

The Boulé Journal

SIGMA PI PHI FRATERNITY

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REMEMBERING
ARCHON CHARLES J. OGLETREE, JR.
12.31.1952 – 8.4.2023

THE WEATHER REPORT



TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY, ALPHA BOULÉ, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, DECEMBER 1929

THE EYE OF THE STORM HASN'T PASSED. THE EXTENDED OUTLOOK IS STILL UNCERTAIN. LET'S WORK TOGETHER AS ARCHONS AND GENTLEMEN AND HOPE FOR A CLEANSING RAIN AND CLEAR SKIES.

A severe weather watch for Sigma Pi Phi has been issued ahead of a slow-moving cold front and “topical depression,” forming in the late-night and early-morning hours of concern for our culture, with increasing barometric incivility in the south-east and south-central portions of my right knee. I feel a squall a-comin’. Low-hanging clouds over the wary drift of my disposition rumble and scowl with the threat of a storm after weeks of rising temperatures, dust-devil disquisitions and orange alerts on the lamentable microclimate developing within our fraternal discourse.

There’s a hole in the roof, a breakdown, a door left open somewhere to the inclement elements outside from which Archons have always taken refuge within these portals.

From the safe haven of the hearth in the house of Boulé have I often observed the often inhospitable social and political climate of an increasingly tempestuous democracy, alternately drying up from droughts of wisdom and reason in an atmosphere of ad hominem attacks, or slowly eroding in the acid rain of disinformation, buried in mudslinging and foundering in the dense fog of bear spray and conspiracy theories at the meeting of Constitution Ave. and Bürgerbräukeller 1923. The line of would-be stormtroopers thundering through the nation’s capitol on January 6 gave proof through the night that our flagging faith in liberty, fraternity and equality has all but coded in this winter of our discontent.

But fraternity was never the rallying cry of the American Revolution (that was France). The brotherhood of man is not a concept espoused in the nation’s founding documents. It was Black people, in asserting our humanity here, who named one another brother and sister and extended that welcome regard to all who are sufficiently enlightened to embrace it. Fictive kinship is deeply rooted in our culture, and the bonds are no less durable than the bond of blood. As Archon Carrington Davis exalted in 1911, “Be there a bond stronger than the ties of blood...a union more indestructible than adamantine, it is the

brotherhood of men pledged in eternal troth to do and die each for the other’s good.”

The Boulé is not an ordinary organization; it is extraordinary and unique, the first, the archetype and exemplar, and it calls for us to know and do and be the best for one another. We are not perfect. We were inducted not for our perfection, nor for our accomplishments alone but qualities of congeniality, tolerance, good fellowship, and the potential to *be* Archons in that state of eternal aspiration. We are above vindictiveness, gossip, ad hominem and incivility.

There was an incident in the Boulé that came to a head, threatening to “turn friend against friend and thus rend the organization.” It involved a rift between Archons W.E.B. Du Bois and James Weldon Johnson on one side, and Archon Robert L. Vann, stemming from accusations of misuse of funds raised by the NAACP for the defense of another Archon, Ossian Sweet. Du Bois and Johnson accused Vann, publisher of the *Pittsburg Courier*, of personally authoring the attacks and, further, alleged he had enriched himself at the expense of Black people. The dispute divided the 1929 Grand Boulé, with partisans on both sides. After much heated debate, it was resolved before the body when Archon Vann apologized and denied involvement or knowledge of the accusations that appeared in the *Courier*. When he and Archon Du Bois shook hands their embrace was met with resounding acclamation from the delegates and attendees.

It was following this that Archon Davis opined: “First of all, every Archon is a gentleman or he has no business in the Boulé. He will therefore and in all situations conduct himself as a gentleman; he cannot do less.”

The eye of the storm hasn’t passed. The extended outlook is still uncertain. Let’s work together as Archons and gentlemen and hope for a cleansing rain and clear skies.



ARCHON KHEPHRA BURNS
GRAND GRAPIER

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ARCHON CHARLES JAMES OGLETREE, JR.

Whenever
we make
it over the
threshold,
we have to
reach back
and help
others.



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MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND SIRE ARCHON

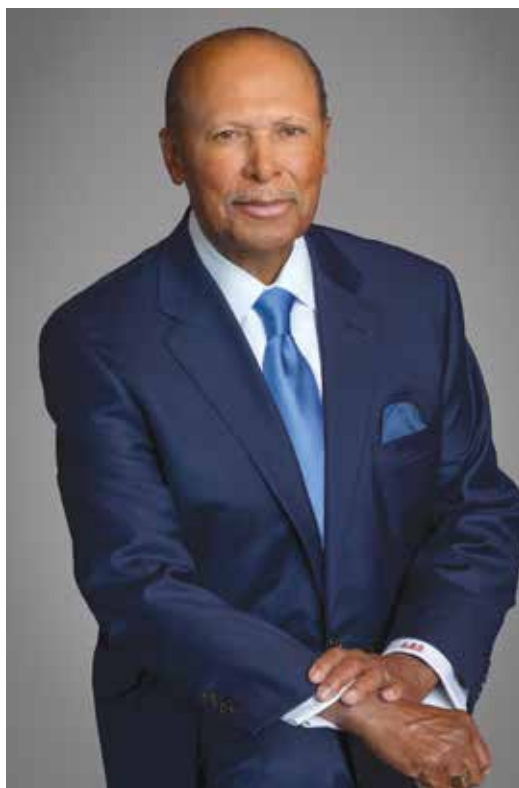
STRENGTHENING OUR FUTURE BY INCREASING AFRICAN AMERICAN COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

By Grand Sire Archon Antoine M. Garibaldi

This summer's highly anticipated but not unexpected 6 to 3 Supreme Court decision eliminating race-conscious affirmative action in college admissions in *Students for Fair Admissions Inc. v. Harvard* sparked the predictable responses of concern and alarm from African American and most nonwhite families. During my various senior positions at two historically Black and two predominantly white universities over several decades, I have had the responsibility for managing the aftermath of multiple affirmative action cases beginning with *Regents of University of California v. Bakke* in 1978, *University of Michigan's Gratz v. Bollinger* and *Grutter v. Bollinger* in 2003, and *Fisher v. University of Texas* in 2013 and 2016.

Those experiences have reinforced my strong belief that it is imperative that we continue to move forward even if the potential impact of the recent ruling is marginal and may affect a small group of select institutions. Even more, this is the ideal moment for Sigma Pi Phi's 143 member boulés to take the lead in increasing the number of African American students in postsecondary institutions through the Fraternity's diverse scholarship and college-focused social action programs.

Our leadership is absolutely essential and urgent because there is a growing crisis with regard to Black student college enrollments. Data from the National Center for Education Statistics indicate that Black students accounted for only 13 percent of all higher-education enrollment in 2021 compared with 15 percent in 2010. That



decline is particularly noticeable between 2010 and 2020, when Black undergraduate enrollment decreased by 700,000, from 2.67 million to 1.99 million – a 25 percent decrease. Contrast current Black enrollment with the early to mid-1970's, when many of us were in college, and you will find that our college participation rose from 282,000 in 1966 to nearly 1.1 million in 1976. An increase of almost 400 percent in ten years! And 18 percent of the 1976 student cohort were enrolled at historically Black colleges and universities, compared with 9 percent today.

Several factors contributed to that enrollment surge. For example, court-ordered racial desegregation practices in many southern public colleges and uni-

versities around the mid-1960's opened doors that had long been closed to African Americans. Private colleges also gradually began to racially diversify their student bodies. And teachers and high school counselors went above and beyond their duties. Through their vigorous work with students in after-school and college-readiness programs such as Upward Bound and Talent Search, Black students were strongly encouraged to take advantage of postsecondary education opportunities that their parents were neither offered nor could afford.

In 2023 we Archons should be similarly energized to reverse the trend of declining African American college enrollment, where unfortunately there are too few males and too many part-time students. With more than 5,500 current and Emeriti Archons and comparable numbers



of Archousai, Sigma Pi Phi has the resources and programs to immediately reignite the 1970's Black college enrollment spark. I offer the following five action-oriented suggestions for you to consider:

Become more engaged in social action

programs: Actively participate in and contribute financial resources to member boulé social action programs that promote academic achievement and college-going preparation.

Increase your Boulé Foundation Legacy Award

level: Move up to the next level of your Archon and Archousa Boulé Foundation Legacy Awards that support numerous member boulé social action and community outreach programs as well as college scholarships.

Begin a member boulé speaker series with

schools and local districts: Schools and local education agencies will appreciate the personal presentations of Archons and Archousai to their students on topics such as selecting colleges and careers and the importance of

obtaining good grades, studying, writing, speaking, time management and the like. (I have an introductory letter for any member boulé that would like to use it to initiate one of these collaborations.)

Become a college admissions volunteer:

Admissions offices welcome the opportunity for alumni and local individuals to assist them with student recruitment, which also allows you to observe the diversity of prospective students and the high schools from which they are coming.

Establish a scholarship at your alma mater:

Begin a scholarship at your alma mater to assist students whose families cannot afford the full cost of their college education. It will be the best investment you ever made!

Our future will truly be strengthened as we significantly increase the number of African American students attending and graduating from college now and in this century!

BECOME MORE ENGAGED IN SOCIAL ACTION PROGRAMS
INCREASE YOUR BOULÉ FOUNDATION LEGACY AWARD LEVEL
BEGIN A MEMBER BOULÉ SPEAKER SERIES WITH SCHOOLS AND LOCAL DISTRICTS
BECOME A COLLEGE ADMISSIONS VOLUNTEER
ESTABLISH A SCHOLARSHIP AT YOUR ALMA MATER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LADIES LEADING AT LOFTY LEVELS

Today most of the eight Ivy League institutions (Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton and Yale) admit more African Americans to a first-year class than populated all four of their undergraduate classes during any of my years as a graduate student at Princeton – way back when. A similar racial contrast holds for what were then the Seven Sisters (Barnard, Bryn Mawr, Mount Holyoke, Radcliffe, Smith, Vassar and Wellesley).

Of course, we hoped and worked for more Black students, but little behind us, around us or ahead of us was clearly promising. Much like our country's electing an African American president of the United States before the 2008 "blessed miracle" of Barack Obama's first election, few of us imagined that we would ever see change so significant.

Similarly, our imagining that one of those fifteen colleges would choose a Black person as its president was equally unthinkable. That Ruth Simmons could be chosen as president of Smith College in 1995 and then as president of Brown University in 2001 was simply beyond our imaginations.

Therefore, it is surprising – but most inspiring – that African American women have now been chosen to lead the following highly respected institutions:

- Claudine Gay, president, Harvard University
- Danielle R. Holley, president, Mount Holyoke College
- Sarah Willie-LeBreton, president, Smith College
- Paula A. Johnson, president, Wellesley College

Archon David L. Evans,
Beta Beta Boulé

ACCLAIMING OUR 'FIRSTS'

I read Archousa Vanzetta Penn McPherson's article on "Purging The First: Recasting Black Achievement" in the summer 2023 BOULÉ JOURNAL with great interest. I was reminded of the song from the Disney production of *The Ugly Duckling*: "It Depends on How You Look at Things." It certainly made me think about perspective. From your perspective, your position makes sense. I approach "Firsts" from a different perspective that I would like to share.

I am a 78-year-old Black woman and I have never seen the "Firsts" as a statement about white privilege or permission. White privilege, for me, has always been the backdrop of the system our people are here to defeat so that *all* people can give of their gifts for the greater good, development and enhancement of this place called America. The "Firsts" are important as a critical statement of the endurance, strength, bravery and role models of what and how our warriors pierced the veil of a system designed to continue the myth of our inferiority in order to support the greater myth of their inherent superiority.

The "Firsts" are our warriors, our guides and our role models. They are the arrows shot to future generations to let them know they must:

- Believe in themselves and not any externally promulgated image of them put forward by those who need you to fail in order to keep the lie of Black inferiority going.
- Never be afraid to honor a "First" because that is to acknowledge the expectation that there will be a "Second" and "Third," ad infinitum.
- By their experience assume Mary McCloud Bethune's adage, Lifting as We Climb.
- Remember that without "Firsts," there can be no shoulders to stand upon and no elder knowledge and guidance in affecting the segregated, sterile and limited human-development territory of white supremacy, thus changing this country for the greater good of all.

My problem is not with "Firsts." I honor them. My Archon and I have each had the honor in our lifetimes of being a "First" many times, and we personally know the duty and obligation *never to settle for being the only*. The Archons and Archousai in this issue are a medley of "Firsts," and I honor them. For me, being a "First" is a responsibility to make sure our past, present and future contributions are counted and able to be freely given. I have never seen our "Firsts" as a white-privilege issue as much as a testament to our fortitude, genius, perseverance and spiritual courage.

It just depends on how you look at things.

Archousa Jacqueline F. Brown,
Epsilon Delta Boulé

THE BOULÉ RENEWS ITS LONG FIGHT FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Fighting for affirmative action is in Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity's and my DNA. I recall clearly our 1996 gathering in Houston where the issue of affirmative action was put squarely before the 43rd Grand Boulé. In 1996 California had on the ballot Proposition 209, which prohibited, among other things, the consideration of race as a factor in the admission of students to California colleges and universities. Oakland's Alpha Gamma Boulé, of which I am a member, sponsored a resolution asking the Grand Boulé to oppose Proposition 209. Moreover, our resolution stated that if Proposition 209 passed, the Grand Boulé, which was slated to be held in San Diego in 1998, should be moved to another state.

To be sure, this was a radical and historic charge. After considerable debate, the resolution, to my surprise, was adopted overwhelmingly by the delegates. Thus, when California passed Proposition 209, the Grand Executive Committee promptly implemented the resolution by voting to move the Grand Boulé from San Diego to another state. This made the Boulé one of the first organizations in the nation to boycott a state that opposed affirmative action!

Personally, I was pleased to be a part of this historic debate. Today, now that the Supreme Court (packed with Donald Trump justices) has finally decimated affirmative action, we must understand that our collective Black economic power stands at \$1.6 trillion – enough to severely cripple or destroy the economy of most states. We must use that power to extract justice for our people. If other Blacks had followed the Boulé's lead, we would not be in our current predicament. Personally, I am a proud product of affirmative action. I find it offensive that a court's right-wing political decision has deprived generations of Blacks of the opportunity to navigate the waters of success in a nation that has deliberately withheld opportunities readily available to others.

Having argued and won a landmark corporate free-speech case before the Supreme Court back in 1986, I have seen the court transition from a fairly impartial body into a mostly political tool of the right. As a result, we are likely to see generations of Blacks suffering educationally and otherwise, because the Supreme Court deliberately ignored the true meaning of the Equal Protection Clause, which was enacted in 1868 to establish equality for the newly freed slaves. Instead, the Trump Court has weaponized the Constitution to deny the descendants of slaves a seat at the table of equality.

We must never forget that the Constitution was adopted in a sea of inequality and anchored in racism. Rather than using the Equal Protection Clause

to advance equality, the six-to-three-majority Trump Court has used it to drown the hopes of Blacks for a better tomorrow. The struggle continues. We must prepare this generation, and future generations, to respect the power of the franchise and utilize it to free our people.

~ Past Grand Sire Archon Robert L. Harris,
Alpha Gamma Boulé

Yet another hurdle has been placed along our journey to gain full educational access and equality throughout the land. And, no doubt, by extension, in private and public corporate business settings and employment opportunities. Given the history of racial inequality in the nation, it was predictable, given its composition, that the U.S. Supreme Court would strike down affirmative action in the recently considered *Harvard* and *North Carolina University* cases. For Black citizens of this nation, the struggle, legal and otherwise, to attain the 1776 Declaration of Independence's promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, has existed and continues to exist.

Considering Supreme Court decisions in, for example, cases to overturn the 1875 Civil Rights Act, which supported nondiscrimination in public accommodations, and the passage of *Plessy v. Ferguson* in 1896, which established so-called separate-but-equal practices based on race that legally remained the law of the land until the court's 1954 decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, which overturned the legality of the "separate but equal" doctrine with all "deliberate speed" – all these efforts offer insight into barriers in our ongoing struggle for racial equality. Thus, it should come as no surprise that we continue to experience unequal educational and employment opportunities throughout the land.

We know what will happen because we have "seen this movie before." As we witnessed in California and Michigan, through legal mandates and state legislative actions (*Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*, 438 U.S. 265; California Executive Order W-124-95; Proposal 2 in Michigan), affirmative action in those states has effectively reduced the enrollment of Black students at public and private institutions of higher learning. The recent Supreme Court will further exacerbate this trend, likely expanding it beyond Harvard and the University of North Carolina.

As members of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, we can take some pride in the fact that the undergirding framework that led to the *Brown* decision was developed by deceased Archon Charles H. Houston, then dean of the Howard University School of Law, along with one of his students, Thurgood Marshall. Conceptually, affirmative action provided a mechanism to overcome the educational and related employment inequities

experienced by Black citizens throughout the nation. Later expanded to include all underrepresented minorities and white women, the end results have been uneven, particularly for the nation's Black citizens.

The challenge we face as a fraternity of leaders, professionals and activists throughout the land is to ensure that our young people have access to the "best" education possible from elementary school through college and university undergraduate, graduate and professional levels. Though as the Grand Boulé we elected to boycott the state of California by not holding our planned 1998 Grand Boulé there following the passage of Proposition 209 and the California governor's executive order banning the use of affirmative action in selection processes and beyond, such action was insufficient. Ironically, the Grand Boulé was held in the state of Washington as opposed to California, with the Seattle boulé serving as its host. Later the state of Washington also banned the use of affirmative action in its 1998 Initiative 200.

The mandate to us is unmistakable. We, to the extent that we can, must implement practices that result in elevating educational outcomes of our students at all educational levels and in all educational geographical settings, from kindergarten to graduate and professional levels. This will require dedication and resources, but with clear objectives and determination such results can and will be obtained. In the words of departed Archon James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938): Facing the rising sun, of our new day begun/Let us march on till victory is won.

~ Past Grand Sire Archon Rodney J. Reed,
Alpha Gamma Boulé

As I sit to read the 237-page opinion from the Supreme Court, I am disheartened but not shocked. I will not begin to try to summarize all of the illogical arguments of the court's opinion (delivered by Justice Roberts) that are not grounded in law, facts or statistics to remove race as one of forty factors at the University of North Carolina or one of a hundred factors at Harvard University for admission. How can forty-five years of legal precedent to provide equal educational opportunities (not quotas) for deserving students be eliminated? Simple: Voting matters! We are left with unequal results, decisions and opinions when we do not have equal representation at the decision-making table.

This year I have spent significant time in Austin, Texas, watching destructive bills being introduced and ultimately signed by Governor Abbott. From eliminating DE&I offices to unconstitutionally creating business courts that specifically target areas that have high minority judicial representation, there is a consistent theme: Without an intentional

strategy for voting participation, inequality will remain. While the media mainly focuses on our national leadership, our local elections are the building blocks for change. Someone voted for the president who appointed these Supreme Court judges, someone voted for the senators who confirmed these Supreme Court judges, someone voted for the state legislators, who introduced these destructive bills, and someone will vote to keep this regime in power. If you are one of the many who did not vote, you are part of the problem.

If you think this decision does not affect you because you already have your degree or you are not going to college, wait and see how many will try to broaden this decision in other areas of our lives and future generations.

~ Past Grand Sire Archon James E. Payne,
Delta Zeta Boulé

I served as the spokesperson for the University of Texas–Austin in the 2016 U.S. Supreme Court affirmative action case *Fisher v. University of Texas*. Based on that experience and twenty-plus years of teaching higher-education law and equity and access in education, I make the following observations given the court's decision to gut affirmative action:

1. Affirmative action was developed as a direct response to student activism on college campuses and the larger Civil Rights Movement. Affirmative action served as a modestly effective tool to provide some access to elite colleges and universities. Legacy admissions remains the most important affirmative action tool for elite schools.
2. Elections have consequences. The previous administration nominated and the senate confirmed three justices that made up the six-to-three majority. That is the primary difference between 2016 and 2023. The Trump administration delivered on its promise to appoint conservative judges that have and will continue to radically reshape laws including racial equity and reproductive rights.
3. Historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions will continue to fulfill the sacred mission to educate and provide nurturing learning environments for our students.

~ Past Grand Sire Archon Gregory J. Vincent,
Gamma Gamma Boulé

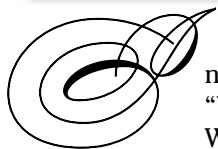
“TREE” SEEDED A FOREST FOR JUSTICE: THE LEGACY OF *Charles L. Ogletree, Jr.*

By Archon Derrick Z. Jackson, Grapier, Beta Beta Boulé

MARTHA STEWART



Accompanied by his family, Archon Charles Ogletree attends a symposium in his honor, hosted by the Harvard Law School in October 2017.



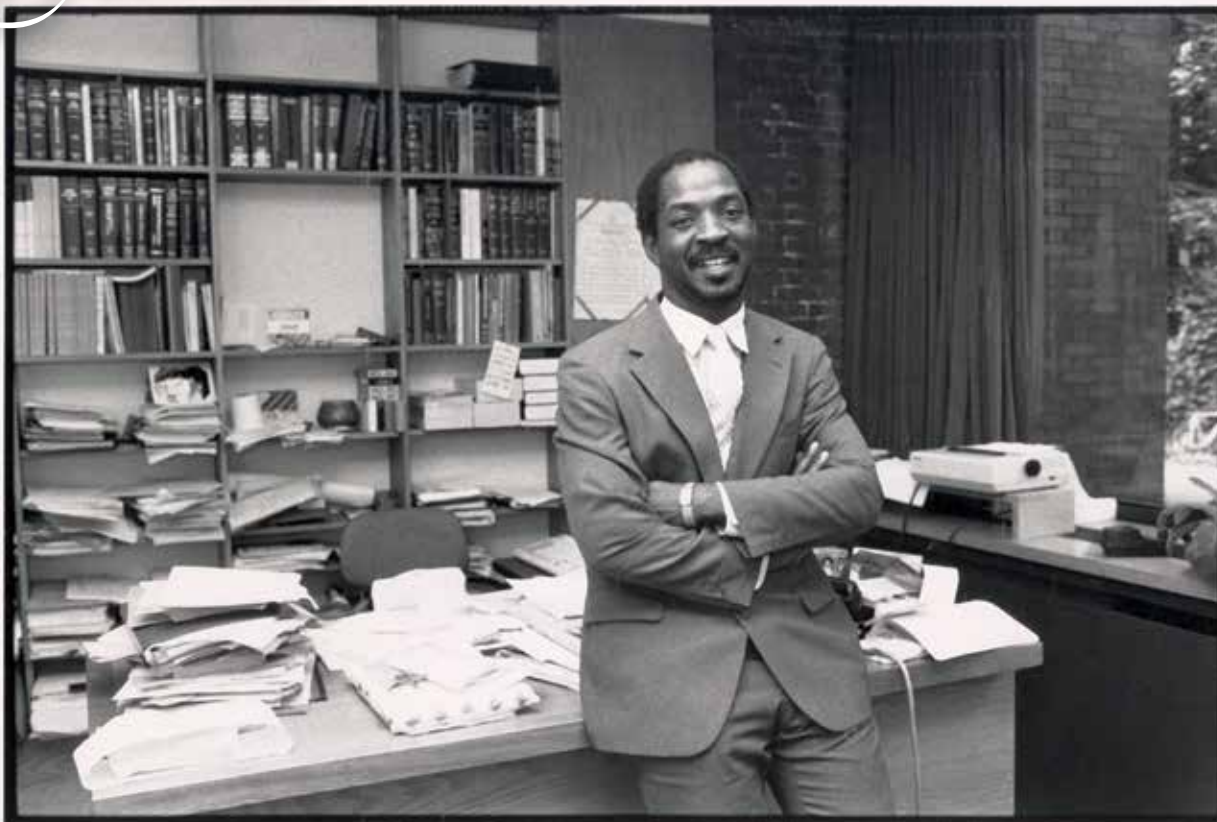
In 2010 Archon Charles Ogletree said, “We may have one Black man in the White House, but we have one million Black men in prison.” In so many ways, that sums up the holistic man Archon Ogletree was. He knew some of the most powerful people in the world, including Nelson Mandela and President Bill Clinton. At Harvard Law School, he literally taught that “one Black man,” future President Barack Obama, and future First Lady Michelle Robinson.

He also remained laser focused on the daily struggle for so many African Americans. A member of Boston’s Beta Beta Boulé, Archon Ogletree, known as

“Tree” by his friends, also fought mightily for criminal justice for the indigent at the local and national level; affirmative action in higher education; quality in K–12 schools; and reparations for racial massacres. He was a living embodiment of Sigma Pi Phi’s 1904 charge to members at its founding. He fully used his abilities to aid others and inspired “concerted action” in endless arenas to “bring about those things that seem best for all that cannot be accomplished by individual effort.”

Beta Beta Archon Ronald Sullivan wrote in a *Washington Post* tribute that Archon Ogletree’s “true greatness lies not in the many hats that he wore nor the

MARTHA STEWART



Archon Charles Ogletree in his office, 1988

many accolades he garnered but rather in the many lives he touched and generations he influenced.... He lived to democratize greatness; by and through his mentorship, Tree shaped and molded generations of students and encouraged them to make a lasting impact on the world they inhabit."

The world was fortunate that Archon Ogletree was one of its inhabitants for seventy years, dying of Alzheimer's disease on August 4, 2023, at his home in Odenton, Maryland. He and Archousa Pamela moved there in 2019, after decades in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to be close to his daughter Rashida Ogletree-George in his last years. Besides his Archousa and his daughter, Archon Ogletree is survived by a son, Charles J. Ogletree III; brothers Richard and Robert; sisters Rosemarie Jacobs and Taalia Hasan; and four grandchildren, Marquelle, Nia and Jamila Ogletree and Makayla George. He was preceded in death by his brother Curtis Reed and his sister Barbara Scoggins.

Archon Charles James Ogletree, Jr., was born in Merced, California, on December 31, 1952. He was the eldest of seven children born in the union of Charles Ogletree, Sr., and Willie Mae Reed Ogletree. In a 2004 interview with civil rights icon Julian Bond, Archon Ogletree said that his parents worked in the Central

Valley's version of sharecropping, picking peaches, apricots, grapes and figs. His family lived in a house built by his grandfather out of wooden boxes from a freight train. The bathroom was an outhouse.

Amid poverty, Archon Ogletree picked up a lifetime hobby – fishing. He, his mother and his grandfather would go out with poles whittled from cane stalks and baited with bread. He said waiting for the carp to bite taught him the patience he would later need as a lawyer fighting for justice. Decades later he was legendary among friends for his skills with a rod and reel. In 2011 he won the Martha's Vineyard Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby. In a story in *The Boston Globe*, Archon Ogletree said he even went ice fishing on the famed Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts, when he was in law school. "People thought I was crazy," he told the *Globe*.

Archon Ogletree also developed a love of reading at an early age, fascinated by books such as *Gulliver's Travels* and *Robinson Crusoe*. In the interview with Julian Bond, he said a librarian gave him gold stars for the number of books he read a week. He said books opened his mind to a world beyond Merced – especially at night, when he heard the Southern Pacific trains going through town.

TONY LORETI



At a Criminal Justice Institute event in 2001 entitled "Race, Police, and Community": Archon Charles Ogletree, Reverend Al Sharpton of the National Action Network and Northwestern University School of Law professor Deborah Ramirez.

"I imagined being on that train," he remembered. "And I dreamed dreams that seemed unimaginable. That I could go places that seemed unimaginable before. I could be somebody that I wasn't. I was no longer Black or poor. I was an explorer. I was a creator. I was an astronomer. I mean, I was all those things that I had read about. And finally, it sort of relieved and removed the chains, the shackles that I thought I had had on my mind."

In high school, Archon Ogletree said a teacher named John Heflin encouraged him to read books by African American authors such as Richard Wright, and Claude Brown's *Manchild in the Promised Land*. This gave him a sophisticated understanding of racial matters. He became a student leader – the first African American student body president of Merced High School – and organized meetings with Black student groups at other Central Valley high schools.

As a senior he thought about applying to Merced Community College or Occidental College. His guidance counselor, a woman named Miss Jackson, was a graduate of Stanford, and she suggested her alma mater. Ogletree said he didn't want to go to school in Stamford, Connecticut, because it was too cold. "I was embarrassed," he told Bond. "I didn't know that Stanford existed."

He initially felt out of his league at Stanford, saying, "I was dressed like a Black hillbilly," and constantly having to explain to everyone, even Californians, where Merced was. Even the other Black students were intimidating. "I met smart Black people from all over the country, met people who were musicians, who were scientists, who were other artists, who were brilliant in economics," Archon Ogletree told Bond. "I had never seen so many Black people with so much talent in one place. And so I was overwhelmed and thought *What the world am I doing here?*"

He did not stay overwhelmed very long, editing the Black student newspaper and helping organize debates between Black professors and white eugenicist professor William Shockley. He became part of the campus Free Angela Davis Movement when the political activist was tried for allegedly being an accomplice to a courtroom shootout. She was acquitted.

Archon Ogletree visited her in prison. "I saw lawyers working for justice," he told Bond. "I said, 'Wow, this really makes a difference!' I thought I was going to stay at Stanford, get a Ph.D. in international relations and political science, write books and try to change public policy and public opinion. But seeing



GUSTAV FREEDMAN

At a 2012 Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice event, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer and a panel of circuit court judges revisit key legal principles in the 1968 landmark case *Cooper v. Aaron*.

her trial made me think, *Gosh, lawyers can make a phenomenal difference.*

"And I saw four lawyers do that. I saw them take the government's evidence and turn it on its head... (Ronald) Reagan was the governor, (Richard) Nixon was the president, and there was this war on crime, and certainly war on someone who would be labeled as a communist, as Angela Davis was. She was in the worst possible circumstance, and I saw lawyers save the day. And I said if I ever had the opportunity and privilege to do that, that's what I'd like to do. I'd like to become a lawyer and try to serve the community and try to save the day," he recalled.

Archon Ogletree earned an undergraduate degree and a master's in political science at Stanford. It was also at Stanford that he met Pamela Barnes, and the classmates would marry in 1975. Archon Ogletree went on to graduate from Harvard Law School in 1978, mentored by the late Black legal mind Derrick Bell. One of his classmates, Theodore V. Wells, Jr., said, "What Charles wanted to do was be the Derrick Bell of his generation, and he became that."

Ogletree attended law school during Boston's school busing crisis, another formative experience, marked by the famous photograph of lawyer Ted Landsmark's being speared with an American flag-pole by a white mob. "It was a rude awakening to be at Harvard Law School and trying to study to be a

lawyer, but recognizing right within the sound of my voice were Black children who were being harassed, who were being challenged," he told Bond. "Here were people resisting Blacks in 1975 from going to elementary schools and middle schools because of their race. I could not imagine that twenty-one years after *Brown* that the battleground had moved from the South."

Going to Washington, D.C., Archon Ogletree quickly gained a reputation as a formidable public defender, rising to deputy director of the city's public defender service. He returned to Harvard Law School in 1985 with a lecturer appointment. He was promoted to professor of law in 1993 and was named the Jesse Climenko Professor of Law in 1998.

Throughout his time at Harvard Law Archon Ogletree turned the cliché of secluded academic ivory towers on its head. He founded the school's Criminal Justice Institute, whose stated mission is to "educate Harvard Law School students in becoming effective, ethical and zealous criminal defense lawyer-advocates through practice in representing indigent individuals involved in the Massachusetts court system."

Archon Ogletree led by example in that regard. In 1990 he teamed with Bryan Stevenson, today the founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama, to defend an indigent Black man on death row in Georgia for the mur-

HERATCH PHOTOGRAPHY



Sybrina Fulton, mother of Trayvon Martin, speaking on a panel at Harvard Law School in 2013, a year after the shooting death of her son

der of a white woman. The man had been convicted by an all-white jury after the prosecutor used his preemptory challenges to exclude Black jurors. Archon Ogletree successfully argued before the Supreme Court that the convicted man's rights were violated.

He also founded Harvard's Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice. Named for the legal scholar who laid the foundation for the legal strategy to win the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court case outlawing school segregation, the institute focuses on engaging underserved communities to fight for better transportation, housing, education, recreation, public safety, job creation and health care.

Archon Ogletree was known for inviting the underserved to the hallowed halls of Harvard Law. As recounted in *The Bay State Banner*, Boston's Black newspaper: "During Boston's gang wars of the 1990's, Ogletree worked with his longtime friend Miniard Culpepper, a federal attorney and pastor of the Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Roxbury, to bring members of the H Block gang to Pound Hall at Harvard Law School for a conversation about their untenable future. The exchange had a striking effect on the young men, said Culpepper, who was also an Ogletree fishing buddy. 'Tree was always fishing to help others,' he said, 'to take them to the next level of life.' "

Archon and Archousa Ogletree had many other impacts on others at the local level. They were among

the founders of a charter school in Cambridge, and Archousa Ogletree was the president and CEO of Roxbury Children's Services, a nonprofit founded in 1972 to serve vulnerable youths and families of color who often were not served well in existing systems of foster care.

He also ran a "Saturday school" to support Black students. It was so important that upon Archon Ogletree's passing, former President Obama wrote about how his mentor "took time on weekends to run something called Saturday School for Black students who didn't necessarily have the support systems at home to get them through the difficult first years of law school. Eventually, Saturday School became so popular that students of every background began showing up to hear Charles explain things in a way they could understand.

"It was an example of the kind of person Charles has always been: unfailingly helpful, and driven by a genuine concern for others."

Similarly the first Black woman Supreme Court justice, Harvard Law graduate Ketanji Brown Jackson, hailed Archon Ogletree as "a role model who inspired legions of students to seek to improve our criminal justice system and make our world a better place. He was a mentor to me and countless others, and his impact cannot be overstated. His legacy lives on in the hearts and minds of the many young people he



Shirley M. Tilghman, Archon Charles Ogletree and the Hon. Robert L. Carter chat before the 2004 Harvard University commencement morning exercises.

encouraged to study law, promote justice and cherish civil rights.”

To the outside world, Archon Ogletree was much better known for representing Anita Hill when she raised allegations of sexual harassment against Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas, and also for representing the late rapper Tupac Shakur. He wrote several books on criminal justice and the resegregation of the nation’s public schools. He assisted South Africa in drafting its post-apartheid constitution on the right to counsel. He sometimes helped others even if it meant risking his own career.

Hill, today a law professor at Brandeis University, asked Archon Ogletree to lead her legal team hearings even though he was up for tenure. At a 2017 celebration of Ogletree’s career after his public sharing of his Alzheimer’s disease, she said, “He had a lot on his plate, and being involved on my behalf in a sensational public hearing may have made some faculty uneasy. He really had his job and his career on the line, but Charles agreed.”

Archon Ogletree wrote and cowrote several books on racism in criminal justice and education, including, *Life Without Parole: America’s New Death Penalty?* (New York University Press, 2012), *The Presumption of Guilt: The Arrest of Henry Louis Gates, Jr.*, and *Race, Class and Crime in America* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), *The Road to Abolition? The Future of Capital*

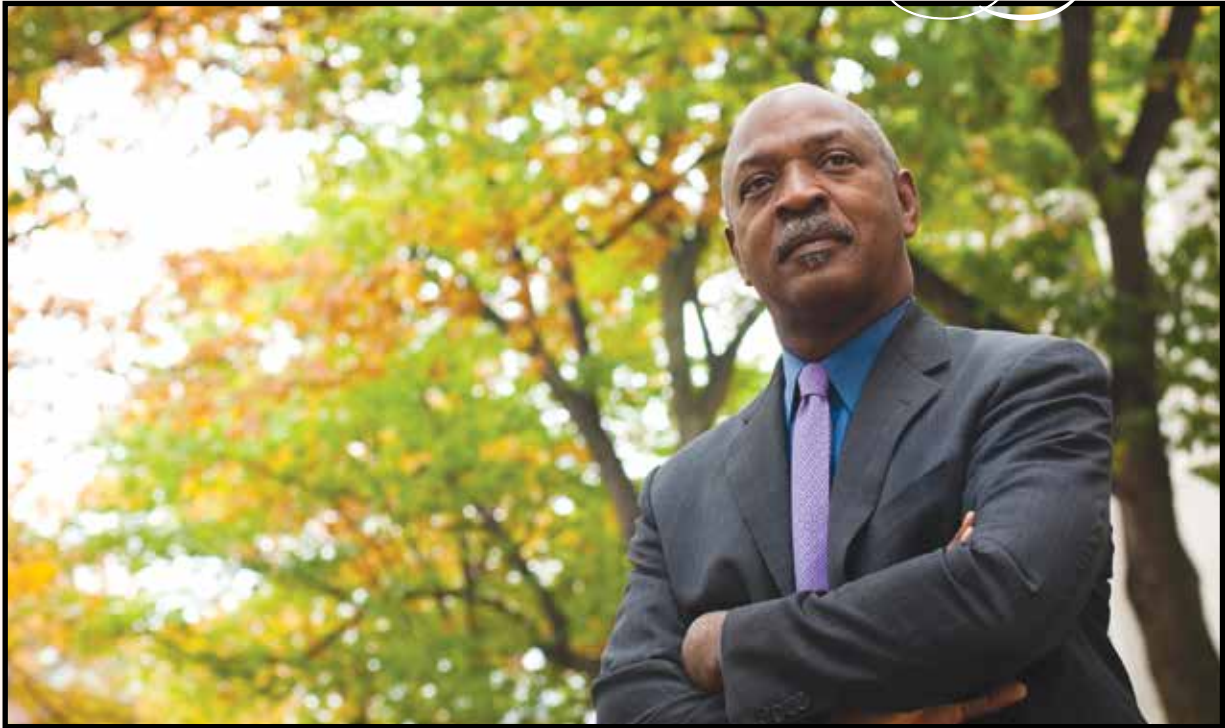
Punishment in the United States (New York University Press, 2009), *All Deliberate Speed: Reflections on the First Half-Century of Brown v. Board of Education* (W.W. Norton & Co., 2004), and *Beyond the Rodney King Story: An Investigation of Police Conduct in Minority Communities* (Northeastern University Press, 1995).

He was also in high demand around the nation as a moderator of thorny legal and ethical issues for public television and on university campuses. As a member of the media and cofounder of The Trotter Group of African American columnists, I had the privilege of inviting Archon Ogletree to moderate panels of our members during retreats in the 1990’s at Harvard and Stanford.

We experienced a small dose of the Saturday School as he pressed us to sharpen our points, as most of us often wrote on behalf of the disenfranchised for mostly white newspaper audiences, with many readers disbelieving our points of view. Over the years he pressed us on the meaning of the O.J. Simpson murder trial and why so many of us were so negative about the record of President Clinton on race.

We were all the sharper for his devil’s advocacy, rooted in a high school experience of traveling to Washington, D.C., and meeting columnist Jack Anderson, hated by President Nixon for uncovering scandal after scandal. “He talked about democracy,” Ar-

STEPHANIE MITCHELL/HARVARD UNIVERSITY NEWS OFFICE



Professor Charles "Tree" Ogletree at Harvard Yard, 2009

Archon Ogletree said of Anderson in his interview with Julian Bond. "And he said something that just stuck with me. He said, 'There's a saying you should appreciate: Democracy is the worst form of government imaginable – except for the all the others.'"

The extent to which Archon Ogletree tried to help us imagine a better form of democracy and inclusiveness was appreciated by other members of Beta Beta Boulé. Archon Tommy Amaker, Harvard University's men's basketball coach, said he "did with me what he did with so many: made me bigger and better than I could imagine. Because of my relationship with Tree and his commitment to selfless service to others, I have always felt an obligation and a debt to 'pay it forward' and to make him proud by bringing inspiration and opportunity to others."

Archon David Evans, retired admissions officer at Harvard, who himself shepherded generations of Black undergraduates and counseling them through the frequent slings of affirmative-action stereotypes, said he could privately depend on Archon Ogletree for his "sensitive ear that patiently listened and an effective voice that wisely counseled."

Even when he "lost," Archon Ogletree had an ongoing impact. Even though Clarence Thomas was still named to the Supreme Court, the charges of Anita Hill greatly elevated the general issue of sexual harassment long before the #MeToo Movement. And

even though the Supreme Court declined to hear the case of the 1921 Tulsa Massacre, the tragedy in which white mobs destroyed one of America's Black Wall Streets and killed up to 300 people, the case is still being fought in Oklahoma state courts on behalf of survivors now more than a hundred years old.

The case also sparked a new and current surge in scholarly research and media investigations as to how Black communities all over the nation were destroyed or cut up in many cities, whether by violent action, redlining, environmental dumping or by plowing highways through them. The issue of reparations for slavery and economic discrimination has moved from the fringe to much closer to the mainstream, perhaps a reason why many conservative governors across the nation are moving to erase Black history in school curriculums.

When the Supreme Court declined to hear the Tulsa case, Archon Ogletree said, "These survivors will not be deterred, nor will those who continue to offer them our unequivocal support. We will continue this fight in every venue imaginable and are not going to stop seeking justice."

Archon Ogletree's legacy is that he left behind an army willing to continue the fight in every venue imaginable, one that will not stop until America delivers justice.

Features

EVERYWHERE...AT THE SAME TIME!

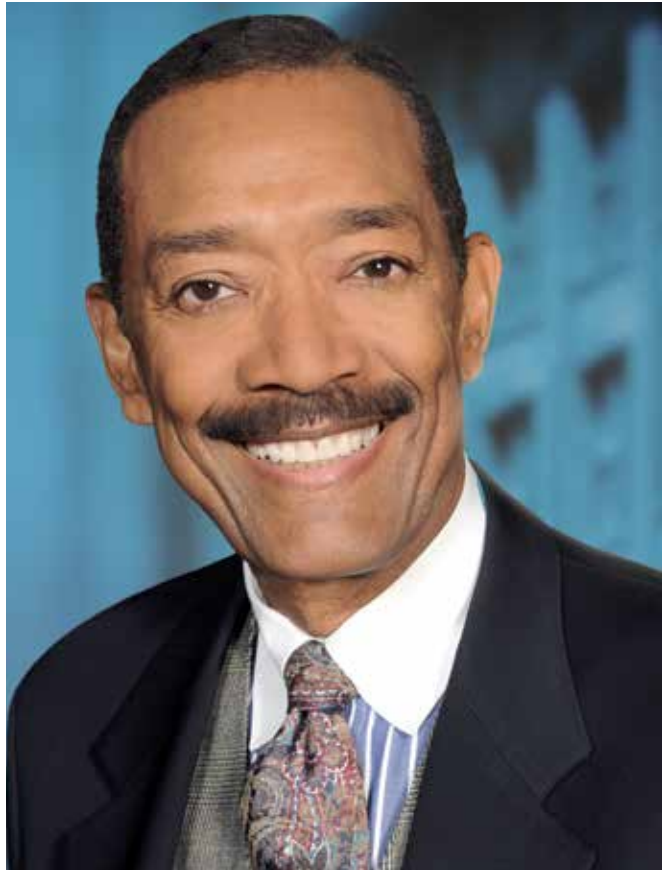
By Archon Robert Jordan, Jr., Delta Alpha Boulé

I am beginning to see a very promising sign in the world of corporate accessibility. Black business owners are seeking and finding other African American proprietors who have high-quality goods and services that can meet the demands of the business community. Powerful Archons are everywhere you look!

There is no longer any excuse for not *first* seeking a Boulé brother to consult or supply a need or offer highly specialized assistance. There is no longer any excuse for stumbling back into the old ways of doing business by quickly reaching out to an established bank or financial institution rather than taking the time (and extra effort) to locate a Black firm with which to connect. There is no longer any excuse for not building an extensive “Rolodex” of Black business contacts who may be able to steer your company to high-ranking C-suite Black executives who populate all of the Fortune 500 companies today.

We have watched other minorities enter the United States and first search for the neighborhoods where others “like them” congregated and settled. There, they could rely on those who came before them to supply jobs and housing, helping them learn to speak English, and eventually master the social and political mores and underpinnings of America so they could survive and eventually prosper. Group after group of immigrants and newcomers have followed this blueprint and climbed the ladder of success – sometimes in a generation or two.

But we know why the path African Americans have trod has been so rocky. When the scarring chains of slavery were lifted, in many parts of the South, former slaves, without means to live and sustain themselves, remained on the plantation, struggling almost as much post slavery – becoming “newly freed men and women” – as they did under the whip and shackles of bondage. The braided obstacles of segregation, Jim Crow and violent, blistering racism stood like invisible barbed-wire barriers – ferocious impediments created out of hatred, jealousy and fear – and were designed to stop any upward movement. In addition, while slavery



ARCHON ROBERT JORDAN, JR.

had legally ended, it has taken all these years to extricate bondage emotionally from our thinking.

For much of my life, I have followed and reported on this often agonizing journey our people have undertaken. As a news anchor and reporter for fifty years, mostly at WGN Television in Chicago, it was easy for me to chronicle the accomplishments our Boulé brothers were making. Highly successful Archons in Chicago like John Johnson and Lerone Bennett, Jr., at Johnson Publishing Co. would alert us to the lucky few who broke out and made headlines, showcasing them in *Ebony* and *Jet* magazines. We would proudly pass around those periodicals in barbershops and beauty



ARCHON JORDAN AND HIS FUTURE ARCHOUSA AT MOREHOUSE COLLEGE HOMECOMING, OCTOBER, 1963

salons. The discussions emanating from those stories were often the subjects of protracted, impassioned oratory. We were proud to see someone make it.

But all along, the Boulé brotherhood was quietly making progress. Growing up in Atlanta, I attended Morehouse in the early 1960's. I remember going with my father and mother to Boulé events. My then-girlfriend, now my Archoua, Sharon, would accompany me to those classy formal affairs. My father, Robert Jordan, a dentist, was an Archon in Kappa Boulé – one of the sparkling member boulés with glittering examples of high-caliber, distinguished, noteworthy Black men. During those historic years, a Kappa Boulé gathering brought together venerable names like Martin Luther King, Jr.; Morehouse president Benjamin E. Mayes; Atlanta mayor Maynard Jackson; UN ambassador and future Atlanta mayor Andrew Young; W. Bruce Shropshire; and Samuel Bacote, just to name a few.

Today almost every member boulé across the country has an imposing deep roster of esteemed and highly regarded Archons. In fact, Sigma Pi Phi has brought together an indescribably powerful and significantly positioned list of Archons.

Twenty years ago, while still working as a TV news journalist, I founded my own company, Video Family

Biographies. We work with high-net-worth families and family offices across North America, producing luxury, private, documentary-style legacy video biographies to help families preserve and protect their extraordinary legacies. Over the years, I have had several families from Sigma Pi Phi ask me to document their stories on video for their progeny to learn from and enjoy. The fascinating struggles of Black families are staggering in their drama and are glorious realities of undeniable triumph. Most of my client families have been Jewish multigenerational families, who have a high respect for what is called an ethical will. The videos we produce are for families who want to document their values, dreams, ethics, beliefs and scruples. Your legal will addresses: "What do I want my loved ones to have?" Your ethical will addresses: "What do I want them to know?"

In late March 2023 a group of Archons from my member boulé, Delta Alpha Boulé in Northern Illinois, met at the home of Archon Al Reid during the NCAA basketball tournament. This was one of those special times of "getting to know the best of one another," a fabulous benefit of Boulé membership. Sitting downstairs in his plush eighteen-seat home movie theater, we watched some of the basketball action and then gathered near the well-stocked bar to enjoy a variety of delicious hors d'oeuvres.

I overheard two Archons casually discussing a business deal they had just consummated. With their permission, I can tell you that the transaction was in the hundreds of millions of dollars. I inquired about the operation and was told that in early November, two Key Bank capital markets bankers, Archon James Alexander and Raymond LaFontant, visited the Federal Home Loan Bank's (FHLB) Chicago office trading desk. The office is led by Archon Stephen Thomas, who is the senior managing director of mortgage capital markets. The FHLB system is a cooperative of eleven FHLB banks comprising more than \$1.1 trillion in assets. It lends to more than 6,200 of its members, which are banks, credit unions, insurance companies and community development financial institutions. During the visit, Archon Alexander and LaFontant pitched Archon Thomas and his FHLB group a \$300 million transaction involving multifamily bonds that were due to be available by late November. But, by the end of November, interest rates had started to rise, which caused the issuer (Key Bank's client) to put the deal on hold.

Still, interest rates continued to rise during the first three months of 2023. Four months later in March, Silicon Valley Bank collapsed because of losses in its mortgage portfolio. This event triggered fear throughout the financial markets, causing seismic



ARCHON JORDAN DOCUMENTING A VIDEO FAMILY BIOGRAPHY



ARCHON JORDAN AND HIS VIDEO PRODUCTION CREW



ARCHONS OF DELTA ALPHA BOULÉ GETTING TO KNOW THE BEST OF ONE ANOTHER

rumblings worldwide. The uncertainties ballooned, including in mid-March 2023, when Swiss bank UBS Group AG (UBS) bought rival Credit Suisse Group AG for \$3 billion CHF (about \$3.3 billion USD), a move intended to shore up the global banking system and prevent Credit Suisse from collapsing.

This sudden change in yields and prices mentioned above made Key Bank's client finally motivated to move forward with the large transaction. Archon Alexander reached out to Archon Thomas and his group on March 22 to say the deal was now available for his team to review. After two days of due diligence by Archon Thomas and his team at FHL Bank, Chicago, the \$350 million transaction was consummated on March 24. This was the largest bond transaction done at the FHL Bank, Chicago, in at least ten years, and the seller, buyer and trader of the deal were all African Americans.

I present this story on backstage and behind-the-curtain transactions to demonstrate just how deep into the U.S. financial system members of Sigma Pi Phi are found. This story I have just related is a mere anecdote, a brief scoop for you that I accidentally

overheard. I am relating it to you to prove what you already know: Powerful Archons are everywhere, but especially near the top of commerce and industry.

I am finding that more and more Archons and Archousai appreciate the vast social and economic distances their families have ascended in just a generation or two. And while we know there is still so much that needs to be done, African Americans are now in key positions to influence the decisions that are made in state and local governments, boardrooms, and commerce and industries.

While documenting these extraordinary family stories as part of my business enterprise, I get to chronicle what most other people don't see. I know that a vast, almost incomprehensible network of brilliant Archons and their equally talented Archousai exists. Now, we have to be smart and trusting because our splendid and capable brothers and sisters have gained a hard-won expertise that they are aching to share with you. Let's make it happen. Sigma Pi Phi has a magnificent, all-encompassing talent pool of Archons, who are *sui generis*; and they are also everywhere!

Archon Robert Jordan, Jr., is the founder and CEO of Video Family Biographies. See VideoFamilyBiographies.com.

ROLAND G. PARRISH: A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING THE LIVES OF OTHERS

By Western Region Chapter Leonard James III, Epsilon Omicron Boulé

Alpha Epsilon Boulé Archon Roland Parrish realized at an early age that elite athletes exhibit unique traits and strong, admirable characteristics that help them succeed in their sport. While these skills are largely innate, Archon Parrish, like other athletes, also developed them from various experiences and opportunities. He learned that in sports losses are just a reality of being an athlete: Setbacks will occur, and athletes can't be successful if they aren't resilient. Even after a loss, successful athletes stay positive and use the experience as an opportunity to learn and move forward.

The young man was on the fast track to success even before he arrived at Purdue in 1971 on a full athletic scholarship. He was an All-American in track and field and won the 1971 Indiana state title for Hammond High in the 800-meter run. He lettered four years on Purdue's track and field team, served as team captain in his senior year, and was voted MVP twice by his teammates – an honor he cherishes to this day. Under the mentorship of Cornell A. Bell, the longtime former director of the school's Business Opportunity Program (BOP), Archon Parrish applied his athletic discipline to academics, making the dean's list seven out of eight semesters. As an avid reader and lifelong learning advocate, Archon Parrish was known for spending more time in the libraries than on the track during his time on campus.

After graduating from Purdue's business school with a bachelor's degree in 1975 and a master's degree in 1976, Archon Parrish joined ExxonMobil, where he worked for thirteen years, received four promotions, and endured three reorganizations that included massive layoffs. Feeling the entrepreneurial pull, he applied to become a McDonald's franchisee in 1987. The fast-food giant rejected the application, but always a competitor, remembering that he had to





AMONG THE CROWD AT THE FISK UNIVERSITY ROLAND PARRISH CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY ARE: DREW PEARSON, NFL HALL OF FAME; THE HONORABLE EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, FORMER U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN; JORDAN MARKS; ARCHON ALEX L. PARRISH (IOTA); ARCHOUSA JEWEL PARRISH; JEFF MORROW; ARCHON ROLAND PARRISH (ALPHA EPSILON); SHELE VERNON; RO PARRISH; NASHVILLE MAYOR JOHN COOPER; WESTERN REGION SIRE ARCHON JESSE J. TYSON (EPSILON OMICRON); NASHVILLE DEPUTY MAYOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BRENDA HAYWOOD; AND FISK UNIVERSITY EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT JENS FREDERIKSEN.



FISK UNIVERSITY ROLAND PARRISH CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

keep going because a winner doesn't quit on himself, Archon Parrish called the company repeatedly to make his case.

Some nine months later, he began a two-year McDonald's training program and worked twenty-five hours a week with no pay to learn the restaurant chain's system. He used \$180,000 in savings to buy his first McDonald's franchise and lived on those same funds for nearly six months before taking any net revenue from his business. As profits grew, he steadily added stores by using working capital, business equity and loans.

Today, Archon Parrish is the president and owner of Parrish Restaurants, LTD, owning twenty-four McDonald's in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, area with total revenues of \$100 million. One of the largest McDonald's African American franchisees in the country, he is also founder of the Parrish Charitable Foundation, which oversees national and international initiatives.

Archon Parrish has shared the compelling and inspirational story of his success countless times. Just ask the teens who listened to him speak at his



FISK UNIVERSITY ROLAND PARRISH CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

first alma mater, Hammond High School in northwest Indiana, where he donned an honorary jersey as the second recipient of the Distinguished Hammond Alumni Leadership and Service Award. There he encouraged students to work hard, study hard and pursue the American dream.

Along with his exceptional success as an entrepreneur, Archon Parrish's journey into the world of philanthropy is equally notable, including a \$2 million gift to Purdue to renovate the former Management and Economics Library, which was dedicated in April 2012 as the Roland G. Parrish Library of Management and Economics. He also supports Purdue athletics and the Daniels School, as well as funding a scholarship in Bell's memory.

But one of Archon Parrish's greatest contributions was yet to come, and it was to Fisk University. In 1865,

barely six months after the end of the Civil War and just two years after the Emancipation Proclamation, three men – John Ogden, the Reverend Erastus Milo Cravath and the Reverend Edward P. Smith – established the Fisk School in Nashville. The school was named in honor of General Clinton B. Fisk of the Tennessee Freedmen's Bureau, who provided the new institution with facilities in former Union Army barracks near the present site of Nashville's Union Station. In these facilities Fisk convened its first classes on January 9, 1866. The first students ranged in age from 7 to 70, but shared common experiences of slavery and poverty and an extraordinary thirst for learning.

The work of Fisk's founders was sponsored by the American Missionary Association – later part of the United Church of Christ, with which Fisk retains an



JOHN H. AND MARIE PARRISH MEDICAL CLINIC IN FORT PORTAL, UGANDA

affiliation today. Ogden, Cravath and Smith, along with others in their movement, shared a dream of an educational institution that would be open to all regardless of race, and that would measure itself by “the highest standards, not of Negro education, but of American education at its best.” Their dream was incorporated as Fisk University on August 22, 1867.

The ecosystem of HBCUs has changed several times since 1837, when the first historically Black college, Cheyney University, opened in Pennsylvania. In August 2018, recognizing the importance of investing in HBCUs as a vehicle to help students and communities with an emphasis on culture and history, Archon Parrish announced a \$3M gift to Fisk University.

Archon Parrish’s gift is one of the largest gifts in the university’s history and funded the construction of the Roland G. Parrish Center for Career Planning and Development. The ribbon-cutting ceremony and grand opening of the center took place on April 22, 2023. The two-story, 10,605-square-foot building is designed to prepare the next generation of business executives and community leaders. Features include classrooms, conference rooms, innovation spaces and a career services center. The Roland G. Parrish Career Planning and Development Center is the first new building built on the Fisk University campus since 1974.

In addition to his stellar business career and donating millions to worthwhile causes to improve the lives of others, Archon Parrish currently serves on

the advisory boards for the NBA Dallas Mavericks in Dallas, Texas; on the board of trustees of Fisk University; and on the dean’s advisory council for the Daniels School of Business and the Department of the Libraries of Purdue University. He also collaborates with the MLB Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation.

I recently had the opportunity to sit down with Archon Parrish to learn more about him, his entrepreneurial success, and his commitment to philanthropy.

Archon Leonard James III: First, thank you for taking time away from your busy schedule to spend a few minutes with me today. So let’s get started. I’m reminded of a quote from President Nelson Mandela: “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” You are not an HBCU alum, so what is your background and motivation for supporting Fisk?

