoption or family reunification. The program's overwhelming success led to its statewide implementation.

She also served on a statewide task force that played a pivotal role in reforming foster care in New Jersey, resulting in the system we know today. Additionally, she partnered with the A Better Chance (ABC) program with Blair Academy, offering high-achieving foster children the opportunity to attend a prestigious boarding school tuition-free. Her lifelong work in child welfare has not only transformed lives but has also set a high standard of excellence in the field.

# Sharon Stroye

RBS'16 & SPAA'06

## Champion for Racial Healing and Inclusive Leadership



Sharon Stroye is a nationally recognized visionary leader in racial healing, institutional transformation, and inclusive leadership. She currently serves as the inaugural Director of the Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation (TRHT) Initiative at Emory University, where she leads strategic efforts to advance equity, dismantle the false belief in a hierarchy of human value, and foster a culture rooted in shared humanity. Emory's TRHT Campus Center—one of 72 nationwide—is part of a visionary movement led by the American Association of Colleges and Universities to cultivate the next generation of strategic leaders grounded in shared humanity.

A proud alumna of Rutgers University–Newark, Sharon holds dual master's degrees: an MPA from the School of Public Affairs and Administration and an MBA from Rutgers Business School with a concentration in Strategic Leadership and Entrepreneurship. She brings over 30 years of experience in higher education, organizational development, and community transformation. Her professional career includes serving as the inaugural director and founding dean in multiple roles, where she developed sustainable infrastructure and inclusive programming models across various institutions.

Sharon's leadership spans higher education, corporate, and municipal sectors. She has worked closely with nonprofit organizations, agencies, faith-based entities, and local governments to implement racial healing frameworks, foster inclusive workplace cultures, and promote equity-centered leadership. She founded CTW Consulting Services, LLC, and offers strategic advice to help organizations build inclusive and accountable workplaces.

Her 22-year career at Rutgers University–Newark left a profound legacy. Upon her retirement, she was honored with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition by the late Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr., for her service and impact. In tribute to her legacy, the Sharon Stroye SPAA Community Engagement Award was established in 2023 by Rutgers SPAA to recognize extraordinary community engagement and public service.

Sharon has received several prestigious honors, including the 2023 Humanitarian Award from the Change, Create, and Transform Foundation and the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Practitioner Award from Rutgers SPAA. She is also a member of Pi Alpha Alpha, the international honor society for public affairs and administration, and exemplifies ethical, transformative leadership in every space she occupies.

As a trained Racial Healing Circle Practitioner, Sharon has facilitated over 300 racial healing circles, workshops, and trainings for more than 3,000 participants in the past six years. She has helped embed the TRHT framework into the ethos of institutions, nonprofits, and faith-based communities to create equitable, inclusive cultures. A sought-after keynote speaker and published author, her notable contributions include the book chapter “Racial Healing for the Healers,” the video publication “TRHT & NJ-STEP Prison to School Pipeline” (AAC&U), and her featured article “*Planting Seeds of Truth, Racial Healing, & Transformation*” in *We Hold These Truths*.

Her thought leadership has guided numerous higher education institutions in developing successful applications to host TRHT Campus Centers. For the past five years, she has served as a trusted mentor and advisor during the annual TRHT Institute, hosted by the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U). Sharon is also the associate pastor at God's Kingdom Heavenly Church, where she continues her mission of healing, hope, and empowerment.

Originally from Newark, NJ, and now based in Georgia, she is a devoted mother of three, grandmother of two, and mentor to hundreds. She lives by the belief that we can change the world—one relationship at a time.

## Nyree Wright RC, SCILS'96

Nyree is a top Washington, D.C.-based public relations executive recognized for her expert strategic and corporate reputation counsel to Fortune 500 companies. As Executive Vice President, Crisis & Risk Communications at Edelman, she brings over two decades of integrated communications experience across sectors including consumer, automotive, education, cable & television, entertainment, financial services, health, and energy. Her mastery in media relations has landed clients in some of the world's most prestigious outlets.



Before Edelman, Nyree served as Senior Vice President for Public Relations at TV One Networks and Executive Vice President/Senior Consultant of Reputation Management at Porter Novelli. She was also a Senior Vice President at MSLGROUP, where she managed the agency's largest account and led the General Motors assignment—one of the most significant client relationships during a transformative era, including the company's 2009 bankruptcy and subsequent recovery.

Her crisis leadership experience includes pivotal roles with GlaxoSmithKline, Purdue Pharma, Western Union, and Howard University. She was also on the frontline with National Grid during Hurricane Sandy and provided critical crisis counsel for Firestone Liberia during the West Africa Ebola outbreak. Her strategic oversight in these scenarios highlights her ability to guide organizations through periods of high scrutiny and transformation.