Archon Roland G. Parrish: Biblically, my motivation is from Luke 12:48, “From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded.” As a Black man, besides my parents, my motivation was from a chapter in Reginald Lewis’s book *Why Should White Guys Have All the Fun?* He gave one of the largest individual gifts to Harvard Law School. So in 2010 I made my first major pledge, \$2 million to Purdue University, my alma mater, for naming rights for the business school library. We opened the Parrish Library of Management and Economics in 2012. There



JOHN H. AND MARIE PARRISH MEDICAL CLINIC IN FORT PORTAL, UGANDA

was a lot of excitement surrounding this event. It was the first major facility at Purdue to be named after an African American. I take pride in knowing that business students now study in a state-of-the-art learning center named in my honor and that future students will continue to benefit from the legacy of Business Opportunity Program (BOP), which celebrated its fifty-fifth anniversary in 2023. My experience at Purdue was very positive, which speaks to the quality of the education I received. The business school and the BOP are the cornerstone of my success.

I wanted my next major pledge to be at an HBCU. In 2019 Archousa Barbara Lord Watkins of Alpha Epsilon Boulé, whose family has a robust history with Fisk, reached out to me to introduce me to Fisk University. That was the genesis of my relationship with the university.

L.J.: What is the significance of your gift to Fisk, and how was it used by the university?

R.G.P.: Kappa Archon Frank Sims and development officer Jens Frederiksen began to have discussions with me on their plan and strategy for the university. The university was already on a positive trajectory in many areas. However, it had not built a new building in close to fifty years. The plan was to have a building serve as a boost or catalyst, to fortify the resurgence and revival of the university. We agreed on the Parrish Career Planning and Development Center.

L.J.: Your gift is one of the largest gifts in the Fisk's history. What is your vision for the Parrish Career Planning and Development Center?

R.G.P.: Fisk's extraordinary history is well documented. I believe in the future of Fisk and the university's leadership. I am excited about the impact this will have on students for generations to come. My hope is that this gift will inspire others to get even more engaged. The campus has been void of construction for a number of years. It takes something like this to remind people that Fisk is about succeeding, not just surviving. It is part of Archon Sims's initiative to prepare the next generation of business executives and community leaders. The sky is the limit for Fisk.

L.J.: Included in the plight of HBCUs we have, first, alums who do not support us financially; second, loss of accreditation; and third, reduced enrollment. What has been your experience?

R.G.P.: As a reasonably successful business person, and a D-1 athlete, I always try to assess the team and organization. I liked Fisk's board, staff and administration. And Fisk was trending positive in many areas. Development is setting new fundraising records. Enrollment has grown from 600 to 700 to more than 1,000 in the last five years. And the university received full accreditation in late 2020. I am elated to be a part of this successful team.



L.J.: What was your motivation for establishing the Parrish Charitable Foundation?

R.G.P.: As I mentioned earlier, as a man of faith, one of my guiding principles is that from him to whom much is given, much is required. That's why my foundation oversees national initiatives that annually sponsor faith-based and nonprofit events, food donations, annual pastoral-prayer breakfasts, and annual bicycle, helmet and Bible giveaways for children in need during the Christmas holiday season. The foundation also makes endowments to colleges and universities. Internationally, it supports more than 6,000 orphaned children of HIV/AIDs-infected parents who are treated annually for common ailments and diseases at the John H. and Marie Parrish Medical Clinic in Fort Portal, Uganda. The clinic is named after my father and mother.

L.J.: Now that The Parrish Career Planing and Development Center has opened, do you have additional plans involving Fisk or other HBCUs?

R.G.P.: There are a number of projects currently in the queue at Fisk. A new residence hall is currently under construction, significant remodeling of

an old building to have an on-campus innovations center, and construction plans are being reviewed and financing secured for a new science building. We are remodeling the historic Boyd House, which is currently listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

L.J.: Where can Archons and Archousai find out more about your foundation and the work that you do to serve others?

R.G.P.: I would invite Archons and Archousai interested in becoming change agents to serve others, particularly youths around the world, to visit the foundation's website at www.parrishcharitablefoundation.org.

L.J.: Archon Parrish, I've enjoyed our time together today. Any closing comments?

R.G.P.: I hope my philanthropy serves as a motivation for others, especially people of color, to seriously think about supporting underserved communities, reaching back to lend a hand, or provide scholarships. In doing this, we can bring to reality Archon Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream – the American dream.

FIGHTING FOR A FAIR ECONOMY: THE CRUCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF WORKER CENTERS TO BLACK WORKFORCE EQUITY

By Sire Archon Nosakhare Thomas, Epsilon Tau Boulé

Worker centers are community-based organizations that aim to improve working conditions and economic opportunities for marginalized workers. Black worker centers are particularly crucial in addressing the systemic barriers faced by Black workers, including discrimination, low-wage jobs and inadequate training. With philanthropic support, worker centers can build alliances, amplify workers' voices and influence policies for transformative change across industries.

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF WORKER CENTERS

The domain of labor issues may not be the forte of all philanthropic institutions, but for those concerned with promoting economic mobility and equity, worker centers offer a promising and growing model. Generally, worker centers are community-based organizations focused on organizing, advocacy, policy change, and enhancing working conditions and economic prospects for workers by providing various services, such as job training, legal support and access to resources. The expansion of these organizations, particularly for Black workers, is crucial as they frequently face greater threats to job security and encounter multiple barriers to economic progress.

INLAND EMPIRE BLACK WORKER LANDSCAPE

In the summer of 2022, the *Los Angeles Times* detailed the two largest racial bias cases brought by the federal government in California in the last decade, which alleged widespread abuse of hundreds of Black employees at warehouses in the Inland Empire – a region east of Los Angeles, covering more than 27,000 square miles of Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Furthermore, in a report written by labor practitioners and scholars entitled “Ain’t No Sunshine: The State of Black Workers and Demands for a Brighter Future in the Inland Empire,” Lola Smallwood Cuevas et al. (2020) found the following:

- **Demographics and Migration:** The Inland Empire in California has seen significant growth in its Black population since the 1990’s, contributing to more than 60 percent of the state’s total Black popula-



SIRE ARCHON NOSAKHERE THOMAS

tion. Black workforce participation rates are higher there compared to the rest of Southern California.

- **Unemployment and Stability:** Black communities in the Inland Empire face high unemployment rates, adversely affecting financial stability, health outcomes and upward mobility. Statewide, Black workers experience the highest levels of unemployment.
- **Discrimination and Disparities in Wages:** Black workers, both male and female, face wage disparities when compared to their white counterparts. Median earnings for Black workers in the Inland Empire are also lower than those of other races and ethnicities.
- **Poverty and Employment:** Joblessness contributes to a vicious cycle of poverty, with the highest poverty rates seen among Black women in San Bernardino County, and Black and indigenous people in the Inland Empire. High rates of poverty persist in the San Bernardino Metro Area.



JOHN VALDIVIA (SECOND FROM RIGHT), FORMER MAYOR OF SAN BERNARDINO, RECOGNIZES IEBWC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIRE ARCHON NOSAKHERE THOMAS (RIGHT) AND WATER INDUSTRY APPRENTICES FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE PROGRAM TO REACH AND TRAIN UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.

INLAND EMPIRE BLACK WORKER CENTER — A FORCE FOR CHANGE

The Inland Empire Black Worker Center (IEBWC), one of nine Black Worker Centers (BWCs) in the United States, is headquartered in San Bernardino and serves Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Its mission is to build a Black-worker-led movement to create quality jobs and economic mobility, and to advocate for social justice. Its workforce development initiative has successfully provided internships and graduated two cohorts of water industry pre-apprentices, 70 percent of whom were Black, resulting in increased full-time employment. By convening various stakeholders, they identify challenges faced by Black workers in the region, such as discrimination, low-wage jobs, and underrepresentation in leadership positions.

The IEBWC calls for philanthropic support to sustain progress through organizing, power-building initiatives and critical leadership training, creating a pipeline of skilled leaders and shaping impactful policies that affect workers and industries for generations.

ROLE OF PHILANTHROPY IN SUPPORTING WORKER CENTERS

In order to implement transformative change, worker centers require philanthropic backing for organizing and power-building projects. Such support facilitates alliance-building with organizations that share sim-

ilar goals and amplifies Black workers' voices. This is a crucial moment for philanthropic institutions, as sustaining the progress made will require leadership training, developing a pipeline of skilled individuals capable of enacting change in the workforce and communities, and shaping policies that impact generations of workers across various industries.

POTENTIAL IMPACT OF WORKER CENTERS AND THE NEED FOR PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

Philanthropic support is vital for empowering Black worker centers to advocate for the rights of Black workers throughout the United States. Adequate funding ensures that these centers establish alliances with other organizations to intensify the voices of Black workers and bring about change in both their workplaces and communities. Sharing individual workers' experiences, worker centers humanize their work and raise awareness of their impact on outreach, advocacy, organizing, power-building, policy change and workforce development initiatives. This ultimately drives improved understanding and support for the role of Black worker centers in advancing economic mobility and equity. The focus now shifts from understanding what worker centers are, to how society can support their endeavors in creating a more just and equitable future for all.

Archon Nosakhere Thomas is the executive director of the Inland Empire Black Worker Center and a board member for the Southern California Black Worker Hub for Regional Organizing.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY NAMES RESIDENCE HALLS AFTER ARCHOUSA FRIEDA PARKER JEFFERSON AND WINIFRED PARKER WHITE

By Archon Kevin A. Joy, Beta Alpha Boulé

Shortly after World War II and at the inception of a soon-burgeoning litigation era of the American Civil Rights Movement, public universities were being challenged by Black Americans who sought to break down segregation in educational institutions across the country. The NAACP Legal Defense Fund pursued cases like *Alston v. School Board of City of Norfolk* (1940), *Morgan v. Virginia* (1946), *Mendez v. Westminster School District* (1946), *Wrighten v. Board of Trustees of South Carolina* (1947) and *Sipuel v. Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma* (1948), to name but a few. African Americans, especially those seeking to attend mainstream public universities in the South, faced severe challenges gaining access to an education on both undergraduate and graduate levels.

In the state of Indiana, two sisters, Frieda and Winifred Parker, sought to integrate student housing on the Purdue University campus. Their efforts resulted in the desegregation of public university residence halls across Indiana and ultimately the desegregation of the city of West Lafayette. Archousa Frieda Parker Jefferson, who died in July 2020, was the wife of late Archon Ralph Jefferson, deceased in 2015, a founding member of Beta Alpha Boulé. Archousa Winifred Parker White, who died in 2003, was the wife of

late Archon Walter H. White, who died in 1986, also a founding member of Beta Alpha Boulé.

On October 3, 2021, the Parker sisters were posthumously honored by the trustees of Purdue University, who unanimously voted to dedicate two residence halls on the Purdue campus in their names. In February 2023 Purdue expanded that recognition as it installed permanent commemorative installations in each hall highlighting the story of the Parker sisters and the desegregation of public university campuses in Indiana. The dedication ceremony included hundreds of supporters and members of the Parker family.

Winifred Parker and Frieda Parker halls are the first buildings on campus named for Black alumnae. They remind all students of the courageous steps it takes to bring about meaningful change. The buildings, along with the dawn redwood tree planted during their dedication, represent more than a single heroic moment in time; rather, they are the latest manifestation of one family's ongoing pursuit and celebration of the power of equitable, accessible education.

The tree and residence halls are reminders that a legacy like that of the Parkers is not the result of one moment or one action. Though based on a single, core principle – that education should be available, accessible and equi-



DEDICATION BANNER FOR ARCHOUSA FRIEDA PARKER JEFFERSON AND WINIFRED PARKER WHITE



THE PARKER SISTERS AS UNDERGRADS



table – the Parkers’ actions became a legacy when Winifred, Frieda and their family chose to stand by that principle, in the face of adversity each day of their lives.

Today student employees working in the two Parker Halls boast a slogan that represents Winifred and Frieda well: “Pioneers in their own way. Boilermakers in every way.” After graduation, the sisters went on to live rich lives as educators, scientists and advocates. The Parkers and their families remained vocal Purdue loyalists long after graduation. Their story is featured in the 2009 documentary *Black Purdue*, as well as in *A Force for Change: The Class of 1950* by historian John Norberg. Archival exhibits in the Parker Halls, installed in February 2023, will bring their stories to new audiences.

Winifred and Frieda were admitted to Purdue in 1946. Frieda had been the salutatorian of her high school class and Winifred was the valedictorian of her class a year later. At the time, West Lafayette, Indiana, was a “sundown town,” a town that excluded nonwhite people from remaining after sunset, and Black students were denied housing in the city that included Purdue’s campus. The Parkers’ legacy as changemakers began with Winifred and Frieda’s mother and father, Frieda Campbell Parker and Frederick Allen Parker. Frieda was a graduate of West Virginia State College, and Fred a 1920 graduate of Amherst College.

In the Parker family, education was seen as the “great equalizer.” As a teacher and principal at the segregated Crispus Attucks High School in Indianapolis, Fred Parker was known for having instilled high academic expectations and cultural pride in his students, laying solid foundations for their aspirations to become doctors, lawyers, educators, scientists, artists and more.

“My grandfather dedicated his life to helping thousands of Black men and women gain access to and receive degrees in higher education,” Adrienne White-Faines, Winifred’s youngest daughter, said. “He changed the trajectory of lives and families for generations.” As firsthand recipients of this lesson, White-Faines added, “There was no [doubt] that Winifred and Frieda would go to college.”

No matter the strength of their support system, without full acceptance into the residential campus experience, the Parkers and their peers faced systemic barriers that prevented them from receiving the full potential of their education. “Imagine being a student, having to study, do your work, then travel all the way across the bridge into downtown Lafayette to get home, often by foot – they didn’t have access to the transportation services we have today,” according to Renee Thomas, Purdue’s associate vice provost.

“We’re not just talking about missing social events, which anyone would recognize as an important part



of the residential college experience,” Thomas said. “Every basic need required a commute – getting a haircut, going to sleep at night, finding a place to eat. That takes an enormous amount of time and energy.” Segregation denied Black students access to the most essential aspects of quality education, making their college experience very different from that of today’s students.

Convinced that Frieda, Winifred and their peers were not receiving the education he had envisioned for them, Fred Parker and his family started a campaign on two fronts. Fred Parker began petitioning state and university leadership for integrated housing, Winifred and Frieda continued creating bridges on campus.

“My father, Fred Parker, made it well known that Purdue was a land-grant school supported by state taxes, and his taxes supported the school just like everyone else’s. So why couldn’t his children live on campus?” Frieda Parker wrote of her father in her contribution to *Force for Change*. Brian Jefferson, Frieda’s youngest son, explained “that Blacks were not allowed in the dorms was a policy that had been set up in the housing office at Purdue. It was not a law.”

White-Faines said, “Because of my grandfather’s confidence and courage, he was comfortable reaching out and taking the risks to say, ‘I know what equality looks like. I know what right looks like.’ He was able to give voice not only to my mother and aunt, but also to all the Black students at the university who were not yet allowed to live on campus or in West Lafayette.”

“We received a letter from the dean of women who did everything she could to discourage us from coming and living on the campus, short of telling us

how much happier we would be and how the people wouldn’t speak to us and, you know, the same old thing all the time,” Frieda says in the documentary *Black Purdue*. “We didn’t believe them, anyway.”

In January 1947 both sisters were admitted to Bunker Hill, which sat just down the block from the now-newly named Parker Halls. Asked how her mother and aunt faced their move into yet another predominantly white space, White-Faines describes women capable of setting aside their own fears. “The beauty is, my mother and my aunt were both incredibly warm and kind – my aunt was infectiously funny – and approachable. You couldn’t help but like them. I can picture my aunt’s humor breaking awkward moments, because only she could do that; and my mother in turn, with her empathetic and compassionate self, could make people warm up to new things.”

“Access is not just about making a way for Black people. It’s making a way for the world to appreciate the diversity that exists within all of us, so we can all grow. We all suffer when that is denied,” White-Faines added. “Those were not easy days, lots of challenges, but they were the right women to do it.” Once admitted the sisters shared a room, but over time the sisters made friends in the residence hall and broke down some of the existing barriers. Their fellow residents even elected Winifred as secretary of the governing board for the Women’s Residence Halls later that year.

“This story really resonates with me because it provides historical context for the wonderful story that Purdue University has as it relates to the African American community. Yes, it started as a fault



by the institution and society, but Purdue rose to the challenge to change, and we keep moving forward,” Thomas said.

During the dedication ceremony, then-Purdue president Mitch Daniels expressed admiration not only for the sisters, but for their family’s shared commitment to a united cause. “I love what a family story this is,” he said. “As unique as these two sisters were, you’ve just seen and I hope you already knew the story of a great American family.”

The Parkers’ story is just that – one made up of many moments, many people and many contributions. It began with the sisters’ parents, Fred and Frieda Parker, and their belief in the value of education. That belief was carried on through the lessons they shared with others, persisted in the gallant actions of their children, and endures still in the actions taken by Purdue University in honor of the Parker family story.

“Education is the great lowerer of barriers, and in the knowledge economy we live in today – where there has been a lot of progress – lack of it is still the biggest barrier to upward mobility of free people,” Daniels said. He added that Purdue is committed to making education more accessible as its contribution to a more just and successful society for all: “Affordable, accessible and equal opportunity to a Purdue education is our highest commitment.”

John Gates, Purdue’s vice provost, relayed the university’s commitment to double Black undergraduate enrollment and substantially increase the number of Black faculty over the next five years, citing actionable plans for new scholarships, cluster hires, mentoring programs and community-building initiatives.

“The board of trustees has committed to a goal of \$75 million during the next five years to support this initiative.”

Charles White, Winifred’s youngest son, explained that “Frieda worked for more than fifty years in education, including at Milwaukee Public Schools, where she was one of the founding organizers of the state teachers union. Beyond her teaching responsibilities, she also coordinated child-development and day-care programs and created vocational training programs for the Milwaukee Public Schools.”

Charles White continued, “My mother was a microbiologist by her Purdue training and initially worked as a teaching lab assistant at Marquette and later as a pathologist for the county. Later in life she returned to college and completed a master’s degree in guidance and counseling at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Winifred spent the remaining years of her professional life as an associate dean at the Milwaukee Area Technical College, where she helped build the Institute for Vocational Readiness, geared to the needs of disadvantaged students.”

Archon Walter H. White, Jr., of Epsilon Xi Boulé, the son of Winifred and nephew of Frieda, stated, “What is unusual about this story is not just that these women rose to the challenge, as Black students were facing similar challenges across the country during that time. Most other stories are not well known outside of their local communities. What is powerful today is that Purdue University chose to honor the strength of character of the Parker sisters and to permanently memorialize these women to provide inspiration to their future students. We are grateful.”

FREEDOM WEST 2.0: REVITALIZING SAN FRANCISCO'S HISTORIC AFRICAN AMERICAN FILLMORE DISTRICT

By Pacific Region Chapter Karl E. Gentles, Gamma Mu Boulé



Housing affordability and historical displacement challenge many African Americans' ability to own a home and build wealth. These are not new issues for many reaching for the American dream of home ownership. As in years past, even today some Black families still face problems getting approved for loans, undervaluation of their homes and less equity than their white counterparts. Rising interest rates and inflationary pressures along with the cost of housing makes the prospect of ownership even more challenging.

According to a recent study conducted by the National Association of Realtors (NAR), while more Americans own their homes, the gap between Black and white home ownership is the biggest in more than a decade. African American homeownership remains out of reach for many families. Consider the following 2023 Snapshot of Race and Home Buying in America:

- Black homeowners spend more of their income to own their homes than all racial groups.
- More than half of Black renter households (54 percent) spend more than 30 percent of their income on rent, the most of any racial group.
- The NAR estimates that while 17 percent of white renters can afford to buy the median-priced home, only 9 percent of Black renters can nationwide.
- While the U.S. homeownership rate increased to 65.5 percent in 2021, the rate among Black

Americans lags significantly (44 percent), has only increased 0.4 percent in the last ten years and is nearly twenty-nine percentage points lower than that among white Americans (72.7 percent), representing the largest Black-white homeownership rate gap in a decade.

Home ownership remains a persistent barrier to establishing one of the most fundamental building blocks of family wealth. While much is made of the racial wealth gap between white and Black, more emphasis should be placed on what our community is doing to make a difference for individuals to achieve the goal. The path to homeownership includes earning an income that makes owning a home affordable. Many layers are within that reality – far too many to peel back here and most of which do not fully apply to this audience. But suffice it to say, finding a home within one's economic means requires an income and opportunity for our broader community. It's worth exploring initiatives taking place to help achieve this goal including a project with historical significance taking place in the Fillmore District in San Francisco. In addition to its rich cultural history, San Francisco is known for its iconic scenic views overlooking the bay, progressive politics and having some of the most expensive real estate in the nation.

An ambitious project led by Archon Landon Taylor of Alpha Omicron Boulé, in partnership with several



other Archons, seeks to close that gap for the historically Black Fillmore District. Built as a 382-unit housing co-operative on ten acres of land just three blocks from City Hall, Freedom West has provided affordable housing for nearly 1,000 racially diverse, low- and moderate-income residents for decades. Now struggling with forty years of deferred maintenance, it faces an uncertain financial future due to lack of investment in the community and a long-term economic sustainability strategy.

The project site is currently developed with 382 units of co-operative housing owned by the Freedom West Homes Corp. The project takes on greater signifi-

cance when you consider the history of urban renewal and displacement that took place over decades.

Reverend J. Austell Hall of the neighboring Bethel AME Church in San Francisco established Freedom West in 1973 with the objectives of creating a safe, affordable community, protecting cultural diversity, and providing a source of social and economic empowerment through co-operative ownership. Today, under the leadership of Archon Taylor, Freedom West 2.0 is an ambitious \$2.4 billion effort to build affordable housing and produce long-term economic revitalization in the Fillmore District.

One thing we know for sure is that nobody is coming to save Black America. At the urban-renewal and broader community core, we must build from the inside out, relying on the immense talents our community has in each individual and collectively. This is the essence of Black self-determination personified by the Black Panther Movement, something Archon Taylor knows personally.

The author sat down with Archon Taylor, CEO of McFarlane Partners, to discuss the Freedom West project:

Archon Karl E. Gentles: Archon Taylor, let's begin with how this project came to your doorstep.

Archon Landon Taylor: I've been in the real estate and technology industry for more than thirty years,

A Brief History Lesson

Between 1935 and 1945, San Francisco's Black population swelled to roughly 30,000 people – a 600 percent increase that attracted businesses and nightlife. But the Fillmore was a vibrant cultural nexus for just a few years before the city's urban renewal program all but decimated the neighborhood after 1950. Under the banner of "redevelopment," city leaders leveled 883 businesses, including nearly all the neighborhood's jazz clubs, and displaced 4,729 households from Western Addition.

Source: Inside Black San Francisco's Struggle Over the Soul of the Fillmore District, The San Francisco Standard, Liz Lindqwister, April 5, 2023.

thirteen of those at the First American Corp., one of the largest publicly-traded real estate information-service and title-insurance companies in the world. I had several C-suite leadership roles, including being a division president of strategic markets, launching new ventures. While there I had the opportunity to give back by leveraging my position to launch strategies to help provide economic empowerment to people of color, with a real focus on the African American community. Specifically, I worked to unlock opportunities for home ownership, a significant factor in wealth creation. Along the way, I founded Base 11, which focuses on creating economic parity for people of color through STEM education and entrepreneurship.

K.E.G.: How did you get involved in Freedom West?

L.T.: My personal and professional background gives me some unique qualifications so when I got an urgent call from the board at Freedom West, a nonprofit housing corporation, it caught my interest. They were six months away from losing a property and it needed to be financially restructured if they were to keep it. This was not just any property, it was ten acres of prime real estate in the heart of San Francisco and one of the last havens for the African American community. It so happens that I grew up in Freedom West and that caused me to get on the plane to go meet with the board.

K.E.G.: Archon Taylor, that's what you call burying the lead, that's the real story!

L.T.: That's the story. I grew up there from ages 7 to 17, that's my hood, my neighborhood. I was born to teenage parents; both were on the front lines of the Civil Rights Movement. At 15, my mother helped launch the free breakfast program for the Black Panther Party, and my dad at 17 was the bodyguard of Bobby Seal, cofounder of the party. They were all about economic empowerment for Black America. Although I'm a businessman, I call myself a white-collar revolutionary. Fighting for my people is in my blood. When the vice president of the board at Freedom West called, I was on a plane a few days later. We immediately began creating a plan to restructure everything and save the property, and took it a step further to create a long-term sustainability plan for the 1,000 residents of Freedom West and the community. We saw this as a catalyst to revitalize the surrounding Fillmore community, which

The Goals of Freedom West 2.0

- *Redevelop the eleven-acre housing co-operative founded in 1966 by the Bethel AME Church.*
- *Create 2,400 residential units total, with an estimated 25 percent of units to be affordable housing.*
- *Replace all 382 existing affordable units.*
- *Keep monthly housing costs for current residents (averaging \$1,000 per month) the same.*
- *Include a Performing Arts Center.*
- *Include a 6,000-square-foot STEM innovation center.*
- *Include 80,000 square feet of retail, food and beverage space.*
- *The project is projected to be completed in two phases: Phase I: 2026–27; Phase II: 2029–30.*
- *The projected cost is estimated at \$2.4 billion.*

had been wiped out by urban renewal. And that's how I got involved.

K.E.G.: What was it like growing up in Freedom West, and what does it mean to your family today?

L.T.: Freedom West was unique. It was a co-op whose purpose or design was to have a place of dignity, a place of safety, a place of empowerment where families of color could live. There was an area right behind my townhouse called "the Back," which was this grassy area where all the kids played. That's where I learned to play football, baseball. That's where I kissed a girl for the first time, got into my first fight; it's a place full of memories. It was a place where if you were walking around when you were supposed to be at school, Ms. Johnson would grab you, give you a whooping and then call your parents. While there was chaos happening all around the community with the crack cocaine epidemic at its height, Freedom West was this little haven. We were protected where we had a sense of ownership. That's the power of a co-op, a sense of togetherness, where we took care of each other.

K.E.G.: Freedom West clearly shaped your view of the world outside of those square miles. Can you just talk about that journey from Freedom West into your chosen profession?

L.T.: We always talked about our aspirations, we all wanted to become millionaires, to own our own

Freedom West's Impact on the Community

- *It would save 1,000 low-to-moderate-income residents from displacement.*
- *It would replace existing homes with fourteen new buildings containing 1,790 market-rate and 133 affordable homes.*
- *It would also include a 150-room hotel, 60,600 square feet of shops and restaurants, parking, community facilities, and open space.*
- *It would generate \$2 billion in one-time community economic impact from the project's construction.*
- *It would produce \$241 million in annual recurring economic output at full buildout, according to RCLCO Real Estate Advisors Report in January 2021.*

businesses, to be super successful and do things for our family. That got me interested in entrepreneurship, which led me to the real estate industry. I owned my own real estate company at 25 and then went on to First American, and the rest is history. Freedom West helped shape my worldview and gave me a bigger sense of possibility, and that helped shape the pathway to where I am now.

K.E.G.: Your Archousa is involved as well, and very successful in her own right.

L.T.: We came to realize the historical significance of the project, and we wanted to capture it in film and media. San Francisco was devastated by urban renewal in the late 1960's. When they started to revitalize the community, they essentially wiped out the Black community. The promise was that after revitalization everyone could move back in. For more than a decade, the project was left vacant. About 30,000 were displaced along with 800 businesses. The Black population has gone from 13 percent when I was there in the 1970's to 5 percent today and threatening to go lower.

Because of that history, we jumped at this opportunity to save these four blocks and make sure the African American community could not only remain but could also create an economic empowerment model that would allow the nonprofit co-op to be self-sustaining. Putting a Base 11 innovation center in the heart of it, giving the residents the opportunity to tap

into twenty-first-century jobs and entrepreneurship will allow them to participate in all the wealth that's been going on around them in the city.

That's the history and why it is so critical to document it. We made the decision to capture it in film. We engaged my Archousa, Michelle, who is a documentary filmmaker, to go back and capture the history of what happened with urban renewal, capture the current struggle these 382 households were going through, and to show what they wanted to accomplish. Michelle has done an amazing job by creating the initial mini-documentary, which brings it from the past to the present. She got Danny Glover, an iconic leader and incredible activist from San Francisco, to narrate it. One of our biggest goals was to cast a light on this project, so that we could ensure the city does the right thing, that investment comes in, and we track the progress in order to replicate the success in other parts of the country where similar things are going on.

K.E.G.: Let's close by talking about the collaboration between you and other Archons to move the project forward.

L.T.: It started with Archon Javier Gutierrez of Epsilon Epsilon Boulé, my attorney, who represented me in my contract with Freedom West. He recommended a developer named Victor McFarlane. Archon Tracy Porter, a friend of McFarlane, made the introduction. Then as we're moving forward with the project, Pacific Region Sire Archon Michael Keeley, a commercial insurance broker, learned about the project and offered to get involved as the broker for Freedom West. When the opportunity to bid on the project came, he was able to win the business. And from there Archon Bobby Sisk, the head of business development for Bethel AME Church, called me to pursue a partnership. At the time we did not know each other or that we were both Boulé members. Once we found out we were fellow Archons, that immediately broke down a lot of barriers and created instant trust. Now Bethel AME is a codevelopment partner with Freedom West and McFarlane Partners and is investing \$10 million in the project. The Archon relationships were a big factor in the partnership.

The key to this success, in my view and historically, has been overcoming a combination of the crab mentality and the fear of getting other Black people involved. We must try to find a way to do business with each other. And at the same time make sure we do it in a world-class fashion. We can change this cultural mentality and improve outcomes for our community.

FIVE BOLD ACTIONS TO BOLSTER OUR WELL-BEING

By Archon Art J. McCoy II, Eta Boulé

Our region and nation's well-publicized challenges can be overshadowing at times. Since 2017, firearm-related injuries have been the most common cause of death from injury among youth in America. Sadly, St. Louis still leads the nation for firearm injuries of children. Mental illness is on the rise and suicide has been the second leading cause of death for people aged 10 to 34, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Numerous youth incidents and suicides have broken our hearts and fractured our families, friends and faith in some social systems. On the heels of the COVID-19 pandemic and multiple mass school shootings this school year, African American communities understand the intersectionality of these epidemics and our well-being.

Health equity and mental health are at the heart of issues of ill-being. Years of impactful partnerships with experts like pediatricians Jason Newland and Sarah Garwood, psychiatrist Joan Luby, and economist Carol Graham, among others, reveal that there are bold actions that can help individuals through any challenge and help strengthen our communities to flourish and thrive even more. Partnering with Washington University School of Medicine and Luby in particular, we took new actions, using Parent Child Interaction Therapy in schools for the first time in Missouri's history and proved that rapid, impactful improvement in emotional development, well-being, parenting and human flourishing is possible, and presented scholarly work on "Early Emotion Development Intervention Improves Mental Health Outcomes in Low-Income High-Risk Community Children."

We can reduce ill-being and bolster greater well-being. Vital takeaways from my sessions with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Johns Hopkins University ALACRITY Center for Health and Longevity, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services include substantive insights and actions we must expand in our lives, homes, communities and beyond. Five bold actions can help us grow beyond the way things are into a future where well-being is commonplace:

Belonging reduces isolation and callousness. FIT, or fundamental insights into teams and tensions, matters. Every family, home, office, class or group has a culture, roles and hidden rules of teaming or teamwork for harmony, happiness and success or the lack thereof. Make the rules clearly known and inclusively owned. Allow each person a place in the space.

Find ways to say, through genuine action: I see you; I support you; we have a purpose, past, present and



ARCHON ART J. MCCOY II

future here; I appreciate and want to understand you. These real sentiments epitomize true belonging and offset isolation, desolation and despair. Positive change requires a consistent application of such actions for true belonging. Simplistically stated, individuals often don't care what you know until they know that you care and want to understand them.

Boundaries reduce carelessness and harmfulness. Adults and children need boundaries. Generally, individuals, especially children, seek to understand and be understood. When you know your boundaries and roles, you become empowered by your power, purpose and limits.

Set social, physical and emotional boundaries early and refine them often. The lack of limits, boundaries, oversight and supervision allows some of the most harmful thoughts, actions, habits, vices to take root, and tragedies to occur. List your harmful habits and start eliminating them through boundaries.

Thousands of youths and adults do damaging things to themselves and others, particularly when they think no one knows or cares. It is easy to forget that children are always watching. Guilt and shame can arise just from being exposed to a harmful act. Getting through this without experiencing longer-lasting trauma requires the presence of some emotional development and consequence from boundaries. After the formation of a vice – or mental and physically harmful habit – traditional supervision, pressures and constrictions have a lesser effect. This is often why building resilient children is easier than repairing broken adults.

Some individuals put up barriers to prevent emotional internalization due to past pains, adverse challenging experiences, and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). We need boundaries to offset the dynamic masks that people wear to attempt to cope and survive. The reality is that life is hard and sometimes cruel; yet we as adults must affirm that cruelty is not right and will stop with me or while you are with me – I will be a boundary from harm. Not only will I/we do no harm, but I/we will create a community or culture that allows you to receive correction and truths with love and maintain the emotional safety to be vulnerable, experience whatever feelings may arise, be sentimental, and be your true self. Make no mistake, the freedom to be includes boundaries. Social and emotional boundaries are essential to shifting the “I” in illness to the “we” in wellness. It demands work from all of us to shift ill-being to well-being via empowering societal, situational, relational and emotional structures and boundaries.

Balance! We need good books and relationships for our brain and mind; rest and exercise for our body; meaningful songs, gratitude, praises, prayer and meditation for our spirit; and purposeful work, which is more than just another job, to increase our healthy habits.

Establish a life mission statement that encapsulates your core purpose and value for your time. Review your mission and purpose. Revise regularly in scope and scale. Remember, to everything there is a season and a time to every purpose.

Behavior modification: Boldly aim to behave better than before. Especially during unhealthy times, we must start something supportive of others and ourselves. Strive to stop something cruel, invalidating and sorrowful to others and ourselves. It is essential to develop the stomach to unearth our most personal profound truths (especially within despair), the skill sets to know better and do better with support, and the strength to sustain the right actions for continuous improvement.

Often I advise people to create a powerful sacred emotional toolkit (SET) to detach from the harm and reattach to the helpful and increase personal well-being, including the following activities:

- **Taste:** Focus on a healthy diet and watch out for alcohol, drugs, poisoned water and food, and sugars and fatty foods.
- **Hear positivity:** Listen to uplifting music, words and things while surrounding yourself with soul fuel, not soul-sucking feuds. Our attitude and altitude are often determined by the five people

we spend the most time around. Thus, partner with helpers, not hurters.

- **See:** Visualize your happy and healthy place at least once a day. Have a picture of it, a plan to visit it, a strategy to build it, and a vision to strive to reach it. We see with our eyes; we envision with our hearts.
- **Smell:** Scents stimulate feelings, emotions, thoughts and memories. Know the smells that produce joyful emotions; memories; thoughts; positive places; and past, present and future periods. Create and have accessible smells for peace, foods you like, things or people you love.
- **Healthy Touch:** Touch is a love language for some and a source of trauma (for instance, ACEs) for others. Know if it is a massage, hug, high-five, gardening, washing dishes for the sake of touching water and soap, and a thoughtless activity, or the absence of touch. Clearly set boundaries with others to experience what is healthiest for you.
- **SET Actions:** Perform acts of kindness to a stranger, loved one or friend. Sleep well. Take nature walks, exercise, breathe well and consider yoga. Treat yourself to a day just for you with no technology use. Have a full day of giving actions just for others. Journal your journey. Jot down your DAG – dreams, aims and goals – that cause you or others to think big. To improve, seek and accept raw, real-time reactions and feedback on your thoughts and actions and accept and grow from this feedback when it is productive.

Finally, your belief system matters. Never underestimate the power of hope. In my partnering work and research just published this past April 2023 by Princeton University Press in a book entitled *The Power of Hope* by economist Carol Graham, during these times of high levels of distress, a surprising and persistent finding is the high levels of hope among African Americans compared with high levels of despair among whites. African Americans are the only racial group in the United States who retain high optimism levels and hope from youth well into old age.

So choose a belief system that cancels hopelessness and anchors you in something significantly bigger than yourself. Hope is an action as much as a thing. If hope fails, find the spiritual strength to hold on, believing brighter days are ahead.

Consistent, expansive application of these bold actions will bring better well-being, bolstering us and those around us – our family and communities – to flourish.

Archon Art J. McCoy II is a trailblazing executive–CEO, entrepreneur and educator as Missouri’s youngest certified teacher at 18 and superintendent–CEO at age 33, supporting more than 1 million students and 2,500 schools and colleges, and serving on more than forty boards. Archon McCoy is a St. Louis University Distinguished Fellow and superintendent-in-residence, Mental Health America adviser and board director, and St. Louis Children’s Hospital chair of the community benefit and health improvement committee, and Legacy + (Rev. Dr. MLK Jr – MLK III Foundation) board member.

SIMON T. BAILEY HELPS COMPANIES OVERCOME ‘GREAT RESIGNATION’ AND REMOTE WORK WOES

By Archon Jude H. Wilson, Grapier, Beta Xi Boulé

Last year Tesla CEO and owner of Twitter Elon Musk ordered employees back to the office for forty hours a week. Previously, the company policy fully embraced remote work after the onset of the pandemic. As a result hundreds of Twitter employees chose a service package and resigned. Prior to the pandemic, remote work was already on the rise, but was still relatively uncommon in many industries. However, the pandemic brought about a significant shift in the way companies operate, forcing many to quickly transition toward remote working arrangements to ensure that business continued. This shift has had its challenges and has highlighted the importance of management and company culture in retaining employees.

Remote work arrangements have been shown to increase employee productivity and job satisfaction. However, the shift to remote work has also highlighted the importance of management and company culture in promoting employee mental health. Remote work can be isolating, and without proper support and communication, employees may struggle with feelings of loneliness, anxiety and burnout. Therefore companies must prioritize employee mental health by providing regular check-ins, fostering open communication and promoting work-life balance.

Many companies that have struggled to successfully adapt to the shift toward remote work have experienced a phenomenon known as the Great Resignation, referring to the large number of employees who have left their jobs since the start of the pandemic. In many cases, this phenomenon has been driven by a lack of support from management as they struggle with the transition to remote or hybrid working environments themselves. In comes Archon Simon T. Bailey to the rescue.

A renowned author and keynote speaker, and one of the world's most sought-after executive coaches, Archon Bailey has dedicated his life to inspiring individuals and organizations to achieve their full potential and reach unprecedented levels of success. He captivates diverse audiences, from corporate executives to aspiring entrepreneurs, through his books, speeches and practical coaching strategies to embrace change, stay curious and develop a growth mindset.



ARCHON SIMON T. BAILEY

Recognized as a trailblazer in his field, Archon Bailey has a dedication to transformation that has earned him a spot as one of *Success* magazine's Top 25, joining Brené Brown, Tony Robbins and Oprah Winfrey. From Fortune 500 companies to nonprofit organizations, his work has inspired and empowered countless individuals and organizations, believing the key to success is not just about adapting to change but also about creating it. His message is timely and relevant, especially amidst the wave of talent-retention challenges companies face today.

Archon Bailey's most recent work has been assisting Fortune 500 companies in finding innovative ways to invest in organizational health and prioritize employee well-being as they face the ongoing pressing issues of employee burnout, the Great Resignation and the impact of remote work on mental health. Recognizing



ARCHON SIMON T. BAILEY ON STAGE AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER

the importance of upskilling managers for the future, he has led virtual training sessions with 3,000 managers, equipping them with the tools to transition from a command and control approach into a heart-centered leadership style rooted in caring science.

With his guidance, companies have found marked improvement in successfully empowering their managers to nurture and retain top talent, ensuring a healthier and more productive workplace. This has been particularly effective in the retail sector, where the turnover rate has been notoriously high: Program participants consistently score between 94 Percent and 97 percent in the categories reflecting their confidence in their ability to coach effectively after completing virtual training sessions with him.

Archon Bailey firmly believes that relationships are the future currency of success in both business and in life. LinkedIn Learning, a professional development platform, recently introduced his online course, “Growing Relationships as a Manager and Building Business Relationships.”

Upon course completion, students receive a digital certificate badge, enhancing their LinkedIn profiles and providing them with a competitive edge in job applications and professional networks. Simon’s previous LinkedIn Learning courses have benefited 400,000 students across one hundred countries, including various African nations, furthering the platform’s goal to address workforce disengagement by leveling the playing field for individuals seeking essential skills for economic advancement.

Archon Bailey has also joined forces with Millennial Bridge to help further its mission of eradicating underemployment and driving African American progress professionally and personally. Founded by visionary entrepreneurs Roderick McClure and Teri McClure, former general counsel of UPS, this

Atlanta-based organization aims to ignite long-term economic transformation within the global African American community. Millennial Bridge is a nonprofit organization seeking to catalyze positive change through its impactful events, programs and networking opportunities.

Archon Bailey uses his expertise to teach the ten essential skills millennials must possess by 2025 to Millennial Bridge’s audience. These skills encompass emotional intelligence, social aptitude and cognitive capabilities, including effective communication, self-awareness, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking. Together, Archon Bailey and Millennial Bridge are empowering the next generation through digital distribution with the skills they need to thrive in the modern world. His involvement with the Archons of Beta Xi serves as a reminder of the importance of community and mentorship in helping individuals achieve their goals.

Archon Bailey’s story is a testament to the power of resilience, perseverance and determination in his journey to achieve success. From a young boy struggling with school and mental health to a world-renowned speaker and coach speaks to the power of hard work, determination and a willingness to take risks. He uses his platform to teach us how to harness our strengths and overcome tremendous odds to let our brilliance shine and spark change in our lives and the world.

Archon Bailey finds immense joy in his marriage to an extraordinary woman who brings a constant smile to his face. Their beautiful family, including their four children and their first grandchild, are his greatest sources of happiness. Beyond his family, his compassion extends to the marginalized members of society. He actively volunteers to serve the least, the last and the lost, channeling his efforts toward uplifting and supporting men in need.

THE COLORIZATION OF NOTRE DAME

By Archon Kenny W. Harris, Gamma Mu Boulé



CLARENCE ELLIS, NOTRE DAME CLASS OF 1972; MARCUS FREEMAN, NOTRE DAME HEAD FOOTBALL COACH; ALPHONSO SAMUEL, NOTRE DAME CLASS OF 1974; AND ARCHON KENNY W. HARRIS



ARCHON KENNY W. HARRIS AND MIKE TOWNSEND

During Notre Dame's Legacy Weekend, held April 20–22, 2023, I met with exhibition design consultant Terry Healy and former African American football players who presented and discussed their aspirations and plans. Notre Dame should have an exhibit space on campus that tells the untold story of the Black pioneers who were brought in on “a different kind of ship” to win championships for the lily-white Catholic university. These talented brothers could have gone to other colleges, but Notre Dame advocated hard and persuaded them to come to South Bend, Indiana.

National championships followed in 1973, 1978 and 1988, but where can the student body, football recruits, parents, professors and teachers learn about these courageous young men? The answer is nowhere. The Colorization of Notre Dame is a proposed exhibition hall encompassing roughly 3,000 square feet and designed in linear rooms full of large interactive monitors and modern data-driven technology as follows:

- **Game Changers** – Museum guests will be presented with personal stories of competition, the mentoring of Coach Parseghian, living on campus, the emotional and psychological sides of isolation and privilege, and the educational experience. This historic group of Black athletes were members of the University of Notre Dame Fighting Irish football team. The university decided it was time to bring in skilled Black

players like quarterbacks, running backs, receivers and talented student-athletes who could graduate with a degree and add trophies to the university's showcases.

- **Accomplishments and Impact** – The second exhibition area of the museum presents the growth of Black athletes, both men and women, at Notre Dame from the late 60's to the present. It will include all sports, the impact of Title Nine, the Olympics, the All-Americans, and the acceptance and integration of a larger population of Black athletes and students.
- **Present and Future Athletes** – In this area, guests become broadcasters of iconic plays and moments across different eras of Notre Dame athletics. Guests will have the opportunity to choose a play or moment of the era and become the play-by-play announcer for that event. Broadcasts can be shared with family and friends, and merchandise depicting the Black athletes, their personal stories and quotes, and other Black memorabilia will be sold.

Notre Dame's endowment is currently \$18.9 billion. I will continue to work hard to persuade leadership that this proposed project is a benefit and long overdue. Funding authorization of roughly \$6 million is required.

Archon Kenny W. Harris graduated with the Notre Dame Class of 1978.

DESPITE WIDESPREAD BURNOUT, THERE'S A POSITIVE OUTLOOK FOR THE MEDICAL FIELD

By Archon Kenneth Poole, Omicron Boulé



ARCHON KENNETH POOLE

Let me first state that burnout among health workers is real and threatens the stability of our nation's health-care system. We continue to need solutions that protect, support and empower our clinical workforce both now and in the future. The long-term viability of the system depends on it.

That said, doctors are generally not leaving the field of medicine and, in fact, the future outlook appears quite bright. In 2021, applications to U.S. medical schools saw a record increase, and acceptances and enrollment followed suit. The trend continued in 2022, with applicant increases again considerably higher than in 2020 and slightly more newly enrolled students than in 2021. This academic year, total medical school enrollment is close to 100,000 students, which is 17.8 percent higher than a decade ago. As the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) president and CEO David J. Skorton was quoted as saying in a recent press release,

"Students considering a career in medicine continue to answer the call to service."

The first-year medical school class in 2021 was also more diverse than ever before, with those self-identified as Black or African American increasing by 21.0 percent from 2020, followed by increases of 8.3 percent among Asian students and 7.1 percent among those of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin per the AAMC. In 2022 there were similar increases, and more Blacks and Latinos are in medical school than anytime in U.S. history. It should also be pointed out that for the fourth year in a row, women outpaced men for applications, matriculation and total enrollment, at 53.8 percent of all medical students.

So again, the doctors aren't going away. And, in fact, the diversity pipeline is finally starting to show some progress that should yield more physicians of color to service our communities in the near future. Patient-

provider race concordance has consistently been associated with improved patient experience and has been shown to result in increased adherence to physician recommendations and some improved health outcomes. This is particularly important given that Black Americans continue to be disproportionately affected by many of the leading causes of death and illness in our country.

Interestingly, however, the practice of medicine is still in a bit of flux, largely fueled by the aforementioned burnout and a significant number of baby boomers who are retiring at an accelerated pace. The newer crop of physicians is starting to view medicine as less of a career and more of a job. Gone are the days where most physicians were loyal to a single hospital or health-care system for decades, and the time when the typical doctor hung a shingle and stayed in the same office for generations is a distant memory. Instead, the present and future are dominated by large integrated medical practices and health-care systems, all looking for ways to compete for physician talent and consumer loyalty.

How Black physicians will fit into this evolution remains unknown. Nevertheless, it can reasonably be asserted that the field of medicine presents an abundance of opportunity, which Black students are looking to seize. It's my hope that the recent gains in medical education diversity continue to trend favorably and then ultimately translate to better health for our communities going forward.

Archon Kenneth Poole is the chief medical officer of clinician and provider experience at UnitedHealth Group and is a supplemental staff physician at the Mayo Clinic, where he spent five years on the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine Admissions Committee. He's host of the podcast Until It's Fixed, which explores ways to solve the health industry's biggest challenges.

From the Bench



By Archon Curtis L. Collier, Gamma Pi Boulé

This short series of articles explores legal topics discussed by Archon Curtis L. Collier, U.S. district judge and chair of the Eastern District of Tennessee Civics and Outreach Committee. Carrie Brown Stefaniak, past president of the Chattanooga Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, and Karen L. Sheng, law clerks to Archon Collier, assisted in the preparation of these articles.

Our First Freedoms: The First Amendment

Inarguably the most important responsibility of the federal judiciary is to interpret and apply the U.S. Constitution. And as it affects the ordinary citizen, the first ten amendments to the Constitution are the most important. These amendments – the Bill of Rights – were demanded by framers who feared that the proposed Constitution posed a risk to the rights of ordinary citizens. These proponents were concerned about concentrated power in a central government and insisted on more explicit protections for individual liberty in the proposed Constitution.

Of the Bill of Rights, the First Amendment applies most often to the ordinary citizen today. Originally proposed as the third of twelve amendments, our First Amendment was one of the ten ultimately adopted. It contains five specific freedoms: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly and the right to petition the government for redress of grievances. Many Americans consider these five freedoms our most important, and not just for their placement as the first freedoms in the Bill of Rights. They are sometimes described as the rights of conscience – the rights to hold and express our own ideas and convictions, regardless of their uniqueness or popularity. They are also the rights that allow us to organize and advocate for change when we believe change is needed.

Americans Are Unfamiliar With First Amendment Rights

Most Americans know that they have freedom of speech, freedom of religion and the right to peacefully assemble. But many Americans are not aware that these critical rights have their basis in the First Amendment. The most recent Annenberg Public Policy Center Annual Civics Knowledge Survey, released on September 13, 2022, shows that a disappointing number of Americans can identify the rights specified in the First Amendment unprompted.

- Freedom of speech was identified by 63 percent of the respondents, down from 74 percent in 2021 and 73 percent in 2020.
- Freedom of religion was identified by 24 percent, down from 56 percent in 2021 and 47 percent in 2020.
- Freedom of the press was named by 20 percent, down from 50 percent in 2021 and 42 percent in 2020.
- Freedom of assembly was named by 16 percent, down from 30 percent in 2021 and 34 percent in 2020.
- The right to petition the government was named by 6 percent, down from 20 percent in 2021 and 14 percent in 2020.
- One of four respondents (26 percent) could not name any of the rights or said they did not know.

Federal Courts Protect Even Unpopular Fundamental Freedoms

Federal courts at all levels regularly handle cases brought by individuals seeking protection or redress under the First Amendment. A case may involve a citizen alleging that a government entity is preventing her from voicing her opinions, or a religious entity alleging that a state or municipality is preventing its members from practicing their religion in the manner they desire, or a person alleging that the government is punishing him for his association with a disfavored

group or organization. Or it may involve a governmental entity trying to prevent the dissemination of an embarrassing or distasteful publication.

It is often the case that popular opinion is in favor of the government action. The grievant may be a member of a minority group, a minority religion, or an adherent of a minority belief or philosophy. The role of the federal courts is not to follow popular opinion but rather to adhere to the Constitution. In this way our first freedoms, regardless of fickle public opinion or shifting political winds, are always protected.

Law Day Recognizes the Value of Civics, Civility and Collaboration

May 1 is Law Day. This date is set aside to honor the rule of law in the United States. President Dwight Eisenhower started Law Day in 1958 through a proclamation intended to enhance the public's understanding of how law contributes to American freedom, liberty and justice. As the proclamation read, "In a very real sense, the world no longer has a choice between force and law. If civilization is to survive, it must choose the rule of law." In 1961, Congress made the proclamation into law through a joint resolution establishing May 1 as Law Day.

A century earlier, Abraham Lincoln recognized the importance of the rule of law in combating societal turmoil, mob intimidation and violence. He argued that cultivating respect for the rule of law is the best remedy for mob violence and civil unrest among the population:

Let reverence for the laws, be breathed by every American mother, to the lisping babe, that prattles on her lap – let it be taught in schools, in seminaries, and in colleges; let it be written in primers, spelling books, and in almanacs; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice.

The American Bar Association (ABA) was central to the eventual establishment of Law Day as a "national day set aside to celebrate the rule of law" that "under-

scores how law and the legal process have contributed to the freedoms that all Americans share." The ABA's Law Day theme for 2023 is "Cornerstones of Democracy: Civics, Civility and Collaboration." Those three words – civics, civility and collaboration – have special resonance for the courts. Each word represents an essential component of an effective judicial system.

Civics

The federal courts are a foundational institution of American democracy. It is in the courts that the people access justice. It is in the courts that the people have their disputes resolved in a structured, nonviolent and generally accepted manner, that is, through the rule of law. It is in the courts that the Constitution's guarantees are realized. It is in the courts that the people obtain definitive decisions on the Constitution and other laws. The courts also give individuals a firsthand view of their government in action and, through jury service, a means to affect how their government resolves disputes.

Civility

The courts provide an excellent model for resolving disputes without resorting to rancor or violence. Parties with deeply held disagreements come into

courts across our country on a daily basis and are able to discuss and debate their differences without descending into uncontrolled hostility. They are able to do this because most parties and court participants practice civility. They disagree without being disagreeable. They engage in civil discourse by respecting the other side's right to have a different opinion and to state that opinion. By listening to the other side respectfully, parties can more often achieve a resolution both sides can live with.

Collaboration

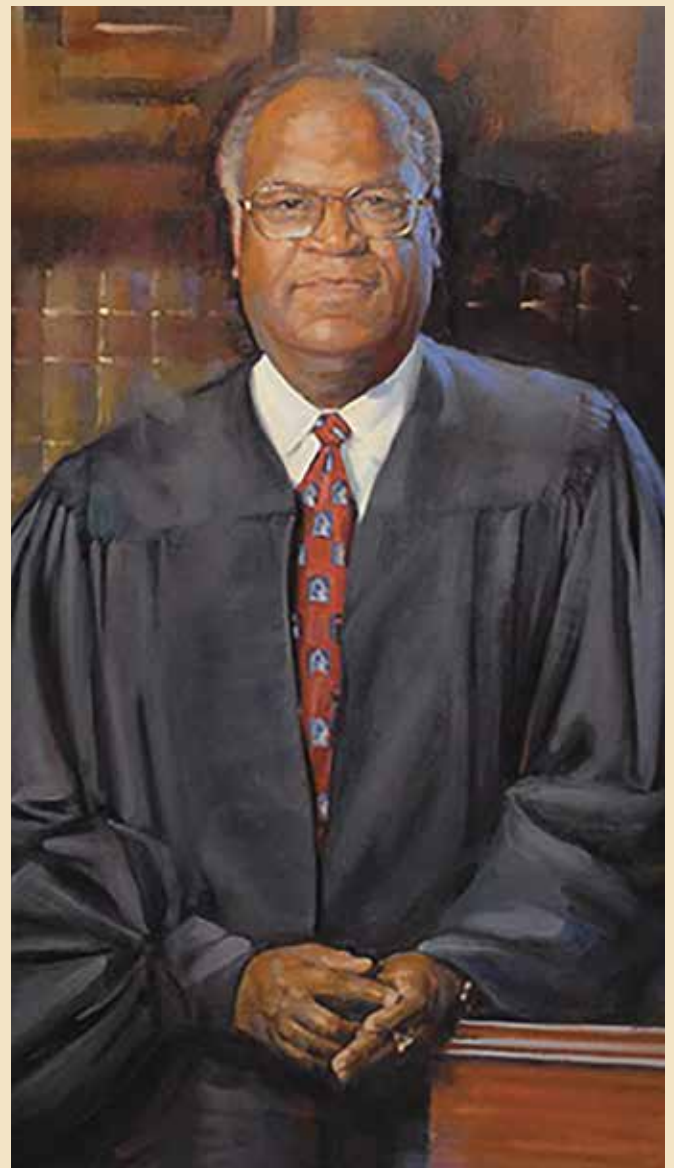
The work of the courts – which is actually the people's business – gets done thanks to the efforts and collaboration of untold numbers of people. Cases are filed in federal courts either by litigants or by attorneys acting on behalf of litigants. Once a case is filed, court clerks receive the cases and process subsequent matters pertaining to them. Court reporters create transcripts of what takes place in court so litigants and the public can have a complete and accurate record of what happened. Law clerks assist judges in researching the law and issuing well-reasoned and clear opinions. In criminal cases, prosecutors and defense attorneys present their varying views on the disposition of the case. In civil cases, attorneys for the parties represent their clients' positions in court and work together to identify the facts that underlie the dispute.

In both criminal and civil cases, the attorneys collaborate to determine if it is possible to negotiate a resolution to the case. The U.S. Marshals Service protects the judge and other court personnel, serves warrants issued by the court, arrests and brings to court individuals charged with federal crimes, and transports prisoners to local jails while their cases are pending or to federal prisons if they are convicted and sentenced to incarceration.

And most important, ordinary people acting as jurors play an essential role in dispensing justice in both civil and criminal cases. Average citizens are asked to leave their everyday pursuits to come into our courthouses to serve as members of grand juries and petit juries. As grand jurors, they decide when there is enough evidence for a person to have to stand trial for a felony crime. As petit or trial jurors in both civil and criminal cases, they hear competing

parties present their sides of disputes. They do their very best to arrive at fair and impartial decisions based on the evidence and arguments of the parties. And in federal courts, a trial jury's decision must be unanimous, meaning that jurors must also engage in civil discourse with each other, working together to reach a just result under the law. Without the collaboration of these ordinary citizens acting as jurors, our system of law would not be what it is.

Civics, civility and collaboration: three necessary ingredients in keeping the federal courts functioning so we all can live under the rule of law. Truly they are cornerstones of democracy.



ARCHON CURTIS L. COLLIER

SUPREME COURT MAJORITY 'COLOR-BLIND' TO AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

By Archon Rufus W. McKinney, *Epsilon Boulé*

During its 2022–23 term the U.S. Supreme Court issued two decisions on abortion and affirmative action that will have major impacts on American society for the foreseeable future. Each of these decisions overturned earlier decisions of the court on these two subjects that had been highly controversial, not only among lawyers and others in the legal community, but also in society generally, since being issued several generations ago. Just as lives, conditions, behaviors and relationships were changed by the court's earlier ruling, the potential impacts of the most recent decisions will undoubtedly have similar effects in the nation.

I believe most members of the U.S. Supreme Court, a substantial percentage of both houses of Congress and most Americans are confused about the concept of affirmative action, its purposes and aims, and how it should operate in society. Properly understood, affirmative action, as initially conceived and applied in the early stages of the first administration of President Richard Nixon, in no way conflicts with the spirit or any provisions of the U.S. Constitution, but particularly not with the Equal Protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

I realize this puts me in direct conflict with the latest pronouncements on this subject by Chief Justice Roberts and a clear majority of the current U.S. Supreme Court in the *Harvard College* and *University of North Carolina* cases in June 2023. But it has been obvious for decades that the court has been troubled by the idea of affirmative action and whether a person's race can legally be a factor in governments' decisions applying a law or benefit to an individual. The chief justice's and all the other opinions in the *Harvard College* et al. case thoroughly recite much of the history of this concern.



ARCHON RUFUS W. MCKINNEY

Affirmative action is simply a term that became a shorthand way of referring to what government officials (principally at the U.S. Department of Labor) decided the parties involved in fulfilling federally funded or assisted construction projects in Philadelphia needed to do in order to ensure that qualified Black workers could have realistic access to available jobs on those projects. Known as the Philadelphia Plan, it was an obligation of both employers and unions to put forth good-faith efforts to hire more Blacks to fill available jobs, especially those in the skilled trades from which they

largely had been excluded because of their race before.

The affirmative action duty initially arose in the context of enforcing compliance with equal employment obligations in government procurement contracts. But it has been extended and now applies broadly to practically any area of American political, economic and social life where vestiges of segregation, Jim Crow and other forms of racial discrimination may still exist.

It is fair to say the overarching purpose of the post-Civil War amendments was to secure for the formerly enslaved Blacks the full rights of American citizenship and to enable the establishment of processes and actions by government and other institutions whereby such persons could be integrated into the normal political, economic and social life of the nation. The affirmative action programs at issue in the *Harvard College* et al. case clearly were designed with no other purpose than to achieve these aims.

However, the affirmative action idea grew out of earlier efforts by federal agencies, primarily via executive orders of the president, to establish equal employment opportunity principles and to reverse racially discriminatory practices that were common in nearly all aspects of American society throughout most of the nation's history. Among the earliest of

such actions was President Truman's order to desegregate the armed forces of the United States shortly after the end of World War II.

It is important to realize as we consider the legality of affirmative action that from the end of the Reconstruction period (roughly ten years following the Civil War) until the immediate post-World War II period, the United States was virtually a completely segregated nation. White supremacy (Jim Crow) prevailed everywhere – north, south, east and west in the United States. What this means is that Blacks in America, either by law, custom, intimidation, violence or any other means, were prevented from exercising full rights and privileges of citizenship, the provisions of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth constitutional amendments notwithstanding.

Because of their race, Blacks could not vote, serve on juries, live in or own property in certain places, hold certain jobs, or access public facilities such as schools, entertainment venues and restaurants. For

Properly understood, affirmative action, as initially conceived and applied in the early stages of the first administration of President Richard Nixon, in no way conflicts with the spirit or any provisions of the U.S. Constitution, but particularly not with the Equal Protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

nearly one hundred years after slavery was abolished, because of race, Blacks were legally denied these rights and privileges. The court's challenge in the affirmative action cases is to reconcile life realities for Blacks in America with the fundamental (constitutional) aims of the post-Civil War amendments.

Yet in its recent affirmative action decision, the Supreme Court says race cannot legally be considered in the attempt to dismantle an unlawful system of segregation and a century of unfair treatment based entirely on race. Clearly, the race problem in America that has existed throughout its existence cannot be solved without race being taken into account in the process of remediating it.

The analysis of both affirmative action proponents and opponents tend to proceed from the premise that its goal is to reach a particular numerical result, per-

centage or share of finite admission slots or job opportunities. Such thinking totally misses the mark as to what the programs seek to accomplish. Each year, a college admits only a certain number of new students, for example. Or there may be a fixed number of job openings to be filled. The institution or employer therefore must decide who is to fill those slots. During the regime of segregation in the field of secondary education, separate and distinct systems existed – Black jobs and white jobs. After *Brown v. Board of Education*, theoretically, the two systems merged and it became necessary for the institution to make choices among qualified Black and white contenders.

The segregated Black systems were not only much smaller in size but they also had substantially different orientations – one serving the majority white community and the other a segregated Black community, which in light of Jim Crow laws and a white supremacy culture had entirely different priorities. Indeed, it was and still is a huge and difficult task to

change America from the shameful “separate but equal” system to one which more closely aligns with the true objectives of the Reconstruction amendments and the legacy of *Brown v. Board of Education*. We have the legal tools to do the job, but this Court, regrettably, appears unwilling to use them. It acknowledges that every person is entitled to equal protection under the law and cannot

be treated in a racially disparate manner.

The affirmative action programs in question here involved allocation of scarce admission slots at elite colleges. There is no evidence that anyone was harmed or put at a disadvantage because of race by the allocation process itself. Instead, administrators undertook to evaluate each individual applicant fairly and impartially on several of his or her personal traits and experiences with a view toward ensuring that the entire student body profile reflected to some degree the variety of backgrounds represented in the universe of persons competing for admission.

Article III of the U.S. Constitution explicitly provides that the judicial power extends “to all Cases, in Law and Equity” arising under the Constitution and laws of the United States. The court's opinion says that considering race in evaluating applicants can-

not be congruent with “Equal Protection” principles it has articulated previously. There is overwhelming historical evidence of unfair and racially disparate treatment of Blacks and the many societal deficits they suffer as a result. The court ignores or discounts the significance of such information as it may relate to the power it has as an “equity” court to balance the interests of all parties in this litigation. Clearly this is an appropriate case for the court to invoke its equity powers to affirm respondents’ fair and reasonable affirmative action plans to move us closer to the goal of equality. Here consideration of race cannot be avoided when race discrimination itself is the subject of the attempt to dismantle a system which purposefully has been directed against Black citizens.

In its recent affirmative action decision the Supreme Court says race cannot legally be considered in the attempt to dismantle an unlawful system of segregation and a century of unfair treatment based entirely on race.

The fatal flaw of the argument that affirmative action conflicts with the constitutional requirement for equal protection is the implicit assumption that the act of choosing the Black person instead of someone else itself is unlawful discrimination that deprives the person not chosen of his right to be treated equally. That this is so regardless of any other possible public policy considerations. This is a remarkable position for the nation’s court of last resort to take in a matter of ultimate significance.

Everything in life is about making choices. Tragically, race has been the source of conflict throughout our history as a nation. Over time and by incremental but deliberate choices, society moved from a position where Blacks, though recognized as persons, were considered mere chattel, to a place where they were recognized as human American citizens. Becoming part of the body politic, however, did not complete the process. Many in the white majority population refused to extend to them all the emoluments, rights and privileges that come with the status of citizen. For the entire post-World War II period the general thrust of national policy has been toward equalizing the status of Blacks and whites. Blacks were always in the inferior position and at a distinct disadvantage

in every conceivable way. An action in that process reasonably designed and solely intended to elevate the Black from disadvantage to a status approaching that which whites already enjoy cannot be regarded as being “against” anyone or making the white person a victim in any sense of that word.

Opinions in opposition to affirmative action frequently cite the idea that being “color-blind” or oblivious to race itself is a desirable goal that somehow is necessary in meeting the equal protection standard imposed by the Fourteenth Amendment. Put another way, they say eliminating discrimination based on race can be done only if race is not used in the analysis or in exercising judgment about the matter. Such rhetoric may be attractive sound bites for debates and the media, but it contributes nothing of value in settling the monumental societal issues involved in affirmative action litigation.

Since before the founding of the nation and throughout our history race has mattered and, given the realities of human nature, that is likely to continue for a considerable time in the future. Throughout the natural world as we know it there is competition within, between and among all forms of life for survival or some advantage in the eternal struggle of existence. Fortunately, in America some among its influential leaders believed that on the question of relations between the races improvements were possible and that a more harmonious, mutually beneficial life together in the same place might be achievable; that the future could be better than the past. Perhaps, whites and Blacks could find a way to live together with dignity and respect, notwithstanding their racial differences. This most important concept is what motivated the post-Civil War constitutional amendments. Frankly, it also underpins the great truth embodied in the Declaration of Independence: “We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, including life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

Any interpretation of the Fourteenth Amendment that bars any consideration of race in legitimate efforts to eradicate the evil of race discrimination is a tautology and makes no sense. It defies logic as well as more than fifty years of Supreme Court jurisprudence since *Brown v. Board of Education*.

ON THE SOCIAL ACTION FRONT

GAMMA BOULÉ AWARDS FOUR EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

On June 10, 2023, Gamma Boulé hosted its annual Gamma Boulé Scholarship Event in Baltimore. The purpose of this event is to introduce the entering class of scholar awardees to the Gamma Boulé Scholars Program; receive updates from current and alumni program scholars; receive words of inspiration and guidance from a keynote speaker; and raise money to support the program. The following four new 2023 scholarship recipients are entering the program.

Jalen Henson graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and attends the University of Maryland College Park on a full scholarship, majoring in computer science.

Tony Hicks, Jr., is a student-athlete graduate from Gerstell Academy, where he was a part of three honor societies: the National Honor Society, the National Spanish Honor Society and the Rho Kappa History Society. Tony was also a member of the Black Awareness Diversity Club and the Falcon Outreach Community Service Organization. He attends Morehouse College.

Jonathan Prescott is a graduate of Calvert Hall College High School and attends Johns Hopkins University majoring in neuroscience. His goal is to attend a medical school and become a research physician. Jonathan, who has been interested in the human body since he was 8 years old, aspires to advance the public's understanding of the brain.

Demetrius Profic graduated from Dulaney High School and will be attending Yale University in the fall to study political science. Demetrius is passionate about advocacy and community

work, both of which he hopes to continue during his time at Yale.

Archon Ivan J. Bates, state's attorney for Baltimore City, was the keynote speaker and offered an inspirational message to the scholars. He challenged them to have a plan, work hard, stay focused and rise to excellence. He encouraged the scholars to figure out their purpose and chart their path, because purpose will inspire. And as they rise, he told them, they have a responsibility to lift as they climb, to reach back and give back in their communities. Archon Bates shared that they will be sure to meet obstacles in their path as they rise and they should not hesitate to seek advice and mentorship from Gamma Boulé Archons. We all have a mutual desire to see them succeed, achieve and contribute to the improvement of our society.

Gamma Boulé has historically been committed to financially assisting academically gifted African American young men from the Baltimore area to attend college and complete undergraduate degree programs. The Gamma Boulé Scholars Program was established in 2009 and has provided professional mentorship and four-year college scholarships to twenty-nine scholars totaling more than \$250,000 over the years. Scholarships have been granted annually through the Gamma Boulé Foundation. This year Gamma Archons and Archousai donated approximately \$21,000 to support the scholarship program.

*Archon Guy B. Richardson
Grapter, Gamma Boulé*



TONY HICKS, JR.

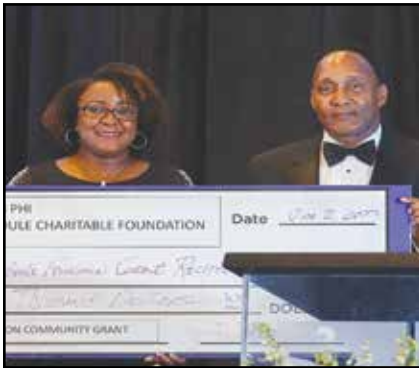


JONATHAN PRESCOTT



DEMETRIUS PROFIC

DELTA BOULÉ FOUNDATION PRESENTS AWARDS AT 'AN EVENING TO REMEMBER'



**TENNESSEE SICKLE CELL FOUNDATION AWARDEES
ARCHOUSA CHERYL THOMPSON AND REGINALD
FRENCH**



**COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS. ARCHONS WILLIAM TERRELL, CHARLES CARPENTER, JESSE McGEE AND
STANLEY DOWELL ACCEPTING ON BEHALF OF ARCHON STANLEY SAWYER; SOPHIA HARDY, ACCEPTING ON
BEHALF OF HER DECEASED FATHER, ARCHON F. OLIVER HARDY; AND ARCHON ALLAN WADE, ACCEPTING
ON BEHALF OF HIS FATHER, ARCHON LAWRENCE WADE.**



**ARCHON CARL CARTER, DELTA BOULÉ FOUNDATION TRUSTEE; SHAWNDRAS NEWSOM AND TRINETTE JACKSON OF T.E.E.S LOVING CARE; ARCHON BOB SIMPSON,
DELTA BOULÉ FOUNDATION TRUSTEE; AND LASHUANNA GRANT AND YOLANDA JACKSON OF T.E.E.S LOVING CARE**

Archons and Archousai of Delta Boulé, Memphis, are still talking about the Delta Boulé Foundation awards presentation at the National Civil Rights Museum on June 2, 2023, an event cohosted by the award-winning WREG-TV evening anchors Alex Coleman and April Thompson.

From the lively reception featuring jazz saxophonist Alexis Cole; the drumroll procession for legacy trustees, foundation trustees, Delta officers and awards committee members; the Community Impact Grants presented to the nonprofit agencies Tennessee Sickle Cell Foundation, T.E.E.S Loving Care, Memphis Challenge, Braced Corp. and Pure Academy; the success stories shared by former community grant recipients Tennessee Youth Courts and Kudzukian; and the Community Service Awards presented to legacy trustees, who received a special

tribute from students at Cordova High School, it will be remembered by many for a long time. With the foundation awards for 2023, Community Grants have been presented in the amount of \$150,000 during the past four years.

The special entertainer Toni Green entranced the audience with a soulful rendition of R&B selections during the dinner hour and award presentations, and by way of prerecorded videos and acceptance remarks, the recipients spoke of the dire need for support in local communities. Legacy trustees emphasized the important underlying reasons for the establishment of the foundation in 2007.

It was an evening for all to remember, and all will.

*Archon Ronald A. Walter
Grapter, Delta Boulé*

MU BOULÉ CELEBRATES ROLE MODELS TO MANHOOD GRADS



ARCHON DALE I. FAVORS



SIRE ARCHON BAKARI LEE



ARCHON JAMES SMITH

Archon Sherie L. Boone and his staff organized a phenomenal five-week program, Role Models to Manhood, focused on uplifting, enlightening and encouraging young men to strive for greatness. At its graduation on February 18, 2023, Kean University president Archon Lamont O. Repollet offered the school's wonderful facility for an in-person cer-

emony. Mu Boulé saw more than twenty young men graduate from this year's program, which was led by Archon Dale I. Favors. Archon James Smith provided an inspirational speech to the graduating class.

*Archon Paul A. Murdock
Grapter, Mu Boulé*



ROLE MODELS TO MANHOOD 2023 GRADUATING CLASS

TAU BOULÉ SPONSORS THIRTY BOYS ON HBCU TOUR

On the morning of April 24, 2023, the excitement was evident among thirty boys from the Dr. Kenneth C. Clement Boys Leadership Academy in Cleveland even before the tour bus arrived. The students were seventh and eighth graders, one sixth grader, and one ninth grade graduate of the academy. The school on the east side of Cleveland adopted by the Archons of Tau Boulé is one of the centerpieces of its social action commitment. The Archons often volunteer in many ways in the all-boys school attended by African American boys in pre-K through the eighth grade.

The five-day journey took them from Cleveland to the campuses of eight historically black colleges and universities. When the trip was first envisioned many months earlier, the plan was for the boys' families to pay a part of the cost. But the Tau Archons stepped up to ease the financial burdens and helped raise several thousand dollars more to cover the expenses for each boy.

The day the Archons announced to the boys and their families that the cost of the entire trip – hotel charges, food costs and incidentals – would be covered by the boulé there was a roar of approval and thanks. Parents said they were grateful for the opportunity for the youngsters. "We saw this as a commitment to the boys who stand on the brink of adulthood," said Archon Douglas Banks, who leads the Tau social action committee.

The first campus visit on the schedule for the thirty boys and eight adult chaperons, which included school principal Derrick Holifield, was Kentucky State University, about six hours from Cleveland. "We're going to take a trip of a lifetime with the best scholars in Cleveland. I'm just so thankful to everyone who has been able to assist us in going on this trip," said Holifield during the bus trip. "It's going to be an awesome experience." Holifield told the boys they would learn about achievements of African Americans over the generations that would inspire them to achieve in whatever area they desired. Each boy brought his laptop computer to record his thoughts at each stop.

Over the next five days the boys visited Kentucky State University, Morehouse College, Clark Atlanta University, Spelman College, Alabama State University, Tuskegee University, Xavier University and Florida A & M. At each stop the boys were met with guided tours, food and presentations on the institution. "At Morehouse we learned that people like Martin Luther King, Jr., went to Morehouse and he became a Baptist minister, activist and prominent leader of the American Civil Rights Movement," said Rayshawn Dallas. "At Tuskegee we learned Tuske-

gee offers forty-three bachelor's degree programs, including a five-year accredited professional degree in architecture; seventeen master's degree programs; and five doctoral degree programs including the doctor of veterinary medicine," he added.

Archon Banks kept in touch with the tour from Cleveland. He had worked hard to secure the money needed to fund the trip. "The role of the boulé and the partnership we have with the Dr. Kenneth C. Clement Boys Leadership Academy, we can help take the boys to the next level," said Archon Banks. "They now know that college is obtainable."

Student Elhaji Niasse agreed that college would be obtainable for him because of what he learned of the importance of education. "I learned a great history at each college," said the eighth grader. "The experience was life-changing for me," he wrote in his daily journal. At Tuskegee, the students learned about the famed Tuskegee Airmen, the Black aviation unit of World War II, and how much the Black military unit helped the United States and its allies win the war.

Principal Holifield, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, used his brotherhood connections to introduce the boys to the local chapter of the fraternity at Alabama State University. "Mr. Holifield asked one of his fraternity brothers and he got hooked up," smiled student Deacon Hill. "I might join a fraternity one day so I can gain those types of tight connections," Deacon continued.

At every stop the eight chaperons were present, even placing themselves in the hotel hallways to ensure that no student left the group. Everything went smoothly for the boys, who were also provided with enough money to buy souvenirs and college sweatshirts and caps.

"This was a gamechanger. The scholars of the Dr. Kenneth C. Clement Boys Leadership Academy in Cleveland now fully realize they can go to college," said Archon Banks. "They saw people like themselves. It was pulling the curtain away to see what they can be." He is certain each boy was inspired to reach for lofty goals in life and follow a route to his own higher education.

Christopher Lucious summed it up admirably to Principal Holifield on the flight home from their last campus visit at Florida A&M: "I can go to college and graduate," said Christopher. He promised the educator that he would attend college and remain until he graduated. Principal Holifield said that same commitment was probably on the minds of all the thirty scholars as they thought of how the trip had inspired them to follow their dreams.

CHI BOULÉ FOUNDATION HOSTS SECOND ANNUAL GALA

The Chi Boulé Foundation of Nashville hosted its second annual Closing the Gap fundraiser on April 15, 2023, at the National Museum of African American Music, which is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the many music genres created, influenced and inspired by African Americans. The expertly curated collections share the story of the American soundtrack, integrating history and interactive technology to bring the musical heroes of the past into the present.

The funds raised promote the foundation's mission to support local scholars who experience financial hardship in paying for tuition, books and other education-related fees. There were 375 Archons, Archousai and guests in attendance at this spectacular gala, where

everyone enjoyed dinner, dancing and comradery. The net profit of \$153,000 made a substantial contribution to the fulfillment of the mission. The Chi Boulé Foundation has already had a significant impact, having contributed \$75,000 to regional colleges and universities, and it continues to work with these institutions to identify students in need of support.

The foundation is most appreciative of Archon Turner Nashe, chair of the foundation board; Archon Patrick Johnson, marketing and public relations chair; and the treasurer, Archousa Valerie Molette.

*Archon Billy R. Ballard
Grapter, Chi Boulé*

ALPHA BETA CELEBRATES 28TH ANNUAL SIMMONS AND MOSBY SCHOLARS



On June 10, 2023, Richmond's Alpha Beta Boulé honored ten high school seniors at its Simmons and Mosby Scholars Breakfast at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture. Under the leadership of Archon William "Bill" Cooper, the Simmons and Mosby Scholarship is a key initiative in Alpha Beta's social action portfolio. Named in honor of Alpha Beta Archons Joe Louis Simmons and Alexander "Jack" Mosby, Jr., the scholarship provides high-achieving high school seniors in the greater Richmond area public school systems with a \$1,000 scholarship, and two

particularly exceptional honorees with an additional \$2,500 in support. Alpha Beta has awarded more than \$300,000 in scholarships during the thirty-year history of its scholars' recognition program.

Sire Archon Kenneth "Ken" Johnson welcomed around seventy-five guests, including parents, school staff and administrators, as well as Alpha Beta Archons and Archousai. Alpha Beta's Oliver W. Hill Boulé Scholars, a cohort of high school and college students who are mentored by Archons over the course of a year, were also in

attendance. Two of the Oliver Hill Scholars served as guest speakers. Dinari Noland, a rising sophomore at Temple University, encouraged the new graduates to give back to their communities and not take special moments and opportunities for granted. Brandon Brown, a rising senior at the University of Virginia, recalled the lessons from his scholars experience and encouraged his younger counterparts to set goals, take the initiative, seek out adventures and seize momentum when it is available.

The Simmons and Mosby Scholars were impressive and well deserving of their awards. All demonstrated leadership at their schools and in their communities; they were honors students, ROTC cadets, athletes and artists. Their goals and interests are as broad as their college pursuits and include graphic arts, education, business, engineering, psychology, creative writing and aviation. Nine of the ten Simmons and Mosby Scholars will attend colleges or universities in Virginia, and three will attend HBCUs.

*Archon Brian P. Brown
Grapter, Alpha Beta Boulé*

ALPHA LAMBDA BOULÉ GATHERS TO CELEBRATE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Once again, the Alpha Lambda Boulé Scholars Program had a banner year under the exceptional leadership of Archon Zke Zimmerman. The celebration took place on June 3, 2023, hosted by Archon Winston Pittman, Sr., and Archousa Alma Pittman at their Chatham Parkway Lexus Dealership in Savannah. The attendees included the scholars, their family and friends, and a large contingent of Alpha Lambda Archons and Archousai.

The 2023 scholars have accumulated an impressive amount in scholarships to further their education at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Augusta University and Mercer University. Each student delivered an outstanding presentation regarding the impact of the Alpha Lambda Boulé Scholars Program on their lives and future endeavors. Highlights of the program included a stirring challenge issued by former university president and provost Archon Joseph Silver and remarks by Sire Archon Jesse Greathouse, Archon Anthony James, and Archon and Archousa Pittman.

*Archon Ronald J. Gantt
Grapter, Alpha Lambda Boulé*



ALPHA TAU BOULÉ AWARDS RENEWABLE SCHOLARSHIPS

In June 2023 Alpha Tau Boulé in Durham, North Carolina, awarded renewable scholarships to three deserving high school graduates. Each scholarship is renewable for three additional years if the recipient maintains a 3.0 GPA at the end of each academic year and is enrolled in at least twelve credit hours per semester for that same year.

Glennis Jones III, a graduate of Voyager Academy High School, received a \$1,000 scholarship. At Voyager, he was captain of the men's varsity basketball team, a four-year recipient of the school's Scholar-Athlete Award and a member of the student government association. Glennis is dually enrolled at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina State University and is completing a dual-degree program in biomedical health sciences and engineering.

Todd Bond, an honors graduate of Durham School of the Arts (DSA), was awarded a \$750 scholarship. He served as president of his local chapter of Jack & Jill America, led the DSA tennis team as captain and managed a letter-writing campaign supporting the passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. Todd attends Hampton University and is majoring in political science.

Xavier Johnson, a graduate of Jordan High School, earned a \$500 scholarship. At Jordan, he was captain of the lacrosse team and a member of the National Honor

Society and participated in the Black Student Union. Xavier is attending North Carolina A&T State University, where he is pursuing a civil engineering degree.

Alpha Tau is also pleased to announce that it has renewed scholarships for the following college students: Ryan Norris, a junior and biology major at Morehouse College with a 3.94 cumulative GPA, who completed a summer internship at Duke University, conducting research on health disparities; Mason Pickett, a junior and theater technology major at North Carolina A&T State University, who completed an internship with the Carolina Theatre of Durham; Landus Robertson, a sophomore and cybersecurity engineering major at Louisiana State University with a 3.43 GPA, who completed coursework in programming and cybersecurity tactics; and Jesse Reaves, a sophomore and information technology major at North Carolina A&T State University, who completed a Launching Emerging Employees Program internship sponsored by Durham County.

Both Ryan and Landus are past recipients of a \$5,000 Southeast Region scholarship with Alpha Tau providing matching gifts of \$2,500 each. Over the past three years, Alpha Tau Boulé has awarded \$17,250 to outstanding scholarship recipients.

*Archon Carlton E. Wilson
Grapter, Alpha Tau Boulé*

BETA DELTA BOULÉ LAUNCHES ITS JOB SHADOW INITIATIVE



In March 2023 the social action committee of Charlotte, North Carolina's Beta Delta Boulé launched the Beta Delta Job Shadow program. This initiative was designed to expose students to life as a professional in several different industries and career paths. These students learned about different careers by participating in a full day information session and then being partnered with a professional in their field of interest to complete a three-to-six-hour externship at a place of business.

Archons of Beta Delta Boulé organized and provided an exciting opportunity for eleven high school students from the Charlotte area. This was a two-day program, which provided a chance for students to explore various career options and gain first-hand experience through shadowing fraternity Archons.

The first day of the program featured speakers from different fields, including entrepreneurship, banking, health care, architecture and education. These speakers talked about their journey toward success, shared tips on how to achieve it and provided valuable insight into their respective industries. They

also talked about business etiquette and how to navigate the corporate world and provided guidance on the skills needed to succeed in their fields.

In addition to the speakers, there were panel discussions on career options that allowed the students to gain a broader understanding of various industries. The discussions focused on the challenges faced by professionals in each field, the skills required to succeed and how to get started in each industry. On the second day of the program, the students had the unique opportunity to shadow fraternity Archons at their places of employment. This was an exciting opportunity for the students as they were able to gain first-hand experience and insights into different career paths.

The students were divided into groups and were assigned to shadow fraternity Archons who work in different industries. The fraternity Archons provided guidance and advice, and the students were able to observe and learn from them throughout the day.

For example, the students who were interested in the health-care industry were able to shadow a fraternity member who worked as a doctor in a hospital. They observed the day-to-day operations, interacted with patients and gained insight into the work of a medical professional. Similarly, students who were interested in entrepreneurship were able to shadow a fraternity member who was an entrepreneur and observe the design process of a building. Leaders of the Shadow program include Archons Ron Ancrum, Steve Boland, Walter Chesley, Malcomb Coley, Todd Collins, Spencer Disher, Lance Drummond, Ryan Goldsberry, Kelvin Harris, Donnie Johnson, Marcus Kimbrough, Benjamin Robinson, Richard Simons, Darrel Williams and Jerome Williams.

Overall, the program was a great success, providing students with valuable insights and practical experiences that they can apply to their future careers. It was an excellent opportunity for students to learn about different career options and make informed decisions about their future. The fraternity Archons who participated in the program were happy to provide guidance and support, and they hope to continue the program in the future.

*Archon Sidney W. Levy, Jr.
Chapter, Beta Delta Boulé*



BETA IOTA BOULÉ FOUNDATION SUPPORTS TUSKEGEE AIRMEN EXHIBITION



TUSKEGEE AIRMEN USAF (RET.) EUGENE RICHARDSON, 2ND LT. COL.; JAMES HARDY, LT. COL.; GEORGE HARDY, LT. COL.; AND HARVEY STEWART, LT. COL.

The Beta Iota Boulé Foundation of Beta Iota Boulé, Farmington Valley, Connecticut, was a significant donor for *The Tuskegee Airmen: Their Untold Stories*, which opened at the New England Air Museum (NEAM) in Windsor Locks on June 5, 2023. Archon Earl Exum chaired the steering committee that raised \$400,000 and brought the exhibition to fruition.

On June 3, 2023, the museum held a private reception for the donors, which included International Aero Engines AG (IAE), of which Archon Exum is president; the lead donor, Pratt & Whitney, the largest shareholder of IAE; and Raytheon Technologies Corp., the parent company of Pratt & Whitney.

The reception – cohosted by NEAM president and CEO Stephanie Abrams and Archon Exum – included an inspiring and unforgettable panel discussion by four of the few living Tuskegee Airmen: George Hardy, Lt. Col., USAF (Ret.); James Hardy, Lt. Col., USAF (Ret.); Dr. Eugene Richardson, 2nd Lt. Col., USAF (Ret.); and Harvey Stewart, Lt. Col., USAF (Ret.). In the course of creating the exhibition, as well as at the reception, these distinguished men relayed remarkable stories of discrimination in the United States and spoke of accomplishments that defied unfounded and malicious myths and stereotypes.

In his remarks Archon Exum explained why this project was so important: “If we do not accurately capture and curate our history, others might hide it or rewrite an inaccurate version to serve their objectives.” During the panel discussion, the airmen gave firsthand accounts of the first Top Gun aerial combat competition in the U.S. military, which took place at the end of World War II. The Tuskegee Airmen, called the Army Air Corps 332nd Fighter Group at the time, won the competition, but their accomplishment was not publicized, and the trophy that should have been awarded was found decades later in storage, marked “Do Not Open.” Reporting of this triumph might have been a hard reality for the expert scientists who had forecast the failure of the Tuskegee Airmen; by their

assessment, Black people lacked the intelligence and bravery for flying combat. Had they been aware of the history of the United States, considering the brave and valiant service of Black people during the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, it might have been hard to arrive at that conclusion.

Archon Exum was also committed to this project as he realized that his children and their generation don’t know the stories of the Tuskegee Airmen. When asked about them, those of the younger generation often respond, “I’ve heard of them,” but they are unaware of any details related to the airmen’s extraordinary challenges, not to mention their contributions.

The exhibition starts in a small theater that accommodates about a dozen people. After seeing a film that tells of the history and richly curates firsthand accounts by Tuskegee Airmen, their families and friends, visitors move on to a rich collection of artifacts and multimedia. The exhibition is set in a hangar full of carefully preserved aircraft, including a World War II B-2 bomber and trainer plane flown by Tuskegee Airmen to prepare for certification for combat missions. If you are in the Hartford, Connecticut, region, be sure to visit this remarkable exhibition and the museum, which has a stunning collection of aircraft that charts the history of aviation – particularly in New England.

The four Tuskegee Airmen at the reception lamented their treatment, which included their being denied employment opportunities to fly for commercial airlines after the war strictly because of race, despite the fact that two out of four of them participated in and won the first Top Gun competition. Yet all expressed a love and commitment to their country – the United States of America – despite its imperfections. These men are true patriots.

*Archon Earl E. Exum
Gapter, Beta Iota Boulé*

BETA LAMBDA BOULÉ SCHOLARS PROGRAM TAKES FIELD TRIP TO LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER



ARCHONS JAMES A. "JIMMY" GRAY, JR., AND CLAYTON P. TURNER WITH BETA LAMBDA SCHOLARS AT THE NASA LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER

Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé Scholars Program culminated its 2022–23 academic year with a May 19, 2023, field trip to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Langley Research Center in Hampton. The focus of the Beta Lambda Scholars Program is to encourage academic excellence and promote the Next Frontier Initiative's goal "to empower 50,000 African American students, early-career adults, and entrepreneurs to be successful in the nation's fastest-growing and most highly compensated STEM industries."

To further these goals the scholars program continues to highlight and explore careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The program actively recruits scholars interested in STEM from three local high schools: Hampton High School; I.C. Norcom High School, Portsmouth; and New Horizons Regional Education Center. To keep students excited and engaged, the scholars program pairs in-school presentations on STEM topics with field trips that provide experiential learning opportunities. The program is designed to pique and maintain the scholars' interest in STEM subjects and career opportunities.

For the scholars' visit to NASA Langley Research Center, Archousa Michelle Ferebee, wife of Archon Melvin Ferebee and acting director of the Strategic Partnerships Office (SPO) at the center, was instrumental in coordinating the logistics. According to its official website, "NASA's Langley Research Center [comprises] nearly 200 facilities on 764 acres in

Hampton, Virginia, and employs about 3,400 civil servants and contractors. Langley works to make revolutionary improvements to aviation, expand understanding of Earth's atmosphere and develop technology for space exploration."

After arriving at the center, the scholars were welcomed and greeted by Jasmine Byrd-Whiting, project coordinator in the SPO. After receiving badges and passes to enter the center, the scholars proceeded to the Pearl Young Theater, where they were welcomed by Archon Clayton P. Turner, director of NASA Langley Research Center, and Archon James "Jimmy" A. Gray, Jr., chair of the Beta Lambda Boulé social action committee and vice mayor of the city of Hampton.

Archon Turner spoke to them about some of the research done at the facility and how it is being used to prepare to send astronauts to the moon, in preparation for manned missions to Mars. He also spoke to the scholars about how the public-private partnerships and innovation from the research leads to real-world technological advancements that improve everyday life. Finally, Archon Turner addressed the potential role that each of the scholars could play in moving the research forward through the pursuit of STEM careers.

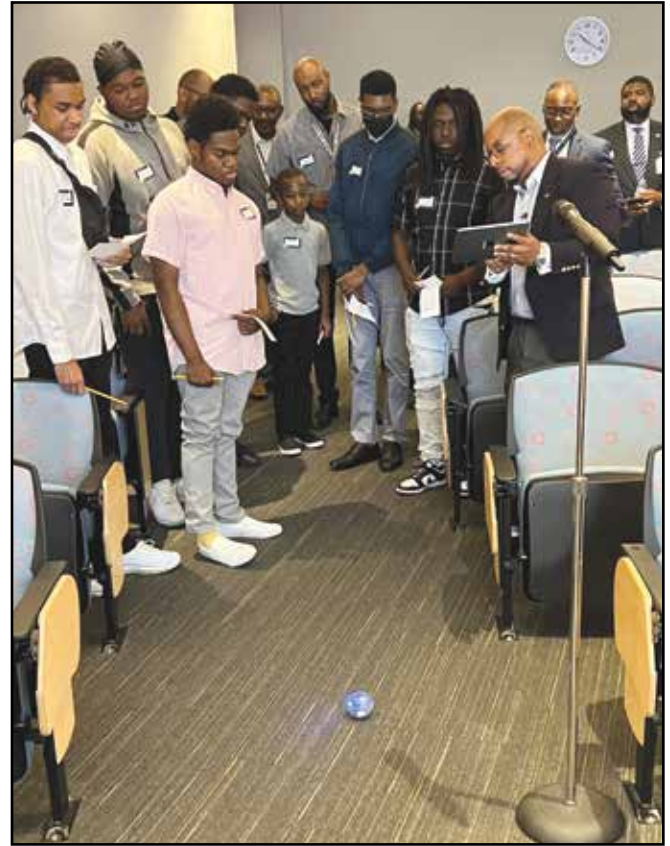
Philip Williams, deputy chief technologist for NASA Langley Research Center, instructed the scholars on an experiential learning exercise, "Navigate Your Zone." In this exercise the scholars were divided into teams that competed in controlling and navigating a spherical robot over an obstacle course representing



THE SCHOLARS PARTICIPATE IN THE "NAVIGATE YOUR ZONE" EXERCISE.

the lunar surface. As part of the exercise they used robots to avoid mountains, collect precious metals and return the robots safely to base. Team members assumed the roles of program managers, designers, controllers, communicators and quality-control specialists. The program managers were responsible for overseeing the entire program. The designers were responsible for designing and developing the travel path, really a maze, to the lunar landing habitat. The controllers were responsible for navigating the lunar landing habitat. The communicators communicated the plans of preparing for the trip, the travel path design decision, reporting out on arriving at the lunar landing habitat and overall challenge process group discussions. The quality-control specialists handled advising, assessing and evaluating the designed travel path maze and ultimately determining if it was safe for the driver-controller. Through this engaging exercise, scholars learned some basic robotics principles, used critical thinking skills, engaged in group and individual problem solving, and practiced teaming skills to achieve a common goal successfully.

Next the scholars were treated to lunch and a speed-mentoring opportunity. Yolanda Keiller, program analyst in the office of chief financial officer and lead of the Black Employee Strategy Team, spoke to the scholars about career pathways and opportunities both globally and locally at NASA Langley Research Center. Katrina Young, lead, Tech Transfer



PHILIP WILLIAMS INSTRUCTS THE SCHOLARS HOW TO "NAVIGATE YOUR ZONE."

Expansion Program (SPO), also addressed the scholars regarding diverse STEM and other career pathways. After this discussion the scholars visited the NASA Maker Space and spoke with Jonathan Ransom, deputy director of engineering, and Gary Qualls, data systems lead and facility manager. Scholars were able to view and explore the space and some of the activities and research that take place there.

Finally, Ransom and Frank Quinto, facility manager, escorted the scholars to the 14-by-22-foot subsonic tunnel facility. According to the official website, "This facility assesses conventional performance for low-speed tests of powered and unpowered models of various fixed- and rotary-wing civil and military aircraft over a wide range of takeoff, landing, cruise and high angle-of-attack conditions. The tunnel can be easily reconfigured for acoustic, tethered free-flight and forced-oscillation (dynamic stability) testing, as well as for motor-sports studies. Investigators can chose from either closed (walls, ceiling and floor) or open (floor-only) test-section arrangements." While at the facility, scholars were able to witness a live wind-tunnel test. After the test Ransom and Quinto answered questions from the scholars regarding both the test and the facility.

*Archon Steven D. Bond
Gapter, Beta Lambda Boulé*

BETA NU BOULÉ'S YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM PRESENTS AWARDS



BETA NU BOULÉ YOUNG SCHOLARS AND ARCHONS

The Young Scholars Program (YSP) of Beta Nu Boulé, Northern Virginia, held its annual awards ceremony in May 2023 for graduating high school seniors and participating high school juniors. This educational and mentoring program, led by Archons Lawrence E. Clark and Mark D. Evans, supports African American high school seniors and juniors in the Northern Virginia region who are preparing to attend college, as well as participating college students. The program is funded by the Beta Nu Education Foundation (BNEF), led by Archon Jeff Eskridge, foundation chairman.

This year's YSP graduating class is composed of six seniors who have been accepted at and plan to attend the following colleges: George Mason University, the University of Virginia, the University of Nebraska, Virginia Commonwealth University and Northern Virginia Community College. The program awarded \$60,000 in scholarships to these students for their first year of college. Awards are determined by the BNEF based on available funding resources and may be renewed for up to three academic years, provided the student remains in good academic standing and complies with all other program requirements. While in college, each student is matched with a Beta Nu Archon (a boulé buddy) who serves as the student's mentor throughout his college career.

Eight recent college graduates who completed the YSP program participated in the graduation ceremony. One of them, a former winner of the Grand

Boulé Scholarship and a recent graduate of the University of Virginia, gave the keynote speech. Their participation was particularly meaningful for the students, demonstrating leadership and inspiring the new graduates. The program is seeking six additional rising high school seniors to participate in 2023–24.

Archon Benjamin A. Dinkins
Grapter, Beta Nu Boulé



BETA NU
BOULÉ

BETA CHI BOULÉ HOSTS YOUTH RECOGNITION AND SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST



ARCHONS DANIEL HAITHCOCK AND ALVIN CHAPMAN

On April 22, 2023, Beta Chi Boulé of Fort Valley, Georgia, held its Youth Recognition and Scholarship Breakfast in the Thomas and Barbara Palmer Room in the C.W. Pettigrew Center at Fort Valley State University. Eight young men received scholarships as they completed their senior year of high school and prepared for graduation. These young men had received acceptance letters from institutions such as Morehouse College, Fort Valley State University, Hampton University and Georgia State University.

Archon Daniel Haithcock was the speaker for the breakfast and provided words of encouragement to these young men as they prepared for the next chapter in their education and career journey. This breakfast continues to serve as one indicator of Beta Chi Boulé's support of youths in the community, and it provides an opportunity for Archons and Archousai to meet the young men and their families.

*Archon Alvin C. Harmon
Grapter, Beta Chi Boulé*

GAMMA BETA BOULÉ YOUTH RECOGNITION AWARDS



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS (SEATED) WITH STANDING GAMMA BETA ARCHONS

Gamma Beta Boulé in Jacksonville, Florida, held its thirty-ninth annual Youth Recognition Awards Program on May 3, 2023, before a near-capacity crowd at the University of North Florida's premier performance hall. The eleven scholarship recipients were high-achieving African American high school students from various public schools in the city. In total, more than \$22,000 was awarded.

Millions of dollars have been awarded throughout the thirty-nine years of this scholarship event. Memorial scholarships were granted in honor of Caroline

Annette Cody, deceased daughter of Archon William L. Cody and Archousa Betty Cody, and deceased Archon Leon Haley, Jr., who was the former CEO of the University of Florida Health (Hospital) and dean of the UF College of Medicine.

Cosponsors included the PGA Tour, Inc., and Florida Blue (Florida's Blue Cross Blue Shield).

*Archon Roger M. Groves
Grapter, Gamma Beta Boulé*

GAMMA ZETA BOULÉ FOUNDATION HOLDS ANNUAL LAMP MENTOR PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP CELEBRATION

There was magic in the air and an inspiring afternoon of Black excellence on May 20, 2023, as the Gamma Zeta Boulé Foundation (GZBF) hosted its eighteenth annual LAMP Mentor Program Scholarship Celebration, “Igniting the Torch of Empowerment,” at the Pasadena Hilton Hotel in Pasadena, California. The luncheon honors graduating seniors and rewards them with scholarship support for college. The LAMP Mentor Program is open to African American young men in grades 9 through 12 who desire to attend and graduate from the college or university of their choice.

The luncheon was the culmination of the ten-month program that included thirty-six students who met at least one Saturday a month from August to May for a series of workshops. The program exposes LAMP mentees to successful African American men from a variety of professions and institutions and to individuals who expand their knowledge and open their minds to career opportunities. Mentees enjoy cultural events, participate in business-skills workshops, and engage with challenges they will encounter in their quest for excellence and success. The program also includes a weekend bonding retreat in the mountains to engender the four pillars of LAMP – leadership, achievement, management and professionalism – and reinforce the other pillars: learn, ask, meet and promise.

This unique experience also provides students and parents with an opportunity to learn more about the college admissions process and financial aid as well as writing, networking, financial literacy and interviewing skills. Rising seniors embarked on an educational trip to Washington, D.C., that included visits to colleges, museums and cultural centers, and dinners with suc-



FRONT: TERENCE MATTHEWS II, ASA PHILLIPS, SEAN TAYLOR AND ANDREW TAYLOR. **BACK:** XAVIER HAYNES, ARCHON EARLE CHARLES, AMARI ROSE, HAYDEN HARPER, ARCHON RAMSEY JAY, JR., ARCHON CHRIS HOLDEN, GILBERT ROBERTS, MARSHALL DODDS, ARCHON GILBERT HOLMES AND XAVIER SMITH.

cessful African American men in the Washington area. The LAMP Mentor Program is free to students and parents.

Ten outstanding young men made up the Gamma Zeta Boulé Class of 2023: Marshall Dodds, Sebastian Fuentes, Hayden Harper, Xavier Haynes, Terence Mathews II, Asa Phillips, Gilbert Roberts, Xavier Smith, Andrew Taylor and Sean Taylor. Each was awarded a scholarship ranging in amounts from \$8,000 to \$12,000. One of the seniors, Sean Taylor, was admitted to the coveted Boulé Scholars Program. This year there were fifty Boulé Scholars chosen out of more than 1,000 applicants.

In all, the foundation awarded \$101,000 in college scholarships. Among the graduates, seven had a GPA of 3.5 and four were outstanding student-athletes, having captained their schools' teams in their sports, competed in, and won conference championships, been ranked in the top ten in Los Angeles in their chosen sport, and entering college as recruited student-athletes. One is entering college as a second-semester sophomore, and three are outstanding musicians. Some plan

to major in psychology, finance, occupational therapy and prelaw at institutes of higher education throughout the country, including HBCU Morehouse College, UCLA, UC Berkeley, Boston University, Southern Methodist University, Pasadena City College, Pierce College, UC Santa Cruz, University of Arizona and California State University of Northridge.

“The LAMP Mentor Program is an agent for transformation that provides access and exposure to young African American men who have brilliant minds and infinite possibilities that they do not see,” said Archon Ramsey Jay, Jr., Gamma Zeta Boulé Foundation president and LAMP mentor. “It is difficult to inspire a young man to dream of something he has not seen; LAMP shatters that difficulty, LAMP Mentees become dreamers and when they leave the program, they have gained the tools to move from being dreamers to being achievers.” For more information, visit www.gzbfoundation.org.

*Archon Michael L. Kennedy
Grapter, Gamma Zeta Boulé*

GAMMA ZETA BOULÉ LAMP CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE EXCURSION VISITS CAPITAL, WHITE HOUSE



From June 11 to 17, 2023, as part of Pasadena, California's Gamma Zeta Boulé's 2nd Annual LAMP Mentor Program Capstone Experience Excursion, ten rising seniors, one graduating senior and six mentors traveled to Washington, D.C., for a week of college and museum visits, cultural activities, and dinners with successful African American men. The group arrived at 7:00 A.M on Sunday, June 11, and proceeded to the cultural center and restaurant at Busboys and Poets on 14th Street. Although everyone was tired from the red-eye flight from LAX, they all perked up when the shrimp and grits and other delectable dishes arrived for breakfast.

After breakfast, the group checked into the two VRBO properties that were their homes for the week. On Sunday evening, LAMP mentees and mentors met with interns from Archon William Keyes IV's Institute for Responsible Citizenship for a "Mall Walk" around the monuments on the National Mall and a pizza dinner at Union Station. It was a great time to connect the LAMP mentees with their slightly older counterparts at the institute.

On Monday the group visited Howard University and American University for college tours and had lunch at the famous Ben's Chili Bowl, where several meetings had been held in preparation for the 1963 March on Washington. That evening, the mentees had dinner with Archon Spencer Overton (Beta Mu), president of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies and a professor at George Washington Law School, and Archon Thomas Matthew (Epsilon), director of the Johns Hopkins Cardiothoracic Surgery Program at Suburban Hospital in Bethesda.

The next day the mentees had a guided tour of the National Museum of African American History and Culture that started before the museum opened and included lunch at the fabulous cafeteria. Their guide was Renee Anderson, the former head of collections at the museum. After the museum, the mentees and mentors met with Ambassador Samuel Hins at the

Embassy of Guyana and had dinner with Steven Holmes, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, and Joe Davidson, a former foreign correspondent for the Wall Street Journal.

On Wednesday the mentees and mentors had a tour of the White House with Raquel Fossett, director of the White House Internship Program, as their guide and met Archon Stephen K. Benjamin (Alpha Iota), the former mayor of Columbia, South Carolina, and the top-ranking African American in the White House. The experience was exhilarating. That afternoon and evening the group had a tour of the University of Maryland; visited Fort McHenry, for a discussion of the origins and verses of "The Star Spangled Banner"; and had dinner at the famous Lexington Market. Many tried Maryland crab for the first time.

The group had a guided tour of the Smithsonian American Art Museum on Thursday and visited Black Lives Matter Plaza, where they had a discussion about the significance of the events that occurred there in 2020. On Friday the group toured George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, where they learned about the history of George Mason and the fact that GMU has the largest population of students of color among the public universities in Virginia. The trip culminated with a tour of FedEx Field and a meeting with Jason Wright, the first African American president of an NFL franchise, the Washington Commanders. Then it was dinner and fun at Top Golf where the mentees competed against each other and the mentors for Top Dog at Top Golf.

On Saturday they were back on the plane to Los Angeles with loads of experiences, increased knowledge and stronger relationships among the mentees and mentors.

*Archon Michael L. Kennedy
Grapter, Gamma Zeta Boulé*

GAMMA ZETA BOULÉ HOLDS 7TH ANNUAL CAREER STEAMPOSIUM

Pasadena, California's Gamma Zeta Boulé held its 7th Annual Career STEAMposium on March 18, 2023. More than five hundred students participated in this dynamic in-person program that exposed middle school, high school and college students to top professionals in all aspects of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math).

This year's in-person event included many interesting videos used during the virtual events, followed by discussion and a Q&A. These activities included the NASA/JPL Mars Lander and Sample Return project; a team from Cal Poly Pomona that designed, built and launched liquid rockets; another Cal Poly Pomona team that hand-crafts and competitively races Formula SAE and Baja Race Cars; a First Robotics team from Diamond Bar High School; construction of a Fender guitar; and exposure to the video game design and development process.

Students were allowed to venture from workshop to workshop attending several of the speaker workshops and had the opportunity to move through as many of the hands-on activities as they desired. Every workshop and activity allowed them the opportunity to ask questions and learn. All were attentive and expressed great appreciation for the information shared about why STEAM is so important. Each speaker reiterated how an education in STEAM offers students many choices when making careers decisions.

Gamma Zeta's Archon Clark Rucker cochaired this wonderful event. His motto is, We cannot always build the future of our youth, but we can build our youth for the future!

*Archon Michael L. Kennedy
Grapter, Gamma Zeta Boulé*

DELTA ALPHA BOULÉ ARCHONS FOCUS ON OUTREACH



DELTA ALPHA ARCHONS AT HAVEN SCHOOL IN EVANSTON

Archons of Delta Alpha Boulé in Northern Illinois had a busy month of May. In addition to scouting field-trip possibilities for mentees at Waukegan National Airport concerning careers in aviation, Archons also participated in a middle school fair with a Wheel of Fortune game on display for students and parents. A spin of the wheel would land a participant on one of



DELTA ALPHA ARCHONS AT WAUKEGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT

the tenets of the Boulé Scholars Program – Academics, Leadership or Service. It demonstrated that possibilities are limitless for industrious young students.

*Archon Herman S. Baskerville
Grapter, Delta Alpha Boulé*

MICHAEL ERIC DYSON KEYNOTES DELTA MU BOULÉ'S EVENING OF HOPE



ARCHONS NA'IM MOSES, ALFRED LEWIS AND MICHAEL HEISKELL; MICHAEL ERIC DYSON; AND ARCHONS WILLIAM TRAYLOR, KEN HAMPTON AND KEON ANDERSON

At the thirtieth anniversary celebration of the school's founding on April 25, 2023, renowned author and academician Michael Eric Dyson encouraged students at Hope Farms in Fort Worth, Texas, to keep their eyes on the ultimate prize of success by continuing to learn. He also encouraged attending members of Fort Worth–Arlington's Delta Mu Boulé and other sponsors to continue their support of programs such as Hope Farms. He said that those who support such programs were "instruments of revival and transformation for these young boys." He exhorted everyone to "do all we can to uplift them and to do so with action and love for these precious young men."

Hope Farms is a long-term leadership development program that guides at-risk boys without fathers. It accommodates students from ages 5 through high school graduation.

The Delta Mu Boulé Foundation has been a major part of the school's operation for several years, in the form of mentoring its students, providing scholarship opportunities for its graduates, and programming. In addition to co-sponsoring the Dyson keynote, Delta Mu members currently hold a series of lunches at the school – pizza parties – where a member of the boulé is the speaker. That member generally talks about his career and the steps he took to be successful. Others have offered career advice and have helped students navigate the college application process.

The Evening of Hope featured the Hope Farms Choir. The audience also heard a message from Charles Johnson, a recent Hope Farms graduate who will enroll at Prairie View University in the fall.

*Archon William T. Slater
Gapter, Delta Mu Boulé*



DELTA MU BOULÉ EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AWARDS FOUR SCHOLARSHIPS TO DALLAS–FORT WORTH GRADUATES



Four young scholars came closer to their goal of earning a college degree on June 4, 2023, the result of four-year scholarships from the Delta Mu Boulé Educational Foundation in Fort Worth–Arlington, Texas. The scholarships, valued at \$10,000 each, were awarded at a dinner and ceremony at the Mira Vista Country Club in Fort Worth. The ceremony was attended by fifty relatives and friends of the recipients, Archons, donors, and other supporters of the foundation.

Created in December 2001, the foundation has awarded more than thirty scholarships to male African American high school graduates, 98 percent of whom have since earned bachelor's degrees. Since its inception the foundation has awarded close to \$100,000 in aid. This year's class has the most gifted and talented students in the foundation's brief history.

Nana Boadi-Owusu, a graduate of James W. Martin High School in Arlington, plans to enroll at Texas A&M University this fall. Boadi-Owusu graduated with a 3.9 grade point average. He was a member of the Arlington STEM Academy, which consisted of 130 gifted and talented students with rigorous academic experience. Boadi-Owusu played in the violin section of the school orchestra and was an Academic All-State football player. Boadi-Owusu received the Donald Babers Scholarship, which was named after a longtime Delta Mu Archon who died in 2021.

The Harry Croxton Scholarship was presented to **Igumyimana Pascal**, a graduate of Amon Carter-Riverside High School in Fort Worth. Pascal plans to attend Texas A&M University this fall as a computer science major. He is an Academic All-State cross country and soccer team member with a 3.99 grade point average, which he earned taking all pre-advanced placement classes.

Jeremiah Bledsoe, a graduate of Nolan Catholic High School in Fort Worth, received the Nish Rodgers Schol-

arship. Bledsoe plans to enter the University of Texas at Austin this fall as a radio-television-film major. A past winner of two Dallas–Fort Worth community oratory contests, Bledsoe has also been recognized as a young social entrepreneur and a youth summit leadership ambassador. He is a member of the youth council of the National Association of Black Journalists and has been recognized as a young business leader of America.

The Washington “Wash” Johnson Scholarship, named for a founding Archon of Delta Mu Boulé, went to **Jordan Drumgoole**, a graduate of Lake Ridge High School in Mansfield, Texas. Drumgoole plans to enter the University of Texas at Arlington in the fall as a sustainable urban design major. Drumgoole is a Mansfield top scholar, ranking third in his class of 630. He has been a Tarrant County College Merit List honoree, an AP Scholar Award winner, and a music, composer and arranger award winner. He is also a past participant in the San Diego Writers, Ink summer camp.

Major support for the Delta Mu Boulé Educational Foundation has come from several sources, including BNSF Railway, the largest freight railroad network in North America, with more than 41,000 employees. The company is headquartered in Fort Worth. Satori Capital, one of Texas's leading investment firms, is also headquartered in Fort Worth, but with an international presence. Archon Willie Houston III, a partner in Satori Capital, was instrumental in acquiring the firm's gift. State Farm Insurance Co. also gave a gift to the foundation this year, the result of the work of Archon Vincent Adams, who owns a State Farm agency in Fort Worth. And, of course, the foundation has received support from the Archons of Delta Mu Boulé, who have taxed themselves to build the corpus of the scholarship fund.

*Archon William. T. Slater
Grapter, Delta Mu Boulé*

DELTA NU BOULÉ'S FOUNDATION SUPPORTS PROJECT MUSIC



PROJECT MUSIC STUDENTS PERFORMING OUTDOOR CONCERT

On June 8, 2023, The Opportunity Foundation (TOF), under the auspices of Delta Nu Boulé, Fairfield County, Connecticut, donated \$2,500 to Project Music of Stamford. Project Music uses music to make a difference in the lives of Stamford's underserved youth, empowering them with fundamental life skills and a pathway to their full potential through access to a highly engaging, rigorous, after-school music program. The program includes free instruments, music instruction, mentorship and opportunities to perform.

Students who dedicate themselves to musical studies see the world open up beyond the neighborhoods they grew up in, as they learn and perform in new contexts. As their musicianship improves, Project Music students earn opportunities to play in regional youth ensembles, travel to distant summer camps, and connect with a wide array of peers and mentors such as those found in the Boulé. The \$2,500 gift will underwrite four students in Project Music's Educational Summer Music Camp.

Delta Nu's TOF is a 501(c)(3) organization, led by its president, Archon Ronald Woods, with board members Archons Josiah Lindsay, Raiford Cockfield, Tracy McMillan, Randy Kinder, Phillip Miller and Dwayne Smith.

*Archon Charles E. Spaulding
Grapter, Delta Nu Boulé*



DELTA SIGMA BOULÉ HOLDS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD LUNCHEON



ARCHON DONALD GOENS

On May 7, 2023, South Suburban Chicago's Delta Sigma Boulé held its annual Scholarship Award Luncheon at Olympia Fields Country Club. Eleven Chicagoland high school young men were presented scholarships while proud parents and guardians watched. Each scholar had the opportunity to be paired with a boulé mentor. Archons Louis Rutland and Donald Goens addressed the esteemed group and presided over the affair. More than \$25,000 in academic and needs-based awards were extended.