Nyree's foundation in the industry was established early in her career, with internships at Prudential Financial, Ogilvy Public Relations, and The Rosen Group, where she studied at Rutgers University and was a member of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA). After receiving her B.A. from Rutgers University School of Communication, Information and Library Studies, she went on to earn her Master's in Corporate & Public Communication from Seton Hall University.

She is the recipient of multiple awards, including the PRSA Big Apple Award (2001); the National Press Club's Vivian Award (2013, 2014, 2017); the PR News Platinum PR Award Honorable Mention (2016); the 2021 Diversity Action Alliance Distinguished Communicator Award; PR Executive of the Year by The CableFaxies in 2022; and the 2023 PRNEWS Top Women Industry Champion. Most recently, in May 2025, she received the Spectrum Circle Award for Innovation in Media. Her leadership and influence have also been recognized by Washington Life Magazine, Capitol Communicator, and Pocstock's Future of Black America Top 50 Leaders list.

She is a charter member and former board member of ColorComm. She has served on numerous boards and advisory councils, including the Public Relations Society of America Foundation, Arthur W. Page Society DE&I Advisory Board, and the Public Relations Advisory Council at North Carolina Central University. In 2022, she joined the board of the National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC) and, later that year, was inducted into the Recording Academy (GRAMMYS) Class of 2022. Most recently, she was elected to the Rutgers University School of Communication and Information (SC&I) Alumni Board as Co-Vice President in 2024.

However, one of Nyree's proudest achievements is her presidency of the Capital Press Club (CPC) from 2009 to 2012, the oldest African American communications association in the nation. CPC – founded in 1944 as an African American alternative to the National Press Club, which at that time did not accept black members – exists to unite communications professionals of color through professional development, networking, new business opportunities/entrepreneurship, and advocacy on issues affecting them.

Her volunteerism mirrors her extensive professional experience and engagement and includes being a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and The Links, Incorporated.

A mentor, advisor, and visionary leader, Nyree exemplifies dedication, resilience, and impact in the field of communications. Her unwavering commitment to excellence and inclusion continues to shape the industry and inspire the next generation of professionals.



*Congratulations!*

**Shanda Johnson PhD, APN-C, FNP**

for being inducted into the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance (RAAA) Hall of Fame Class of 2025. We are proud of all your accomplishments and thankful for all that you do.

**R** | RUTGERS HEALTH  
School of Nursing  
Alumni Association

# CONGRATULATIONS

*Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc.*

&

*2025 Hall of Fame Honorees*

# NAACP

*New Brunswick Area Branch*

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## In Memoriam

Alan F. Hendrix

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*The Sorors Initiated Through  
Xi Nu Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.*

*Congratulate*

*Soror Angela Pettis*



*#XiNu4Life #iykyk*



*RAAA 2025 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE*

The Women of the Spring 1990 Line, Xi Nu Chapter,  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Are Excited to Congratulate

*Angela Pettis*

on her induction to

the Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance, Inc. Hall of Fame!





**"You have shed a thousand skins  
to become the woman you are today.  
And if you ever feel overwhelmed  
by the many women you once were,  
remember your bones have grown  
but what makes them has never changed.  
The ghosts of the women you used to be  
are so proud of who you have become,  
storm child made of wild and flame."**

**- Nikita Gill**

**Congratulations, Stacey, on your induction into the  
Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance  
Hall of Fame ~ Class of 2025!**

***With love and admiration,  
Your forever sister,  
Sophia***



***A MEMORIAM - MS. JACQUELINE CLAUDETTE JONES***

**Jacqueline C. Jones was born in Jamaica, Queens, New York, grew up in Willingboro, New Jersey, and had resided in Las Vegas, Nevada, for the last nine years.**

**She joined the sisterhood of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. in 1980 at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, where she was initiated in the Iota Psi Chapter.**

**Jacqueline received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Health Administration from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, and a Master of Social Work degree with a concentration in International and Community Development from Monmouth University. In 2015, the Nevada Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers honored her as the recipient of the 2015 Social Work of the Year Award. Jacqueline was also inducted into Alpha Delta Mu, the Social Work Honor Society.**

**Jacqueline Jones was a dedicated Licensed Social Worker. She personified, “How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these” (George Washington Carver)**

***Jacqueline Claudette Jones became an Ivy Beyond the Wall on July 24, 2025.***

***Congratulations***  
*Soror. Sister. Friend. Colleague.*  
**Dr. Shanda Johnson**  
*upon your induction into the*  
**Rutgers African American Alliance**  
**Hall of Fame**  
**Class of 2025**  
*Soror Donita Devance*

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Theta Sorority, Inc. celebrates 50 Years of Sisterhood,  
Scholarship, Service, and Social Action.  
Join us November 2025!**