ARCHON LOUIS RUTLAND AND SCHOLARS

The top two scholars, designated as Fredrick Carter Scholars, each received a \$5,000 award, renewable annually for up to four years. Prior to the conclusion of the luncheon, scholars and their families heard a brief history of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

*Archon Victor A. Terry
Grapter, Delta Sigma Boulé*

DELTA PHI BOULÉ ARCHONS FOCUS ON OUTREACH



JONAS NOEL, JR., SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION

Portland, Oregon's Delta Phi Boulé's social action efforts provide Archons with the privilege of working with two Portland-area high schools. The focus of the outreach is to engage in meaningful ways with young men of color to support them in navigating the promise and peril associated with growing into adulthood. The relationship with the partner schools allows the young men to participate in an on-going

mentorship program with Archons. One of Delta Phi's partners, the Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center and Rosemary Anderson High School (POIC + RAHS), established in 1967, provides high-quality services in education, mentoring, family outreach, employment training and placement.

The POIC + RAHS endeavors to reconnect alienated at-risk youths and adults affected by poverty, family instability and homelessness with education, career training and culturally specific wraparound programs. These include services for families affected by the criminal justice system. Rosemary Anderson operates four campuses. Delta Phi works predominantly with students at the Lents campus.

Delta Phi's other partner is De La Salle North Catholic High School, which opened in 2001 to provide a faith-based, college-preparatory high school education to underserved students from the Portland area. Students at De La Salle North Catholic High School attend classes four days per week and work for a local company one day each week, as part of the Corporate Work Study Program.

Delta Phi's purpose is to offer a supportive space to discuss life experiences and lessons learned with mentors. The mentoring gatherings strive to create an open, nonjudgmental space in which students and mentors can be vulnerable, discuss crucial and delicate topics, and forge relationships upon which the students can rely. The mentoring sessions are characterized by a blend of heaviness and lightness, humor, and opportunities for introspection and reflection. The goal of the mentoring is to allow the mentees to amplify their voices through expressing their hopes, fears, obstacles, pathways and what they need from the adults in their lives.

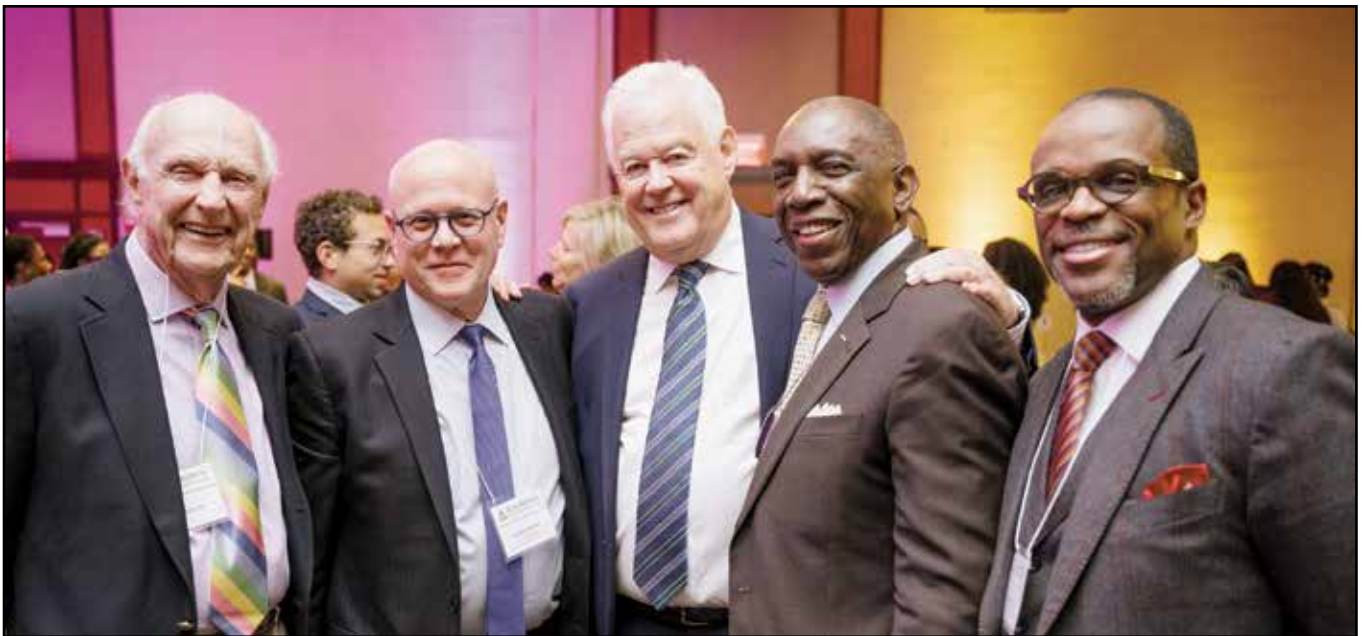
Delta Phi Boulé makes an award annually to Rosemary Anderson and De La Salle North. For the last several years the award has been augmented by support from the Thomas Shropshire Matching Grant funds from the Boulé Foundation. In June 2023, Delta

Phi Boulé awarded its \$2,500 Aspire scholarship to De La Salle North graduating student Jonas Noel, Jr., who was valedictorian of his graduating class. The scholarship provides support to Jonas as he pursues his higher education aspirations at the University of Oregon this fall. Additionally, a \$2,500 scholarship was awarded to Rosemary Anderson graduate J'son Wilson. J'son attended the PDX Bridge program at Portland Community College and is continuing his studies there.

Delta Phi Archons unanimously report that they feel personally enriched by our interaction with the young men who honor us with their time, attention and engagement.

*Archon Larry D. Roper
Grapter, Delta Phi Boulé*

EPSILON ZETA BOULÉ EVENT SHOWCASES RONALD H. BROWN AMERICAN JOURNEY AWARDS



The Ronald H. Brown American Journey Award, of which Loudoun County, Virginia's Epsilon Zeta Boulé is a sponsor, was established in 2009 to honor outstanding Americans who exemplify the vision and transformative ideals of former secretary of commerce Archon Ronald H. Brown (1941–96). The program is named for Archon Brown, who became the nation's first African American secretary of commerce during the Clinton administration in 1993. Three years later, Archon Brown was killed in a plane crash while on a mission in Croatia for the Commerce Department. A close friend,

billionaire Anthony M. Pilaro, proposed a Ron Brown scholarship program and chose another close friend, Mike Mallory, to run it.

Ronald H. Brown American Journey Awards are granted to individuals who have developed opportunities and fostered the achievements of others. Like the late Archon Brown, these role models demonstrate through their life experiences the importance of mentoring, service and nurturance of a network of leaders in America. They embody the spirit of the Ron Brown Scholar Program mission and serve as a model to



which scholars should aspire. Thus, much like Sigma Pi Phi's Boulé Scholar Program, the Ron Brown Scholar Program "aims to raise the level of educational expectations and performance of Black students by cultivating and celebrating their academic excellence from elementary school to college graduate and professional-school levels." The scholars program encourages students to think not only about social justice but also about creating generational wealth.

On March 17, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C., Abby Phillip (CNN senior political correspondent and anchor of Inside Politics Sunday) hosted this year's twenty-sixth annual stellar event. Approximately 650 philanthropists, business leaders, civic leaders and professionals attended the ceremony to celebrate service, honor achievement, and support the journeys of African American young adults who have overcome personal obstacles and matriculated in our nation's most elite universities. Many of the more than 400 Ron Brown Scholars took part in the event and shared their stories.

At such a prestigious event honoring our nation's African American youths, and aiming to advance higher education and improve the lives of service-minded and intellectually gifted African Americans to accelerate their progress into impactful leadership roles and opportunities, Epsilon Zeta Boulé was, of course, well represented. In attendance were Sire Archon Mark Moore, Sire Archon-Elect Bernard Mustafa, Grammateus Greg Fenner, Archon Arthur Dean, Archon Kamonte McCray, Thesauristes Ricardo Michel and Archon William "Kip" Ward. Epsilon Zeta Boulé supports the Ron Brown Scholarship Program yearly.

Over the last twenty-five years, the Ron Brown Scholar Program has provided \$40,000 in scholarships to 584 academically motivated African American students from low-income backgrounds, who have a 99 percent graduation rate from a range of 200 colleges and universities. The program currently supports more

than 2,000 students annually through its three initiatives: the Signature Scholarship, the Guided Pathway Support Program (GPS), and the Ron Brown-Ruth and Norman Rales Leaders Network. The Ron Brown Scholar Program competitively awards forty-five to fifty four-year \$40,000 scholarships (\$10,000 each year) to the most talented and economically challenged high school seniors who demonstrate a keen interest in public service, community engagement, business entrepreneurship and global citizenship – the four pillars of the late Archon Brown's mission to uplift people of all races, cultures, and ethnicities – especially our disadvantaged young people.

We know the reality all too well – to be male, poor and African American is to confront daily a deeply held disadvantage that exists in every social institution. Only the Native American male demographic group has fared as badly, so persistently and for so long. This is one area where it is reasonable to hope for some bipartisan action. In 2019, the new Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys was created and charged with recommending policies to "improve upon, or augment current government programs." This bipartisan commission, consisting of nineteen members, will "investigate potential civil rights violations affecting Black males and study the disparities they experience in education, criminal justice, health, employment, fatherhood, mentorship and violence." The commission is required by law to report annually. These efforts show how vitally important it is to have programs like the Ron Brown Scholar Program and the Boulé Scholars Program dedicated to the educational pursuits of our African American youths. Perhaps through education allowing the growth of generational wealth, the great-grandchildren of today's Ron Brown scholars will be born with a guaranteed future.

*Archon Robert S. Ferrell
Gapter, Epsilon Zeta Boulé*

EPSILON ZETA BOULÉ RECOGNIZES NEW AND FORMER GRAND BOULÉ SCHOLARS



SPENCER ACQUAH

In 2021 Epsilon Zeta Boulé of Loudoun County, Virginia, received its first Grand Boulé scholarship. A year later, two more scholarships were awarded. And remarkably, in 2023, we were blessed to recognize two additional Boulé Scholars, bringing our total to five scholars over the three-year period. Equally surprising, four of our five scholars hail from the same high school, Freedom High School in South Riding, Virginia. The mission of Freedom High School, in partnership with parents and the community, is to provide all students with a safe, diverse and challenging educational environment that will prepare them for their role in an ever-changing global society. Its motto is, Where there is unity, there is freedom.

Freedom High School students may take Advanced Placement (AP) coursework and exams. The AP participation rate at Freedom High School is 62 percent and its total minority enrollment 54 percent. Its mathematics proficiency is 90 percent, reading proficiency 97 percent, science proficiency 94 percent, and graduation rate is 99 percent.

Our 2023 Grand Boulé scholarship recipients are Spencer Acquah from Aldie and Amare Coleman from Chantilly.

Spencer Acquah received his high school diploma in advance studies from John Champe High School in Aldie. This high school has earned a 2020 and 2021 College Success Award based on its success in preparing students for college. It has a four-year graduation rate of 98 percent, AP course participation of 37 percent, and 88 percent of its graduates pursue a college education. Spencer boasts a 4.22 GPA and plans to major in computer science and later pursue a career working for a developing tech company or even starting his own company in the STEM field. He hopes to use his passion for engineering to help developing countries like Ghana, the place where both his parents grew up. Spencer has found a home with the Champe Robotics Club, where he was introduced to the world of VEX robotics.

Amare Coleman graduated from Freedom High School with a diploma in advance studies with a 4.20 GPA. Amare is described by his guidance counselor as one of those people who has a special aura about him. It is not that he is the loudest or most energetic person in the room; it is quite the opposite. He has a quiet strength and presence that are palpable. Not only is this young man gifted academically, but he is also willing to put in hard work to achieve his goals. While he has always done well at school, both Amare and his parents have indicated that his experience at Boys State last summer changed him. Amare said that it sharpened his ambition and drive for excellence and his desire to pursue working for the FBI as a profiler. His parents say that since then, Amare has taken his fitness more seriously, and goes to the gym six days a week. He plans to pursue psychology with a minor in criminology or philosophy. His



AMARE COLEMAN

goal is to become an FBI profiler, and he hopes to write a book and have a podcast in due course.

The importance of community involvement in supporting scholarships to deserving students is not lost on Epsilon Zeta Boulé. Education is a critical aspect of everyone's life, and it is unfortunate that sometimes financial constraints can function as a barrier to accessing higher education. This is where the Boulé Foundation comes into play, to provide scholarships to students who are academically qualified, but lack the financial resources to attend higher institutions of learning.

Boulé Scholars receive scholarships valued at \$10,000 distributed over a period of four years. Each recipient must continue to perform above the 3.2 GPA threshold to continue to receive their stipend. In addition to maintaining the required GPA, scholarship recipients must demonstrate active engagement in campus community activities as well as some form of community/civic engagement.

Before learning of these two new scholars, on April 21, Epsilon Zeta had held its April business meeting – the first time the entire boulé had the opportunity to address its earlier three Grand Boulé Scholars for forty-five minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

Epsilon Zeta Boulé's 2021 Boulé Scholar is Desmond J. Harris of Chantilly. Desmond attends James Madison University with a 3.5 GPA and majoring in computer science. He says that his critical thinking skills have served him well thus far in college as he enjoys analyzing information and learning new skills. Desmond continues to prove that he is not afraid to do the research needed to increase his knowledge and abilities in all aspects of IT.

The 2022 Boulé Scholars are Edwin Andrew Smith III and Jason Taylor, both from Chantilly. Edwin Andrew Smith III is attending Alabama A&M University with a 3.87 GPA and studying computer engineering. Andrew has recently been inducted into the Alabama A&M Honors College where he has participated in various community service projects. He has been accepted into the National Defense Education Program, which is a student training and internship program that prepares students in STEM fields for careers in the Department of Defense.

Jason Taylor is attending Hampton University with a 4.12 GPA and studying biochemistry. Jason takes great delight in pursuing academic challenges and solving problems that require careful analysis and reasoning skills. He loves biochemistry and chemistry and may also decide to pursue this field in his graduate program. Although academics are his priority, what is truly remarkable about Jason is his

willingness to invest himself in activities, clubs and community service in support of his community.

Boulé Scholars are the pride of the Boulé community, serving as a constant reminder of the importance of education and hard work. Their remarkable achievements and exceptional academic standing have been an inspiration to us all. As a sign of appreciation, it was fitting to invite them to address our entire body before our monthly business meeting. We all understand the value of education and how it can transform lives.

Our scholars have set a great example in this regard. They have embraced the importance of knowledge and used it to achieve greater heights. Their impressive accomplishments deserve recognition, and in keeping with the Boulé commitment to provide constant mentoring to each scholar, Epsilon Zeta Boulé has established a separate subcommittee under its social action committee to perform this important role.

Epsilon Zeta Boulé is honored to have five Boulé Scholars and will continue to include them in our yearly activities as a fitting tribute to their achievements and a celebration of their hard work. It also provides an opportunity for us to impart our wisdom and knowledge to the next generation of leaders, who will continue to shape our community's future.

*Archon Robert S. Ferrell
Gapter, Epsilon Zeta Boulé*

EPSILON OMICRON BOULÉ SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS MENTORED AND CELEBRATED



EPSILON OMICRON SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AT THE "BEING CAREER READY" SEMINAR

Six 2023 scholarship recipients were chosen by North Houston, Texas's Epsilon Omicron Boulé social action committee from a broad selection of worthy candidates. On April 4 a seminar and panel discussion on "Being Career Ready" was conducted with lots of Archon input. On May 10 a social-etiquette presenta-

tion garnered great interest from the scholars. On May 21 the Scholarship Recognition and Reception was held for the scholars and their families.

The reception afforded the opportunity for greetings from Western Region Sire Archon Jesse J. Tyson and Epsilon Omicron Sire Archon Clarence V. Estes. An



EPSILON OMICRON SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AT THE SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION AND RECEPTION

inspiring charge to scholars was offered by Archon Albert L. Hilliard and words of support were given by Marchion Wynne, 2019 Grand Boulé Scholarship winner. Wynne has made us proud as an early graduate of Houston Christian University, entering law school this fall.

The 2023 scholarship recipients are:

Christopher Augustus, biology and pre-med,
Morehouse College

Michael Izulu, chemical engineering,
Texas Tech University

Javian Smith-Marcel, psychology,
University of Texas-Tyler

Xaiver Reese, business management,
Texas State University

Dexter Smith, kinesiology,
Sam Houston State University

Jordan Stairs, music education,
Sam Houston State University

Archon Eric T. Adams

Grapter, Epsilon Omicron Boulé

EPSILON SIGMA BOULÉ FOUNDATION CONTINUES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In the spring of 2023 the Epsilon Sigma Boulé Foundation of Epsilon Sigma Boulé, Prince William County, Virginia, selected two exceptional students, Zora Brantley and Christian Daniels, to receive its inaugural scholarships. The foundation president, Archon Joseph Terry, said that both students represent the very best of Prince William County and that the committee could not have made better selections. He expects both students to have a positive impact on a national and international level in the future.

Zora Brantley, who graduated from Christ Chapel Academy in Woodbridge with a 4.28 GPA, attends Howard University. She hopes to attend medical school and pursue her dream of becoming a cardiologist. In addition to her superb academic achievements, she has received the Girl Scout Silver Award, a Royal Merit Scholarship and a West Point Award for Excellence. She's also a sensational soccer player, the president of her school's Missions Club, leader for the NAACP Youth Council and treasurer of her school's National Honor Society.

Christian Daniels graduated from C.D. Hylton High School in Woodbridge with a 4.5 GPA and has been accepted at Yale University, where he plans to

major in political science. At Hylton High Christian was the vice president of the class of 2023, vice president of the Black Student Union, a student senator for Prince William County Schools, student representative for the Prince William County Human Rights Student Leadership Council, president of his school's National Nations Honor Society and captain of the track-and-field team.

In addition to awarding scholarships, the foundation continues to support three Prince William County organizations, monetarily and through volunteerism, that focus on youth programs — the Future Kings, Generation Redirect and the Prince William County Boys and Girls Club.

The Future Kings is an organization that teaches STEM skill sets to minority boys, specifically focusing on informational technology and biological sciences. More than 95 percent of their participants graduate from high school, enroll in college and pursue careers in their chosen field of study.

Generation Redirect coordinates bus tours for minority youths to many of our great institutions of higher learning, providing exposure and assisting with goal setting. It also provides much-needed

school supplies to students who attend several of Prince William County Title 1 schools.

The goal of the Prince William County Boys and Girls Club is to enable all young people, especially those most in need, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Through athletics, mentoring and after-school programs, it provides guidance for young people.

Epsilon Sigma Archons and Archousai are currently serving on the boards of these organizations, or as guest speakers, advisers and/or chaperones,

enabling them to make a difference in the Prince William County community and adhere to one of Sigma Pi Phi's cardinal principles – "by concerted action bring about those things that seem best for all that cannot be accomplished by individual effort." Through concerted action Archons and Archousai in Prince William County continue to work together to improve the lives of many within their community.

*Archon James E. Simpson
Grapter, Epsilon Sigma Boulé*

EPSILON PHI BOULÉ CELEBRATES NINE GRADUATING SCHOLARS



On May 30, 2023, through efforts of Prince George's County, Maryland's Epsilon Phi Boulé social action committee and the participation of Archons as mentors, the boulé's mentoring program culminated a successful fourth year. Nine graduating seniors received certificates for participation in the program. Established in partnership with the First Generation College Bound (FGCB) organization, the program is a mentoring initiative for African American high school seniors, many of whom will be the first in their families to attend college.

Mentors, FGCB staff and parents gathered at the Woodmore Country Club to celebrate their achievement. The graduates have been accepted to college, and each received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Epsilon Phi Boulé Foundation in support of his higher education aspirations at accepted schools. They are: Aryus Vance, Morgan State University; Adetunji

Oshoniyi, Frostburg State University; John McLeod, Lockhaven University; Isaiah Vassar, Virginia Commonwealth University; and Daniel Akinsunlola, Jemerson Alvarado, Dylan Barnes, Tywon Knight and Harvin Garcia, Prince Georges County Community College.

One of the topics of our mentoring sessions was "Dressing for Success." In collaboration with Men's Wearhouse, a workshop was held on "Dressing to Impress," for which the foundation provided each mentee with a suit, shirt and necktie. Members of the social action committee are Archon Cephas Goldman, chair, and Archons Kevin Anderson, Limone Collins, Arthur Cutler, Alvin Thornton and Brian Woolfolk.

*Archon Rodney A. Beverly
Grapter, Epsilon Phi Boulé*

EPSILON PHI BOULÉ PRESENTS A CHERRY BLOSSOM AFFAIR



The Epsilon Phi Boulé Foundation of Epsilon Phi Boulé in Prince George's County, Maryland, held its first in-person fundraiser, "Petals and Bowties," a Cherry Blossom Affair, on April 23, 2023, at The Hotel at the University of Maryland. The mission of the foundation, which was established in 2019, is to facilitate the cultivation and nurturing of young people and the advancement of the residents of Prince George's County through mentoring, scholarships, leadership development and related social initiatives that affect the positive development of our community.

Our signature priorities include promoting education and eliminating food insecurities in our county. We are especially excited to have exceeded our expected

goal, having raised more than \$35,000, which will enable us to increase scholarships, increase support to the county's efforts to combat food insecurity, and expand our mentoring program.

A special thanks and acknowledgment go out to our Archousai for their exceptional support with the planning and implementation of the fundraiser. The event's cochairs were Archons Cephas Goldman and Wayman Griffith. Subcommittee chairs were Archousai Jacquelyn Griffith, Debra Mahone, Thomasina Rogers and Sonya Stovall.

*Archon Rodney A. Beverly
Grapter, Epsilon Phi Boulé*



EPSILON PSI BOULÉ HONORS CHARLOTTESVILLE YOUNG PEOPLE

On April 29, 2023, at the historic Jefferson School, Charlottesville, Virginia's Epsilon Psi Boulé held its Second Annual Dr. Donald Wallace Jones Scholarship Brunch. The brunch recognized the achievements of the young people who had participated in Men of Color Honor and Ambition (MOCHA) and Women of Color Honor and Ambition (WOCHA) over the past year. Both MOCHA and WOCHA provide personal, academic, cultural, social, professional and leadership development to middle school, high school and undergraduate students in an effort to affect academic success positively, increase retention and develop tomorrow's successful leaders today.

"Our successful partnership with MOCHA and WOCHA reflects Epsilon Psi Boulé's steadfast commitment to Mary Church Terrell's proposition to 'lift as we climb,' " noted Sire Archon Paul C. Harris. "It has been so rewarding to see these students grow in confidence and in their willingness to take risks. Equally important is their blossoming awareness that failure is often a sign of progress, not a reason to give up."

Archons and Archousai of Epsilon Psi were in attendance to provide words of encouragement and praise, and to present the young scholars with certificates and awards. The family members of each of the young scholars attended as well, making this a major community gathering that displayed the importance of lifting up our young people and showing them examples of high achievement. This year the brunch attendance grew exponentially: While the first scholarship brunch had forty attendees, this year's brunch had more 160 registrants.

The annual brunch is named in honor of Archon Donald Wallace Jones, the founder and chairman of the Dr. Donald W. Jones Foundation. Before retiring from the University of Virginia as a full professor, he was an assistant and adviser to five presidents of the university – the first African American to serve in that position. He also founded the school's Darden Minority Business Executive Program.

*Archon A. Benjamin Spencer
Grapter, Epsilon Psi Boulé*



SIRE ARCHON PAUL C. HARRIS



ATTENDEES AT THE SECOND ANNUAL DR. DONALD WALLACE JONES SCHOLARSHIP BRUNCH

ZETA ALPHA BOULÉ SCHOLARS AWARD DINNER IGNITES BROTHERHOOD AND PRIDE



FRONT ROW: JACOB BEY, DAVIN WATKINS AND TERRELL WALLACE. BACK ROW: DANTE WYNN, JORDAN PEMBERTON, DAMI LADIPO AND MICHAEL VOUFFO.

On May 25, 2023, Zeta Alpha Boulé in Fort Bend, Texas, hosted a Mentee Scholars Award Dinner at the Blackhawk County Club. This event served as a celebration of the growth and successes experienced by the mentees, and by the Archons who so brilliantly leaned in to lift the mentees beyond their already favorable dispositions to greatness. Under the watchful eye of Sire Archon Ricky Raven, this celebration became the first of its kind for Zeta Alpha Boulé, which had its social action program recognized at the 56th Grand Boulé.

The social action committee chair, Archon DeWayne Armstrong, coordinated an elegant and memorable program that placed a colorful spotlight on the qualities of the mentees and their metamorphic program experiences. Based on their outstanding achievements, four mentees who stood as sources of inspiration received scholarship awards during the evening. Seven mentees and nearly the entire member boulé group attended the event. Mentees present included the following ambitious young men: Jacob Bey, Dami Ladipo, Jordan Pemberton, Michael Vouffo, Terrell Wallace, Davin Watkins and Dante Wynn.

There was a deep sense of brotherhood as Archons and mentees reminisced about past experiences while looking toward the future. The recipients of scholarship awards were announced after dinner. The formal program included welcome remarks from Archon Armstrong with additional remarks provided by Sire Archon-Elect Warren Spann. The opening prayer by Archon Derrick Cyprian followed, and afterward a delightful dinner was enjoyed by all. In due course mentees and Archons made introductions and briefly described their backgrounds.

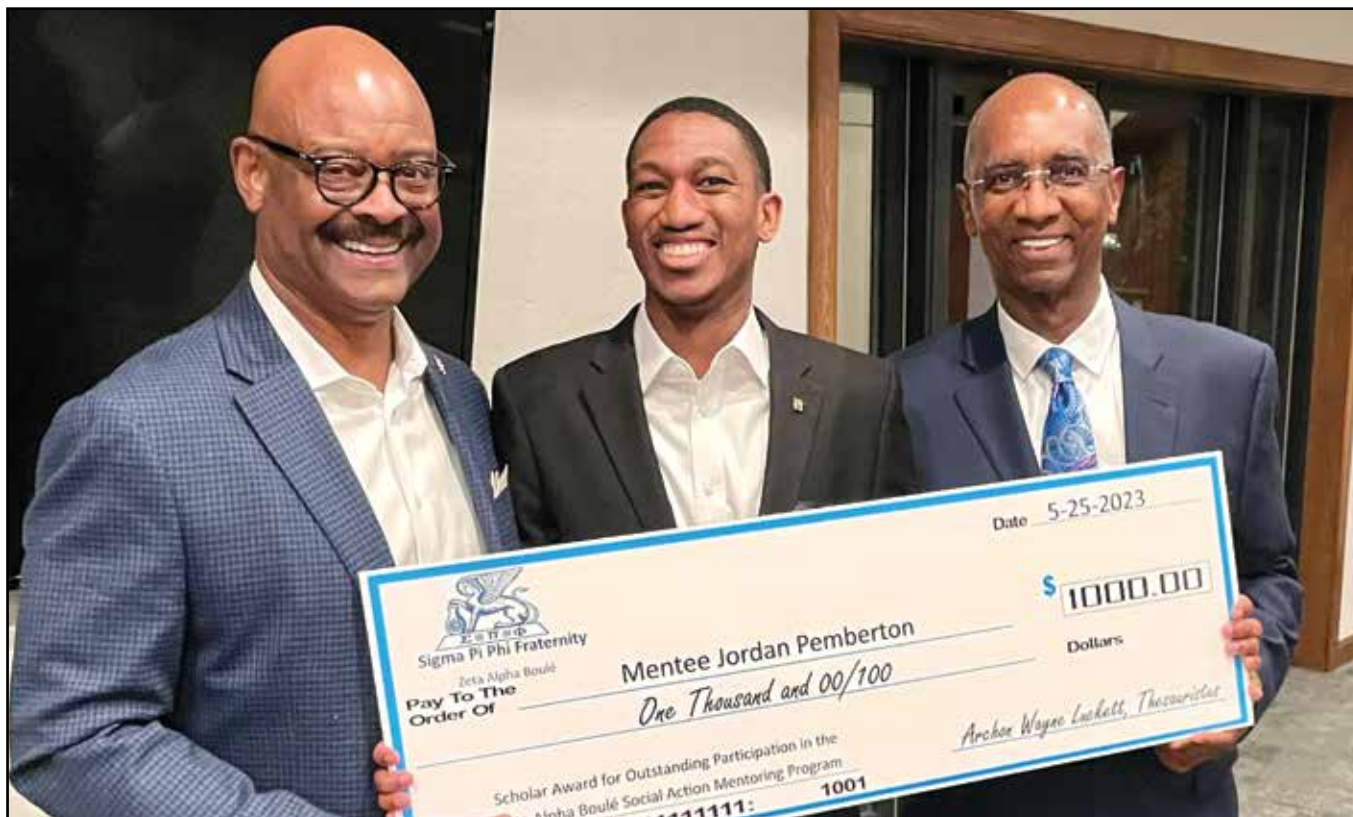
A highlight of the assembly was a speech by mentee Jordan Pemberton, “The Impact of Being Mentored.” Jordan, recently accepted to medical school, highlighted the importance of the support he received from several Archons as he endeavored to gain admission. Then Archon Wayne Luckett led the scholarship award ceremony as a select group of four mentees received \$1,000 each. Closing remarks were by Archon Sean Haley, who gave a retrospect of activities and successes accomplished over the past three years. He implored Archons and mentees always to be mindful of their responsibility to lift others and strive to live by the words “He Ain’t Heavy,” as depicted by the remarkable artistry of Gilbert Young.

The mentees who received \$1,000 scholarship awards based on their individual merits and robust engagement in the program over multiple years were:

Jacob Bey – Texas Southern University junior, majoring in business marketing and organizational leadership; scholar-athlete as TSU Tiger Mascot; member of the historical first HBCU cheer team to win the National Cheerleading Association championship title; business Honors College; and dean’s list. Jacob has accepted a position at Equitable Financial Services.

Dami Ladipo – University of Houston junior, majoring in mechanical engineering; engineering intern at WSP in Detroit; intern at the Michigan Department of Transportation; recipient of The George Foundation Scholarship; UH NAE Grand Challenge Scholar; and first place, UH MECE Design/Build Project.

Jordan Pemberton – University of Houston Honors College graduate (2023), B.S., with a major in health



ARCHON WAYNE LOCKETT, JORDAN PEMBERTON AND ARCHON DeWAYNE ARMSTRONG

and minor in biology; accepted to Baylor College of Medicine; Best Oral Presentation, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; President's Award for Youth and Young Adults, 18th Congressional District; and dean's list.

Dante Wynn – University of Houston junior, majoring in supply chain management and logistics; schol-

ar-athlete as a member of the Houston Cougars football team in the position of defensive back; and Incoterms Certificate holder for import-export global trade.

Archon Sean A. Haley
Grapter, Zeta Alpha Boulé

ZETA GAMMA BOULÉ FOUNDATION CREATES YOUTH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

The Zeta Gamma Foundation of Zeta Gamma Boulé, Annapolis, Maryland, secured grant funding from the city of Annapolis to create its Youth Enrichment Program, which is aimed at reducing the SAT achievement gap at Annapolis High School. The pilot focuses on SAT prep and college admissions counseling for students who receive free and reduced lunch and are on the honor roll or enrolled in advanced courses or the International Baccalaureate program. After every Saturday session, once the business of the day is accomplished, Zeta Gamma Archons participate in hour lunches with the students.

As designed, the program is delivered in three phases. Phase 1 begins with diagnostic testing, followed by five weeks of SAT instruction and diagnostic testing again in week six. In preparation for the

August 2023 SAT, the students received additional one-on-one tutoring, and the school provided wrap-around tutors for the students on weekdays between Saturday SAT sessions. Phase 2 focuses on college admissions counseling and the completion of the Common Application on Saturdays in September. Phase 3 consists of college visits in Maryland and the District of Columbia in October. The goal is college acceptance for each participant by January 1, 2024.

The Zeta Gamma Foundation anticipates working with its first cohort for the remainder of this school year. The social action chair, Archon John C. Dove, Jr., leads the Youth Enrichment Program.

Archon Joel A. Braithwaite
Grapter, Zeta Gamma Boulé

THE NEW ARCHONS

Five Stellar Men Join Theta Boulé



NEW ARCHONS CHRIS EVANS, KEVIN HANNAHS, DAVYEON ROSS, ROBERT “JASON” PARSON AND JONATHAN D. TRUESDALE

Kansas City, Missouri’s Theta Boulé welcomed five outstanding men to Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity at the Fontaine hotel, located at the historic Country Club Plaza, on January 7, 2023. Sire Archon Herbert Hardwick presided over the induction.

Archon Chris Evans has been the president and owner of T-Shirt King, Inc., since 2004. Under his direction the business, which his family founded in 1985, has broadened its customized products and service offerings and expanded its client base across the United States to include Fortune 500 companies and government agencies. Outside of the family business,

Archon Evans dedicates most of his time to coaching Little League baseball. He is also founder and executive director of the I Am King Foundation, a nonprofit that fosters participation in Little League “to educate, inspire and empower young men to become community leaders.” Archon Evans believes that competitive baseball is a tool that can teach African American boys character, discipline and integrity.

A member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Archon Evans graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Morehouse College with a degree in finance. He also earned an M.B.A. from the University of Michigan’s Ross School

of Business, where he was president of the Black Business Student Association.

Archon Kevin Hannahs is president of private-equity firm VantEdge Auto, LLC, which has more than twenty-four Take 5 Oil Change franchises in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska. Before joining VantEdge Auto, he had an extensive executive background with H&R Block, where he was most recently director of U.S. retail operations and real estate. In this role Archon Hannahs oversaw the operations of all 6,500 corporate-owned locations. He was also franchise regional director and had two stints as a company regional director of the Southern California market and the Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky regions.

Archon Hannahs has a bachelor's degree in finance from Morehouse College and an M.B.A. from Webster University. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and sits on several community boards, including those of the Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey, the Englewood Arts Community Center and the Kansas City Country Club Plaza Area Council.

Archon Robert "Jason" Parson is president and CEO of Parson + Associates – a public relations and outreach firm that he established in 2007 – where he is responsible for business development, strategic planning, establishing the company's goals and vision, and leading its workforce. Archon Parson has steered regional and national initiatives related to public safety and green-collar jobs, youth career and life-skills training, as well as major transportation, capital improvement and water-quality projects. His company has been an integral part of some of the largest projects in Kansas City.

A veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Archon Parson served in the U.S. Army Reserve, where he absorbed valuable life lessons and management best practices that he utilizes daily as an entrepreneur, community activist and sponsor of youth empowerment. He is the founder of Project MRE, a nonprofit that provides meals and personal-hygiene items to veterans in the Kansas City metropolitan area, and a member of the environmental nonprofit Bridging the Gap's board of directors. Archon Parson, who earned a B.A. in sociology from the University of Missouri–Kansas City, is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. He has two daughters and one son.

Archon Davyeon Ross is an entrepreneur-in-residence at consultancy R/GA Ventures and cofounder, president and chief operating officer of DDSports,

Inc., of which ShotTracker is the first product. ShotTracker is a sensor-based technology providing comprehensive real-time stats and analytics to players, coaches and fans in practice and live games. He also founded Digital Sports Ventures, a sports-video-syndication platform acquired by Digital Broadcasting Group. As CEO of Digital Sports Ventures, Archon Ross negotiated the rights to Division I college sports video across seven major conferences and set the strategy for the company's portfolio of content and interactive technologies.

A native of Trinidad and Tobago, Archon Ross received a full basketball scholarship to attend Benedictine College, where he was a four-year starter, captain and letterman for its basketball team and earned a B.S. in computer science. He later earned his M.B.A. from MidAmerica Nazarene University. He is an active angel investor with investments in several start-up companies, including EyeVerify (acquired by Alipay), Opendorse, Metactive, Flow Forward, Grab, Robinhood, Klarna and TripleBlind. Archon Ross and his Archousa, Shani Ross, have been married for eighteen years and have two beautiful children – Beckham and Tatum – who are 9 years old.

Archon Jonathan D. Truesdale is an attorney at Truesdale Law, LLC, where he practices in the areas of criminal-defense, personal injury and probate law. A life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, he sits on the fraternity's Middle Western Province board of directors and is a former polemarch of the Kansas City Alumni Chapter. During his tenure it was recognized as the fraternity's international chapter of the year as a medium chapter. Archon Truesdale is also a life member of the NAACP, president of the Midwesterners Club of Greater Kansas City, vice president of the Mercury Club of Kansas City and a member of the advisory board of OmniLife VR, a virtual reality-technology business.

Archon Truesdale earned a B.A. in political science from Johnson C. Smith University, an M.P.A. from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, and a J.D. from the Ohio State University's Moritz College of Law. Archon Truesdale and Archousa Shynda Miles have two children: Jillian, age 9, and Miles, age 5.

*Archon Willie E. Lanier
Grapter, Theta Boulé*

Six Leaders Are the Newest Archons of Alpha Eta Boulé



NEW ARCHONS JOHN HALE III, RODNEY M. MILLER, SR., ANDREY M. HORTON, JAMES S. POORE II, HASKELL D. “DANNY” PORTEE AND JUSTIN STEWART

Indianapolis’s Alpha Eta Boulé welcomed six new Archons on April 28, 2023, at the Skyline Club. Sire Archon Korlon Kilpatrick presided over the ceremony.

Archon John Hale III is CEO of the Cornerstone Group, LLC, where he helps to develop and implement growth strategies for scaling businesses. A senior political appointee in the Obama administration, he was director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization at the U.S. Department of Energy and deputy associate administrator for the Office of Capital Access at the U.S. Small Business Administration. Archon Hale has also held executive positions at several banks and other financial companies and is a national public speaker. His current board memberships include the Fulton Bank advisory board and NextEnergy board; he is also chair of the FSC First board of directors. Archon Hale earned a B.A. in political science from the University of Michigan and his M.S. in finance from Carnegie Mellon University.

Archon Andrey M. Horton is CEO of the Andrey Horton Dental Center and CEO of BIUS, LLC, Commercial Real Estate. His résumé includes membership in the Indianapolis component of the National Dental Association, the American Dental Association, the Indianapolis District Dental Society, the Indiana Dental Association and the American Orthodontic Society. He is also a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and the Bachelor Benedict Club of Indianapolis. Archon Horton earned a bachelor’s degree from Indiana University Bloomington, where he pursued pre-dental coursework, and a D.D.S. from Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry.

Archon Rodney M. Miller, Sr., is vice chairman of mergers and acquisitions (M&A) at J.P. Morgan Securities. He was previously head of M&A for North America at Credit Suisse. Archon Miller is a member of the Dean’s Council at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University and the IU Foundation board of

directors. He is also a trustee for the Studio Museum of Harlem, where he serves as treasurer, and a member of the Gordon A. Rich Memorial Foundation board. Archon Miller received his B.S. in accounting from Indiana University’s Kelley School of Business and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business (now the Booth School of Business), where he is a former trustee.

Archon James S. Poore II is CEO of the Poore Organization and was previously vice president and director of marketing for the largest privately owned bank in Indiana. He is also a McDonald’s restaurant franchisee through the Match Corp. The recipient of the Distinguished Hoosier Award from the state of Indiana, Archon Poore is immediate past chair of the 500 Festival board of directors and volunteers with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Indiana and the Pike County YMCA. He is the author of *Christian Principles for Managing Money* and received his B.S. in agricultural economics from Lincoln University of Missouri and an M.B.A. from Indiana Wesleyan University, where he has been honored with the Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

Archon Haskell D. “Danny” Portee is the owner, president and CEO of Professional Management Enterprises, Inc., a professional-services and personnel-staffing company that he founded after retiring from the U.S. Army. It has received numerous recognitions, including appearing on the Inc. 5000 list and being named Gene McFadden Small Business of the Year by the Mid-States Minority Supplier Development Council. Archon Portee’s personal honors include receiving the President’s Lifetime Achievement Volunteer Service Award from the White House in 2022 and the 2023 Small Business Person of the Year Award for Indiana; he was also accepted into the JPMorgan Chase CEOcircle. Archon Portee received his associate of science degree from Vincennes University, a B.S. in human resource management from

Oakland City University and his M.B.A. from Columbia Southern University.

Archon Justin Stewart is manager of RTO (regional transmission organization) policy and transmission-connection agreements at energy company Ameren. He was previously subject-matter expert for the generator-interconnection process at MISO (Mid-continent Independent System Operator). A member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and the American Asso-

ciation of Blacks in Energy, Archon Stewart earned a B.A. in business marketing from Morehouse College, an M.Ed. in higher education from the University of Georgia and his J.D. from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University.

*Archon Christopher K. Howard
Grapter, Alpha Eta Boulé*

Beta Epsilon Boulé Gains Six Exceptional New Archons



FIRST ROW: ARCHOUSAI DORRETTE IBAZEBO, WANDA PRITCHETT, KIMBERLY GATLING, EDWINA LINK JONES, KIMBERLY MOORE-DUDLEY AND MICHELLE THOMPSON. SECOND ROW: ARCHONS WESLEY IBAZEBO, JAN E. PRITCHETT, LADANIEL GATLING II, PAUL L. JONES, MANUEL DUDLEY AND STAFFORD L. THOMPSON, JR.

Greensboro, North Carolina's Beta Epsilon Boulé welcomed six exceptional new Archons on May 6, 2023, in the Grand Ballroom of the Greensboro Country Club. Sire Archon Henry W.B. Smith III presided over the induction, and Sire Archon-Elect Donison Willis presided over the induction dinner program. While the new Archons were being inducted into the Frater-

nity, their Archousai were given an orientation during a meet and greet led by Archousai Cheryl Smith, Treana Bowling and Karen Schooler. Beta Epsilon was honored by the presence of Grand Grammateus Samuel Bacote III, who served as the keynote speaker for the induction dinner and assisted with the induction ceremony.

Archon Manuel Dudley is vice president of workforce and continuing education at Guilford Technical Community College, where he was previously dean of the Greensboro Campus. He leads GTCC's programs in industry-customized training, adult education, truck-driver training, and occupational and career education; oversees grant allocations in sustainable energy, advanced manufacturing, skilled trades and transportation; and works with employers, state and local partners, and industry leaders to ensure that GTCC meets employee-training needs. Archon Dudley's current board memberships include the GuilfordWorks and United Way of Greater Greensboro boards of directors and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro department of counseling and educational development advisory board; he is also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

A native of Goldsboro, North Carolina, Archon Dudley received his B.S. in human development and family studies and M.S. in counseling and educational development from UNC Greensboro; he earned a Ph.D. in leadership studies from North Carolina A&T State University. Archon Dudley received the Leadership Greensboro Connector Medal from the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce and the UNC Greensboro Alumni of Distinction Award. He and Archousa Kimberly Moore-Dudley, who is owner of the real estate firm KMD Homes Team, have one daughter, Sonni, who attends the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Archon LaDaniel "Danny" Gatling II is vice president for advancement and alumni relations at Guilford College, where he reports directly to the president, is a member of the president's cabinet and provides strategic direction for fundraising activities. Archon Gatling was previously vice president for institutional advancement at Bennett College, where he designed and implemented the Stand With Bennett Campaign, which raised more than \$9.5 million in sixty days to support the college and added more than 11,000 donors during his tenure.

Originally from Chesapeake, Virginia, Archon Gatling sits on the East Greensboro Now and Downtown Greensboro, Inc., boards of directors and is a member at large of the Miriam P. Brenner Children's Museum board of directors. He is also a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Archon Gatling earned his B.S. in architectural engineering from North Carolina A&T State University and an M.A. in philanthropic studies from the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. He is the proud father of four sons – LaDaniel III, Fletcher, Jordan and Joseph – and is married to Archousa Kimberly Gatling, who is an intellectual property partner and the chief diversity and inclusion officer at Fox Rothschild, LLP.

Archon Wesley Ibazebo is an interventional spine physiatrist with Murphy Wainer Orthopedic Specialists, where he provides care for degenerative disorders of the musculoskeletal system as well as treatment for injuries and trauma to bones, nerves, tendons, ligaments and muscles. Archon Ibazebo is president-elect of the Old North State Medical Society and a past president of the Greensboro Medical Society. He is also a member of the North American Spine Society, the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and the American Medical Association. Archon Ibazebo has participated in numerous medical missions in Costa Rica to deliver primary care to indigent people.

The Houston, Texas, native earned a B.S. in biological anthropology and anatomy from Duke University, with a minor in chemistry and a certificate in neuroscience. He earned his M.D. from the University of Texas Medical Branch and completed a residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at University of North Carolina Hospitals. He was associate chief resident and chief resident at UNC Hospitals prior to completing a fellowship in interventional spine and musculoskeletal medicine at Orthopaedic Specialists of the Carolinas. He and Archousa Dorrette Ibazebo, who is a dentist, have three children: Celeste, Samara and Wesley, Jr.

Archon Paul L. Jones is a retired superior court judge in North Carolina and a retired colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. He also operated a private law practice and was a district court judge, an attorney adviser and assistant clerk of court for the U.S. Supreme Court, a U.S. Army judge advocate, and chief legal assistance officer for the 2nd Armored Division.

A native of Kinston, North Carolina, Archon Jones sits on the North Carolina A&T State University board of trustees and the YMCA of Greensboro metropolitan board and is immediate past president of the Rotary Club of Greensboro. He is also a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and the Greensboro Men's Club. A recipient of North Carolina's Order of the Long Leaf Pine and the North Carolina State Bar's John B. McMillan Distinguished Service Award, Archon Jones earned a B.S. from North Carolina A&T State University and his J.D. from North Carolina Central University School of Law. He also graduated from the U.S. Army's judge advocate officer basic and advanced courses at the Judge Advocate General's School and from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff Officer Course. Archon Jones and Archousa Edwina Link Jones, who is a retired attorney, have two adult children: Krystle and Erika.

Archon Jan E. Pritchett is the managing partner of criminal-defense law firm Schlosser & Pritchett and a board-certified specialist in state and federal criminal law. Before entering private practice, he was an assistant district attorney in Guilford County. A native of Weldon, North Carolina, Archon Pritchett

has been chairman of the Criminal Justice Section of the North Carolina Bar Association, a member of the North Carolina Bar Association board of governors and cochairman of the North Carolina State Board of Legal Specialization for the Criminal Law Specialty. He has been recognized as one of *Business North Carolina's* Legal Elite, as a top North Carolina attorney by *Charlotte* magazine and as one of the top DWI lawyers in North Carolina by the National Advocacy for DUI Defense; he has also been named to Super Lawyers.

A member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Archon Pritchett earned a bachelor's degree, with a double major in political science and sociology, from Winston-Salem State University and his J.D. from the Southern University Law Center, where he was a member of the *Law Review* and the National Moot Court Team. He and Archousa Wanda Pritchett, who is a senior vice president at MetLife, have two daughters: Kailey and Ashley.

Archon Stafford L. Thompson, Jr., is senior vice president of life and executive-benefits business management at Lincoln Financial Group, where he drives the expansion and diversification of Lincoln Financial's individual life insurance and executive-benefits products. Archon Thompson previously held lead-

ership roles with increasing responsibility at SCOR Global Life Americas. He was also a vice president and corporate actuary at the African American-owned North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Archon Thompson, who is a native of Jefferson City, Missouri, is a member of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce board of directors, where he also sits on the executive and finance committees; a founding member and former president of the International Association of Black Actuaries; a fellow of the Society of Actuaries; and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries. He also holds Series 6 and 26 licenses. Archon Thompson has been listed among *Savoy* magazine's Most Influential Black Executives in Corporate America and was named one of the 10 Most Inspiring Black Corporate Executives to Follow in 2023 by *CIO Views* magazine. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and earned his B.S. in actuarial science from Florida A&M University. Archon Thompson and Archousa Michelle Thompson, who is an educator, have one daughter, Mikayla.

*Archon Frankie T. Jones, Jr.
Gapter, Beta Epsilon Boulé*

Beta Zeta Boulé Inducts Four Outstanding Archons

Westchester County, New York's Beta Zeta Boulé conducted an induction ceremony for four outstanding Archons at the Harvard Club of New York City on January 7, 2023. Following the induction, the boulé held a formal dinner to introduce and welcome each new Archon and his Archousa to the Beta Zeta family.

Archon Keith E. Canton is head of equity-capital markets for the Americas within J.P. Morgan's investment banking group, where he is responsible for all public- and private-equity raising for corporate clients across all industries in the Americas. Previously he was the global head of private-capital markets at J.P. Morgan, a group that he founded in 2015. Archon Canton joined J.P. Morgan from Barclays, where he was global cohead of private-capital markets. He began his career at Lehman Brothers, where he was a member of the private-placements group. Archon Canton has been involved in all phases of private finance, including origination, structuring, pricing and distribution.

Archon Canton is a member of the board of trustees of the Oliver Scholars and a board member of Phelps Hospital at Northwell Health. He received a B.S. in economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and an M.B.A. from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

Archon Earl E. Hunt II is a partner in the credit platform at Apollo, where he is CEO of Apollo Debt Solutions and cohead of credit secondaries. Before joining Apollo in 2021, he was a partner in the global-markets division at Goldman Sachs, where he was responsible for strategic client coverage. Archon Hunt was also a member of Goldman Sachs's partnership committee and global-markets operating committee. Previously, he worked at Citibank as a director in leveraged-finance sales.

Archon Hunt earned a B.A. in economics from Brown University, where he was also captain of the men's basketball team and where he currently sits on the board of trustees. He is married to Archousa Kristina and has two sons and one daughter.

Archon Chris Lee is responsible for KKR's real estate business in the Americas, overseeing both equity- and credit-investing platforms in the region. He is also vice chairman of the board of directors of KKR Real Estate Finance Trust, Inc., where he was previously co-chief executive officer and copresident, and sits on a number of councils and committees at KKR, including the global inclusion and diversity council. Prior to joining KKR, Archon Lee spent three years at Apollo Global Management on its global real estate



team, where he focused on real estate acquisitions. He also worked at Goldman Sachs in the merchant banking division's real estate principal-investment area for more than five years after spending two years in the investment banking division.

A member of the Sponsors for Educational Opportunity and the Pension Real Estate Association Foundation boards of directors, Archon Lee earned a B.A. in economics from Emory University and his M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. He and his Archousa, Nyssa, have two children: James and Daniella.

Archon Josef Sorett is dean of Columbia College and vice president of undergraduate education. He is also a professor of religion and African American and African diaspora studies at Columbia University, where he directs the Center on African-American Religion, Sexual Politics and Social Justice. An interdisciplinary scholar of religion and race in the Amer-

icas, Archon Sorett is the author of *Spirit in the Dark: A Religious History of Racial Aesthetics* and *Black Is a Church: Christianity and the Contours of African American Life* and editor of the anthology *The Sexual Politics of Black Churches*.

Archon Sorett's scholarly work has been supported with grants from numerous foundations, including the Henry Luce Foundation and the Ford Foundation, and his writing and commentary have appeared in a range of popular media outlets, including ABC News, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*. He has a B.S. in premedicine from Oral Roberts University, an M.Div. in religion and literature from Boston University, and a Ph.D. in African American studies from Harvard University.

*Archon Albert K. Gordon
Grapter, Beta Zeta Boulé*

Beta Eta Boulé Inducts Seven Men



ARCHON WILLIAM L. CHAPMAN, JR.



ARCHON JOEL V. COPPADGE



ARCHON TARIK J. HASKINS



ARCHON JAMES A. JOHNSON II



ARCHON MINION K.C. MORRISON



ARCHON MICHAEL L. VAUGHAN



ARCHON CHRISTOPHER A. WOMACK

Delaware's Beta Eta Boulé has welcomed seven new exemplary Archons into the Fraternity. Sire Archon Monté T. Squire presided over the induction of Archon Morrison at the Wilmington Country Club on March 19, 2023. Archons Chapman, Coppadge, Haskins, Johnson, Vaughan and Womack were inducted on November 20, 2022, at Lincoln University.

Archon William L. Chapman, Jr., is chief diversity officer, director of pro bono services and senior counsel at Potter Anderson & Corroon, LLP. He leads the firm's diversity and inclusion initiatives while spearheading its pro bono program and commitment to community outreach, including mentoring associates in connection with these programs. Before joining the firm, Archon Chapman was a family court judge for the state of Delaware. He was also a deputy attorney general for the Delaware Department of Justice. A member at large of the Law Firm Antiracism Alliance board of directors, Archon Chapman earned a bachelor's degree in history from Brown University and his J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center.

Archon Joel V. Coppadge is the owner and CEO of the real estate firm LuckyQ Solutions, LLC. He spent more than thirty-six years working in health care and the insurance industry, which included executive-leadership positions at Advanced Healthcare Solutions, Aetna, Cigna and Allstate. Archon Coppadge is a member at large of the Delaware Sports Museum and Hall of Fame board of governors, a public member at large of the Plans Management Board for the state of Delaware, and a member of the First Tee of Delaware board of directors. He was board president and vice president during his ten years on the board of the Police Athletic League of Wilmington. Archon Coppadge is a member of Canaan Baptist Church, where he is in the music ministry and was cochair of the trustee board for two years. He earned a B.S. in business administration from Delaware State University, where he was an outstanding member of the men's basketball team.

Archon Tarik J. Haskins is a partner and a member of the commercial-law counseling group at Morris,

Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell, LLP. Archon Haskins's practice covers a wide range of commercial transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, loan agreements, and business counseling. He was previously an associate at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP. Archon Haskins is active nationally in the American Bar Association and is a member of the ABA Business Law Section Mergers and Acquisitions Committee. He is also a member of the Delaware State Bar Association Statutory Trust Committee, responsible for updating the Delaware Statutory Trust Act. Archon Haskins earned a B.A. in mass communications from Clark Atlanta University and a J.D. from the University of Cincinnati College of Law.

Archon James A. Johnson II is the chief information officer for James Hardie Industries. He was previously vice president and CIO at Carpenter Technology Corp. A visionary with a history of advancement across numerous industries, he has also held executive positions, including information technology director, at companies including Honeywell. Archon Johnson sits on the Tech Impact board of directors and national advisory board and is chair of the ASUG (Americas' SAP Users' Group) board of directors. He has been named one of *Black Enterprise* magazine's 300 most powerful executives in corporate America and received the Leadership Excellence Award from the National Diversity & Leadership Conference. Archon Johnson graduated from the University of Virginia with a B.A. in economics and earned an M.B.A. in marketing and strategic management from the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland.

Archon Minion Kenneth Chauncey "K.C." Morrison is a professor in the Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration at the University of Delaware and professor emeritus of political science in the Truman School of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Missouri, where he was also a vice provost. He was previously head of the department of political science and public administration, and senior associate in African American studies, at Mississippi State University. Archon Morrison has written six books and more than seventy articles in international political science journals. His research areas are racial politics in the Americas, U.S. and comparative politics and administration, and political leadership. His book *Aaron Henry*

of Mississippi: Inside Agitator won the Lillian Smith Book Award in 2016. Archon Morrison graduated cum laude from Tougaloo College with a B.A. in political science and earned his M.A. and Ph.D., also in political science, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He also has a certificate in African studies from the University of Ghana.

Archon Michael L. Vaughan is the vice provost for equity at the University of Delaware, where he works to advance the university's academic mission and goals in the areas of human rights and diversity, equity and inclusion. He has more than thirty years of administrative experience at the university and was previously associate dean for undergraduate engineering education. Archon Vaughan earned a B.S. and an M.S. in electrical engineering from North Carolina A&T University – where he currently sits on the Chancellor's Roundtable advisory committee – and a Ph.D. in civil engineering from the University of Delaware. He is also a member of the Delaware EPSCoR State Committee. Also known as the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, EPSCoR is a federal grant program led by the National Science Foundation to help states develop their research capabilities and institutions.

Archon Christopher A. Womack is director of the Real World Value & Evidence program for oncology at Janssen Scientific Affairs, LLC, part of Johnson & Johnson. During his more than thirty years at Johnson & Johnson, he has worked in health care policy and advocacy and health equity, with a focus on social determinants of health – including community activism, health care disparities, and the role of social and community groups – and educating the public about the importance of early screening for prostate cancer. Archon Womack, who is a member at large of the New Jersey Mental Health Institute board, has written about men's health and spoken at national meetings to both health care providers and the public. He earned a B.S. in marketing from Johnson C. Smith University, an M.B.A. in marketing from Philadelphia University (now Thomas Jefferson University), an M.S. in organizational dynamics from the University of Pennsylvania, and an M.A. in human and organizational systems and a Ph.D. in applied systems from Fielding Graduate University.

Archon Rodney L. Gillespie
Grapter, Beta Eta Boulé

Beta Theta Boulé Adds Three New Archons



Beta Theta Boulé of Knoxville, Tennessee, inducted three Archons on March 13, 2023.

Archon Cassius M. Cash is superintendent of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The park's first African American superintendent, he has extensive land-management experience with the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service. Archon Cash was previously superintendent of Boston National Historical Park and Boston African American National Historic Site. He began his federal career in 1991 with the Forest Service as a wildlife biologist at the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in Washington State. Archon Cash, who was born in Memphis, has also been an administrative officer in Nebraska, a district ranger in Georgia and a civil rights officer in Mississippi. He received the National Park Conservation Association's 2021 Stephen Tyng Mather Award for the Smokies Hikes for Healing program, which he launched to bring together people of different experiences and backgrounds on the trail.

A graduate of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, an HBCU, with a B.S. in biology, Archon Cash is married to Archousa Vonda. They are the proud parents of two daughters and reside in scenic Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Archon Brian K. Dickens is chief human resources officer for the University of Tennessee System, where he is responsible for planning, developing and implementing statewide initiatives that support employee engagement for all UT System campuses. Areas of administration include system recruitment, employee and organizational development, compensation, inclusion, data analytics, reporting, payroll, diversity and engagement, benefits, and retirement services. He collaborates with UT System, campus and institute leadership as well as human resources and diversity officers. Archon Dickens is also the owner of BD Consulting, providing management and staff-development services to a variety of companies, as well as executive-level coaching to Fortune 100 leaders. He was pre-

viously vice president of human resources at Ithaca College, where he implemented a staff-compensation study that resulted in an updated salary structure, new job-leveling instructions and improved market-based compensation decisions.

Archon Dickens earned a B.S. in biology and an M.A. in counseling from the HBCU Prairie View A&M University and a Ph.D. in educational administration and human resource development from Texas A&M University. He and his Archousa, Shannon, live in Knoxville with their three children.

Archon Clarence Vaughn is director of the Office of Diversity and Community Relations at the University of Tennessee Haslam College of Business, where he provides strategic leadership to facilitate the college's diversity goals. His previous professional roles include executive director of the police advisory and review committee for the city of Knoxville and director of diversity and inclusion for U.S. Bank. Archon Vaughn is board chair of the United Way of Greater Knoxville executive committee and chair emeritus of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission; he has also been a board member at large for the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement.

Archon Vaughn graduated from the citizens academies of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, the Knox County District Attorney General's Office and the Knoxville Police Department. He holds an associate degree in business management from Tallahassee Community College, a B.S. in business management from Florida A&M University and an M.B.A. in organizational management from the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University. Archon Vaughn resides in Knoxville with his Archousa, Syreeta, and their three daughters.

*Archon Charles A. Brown
Gapter, Beta Theta Boulé*

Beta Pi Boulé Congratulates Its Three New Archons

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania's Beta Pi Boulé welcomed three exceptional new Archons into the Fraternity on March 9, 2023, at the Country Club of Harrisburg.

Archon Elliott Robinson is vice president of finance and administration at the Milton Hershey School, where he provides leadership in facilities maintenance and construction, strategic master-plan development, safety and security, food service, transportation, information technology and telecommunications. His oversight in these areas also requires a close coordination with the Hershey Trust Co. and various committees of the school's board of managers. Archon Robinson sits on and chairs several of the school's committees and is a member of the senior-leadership team. His extensive career in education administration also includes serving as vice chancellor for business and finance at Elizabeth City State University, vice president for business and finance at Johnson C. Smith University, and associate controller at Florida International University.

A graduate of Tuskegee University with a B.S. in accounting, Archon Robinson is active in numerous community and civic organizations, including the Enrollment Management Association and the Catherine Hershey Schools, and is a ruling elder of Capital Presbyterian Church. He is a former member of the Lebanon Valley College board of trustees and the Harrisburg Regional Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

Archon William A. Rollé, Jr., is an associate physician at the Orthopedic Institute of Pennsylvania, a private orthopedic surgical practice. Board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation, he holds a subspecialty board certification in pain management



NEW ARCHONS MERON YEMANE, WILLIAM A. ROLLÉ, JR., AND ELLIOT ROBINSON

and specializes in interventional pain management. Archon Rollé is the former medical director of the Prism Center for Spine and Pain Care, an ambulatory-surgery center, and is a fellow of the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

Originally from Mount Vernon, New York, Archon Rollé earned his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Rochester and an M.D. from Hahnemann Medical College, now the Drexel University College of Medicine. He completed a residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and a fellowship in interventional pain management at KDV Orthopedics. Archon Rollé recently earned a master's degree in health care quality and patient safety from the Jefferson College of Population Health. He and his Archousa, Valleé, are the proud parents of five children and have one grandchild.

Archon Meron Yemane, a first-generation Eritrean American, is a senior vice president, global sports and entertainment director, and family-wealth adviser at Morgan Stanley. He is also the national cochair of Morgan Stanley's Wealth Management National Diversity and Inclu-

sion Council. Archon Yemane is vice chair of the board of directors of Très Bonne Année, a non-profit charitable organization that presents food and wine events in Harrisburg, and sits on the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's (UPMC) Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh board of directors. He also cofounded the Hill Society social club.

Archon Yemane, who earned a B.A. from Penn State University, is a past chairman of the UPMC Pinnacle Foundation board of directors, a former commissioner for the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and an emeritus director of the Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts board. He was also the youngest and first African American chair of the Harrisburg Regional Chamber of Commerce. Archon Yemane's other honors include being named a 50 Under 50 financial adviser by the Association of African American Financial Advisors, being recognized by *Forbes* magazine as a top next-generation wealth adviser and receiving the *Central Penn Business Journal's* 40 Under 40 Award.

*Archon James Lynch
Grapter, Beta Pi Boulé*

Beta Upsilon Boulé Prospers With Ten New Archons



SEATED: NEW ARCHONS CHRIS LEWIS, ADAM T. BERLEW, MICHAEL WARREN, DEREK H. SMITH, DAVID IBNALE, ERIK HARRIS, HYACINTH C. AHURUONYE, CHRISTOPHER D. YOUNG AND JOHN RANDALL "RANDY" LEWIS. STANDING: ARCHON EUGENE H. CLARK-HERRERA; SIRE ARCHON CHRIS THREATT; ARCHONS STEPHEN DAVIS, GARY HALL AND GARRETT PRICE; GRAND SIRE ARCHON ANTOINE M. GARIBALDI; PACIFIC REGION SIRE ARCHON MICHAEL G. KEELEY; AND ARCHONS BILL NASH, JAMES MAYO II, MARTY JONES AND BARRY WILLIAMS.

San Francisco's Beta Upsilon Boulé celebrated its fortieth anniversary as a member boulé and conducted its biennial induction ceremony for new Archons at two events held on January 14 and March 11, 2023. Inducted were ten Archons – reflecting a wide range of professional accomplishment, deep commitment to the San Francisco Bay Area and public service, and tremendous character, portending their collective ability to uphold the traditions, culture and tenets of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

Grand Sire Archon Antoine M. Garibaldi and Pacific Region Sire Archon Michael G. Keeley joined the festivities, along with guests from Alpha Gamma Boulé: Immediate Past Sire Archon Larry Jackson, Past Sire Archon Michael Lenoir, and Archons James Jackson, Ron Jones, Dante Robinson and Landon Taylor. Also in attendance were Gamma Epsilon Boulé Immediate Past Sire Archon Nathan Cox, Archons Mark Williams and Kenneth Frank of Zeta Beta Boulé, and Archon Torbejorne Purdy of Alpha Epsilon Boulé.

Archon Hyacinth C. Ahuruonye is the founder and managing principal of HCA & Co., an accounting, auditing, tax-assurance, strategic advisory and man-

agement consulting firm. He provides guidance and direction to entrepreneurs and executives navigating business and interpersonal decisions and actions that affect bottom lines and desired outcomes. Archon Ahuruonye is an executive-board member and treasurer of the San Francisco African American Chamber of Commerce, and in 2009 he made history by becoming the first foreign-born national elected general treasurer and chief investment officer of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, a position he held for eight years. Notably, the cash reserves of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity nearly tripled under Archon Ahuruonye's tenure. His other contributions include serving on the Bay Area Community Development Corp. board, the San Francisco executive board of the United Negro College Fund and the Youth Guidance Center Improvement Committee. Archon Ahuruonye is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the National Association of Black Accountants and the California Society of Certified Public Accountants. He graduated with honors from Alabama A&M University with a B.S. in accounting and was sponsored by Archon James Mayo II.

Archon Adam T. Berlew is vice president of digital, enterprise and platform marketing at Atlassian, where he is leading efforts to scale the business globally with enterprise companies and partners. He was previously executive director of cloud artificial intelligence strategy, operations and global-enterprise demand marketing for Google Cloud. Archon Berlew has worked in Africa for the nonprofit Africare and with the fund MAGIC (Modern Africa Growth and Investment Corp.), which invests in technology companies on the continent. A past member of the go-to-market advisory board of CapitalG, Alphabet's independent growth fund, he is a member of the Stifel Financial Corp. board of directors, a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a chair of the First Chance Campaign for Concordance, which is focused on reducing the rate of reincarceration. Archon Berlew was featured in *Savoy* magazine as one of the Most Influential Black Corporate Directors of 2021 and Most Influential Black Executives in Corporate America in 2020. He earned his B.A. in economics and political science from Brown University and his M.B.A. in marketing and finance from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Sire Archon Chris Threatt sponsored Archon Berlew.

Archon Erik Harris is executive vice president and chief commercial officer at Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical, Inc. He served eight years in the U.S. Navy, achieving the rank of lieutenant commander, before entering the private sector, where he developed expertise in pharmaceutical sales, biotechnology and oncology. Archon Harris was a vice president at Crescendo Bioscience, a founding partner at Care Systems, LLC, and an independent biopharmaceutical consultant with Dekk, LLC. He also held strategic and product-marketing roles at Genentech, Bristol Myers Squibb, Elan Biopharmaceuticals and InterMune. Archon Harris's community activities have included membership on the board of trustees of Oakland Zoo governing organization the East Bay Zoological Society, now the Conservation Society of California, and the Impact Young Lives Foundation board of directors. He earned a B.S. in mathematics from the United States Naval Academy and his M.B.A. in marketing and strategy from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Archon Harris was sponsored by Archon Bill Nash.

Archon David ibnAle is the founding and managing partner of Advance Venture Partners, LLC, an evergreen investment firm built in partnership with Advance, a privately owned media holding company with a portfolio of media and technology businesses that includes Condé Nast, Charter Communications,

Warner Bros. Discovery and Reddit. He was previously managing director and head of technology practice at TPG Growth, LLC. Archon ibnAle moved into the private-equity and investment-fund sector after beginning his career in Morgan Stanley's corporate financial-analyst program. He worked at Summit Partners, L.P., then became a partner at Francisco Partners, overseeing investments in the semiconductor, communications, capital-equipment and digital-media sectors. Archon ibnAle's community contributions include more than five years on the board of trustees, including as investment-committee chair, of the San Francisco Foundation, which mobilizes resources to foster leadership, build strong communities and promote philanthropy in the San Francisco Bay Area. He graduated with honors from Stanford University with a bachelor's degree in public policy and international development policy and earned his M.B.A. from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. Archon Garrett Price sponsored Archon ibnAle.

Archon Chris Lewis is a co-fund manager of EquiBlue and a senior director at Hudson Pacific Properties (HPP). EquiBlue is a \$350 million private-equity impact fund anchored by HPP to achieve market returns while catalyzing economic mobility for traditional communities of color and businesses. At HPP, Archon Lewis's responsibilities include managing all aspects of leasing and administration of a 3 million-square-foot portfolio of Class A commercial properties in San Francisco. Prior to HPP, he was a brokerage-service associate at Cushman & Wakefield. Before beginning his career in commercial real estate, Archon Lewis was a quarterback for the National Football League's Arizona Cardinals. Archon Lewis earned his B.A. in urban studies from Stanford University, where he made history as the first African American quarterback of the varsity football team. He was sponsored by Archon Eugene H. Clark-Herrera.

Archon John Randall "Randy" Lewis is a partner at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. As a corporate transactional attorney, he cofounded Wilson Sonsini's energy- and climate-solutions practice and coleads the firm's industry initiative today, which includes a cross-disciplinary team that is among the preeminent energy- and infrastructure-law practices in the United States. Archon Lewis is a vice president and member of the board of directors of the Wilson Sonsini Foundation, one of the country's largest legal charitable foundations. He also sits on the board of directors and the executive committee of VentureWell, a nonprofit organization that develops and implements forward-thinking training and grant programs to support science and technology innovators globally. Archon Lewis is

a former member of the Museum of the African Diaspora board of directors. Prior to his legal career, he was a financial analyst at GE Capital and a financial analyst within the Corporate Banking Group at Wells Fargo Bank. Archon Lewis, who earned his B.S. in finance from Boston University and his J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School, was sponsored by Archon Barry Williams.

Archon John Palmer is a partner at the law firm Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP, where he advises public agencies and nonprofit corporations in structuring capital financing for facilities development and improvement. As a municipal finance lawyer, he advises core public agencies in the San Francisco Bay Area, including Bay Area Rapid Transit District, San Francisco Unified School District, Oakland Unified School District, and Alameda and San Mateo counties. Archon Palmer was recognized by *The Bond Buyer* as a Rising Star and by the *Daily Journal* as one of the Top 40 Under 40 attorneys in California. His community contributions include membership on the boards of directors of the Oakland Public Education Fund, where he is chair; GreatSchools; and the Cal Alumni Association. Archon Palmer earned his B.A. in English from the University of California, Berkeley, and his J.D. from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, where he sits on the board. Prior to law school, he pursued doctoral research in English and history at UC Berkeley and subsequently entered the burgeoning Silicon Valley technology sector, helping to develop the International Children's Digital Library and doing investment work at Geniis Agents, LLC. Past Sire Archon Warrington Parker sponsored Archon Palmer.

Archon Derek H. Smith is founder and managing member of Marinship Development Interest, a certified minority-owned business that provides construction management, real estate development and energy-infrastructure expertise while also addressing California's development needs with an intersectional lens. He began his career in the construction industry while an undergraduate, working as a field engineer for a large building contractor in San Francisco. Archon Smith's community contributions have included membership on the First Tee – San Francisco board of directors, the Marin City Community Development Corp. advisory board and the California Energy Commission's Lithium Recovery Task Force; he is also an Alameda County honorary deputy sheriff. Archon Smith, who is a member of the American Association of Blacks in Energy and the Black Engineering and Science Alumni Club at the University of California, Berkeley, earned his B.S.

in mechanical engineering from UC Berkeley and an M.S. in civil engineering from Stanford University. He was sponsored by Archon Gary Hall.

Archon Michael Warren is a managing director at Allspring Global Investments, where he provides investors with strategic guidance and solutions in the areas of endowments, foundations, health care systems, and public and private retirement plans. During his financial-services career of more than thirty years, he has developed expertise in asset management, capital markets and banking while maintaining leadership in workplace diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. Archon Warren began his career at Citigroup, where he established the firm's equity-derivatives business on the West Coast. From there he held managing director positions at Goldman Sachs, Deutsche Bank and Wells Fargo Asset Management. Archon Warren is a member of the First Tee – San Francisco board of directors and has also sat on the Glide Foundation board of directors. Sponsored by Archon Stephen Davis, he earned his B.S. in management science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his M.B.A. from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

Archon Christopher D. Young is executive vice president of business development, strategy and ventures at Microsoft, where he is responsible for driving growth by establishing strategic partnerships, setting corporate strategy and identifying high-impact investments through Microsoft's corporate-venture arm. Archon Young is the former CEO of McAfee, LLC, which, under his leadership, grew to protect mission-critical systems and data for more than two-thirds of the Forbes Global 2000 and more than 500 million consumers. Earlier in his career, Archon Young led cybersecurity efforts at Cisco, RSA and AOL. He also led end-user computing at VMware and cofounded the company Cyveillance. Archon Young is a member of the American Express board of directors and the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's cybersecurity advisory committee; he is a past member of the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee as well as the boards of directors of the Cyber Threat Alliance, Snap, Inc., and Rapid7. Archon Young graduated cum laude from Princeton University, where he is a past young alumni trustee, and earned his M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. He was sponsored by Archon Marty Jones.

Archon Eugene H. Clark-Herrera
Grapter, Beta Upsilon Boulé

Delta Beta Boulé Presents Three Civic-Minded Archons



GRAND GRAMMATEUS SAMUEL BACOTE III, ARCHON KENNETH L. ROBINSON, SPONSORING ARCHON AMON MARTIN, ARCHON KEN CUMMINGS, SPONSORING ARCHON CORY PATTERSON, ARCHON MICHAEL O. ALLEN, SPONSORING ARCHON MAX ALLEN AND SIRE ARCHON KEVIN BRYANT

Greenville, South Carolina's Delta Beta Boulé welcomed three new Archons on October 29, 2022, in a ceremony at the historic Poinsett Club presided over by Sire Archon Kevin Bryant. Each new Archon was introduced by his sponsoring Archon. Special guest Grand Grammateus Samuel Bacote III attended and provided greetings. Following the induction, the celebration continued with dinner and dancing to welcome the new Archons and Archousai.

Archon Michael O. Allen is CEO of MOA Architecture, which he founded with the belief that design can

help create a world where all people feel included, powerful and free in the spaces where they live, work and play. His twenty-one years of architectural-design, business-development and project-management experience includes LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and Green Globe sustainability projects, as well as a deep knowledge of project scales and budgets, which stems from his leadership on higher education, K-12 education, civic, cultural, commercial, and sports and recreation projects. He has been named one of Greenville's 50 Most Influ-

tial by *Greenville Business Magazine* and is a member of the Greenville Community Remembrance Project Monument Committee and the board of directors of Liberty Fellowship, where he is also a fellow.

A former football player at Clemson University, where he earned a B.S. in architecture design and is past president of the Clemson Black Alumni Council, Archon Allen was awarded the university's 2019 Brian Dawkins Lifetime Achievement Award for his career and community achievements. He is engaged to Carla Armstrong, and they are due to be married in October.

Archon Ken Cummings is a senior vice president and commercial-team leader for Southern First Bank. His career in banking spans more than twenty years, with extensive managerial experience in commercial, consumer and private banking. He sits on the Simpsonville City Council – the first African American to be elected in its 150-year history – and the Greenville Chamber of Commerce board of advisers and is former chairman of the Simpsonville Area Chamber of Commerce. He has long been active with the United Way of Greenville County's African American Leadership Council, is a member of the inaugural class of Leadership Simpsonville and is a fellow of the Riley Institute's Diversity Leaders Initiative. Archon Cummings has been recognized by *Greenville Business Magazine* as one of its Best & Brightest 35 and Under and one of Greenville's 50 Most Influential.

A member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Archon Cummings earned a B.B.A. in marketing from Winthrop University, where he was a multiple All-Conference track-and-field awardee, and has an M.B.A. in management from Strayer University. He and Archousa Natasha, his college sweetheart, have three boys. Archon Cummings is treasurer and ordained deacon of Bethlehem Baptist Church and enjoys spending time with his family, traveling and playing golf.

Archon Kenneth L. Robinson is a tenured associate professor of sociology at Clemson University, his alma mater. His research focus is rural sociology, local food systems, and agribusiness and community economic development. Archon Robinson was appointed state scholar for the traveling exhibition *Crossroads: Change in Rural America*, sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and the South Caro-

lina Humanities Council; he was also a presidential management intern at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. A member of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History as well as the Rural Sociological Society, he is an active member of the city of Clemson's strategic plan-implementation steering committee and a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the NAACP.

In addition to a B.S. in agricultural economics and rural sociology from Clemson, Archon Robinson has an M.P.A. in public policy from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. He also earned a Ph.D. in developmental sociology at Cornell University and was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to examine commercial agriculture development in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Both he and Archousa Lisa Harris Robinson are past copresidents of the Cornell Alumni Association Blue Ridge Mountains.

Archon Kenneth L. Robinson
Grapter, Delta Beta Boulé



DELTA BETA
 BOULÉ

Delta Phi Boulé Introduces Two New Members



ARCHONS DONN SPIGHT AND ROBERT D. KELLY

Portland, Oregon's Delta Phi Boulé welcomed two new members on May 6, 2023, in a ceremony led by Sire Archon William Johnson at the Benson Hotel.

Archon Robert D. Kelly is president of the University of Portland – the first African American and first layperson to hold that position at the Roman Catholic institution – and is committed to implementing a new strategic plan and pursuing transformative leadership. He was previously vice president and special assistant to the president at Loyola University Maryland and chief of staff at Union College. Archon Kelly has also held leadership positions with organizations such as the Jesuit Association of Student Personnel Administrators, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators and the American College Personnel Association.

Archon Kelly is a member of the University of Maryland College of Education board of visitors and the Leadership Alumni Council; his past board memberships include the Govans Ecumenical Development Corp. board of directors and the Loyola University Maryland board of trustees. Archon Kelly earned a B.A. in political science from Loyola University Maryland; an M.Ed. in higher education and student-affairs administration from the University of Vermont; and a Ph.D. in education policy, planning and administration from the University of Maryland. He and Archousa Bridget Turner Kelly, an associate professor of education at the University of Maryland, are the parents of two children: Robert Alexander and Addison Elizabeth.

Archon Donn Spight is a professor of surgery at Oregon Health & Science University and a staff physician in the Operative Care Division at the Portland VA Medical Center. He is also medical director of the OHSU Simulation teaching and training organization. Archon Spight's clinical focus is laparoscopic and robotic foregut surgery, including bariatrics. At the height of the coronavirus pandemic in 2021, he was tapped to colead OHSU's COVID-19 vaccine-equity work. He and his team partnered with more than one hundred community-based organizations, local public health authorities and other entities to host more than 150 vaccination clinics, contributing to equitable vaccination rates in the region's underserved communities. In 2023 Archon Spight was named OHSU's inaugural vice president for health equity. He sits on numerous community boards, including the North by Northeast Community Health Clinic board of directors and REAP (Reaching and Empowering All People).

Archon Spight earned his M.D. from Northwestern University Medical School and did his general-surgery training at the University of Cincinnati and his minimally invasive-surgery fellowship at OHSU. He is an alumni member of the Beta Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and a member of the Chicago Alumni Chapter. Archon Spight and Michelle Vega-Spight have two children: Edmond Francisco, 4, and Miguel Lewis, 2.

*Archon Larry D. Roper
Grapter, Delta Phi Boulé*

Zeta Gamma Boulé Welcomes Two Professionals



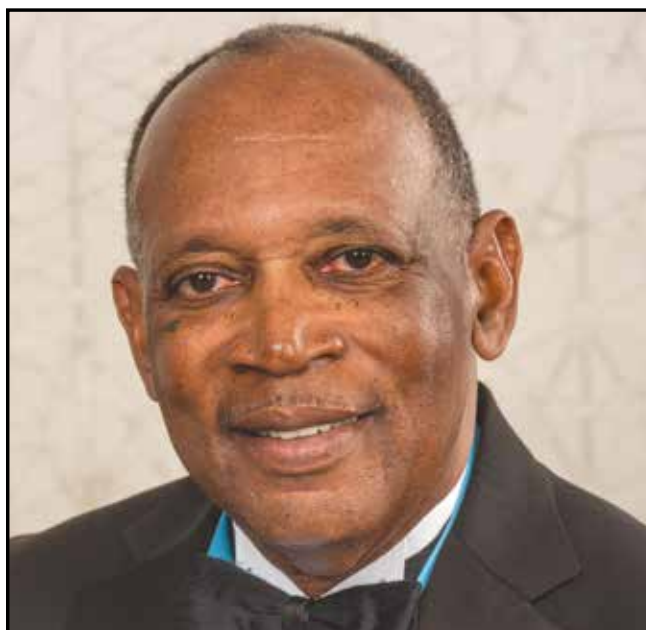
ARCHON SIDNEY A. BUTCHER

On March 18, 2023, Zeta Gamma Boulé of Annapolis, Maryland, welcomed two new Archons in its first induction ceremony presided over by Sire Archon Aris T. Allen, Jr. Zeta Gamma's Archons were joined by Grand Grammateus Samuel Bacote III (Kappa); Northeast Regional Sire Archon Alfred L. Spencer (Beta Eta) and Northeast Regional Agogos Calvin H. Baker (Gamma), along with Past Northeast Regional Sire Archon Ronal Butler (Beta Nu); and Gamma's Sire Archon-Elect Trent Williams, Grammateus Larry Johnson and Archon Harry Johnson.

Archon Sidney A. Butcher is an associate judge for the Seventh District Court in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Prior to his appointment in 2018, he was an assistant attorney general for Maryland investigating Medicaid fraud. Archon Butcher has also worked at a regional law firm, handling civil litigation and criminal defense, and is a former assistant state's attorney for Baltimore City in the major-investigation unit. He is also a former member of the Anne Arundel County board of education.

An active member of local, state and national bar associations, Archon Butcher received the Bar Association of Baltimore City's President's Award and its Government and Public Interest Lawyer of the Year Award. He is a past president of the Monumental City Bar Association, the oldest African American bar association in Maryland, and held leadership positions on several committees of the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA); he is also a former fellow for MSBA's Leadership Academy.

Archon Butcher is a member of the American Bar Association (ABA) House of Delegates and the ABA



ARCHON PEYTON HERBERT

Criminal Justice Section Council and sits on the Maryland Legal Services Corp. board of directors. He earned a B.S. in business administration from Florida A&M University and his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law.

Archon Peyton Herbert is a seasoned professional with more than forty years of experience with mortgage lending and homeownership development. Most recently, he was a senior vice president at Home-Free-USA, where he was responsible for loss-mitigation counseling services, homebuyer development and strategic partnership development. Archon Herbert has managed the origination and servicing of single-family mortgage loans in senior-management positions at various banks and loan-origination companies, including the American National Savings and Loan Association, Mercantile Mortgage Corp., Spectrum Funding and the Harbor Bank of Maryland.

Archon Herbert is a past president of the board of Neighborhood Housing Services of Baltimore and has had affiliations with the Mortgage Bankers Association of America, the Maryland Mortgage Bankers Association and the Housing Authority of Baltimore City. He is also a past member of the housing finance review committee and the housing policy commission for the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Archon Herbert is a graduate of Morgan State University and an avid golfer, husband and father.

*Archon Joel A. Braithwaite
Grapter, Zeta Gamma Boulé*

KUDOS & COMMENDATIONS

James S. Alexander

On April 17, 2023, Archon James S. Alexander of Northern Illinois's Delta Alpha Boulé was appointed to the board of directors of The Marygold Companies, Inc. He will also serve on the board's audit committee. Archon Alexander brings more than thirty years of senior banking experience to The Marygold Companies, having served in executive and senior roles at leading money center banks, including KeyBanc Capital Markets, Wells Fargo Securities and BofA Securities.



Charles Anderson

Archon Charles Anderson of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé was named one of Boston's most influential men of color in health care and life sciences by Get Konnekted!, Boston's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals, on March 28, 2023. Archon Anderson is president and CEO of The Dimock Center, arguably the nation's most comprehensive, integrated community health center with a substance abuse disorder treatment center, emergency shelter and early education programs all on one campus.



Kevin A. Anderson

Archon Kevin A. Anderson of Epsilon Phi Boulé, Prince George's County, Maryland, is a well-known and highly respected figure in the world of business and politics. He currently serves as the secretary of the Maryland Department of Commerce, a position he has served in since March 2, 2023, when he was appointed by the newly elected governor of Maryland, Archon Westley "Wes" Moore of Gamma Boulé.



Darrell L. Armstrong

Zeta Delta Boulé, Mercer-Bucks Counties, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, Archon Darrell L. Armstrong, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church and founder of Faith-leaders Allied and Aligned to Institute Trust in the Home (FAAITH), received a grant from Systems for Action, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation national program, in March 2023. Systems for Action awarded FAAITH, Tufts Medical Center and the Shiloh Community Development Corp. a one-year planning grant to expand a congregationally based, faith-infused home visiting program, which will address racial disparities and inequities.





Arnold, Harrison and Tuning

On April 18, 2023, Williamsburg, Virginia's Epsilon Delta Boulé Archons Wallace C. Arnold and Michael T. Harrison, Sr., both retired major generals, led a symposium on leadership for the William & Mary Center for Military Transition. Epsilon Delta Archon Philip L. Tuning and Johnathan Due, executive director of the Center for Military Transition, moderated the symposium. In attendance were students in the Major General James Wright M.B.A. fellows program.



William W. Ashley, Jr.

On May 5, 2023, Maryland's *The Daily Record* announced the 2023 Health Care Heroes honorees. Archon William W. Ashley, Jr., of Baltimore's Gamma Boulé received the Physician of the Year Award. Archon Ashley is a board-certified, fellowship-trained neurosurgeon. He is currently director of cerebrovascular, endovascular and skull base neurosurgery and chief of the division of neurointerventional radiology at Sinai Hospital and The Sandra and Malcolm Berman Brain & Spine Institute.



George Ashton III

In May 2023 JPMorgan Chase published a series of videos on how the bank's impact investments are helping BIPOC small businesses grow. Archon George Ashton III of Washington, D.C.'s Epsilon Boulé was recognized in one video for the significant work he has done to provide financial capital to minority entrepreneurs. The video featuring Archon Ashton can be viewed at lisc.org. Archon Ashton operates from a corporate perch as the president of LISC Fund Management and the managing director of LISC Strategic Investments.



Edward H. Baine

Richmond's Alpha Beta Boulé Archon Edward H. "Ed" Baine was inducted into the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Academy of Engineering Excellence on April 27, 2023. He was one of six new members selected from 77,000 living Virginia Tech College of Engineering alumni. Archon Baine's induction was based on his exceptional professional success in the engineering field. As Julie Ross, the Paul and Dorothea Torgersen Dean of Engineering, noted, the inductees have "made a significant impact on the field of engineering."



Jeffrey Ballou

ABC News president Kimberly Godwin and ABC News Washington Bureau chief Jonathan Greenberger appointed Washington, D.C.'s Epsilon Boulé Archon Jeffrey Ballou a producer with ABC NewsOne, the news show, affiliate and client service of ABC News, on April 10, 2023. The appointment is an outstanding acknowledgment of the tremendous impact Archon Ballou has had on broadcast journalism.

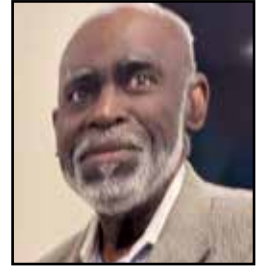


John and Arlene Barnett

Fort Worth–Arlington, Texas's Delta Mu Boulé Archon John Barnett and his Archousa, Arlene, received the 2023 Dr. Marion J. Brooks Living Legend Award, an annual award given by the Beta Tau Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. The two were honored on June 16, 2023, at the organization's Dr. Marion J. Brooks Living Legends Awards program. The award celebrates the duo's outstanding contributions to the Fort Worth community through their dental practice Kids Stop Dental and their philanthropic efforts.

Ryle A. Bell

In recognition of his forty years on its faculty, the Howard University College of Dentistry added a portrait of Archon Ryle A. Bell of Northern Virginia's Beta Nu Boulé to its hallowed halls in connection with commencement activities for the dental school on May 12–13, 2023. Archon Bell, who is also an alumnus of the school, was a professor and associate dean and is now a professor emeritus.



Willard E. Bell, Sr.

Archon Willard E. Bell, Sr., of Epsilon Chi Boulé in Colorado Springs assumed the role of chief of current operations, electromagnetic warfare mission area team, headquartered at the United States Space Force Space Operations Command in May 2023. In this role he is responsible for overseeing offensive and defensive weapon systems operations in support of combatant commanders worldwide, supporting the National Defense Strategy.



Damond W. Boatwright

Archon Damond W. Boatwright of St. Louis's Eta Boulé was inaugurated as chairperson of the Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHA). His one-year term began on July 1, 2023. An article on Archon Boatwright's new position was published by *The State Journal-Register* on June 14, 2023: <https://www.sj-r.com/story/news/healthcare/2023/06/14/springfield-il-hospital-ceo-to-head-catholic-health-association-board/70318356007/>. Archon Boatwright is president and CEO of Hospital Sisters Health System. He has served as a board member at the CHA.



Steven D. Bond

Archon Steven D. Bond of Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé was elected vice chair of the Hampton Planning Commission on May 15, 2023. The Hampton Planning Commission makes recommendations to the Hampton City Council on the city's community plan, zoning ordinances and land use requests. Archon Bond is the assistant city manager with responsibility for public safety, youth education and family services, and leisure services.



Bowden, Gatling, Johnson, Martin and Vincent

Beta Epsilon Boulé, Greensboro, North Carolina, announces that Archon R. Steve Bowden, managing partner of R. Steve Bowden & Associates; Archousa Kimberly Gatling, partner at Fox Rothschild, LLP; Archousa Yvonne Johnson, first Black mayor of Greensboro; Archon Harold L. Martin, Sr., chancellor of North Carolina A&T State University; and Archousa Teresa H. Vincent, chief district court judge, were named to *Black Business Ink's* Power 100 at a gala at the Steven Tanger Center for the Performing Arts in Greensboro on June 8, 2023.



Stefan M. Bradley

Archon Stefan M. Bradley of Springfield, Massachusetts's Beta Sigma Boulé was the commencement speaker at the Loyola Marymount University Kente Graduation on May 16, 2023. Archon Bradley gave a special charge to the Class of 2023, saying, "You must remain a warrior, never switching sides, because you're on the side of righteousness and justice. You may, however, have to switch angles, which means you may have to adjust how you approach the fight for Black liberation."



Barry Breaux, Sr.

Archon Barry Breaux, Sr., of Oakland–Berkeley, California's Alpha Gamma Boulé performed with his jazz quartet, Q4 Jazz Project, on July 7, 2023. Archon Breaux formed Q4 Jazz Project in 2020 as the culmination of many years of listening, learning, practicing and performing the art of jazz guitar, all while simultaneously practicing ophthalmology for thirty-five years in Oakland and Berkeley. Archon Breaux's style is reminiscent of Kenny Burrell, Grant Green and Wes Montgomery.



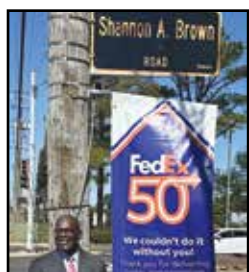
Roy C. Brooks

Archon Roy C. Brooks of Fort Worth–Arlington, Texas's Delta Mu Boulé has garnered a number of accolades in recent months. Among them is the Man Enough to Be a Girl Scout Award, which he received from the Girl Scouts of Texas Oklahoma Plains on May 10, 2023, at a convention in Hurst. Archon Brooks also received the Community Champion Award from the YMCA of Metropolitan Fort Worth on May 5.



Reginald J. Brown

Washingtonian magazine has named Archon Reginald "Reg" J. Brown of Northern Virginia's Beta Nu Boulé to its 2023 list of the 500 Most Influential People shaping policy in Washington, D.C. He appeared in the banking-and-finance category of the list, which was published on April 27, 2023. Archon Brown is a litigation partner in the D.C. law offices of Kirkland & Ellis, LLP, where he has a vibrant and diverse practice specializing in crisis and governmental investigations and regulatory matters.



Shannon A. Brown

Memphis's Delta Boulé Archon Shannon A. Brown began his career with FedEx in 1978 as a package handler, but he retired in 2022 as senior vice president of eastern division U.S. operations and chief diversity officer at FedEx Express. In honor of his distinguished career as a corporate executive and outstanding work as a champion for community service, a street was named after Archon Brown. The street-naming ceremony was held on May 8, 2023, with hundreds of FedEx employees, retirees and community leaders in attendance.



Frank Bryant, Jr., and Wayne J. Riley

On April 6, 2023, Archon Wayne J. Riley of New York City's Zeta Boulé – inspired by the iconic medical legacy of charter Archon Frank Bryant, Jr., of San Antonio's Gamma Phi Boulé – delivered an insightful and action-oriented address, "Our Quest for Health Equity," at the twentieth anniversary of the Frank Bryant, Jr., M.D., Memorial Distinguished Lecture. It was presented by the Center for Medical Humanities and Ethics at the Long School of Medicine of the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Terrence and Terri Burroughs

In January 2023 the contributions of Raleigh, North Carolina's Gamma Sigma Boulé Archon Terrence Burroughs in the field of pharmacy led to the naming of a student and faculty lounge at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Eschelman School of Pharmacy. Archon Burroughs's commitment to his field, to volunteerism and to diversity made him an obvious choice for the naming of the college's new lounge. The Terrence and Terri Burroughs Student Lounge features a unique art installation that connects to a new course being developed in partnership with the Ackland Art Museum.



Calvin L. Butts, Jr., and Patrick Johnson

Sire Archon Calvin L. Butts, Jr., of Zeta Delta Boulé, Mercer-Bucks Counties, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and Archon Patrick Johnson of Chi Boulé, Nashville, spoke about their investments into Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey at the Spirits on the Rise Summit in April 2023 at Nearest Green Distillery in Shelbyville, Tennessee. The Nearest & Jack Advancement Initiative, a collaboration between Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey and Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey, held this first-of-its-kind summit to encourage diversity.



Richard K. Bynum

During Howard University's inaugural Entrepreneurship Week in April 2023, the university and the PNC Foundation announced the official launch of the Howard University and PNC National Center for Entrepreneurship. The creation of the center was spearheaded by Grammateus Richard K. Bynum of Northern Virginia's Beta Nu Boulé, PNC Financial Services Group's chief corporate responsibility officer, along with the respective teams of PNC and Howard. The center is aimed at building resources and expanding opportunities and support for African American business owners across the country.



Dennis Cail

On May 16, 2023, Archon Dennis Cail of Dallas's Alpha Epsilon Boulé was appointed to the advisory board of American National Bank of Texas, a 147-year-old bank headquartered in Terrell, Texas, with branches throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. Archon Cail is cofounder and CEO of Zirtue, a relationship-based lending application that aims to improve financial equity and inclusion.



Darryl and Taleeta Canady

On May 30, 2023, Pittsburgh's Rho Boulé Archon Darryl Canady and his Archousa, Taleeta Canady, celebrated LIFE Male STEAM Academy receiving a \$1.5 million grant from the Pennsylvania Charter School Program to support its mission of utilizing STEAM-based education to prepare underrepresented male scholars for college and career readiness. Archon and Archousa Canady are cofounders of the academy.



Herbert Cash III, Keith Davies and Philip E. Davis

Kanoo Pays was the Gold Sponsor at the Caribbean Council Annual Reception at the House of Lords in London, United Kingdom, on May 3, 2023. Nassau, Bahamas's Delta Lambda Boulé Archons Keith Davies, Kanoo CEO, and Herbert R. Cash III, Kanoo CFO, represented Kanoo. The keynote speaker and special guest for the event was esteemed Delta Lambda Archon Philip Edward Davis, prime minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. On May 4, 2023, Kanoo also sponsored an investment forum at the Reform Club in London.





K. Bernard Chase

Howard University alumnus and political action chair of the Robert T. Freeman Dental Society, Grammateus K. Bernard Chase of Epsilon Phi Boulé, Prince George's County, Maryland, graciously delivered the address for the Howard University College of Dentistry's pinning ceremony, recognizing graduating dental students. The event was held on April 21, 2023, at the Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library on the Howard University campus.



Eric Chatman

On March 28, 2023, Get Connected!, Boston's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals, named Archon Eric Chatman of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé one of Boston's most influential men of color in politics and the public sector. Executive vice president and chief financial officer of Housing Partnership Network, a national affordable housing and community development nonprofit based in Boston, Archon Chatman is also vice chair of the board of directors of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston and former president and director of the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.



Kieth Cockrell

Archon Kieth Cockrell of Charlotte, North Carolina's Beta Delta Boulé was selected as King of the Mystic Krewe of Crowns Mardi Gras event, which was sponsored by the non-profit organization Carolina Youth Coalition. Archon Cockrell also delivered the keynote address at Queens University of Charlotte's 164th commencement ceremony on May 6, 2023. Archon Cockrell is president of Bank of America Charlotte.



Rodney Cole

Gamma Rho Boulé, Ann Arbor, Michigan, is celebrating the May 2023 promotion of Archon Rodney Cole to president of the DTE Energy Foundation and DTE Corporate Citizenship. Archon Cole has served as vice president of the foundation since April 2021. Archon Cole received his B.S. and M.S. from Michigan State University. He is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.



Malcomb Coley

Archon Malcomb Coley of Charlotte, North Carolina's Beta Delta Boulé was named to *Business North Carolina's* 2023 professional services power list by the Foundation for the Carolinas on May 1, 2023. Archon Coley is the central region private leader and Charlotte managing partner at Ernst & Young.



Kenneth J. Cooper

Archon Kenneth J. Cooper of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé was one of the twenty-five legends, leaders and pioneers among Boston's most influential men of color announced by Get Connected!, Boston's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals, on March 28, 2023. Currently interim managing editor of Boston's *Bay State Banner*, Archon Cooper is a storied reporter and editor most known for his work at *The Boston Globe*, *The Washington Post* and WGBH.

Michael A. Danso

On June 12, 2023, *Inside Business* recognized Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia’s Beta Lambda Boulé Archon Michael A. Danso for receiving the designation of fellow of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). Archon Danso received this designation in recognition of his status as a thought leader in the field of oncology, long-term commitment and service to ASCO, and work in helping to advance cancer treatments. The designation also requires cumulative volunteer service. Archon Danso served as track leader for metastatic breast cancer for ASCO in 2022.



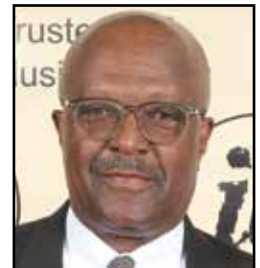
Walter Davenport

Raleigh, North Carolina’s Gamma Sigma Boulé Archon Walter Davenport was recently interviewed for an article in *Business North Carolina* magazine. Published on March 31, 2023, as part of the magazine’s “Pillars of NC” series, the article is available at <https://businessnc.com/pillars-of-nc-walter-davenport-overcame-racism-as-a-pioneering-cpa-and-a-board-member-at-key-n-c-institutions/>.



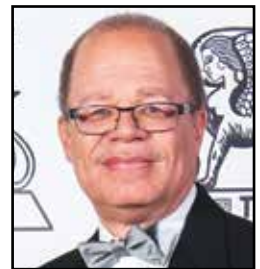
George Demaree

The Louisville Urban League Guild recognized Archon George Demaree of Louisville, Kentucky’s Psi Boulé at its seventh annual Seniors Empowered in a Changing World Brunch on June 10, 2023, for his service in the Louisville community. Archon Demaree also received the 2023 Trustees of Inclusive Equity Award at the Louisville Central Community Center Dr. Ralph de Chabert Trustees of Inclusive Equity Awards program on June 19.



Spencer Disher

Charlotte, North Carolina’s Beta Delta Boulé Archon Spencer Disher was elected to serve as chair of the board of Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region, starting on July 1, 2023. Archon Disher has served in several Habitat for Humanity board leadership roles, including, most recently, vice chairperson and head of governance. In 2022 alone, Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region served more than 400 families through placement in more than seventy new and existing homes, providing critical home repairs and educating future homeowners in financial literacy.



John C. Dove, Jr.

On May 18, 2023, Annapolis, Maryland’s Zeta Gamma Boulé Archon John C. Dove, Jr., was appointed commissioner of Occupational and Professional Licensing for the Maryland Department of Labor. Archon Dove will be responsible for managing multiple licensing bodies in Maryland, as well as regulating the actions of hundreds of thousands of Maryland businesses and individuals. His “objectives are to advance Governor (and Archon) Wes Moore’s mission to foster economic growth, protect the health, safety, and welfare of Marylanders, and administer the standards of licensee expertise.”



Joel J. Ducoste

Archon Joel J. Ducoste of Raleigh, North Carolina’s Gamma Sigma Boulé delivered a seminar as part of the Warren Distinguished Lecture series at the University of Minnesota on March 24, 2023. The lecture was titled “Formation of Elevated Temperatures in Municipal Solid Waste Landfills: These Are Not Your Typical Smokey Hill Tops or Mountains!” and described his research into developing numerical models to help understand and predict the occurrence of high temperatures in landfills.





Wendell Duggins

Tampa Bay, Florida's Gamma Omicron Boulé Archon Wendell Duggins, a retired IBM engineer and former member of the senior management team at IBM, graciously hosted a robotics club on Fridays for six weeks at Lomax Magnet Elementary School in the spring of 2023. Lomax is a Title I magnet school where 98 percent of the students are minorities and 92 percent of the students receive free and reduced lunch.



Rodger L. Duncan III

On April 22, 2023, Archon Rodger L. Duncan III of Epsilon Lambda Boulé, Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie Counties, Florida, attended the T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society Healthcare and Science Stars of Tomorrow Career Symposium as committee chair for youth services. More than 500 ethnically diverse students from more than twelve schools in Florida's Palm Beach, Okeechobee and Martin counties attended the symposium, where they joined health care professionals and representatives from academic institutions for career exploration activities.



Raymond Ealy

On May 26, 2023, the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Foundation announced its 2023 grant awards, totaling more than \$240,000, to twenty-four organizations in California's San Gabriel Valley. The grants support new and ongoing programs benefiting children, teens, adults and seniors. STEAM:CODERS, a nonprofit managed by its executive director, Pasadena, California's Gamma Zeta Boulé Archon Raymond Ealy, received a \$35,000 grant to help expand its science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) classes, camps and MathPods program.



Frank Emory, Jr.

On March 9, 2023, Charlotte, North Carolina's Beta Delta Boulé Archon Frank Emory, Jr., was inducted into The Executive Leadership Council, the preeminent membership organization committed to increasing the number of global Black executives in C-suites, on corporate boards and in global enterprises. Executive vice president and chief administrative officer at Novant Health, Archon Emory also served as the speaker for Barton College's commencement celebration on May 13.



Charles English

Archon Charles English of Dallas's Alpha Epsilon Boulé was fêted with a reception and dinner to honor his retirement as CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Dallas in May 2023. Archon English led the organization for almost twenty years, during which time he increased the organization's budget from a deficit of \$1 million to an operating budget of \$10 million and expanded the number of clubs from seven to twenty-six, thereby increasing the number of children served to 5,000 a day.



David Evans

Archon David Evans of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé received the highest honor bestowed by the Harvard Club of Washington, DC – the Public Service Award – in ceremonies on April 4, 2023. Archon Evans played a central role in diversifying Harvard University's student body during his fifty-year career as a senior admissions officer. He also helped diversify the student bodies at many other schools by founding an association of Black college admissions officers.

Sidney H. Evans, Jr.

On April 23, 2023, National Urban League president and CEO Archon Marc H. Morial (Zeta) announced the appointment of Washington, D.C.'s Epsilon Boulé Archon Sidney H. Evans, Jr., as the organization's new CFO. Archon Morial said, "Mr. Evans brings over thirty-eight years as a financial management professional in the corporate, banking, government, not-for-profit and higher education industries. We are excited to have him join the National Urban League team."



Earl E. Exum

Archon Earl E. Exum of Farmington Valley, Connecticut's Beta Iota Boulé was appointed chairman of the board of directors of International Aero Engines AG (IAE) at the board's spring 2023 meeting. Previously, Archon Exum was president of IAE. An international consortium company, IAE's majority shareholder is the Pratt & Whitney division of Raytheon Technologies Corp.



Melvin J. Ferebee, Jr.

On April 25, 2023, Archon Melvin J. Ferebee, Jr., of Beta Lambda Boulé, Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia, was elected vice president of the Virginia Air & Space Science Center's board of directors. He has served on the board since his appointment on February 9, 2022. Home to both the Apollo 12 command module and the Orion PA-1 test vehicle, the Virginia Air & Space Science Center is the official visitor center for NASA Langley Research Center and features interactive aviation exhibits, historic aircraft, space-flight artifacts and more.



Anthony Ferguson

Archon Anthony Ferguson of Nassau, Bahamas's Delta Lambda Boulé was named the 2022 Person of the Year by the Jones Communications Network. *The Nassau Guardian* announced his selection in an article published on December 21, 2022: <https://thenassauguardian.com/jcn-selects-anthony-ferguson-as-person-of-the-year-for-2022/>.



Dexter Fisher

An interview with Athens, Georgia's Delta Psi Boulé Sire Archon Dexter Fisher about his recent election as a county commissioner in Athens-Clarke County, Georgia, was published in the March 2023 edition of *The Red & Black*, the student newspaper at the University of Georgia. During the interview Archon Fisher described his successful campaign, which included winning a runoff election after finishing first in a large field of candidates in the general election.



Mark T. Fleming

On April 1, 2023, Archon Mark T. Fleming of Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé was selected to serve on the Prostate Cancer Foundation's expert panel that will determine screening guidelines for prostate cancer in Black men. Archon Fleming joins several Archons from around the country in his service in this group. Archon Fleming is currently serving his second two-year term, which began on January 1, 2023, as president of Virginia Oncology Associates.





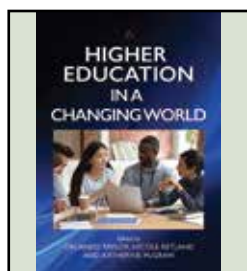
Paul Francisco

Boston's Beta Beta Boulé Archon Paul Francisco was named one of Boston's most influential men of color for diversity, equity and inclusion by Get Konnekted!, the city's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals, on March 28, 2023. Archon Francisco is senior vice president and chief diversity officer at State Street, the world's fourth-largest investment manager. Archon Francisco has a long record of promoting diversity in his prior positions at Bank of America, Fidelity Investments, Amica Mutual Insurance and Gillette.



Evan S. Frazier

In June 2023 Pittsburgh's Rho Boulé Archon Evan S. Frazier announced that the signature program of The Advanced Leadership Institute (TALI) – the Executive Leadership Academy – delivered in partnership with Carnegie Mellon University, is expanding nationally. Archon Frazier is the president and CEO of TALI. The announcement came after the program's five-year mark. The national program will have the same purpose as the Executive Leadership Academy and will be delivered in a hybrid format to accommodate different cities and regions.



Antoine M. Garibaldi and Orlando L. Taylor

Fielding University Press's new publication *Higher Education in a Changing World* was published on March 21, 2023. The book was edited by Suburban Maryland's Beta Mu Boulé Archon Orlando L. Taylor, as well as Nicole Retland and Katherine McGraw, and contains a chapter written by Grand Sire Archon Antoine M. Garibaldi of Detroit's Iota Boulé. Authored by nearly fifty higher education scholars and leaders, the book was written as a guide to an industry in a constant state of change.



William Generett, Jr.

Archon William Generett, Jr., of Pittsburgh's Rho Boulé was selected to serve on the five-member board of directors of the Eden Hall Foundation in June 2023. Eden Hall is a private foundation that focuses on stewardship in the areas of human services, health, education, civic and community works, and the arts. Archon Generett is currently the senior vice president for civic engagement and external relations at Duquesne University.



Frederick George

Sire Archon Frederick George of Beta Sigma Boulé, Springfield, Massachusetts, was reelected town moderator for Northborough, Massachusetts, on May 9, 2023. Archon George was first elected to this role in 2003 for a one-year term. His twenty-first successful candidacy for town moderator was propelled by his experience, knowledge, skills, integrity and proficiency in this role. Since being elected town moderator in 2003, he has also held leadership positions with the Massachusetts Moderators Association, most recently as the association's president.

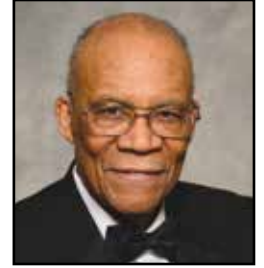


Serge Georges, Jr.

On March 28, 2023, Archon Serge Georges, Jr., of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé was named one of Boston's most influential men of color in law and law enforcement by Get Konnekted!, the city's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals. Archon Georges is an associate justice on the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, which he was appointed to by former Governor Charles D. "Charlie" Baker, Jr., in 2020.

Larry S. Gibson

Archon Larry S. Gibson of Gamma Boulé, Baltimore, received the First Citizen Award from the Maryland Senate on April 7, 2023. The Maryland Senate president and the Maryland archivist present the award annually to Marylanders who have been dedicated and effective participants in the process of making government work for the benefit of all. Gamma Boulé Archon David Wilson received this distinguished award in 2018 and Archon Freeman Hrabowski III received it in 2010.



Gabriel E. Gore

St. Louis's Eta Boulé Archon Gabriel E. Gore, a former federal prosecutor, was sworn in as St. Louis circuit attorney on May 30, 2023. Governor Michael L. "Mike" Parson appointed Archon Gore to the position on May 19, 2023. Archon Gore succeeds former Circuit Attorney Kimberly M. Gardner, who left office earlier than expected. Archon Gore said he was thankful to Governor Parson for the opportunity to "restore the public trust and confidence in the circuit attorney's office."



Earl T. Granger III

Archon Earl T. Granger III of Williamsburg, Virginia's Epsilon Delta Boulé was elected vice chair of the Williamsburg Health Foundation in May 2023. The foundation, which formed in 1996, has distributed more than \$100 million in grants within the Greater Williamsburg area. The foundation's mission is to collaborate, innovate and invest to affect systems that improve the health and well-being of individuals living in the Williamsburg area. Archon Granger is chief development officer and senior vice president of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.



Derrick Grant

On February 25, 2023, the City of Charleston Parks and Recreation Department selected Archon Derrick Grant of Upsilon Boulé, Charleston, West Virginia, as a Black Excellence honoree, highlighting his commitment to parks and recreation and his lifelong achievements. Archon Grant is a senior executive in the field of medical sales.



Joe Greer and Estella Mayhue-Greer

Memphis's Delta Boulé Archon Joe Greer and Archousa Estella Mayhue-Greer received the 2022 Wendell H. Gilbert Award at the Austin Peay State University 39th Annual Candlelight Ball on May 6, 2023, in Nashville. The award is given to individuals who have "significantly contributed to the university or have brought recognition to the university by his or her success." This marks the first time the prestigious award has been given to a couple.



Ervin V. Griffin, Sr.

At its annual meeting on April 28, 2023, the Bluefield State University Alumni Association presented the Lifetime Member Award to Charleston, West Virginia's Upsilon Boulé Archon Ervin V. Griffin, Sr., for his lifetime contributions to the association, achievements in higher education and service to his community.





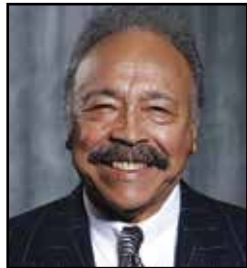
Marshall C. Grigsby

The board of trustees of Benedict College presented Suburban Maryland's Beta Mu Boulé Archon Marshall C. Grigsby with an honorary doctor of laws degree during the college's 153rd commencement ceremony on May 5, 2023. Archon Grigsby was elected the 12th president of Benedict College in 1985. During his eight-year tenure, programs were initiated that helped the college achieve national recognition. Archon Grigsby was appointed to the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities in 2018.



Leon and Ann Haley

Pittsburgh's Rho Boulé Archon Emeritus Leon L. Haley, Sr., and Archousa Ann Haley received the Legacy Award at the August Wilson African American Cultural Center's Take Center Stage: Higher Ground gala on May 6, 2023, for their support of the arts, theater and the Carnegie museums in the Pittsburgh community. Janis Burley Wilson, president and CEO of the center, presented the award. Archon and Archousa Haley have provided significant contributions to the August Wilson African American Cultural Center.



Hamm, Harvey, Jones, Scott and Turner

On May 15, 2023, Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé Archons Edward L. Hamm, Jr., founder of E.L. Hamm & Associates, Inc.; William R. Harvey, twelfth president of Hampton University; Maurice Jones, former CEO of OneTen; Robert C. "Bobby" Scott, U.S. House of Representatives; and Clayton P. Turner, director of the NASA Langley Research Center, were named to *Inside Business's* Power List 2023: Emeritus.



Allan Hardy

In June 2023 Archon Allan Hardy of Charlottesville, Virginia's Epsilon Psi Boulé received the Lecturer of the Year Award for the third time in a row from the Murphy Deming physician assistant program, affiliated with Mary Baldwin University. The award was voted on by graduating seniors and was given in recognition of Archon Hardy's tremendous contributions to their training in this important field. Archon Hardy is board certified in internal medicine, gastroenterology and obesity medicine and has a certificate for training in advanced endoscopy.



Roger F. Harris

Archon Roger F. Harris of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé received the inaugural Director's Veterans' Excellence Award from the William Joiner Institute for the Study of War and Social Consequences at the University of Massachusetts Boston on March 31, 2023. Archon Harris served a thirteen-month tour of combat duty in Vietnam during his three years of active duty with the United States Marine Corps. Archon Harris is a nationally recognized K-12 teacher, middle school principal and charter school cofounder in Boston.

Charles Hayden

Philadelphia's Alpha Boulé Archon Charles Hayden is adding another well-deserved award to his mantelpiece. Archon Hayden received a 2023 Professional Excellence Award, winning in the category of Power Player, from *The Legal Intelligencer*. The honor was bestowed on him during an awards dinner held by the Philadelphia legal publication on June 14. Archon Hayden is a judge of the Philadelphia Municipal Court and has served Philadelphia's citizens as a jurist since his election in 2009.



Raphael and Tyra Henderson

On May 30, 2023, the University of Southern California Alumni Association's board of governors appointed Archon Raphael Henderson of Pasadena, California's Gamma Zeta Boulé and his Archousa, Tyra Henderson, to serve as its university parent representatives. The Hendersons are the first African American parents to serve as parent representatives on the board. The board of governors, which is celebrating its centennial anniversary, promotes the advancement of the university and engages alumni of all ages and backgrounds.



Kevin A. Henry

PulteGroup appointed Archon Kevin A. Henry of Charlotte, North Carolina's Beta Delta Boulé executive vice president and chief people officer, effective June 20, 2023. A Cornell University graduate with more than thirty years of experience, Archon Henry was previously chief people officer for BlueLinux and Extended Stay America. Currently on the board of directors of Saia, Inc., Archon Henry received the Urban League of Central Carolinas Whitney M. Young, Jr. Award and was named one of the most influential Black executives in corporate America by *Savoy*.