<b>November 21, 2025</b>	<b>November 22, 2025</b>	<b>November 23, 2025</b>
Welcome Reception	Golden Anniversary Gala	Ecumenical Service

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**TAU CHI CHAPTER, INC.**  
**CHI ETA PHI SORORITY, INCORPORATED**®

**Celebrates and send Congratulations to our  
Soror Shanda Johnson, PhD, APN-C, FNP  
on being inducted into the  
Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance Hall of Fame**



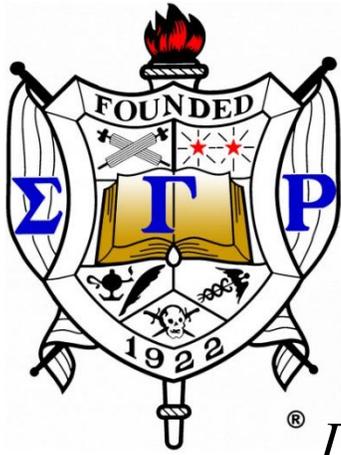
**Norma Rodgers-Frink, BSN, RN, CCRA, ACRP-PM, RP  
President**



RAAA HALL OF FAME  
CLASS HOF 2025  
**Simone Mack-Bright**



**Congratulations**  
**KEEPER OF THE LEGACY**



**DELTA KAPPA SIGMA CHAPTER  
SIGMA GAMMA RHO SORORITY, INC.**

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*Allean Davis ♦ JoAnne Fletcher-Johnson*

*Kimberly Melton-Kiner ♦ Eartha Mitchem ♦ DKS Rhoer Club*

*DeAnna Adams ♦ Nicole Brookins ♦ Shaleen Chapman*

*Donita Devance ♦ Kiameesha Evans ♦ Yolander Hill*

*Cristal Howard ♦ Charlene Nicholson*

*Congratulate*

*Soror Dr. Shanda Johnson*

**RAAA 2025 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE**



*A group of Dynamic woman with civic, charitable and educational interests.  
They dedicate their talents to the enhancements communities and  
womanhood.*

## **The Montclair Drifters, Inc.**



are honored to celebrate our esteemed  
**Alumna, Joan Reeves**



Congratulations to the  
**Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance, Inc.**  
on their 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hall of Fame Ceremony -  
**“Unbroken Excellence: Honoring Our Roots, Empowering Our Future”**



*Dr. Inez P. Durham,*  
DC '57, SSW '61, GSAPP'84

*Congratulations*

*and*

*Best Wishes*

*Mayor Adrian O. Mapp*

*and*

*RAAA Hall of Fame*

*Class of 2025 Inductees*

MISSION  
IMPOSSIBLE  
XI NU S'87

CONGRATULATES  
LT. COL. (RET)  
ANGELA F. PETTIS

# *Congratulations*

*Joan Wiggins Reeves*



*Amazing Mom  
Grandma and Aunt*

*With Love*



*Kyle P. Reeves  
Luz Reeves  
Harold M. Britton*



**The Advocates for Healthy  
Living Initiative**

*salutes*

***Joan Reeves***

*AHLI Community Advisory Board Member*

**and the entire 2025 Class**

upon your induction into the

**Rutgers African American Alliance  
Hall of Fame**

*Congratulations on your years of noteworthy achievement & dedicated service.*



# Congratulations!



Congratulations to Edelman's Nyree Wright and all of this year's inductees into the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc. Hall of Fame.



*Congratulations*

**Soror Angela Pettis**

*On your induction into the*

**Rutgers African American  
Alumni Hall of Fame**

We are proud of you and  
celebrate the woman of  
excellence that you are!

With love and admiration,  
The WC



Aileen Gillis  
Margaret Gillis  
Douglass BA '75  
Rutgers MBA '79



Margaret Gillis  
Dr. Sheri Gillis  
Rutgers BS '95  
Robert Wood Johnson  
MD 2001

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RAAA ON THEIR 22ND ANNUAL HALL OF FAME CEREMONY 3 GENERATIONS OF RUTGER'S GRADUATES



Dr. Sheri Gillis  
Funderburk  
Reggie Funderburk  
Rutgers BA '97  
Rutgers MBA 2000



Reghan Funderburk  
Rutgers BS '25

**Chancellor Antonio D. Tillis  
and the Rutgers University–Camden  
community proudly salute:**

**Congressman Herb Conaway RLAW'96**

**and all of the Class of 2025 inductees into  
the Rutgers African-American Alumni  
Alliance Hall of Fame**

Rutgers University–Camden is proud to join  
the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance  
in applauding these honorees, who represent the  
excellence of Rutgers, The State University  
of New Jersey.



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*Stacey Meisel*

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ELEKEZANA SPRING 1989

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