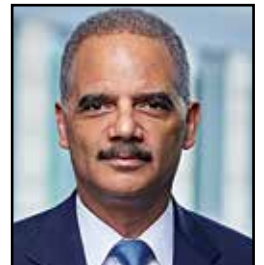
Tim Hogans

Miami, Florida's Alpha Rho Boulé Sire Archon-Elect Tim Hogans, project director of development at NextEra Energy's GridLiance transmission company, served as program chair for Leadership Florida's Connect Class 12 during the 2022–23 program year. A Connect Class 6 graduate, Archon Hogans led the 2022–23 class, comprising forty-five highly successful leaders from business and nonprofit organizations across Florida, through a nine-month series of seminars and training throughout the state, concluding with the class graduation in June 2023 in Boca Raton, Florida.



Eric Holder, Jr.

On June 2, 2023, Archon Eric Holder, Jr., of Epsilon Boulé, Washington, D.C., was the commencement speaker for the John Jay College of Criminal Justice at The City University of New York. He and Mariska Hargitay, star of *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*, both received honorary degrees. Epsilon Boulé salutes Archon Holder for all of the work he has done to champion equal justice from the various bully pulpits from which he has served on behalf of all Americans, especially people of color.



Ivan A. Houston and Ivan J. Houston

Late Emeritus Archon Ivan J. Houston and Past Sire Archon of Xi Boulé in Los Angeles was a Buffalo Soldier in World War II. His new memoir, *Black Warrior: The Return of the Buffalo Soldier*, completed by his son, Past Xi Sire Archon Ivan A. Houston, and released on March 26, 2023, details his return to Tuscany, the Italian region he helped liberate seventy years ago. This story is even more captivating because Archon Houston had written 95 percent of the book before he passed away in March 2020.





James Hoyte

Archon James “Jamie” Hoyte of Boston’s Beta Beta Boulé was one of the twenty-five legends, leaders and pioneers on the Get Connected! list of Boston’s most influential men of color published on March 28, 2023. Get Connected! is Boston’s top networking organization for underrepresented professionals. From 1983 to 1988, Archon Hoyte was the Massachusetts secretary for environmental affairs, the first African American in the nation to hold such a state post. He was also founding chair of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority.



Freeman A. Hrabowski III

Archon Freeman A. Hrabowski III of Gamma Boulé, Baltimore, received the most prestigious award presented by the National Academy of Sciences, the Public Welfare Medal, on April 30, 2023, for his outstanding leadership in transforming U.S. science education and increasing cultural diversity within the science workforce. Established in 1914, the medal is presented annually to honor extraordinary use of science for the public good.



Jaime Irick

On April 5, 2023, Pittsburgh’s Rho Boulé Archon Jaime Irick, via PPG Industries, Inc., announced that Glidden paint by PPG will become the primary paint and stain brand at Walmart. Customers will be able to shop the various Glidden products at more than 3,800 Walmart stores in the United States. Archon Irick is the vice president of PPG Architectural Coatings in the United States and Canada. For more than 140 years, PPG has developed and delivered paints, coatings and specialty materials.



Derrick Z. Jackson

On March 28, 2023, an image of puffins taken by Boston’s Beta Beta Boulé Archon Derrick Z. Jackson finished third in the *Bird-Watching Bird Portrait* contest. Get Connected! also recognized him as one of twenty-five legends, leaders and pioneers on the list of Boston’s most influential men of color. On May 8, 2023, Archon Jackson won the award for reported essay from the American Society of Journalists and Authors for an article published in *Grist*.



Robert A. James

On May 15, 2023, Archon Robert A. James of Pittsburgh’s Rho Boulé joined the board of directors of Evans Bancorp, Inc., a financial holding company and the parent company of Evans Bank, N.A., a commercial bank with \$2.1 billion in assets and \$1.8 billion in deposits as of March 31, 2023. Archon James is currently the vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion at Highmark Health and Allegheny Health Network.



Calvin D. Jamison

In March 2023 Dallas’s Alpha Epsilon Boulé Archon Calvin D. Jamison, president of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators and vice president for facilities and economic development at the University of Texas at Dallas, spearheaded the successful implementation of three National Telecommunications and Information Administration grants, totaling more than \$11 million, to support the Connecting Minority Communities pilot program for HBCUs. Archon Jamison worked with a team that included Archons Michael J. Sorrell, president of Paul Quinn College, and T.C. Broadnax, Dallas city manager.

Kevin Johnson

Archon Kevin Johnson of Sacramento, California's Gamma Epsilon Boulé held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 31, 2023, for his third Fixins Soul Kitchen restaurant, which opened in Tulsa's Greenwood District on June 13. A former NBA All-Star and a former mayor of Sacramento with roots in Tulsa, he said he chose the city as the third location to "shine a light" and because the city deserved it. The ceremony took place on the 102nd anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre, in which Greenwood was destroyed.



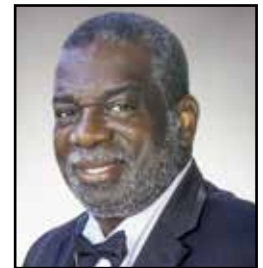
Leon Johnson

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine selected Archon Leon Johnson of Delta Mu Boulé, Fort Worth–Arlington, Texas, to be a member of the Department of the Air Force Science and Technology Roundtable, which will discuss and make recommendations for the United States Air Force and Space Force. The roundtable comprises fourteen individuals from government, industry and academia. Its first meeting was held on May 12, 2023.



Lonnie L. Johnson

On April 21, 2023, Archon Lonnie L. Johnson of Epsilon Omicron Boulé, North Houston, Texas, was appointed a member of the Presidential Advisory Commission on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Black Americans. More information on the commission and its newly appointed members can be found in the White House press release: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/04/21/president-biden-announces-key-appointments-to-boards-and-commissions-25/>.



Robert E. Johnson

On March 28, 2023, Archon Robert E. Johnson of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé was named one of Boston's most influential men of color in academia by Get Konneted!, the city's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals. Archon Johnson is president of Western New England University and a member of the Council on Competitiveness, which promotes entrepreneurship across academia, business, labor and the national labs.



Darryl Jones

St. Louis's Eta Boulé Immediate Past Sire Archon Darryl Jones, who in July 2022 became the first African American to chair the board of trustees for St. Louis University High School (SLUH), one of the nation's most prestigious Jesuit high schools, came full circle as he helped to celebrate the SLUH Class of 2023. On May 28, 2023, Archon Jones congratulated the Class of 2023 in the same venue where, in 1973, he sat as a student awaiting his own diploma.



Jerrauld Jones

Commentary written by Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé Archon Jerrauld "Jay" Jones, titled "Commentary: Virginia Must Resist Efforts to Roll Back Voting Rights," was published in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* on April 12, 2023. The commentary is a call to action for Virginian voters detailing the disturbing trend of Republican-led legislation that threatens to erode the previous progress that "skyrocketed Virginia from forty-ninth to twelfth in ballot access."





Jerrauld C. Jones

On March 24, 2023, Archon Jerrauld C. Jones of Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé received the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Distinguished Service Award. Archon Jones was the first Black law clerk for the Supreme Court of Virginia; spent much of his career in private practice; was appointed director of the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice; was elected eight times as a delegate to the Virginia General Assembly; and was a jurist, starting in the Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court before being elevated to the Norfolk Circuit Court.



Paul Anthony Jones

Fort Valley, Georgia's Beta Chi Boulé Archon Paul Anthony Jones, the tenth president of Fort Valley State University, served as the commencement speaker for the 136th commencement ceremony at Utah State University, his alma mater, on May 4, 2023. He was awarded an honorary doctorate degree in education during the ceremony.



Ron G. Jones

Pittsburgh's Rho Boulé Chapter Ron G. Jones was elected to the board of directors of the Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA) on June 1, 2023. The ACBA is a professional trade association of more than 5,000 attorneys, judges, paralegals and legal administrators with offices in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and its surrounding counties. Archon Jones is a partner at Frost Brown Todd, LLP.



Charles Wesley Jordan

Archon Charles Wesley Jordan of Pasadena, California's Gamma Zeta Boulé celebrated his 90th birthday on May 28, 2023. More than 100 guests, including family and friends, attended the festive event, which was held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Claremont. Archon Jordan was bishop of The United Methodist Church serving the Iowa area until he retired on September 1, 2000. He has served as the bishop in residence at Claremont School of Theology since 2001.



Marion Kelly

On May 18, 2023, the Past Presidents' Council of the Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce honored Phoenix's Gamma Mu Boulé Archon Marion Kelly as a Scottsdale History Hall of Fame inductee. The event was held at The Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch in Scottsdale, Arizona. Archon Kelly is director for the Mayo Clinic Office of Community Affairs and is responsible for the diversity and inclusion effort at Mayo's Arizona campus.



Kanahl Kendrick

Pacific Region Sire Archon–Elect Kanahl Kendrick of San Jose, California's Gamma Chi Boulé was elected to the board of directors of Bay Area Community Health (BACH) in May 2023. He will serve on the board's finance committee. A federally qualified health center, BACH serves more than 100,000 people in southern Alameda and Santa Clara counties in Northern California, bringing more than seventy years of service to the communities that stretch across the area.

Cato T. Laurencin

Archon Cato T. Laurencin of Philadelphia's Alpha Boulé joined with the University of Connecticut to establish the Cato T. Laurencin Institute for Regenerative Engineering (IRE) at UConn in February 2023. The IRE will focus on groundbreaking musculoskeletal research and new approaches to integrating medical, scientific, engineering and technical knowledge to address problems in the regeneration and healing of complex tissues, organs and organ systems. Archon Laurencin is the University Professor and Albert and Wilda Van Dusen Distinguished Endowed Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at UConn.



Roswell Lawrence, Jr.

Archon Roswell Lawrence, Jr., of Delta Psi Boulé in Athens, Georgia, was named a fellow of the American Council on Education (ACE) on February 23, 2023. The ACE Fellows Program prepares outstanding faculty, staff and administrators of universities and colleges for senior leadership positions, such as chief executive officers, chief academic officers and deans. Archon Lawrence is one of only thirty-six fellows selected from faculty and staff of these institutions of higher learning across the United States.



Charles T. Ledbetter

Upsilon Boulé of Charleston, West Virginia, celebrated the fortieth anniversary of Archon Charles T. Ledbetter joining Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity. The celebration, held in conjunction with the monthly meeting, was on March 17, 2023, at the Charleston Marriott hotel in Charleston, West Virginia. Archon Ledbetter has served the fraternity in a variety of positions during his forty years of service.



Bakari G. Lee

In June 2023 Northern New Jersey's Mu Boulé Sire Archon Bakari G. Lee received the Ronald D. Winthers Community College Trustee Leadership Award from the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges. This award is special to Archon Lee because it is named after his late mentor Ronald D. Winthers, who passed away earlier this year. Winthers became a mentor to Archon Lee after Archon Lee was appointed to the board of trustees of Hudson County Community College in May 2006.



Sidney W. Levy, Jr.

Charlotte, North Carolina's Beta Delta Boulé Archon Sidney W. Levy, Jr., joined Positec North America as vice president of human resources on June 12, 2023. Archon Levy's career began in brand management, working for companies including Nabisco and Colgate-Palmolive. He then transitioned to marketing and held director-level roles in the sports industry. His most recent HR role was as vice president of talent management and associate engagement for Extended Stay America.



Will L. Lucas II

Archon Will L. Lucas II of Toledo's Alpha Phi Boulé was elected chair of the University of Toledo board of trustees in June 2023, becoming the youngest board chair in the school's history. In addition, in February he was promoted to vice chair of the Ohio Casino Control Commission, the statewide regulatory body overseeing casino and sports gaming. An entrepreneur and content creator, Archon Lucas is the founder and CEO of aWLC Co (a William Lucas Co.), which includes several technology, media and real estate-development businesses.





Quentin L. Marlin

On May 18, 2023, Archon Quentin L. Marlin of Savannah's Alpha Lambda Boulé was installed as a new member of the board of trustees for Telfair Museums. Archon Marlin is a partner at Ellis Painter Attorneys at Law. A lifelong Savannahian, Archon Marlin has lent his talents to numerous community and quasi-governmental boards.



Irving W. McConnell

On March 25, 2023, Annapolis, Maryland's Zeta Gamma Boulé Archon Irving W. McConnell was elected president of the Tuskegee Veterinary Medical Alumni Association (TVMAA) at the 57th Annual Veterinary Symposium in Montgomery, Alabama. The TVMAA holds the distinction of representing the largest number of African American veterinary medicine graduates in the United States. With a deep-rooted commitment to diversity, the TVMAA is dedicated to bolstering the number of minority veterinarians within the profession and strengthening the field with a rich array of perspectives and experiences.



Joe McFerrin II

On March 22, 2023, Archon Joe McFerrin II of Portland, Oregon's Delta Phi Boulé was recognized by the Royal Rosarians as a 2022 Newsmaker of the Year. The award honors individuals in the Portland community who have performed exceptional acts of heroism or benevolent service without regard for personal safety, public recognition or personal gain. Archon McFerrin is president and CEO of Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center + Rosemary Anderson High School.



Byron McLain

Archon Byron McLain of Los Angeles's Xi Boulé received the CLAY (California Lawyer Attorney of the Year) Award from the Daily Journal Corp. on April 12, 2023, for his work in securing the historic Bruce's Beach victory. A partner at Foley & Lardner, LLP, Archon McLain represented the County of Los Angeles in defending against a lawsuit that aimed to prevent the Bruce's Beach property from being returned to the Bruce family.



Michael P. McMillan

St. Louis's Eta Boulé Archon Michael P. McMillan, president and CEO of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc., gave a stirring keynote address for the NAACP Edwardsville 58th Annual Freedom Fund Awards Banquet, hosted by the Edwardsville, Illinois, chapter of the NAACP on June 4, 2023. Commenting on the choice of Archon McMillan for the keynote, Walter Williams, NAACP Edwardsville president, said, "I'm excited about what he is doing in the metropolitan St. Louis area and how he is growing the Urban League."



Tracy V. McMillan

Archon Tracy V. McMillan of Fairfield County, Connecticut's Delta Nu Boulé and the executive-search firm BroadView Talent Partners, where he is CEO and managing partner, led a nationwide search for the first executive director of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity. Archon Bennett Gaines of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina's Epsilon Mu Boulé was ultimately chosen and began his historic appointment on June 5, 2023. Archon McMillan and his team at BroadView have since been tapped to oversee the search for the Boulé Foundation's director of operations.

Darrell L. McNair

The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, one of twelve regional reserve banks that comprise the Federal Reserve System along with the board of governors in Washington, D.C., announced the addition of Cleveland's Tau Boulé Archon Darrell L. McNair to its main office board of directors, effective May 29, 2023. He was elected as a class B director to complete an unexpired term concluding on December 31, 2023.



Tommy McNeill

Archon Tommy McNeill of Chapel Hill, North Carolina's Epsilon Gamma Boulé is the founder and CEO of Mid-South Medical, LLC, a Durham, North Carolina-based medical equipment distributor. In March 2023 Archon McNeill and Mid-South Medical donated life-saving patient warming systems to two hospitals in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania: Muhimbili National Hospital, a 1,500-bed, public teaching hospital and research center, and Kairuki Hospital, a private hospital.



Matthew McRae

Archon Matthew McRae of Athens, Georgia's Delta Psi Boulé was honored as one of the first African Americans to graduate from the Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University during a ceremony at the college on April 30, 2023, when a portrait of the trailblazing dentist was unveiled. Archon McRae was joined at the dedication ceremony by his wife, Archousa Barbara McRae; their four children, including Archon Matthew McRae III; and their twelve grandchildren.



Eddie S. Meadows

Los Angeles's Xi Boulé Archon Eddie S. Meadows, professor emeritus of ethnomusicology and jazz studies and adjunct professor in global jazz studies at the University of California, Los Angeles Herb Alpert School of Music, is proud to announce the publication of his sixth book, *African American Musical Styles: An Introduction*. The book, which was published in April 2023, contains research and materials that Archon Meadows created and used to support his teachings.



Kevin Merida and Donna Britt

Archon Kevin Merida of Suburban Maryland's Beta Mu Boulé and his Archousa, Donna Britt, have established the Doris Hill Graduate Scholarship Fund at the Boston University College of Communication to honor Archon Merida's mother, who is 90. The fund will award a \$30,000 scholarship annually to a graduate student with financial need who is in the college's journalism program. Archon Merida, an alumnus of BU, is executive editor of the *Los Angeles Times*, and Archousa Donna is an author and a former syndicated newspaper columnist.



Quincy Miller

Boston's Beta Beta Boulé Archon Quincy Miller, vice chair and president of Eastern Bank, launched the Eastern Bank Equity Alliance for Business program on March 9, 2023. The initiative accounts for systemic barriers – such as generational wealth and credit scores – in approving loans for small businesses owned by underrepresented populations. Archon Miller was also named among Boston's most influential men of color by Get Konnekted!, Boston's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals, on March 28, 2023.





William Jahmal Miller

On April 19, 2023, Sacramento, California's Gamma Epsilon Boulé Sire Archon William Jahmal Miller announced the upcoming publication of his first book, *Equity, Equality and Justice for All*, on May 1, 2023. It was inspired during his tenure as California's first-ever health equity officer and leading adviser to Governor Jerry Brown on issues of health and mental-health disparities. Archon Miller's role as deputy director of California's Office of Health Equity afforded him a platform to effect change at the highest levels of state government.



Houston Mills

Louisville, Kentucky's Psi Boulé Archon Houston Mills, UPS vice president of flight operations and safety, delivered the keynote address to graduating students from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida, on May 8, 2023. "This was an incredible honor to be part of a celebration that recognizes these outstanding students for their dedication and accomplishments," said Archon Mills.



John Milner

Archon John Milner of Raleigh, North Carolina's Gamma Sigma Boulé recently had two papers published. The first, titled "Development of a Community Advisory Board to Guide Research About Cancer Disparities in the Black and African American Community," was published on November 15, 2022: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36450360/>. The other paper, titled "Barriers and Facilitators to the Engagement of Physical Activity Among Black and African American Cancer Survivors During and After Treatments," was published on January 26, 2023: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36700992/>.



James Mitchell, Jr.

New York State comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli appointed Archon James Mitchell, Jr., of Epsilon Boulé, Washington, D.C., to the investment advisory committee of the \$250 billion New York State Common Retirement Fund in April 2023. The fund is the third-largest public pension system in the nation with 1.2 million beneficiaries. In March 2023 Archon Mitchell was also named a Director to Watch for 2023 by *Private Company Director* magazine, one of the leading publications reporting on corporate governance in the industry.



Gabriel A. Morgan, Sr.

Hampton-Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé Archon Gabriel A. "Gabe" Morgan, Sr., joined the U.S. delegation of highly influential chiefs of police and sheriffs that convened in Kraków, Poland, April 17–19, 2023, to participate in the March of the Living. A joint effort between the International March of the Living and the Rutgers University Miller Center on Policing and Community Resilience, the initiative brought together law enforcement executives, heads of state, government officials, students and community members committed to countering hatred and targeted violence.



David Morris

In May 2023 Archon David Morris of Durham, North Carolina's Alpha Tau Boulé was elected a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, a global honorary society of lawyers, judges and legal scholars who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in the profession and service to society. Membership as a fellow is limited to 1 percent of attorneys permitted to practice in the United States.

J. Keith Motley

Boston's Beta Beta Boulé Archon J. Keith Motley was named one of twenty-five legends, leaders and pioneers on the Get Konnected! list of Boston's most influential men of color on March 28, 2023. Get Konnected! is Boston's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals. Additionally, on April 28, 2023, the University of Massachusetts Boston named its first residence hall in honor of Archon Motley, who previously served as the university's chancellor, and his Archousa, Angela Motley.



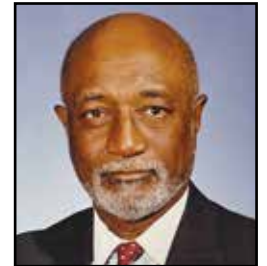
Gerald A. Neal

The University of Kentucky Martin School of Public Policy and Administration inducted Archon Gerald A. Neal of Louisville, Kentucky's Psi Boulé as one of the newest members of the Kentucky Public Service Hall of Fame on April 14, 2023. Elected in 1989, Archon Neal is the longest-serving member of the Kentucky State Senate and is the first Black American to hold leadership positions in the Kentucky General Assembly. From 2014 to 2016, he served as chair of the state senate's Democratic caucus, and in December 2022 he was elected the Democratic floor leader.



Ivory V. Nelson

Nu Boulé, Houston, Texas, congratulates Archon Ivory V. Nelson on receiving a doctor of humane letters, honoris causa, from Lincoln University of Pennsylvania. The degree was conferred on him at the university's 164th commencement ceremony on May 7, 2023, in recognition of his prior service as the university's twelfth president from 1999 to 2011. During Archon Nelson's tenure, he increased student enrollment and secured \$325 million in private and public funds for campus construction and renovations.



Henry Obi

Archon Henry Obi of London, United Kingdom's Epsilon Xi Boulé was presented the Commander of the Order of the British Empire award for public and political service by a representative of His Royal Highness King Charles III at an investiture ceremony held on April 21, 2023. Archon Obi is a partner at Helios Investment Partners, a private-equity firm based in London. He is also a trustee of Prostate Cancer UK and a governor of London Business School.



Isaiah Oliver

Flint, Michigan's Gamma Delta Boulé Archon Isaiah Oliver has accepted the position of president of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida. Archon Oliver and his family will move to Jacksonville, Florida, following his resignation from his position as president and CEO of the Community Foundation of Greater Flint on July 28, 2023. Mlive.com published an article on May 10, 2023, about Archon Oliver's resignation and his time with the Community Foundation of Greater Flint.



Thomas and Barbara Palmer

The Boy Scouts of America Central Georgia Council honored Fort Valley, Georgia's Beta Chi Boulé Archon Thomas Palmer and Archousa Barbara Palmer on April 27, 2023, for their support of scouting and the Boy Scouts. The Palmers each received a Golden Eagle Award for their dedicated and continued support of the local troop.





Augustus G. Parker III

Charlotte, North Carolina's Beta Delta Boulé Archon Augustus G. Parker III received the 2023 Elder Statesman of the Year award at the sixth annual Black Fathers Rock! Awards Celebration, sponsored by Healthy Blue of North Carolina. Upon receiving his award, Archon Parker, the author of *Mining Diamonds*, gave a brief speech. Held on June 10, 2023, at the IV Stones Event Center in Charlotte, the event was a night of celebration of America's unsung hero: the Black patriarch.



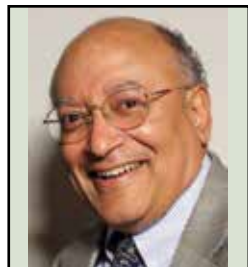
Bryan Parker

Suburban Maryland's Beta Mu Boulé Archon Bryan Parker, member of the New York University School of Law Class of 1995, was appointed to the board of directors for the NYU Law Alumni Association (LAA) for a four-year term starting in June 2023. The LAA is an integral part of the educational, financial, intellectual and social life at the NYU School of Law. Archon Parker is cofounder and CEO of Washington, D.C.-based Legal Innovators, an end-to-end, technology-enabled talent management solution for law firms and corporate legal departments.



Jonathan Parris

J.P. Morgan formally announced its newly promoted managing directors in April 2023. Consequently, Epsilon Upsilon Boulé, South Atlanta, would like to congratulate Archon Jonathan Parris on his promotion. In the finance industry, the name Jonathan Parris is synonymous with excellence. J.P. Morgan is considered one of the largest global financial institutions in the world, and its managing directors are senior leaders responsible for overseeing and managing various aspects of the company's operations. Only those with experience, perseverance and tenacity make it to that level.



Michael C. Payne

Archon Michael C. Payne spearheaded Beta Beta Boulé, Boston's Welcome to College Symposium on April 29, 2023, at Northeastern University. The seminar provided high school students and first-year college students with an in-depth look at the academic and social transition between high school and college as well as presentations on improving learning skills and career planning for many fields, including law, media, medicine, finance and technology. Fellow Beta Beta Archons Richard Harris, Kenneth J. Cooper, J. Jacques Carter, Harris Gibson and Frederick Johnson assisted at the symposium.



Michael D. Pegues

In April 2023 Lawyers of Color selected Archon Michael D. Pegues of Dallas's Alpha Epsilon Boulé for its 2023 Power List, a list of the nation's most influential minority attorneys and allies. Lawyers of Color is a nonprofit organization devoted to promoting diversity in the legal profession and advancing democracy and equality in marginalized communities. Archon Pegues is a partner at Polsinelli, a national law firm with more than 1,000 lawyers.



M. Lee Pelton

Get Connected!, Boston's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals, named Boston's Beta Beta Boulé Archon M. Lee Pelton one of Boston's most influential men of color in philanthropy and social justice on March 28, 2023. Archon Pelton is the CEO and president of the Boston Foundation, one of the nation's leading philanthropic organizations with \$1.7 billion in assets. Archon Pelton joined the foundation in 2021 after a decade as president of Emerson College and after serving as president of Willamette University from 1998 to 2011.

Jeffery Perry

On May 13, 2023, Archon Jeffery Perry of Northern Illinois's Delta Alpha Boulé gave the commencement address at Babson College and celebrated with his son Donovan, who graduated cum laude as part of Babson's Class of 2023. Donovan will work in marketing at Converse in the fall. Archon Perry is truly building a legacy of academic excellence. A graduate of Babson College, he has been a trustee at Babson since 2016 and was elected chair of Babson's board of trustees in 2021.



Arden T. Phillips

In June 2023 Archon Arden T. Phillips of Washington, D.C.'s Epsilon Boulé was promoted to vice president, deputy general counsel and corporate secretary at Constellation, the nation's largest producer of carbon-free energy and a leading supplier of sustainable solutions to millions of residential, public sector and business customers. Prior to Constellation, Archon Phillips served as corporate secretary of United States Steel Corp., a Fortune 200 integrated steel manufacturer, and WGL Holdings, Inc., a publicly traded utility holding company.



Sean Pittman

Tallahassee, Florida's Alpha Zeta Boulé Archon Sean Pittman, founder and managing partner of the Pittman Law Group, one of the leading minority-owned law firms in Florida, was named to the board of directors of the American Diabetes Association (ADA) in March 2023. Founded in 1940, the ADA is dedicated to preventing, curing and managing the diabetes epidemic across the United States.



Randle E. Pollard

Late Archon Randle E. Pollard, father of Archon Randle B. Pollard of Charlottesville, Virginia's Epsilon Psi Boulé, received an honorary doctoral degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin. The college's highest recognition, the honorary doctorate was awarded posthumously at the MCW commencement on May 19, 2023. Archon's wife Mildred Brawner Pollard received the degree on behalf of her late husband. Late Archon Pollard was the first Black resident at the Marquette University School of Medicine, MCW's predecessor institution, where he received his graduate medical degree in 1958.



Kenneth Poole, Jr.

Archon Kenneth "Kenny" Poole, Jr., of Minneapolis-St. Paul's Omicron Boulé was named chair of the African American employee resource group at UnitedHealth Group (UHG) in April 2023. Caring for 146 million people, UHG is a Fortune 500 company with more than 340,000 employees in two distinct and complementary businesses – Optum and UnitedHealthcare. As chair of the African American employee resource group, Archon Poole is committed to championing the voices of the African American employee population.



Oliver Pough and Henry N. Tisdale

On May 10, 2023, the Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina (BEMCSC) presented Orangeburg, South Carolina's Delta Chi Boulé Archons Oliver "Buddy" Pough, head football coach at South Carolina State University, and Henry N. Tisdale, president emeritus of Claflin University, with the South Carolina Shining Star Award during the 145th annual session of the BEMCSC, which was held in Myrtle Beach. The award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated leadership, service and community involvement.





Neil R. Powe

Chief of medicine at the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center and Constance B. Wofsy Distinguished Professor at the University of California San Francisco, Archon Neil R. Powe of Oakland–Berkeley, California's Alpha Gamma Boulé received the Robert J. Glaser Award for his exceptional contributions to leadership, research, education and mentoring from the Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) at the organization's annual meeting in Aurora, Colorado, on May 12, 2023. The Robert J. Glaser Award is SGIM's most prestigious award.



McKinley L. Price

On April 20, 2023, Archon McKinley L. Price of Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé received the African American Mayors Association (AAMA) President's Award during the AAMA annual conference in Washington, D.C. Archon Price, former mayor of Newport News, became president of AAMA in May 2020. During his term Archon Price focused on the pandemic, championing the need for testing and vaccinations in minority communities that were disproportionately affected by COVID-19. The award was presented for his service to and leadership of the organization.



Daniel Prince

The University of Southern California Black Alumni Association presented Archon Daniel Prince of Los Angeles's Xi Boulé with the Outstanding Black Alumni Award on March 31, 2023. Less than two months later, on May 25, Archon Prince was elected president-elect of the USC Alumni Association's board of governors. Archon Prince has been a member of the board for seven years and has served in a variety of program leadership roles, including alumni awards; diversity, equity and inclusion; student outreach; and special projects.



Okorie L. Ramsey

Sire Archon Okorie L. Ramsey of Contra Costa County, California's Epsilon Beta Boulé was elected chairman of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and chairman of the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants during the AICPA's spring meeting in May 2023. Archon Ramsey is the first African American man to serve in this capacity in the organization's 136-year history.



Casey M. Roberts

On April 15, 2023, Archon Casey M. Roberts of Beta Lambda Boulé, Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia, received the 2023 Educator of the Year Award from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University as part of the school's annual Influential Black Alumni Awards, created to recognize and showcase the outstanding personal and professional accomplishments of alumni. The award recognizes an alum who has contributed significantly to the field of education. Archon Roberts is executive director of New Horizons Regional Education Centers, largest of the nine regional centers in Virginia.



Frank Robinson

Springfield, Massachusetts's Beta Sigma Boulé Archon Frank Robinson announced the allocation of a \$5.1 million grant to Baystate Health on June 8, 2023. Archon Robinson said, "Baystate Health along with the Alliance [for Digital Equity] and the [Massachusetts Broadband Institute] share the purpose and primary goal of the Digital Equity Partnerships Program to ensure that low-income communities and households in the Western Massachusetts region, including those in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties, have access to a wide range of digital equity support and services."

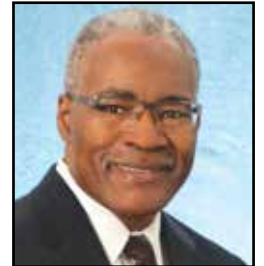
Gerard Robinson

Charlottesville, Virginia's Epsilon Psi Boulé Archon Gerard Robinson was appointed a professor of practice in the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy and the School of Law at the University of Virginia, effective in the fall of 2023. Archon Robinson is a fellow of practice at UVA's Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture. He has a distinguished record of public service, leadership and policy engagement.



Larry D. Roper

Washington & Jefferson College presented Archon Larry D. Roper of Portland, Oregon's Delta Phi Boulé with an honorary doctor of humane letters degree during its 224th commencement ceremony in May 2023. Archon Roper also delivered the baccalaureate address to the graduating class. His address was titled "What Does the World Need From Me?"



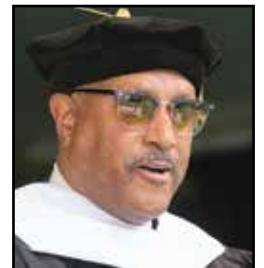
Vernon Ross

Archon Vernon Ross of Gamma Kappa Boulé, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, presented the Fred Hehre Lecture at the Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology (SOAP) annual meeting held May 3–5, 2023, in New Orleans. According to SOAP's website, "the honor of presenting the Fred Hehre Lecture is given to a SOAP member who is a widely acclaimed and senior contributor from a field pertinent to obstetric anesthesia. The ideal candidate is described as an exemplary human being who has made significant contributions to obstetric anesthesiology."



Clark Rucker

On May 22, 2023, Pasadena, California's Gamma Zeta Boulé Archon Clark Rucker, distinguished California Polytechnic State University College of Engineering alumnus, received an honorary doctorate from the university. Archon Rucker, a retired Boeing executive, received this honor for his work as a perennial advocate, ambassador and leader for the Cal Poly College of Engineering.



E. Macey Russell

Past Sire Archon E. Macey Russell of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé was one of the twenty-five legends, leaders and pioneers recognized among Boston's most influential men of color. The list, created by Get Konneted!, Boston's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals, was released on March 28, 2023. Archon Russell is a partner at Choate, Hall & Stewart, LLP. He is a national advocate for diversity in the legal field, serving in the Boston Bar Association's diversity and inclusion section.



Eric J. Sadler

Archon Eric J. Sadler of Winston-Salem, North Carolina's Gamma Kappa Boulé was inducted into the American College of Dentists in December 2022. He was also inducted into the prestigious Pierre Fauchard Academy in 2022. Archon Sadler is the owner of Eric J. Sadler, DDS & Associates in Winston-Salem.





Byron Sanders

Archon Byron Sanders of Dallas's Alpha Epsilon Boulé received the 2023 NCAA Legends and Legacy Community Award on March 31, 2023. The award recognizes persons who have demonstrated commitment to improving, influencing and investing in the local communities chosen to host the NCAA men's and women's Final Four basketball tournaments. Archon Sanders is president and CEO of Big Thought, which equips youths in marginalized communities to create their best lives and world by focusing on social, emotional and experiential learning.



Winslow L. Sargeant

The University of Wisconsin–Madison presented Archon Winslow L. Sargeant of Washington, D.C.'s Epsilon Boulé with the Chancellor's Entrepreneurial Achievement Award on April 27, 2023. The award recognizes UW innovators and alumni who further the "Wisconsin Idea" through outstanding accomplishments in entrepreneurship. Archon Sargeant is an alum of the University of Wisconsin–Madison, where he received his Ph.D. in electrical engineering. He was celebrated by family, friends, colleagues and Archons of Epsilon Theta Boulé, Madison, Wisconsin, where he is a charter Archon.



James H. Sills III

On March 16, 2023, Durham, North Carolina's Alpha Tau Boulé Archon James H. Sills III, president and CEO of M&F Bank in Durham, was elected 2023–24 secretary of the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA), the only national advocacy organization dedicated exclusively to promoting the interests of locally operated community banks and savings institutions. Archon Sills is a member of ICBA's executive committee, board of directors and federal delegate board.



Craig Sims

In March 2023 Archon Craig Sims won a \$6.5 million settlement with the City of Seattle on behalf of the family of Jackson Reavis, 22, who was hit and killed while riding his motorcycle in a dangerous intersection. Archon Sims, a member of Seattle's Alpha Omicron Boulé and an attorney with Schroeter Goldmark & Bender, led the team that handled the case.



Jyric Sims

Archon Jyric Sims of Fort Worth–Arlington, Texas's Delta Mu Boulé was appointed president of HCA Healthcare's West Florida division. The appointment became effective on June 12, 2023. Archon Sims, who was CEO of HCA Healthcare's Medical City Plano and Medical City Frisco hospitals in Texas, is a more than twenty-year health care veteran. He has been with HCA Healthcare since 2011. Archon Sims and his family intend to continue their association with Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity at Gamma Omicron Boulé in Tampa Bay, Florida.



Leonard A. Slade, Jr.

Archon Leonard A. Slade, Jr., of Beta Psi Boulé, Albany, New York, was inducted as an honorary member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society on April 29, 2023, at an induction and reception event at the University at Albany, State University of New York. In addition to being inducted, Archon Slade was invited to deliver the Phi Beta Kappa Society address at the ceremony.

Jake Sloan

On March 31, 2023, Archon Jake Sloan of Epsilon Beta Boulé, Contra Costa County, California, was selected as one of the awardees in the Marcus Foster Education Institute's 100 for the 100th Legacy Awards for his remarkable work in the East Bay communities of Oakland and Richmond, California. Archon Sloan was selected for the Visionary for Diversity category because of the alignment of his life's work with the guiding principles of the institute's founder, Marcus A. Foster.



Darrell Smalley

On April 1, 2023, Pittsburgh's Rho Boulé Grammateus Darrell Smalley was appointed managing partner of Ernst & Young, LLP's Pittsburgh office. He is the first African American to lead a large accounting firm in the city of Pittsburgh. Partner and principal of Ernst & Young, Archon Smalley serves as a global client service partner for public and private company clients within the energy advanced manufacturing and consumer products sectors. He also serves as the U.S.-central energy sector tax market leader.



Dwayne Smith

Archon Dwayne Smith of Delta Nu Boulé, Fairfield County, Connecticut, assumed the role of interim president of Southern Connecticut State University on June 1, 2023. During Archon Smith's forty years in higher education, he has been interim president of Harris-Stowe State University and campus CEO of Housatonic Community College. A Fulbright Scholar, Archon Smith received a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in educational administration from Truman State University and a Ph.D. in educational leadership and policy analysis from the University of Missouri.



Frank J. Smith

Archon Frank J. Smith of Epsilon Delta Boulé, Williamsburg, Virginia, was inducted into the Virginia Interscholastic Association Hall of Fame. The hall of fame banquet was held on June 23, 2023, at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Charlottesville. Archon Smith starred in football and baseball at Armstrong High School in Richmond. He was a member of the starting team for four years, playing center and linebacker in football and outfielder and pitcher in baseball.



Grasford W. Smith

In April 2023 Past Sire Archon Grasford W. Smith of Epsilon Lambda Boulé, Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie Counties, Florida, received The Florida Bar's President's Award. Also in April he was appointed to the board of directors for the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County and the board of governors of the Florida State University College of Business. On June 3 Archon Smith was installed as the 101st president of the Palm Beach County Bar Association.



Jeffrey O. Smith

On June 14, 2023, Archon Jeffrey O. Smith of Hampton-Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé received the Distinguished Citizen Medal from the Hampton City Council. The Distinguished Citizen Medal is the highest honor that the city council may bestow on an individual, similar to a key to the city. Archon Smith received the award in recognition of his transformational leadership as superintendent of Hampton City Schools. Archon Smith is a former Virginia Superintendent of the Year and a finalist for National Superintendent of the Year.





Jamal A. Sowell

Archon Jamal A. Sowell of Tallahassee, Florida's Alpha Zeta Boulé was selected for membership on the prestigious Florida Council of 100 in May 2023. Representing the top business leaders in Florida, the council is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization committed to promoting economic growth and improving the quality of life for the people in Florida.



A. Benjamin Spencer

In June 2023 Charlottesville, Virginia's Epsilon Psi Boulé Archon A. Benjamin Spencer was named to the advisory board of Audire, Inc., a LegalTech start-up company focused on delivering critical legal content and insights in auditory form to support legal professionals, educators and learners. Additionally, he was admitted as a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.



Richard G. Stewart

Archon Richard G. Stewart of Delta Mu Boulé, Fort Worth–Arlington, Texas, received the Outstanding Achievement Award from the African American Lawyers Section (AALS) of the State Bar of Texas on March 25, 2023, during the 8th Annual AALS Summit and Awards ceremony at the University of Texas at Austin School of Law. Archon Stewart retired as a U.S. Navy captain. He was the first Black officer in naval history to command a naval legal service. Upon his retirement he led the legal department of a company that later became Verizon.



Curtis Stokes

While much has been said and written in the national press about the place of Black history in the state of Florida, Tampa Bay, Florida's Gamma Omicron Boulé Archon Curtis Stokes, as chairperson of the Tampa Bay History Center, has helped lead the way in the region for a new permanent exhibit at the Tampa Bay History Center that traces African American history in Tampa Bay back 500 years. The exhibit, titled *Travails and Triumphs*, formally opened on June 2, 2023.



Walter L. Sutton

In March 2023 Dallas's Alpha Epsilon Boulé Archon Walter L. Sutton received the Cora T. Walker Award from the National Bar Association (NBA), the preeminent African American legal organization in the country. The award is given to an NBA member with a long history of supporting the NBA Commercial Law Section. Archon Sutton, a 1970 graduate of the University of Michigan Law School and past president of the NBA, is a longstanding champion of diversity and equity in the legal profession.



Duane J. Taylor

In June 2023 the American Academy of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery (AAO-HNS) and its foundation announced the selection of Washington, D.C.'s Epsilon Boulé Archon Duane J. Taylor as an AAO-HNS Hall of Distinction Living Legend inductee. All 2023 inductees will be honored at the AAO-HNS Annual Meeting & OTO Experience in Nashville on October 1, and Living Legends inductees will share their thoughts on the global otolaryngology community. More information about Archon Taylor and his fellow inductees can be found at <https://www.entnet.org/about-us/awards-lectures/awards/hall-of-distinction/>.

Corey Thomas

Get Konnected!, Boston's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals, named Archon Corey Thomas of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé one of Boston's most influential men of color in business on March 28, 2023. Archon Thomas is chairman and CEO of the cybersecurity company Rapid7. He is a member of the White House National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee, chair of the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.



Gregory Thomas

The efforts of Sire Archon-Elect Gregory Thomas of Beta Sigma Boulé, Springfield, Massachusetts, have helped secure the largest-ever gift to the Berthiaume Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Massachusetts Amherst Isenberg School of Management. The announcement was made on March 16, 2023. Globally, this \$20 million gift is in the top 1 percent of gifts to schools so far this year. Archon Thomas is executive director of the Berthiaume Center for Entrepreneurship and lecturer in the Isenberg School of Management.



Walter Scott Thomas, Sr.

On May 11, 2023, Baltimore's Gamma Boulé Archon Walter Scott Thomas, Sr., received the Trailblazer Award from the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture at the museum's 2023 gala. The Trailblazer Award is given to individuals who have carved out or are carving out a niche in an industry. They incorporate innovation, persistence and tenacity in their approach to their chosen field and continually look to "refine the model" and serve as the model for others to follow.



Brian Tibbs

On June 10, 2023, the American Institute of Architects (AIA) elevated Archon Brian Tibbs of Nashville's Chi Boulé to its prestigious College of Fellows, AIA's highest membership honor, for his exceptional work and contributions to architecture and society. The fellowship program recognizes those architects who have achieved a standard of excellence in the profession and who have made a significant contribution to architecture and society nationally. The designation FAIA after an architect's name indicates elevation to fellowship status.



Joe H. Tucker, Jr.

Archon Joe H. Tucker, Jr., of Philadelphia's Alpha Boulé delivered a provocative, thoughtful address at the annual meeting of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers (IATL) on April 21, 2023, held in Killarney, Ireland. Archon Tucker, who is founder and CEO of the Tucker Law Group, LLC, the largest Black-owned law firm in Philadelphia, gave the Dean's Address as he concluded his year as dean of the IATL and prior to his election as its vice president. Approximately 350 IATL members and guests attended.



Philip Tuning

Archon Philip Tuning of Epsilon Delta Boulé, Williamsburg, Virginia, was elected to the William & Mary Business School Foundation's board during its May 10, 2023, meeting. A 2002 graduate of the William & Mary executive M.B.A. program, Archon Tuning will serve a three-year term and will help guide the business school's strategic focus. Founded in 1693, William & Mary is a public Ivy League school and the second-oldest university in the nation.





Eric M. Turner

In May 2023 Archon Eric M. Turner of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé was named one of the fifty most influential business leaders of color by the Charles River Regional Chamber, a business advocacy group for the Boston suburbs of Newton, Wellesley, Needham and Watertown. Additionally, Archon Turner was elected the first African American president of Lasell University in the school's 172-year history on April 10, 2023.



Floyd Tyler

On March 19, 2023, a Memphis street was named in honor and memory of the late Archon Floyd Tyler of Memphis's Delta Boulé, who died in January 2023. Preserver Partners, LLC, where Archon Tyler was founder, president and chief investment officer, hosted the event on the portion of South Lauderdale Street between Madison Avenue and Monroe Avenue that was named for Archon Tyler.



Michael Ugwueke

Archon Michael Ugwueke of Memphis's Delta Boulé was the keynote speaker at the investiture of Albert Mosley, the thirteenth president of Morningside University, on April 20, 2023, in the university's Eppley Auditorium in Sioux City, Iowa. Mosley was an executive at Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare – where Archon Ugwueke has been president and CEO since 2017 – prior to his appointment at Morningside. During the ceremony, Mosley called Archon Ugwueke an important friend and mentor who “leads with courage, conviction and compassion.”



Dennis L. Via

Archon Dennis L. Via of Loudoun County, Virginia's Epsilon Zeta Boulé was inducted into the 82nd Airborne Division's All American Hall of Fame on May 24, 2023. The hall of fame honors inductees' service to the division, lifelong commitment to the division's values, valorous combat action and contributions to their field outside of the division. This recognition places Archon Via among the most elite members of the division's storied 106-year history.



Gregory J. Vincent

Past Grand Sire Archon Gregory J. Vincent of Gamma Gamma Boulé in Austin, Texas, has received prestigious awards during the past year, reflecting his continued commitment to civil rights, education and community service. In May 2023 Archon Vincent, president of Talladega College, was honored by the National Forum for Black Public Administrators as 2023 Educator of the Year. Additionally, Archon Vincent received the Hobart Alumni Citation for exemplary commitment and meritorious service to Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

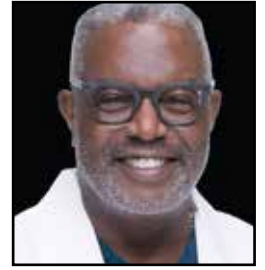


Eric F. Walker

On July 5, 2023, Sire Archon Eric F. Walker of Pi Boulé, Little Rock, Arkansas, joined Arkansas Tech University as their legal counsel. Prior to joining ATU, Archon Walker was staff attorney for the Little Rock School District. He also worked for the state of Arkansas as assistant attorney general and deputy prosecuting attorney. Archon Walker is a graduate of Morehouse College with a degree in political science and earned a doctor of jurisprudence from the Indiana University School of Law.

Paul Wallace

Xi Boulé, Los Angeles's favorite plastic surgeon, Archon Paul Wallace, was featured in a television segment for the KTLA broadcast *LA Unscripted*, which aired on March 21, 2023. The segment focused on Archon Wallace's general dermatology, cosmetic dermatology and reconstructive surgery expertise in treating melanated skin, which has unique advantages and challenges.



Rudolph E. Waters, Sr.

Alcorn State University, a historically Black land-grant university in Lorman, Mississippi, dedicated the Dr. Rudolph Waters Sr. Classroom Building on March 31, 2023. The two-story, state-of-the-art facility named for the late Beta Gamma Boulé, Jackson, Mississippi, Archon Rudolph E. Waters, Sr., will serve as home to the Alcorn State University School of Business.



J. Warren Watson

On May 2, 2023, Archon Emeritus J. Warren Watson of Pittsburgh's Rho Boulé was presented a resolution from the Grand Boulé of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity celebrating his 100th birthday. Archon Watson served in the U.S. Navy and held many other positions throughout his career, including assistant solicitor for the City of Pittsburgh, jazz musician and judge for the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, where he was the second Black judge in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, to serve full time.



Reggie Webb and Kyle Webb

On April 14, 2023, Time for Change Foundation presented Webb Family Enterprises with the Community Champion Award. Webb Family Enterprises, led by Archons Reggie Webb and Kyle Webb of Inland Empire of Southern California's Epsilon Tau Boulé, received the award for its community change work through the Cooperative Economic Empowerment Movement, which exists to realize economic prosperity for Black communities through access to knowledge, wealth, resources and the collective power of its members.



Allen J. Webster, Jr.

Archon Allen J. Webster, Jr., proud member of Xi Boulé, Los Angeles, was inducted into the California Association of Black Lawyers (CABL) Hall of Fame at CABL's 46th annual gala on April 22, 2023. Archon Webster's induction was particularly poignant because fellow Xi Boulé Archon Lawrence Hinkle served as master of ceremonies. Archon Webster's induction represents the pinnacle of a storied legal career.



Kenneth West

Sire Archon-Elect Kenneth West of San Jose, California's Gamma Chi Boulé was named CEO of HCA Florida JFK Hospital in Atlantis, Florida, effective June 12, 2023. Part of Nashville-based HCA Healthcare, HCA Florida JFK Hospital is the largest HCA facility in Florida with more than 500 beds. Archon West brings fourteen years of experience with HCA Healthcare to his new role.





Augustus A. White III

On June 6, 2023, the Cervical Spine Research Society presented Boston's Beta Beta Boulé Archon Augustus A. White III with its Lifetime Achievement Award. The society honored Archon White for pioneering work in orthopedic surgery, opening doors for people of color in the medical field and advocating for health care equity through the Augustus A. White III Institute for Healthcare Equity. The Longwood Symphony Orchestra held a benefit concert for the Augustus A. White III Institute on March 18, 2023.



Harvey L. White

Archon Harvey L. White of Delaware's Beta Eta Boulé delivered the North Carolina Central University 75th Founder's Day Convocation address on November 4, 2022. A 1972 graduate of the university, Archon White was selected by his classmates to give the address. He spoke about the significant role his colleagues, professors and administrators had in transforming him from an angry young man into an international scholar and leader in his profession. He also encouraged NCCU alumni to support the current generation of young scholars at the university.



Julius Wilder

In April 2023 Health Monitor Network announced it will be partnering with Chapel Hill, North Carolina's Epsilon Gamma Boulé Archon Julius Wilder, who will lead a three-year investigational health equity patient education study to examine how diverse populations respond to various patient education tactics, with the goal of identifying the most effective methods and communication infrastructures for communicating relevant and important health information to diverse communities. Archon Wilder will work with established community partnerships to create the parameters for his research.



Jerome Williams

Charlotte, North Carolina's Beta Delta Boulé Archon Jerome Williams was recognized as a top-fifty health care professional as part of the 19th Annual National Diversity & Leadership Conference in April 2023. Archon Williams is the senior vice president of consumer engagement for Novant Health.



Floyd Willis

Archon Floyd Willis of Jacksonville, Florida's Gamma Beta Boulé was honored by the Mayo Clinic during Black History Month in February 2023 when he was featured shining a spotlight on racial disparities in the occurrence of Alzheimer's disease. He also received the first Lifetime Achievement Award from the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville for his historic hosting of medical students committed to diversity, equity and inclusion. Archon Willis is dedicated to finding pathways within the profession for African American medical students.



Damian W. Wilmot

Boston's Beta Beta Boulé Archon Damian W. Wilmot was named an independent director of PBF Energy, one of North America's largest independent oil refiners, on March 15, 2023. Archon Wilmot was appointed for demonstrating regulatory expertise as chief risk management and compliance officer at Vertex Pharmaceuticals. Archon Wilmot's prominence in this arena is one reason he was named among Boston's most influential men of color in law and law enforcement by Get Konneted!, Boston's top networking organization for underrepresented professionals, on March 28, 2023.

Benjamin Wilson

Archon Benjamin Wilson of Epsilon Boulé, Washington, D.C., received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from his alma mater Dartmouth College on June 11, 2023. The formal citation that was read aloud while Archon Wilson received his honorary degree can be viewed at <https://home.dartmouth.edu/news/2023/06/benjamin-wilson-73-doc-tor-humane-letters>. Archon Wilson is the retired chair of Beveridge & Diamond, PC, a leading law firm focused on environmental and natural resource law and litigation.



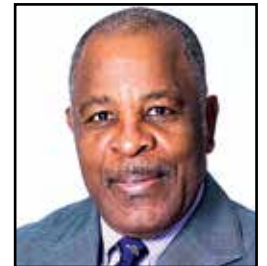
David K. Wilson

It was announced on May 2, 2023, that Morgan State University's board of regents voted unanimously to extend Archon David K. Wilson's contract as president of Morgan State University for seven more years, through 2030. Archon Wilson, a member of Baltimore's Gamma Boulé, has served as MSU's president for thirteen years. With this extension he will become the fourth-longest tenured president in MSU's history.



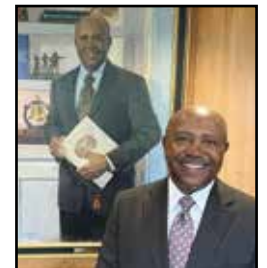
Franklyn Wilson

Nassau, Bahamas's Delta Lambda Boulé Archon Franklyn Wilson is one of the original members of the Sunshine Boys, a group of Bahamian men who came together in 1973 to prove that Bahamians of humble origins could own and manage large businesses. On April 10, 2023, the Sunshine Boys celebrated their fiftieth anniversary. An article by Oswald Brown published in the *Bahamas Chronicle* on July 19, 2022, details the history of the Sunshine Boys: <https://bahamaschronicle.com/the-sunshine-boys-proved-that-bahamians-of-humble-origins-could-own-and-manage-large-businesses/>.



F. Blair Wimbush

The University of Virginia School of Law dedicated a portrait to Archon F. Blair Wimbush of Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé on May 12, 2023. Archon Wimbush has taken emeritus status after serving many years on the University of Virginia Law School Foundation's board of trustees, which included serving as chair from 2015 through 2021. The portrait of Archon Wimbush was commissioned by the law school in honor of his distinguished legal career and service to UVA Law.



Chris Womack

Archon Chris Womack of Delaware's Beta Eta Boulé was appointed an at-large member of the board of directors of the New Jersey Mental Health Institute. The board of directors of the New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies approved his appointment. His term will run from April 2023 until June 30, 2025.



Shon Wright

Archon Shon Wright of Indianapolis's Alpha Eta Boulé was one of sixty-seven senior Black executives inducted into the 2023 class of The Executive Leadership Council on March 9, 2023. The Executive Leadership Council is the preeminent member organization for the development of global Black leaders. Archon Wright became vice president of Cummins and president of Cummins Engine Components in December 2022 and was elected to the board of directors of Ingevity in July 2022.



MEETING THE EDUCATIONAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL NEEDS OF A DIVERSE AND EVOLVING WORKFORCE

Review by Archon Freeman A. Hrabowski, Gamma Boulé

Higher Education in a Changing World

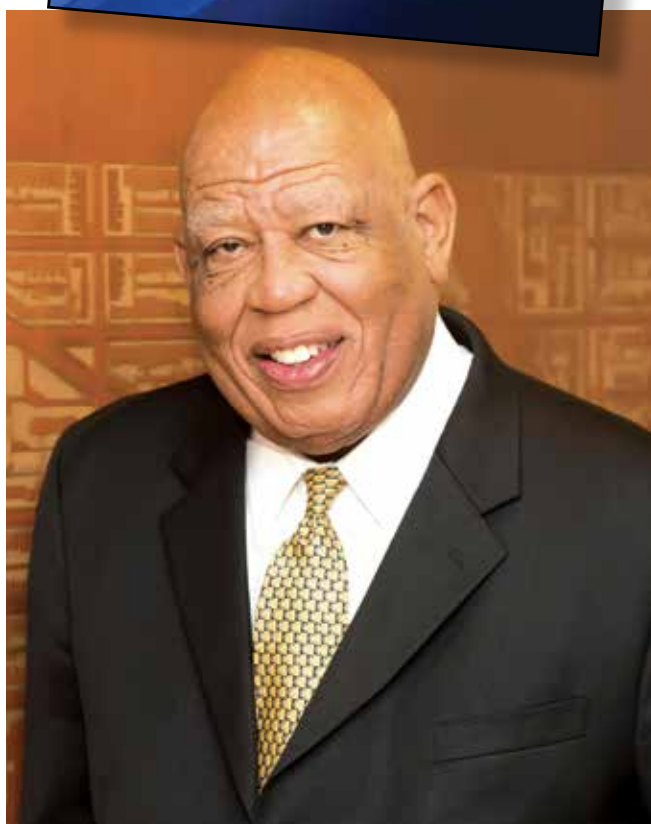
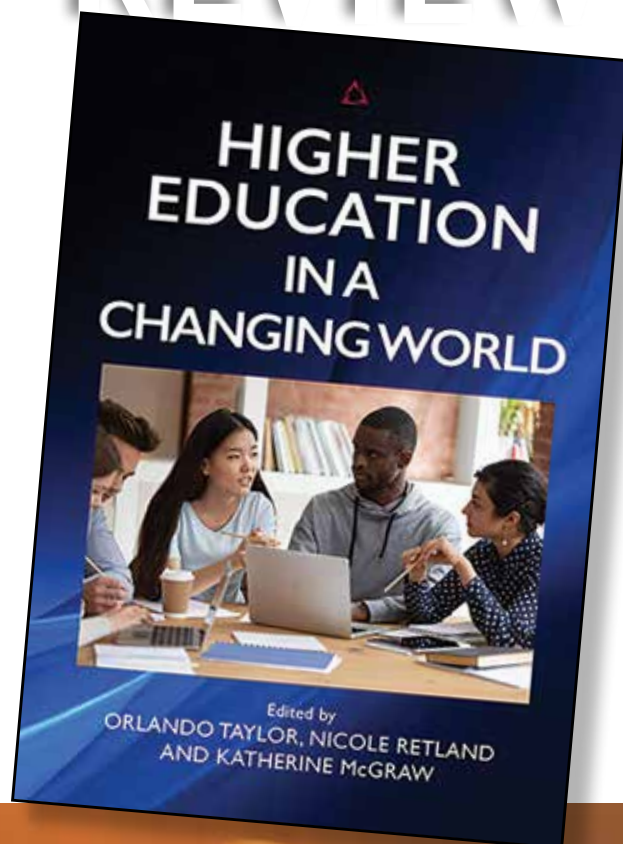
EDITED BY BETA MU BOULÉ ARCHON ORLANDO L. TAYLOR,
NICOLE RETLAND AND KATHERINE McGRAW
FIELDING UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2023

This book will serve as a valuable resource for families, educators, public officials and policy analysts interested in understanding the strong ties between American higher education and society – domestically and internationally. Few people realize just how rapidly higher education is changing to meet the evolving needs of the workforce, the increasing diversity of the American population, and the rapidly expanding role of technology. Beta Mu Boulé Archon Orlando L. Taylor and his coeditors invited fifty higher-education leaders, including Grand Sire Archon Antoine Garibaldi, to address critical challenges institutions of higher education face every day.

Readers get the historical perspective of American higher education throughout the twentieth century. For example, only 5 percent of Americans had earned a college degree before the G.I. Bill in the 40's, and those were predominantly white men. Even after that bill passed, while some women and minorities could take advantage of it, the primary beneficiaries continued to be white men. It wasn't until the Higher Education Act of 1965, after the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that we began to see more Americans in general, including Blacks, attending colleges and universities.

By the mid-60's, about 5 percent of African Americans and 11 percent of whites earned a higher-education degree. (The overwhelming majority of African American degree holders graduated from HBCUs.) Today, approximately 42 percent of whites, 28 percent of Blacks, 21 percent of Hispanics, and 61 percent of

BOOK REVIEW



ARCHON ORLANDO L. TAYLOR

Asians have a bachelor's degree or higher. Given the increasing diversity of college students, the authors place appropriate emphasis on strategies and policies that will support inclusive excellence and strengthen effective leadership.

University leaders constantly face both internal and external disruptive forces that are changing the rules of the game – from accreditation to institutional autonomy. Current leaders and those interested in pursuing leadership can explore this book's insightful case studies involving effective strategies for problem solving. Academic leaders from different backgrounds discuss the evolving college student's needs and aspirations at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Experts on both liberal education and graduate education provide helpful analyses of both domestic and global trends.

The book examines a variety of issues – from the public's questioning the value of higher education to the growing mental health crisis on campuses. Perhaps, for some, the most interesting chapters focus on national initiatives to strengthen diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in higher education – especially in light of the recent intrusion of politicians on college campuses. While many books address DEI issues, what distinguishes this book is its focus on measuring effectiveness through outcome evaluation.

Those interested in the outcomes of HBCUs and their important role as a national treasure in American society will appreciate the special attention various writers give to the topic. (In 2021, non-Black students made up 25 percent of enrollment at HBCUs and Black students enrolled at HBCUs represented 9 percent of all African Americans enrolled at degree-granting postsecondary institutions.) Most important, scholars agree that these institutions continue to produce a disproportionate share of African American leaders in general and in STEM in American society. Other writers also focus on Hispanic-serving institutions and the need to address the underrepresentation of Latinx students in American higher education starting with the challenge of poor precollege preparation.

Final chapters include an interesting discussion of the integration of research and teaching, the need to focus on first-generation college students, and women of color in higher education. Of all the challenges we face in higher education, none is greater than the lack of diversity on the faculty and the need to transform culture. The book is clear about the importance of these issues and provides an approach to assessing the extent to which any institution is transforming its culture and moving to broadening participation in the professoriate. Eric Weiner, in *The Geography of Bliss*,

says, "Culture is the sea we swim in – so pervasive, so all-consuming, that we fail to notice its existence until we step out of it."

Archon Taylor and his fellow authors are challenging higher education professionals to look in the mirror and to ask and address the hard questions: Do we know our students? Are we meeting their needs? Does our institution appreciate that change will be constant, and are we taking into account the evolving nature of society and American higher education? The book is especially helpful because the chapter titles provide accurate descriptions of the content of each chapter. The reader can easily decide which chapters are of most interest. The authors have done an excellent job of covering important problems with which universities will grapple for years to come. This book emphasizes the four-year institutional experience.

In the future, these and other authors will shed even more light on the increasing decline of men of all races in higher education. Across the races in the early 1990's the gender ratio was 50:50. Today only forty men attend college for every sixty women in college. For men of color that gap is even wider. For example, Black women currently earn about two thirds of all African American bachelor's degree awards, 70 percent of all master's degrees, and more than 60 percent of all doctorates. Black women also hold a majority of all African American enrollments in law, medical and dental schools. While we applaud the progress of Black women, we have every reason to be very concerned about the need to improve the future of young Black men and men of color. Archons Taylor and Garibaldi and some of the other scholars have so much expertise in this area that if another book is written, the focus might be males of color, beginning with African American males, given the unique challenges they face. While some attention is given to Black men in the book, the severity of the challenge clearly warrants additional time and effort to understand the problem. The book is a solid foundation on which to build.

As leaders across higher education commented about this book, "It provides valuable perspective on both the problems and opportunities future academic leaders will face." "It is a timely and hugely important contribution to the urgent rethinking regarding the role, purpose and practices of higher-education institutions." "It corrects the image of the sector that is insulated from the crosswinds of the larger society." "It is an impressive compendium of fresh ideas, practical knowledge and foresighted analysis." "It is the book current professionals who aspire to advance higher education need at their side."



Taylor Alexander

Taylor Alexander, daughter of Sire Archon Les Alexander and Archousa Veeda of Gamma Rho Boulé, Ann Arbor, Michigan, earned her Ph.D. from the University of Houston in May 2023 after successfully defending her dissertation. She focused on the gap in educational achievement in science, technology, engineering and math among the Black community. Taylor has accepted a position as an education quantitative researcher at Digital Promise in Houston, Texas, and plans to use her exceptional research skills to narrow this gap.



Christie Angel

On May 8, 2023, Archousa Christie Angel, wife of Archon Otto Beatty III of Lambda Boulé, Columbus, Ohio, joined the executive search firm of BroadView Talent Partners as a managing partner. Archousa Angel will lead the firm's midwest growth and expansion, based out of Columbus. Her focus will also be on helping clients identify their next best leader, coaching both clients and candidates through the onboarding and transition process, and nurturing positive relationships and lasting impacts.



Daniel Applewhite

Daniel Applewhite, son of Sire Archon Morris W. Applewhite and Archousa Felecia Wimbish Applewhite of Jacksonville, Florida's Gamma Beta Boulé, graduated from Harvard Business School in May 2023. He distinguished himself as cochair of the HBS 2023 Black New Venture Competition, in which Black founders make *Shark Tank*-style pitches. It is Harvard's largest start-up competition to increase access to capital for Black founders from across the nation. Applewhite recruited more than twenty leading Black venture capitalists to judge the distribution of more than \$225,000.



Joyce Beatty and Jalina Porter

Archousa Joyce Beatty – the widow of Archon Otto Beatty, Jr., of Columbus, Ohio's Lambda Boulé, and a Democrat representing Ohio's Third Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives – announced on June 12, 2023, that she has hired Jalina Porter – daughter of Archon Tracy Porter of Greensboro, North Carolina's Beta Epsilon Boulé – as her communications director and senior adviser. Porter was previously principal deputy spokesperson at the U.S. Department of State, where she was the first African American woman to hold the title.



Jillian Elizabeth Bowman

Jillian Elizabeth Bowman, daughter of Archon Steven H. Bowman and Archousa Karen Ashley-Bowman of Beta Boulé, Chicago, and a third-year medical student in the Class of 2025 at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, was awarded the Pre-Clinical Student Peer Role Model Award. Jillian also presented an original research project completed with her research mentor, Milda Saunders, at the Society of General Internal Medicine's spring 2023 meeting entitled "The Utility of the CKD Report Card: Using Patient Education Tools to Improve Understanding."

Savannah Elise Bowman

In May 2023 Savannah Elise Bowman, daughter of Archon Steven Bowman and Archousa Karen Ashley-Bowman, of Beta Boulé, Chicago, graduated from the University of Chicago with a bachelor of arts in visual arts. Savannah was awarded the Kenwood Academy/University of Chicago Scholarship, which provided four years of tuition at the University of Chicago. During this time, she has continued her interests in visual art, most notably through her paintings and the depiction of women of color in media.



Steven Bowman, Jr.

In May 2023 Steven Bowman, Jr., son of Archon Steven Bowman and Archousa Karen Ashley-Bowman, of Beta Boulé, Chicago, graduated from Michigan State University College of Music with a bachelor of music in jazz studies (double bass). Steven has been playing electric bass since age 9 and became an avid jazz bassist at the age of 12. He is continuing his studies in New York in the Manhattan School of Music's master's degree program in jazz performance.



Stephanie Burrage

On March 29, 2023, Stephanie Burrage – daughter of Archon Alfred Hawkins and Archousa Esperanza Hawkins, sister of Archon Michael Hawkins, and sister-in-law of Archousa Jennifer Hawkins, all of Beta Omicron Boulé, Grand Rapids – was appointed by the governor of Minnesota as the first chief equity officer. In this role she will lead an office dedicated to policy change working in collaboration with the governor and his cabinet to address racial inequality in the state of Minnesota.



Alyssa M. Carter

Alyssa M. Carter, daughter of Archon Michael D. Carter and Archousa Lia M. Carter from Xi Boulé in Los Angeles, was accepted in May 2023 into the Stanford University Medical School's Ph.D. program where she will earn her Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology. Carter is a 2020 graduate of Duke University where she earned her bachelor of science in chemistry. After graduation, she completed a two-year internship at the California Institute of Technology, where she authored and coauthored several papers about infectious disease diagnostics.



Liz York Cohen

On January 29, 2023, Archousa Liz York Cohen, wife of Archon George Cohen of Tampa Bay, Florida's Gamma Omicron Boulé, was featured in a TedxEustis talk entitled *Breaking the Poverty Cycle Through Higher Education*. A nationally recognized and awarded educator, Archousa Cohen's TedxTalk can be found on YouTube.



Arryana Daniels

Arryana Daniels, daughter of Sire Archon-Elect Vince Daniels and Archousa Melanie Daniels of Beta Eta Boulé, Delaware, excelled as a starting defensive back and midfielder for the 2022–23 Nottingham Forest Football Club located in the United Kingdom. Arryana played a key role in helping the team win the FA Women's National League Northern Division Championship and the FA Women's National League Cup Championship in April 2023. This double of silverware is the first time it's been achieved in team history.





Clay Sandra Dash-Ray

On March 25, 2023, the *Times and Democrat* featured and honored Archousa Clay Sandra Dash-Ray as a Women's History Month Editor's Pick. Archousa Dash-Ray, daughter of late Archon Franklin Dash and wife of Archon Kevin Ray of Delta Chi Boulé in Orangeburg, South Carolina, is the lead manager of Dash's Funeral Homes, LLC, which has three locations in Bamberg, Blackville and Orangeburg.



Josephine Davis

Archousa Josephine Davis, wife of Archon Gordon Davis of Beta Chi Boulé, Fort Valley, Georgia, received the Dr. Dorothy Height May Week Leadership Award for extraordinary leadership and involvement in educational development from the Warner Robins Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., on May 7, 2023.



Andrea Mitchell Donnor

On January 1, 2023, Archousa Andrea Mitchell Donnor, spouse of Archon Jamel K. Donnor of Williamsburg, Virginia's Epsilon Delta Boulé, began a four-year term as a representative for the City of Williamsburg on the joint Williamsburg-James City County School Board (WJCC). She was appointed to the role in December 2022 by the Williamsburg City Council. The WJCC serves more than 11,000 students in the Historic Triangle.



Lynda Duncan-Brown

On June 9, 2023, Lynda Duncan-Brown, daughter of Archon Emeritus Walter J. Duncan and Archousa Joan Duncan of Gamma Phi Boulé, San Antonio, received a doctor of education degree in curriculum and instruction from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Lynda completed her undergraduate studies at Texas Tech University subsequently earning her master of science degree from Grand Canyon University and master of education degree from North Central University.



Jessica Lee Fletcher

Colorado Springs's Epsilon Chi Boulé Archon Louis L. Fletcher and Archousa Jodi L. Fletcher are the proud parents of Jessica Lee Fletcher, who completed her second year of law school at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law in spring 2023. Jessica was awarded the prestigious Squire Patton Boggs Foundation Public Policy Fellowship, one of only thirty public policy fellowships awarded worldwide.



Kimberly Funchess

On June 7, 2023, Kimberly Funchess, daughter of Archon Marcus Funchess and Archousa Celeste Funchess of Epsilon Tau Boulé, Inland Empire of Southern California, graduated from high school with a 4.0 grade point average and several honors. Kimberly's honors included the Golden State Seal, top ten in the class and Graduate in Gold.

Jaida A. Gillespie

Jaida A. Gillespie, daughter of Archon Rodney Gillespie and Archousa Angela Gillespie of Beta Eta Boulé, Delaware, began her first season of rugby in spring 2023 at Howard University. Jaida, being a quick learner and having prior knowledge of many other sports, excelled quickly and became a starter for the team, which then went on to be the first women's HBCU team to compete for regional and national titles. Howard won the East Coast Regional championship and placed second in the nation for CRAA women's rugby.



Leiah Goode

Leiah Goode, daughter of Archon Terry Goode and Archousa Latondra Goode of Epsilon Beta Boulé, Contra Costa County, California, graduated summa cum laude from St. Mary's College High School in Berkeley on May 25, 2023. Leiah was a member of the National Honor Society and a varsity athlete in cross country, track and field, and soccer. Leiah attends the University of Southern California.



Sharon S. Goodwyn

On May 15, 2023, Archousa Sharon S. Goodwyn, wife of Archon S. Bernard Goodwyn of Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé, was recognized by *Inside Business* as one of the Power List 2023. The Power List is an annual list "to showcase who's who in terms of moving the needle for the economy in Hampton Roads." Archousa Goodwyn is an attorney in Hunton Andrews Kurth's labor and employment practice group. She has been included in The Best Lawyers in America since 2008.



Carine J. Hails

Archousa Carine J. Hails, wife of Archon Walter J. Hails, Jr., of Gamma Delta Boulé in Flint, Michigan, accepted an offer to become the new executive director of trust, estates and gift planning at Cornell University. As an experienced attorney and charitable gift planner, she is skilled in and committed to bridging the concept of individual philanthropic ideas and priorities for institutions to create powerful impact.



Kennedy Suzanne Harmon

Sire Archon David Harmon and Archousa Shonda Harmon of Beta Mu Boulé, Suburban Maryland, proudly announce that their daughter Kennedy Suzanne Harmon graduated from the University of Virginia in May 2023 with a B.A. in global public health with high distinction and a B.A. in anthropology with a concentration in medical anthropology, ethics and care with distinction. Kennedy plans to take a bridge year working as a litigation paralegal or health justice fellow and apply to law school in 2024.



La Toya Haynes

An inspirational diversity, equity and inclusion leader, La Toya Haynes, daughter of Archon Leonard Haynes of Beta Mu Boulé, Northern Virginia, was recently featured in the May-June edition of *Essence* magazine, discussing Generation Z. She noted that, "Gen Z appreciates managers who support their career advancement and recognize their contributions. They want frequent feedback and work best when things are clearly defined. They don't mind healthy competition. Gen Zers can always find an app to support or improve their productivity."





Autumn Hill

Autumn Hill, daughter of Archon Alonzo Hill and Archousa September Hill of Delta Xi Boulé, Walnut–Diamond Bar, California, was named to the CIF-Southern Section (SS) Girls Basketball First Team in March 2023. Autumn, a 6'3" post player, played for the Marlborough School Mustangs, who reached the CIF-SS championship. It was the first time for the school to reach a Division I basketball final. For the season, Autumn averaged 14 points, 11.8 rebounds, 6.4 blocks and 2 assists per game and was voted co-MVP of the team, as well as All Mission League First Team.



Hayden Hill

Hayden Hill, daughter of Archon Alonzo Hill and Archousa September Hill of Delta Xi Boulé, Walnut–Diamond Bar, California, was named by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association to the Great Lakes All-Region Track Team in March 2023. Hayden, a high jumper and indoor pentathlete for Oberlin College, scored 2,719 points at the NCAC Indoor Pentathlon, which is the fifth highest score in the season. Hayden has enjoyed success in her academic and athletic pursuits at Oberlin College.



Robert Vincent Holmes

On May 13, 2023, Robert Vincent Holmes, son of Charlotte, North Carolina's Beta Delta Boulé Archon Robert Holmes and Archousa Gaye Holmes, graduated cum laude from The University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a bachelor of science degree in business administration, finance. He accepted an offer to join Synchrony Bank in the business leadership program for risk management.



Tisha Hyter

In May 2023 Tisha Hyter, wife of Archon Michael Hyter, Sr., of Washington D.C.'s Epsilon Boulé and nonprofit and business strategist, joined the board of directors of GoldieBlox, Inc., a company whose mission is to reach girls at a young age and introduce them to science, technology, engineering and math. GoldieBlox was founded by engineer Debbie Sterling to "disrupt the pink aisle."



Lauren Jasper

In June 2023 Lauren Jasper, daughter of Thesauristes Michael Jasper and Archousa Stefanie Jasper of Pittsburgh's Rho Boulé, received the 2023 Gensler Rising Black Designers Scholarship + Design Challenge. This scholarship helps talented design students overcome the costs of higher education as well as provide summer internship opportunities. Lauren also received the 2023 ZGF Architects' Emerging Black Architects Scholarship, which consists of an annual \$5,000 scholarship and a paid internship in New York City.



Steffanie Jasper

In June 2023 Steffanie Jasper, Archousa of Thesauristes Michael Jasper of Pittsburgh's Rho Boulé, was promoted to executive vice president of PNC's Enterprise Risk Management. As an executive, Archousa Jasper is responsible for the entire Enterprise Risk Management framework, including risk appetite, aggregation and reporting; governance and policy frameworks; and issues management. This promotion recognizes Archousa Jasper's hard work and twenty-plus years of experience and leadership in risk management.

Allen R. Jones III

On May 12, 2023, Allen R. Jones III, son of Archon Allen R. Jones II and Archousa Gail B. Jones of Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé, graduated from the University of Colorado Boulder School of Law. Allen was production editor of the *Colorado Technology Law Journal* and president of the Silicon Flatirons Student Group, UC's law and technology organization. Allen also participated in UC's entrepreneurial initiative by working with the New Venture Challenge. Allen is preparing for the Colorado Bar Exam.



Isaiah Jones

Isaiah Jones, son of Archon Paul Jones and Archousa Sylvia Jones of Beta Chi Boulé in Fort Valley, Georgia, received his master of arts degree in theology from the University of Notre Dame in May 2023.



Lauren Elizabeth Jones

On May 6, 2023, Lauren Elizabeth Jones, daughter of Archon Allen R. Jones II and Archousa Gail B. Jones of Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé, graduated cum laude from Old Dominion University. Lauren majored in political science with minors in criminal justice and Spanish. She served as vice president of Pi Sigma Alpha, a political science honor society, and liaison and social media chair of the Pre-Law Association. She is also a member of the Lambda Eta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.



Lindsey Yvonne Jones

On May 6, 2023, Lindsey Yvonne Jones, daughter of Archon Allen R. Jones II and Archousa Gail B. Jones of Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé, graduated cum laude from Old Dominion University with a major in communications and a minor in sports management. She was secretary and co-social media chair for the Sports Management Association; a member of Lambda Pi Eta, a communications honor society; and a member of the Lambda Eta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.



Lindsay Marie Lewis

Lindsay Marie Lewis, daughter of Archon Leo E. Lewis and Archousa Benita W. Lewis of Minneapolis–St. Paul's Omicron Boulé, was recognized as a Top Doctors Rising Star by the *Minneapolis-St. Paul Magazine* in its April 2023 issue. Exceptional physicians who have been fully licensed to practice for fewer than ten years while earning the confidence and high regard of their peers are chosen on this annual list. A graduate of George Washington University Medical School and the University of Minnesota's ob-gyn residency program, Lewis is a board-certified physician.



Charissa R. Lillie

Illustrating once again how she is a highly sought-after corporate advisor, Archousa Charisse R. Lillie, wife of Philadelphia's Alpha Boulé Archon Thomas L. McGill, Jr., has been selected to join the board of directors of the leading energy-distribution company Exelon Corporation. Exelon nominated Archousa Lillie for the role in February of 2022 and she was approved to take her seat on the board at Exelon's April 25, 2023, shareholder meeting.





Josie Little

On May 15, 2023, Archon Perry Little and Archousa Sonjia Little of Tampa Bay, Florida's Gamma Omicron Boulé, celebrated the graduation of their youngest daughter, Josie, from the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, where she was an executive editor of the *Journal of Constitutional Law* and a research assistant. This past semester Josie published an article titled "McRusia: The Weaponization of Intellectual Property" in the *IDEA* journal. She discussed her paper at the Salzburg Global Seminar.



Doris Julieann Lynk

In May 2023 Doris Julieann Lynk, daughter of Archon Myles Lynk and Archousa Julie Lynk of Washington, D.C.'s Epsilon Boulé, received her M.B.A. from the Leonard N. Stern School of Business at New York University. While at Stern, Lynk was a Consortium Fellow of the Consortium for Graduate Study in Management and a Forté Scholarship Fellow. She was also a teaching assistant in the M.B.A. class on consumer behavior and an M.B.A. venture associate with NYU's Berkley Center for Entrepreneurship.



Dayna Bowen Matthew

On May 18, 2023, Archousa Dayna Bowen Matthew, wife of Archon Thomas Matthew of Epsilon Boulé, Washington, D.C., and dean of the George Washington University Law School, was the commencement speaker for the University of Maryland School of Medicine at the Hippodrome Theatre in Baltimore.



Rhea McIver-Gibbs

On May 20, 2023, Archousa Rhea McIver-Gibbs, spouse of Past Sire Archon Samuel Gibbs of Epsilon Tau Boulé, Inland Empire of Southern California, received the Cooperative Economic Empowerment Movement Educator's Award. She was recognized as an educator who has built and rebuilt equitable practices, ensured diversity, facilitated inclusivity and provided organizations with innovation to positively impact underserved communities.



Ethlyn McQueen-Gibson

Archousa Ethlyn McQueen-Gibson, wife of Sire Archon-Elect Carl Gibson of Williamsburg, Virginia's Epsilon Delta Boulé, received recognition for her untiring commitment to her community. Archousa McQueen-Gibson was honored as a 2023 Glowing Lamp for Nurses awardee by Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc., Eta Chapter, a professional nursing organization, at a ceremony on May 21 at the Westin Hotel Virginia Beach Town Center in Virginia Beach. She also received the Community Builders Award given by Hampton Roads Community Action Program on June 8 at the Newport News Marriott in Newport News.



Laila Symone Michel

Laila Symone Michel, daughter of Archon Ricardo Michel and Archousa Suleika Michel of Epsilon Zeta Boulé, Loudoun County, Virginia, graduated with a 3.7 GPA (dean's high honors) from Case Western Reserve University in May 2023. As a Louis B. Stokes Congressional Black Caucus Foundation scholar, her hard work and commitment culminated in two bachelor's degrees: cognitive science and international studies with a concentration in international development in Africa.

Cheryl D. Miller

On May 15, 2023, Archousa Cheryl D. Miller received an honorary doctorate degree in fine arts from the Pratt Institute at its commencement ceremony held at Radio Music Hall in New York City. Archousa Miller is married to Archon Phillip Miller of Delta Nu Boulé, Fairfield County, Connecticut. Her honorary degree was awarded in acknowledgment of her remarkable work with BIPOC designers and for her work as a theologian. In addition to receiving the degree, Archousa Miller delivered the commencement speech to the Pratt Institute class of 2023.



Gabrielle Nicole Miller

On May 20, 2023, Gabrielle Nicole Miller, daughter of Archon Phillip Miller and Archousa Cheryl D. Miller, of Delta Nu Boulé, Fairfield County, Connecticut, graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. from the School of Communications at Marist College. Gabrielle majored in communications journalism and public relations, and she is a writer. Gabrielle also completed the entire IBM internship program during her college tenure.



Mallory Mire

In April 2023 Mallory Mire, daughter of Archon Ryan D. Mire and Archousa Felicite L. Mire of Chi Boulé, Nashville, and a business major, was inducted into the Rhodes College 2023 Hall of Fame. This honor is based on “individual merit, leadership in student activities, service to others and overall contributions to the campus community.” Mallory served as a student trustee, president of the Black Student Association, president of Rhodes College cheer and program chair for the Rhodes Multicultural Vision Program, a mentorship program for students of color.



Kaye Monk-Morgan

On March 29, 2023, Archousa Kaye Monk-Morgan, spouse of Archon Derek Morgan of Alpha Nu Boulé, Wichita, Kansas, was named Admiral Windwagon Smith XLIX, ambassador of Riverfest 2023. Archousa Monk-Morgan is the president and CEO of the Kansas Leadership Center. Riverfest is a non-profit event and has an economic impact on the Wichita community of up to \$30 million. Archousa Monk-Morgan will be responsible for hosting events leading up to Riverfest as well as visiting Wichita-area children’s hospitals.



Angela Motley

The University of Massachusetts Boston named its first-ever residence hall after Boston’s Beta Beta Boulé Archousa Angela Motley and her husband, Sire Archon J. Keith Motley, in ceremonies on April 28, 2023. Archousa Motley was first lady and dedicated volunteer of the university when Archon Motley was chancellor from 2007 to 2017. The construction of residence halls was key to the Motleys’ vision of transforming UMass Boston from a commuter school into an influential research institution.



Trenise Murdock

Trenise Murdock, daughter of Archon Paul Murdock and Archousa Michele Murdock of Mu Boulé, Northern New Jersey, received a promotion to vice president, sanctions at Mizuho Bank in New York in June 2023. She has been with the bank for three years.





Jacqueline Nance

Archousa Jacqueline “Jakki” Nance, wife of Archon Fredrick R. Nance of Cleveland’s Tau Boulé and president of Philanthropic Solutions, sits on the national board of Autism Speaks and was recently appointed as the board’s vice chair. Additionally, she sits on the board of trustees at Case Western Reserve University, where her late father, Past Sire Archon Jeff Jones of Tau Boulé, chaired the endodontics department in the CWRU dental school. She was recently named to the executive committee of the board of trustees.



Kayla D. Owens

In March 2023 Kayla D. Owens, daughter of Archon Gregory Owens and Archousa Terry Owens of Beta Psi Boulé, Albany, New York, was identified for membership in the Virginia Mu Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences. Kayla is a Ph.D. student at the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution at George Mason University and is employed at LinkVisum Consulting Group as a program development senior consultant.



Dwight Perry, Jr.

On March 21, 2023, Wofford University announced the naming of Dwight Perry Jr., son of Archon Dwight Perry and Archousa Veronica Perry of Durham, North Carolina’s Alpha Tau Boulé, as its head men’s basketball coach. During four seasons as an assistant and associate coach at Wofford, Perry played an important role in the program’s consistent improvement, including major wins over Power Five teams and the development of several all-conference players. He also interned under Shaka Smart at Virginia Commonwealth University.



Jaden Pitt

In April 2023 Jaden Pitt, son of Archon Juanson Pitt and Archousa Felice Pitt and the grandson of Archon Thomas Palmer and Archousa Barbara Palmer of Beta Chi Boulé in Fort Valley, Georgia, was elected as the secretary and chief information officer of the Morehouse College Business Association for the 2023–24 academic year. Jaden is a junior at Morehouse College, majoring in business management. He participated in an internship during summer 2023 with Fidelity Investments in Durham, North Carolina.



Marcia Price

On May 3, 2023, Delegate Marcia “Cia” Price, daughter of Archon McKinley L. Price and Archousa Valerie Price of Hampton–Norfolk, Virginia’s Beta Lambda Boulé, was elected vice chair of the Virginia Legislative Black Caucus. The caucus consists of twenty-two members of the Virginia General Assembly. Price has served in the Virginia General Assembly since 2016 and is the director of a nonprofit called the Virginia Black Leadership Organizing Collaborative, which is focused on building empowered communities. Price succeeds newly-elected Congresswoman Jennifer McClellan.



Sydney Robinson

On May 5, 2023, Sydney Robinson, daughter of Charlotte, North Carolina’s Beta Delta Boulé Archon Benjamin Robinson and Archousa Cecilia Robinson, graduated with a master of science degree in human development and family science from East Carolina University. Sydney plans to work as a pediatric child life specialist with terminally and chronically ill patients.

Erin Rolfe

On March 19, 2023, Erin Rolfe, daughter of Archon John Rolfe and Archousa Felicia Rolfe of Alpha Nu Boulé, Wichita, Kansas, was crowned Miss Kansas' Teen 2023. Erin, a student at Wichita Collegiate High School, was awarded almost \$6,500 by the Miss Kansas' Teen competition for use towards her education. Erin's social-impact initiative is "Mental Harmony: What's the Music for Your Mind?" She will represent the Miss Kansas' Teen organization across Kansas as an ambassador.



Leeann Danielle Ross

On June 2, 2023, Leeann Danielle Ross, daughter of Archon Brian K. Ross and Archousa Eleanor L. Ross of South Atlanta's Epsilon Upsilon Boulé, made her motion picture debut in the release of 20th Century Studios' supernatural horror film *The Boogeyman*, based on the 1973 short story of the same name by Stephen King. Currently enrolled at the University of Southern California Gloria Kaufman School of Dance in Los Angeles, Leeann has appeared in several television projects, including episodes of *Lovecraft Country*, *Just Beyond* and *The First Lady*.



Lawrence E. Sanders, Jr.

Lawrence E. Sanders, Jr., son of Archon Lawrence E. Sanders, Sr., and Archousa Sharon Alisa Sanders of Nashville's Chi Boulé, received his bachelor of science in television and film production from Middle Tennessee State University on May 5, 2023. He earned the distinction of dean's list all semesters. Lawrence previously earned his parallel university associate of science degree from Columbia State Community College. He produced video content for Camp Micah in Bridgton, Maine, over the summer.



Kimberly Scott-Salkey

On April 4, 2023, Kimberly Scott-Salkey, daughter of Archon Thomas H. Scott, Jr., and Archousa Margery Atkins Scott of Hampton-Norfolk, Virginia's Beta Lambda Boulé, was recognized as one of Richmond, Virginia's Top Docs by *Richmond Magazine*. Scott-Salkey received Top Doc honors in her specialty of dermatology. She currently practices with Virginia Commonwealth University Health in Virginia's capital city. The designation of Top Doc highlights the compassionate care, innovative technology and inclusive approach Scott-Salkey utilizes in providing care for her patients.



Kaliq Hunter Simms

Effective July 1, 2023, Archousa Kaliq Hunter Simms, wife of Archon Joseph Simms of Baltimore's Gamma Boulé, became the second president of Sisters Academy of Baltimore. In this role Archousa Simms leads the faith-based independent school by providing outstanding educational opportunities to middle school-aged girls in Baltimore. Archousa Simms holds a bachelor of arts from Morgan State University and a master's degree in education from Harvard University.



Julie Sneed

In May 2023 the Tampa Chapter of The Links, Inc., appointed new officers. Leading the esteemed group was Archousa Julie Sneed, wife of Archon Kevin Sneed of Tampa Bay, Florida's Gamma Omicron Boulé, who was named president. Archousa Sneed is committed to helping deliver transformational community service programs in the areas of arts, service to youth, national trends, and health and human services.





Julius Charles Stallworth

On May 26, 2023, Julius Charles Stallworth, son of Archon Darryl A. Stallworth and Archousa Karen Stallworth of Contra Costa County, California's Epsilon Beta Boulé, graduated from San Francisco State University with a bachelor of arts in communication studies. Julius supports the social media management and content creation for the Law Office of Darryl A. Stallworth.



Sierra Simone Stallworth

Sierra Simone Stallworth, daughter of Archon Darryl A. Stallworth and Archousa Karen Stallworth of Contra Costa County, California's Epsilon Beta Boulé, graduated summa cum laude from San Diego State University with a bachelor of arts in journalism and media studies and a minor in Africana studies in May 2023. While at SDSU, Sierra was vice president of the Black Journalists and editor of *The Daily Aztec* and fashion magazine. Sierra was featured in *The San Diego Union Tribune* as one of the recent college graduates. Sierra works for Dream.org, a nonprofit founded by Van Jones.



Jay Straker

On June 11, 2023, Jay Straker, son of Archon Michael Straker and Archousa Jamelle Straker of Northern New Jersey's Mu Boulé, played in the Phil Simms NJ North/South All-Star Football Classic at Kean University in Union. Recognized as a New Jersey football all-star, Jay graduated from West Orange High School in West Orange and now attends Stonehill College in Massachusetts on a football scholarship. The Phil Simms NJ North/South All-Star Football Classic is the longest running all-star football game in New Jersey and is in its forty-fifth year.



Susan Taylor

Congratulations to Archousa Susan Taylor on her history-making achievement of being elected president of the American Academy of Dermatology in April 2023. Archousa Taylor is married to Past Sire Archon Kemel W. Dawkins of Alpha Boulé in Philadelphia. She is the Bernett L. Johnson, Jr. Endowed Professor of Dermatology and vice chair of diversity, equity and inclusion at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine.



Leslie Torain

On March 19, 2023, Archousa Leslie Torain and Archon Tony Torain of Baltimore's Gamma Boulé welcomed the birth of their daughter, Lahna Celestine Torain. Lahna was born in Towson, Maryland, weighing 8 lbs., 2 oz. and was 21.5 inches long.



Noelle N. Trent

Noelle N. Trent, daughter of Archon Earl D. Trent, Jr., and Archousa Janice R. Trent of Epsilon Phi Boulé, Prince George's County, Maryland, was named president and CEO of the Museum of African American History, Boston and Nantucket (MAAH). A non-profit historical institution, MAAH is home to four African American buildings that were constructed in the early 1800's. Its mission is to highlight and preserve the history of the abolitionist and civil rights movements. Trent began her tenure at MAAH on June 12, 2023.

Rachel D. Upton

Rachel D. Upton, Ph.D., daughter of Archon Dennis Upton of Knoxville, Tennessee's Beta Theta Boulé, was recently published or cited in several publications on the topic of health care disparities within African American communities, including as a lead author of a study published in the April 2023 issue of *JAMA (Journal of the American Medical Association) Network Open*. Upton is a social science analyst with the Office of Performance and Evaluation at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living's Center for Policy and Evaluation.



Brian Dennis Lee Via

Brian Dennis Lee Via, son of Archon Dennis L. Via and Archousa Linda B. Via, of Epsilon Zeta Boulé, Loudoun County, Virginia, recently graduated with his M.B.A. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology as a Sloan Fellow in May 2023. Brian is a 2014 graduate from the University of Virginia, Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, where he also joined Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and served as a White House intern. He was the youngest Sloan Fellow of the 2023 MIT class.



Cameron Vincent

Cameron Vincent, son of Past Grand Sire Archon Gregory J. Vincent and Archousa Kimberly Vincent of Gamma Gamma Boulé in Austin, Texas, was accepted to the Morehouse College Howard Thurman Honors Program in the class of 2027 and will attend the school on an academic scholarship in the fall.



Janette McCarthy Wallace

After the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) ruled on June 8, 2023, to protect Voting Rights, the NAACP applauded the SCOTUS ruling. Archousa Janette McCarthy Wallace, wife of Archon Paul Wallace of Xi Boulé in Los Angeles and general counsel of the NAACP, issued a statement on the SCOTUS decision and voting rights, commending the Supreme Court for protecting the rights that were tirelessly fought for by our ancestors.



Cheryl Watson-Harris

Archousa Cheryl Watson-Harris, wife of Boston's Beta Beta Boulé Archon Roger Harris, became president and executive director of Achieve Atlanta on May 1, 2023. Achieve Atlanta is a nonprofit that provides about 700 need-based college scholarships and guidance for academic success to Atlanta Public Schools students. Archousa Watson-Harris is the former superintendent of the DeKalb County School District and former first deputy chancellor of New York City's public schools. She was also the youngest principal in Boston Public Schools history.



Monica Wharton

Archousa Monica Wharton, wife of Archon Andre Wharton of Delta Boulé, Memphis, and daughter-in-law to Archon A.C. Wharton, former mayor of Shelby County, and Archousa Ruby Wharton, a noted Memphis lawyer, has been named chief operating officer and executive vice president at Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare headquartered in Memphis. The May 5, 2023, announcement was made by the hospital president, Archon Michael Ugwueke, who called Archousa Wharton a "transformational leader and a champion of change, innovation and creativity across the system."





Paul T. Williams III

In May 2023 Paul T. Williams III, son of Archon Paul T. Williams, Jr., and Archousa Ammie Felder-Williams of Dallas's Alpha Epsilon Boulé, accepted a position as marketing purpose and inclusion associate analyst with Frito-Lay in Plano, Texas. Paul is a graduate of Columbia University and a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps.



Alexis A. Willis

Alexis A. Willis, daughter of Archon G. Norvin Willis and Archousa Lisa Willis of Epsilon Upsilon Boulé, South Atlanta, earned a bachelor of science degree in accounting and finance from the University of Virginia's McIntire School of Commerce in May 2023. Armed with her passion for wealth management, she will begin her professional career in July 2023 as an analyst at JPMorgan Chase & Co., based in Atlanta.



Daryl A. Wright

As the rays of success shine upon the remarkable achievements of the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health's class of 2023, there is one who stands out, radiating brilliance and dedication in public health. We celebrate the extraordinary journey of Daryl A. Wright, daughter of Archon Kevin D. Wright and Archousa Felicia Wright of Augusta, Georgia's Alpha Mu Boulé, whose accomplishments have not only earned her an M.P.H. in May 2023, but an induction into Columbia University's chapter of the prestigious Delta Omega Honor Society.



Brandon F. Young

Brandon F. Young, son of Archon Reuben F. Young and Archousa Pamela T. Young of Raleigh, North Carolina's Gamma Sigma Boulé, achieved the Medical Science Liaison-Board Certified credential in March 2023. Medical Science Liaisons serve as experts in current research in a particular medical and pharmaceutical field and work to ensure that healthcare professionals are up to date on treatments, products and data.



Lesley Younge

Lesley Younge, daughter of Archon Fitzroy Younge and Archousa Ida Younge of Delta Xi Boulé, Walnut-Diamond Bar, California, is co-author of *Nearer My Freedom*, published in March 2023. The book is a critically acclaimed verse novel re-mix of Olaudah Equiano's autobiography. Her first picture book, *A-Train Allen* was the grand prize winner of Sleeping Bear Press's Own Voices, Own Stories Award. Lesley lives with her family in Silver Spring, Maryland, and is a middle school teacher in Washington, D.C.



Stacey Younge

Stacey Younge, daughter of Archon Fitzroy Younge and Archousa Ida Younge of Delta Xi Boulé, Walnut-Diamond Bar, California, completed the Boston Marathon in April 2023 and earned Six Star Marathon status. Stacey achieved this over a ten-year period by running the six world major marathons which include Tokyo, London, Berlin, New York, Chicago and Boston. Stacey lives in New York City and owns a private practice for mental health services.

MEMBER BOULÉS

Gamma Boulé Attends Hip-Hop Exhibition at Baltimore Museum of Art



On April 2, 2023, Archons, Archousai and family members of Gamma Boulé, Baltimore, attended the Baltimore Museum

of Art (BMA) opening and reception for *The Culture: Hip Hop and Contemporary Art in the 21st Century* as the invited guests of

Archousa Nupur Parekh Flynn, a member of the BMA board of trustees. The afternoon started with an exhibition talk and a tour, followed by a reception and live entertainment, which included break-dancers as well as our own Archon Guy “DJ Fly Guy” Flynn on the “Wheels of Steel.” Hip-hop, since its emergence fifty years ago, has grown into a global phenomenon, driving innovation in music, fashion, technology, and visual and performing arts.

The genre started with a simple Bronx house party in 1973, and is now the most streamed form of music. Hip-hop founders DJ Kool Herc and Coke La Rock and the First Lady of Hip-Hop, Cindy Campbell, appeared at the reception.

Archon Guy B. Richardson
Gapter, Gamma Boulé

Delta Boulé Hosts Father's Day *Pique-Nique en Blanc*

Not even thunderous downpours of southern storms put a damper on the Father's Day picnic hosted by Delta Boulé, Memphis, on June 18, 2023, at Bonne Terre, the chic French country estate in Nesbit, Mississippi. Past Sire Archon J.O. Patterson, chair of the picnic committee, and the other committee members transformed the lovely Ashley Hall Ballroom into an idyllic setting.

Billed as a *Pique-Nique en Blanc*, the Sunday-afternoon event offered a dizzying array of activities ranging from relay races, cigar-and-cognac stations, bid whist, line dancing (with line dance instructors), a bouncy house for children, face painting and balloon animals, among other entertainment. Archon Alonzo Weaver moderated a Juneteenth Black History challenge that indeed tested the wits of even well-read historians.

Archon Ronald A. Walter
Gapter, Delta Boulé



PICNIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARCHON RODNEY MARTIN AND ARCHOUSA DENISE MUSTIFUL MARTIN AND THEIR DAUGHTER MELBA (CENTER)

Theta Boulé Archons Attend March Madness Party



Approximately twenty Archons of Theta Boulé, Kansas City, Missouri, gathered on March 17, 2023, at the home of Archon Stewart Myers for their March Madness Watch Party, an annual event that allows Archons the opportunity to expand relationships and get to know the best of one another. Sire Archon Herb Hardwick offered remarks, Archon Myers gra-

ciously hosted the event and the Archons enjoyed an outstanding afternoon of basketball, food and great fellowship.

*Archon Willie E. Lanier, Jr.
Grapter, Theta Boulé*

Los Angeles Mayor Addresses Xi Boulé

Los Angeles's Xi Boulé Archons were pleased to have the Honorable Karen Bass, the first African American female mayor of the city, as the guest speaker at their meeting on June 8, 2023. Attended by Archons and Archousai, it represented a unique opportunity for a candid conversation with Mayor Bass covering several hot topics, including two that have an impact on most Angelenos: homelessness and affordable housing. It was additionally impressive that the event took place at all, as the mayor tested positive for COVID-19 on the preceding evening. Rather than reschedule,



MAYOR OF LOS ANGELES KAREN BASS

Mayor Bass demonstrated her commitment to fostering a strong relationship with the Xi family by participating in this town hall-style discussion while in quarantine at her residence.

Rhetoricos Byron McLain deserves special acknowledgment. Without his tenacious perseverance in circumventing conventional channels and connecting directly with Mayor Bass, this meeting would not have been possible.

*Archon de Winter L. Stewart
Grapter, Xi Boulé*

Alpha Beta Boulé Celebrates 82nd Anniversary



GRAND SIRE ARCHON GARIBALDI WITH ALPHA BETA BOULÉ

Alpha Beta Boulé, Richmond, proudly celebrated its eighty-second anniversary on April 16, 2023, in the Clairborne Robertson Room of the magnificent Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, one of the grandest museums in the country. The event was highlighted by the attendance of Grand Sire Archon Antoine Garibaldi and the recognition of eleven Alpha Beta Emeriti Archons.

Following a brief reception, Sire Archon Kenneth Johnson welcomed the thirty-eight Archons in attendance, and Archon Ronald Crutcher introduced Grand Sire Archon Garibaldi, who eloquently outlined the instrumental and pivotal role Alpha Beta has played in the success of Sigma Pi Phi throughout the years. He acknowledged the contributions of such historic members as Past Grand Sire Archon Oliver Hill, Past Regional Sire Archon Jim Sheffield and many others.

Archon Garibaldi concluded his remarks with a salute to the eleven Alpha Beta Archons who have achieved emeritus status. These esteemed “men of ambition, refinement and self-respect” have contributed a collective 368 years of service to Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

Below is a brief profile of each honoree:

- Archon Ralph Anderson (inducted 12/22/95): first African American to complete the orthodontic residency at the Medical College of Virginia (now Virginia Commonwealth University)
- Archon Elwood Boone (inducted 12/10/91): urologist
- Archon Leon Brown (inducted 12/22/95): family practice physician
- Archon Renard Charity (inducted 5/20/94): obstetrician and gynecologist
- Archon Ronald Crutcher (inducted 12/16/95): classical musician and academic administrator
- Archon Samuel Hunter (inducted 12/22/95): nephrology specialist; served as Sire Archon, Grammateus and Rhetoricos of Alpha Beta
- Archon Frank Royal (inducted 3/23/77): family practice physician and corporate and nonprofit board leader
- Archon Harry Royal (inducted 3/23/77): obstetrician and gynecologist
- Archon Lindley Smith (inducted 12/22/95): ophthalmologist
- Archon Porcher Taylor (inducted 12/22/95): retired colonel and education administrator; one of few living Americans who served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War
- Archon Ronald Wesley (inducted 11/11/89): attorney; served as Sire Archon, Grammateus and Thesauristes of Alpha Beta

*Archon Brian P. Brown
Grapter, Alpha Beta Boulé*

Dallas-Area Boulés Support UNCF Mayor's Masked Ball



More than forty Archons and Archousai from four Texas boulés – Alpha Epsilon, Dallas; Delta Mu, Fort Worth–Arlington; Epsilon Pi, Southlake; and Zeta Beta, North Dallas – supported the 2023 UNCF Mayor's Masked Ball on February 18, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The sold-out event, with 520 guests in attendance, raised more than \$500,000 in cash and in-kind support for HBCUs and college students. Archousa Jewel Parrish and Archon Roland Parrish of Alpha Epsilon cochaired the event.

Alpha Epsilon Archon Bryan Carter and Archousa Stephanie Carter received special recognition. Archon Carter is board chairman for the Harmony Community Development Corp., an organization committed to improving the Southern Dallas community through building stronger families and economic development.

*Archon Kevin B. Wiggins
Grapter, Alpha Epsilon Boulé*

Gamma Rho Boulé Members Attend Service at Empowerment Church



FRONT ROW: ARCHOUSAI LINDA SMITH, LISA KERN, CYNTHIA PERKINS AND CRYSTAL BROOKS; ARCHON ROBERT BROOKS; ARCHOUSA LINDA THOMAS; AND ARCHON RICARDO SOLOMON. BACK ROW: ARCHONS KEITH SIMS, GLENN MOORE, JOHN WRIGHT, ROBERT SMITH, JAMES KERN, BILL PERKINS AND LES ALEXANDER; ARCHOUSA JACQUIE MUNSON-GAINES; AND ARCHON BRUCE GAINES.

Several Archons and Archousai of Gamma Rho Boulé, Ann Arbor, Michigan, attended a service at Empowerment Church in Southfield on Sunday, May 14, 2023, a great opportunity for people to worship and fellowship together post-COVID. Archon Bill Perkins, a member of the church, shared a brief history of Sigma Pi Phi with the congregation, highlighting the fact that the Fraternity's history is "intertwined with the struggles of Black Americans for justice, opportunities and equality. The same struggles that were so abundantly clear in the past still remain."

Gamma Rho was chartered on January 17, 1987, in a ceremony conducted in the Student Union on the University of Michigan campus. The Archons of Gamma Rho are a dynamic, diverse group of accomplished Black men who are focused on giving to others as the aspirational goal for all.

*Archon Bruce Gaines
Grapter, Gamma Rho Boulé*

Beta Nu Boulé Holds Panel on Policing Issues in Northern Virginia



ARCHON RODNEY W. WHITMORE; KEVIN DAVIS, FAIRFAX POLICE CHIEF; AND BRYAN HILL, FAIRFAX COUNTY EXECUTIVE

At its June 2023 business meeting, Beta Nu Boulé, Northern Virginia, sponsored a robust panel discussion with a number of Fairfax County leaders on the topic “Local Policing and the Northern Virginia Black Community.” Participants included Kevin Davis, Fairfax County chief of police; Bryan Hill, Fairfax County executive; Thomas Arnold, deputy county executive for safety and security; Rodney Lusk, Franconia District supervisor; and Archon Dirk A. Hargraves, member and immediate past chair of the Fairfax County Police Civilian Review Panel.

Beta Nu Rhetoricos Rodney W. Whitmore moderated the discussion, which focused on policing practices in Fairfax County, the state’s most populous county, a subject particularly pertinent in the aftermath of the killing of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer in 2020. The panel members emphasized that issues concerning use of force, data transparency and building better trust with the community are at the core of the Fairfax leadership team’s work on local law enforcement practices. The following are brief highlights of their comments and observations:

Use of Force. Fairfax representatives specified that the county officials have worked with three professors at the University of Texas at San Antonio to analyze law enforcement’s use of force. The leadership team is in the process of implementing about 80 percent of the recommendations. Efforts are underway, for example, for law enforcement to use a “co-responder” model in cases involving mental health issues of individuals who are the subject of calls for police help. This model will pair police officers with mental health specialists when possible, and these specialists will take the lead if no criminality is involved. The Fairfax County Police Department

also has a goal of increasing female recruits by 30 percent, as the data establishes that female police officers are far less likely to use force than their male counterparts.

Data Transparency. The panelists noted that their collective goal is to promote openness and transparency with respect to law enforcement’s interaction with the community. As part of this effort, they referenced Fairfax County’s policy requiring the release to the public of all videos from police body-worn cameras within thirty days after any critical (i.e., officer-involved) incident. In addition, each community member who engages with law enforcement is asked to complete a five-question survey concerning an officer’s performance, attitude and treatment. The panel acknowledged that arrests of African American males continue to exceed the percentage of African American males in the relevant population, but it is believed that greater transparency will help.

Building Better Trust. The panel members discussed the important role of the Fairfax Police Civilian Review Panel (on which Archon Hargraves currently serves) in building better trust between law enforcement and the community. The Review Panel comprises nine community members and is advised by an independent legal counsel, Beta Nu Archon Ken Bynum. It reviews complaints and issues raised by the community concerning policing practices and meets quarterly with the chief of police to discuss issues and recommendations.

Beta Nu will continue to monitor development within the community on this subject.

*Archon Benjamin A. Dinkins
Grapter, Beta Nu Boulé*

Gamma Chi Boulé Celebrates Founders Day



ON THE BOWLING GREEN

Gamma Chi Boulé, San Jose, California, recognized the past and present with a special Founders Day celebration on May 7, 2023, at the Almaden Golf and Country Club, during which Archons and Archousai had the chance to get to know the best of one another. One of the highlights of the festivities was an address by Pacific Region Sire Archon Michael Keeley of Gamma Epsilon, Sacramento, who took this opportunity to recall the rich, significant history of Sigma Phi Pi.

Also attending was the chair of the Pacific Region Social Action Committee, Archon Ramsey Jay, of Gamma Zeta, Pasadena. The day's revelry, accentuated by fine food, drinks and music, culminated with entertaining games of bocce ball and pickleball.

*Archon Leon F. Beauchman
Grapter, Gamma Chi Boulé*

Delta Mu Boulé Outing Draws Families, Friends to Golf Course



AN ASPIRING YOUNG GOLFER GETS A LESSON.

Delta Mu Boulé, Fort Worth–Arlington, Texas, held its Spring Outing on May 5, 2023, at Topgolf in Fort Worth, with more than one hundred Archons, Archousai and family members, and friends in attendance. The outing was an opportunity for the boulé family to shed the constraints of the pandemic and kick up their heels in the great outdoors, something many had not done in some time.

Topgolf, though not a full golf course, features driving ranges and putting greens –popular among the young and old – and games, arts and crafts, face painting, and



ARCHONS AND FAMILIES ENJOY THE OUTING.

other activities for the younger crowd. An abundance of good food and drink added to the festivities.

In order to host an event that would appeal to the entire family, this outing replaced Delta Mu's traditional Day at the Races, which the boulé has sponsored for nearly a dozen years. Because of the success of this event, the planning committee will seek to organize other family-oriented activities.

*Archon William T. Slater
Grapter, Delta Mu Boulé*

Delta Nu Boulé Brunch Marks Twenty-Seven Years



FRONT ROW: ARCHONS RAIFORD COCKFIELD, RONALD WOODS, ARCHIE ELAM, THOMAS MARSHALL AND CHARLES SPAULDING. BACK ROW: ARCHONS JOSIAH LINDSAY, CARLTON BARNSWELL, RICKY DAVIS, SR., CRAIG POLITE, TRACY MCMILLAN AND PHILLIP MILLER.

Delta Nu Boulé, Fairfield County, Connecticut, marked the twenty-seventh anniversary of its founding on March 18, 2023, hosting a brunch at Artisan Restaurant Southport in Fairfield. Archons, Archousai and guests were treated to a recitation of Delta Nu's illustrious history delivered by Archon Raiford Cockfield, and attendees were enchanted to be

introduced to Archon Archie Elam's fiancée, Susan Eichelberg. This annual Delta Nu anniversary event has become a fabulous occasion for people to get to know the best of one another.

*Archon Charles E. Spaulding
Grapter, Delta Nu Boulé*

Archons and Archousai From Three Boulés Converge for Ed Brown Race Day



ARCHONS RODNEY JACKSON, L. CLARK WILLIAMS, JONATHAN WEATHERBY, DARYL LOVE, RICHARD LAMBERT, SR., JAMES "IKE" ADAMS, RANDALL DALTON, CHRIS JONES AND DAVID TANDY

Ed Brown Race Day on April 23, 2023, at Keeneland in Lexington, Kentucky, provided a perfect venue for Boulé members to support a worthy cause while enjoying a day of world-class Thoroughbred racing.

Nine Archons of three boulés, along with their Archousai, attended: James "Ike" Adams, Randall Dalton, Rodney Jackson, Daryl Love, Jonathan Weatherby and L. Clark Williams of Delta Tau; Chris Jones and David Tandy of Psi; and Richard Lambert, Sr., of Alpha Beta.

The event was organized by the Ed Brown Society, named in honor of Edward Dudley Brown, who was

born into slavery and went on to become one of the most accomplished horsemen in the history of Thoroughbred racing. The mission of the society is to celebrate the rich history of African Americans in the equine industry and to create opportunities for young people of color to become professionals in all aspects of the Thoroughbred industry.

*Archon Timothy A. Johnson
Grapter, Delta Tau Boulé*

Delta Tau Boulé Hosts Summer Soirée on Lake Cumberland



Delta Tau Boulé, Frankfort, Kentucky, gathered on Saturday, June 3, 2023, for its annual summer soirée, and this year the picturesque Lake Cumberland in Somerset offered the perfect backdrop for the festivities. Archons, Archousai and guests enjoyed a day filled with sunshine, laughter and camaraderie aboard the aptly named *Sunshine Boat*.

Archons spared no effort in creating a memorable event. Each detail was meticulously planned, ensuring a perfect blend of entertainment, delicious food and a warm, welcoming atmosphere for all to enjoy.

Memories were etched into the hearts of everyone who attended, serving as a reminder of the power of getting to know the best of one another. This year's summer soirée will undoubtedly be remembered as a highlight of the season.

The day concluded at the beautiful home of Archon Randall Dalton and Archousa Delores, followed by an gospel brunch at their home on Sunday morning.

Archon Timothy A. Johnson
Grapter, Delta Tau Boulé

Epsilon Delta Boulé Commemorates Founders Day



SIRE ARCHON ALVIN WOODS, ARCHON DARRELL K. WILLIAMS AND SIRE ARCHON-ELECT CARL GIBSON

Epsilon Delta Boulé, Williamsburg, Virginia, celebrated Founders Day on May 19, 2023, with a black-tie affair at the Colonial Heritage Club. The master of ceremonies, Archon Victor Holman, chairman of the social committee, introduced the keynote speaker, Archon Darrell K. Williams, president of Hampton University, who was accompanied by Archousa Myra. Archon Williams inspired the audience with his vision of providing a holistic educational experience for the students, while strategically preparing the university for its future.

Sire Archon Alvin Woods highlighted important aspects of the history of Sigma Pi Phi, and he conferred an honorary resolution upon charter Archon Robert R. Taylor, who embodied the catalyst for Epsilon Delta's beginnings. The framed resolution was signed by all current Archons.

Archons who have moved on to Omega Boulé were honored, with Archon Wallace Arnold reading each name as Archon Michael Harrison lit a candle in each Archon's memory. Archousa Carolyn Morgan was present in honor of her late husband, Past Sire Archon Morris H. Morgan.

Archon Rondall W. James
Grapter, Epsilon Delta Boulé

Epsilon Tau Boulé Hosts Golf Outing, Celebrates Mother's Day and Founders Day

The Archons and Archousai of Epsilon Tau Boulé, Inland Empire of Southern California, enjoyed an excellent evening on May 1, 2023, getting to know the best of one another with a friendly competition of golf and games. The social outing at Topgolf in Ontario featured an inclusive and enjoyable high-tech golf game that everyone loved. The evening was paired with an outstanding food and beverage menu, climate-controlled hitting bays and music that kept the energy and environment lively and engaging.

The Archons were then able to honor their Archousai on Mother's Day, at the same time celebrating Sigma Pi Phi's 119th Founders Day on May 21, 2023, at the Wilson Creek Winery in Temecula. This memorable combined celebration allowed for an excellent opportunity to get to know the best of one another once again, enjoying partnership, sharing and, of course, fellowship over delicious food and fine drinks.

Archon Marcus K. Funchess
Grapter, Epsilon Tau Boulé



Epsilon Upsilon Supports Economic Empowerment, Marks Fifth Anniversary



Members of Epsilon Upsilon Boulé in South Atlanta, Georgia, were well represented at the inaugural Boulé Economic Empowerment Summit (BEES) held in Nashville in April 2023. Epsilon Upsilon Archons Derrick Jackson, state representative in the Georgia House of Representatives, and Jonathan Parris, executive director at J.P. Morgan, were active participants on the BEES agenda.

On May 7, 2023, Epsilon Upsilon Boulé members celebrated their five-year anniversary at the Studio

Cigar Lounge in Peachtree City. Epsilon Upsilon, the 135th member boulé, was founded on May 5, 2018. This was truly a festive event, attended by Southeast Region Sire Archon Darrell Searcy and notable Archons and Archousai from the entire Atlanta area.

Archon Pierre O. Clements
Grapter, Epsilon Upsilon Boulé

Zeta Gamma Boulé Attends Picnic on the Chesapeake



SEATED: ZETA GAMMA GRAMMATEUS IRVING McCONNELL, SIRE ARCHON ARIS ALLEN, JR., AND SIRE ARCHON—ELECT D. MICHAEL LYLES. STANDING: EPSILON ARCHON DONALD THIGPEN AND ZETA GAMMA ARCHONS MICHAEL ROGERS; OTHO THOMPSON; JAMES JOHNSON, JR., THESAURISTES; PEYTON HERBERT; WILLIAM P. GREENE, JR., AGOGOS; CARROL HYNSON; KURT SCHMOKE; COURTNEY BILLUPS, RHETORICOS; JOHN C. DOVE, JR.; AND SIDNEY BUTCHER.

The Archons, Archousai and guests of Zeta Gamma Boulé, Annapolis, Maryland (the “Boulé on the Bay”), had the immense pleasure of attending a picnic on June 3, 2023, at the home of Archon Emeritus Kurt Schmoke and Archousa Patricia – a stunning location overlooking the Chesapeake Bay. The setting itself was nothing short of breathtaking, with panoramic views of the sparkling waters, sailboats gliding gracefully in the distance and lush greenery. The hosts were clearly committed to providing a flaw-

less experience for their guests. Live music filled the air, creating a joyful ambiance, elevating the picnic from a mere gathering to a truly extraordinary event that exceeded all expectations. The natural beauty combined with meticulous execution left a lasting impression of this unforgettable day that was filled with laughter, good food and cherished memories.

*Archon Joel A. Braithwaite
Grapter, Zeta Gamma Boulé*

THE REGIONAL BOULÉS

THE INAUGURAL BOULÉ ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT

By Archon Keith Belton, Chi Boulé, Chair, Southeast Region Strategic Communications and Archon Engagement Committee, and cochair, Boulé Economic Empowerment Summit



ARCHONS WALTON PEARSON AND JONATHAN PARRIS DURING A FIRESIDE CHAT ON THE CURRENT ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Nashville was the welcoming backdrop for Archons and Archousai from across the country to learn, network and invest with one another at the inaugural Boulé Economic Empowerment Summit (BEES) held April 13–16, 2023. Hosted by the Council of Regional Sire Archons, the summit built upon the Fraternity's vision to leverage our collective knowledge so our families flourish and prosper and utilize our influence to promote investment in Black businesses.

A day party at registration started the event hosted at the Grand Hyatt in downtown Nashville, as Archons and Archousai excitedly prepared for the event, wondering what to expect. Thursday's opening began with the Regional Sire's Reception, hosted at the downtown headquarters of AllianceBernstein, one of the dozen corporate partners for the event.

The official welcome reception was held on Thursday evening at the National Museum of African American Music and was sponsored by Bank of America Private Bank. Archons, Archousai and young adults had a chance to tour the three-story exhibition space of the relatively new museum as part of the reception. Southeast Region Sire Archon Darrell B. Searcy (Epsilon Lambda), Grand Sire Archon Antoine Garibaldi (Iota), Grand Sire Archon–Elect Loren Douglass (Zeta) and Archon Keith Belton

(Chi), cochair of the BEES planning committee, provided greetings and opening remarks.

Friday started the robust set of back-to-back sessions. McKinsey & Co. opened the morning with the "Current State of Black Economic Mobility" presentation. The panel highlighted where African American financial health stands today and what's needed to further improve the lives of Black families and businesses.

Archon Alfonzo Alexander (Chi), master of ceremonies for the event, started the morning by reiterating the focus of the summit. The morning's first panel, "The Journey of Building a Black Enterprise," featured successful entrepreneurs highlighting the ups and downs of their businesses' evolution and growth. The panel featured Archon Winston Pittman (Alpha Lambda), Archon Turner Nashe (Chi) and Archon Michael Carter (Chi) and was moderated by Marcus Whitney, a Nashville health-care entrepreneur and venture capitalist.

"Growth Story of Disruptive Brands" highlighted the struggles and successes of entrepreneurs and featured Archousa Janell Stephens (Beta Chi), founder and CEO of the beauty products firm Camille Rose, and Jay Bailey, CEO of Atlanta's Russell Center for Entrepreneurship.



GRAND SIRE ARCHON ANTOINE GARIBALDI DURING THE OPENING SESSION

Grand Sire Archon–Elect Loren Douglass served as the keynote speaker during the afternoon luncheon. Archon Douglass discussed economic empowerment in terms of Boulé members supporting and investing in one another, which would then support the growth and prosperity of African American businesses. However, the nexus of the conversation was on the strategies and challenges of transitioning the Boulé into the twenty-first century.

Friday afternoon's sessions began with "The Dynamics of Private Capital Markets" with Archons Kenneth Saffold (Kappa) of 0615 Capital; Ira Moreland (Kappa), ICV Partners; and Lloyd Trotter (Epsilon

Lambda) of GenNE360. Keeping with the theme of capital access, the next session, "Access to Markets: Leveraging the National Minority Supplier Diversity Council's Trillion Dollar Spend Challenge," provided perspective on leveraging corporate America's supplier-diversity needs and focus. Archon Harvey Butler (Zeta Delta), BEES content committee cochair and global head of supplier diversity at Barclay's Bank, was the moderator. Archon Butler also facilitated a discussion with panelists Carlton O'Neal, president of LightspeedEDU and chair of the NMSDC minority business input committee; Peter Hurst, CEO, New England Minority Supplier Development Council; and Tyronne Stoudemire, SVP global DEI for Hyatt Hotels, which was also one of the summit's corporate sponsors.

While the young adults had been attending general sessions throughout the morning, two "Success Planning" sessions were held explicitly on Friday afternoon for the twenty-five young adults in attendance. Two JPMorgan Chase panelists hosted the sessions. Caron Washington, vice president of the bank, led "Leaping Forward in Career and Life for Young Professionals." "Fundamentals of Financial Planning" was led by Jay Baldwin of Chase wealth management. The young adults finished the evening with a networking dinner.

The last panel of a jam-packed Friday was the "Black Women and Wealth" session hosted by Bank of America Private Bank. Archousa Sharon Sanders (Chi) introduced the topic and panelists. Tiffany Eubanks-Sanders and Lauren Ladd, both of the Bank of America Private Bank group, led a discussion around vital financial investments that Black women



MODERATOR MARCUS WHITNEY, ARCHON MICHAEL CARTER, ARCHON TURNER NASHE AND ARCHON WINSTON PITTMAN, SR.



SOUTHEAST REGION SIRE ARCHON DARRELL SEARCY

should consider as part of their financial portfolio management, benefiting both Archousai and Archons attending the session.

All day Friday, the Archon Samuel H. Howard Podcast Suite, hosted by the Recording Academy, was being used to record podcasts. Late Chi Archon Samuel H. Howard was a radio owner and African American business pioneer in Nashville; the podcast suite at the Hyatt was named in his honor. In addition to Archons and Archousai recording financial-empowerment-themed podcasts, partners such as Citizens Bank used the suite to record episodes for their company podcast series.

On Friday evening, the Boulé Economic Empowerment Summit concluded with two social events. First, after the day's sessions ended, Hyatt hosted a reception for all attendees and sponsors. A "Boulé After Dark" took place late Friday, allowing Archons, Archousai and sponsors to unwind.

The summit continued Saturday morning with additional panels before transitioning to the "Industry Pitch" sessions. AllianceBernstein hosted the "Changing the Trajectory: Black Family Engagement, Wealth and Legacy" session. The session "Successful Transition of a Family Business: Legacy Building" provided the opportunity to discuss succession planning, the key to the longevity of any family-owned business. Archons Jerome Russell (Kappa) and Archon Winston Pittman led the panel discussion. Morgan Stanley closed the morning session with a roundtable on creating and transferring generational wealth.

The "Venture and Industry Pitch" session gave presenters fifteen minutes each to share ideas for collaboration or investment. Given the company's push to diversify its franchisee base, McDonald's presented opportunities for franchise investment. Archon Calvin Butts (Zeta Delta) shared the growth story and focus of East Chop Capital, a private equity firm focused on the rental/vacation home market.

"We benefited so much from attending this summit," said Archousa Sharon Sanders (Chi), who, in addition to attending panels with Archon Lawrence Sanders, also served as host for the "BEE Conversant" podcast episode that featured Bank of America's Tiffany Eubanks-Saunders. "There are insights and wealth-building strategies that Lawrence and I will be able



ARCHON ODELL THOMPSON WITH HIS NIECE AND YACS PARTICIPANT KENDRA EMIL

to integrate into our family's finances. [Our son] LJ shared with us how much his YACS sessions will help him as he navigates the early part of his career and manages his earnings and investments."

After the workshops and pitch sessions concluded around lunchtime on Saturday, it was time for attendees to explore Middle Tennessee. Archons, Archousai and sponsors participated in a private tour and tasting at Uncle Nearest Distillery in Shelbyville, a forty-five-minute drive south of Nashville. Attendees learned the history of the Uncle Nearest brand and Nearest Green's relationship with Jack Daniels, and enjoyed a private tasting of the Uncle Nearest whiskey offerings.

"I left the Summit motivated and inspired! I attended young adult sessions as well as general BEES sessions," said Kendra Emil, a graphic designer and niece of Archon Odell Thompson (Delta Omicron). "I met a lot of fascinating men and women and gained knowledge in many areas. I was reminded that with the right mind-set, work ethic and discipline, anything is possible!"

On Saturday evening, Chi Boulé Foundation hosted the second annual "Closing the Gap" Gala. Also held at the National Museum of African American Music, this casual event encouraged attendees to wear their favorite college T-shirt, jeans and sneakers. Attendees danced the evening away to the music provided by DJ Kid Capri. The event raised more than \$300,000 for scholarships for Nashville-area college students.

Sunday's brunch brought the inaugural Boulé Economic Empowerment Summit to an end. Archons and Archousai shared their favorite moments from the three-day event and promised to stay in touch for future business endeavors.



ARCHON KEITH BELTON WITH HIS DAUGHTER AND YACS PARTICIPANT SAVANNAH BELTON AND ARCHOUSAI SC EAN BELTON

A special thank-you to the BEES Planning Committee, cochaired by Archons Keith Belton and Van Strickland (Epsilon Kappa), and all the Archons and Archousai who served on it. The Council of Regional Sire Archons sincerely thanks the outstanding speakers, moderators and presenters. The event could not have been executed without our sponsors.

At this first Boulé Economic Empowerment Summit, the bar for future Boulé empowerment programming – whether at Grand or Regional levels, virtual or summit – has been set high.



NORTHEAST REGION SIRE ARCHON ALFRED SPENCER, JR., SOUTHEAST REGION SIRE ARCHON DARRELL SEARCY, WESTERN REGION SIRE ARCHON JESSE TYSON, GRAND SIRE ARCHON ANTOINE GARIBALDI, ARCHON HENRY HICKS, GRAND SIRE ARCHON—ELECT LOREN DOUGLASS AND PACIFIC REGION SIRE ARCHON MICHAEL KEELEY AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC RECEPTION

WESTERN REGION ARCHONS CONVENE TO SUPPORT MOTHERS ABANDONED OR WIDOWED

By Archon Leonard James III, Grapter, Western Region Boulé



WESTERN REGION GRAPTER LEONARD JAMES III (EPSILON OMICRON) AND ARCHON CALVIN REYNOLDS (EPSILON OMICRON)

On April 21, 2023, Western Region Archons gathered at Sky Creek Ranch Golf Club in Keller, Texas, to raise funds for Mothers Abandoned or Widowed (MAW), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit established to assist previously married, abandoned or widowed mothers with children under 18 with child care, transportation and educational goals. The 11th Annual Golf Tournament at Sky Creek Ranch charity tournament, hosted by MAW's founder and president Archon Calvin Reynolds of Epsilon Omicron Boulé, attracted more than one hundred golfers.

"Mothers Abandoned or Widowed exists to serve mothers and children from various ethnic backgrounds, needing assistance as a result of being unexpectedly widowed, suffering from past physical abuse, whose husbands have deserted the family, or who have a husband who once was the primary provider and is now incarcerated," said Archon Reynolds. "Over the past eleven-year period, MAW has raised nearly \$800,000 and assisted 361 families (1,083 women and

children) to support four programs, emergency child care, continuing education, children's program and the flagship Poverty to Powerful Transportation Program."

Through experience, the 501(c)(3) nonprofit determined that poorer women with young children who have been unexpectedly abandoned or widowed are bottled into finding employment and educational options closer to home because of transportation restrictions. This in many cases leads them to lower-paying employment like domestic workers, night jobs and minimum-wage options. In some situations, the children are at home unattended. All families assisted have income at or below the poverty line.

Abandoned or widowed women left to become the primary wage earners forcefully have a different pattern than a two-parent household. They are undertaking multipurpose trips without a reliable vehicle, such as taking children to school, shopping, health-related visits and going to work. Many are forced to use public transportation at off-peak hours.



ARCHONS CURTIS HARRIS (DELTA MU), MICHAEL EDWARDS (EPSILON PI), RYAN MAYS (DELTA MU) AND JOSEPH AUSTIN (DELTA MU)

It is MAW Charities' belief that providing reliable transportation will result in empowering women to achieve better-paying jobs, enhance educational options for themselves and their children, and encourage the entire family to move from a poverty situation to a powerful mind-set. Over eleven years, MAW purchased or acquired automobiles, provided car insurance for all, paid for major and minor auto repairs, assisted with car notes, and will pay for

routine maintenance as long as the families own the vehicle. The aim is to keep families safe and help them to become more prosperous and self-sufficient.

The organization's vision is to have communities where abandoned and widowed mothers can live with dignity and respect through turbulent times. The vision is also supported by Archousa Sylvia Reynolds who serves as the membership director, counseling and encouraging mothers having them



MAW CHARITIES BENEFIT RECIPIENTS MARIA OLGA RODRIGUEZ AND CHILDREN WITH MAW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR ARCHOUSA SYLVIA REYNOLDS



MAW CHARITIES BENEFIT RECIPIENT MARIA OLGA RODRIGUEZ WITH MAW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR ARCHOUSA SYLVIA REYNOLDS

focus on the road ahead while giving them hope for a better future.

"I have supported the MAW golf tournament for several years because I see the impact the charity is having on the community to help single moms and their children. I plan to continue my support in the future and solicit others to help with this worthy cause," said Archon Dennis Smiter (Epsilon Pi).

"Mothers Abandoned or Widowed came into my life like the light at the end of a tunnel, giving me hope and a million angels like Mrs. Sylvia. I wish to express my biggest gratitude for this organization," said Maria Olga Rodriguez. "It is grand to see how much MAW has helped me. We had to go find refuge in a women's shelter right after my husband abandoned us, and my counselor introduced me to MAW. I'll never forget the first time MAW came into our lives. Because of MAW, I have been able to confront life a little bit easier. My first blessing was a car donated by MAW and a few gas cards and maintenance. I have been able to work steadily, take my children to school and complete my GED. It has not only helped me monetarily but has given me strength and courage to fight harder for what my children and I need. I finally got the courage to pursue the cosmetology degree I started before my husband abandoned us. Through constant

encouragement from the members of MAW, I feel like I can accomplish anything that I set my mind to and pass this strength to my children that no matter what life throws your way, there is always a way and angels like the ones from MAW that lift you up when you are down. With the help to get on my feet, I am now looking to purchase my first home. A big thank-you to everyone at MAW!"

"This has been my fourth consecutive year gladly supporting the work Archon and Archousa Reynolds and their family do through MAW Charities," said Archon Eric Adams (Epsilon Omicron).

"The 11th Annual Golf Tournament at Sky Creek Ranch had outstanding participation from golfers, sponsors and volunteers. I have watched this event grow year after year," he added. "Clearly the word is getting out about the highly impactful transportation, child care and educational support provided to mothers abandoned or widowed. It's always a joy to see some of the mothers attend and hear how MAW Charities has helped them get back on their feet."

The Archons and Archousai of the Western Region congratulate MAW for creating and maintaining an environment that promotes caring, equality and self-esteem for those mothers who have been abandoned or widowed unexpectedly.

WESTERN REGION ARCHONS, ARCHOUSAI SEE THE WORLD TOGETHER THROUGH MUSIC

By Archon Leonard James III, Grapier, Western Region Boulé



**FRONT ROW: ARCHOUSAI CORLISS STONE-LITTLES, CYNTHIA BIVINS, TIA MORGAN, CISSELON HURD AND SYLVIA REYNOLDS.
BACK ROW: ARCHONS LORENZO LITTLES, DEMETRIUS BIVINS, GLENN MORGAN, JAMES HURD AND CALVIN REYNOLDS.**

In May 2023 Archons from Epsilon Omicron Boulé of North Houston, Texas, and Epsilon Pi Boulé of Southlake, Texas, traveled nearly 5,000 miles to Lisbon, Portugal, for the Dave Koz Cruise Smooth Jazz Music Festival at Sea to get to know the best of one another while seeing the world together through music.

The Dave Koz Cruise Smooth Jazz Music Festival at Sea prides itself on providing guests with once-in-a-lifetime musical moments, the very finest in wine and cuisine, and the most popular ports of call in the world – all within the floating backstage environment of luxury cruising. With a vast selection of stunning scenery as a backdrop and an incredible array of all-star talent providing the entertainment, the weeklong feast for the senses gave guests an experience they



ARCHOUSA SYLVIA REYNOLDS AND ARCHON CALVIN REYNOLDS

will never forget. Seeing the world together through music is what the Dave Koz Cruise Smooth Jazz Music Festival at Sea is all about.

Archon Demetrius Bivins and Archousa Cynthia Bivins, Archon Lorenzo Littles and Archousa Corliss Stone-Littles, Archon Glenn Morgan and Archousa Tia Morgan, Archon James Hurd and Archousa Cisselon Hurd, and Archon Calvin Reynolds and Archousa Sylvia Reynolds enjoyed the weeklong cruise aboard the Holland America Oosterdam with ports of calls in Portugal (Lisbon), Morocco (Casablanca), and Spain (Seville, Barcelona, Alicante, Ibiza and Málaga) while enjoying once-in-a-lifetime musical moments performed by cruise host Dave Koz and a mix of singers, instrumentalists and recording artists.

NORTHEAST REGION MEMBER BOULÉS GATHER FOR GOLF FUNDRAISER

By Sire Archon Calvin L. Butts, Jr., Zeta Delta Boulé



On April 24, 2023, three Northeast Region member boulés participated in the First Tee – Greater Trenton's 2023 Annual Golf Fundraiser. The mission of the First Tee – Greater Trenton is to have an impact on the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, instill life-enhancing values, and promote healthy choices through the game of golf. The event was held at the world-class TPC Jasna Polana in Princeton, New Jersey.

The three member boulés registered golfers to participate in a four-man scramble with the winning team with the lowest score to receive \$1,000 for their foundation or a favorite charity. This year's winning member boulé was the host team Zeta Delta Boulé, which consisted of Archons Clyde Waite, Thomas

Lomax and Ed Benson. Mu Boulé, whose team consisted of Sire Archon Bakari Lee and Archons Errol Taylor, Ken Edwards and Brian Cole, finished in second place. Delta Epsilon Boulé placed third, consisting of the following Archons: Kerry Benson, Rod Bennett, Ron Bacon and Carl Gibbs.

Following the First Tee event the Archons gathered in a separate room at Jasna Polana for a champagne toast and a salute to the winning team. Those representing Zeta Delta were Sire Archon Calvin Butts, Jr., and Archons Jeff Hughes (First Tee board president), Ed Benson (First Tee's executive director), Clyde Waite, Thomas Lomax and Don Williford. The member boulés are looking forward to a rematch in 2024.

NORTHEAST REGION CELEBRATES THE PREAKNESS IN BALTIMORE

By Archon Gregg A. Walker, Beta Zeta Boulé



NORTHEAST REGIONAL SIRE ARCHON ALFRED SPENCER, ARCHOUSA MARTHA SPENCER, ARCHOUSA NEELIMA VELUVOLU AND ARCHON GREGG WALKER

On May 20, 2023, the Northeast Region celebrated the 148th running of the Preakness Stakes thoroughbred horse race at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore. Event chair and Beta Zeta Boulé Archon Gregg Walker was joined by Grand Grammateus Samuel Bacote, Regional Sire Archon Alfred Spencer, and Archons and Archousai from around the Northeast Region and from the Central Region. Gamma Boulé Archon Kevin Anderson, Maryland secretary of commerce, greeted the assembled Archons and Archousai on behalf of the governor and himself.

The Preakness event began with a meet-and-greet on May 19 and continued with a full afternoon of gourmet food, top-shelf drinks and the highest-quality thoroughbred horse racing in the United States. The weekend's activities ended with a cocktail hour and a closing dinner (both sponsored by Rémy Martin) that included a deejay and an open bar. The event was held as a collaboration between the Northeast Region and the Ed Brown Society.

The mission of the Ed Brown Society is to celebrate the rich history of African Americans in the equine industry and to create opportunities for young people of color to gain industry exposure, training and experience. The Ed Brown Society offers scholarships

and paid internships to students who demonstrate interest, skills and commitment to become trainers, farm managers, equine veterinarians, bloodstock agents and business professionals in all aspects of the thoroughbred industry. Born into slavery in Kentucky, Edward Dudley Brown developed into an accomplished jockey before becoming one of the top trainers of the nineteenth century as well as a successful owner of thoroughbreds.

The 2023 Ed Brown Society Preakness event attendees were Sire Archon Zol Rainey (Beta Nu); Archon Gregg Walker (Beta Zeta), event chair; Archousa Neelima Veluvolu (Beta Zeta); Sire Archon Martin Hamlette (Epsilon Phi); Sire Archon Michael Alston (Epsilon Rho); Archousa Michele Prout Alston (Epsilon Rho); Sire Archon-Elect Roderick Hall (Epsilon Sigma); a guest of Sire Archon-Elect Roderick Hall; Grand Grammateus Samuel Bacote (Kappa); Northeast Regional Sire Archon Alfred Spencer (Beta Eta); Archousa Martha Spencer (Beta Eta); Archon Rafiq Baker (Alpha); Archon Lee Bruner (Gamma Delta); Archousa Mia Bruner (Gamma Delta); Archon Clark Williams (Delta Tau); and Archousa Jennifer Williams (Delta Tau).



ARCHON GREGG WALKER AND GRAND GRAMMATEUS SAMUEL BACOTE



REGIONAL SIRE ARCHON ALFRED SPENCER AND ARCHON GREGG WALKER



CENTRAL REGION GATHERS AGAIN FOR 27TH TIME

By Archon Andre Y. Gordon, Grapier, Central Region



The first in-person Central Regional Boulé since 2019 managed to exceed expectations. The 27th Central Region Boulé marked a historic moment in its long tradition of high-quality standards. The region, where the term *Archousai* originated, saw approximately 300 attendees converge at the Grand Geneva Resort and Spa in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, on June 15–18, 2023. Gamma Tau Boulé had worked tirelessly over the past four years to prepare for this momentous event.

The festivities kicked off Thursday with the golfers, Grand Boulé Officers, Regional Sire Archons and the Central Region executive committee members, who gathered for the Regional Sire Archon VIP Reception hosted by Central Region Sire Archon Jerlando F.L. Jackson. Archon Jackson provided welcoming remarks to the attendees and set the tone for the weekend's events. The evening included a signature cigar event sponsored by the Tasting Room of Madison, Wisconsin, which featured premium cigars and spirits.

The second day got off to an early but chilly start for the golfers who attempted to tame "The Brute," a signature golf course designed by Jack Nicklaus. The

cool temperatures did not dampen the enthusiasm of the day and the fellowship among the Archons. Friday was also the kickoff of the first series of content-rich sessions beginning with social action featuring Archon Paul Griffin and past Central Region Sire Archon T. Ramon Stuart. Next up was "Connecting the Boulé to the Board Ecosystem" with Archons Tracy Porter and Jeffrey Perry.

The night concluded with the official welcome reception, where Grand Sire Archon Antoine M. Garibaldi provided welcome remarks to open the festivities, Central Region Sire Archon Jackson offered an introduction to the Central Region Boulé, and Gamma Tau Sire Archon Gregory Martin gave an enthusiastic welcome from the host member boulé. Gamma Tau Archon Julian Wiles previewed the weekend's schedule and the night was capped off with another spectacular cigar-and-spirits pairing, concluding with "Boulé After Dark."

Saturday kicked off in historic fashion with the inaugural Manford Byrd, Jr., Educational Fund Breakfast. As Archon Byrd was from the Central Region, there was no other place to have the first



breakfast take place. Past Grand Sire Archon Dwayne M. Murray offered powerful remarks and reflections and Gamma Tau Archon Eric Gallien shared a unique perspective from his superintendent role that was similar to Archon Byrd's stellar professional career. Grand Sire Archon Garibaldi gave insights on his remarkable academic career and the importance of African American administrators and professors to the success of minority students. The breakfast concluded with heartfelt remarks and thanks from Archon Byrd's son, Archon Bradley W. Byrd. Following the breakfast, Archons took up the concerns of the Central Region during the business meeting. Archon Garibaldi, Grand Grammateus Bacote and the Central Region executive committee gave updates and reports. The election of Central Region officers for the 2023–25 biennium took place during this session, and the results are as follows:

- Central Region Sire Archon Calvin D. Heard, Sigma
- Central Region Sire Archon–Elect Kenneth E. Harris, Jr., Gamma Tau
- Central Region Grammateus Andre Y. Gordon, Sr., Gamma Tau
- Central Region Thesauristes Melvin F. Williams, Jr., Beta

- Central Region Grapter John M. Williams, Beta Rho (appointed by Sire Archon Heard)
- Central Region Agogos Stanford T. Williams, Jr., Alpha Delta
- Central Region Rhetoricos David W. Austin, Alpha Eta

The second series of content-rich sessions focused on a variety of important and timely topics including Black-on-Black crime, Black wealth, and the intersection of health and wealth. The session on Black-on-Black crime was moderated by Archon Kenneth Harris, Jr., and featured law-enforcement officials from Racine and Milwaukee. The Black wealth session was a panel of select platinum-sponsor JPMorgan Chase managers. The intersection of health and wealth session featured spirited and energetic discussion on finances and health. It was moderated by Archon Andre Y. Gordon, Sr., and had an all-Archon physician panel including Archons Marc Kennedy, Ivor Benjamin, Reggie Adams and Trevonne Thompson.

Saturday evening cumulated in the Central Region black-tie reception and gala. The black-tie affair featured entertainment from Milwaukee-based group Cigarette Break and remarks from Central Region Past Sire Archon Jackson and Central Region Sire



Archon Calvin D. Heard, as well as the introduction of the new Central Region executive committee. The night ended with fun, fellowship and dancing.

One of the most important functions of the Central Region Boulé is the memorial service to honor our dearly departed Archons and Archousai who have entered Omega Boulé. Several speakers including Archons Thompson and Jackson provided memorable remarks. Archon Harris flawlessly completed the recitation of the names of each Archon

and Archousa who transitioned. The phenomenal memorial address was delivered by Past Grand Sire Archon Gregory J. Vincent, whose words beautifully interwove the history of the Boulé, NAACP, HBCUs and African American culture. The events happened to take place on Father's Day, so the 27th Central Regional Boulé concluded with a brunch to celebrate the importance of fathers and father figures to the African American community and to the Boulé.





THE GRAND BOULÉ

CLASS OF 2023 BOULÉ SCHOLARS RAISES THE BAR

By Central Region Chapter Andre Y. Gordon, Chair, Grand Boulé Scholars Committee

The Grand Boulé Scholars Committee recently selected its class of 2023 scholarship recipients. Each year the committee chooses ten scholarship winners from an ultracompetitive pool of some of the top African American male high school seniors in the nation. Member boulés submit top-quality candidates from their local areas. The Grand Boulé Scholars Committee reviews the candidates and selects the final scholarship recipients. For 2023, member boulés increased submitted applications by more than 78 percent. These scholarship recipients attend a cross-section of Ivy League, Mid-Major and HBCU institutions.

The talented young men are selected based upon the following criteria: exemplary grade point average, outstanding leadership, involvement in the arts and cultural activities, community service, and athletics. The scholarship winners receive a four-year \$10,000 scholarship, with half of that amount matched by the sponsoring member boulé. Each year's class is a true all-star team of some of the most accomplished young men in the nation. This year's class continued that tradition of excellence:

- **Isaiah Adams:** Sponsoring member boulé, Beta Iota; hometown, Avon, Connecticut; 4.1 GPA; desired college, Harvard University; desired college major, computer science; desired career, software engineering; honor roll; varsity wrestling (All-American), track and football; National Honor Society; and CEO-owner of the company Developer's Dream.



CENTRAL REGION CHAPTER ANDRE Y. GORDON

- **Spencer Acquah:** Sponsoring member boulé, Epsilon Zeta; hometown, Aldie, Virginia; 4.2 GPA; desired college, University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign; desired college major, computer science; desired career, software engineering; AP scholar; varsity marching band; lacrosse; and National Honor Society.
- **Bishop Williams:** Sponsoring member boulé, Delta Mu; hometown, Fort Worth, Texas; 3.78 GPA; desired college, Prairie View A&M University; desired career, mechanical engineering; honor roll; varsity soccer; chess club; Chinese club; and fluent in Mandarin and Latin.

- **Christopher Augustus:** Sponsoring member boulé, Epsilon Omicron; hometown, Cypress, Texas; 3.85 GPA; desired college, Morehouse College; desired college major, biology; desired career, medicine; honor roll; varsity football; National Honor Society; Melanin M.D. Club; and Kappa League Leadership Achievement Award.
- **Clarence Bostic:** Sponsoring member boulé, Delta; hometown, Yorktown, Virginia; 3.8 GPA; desired college, Hampton University; desired college major, computer science; desired career, cybersecurity; honor roll; varsity lacrosse and track and field; National Honor Society; president of Jack and Jill of America Teen Group; Key Club; and Beta Club.
- **Amare Coleman:** Sponsoring member boulé, Epsilon Zeta; hometown: Chantilly, Virginia; 4.2 GPA; desired college, Virginia Tech University; desired college major, psychology; desired career, entrepreneur; honor roll; varsity lacrosse; National Honor Society; president and CEO of Arc Trading, LLC; Math Honor Society; and Science Honor Society.
- **Henoc Mahary:** Sponsoring member boulé, Delta Eta; hometown: Aurora, Colorado; 4.3 GPA; desired college, Stanford University; desired college major, bioengineering; desired career, bioengineering; honor roll; varsity chess club; basketball and cross country; and National Honor Society.
- **Landon Scott:** Sponsoring member boulé, Alpha Epsilon; hometown, Addison, Texas; 3.9 GPA; desired college, Morehouse College; desired college major, biology; desired career, medicine; honor roll; varsity track and field; varsity band; and president of African American Affinity Group.
- **Sean Taylor:** Sponsoring member boulé, Gamma Zeta; hometown, North Hills, California; 4.4 GPA; desired college, Howard University; desired college major, kinesiology; desired career, occupational medicine; AP scholar; varsity track and field and varsity cross country; and National Honor Society.
- **Osedebamen Okhihan:** Sponsoring member boulé, Delta Eta; hometown, Aurora, Colorado; 4.8 GPA; desired college, Stanford University; desired college major, computer science; desired career, cybersecurity engineering; varsity basketball, soccer, and track and field; AP scholar; and valedictorian.

Grand Sire Archon Antoine Garibaldi has continually been an avid supporter of the Boulé Scholars Program and was truly pleased to see the high levels of academic and leadership excellence that this year's class displayed. Grand Social Action Committee chair Archon T. Ramon Stuart has been an incredible resource for the program with his experience in the education field and has played a key role in the program's overall success. Education Committee chair Archon E. Ron Kelley has been a phenomenal resource and sounding board for me and for the committee for this year's process. Grand Grammateus Samuel Bacote continues to be a valuable resource and supporter of the program, providing expert guidance every step along the way. Daphne Cesair in the Office of the Grand Boulé is a strong champion and key resource in the selection process.

I would also like to recognize and thank the 2023–24 Grand Boulé Scholars Committee members for their dedication, due diligence and expertise: Archons Keon Anderson, LeRome Richmond, André Thomas and Eric Gallien.

Thank you to all who contributed, and may the Boulé Scholars Program continue to represent academic and leadership excellence.



ARCHONS GATHER AT THE GRAVESITE OF FOUNDER ROBERT JONES ABELE.

THE TRADITION CONTINUES, THE FRATERNITY ENDURES; ALPHA BOULÉ COMMEMORATES 119TH ANNIVERSARY OF SIGMA PI PHI AT RESTING PLACE OF TWO FOUNDERS

By Archon Anthony E. Gay, Grapier, Alpha Boulé

In honor of Sigma Pi Phi's founders and continuing a tradition begun several years ago by Archon (now Sire) Patrick M. Oates and Archon Gregory T. Burrell, Alpha Boulé, Philadelphia, held its annual commemoration and wreath-laying ceremony on Saturday, May 6, 2023. This year's ceremony was held at Eden Cemetery in Collingdale, Pennsylvania, just outside Philadelphia – the resting place of Founders Edwin Clarence Howard and Robert Jones Abele. Founders Henry McKee Minton, Eugene Theodore Hinson and Richard John Warrick, Jr., are laid to rest at Merion Memorial Park in nearby Bala Cynwyd, and Founder Algernon Brashear Jackson is interred at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery in Suitland, Maryland.

Alpha Archons were joined by Grand Sire Archon Antoine Garibaldi, Northeast Region Sire Archon Albert Spencer and Southeast Region Sire Archon Darrell Searcy. Delta Epsilon Sire Archon Aaron Davis, Zeta Delta Sire Archon Calvin Butts, Epsilon Phi Sire Archon Martin Hamlette and Archons from Beta Eta and Beta Zeta boulés also participated.

The ceremony at the graves of Founders Howard and Abele began promptly at 11:00 A.M. with a state-

ment of the occasion by Sire Archon Oates, followed by an invocation by Alpha Archon Emeritus W. Wilson Goode, Sr.

The event was both solemn and celebratory. Grand Sire Archon Garibaldi spoke of the challenges faced by Archons Minton, Hinson, Warrick, Jackson, Howard and Abele as Black men in America at the turn of the twentieth century. At the same time, he celebrated their foresight, excellence and significant accomplishments.

Regional Sire Archons Spencer and Searcy praised the intentionality, tenacity and resilience of these courageous men. Indeed, Archon Searcy stoked the pride and celebratory spirit of the attending Archons, concluding his remarks with the cheer "Long Live Sigma Pi Phi!"

On Sunday morning, Alpha Archons gathered with their Archousai for services at Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church in Philadelphia, pastored by Alpha Archon Alyn E. Waller, whose uplifting message, "Keeping Your Winning Edge," definitely pertained to the accomplishments of Sigma Pi Phi founders under especially daunting societal pressures and cir-



ALPHA ARCHON GREGORY BURRELL PLACES A WREATH AT FOUNDER EDWIN HOWARD'S GRAVESITE.



ARCHONS ANTHONY GAY AND MALCOM RILEY DEPARTING EDEN CEMETERY

cumstances in the early 1900's. During the services, special mention was made of our fraternity and its significance.

Following the service, Archons and Archousa lingered to laugh, fellowship and take photos, as our fraternal forbears have done through the many decades since Sigma Pi Phi's founding. But they could not linger too long, as there was a closing ceremony later that day.

No Alpha-sponsored anniversary ceremony would be complete without an opportunity for Archons and Archousai to continue to get to know the best of one another through a festive social and learning experience. That took place during the early evening of Sunday, May 7, at the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia's Old City District.

Alpha's use of this museum was facilitated by Archon Bennett P. Lomax, treasurer of the museum's board of directors, and the selection of the venue was intentional. It is not far from where the founders inaugurated Sigma Pi Phi on May 15, 1904. Equally important, the museum's current special exhibition (through November 26, 2023), *Black Founders: The Forten Family of Philadelphia*, tells the story of a man very much like our founders, though he walked the streets of Philadelphia almost a century earlier.

James Forten was born in Philadelphia on September 2, 1766, a free man of African descent. He fought on



ALPHA ARCHONS AT THE PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

a privateer ship during the Revolutionary War and was a prisoner of war for seven months after the ship was captured by the British. After the war he became an apprentice sailmaker and later purchased his employer's business when his employer retired. Forten subsequently invented a tool to maneuver large sails and, by 1810, had built one of the most successful sail-making businesses in Philadelphia. Through his expertise and business acumen, he became one of the wealthiest men in the city, Black or white. A philanthropist and a steadfast abolitionist, his work to abolish slavery continued throughout his life and was carried on by his family in the lead-up to the Civil War.

Forten died on March 4, 1842, and, like Founders Howard and Abele, is buried at Eden Cemetery. As Sire Archon Oates said in his remarks during the evening, "Forten was a Renaissance man for his time and would certainly have been a member of the Boulé if it had existed when he was living."

Welcomed by the museum president and CEO, Dr. R. Scott Stephenson, Archons and Archousai attended a talk by Michael Idriss, the museum's African American Interpretive Fellow, and were treated to a first-person reenactment of James Forten's early life, performed by actor Nathan Alford-Tate. This was followed by an evening of crafted libations, hors d'oeuvres and joyful conversation in the best traditions of our Fraternity. Long live Sigma Pi Phi!



ARCHONS WITH JAMES FORTEN RE-ENACTOR NATHAN ALFORD-TATE

EPSILON BOULÉ ORGANIZES FOUNDERS DAY COMMEMORATION

By Sire Archon–Elect Michael K. Fauntroy, Epsilon Boulé



Epsilon Boulé, Washington, D.C., organized a Founders Day commemoration at the gravesite of Founder Algernon B. Jackson on Sunday, May 7, 2023, at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery in Hillcrest Heights, Maryland, with forty-five Archons from ten boulés in attendance. This year's gathering also included an Archons-only reception at the Hill Center at the Old Naval Hospital in Washington, D.C., a cultural and arts center housed in a Civil War-era hospital.

Sire Archon–Elect Michael K. Fauntroy emceed the event, and Archon Michael Hyter offered an invocation. Sire Archon A. Scott Bolden, Northeast Region Sire Archon Alfred Spencer and Grand Sire Archon Antoine Garibaldi all gave remarks in honor of Founder Jackson and the birth of the Fraternity.

Sire Archon Bolden emphasized the obstacles the founders had to overcome, and he spoke of their tenacity in persevering during that period: “When I think of Algernon Jackson and his excellence, I think how grateful we are that they came before us . . . how powerful was this idea of Sigma Pi Phi, and that decades later, we are still organized, we are still one membership, one brotherhood, and we are still fighting the fight that triggered them to put us together.”

“Our history is being challenged,” said Northeast Region Sire Archon Spencer, commending Epsilon as well as Alpha Boulé – which hosted a Founders Day commemoration in Philadelphia the day before the Epsilon event – for “revitalizing and remembering our founders” as an important contribution to American



history, adding that he hopes this new tradition of gravesite ceremonies will continue.

Grand Sire Archon Garibaldi noted Founder Jackson's accomplishments and commitment to the Fraternity and the Black community at large, pointing out the many ways in which he focused attention on public health concerns facing Black people during the immediate years after the founding of the Fraternity, which put him and the Boulé at the forefront of Black advocacy. Archon Garibaldi lauded the founders, who, he said, "transformed an idea into a reality," creating a durable organization that has remained true to its original principles for 119 years.

Epsilon's involvement in Founders Day activities began in 2021, when then-Grand Sire Archon Dwayne

Murray asked Archon Fauntroy to identify Founder Jackson's gravesite, which was believed to be somewhere in the Washington, D.C., area. After locating the gravesite, Archon Fauntroy worked to organize the inaugural commemoration. Archon Murray encouraged Epsilon to build an event that would consistently recognize Archon Jackson, who had come to be known as the "missing founder."

A special thanks to Alpha Archon Gregory Burrell, who led the effort to design and acquire the updated memorial that will be placed upon Founder Jackson's gravesite later this year. Video of the event, as well as a photo slideshow, is available on BLuE.

IN MEMORIAM



Bernard F. Ashe

Defender, litigator, educator and labor law mentor, Archon Emeritus Bernard F. Ashe of Beta Psi Boulé, Albany, New York, passed away on March 8, 2023 – his 87th birthday.

Born in Baltimore on March 8, 1936, to Victor J. Ashe and Frances C. Johnson, he graduated from Frederick Douglass High School and earned a B.A. at Howard University in 1956. He taught in the Baltimore City public school district for two years before returning to Howard University School of Law, where he earned his juris doctor degree. He met his future wife, Nannette Pegram, while she was pursuing her undergraduate degree at Howard, and they married in 1963.

Archon Ashe began his legal career at the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C., in 1961, and in 1963 he and his wife moved to Detroit, where he served as assistant counsel for the United Automobile Workers, working to expand unemployment compensation, health care and pension benefits.

In 1971 the family moved to upstate New York, where Archon Ashe became general counsel for New York State United Teachers. He and other lawyers were a primary force in the development

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Timothy E.A. Barrett

His life a story of success, loss and redemption, Past Sire Archon Timothy Edward Augustus Barrett, 74, of Delta Lambda Boulé, Nassau, Bahamas, passed away on January 20, 2023, at Doctors Hospital.

Once, when he was twelve, he, along with his brother and cousin, managed to fool his parents into believing that they were churchwomen visiting from America. The prank, remembered more than sixty years later by his sister, spoke volumes about the bright boy's sense of fun. At Government High School he blossomed into a tall, handsome teen whose habits of discipline led to success in academics and sports. He became a house captain, prefect and head boy while he set national records in the triple jump and javelin, with scores that stood unsurpassed for more than fourteen years.

In 1966, at the Central American and Caribbean Games in Puerto Rico, he won the Bahamas' first-ever gold medal in an international track-and-field event, which gave him a scholarship to the University of Southern California, and in 1968 he became an Olympian.

His focus turned to medical studies at the University of the West Indies, and he became one of

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Richard H. Bowling IV

A courageous trailblazer, Archon Richard H. Bowling IV, 84, of Beta Epsilon Boulé, Greensboro, North Carolina, transitioned to Omega Boulé on May 8, 2023. He was a former chair of the social action committee.

Born in Greensboro to Andrew C. Bowling and Nan Wright Bowling on January 4, 1939, he had a life of many firsts. As a young child, he lived and worked on his father's farm, performing a variety of chores, most starting at 3:00 A.M., including milking cows and driving a tractor at age seven. On weekends, as a teenager and young adult, he often worked with his father in a private sound system company, specializing in setting up elaborate sound and lighting systems for such events as golf tournaments and Soap Box Derbies. Over time, he came to appreciate the work ethic it instilled in him.

Graduating from James B. Dudley High School in 1957, he was one of seven African American students to enter North Carolina State University during the turbulent 1960's. He participated in several intramural sports, not realizing until later that he had likely lost a trophy as the top campus athlete because of his race, that the bowling alley on

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Bobby Lee Collins

A high achiever all his life, Archon Bobby Lee Collins, 80, of Delta Boulé, Memphis, died on May 2, 2023. He was born in Shelby, Mississippi, on February 1, 1943, to Asberry and Rosie Collins, and the family moved to Memphis soon after his birth. In 1961 he graduated from Booker T. Washington High School, where he was president of the National Honor Society and salutatorian of his graduating class.

In the summer of 1964 he married Arlene Yates, and in 1965 he graduated from Memphis State University (now the University of Memphis) with a B.S. in biology. He went on to earn an M.S. in teaching from Memphis State and returned to his high school alma mater, where he taught biology. After about three years he decided to pursue a career in dentistry, and he enrolled at the University of Iowa, earning his D.D.S. in 1975.

Returning to Memphis, he began his dental career, opening his first private practice in 1976 at the corner of Auburn and Raines Road. Upon retiring from practice after three decades, Archon Collins accepted an adjunct supervisory dentist position, later becoming a professor in the Dental Hygiene Department at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, where he was able to share his knowledge and years of experience with students and faculty.

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Otis Graham Cox, Jr.

Archon Otis Graham Cox, Jr., 81, of Upsilon Boulé, Charleston, West Virginia, passed away peacefully on May 10, 2023, at Sundale Nursing Home, his wife by his side. Archon Cox had served in a variety of roles with Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity before moving to Morgantown, West Virginia.

He was born on October 29, 1941, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the only son and youngest child of Otis Graham Cox and Geraldine Gaither Cox, and when he was an infant the family moved to East Baltimore, where he was educated in the public school system, one of the first Black students to integrate his high school. He earned a B.S. from Savannah State University and a master's degree in public administration from Suffolk University in Boston. He accepted Christ at a young age and studied theology in the U.S. Department of Justice doctorate of public administration program at the University of Southern California in Washington, D.C.

His stellar education afforded him work experience in teaching and engineering, and in March 1969 he began a long, successful career as a special agent for the FBI. Upon retiring from the agency, he worked in various other capacities related to security and investigation.

Archon Cox served on many boards, including that of West Virginia University, BB&T Bank,

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Fulton B. Eaglin

A dedicated founding member of Gamma Rho Boulé, Ann Arbor, Michigan, Archon Fulton B. Eaglin, 80, passed away on November 18, 2022. In recognition of his academic achievements, career accomplishments and community service, a memorial service was held in his honor on May 24, 2023, in which Gamma Rho offered its sincerest gratitude to his family for sharing this unique spirit and gave thanks to God for the life of Archon Eaglin. The Archons will forever draw inspiration from their association with this extraordinary individual.

Born in Ann Arbor to Simon and Marguerite Eaglin on November 23, 1941, Archon Eaglin attended St. John the Baptist and St. Thomas Catholic schools and graduated from Eastern Michigan University. Commissioned as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army in 1963, he served as a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division, stationed in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. After completing his army service, he attended Harvard Law School, graduating in 1969. He worked for several political campaigns in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, then moved back to Michigan, passed the Michigan Bar Exam in 1975 and began an independent law practice, retiring in 2015 after a forty-year career.

Deeply passionate about community service and social advance-

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Linda Lee Estes

Surrounded by family members and close friends, Archousa Linda Lee Estes, 53, of Epsilon Omicron Boulé, North Houston, Texas, transitioned peacefully to Omega Boulé on March 31, 2023. This beautiful angel was born in Houston on February 11, 1970, and adopted by her loving parents, Walter and Elizabeth Lee.

Educated in Houston public schools, she graduated from Lamar High School in the spring of 1988, and that fall, at Texas A&M University, she met the love of her life, Clarence V. Estes, Jr. She went on to graduate from Sam Houston State University with a bachelor of business administration degree (B.B.A.) in economics (accounting minor) in 1993. The loving couple were married on October 23, 2000, and are members of Fallbrook Church.

Archousa Estes enjoyed a successful career in the energy industry, holding various positions at Hess Corp. as a senior finance specialist, global tax accounting adviser and accounting manager, U.S. joint ventures. Yet the career she cherished most was being a doting mom to her daughter and her son, creating a loving environment where they could flourish. She also frequently opened her home – especially her kitchen – to share her love of cooking and fine wine with family and friends.

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Christina Kent Ford

A vivacious woman who sought out all that life had to offer, Archousa Christina Kent Ford, 92, of Beta Sigma Boulé, Springfield, Massachusetts, departed this earth peacefully on March 18, 2023, at her home in Hartford, Connecticut. Born in Philadelphia on September 21, 1930, the first of three children of Bernard and Vernell Kent, she graduated from the University of Maryland and began a successful career as an executive assistant in Okinawa, Japan, where her husband, the late Archon Donald A. Ford, was stationed.

When the family returned to the United States, she became the first African American woman insurance agent at MassMutual. A trailblazer throughout her career, she loved the financial services business, holding executive positions thereafter at State Mutual of America and Phoenix Mutual. In 1984 she and her daughter, Christel, founded their own financial services practice.

Upon her retirement, her energy and passion for helping young people and her strong belief in education led her to become a college planning coach. She was active in her current church, Bethany Assembly of God, where she helped with the youth ministry and led an adult group, and her former church, St. John's Congregational Church of Springfield. She was a member

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John Gibbons

Former U.S. marshal for Massachusetts, Archon John Gibbons, 66, of Beta Sigma Boulé, Springfield, Massachusetts, transitioned to Omega Boulé on May 2, 2023, after a long battle with cancer. Since his induction in 2008, he'd been an active and staunch supporter of all Beta Sigma activities.

Born in Newark, New Jersey, in 1956 to Donald Gibbons and Edith (Fomby) Gibbons, he graduated from Malcolm X Shabazz High School, where he was enrolled in its Gifted and Talented Program. He moved to Western Massachusetts to attend American International College (AIC) in Springfield, where he excelled scholastically as well as athletically, earning a B.S. in political science in 1978 and then a master's degree in criminal justice. The college later presented him with an honorary doctorate and recognized his outstanding accomplishments as a football player, inducting him into their Athletic Hall of Fame in 2022.

While at AIC, Archon Gibbons became a founding member of the newly established Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Presbyterian Church, located across the street from the school. He remained an active member and an elder until his death.

In 2009, after a distinguished career in law enforcement, including thirty years with the Massa-

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Diana L. Gibson

Educator and an inspiration to hundreds of students, Archousa Diana L. Gibson, 82, of Gamma Boulé, Baltimore, entered into eternal rest on March 15, 2023. Born Diana Rita Lewis in Baltimore on September 4, 1940, the only child of Theodore and Mamie Lewis, she attended St. Pius V School and Booker T. Washington Junior High, graduating from Frederick Douglass High School in 1957. She earned a B.S., graduating with honors from Maryland State Teachers College at Towson in 1961, and in 1966 she obtained her master's degree in education from Johns Hopkins University.

In 1961 Archousa Gibson started teaching at Windsor Hills Elementary School in West Baltimore, where she taught third, fourth and fifth grades. Later, she taught at Harford Heights Elementary School until her retirement in 1986.

On July 7, 1971, she met a young lawyer, Larry S. Gibson, when he spoke to her postgraduate class of teachers at Towson State. After his presentation he offered to walk her to her car, and he asked her to volunteer in a citywide political campaign he was managing. Of course he had to get her telephone number. The two were married on July 7, 1973, exactly two years after that first meeting.

Adjectives often used to describe Archousa Gibson were "beautiful,"

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Clyde Woodrow Hall

Having lived a life devoted to service, Archon Clyde Woodrow Hall, 98, of Alpha Lambda Boulé, Savannah (and a charter member of Alpha Mu, Augusta), went to his eternal rest on April 10, 2023, at the Azalealand Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. Born on February 7, 1925, the second child of Mattie and Robert Richard Hall, Sr., of Winter Park, Florida, he earned a B.S. from Georgia State College (Savannah State University) in 1948, a master's degree from Iowa State University in 1949 and a Ph.D. from Bradley University in 1953. He had a great impact as a speaker, advocating for equitable education and the end of segregation during the Civil Rights Movement.

Archon Hall retired in 1987 as Regents Professor Emeritus of engineering technology at Savannah State University. During his tenure, he served as head of the department of industrial technology and vice president and acting president of the university, which, under his leadership, became the first in the Southeast to offer a bachelor's degree in several aspects of engineering technology and the first accredited program in the state. During his presidency from 1978 to 1980, he provided stable leadership throughout the desegregation debate and improved the academic as well as the physical environment of the institution.

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Victor Maurice Julien

A larger-than-life visionary among his corporate peers, Archon Victor Maurice Julien, 83, of Eta Boulé, St. Louis, entered Omega Boulé quietly on May 13, 2023. Born in Sugar Hill, Harlem, on January 21, 1940, to Muriel and Victor Leroy Julien, he was raised in the Catholic faith and educated in the New York City school system, graduating from Haaren High School. As a child, he became known as "Boo-Boo" to his family and friends.

He graduated from Morgan State University with the goal of joining the medical profession, but that dream was short-lived. He was briefly employed by the New York City Health Department, but he had a passion for sales and marketing that he couldn't ignore. Using his natural leadership skills, he joined Heublein, Inc., an important American producer and distributor of alcoholic beverages and food, where he learned the intricacies of the beverage industry and earned a reputation as a savvy, creative marketer. His success at Heublein caught the eye of people at Anheuser-Busch Companies, the world's largest brewer.

At Anheuser-Busch, embodying its well-known slogan, "Making Friends Is Our Business," Archon Julien made friends all across the country while helping to lead the company's corporate affairs department, which, over a span of

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Damon Lee III

A major donor to the Boulé Foundation, Archon Damon “Butch” Lee III, 79, of Xi Boulé, Los Angeles, passed away on April 25, 2023. He was born in Birmingham, Alabama, on November 21, 1944, the first of two children of Damon Lee, Jr., and Rachel Carter Lee, and in 1946, when he was a toddler, the Lee family moved to Los Angeles, settling in the Jefferson Park neighborhood. He attended the Holy Name of Jesus School until the fifth grade, when his family moved to Lafayette Square, where he attended Alta Loma Elementary School and Mount Vernon Junior High School. At Los Angeles High School he participated in cross-country and was a letterman on the varsity track team, excelling in the long jump. Upon graduation, with firm insistence from his parents (and reluctance from him), he enrolled at Tennessee State University in Nashville, his parents’ alma mater. He majored in business administration and joined the Beta Omicron chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, of which his father had been a founding member in 1934.

A true awakening for Archon Lee, Tennessee State (an HBCU) had a 90 percent African American student body, as opposed to the 10 to 15 percent enrollment in the schools he’d attended in Los Angeles. At TSU he met students from across the United States who were all

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James Long, Jr.

A pioneering community advocate, Archon James “Jim” Long, Jr., 92, of Beta Beta Boulé, Boston, departed this earth on May 7, 2023. His life was celebrated on May 20, 2023, at St Paul’s African Methodist Episcopal Church in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The services included the Sigma Pi Phi Omega Ritual led by Sire Archon J. Keith Motley.

Born on April 26, 1931, in Wynne, Arkansas, to James Long, Sr., and Alma Gray Long, he graduated from Vashon High School in St. Louis, where he was a star basketball player, and in 1998 he was inducted into the school’s hall of fame. In 1954 he graduated with a B.S. from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, where he pledged Omega Psi Phi and was captain of the basketball team, leading scorer and a Midwest Conference Academic All-Conference selection. He was also a conference high-jump champion.

In his freshman year at Lincoln, Archon Long met fellow student Pat Hardiman, whose family lived in Jefferson City. “From the day when Jimmy first walked me down the hill to my home,” she recalled, “he always treated me as special.” In her junior year Hardiman transferred to the University of Illinois, and Archon Long wrote to her every day. “All the girls in the dorm would read the letters with me and

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Norma Jean McKinney

Described as “funny, quick-witted, lighthearted, a fierce fashionista and kind to her core,” Archousa Norma Jean Marks McKinney, 81, of Alpha Omicron Boulé, Seattle, transitioned to Omega status on March 25, 2023. Born on December 30, 1941, in Banks, Arkansas, to Lorene Bizzell, she moved with her mother and stepfather, Jesse Marks, to Vanport, Oregon, during the great migration in the 1940’s.

After graduating from Jefferson High School, she married her long-time love, Herman McKinney, Jr., in 1959. They lived in Portland and Astoria, Oregon, and in 1967 moved with their three children to Seattle as Archon McKinney pursued a graduate degree in social work at the University of Washington. Soon after their arrival, Archousa McKinney and her husband became prominent members of the African American community, supporting organizations that helped promote the growth of the African American middle class.

Archousa McKinney earned a certificate at Harvard Business School, mentoring many people in her capacity as a human resources professional during her long, successful career in the commercial banking industry and government. She retired in 2006 as director of personnel for the City of Seattle.

A participating member of the First AME Church and an alumna

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George H. Moreland, Jr.

One of the first African American physicians to open a private medical practice in the San Fernando Valley, Past Sire Archon George Henry Moreland, Jr., 97, of Xi Boulé, Los Angeles, passed away owing to renal failure on March 24, 2023.

He was born in Pawnee, Oklahoma, on August 7, 1925, into a family of well-known African American educators. His father, George Henry Moreland, Sr., a graduate of the Tuskegee Institute, was principal of the segregated Pawnee Elementary School and the segregated Booker T. Washington High School in Davis. His mother, Lenora Estelle (Tuggle) Moreland, a graduate of Langston University, taught home economics at segregated Pawnee schools. Her father, G.M. Tuggle of Wellston, Oklahoma, was the longtime principle of Dunbar School, which opened as an all-Black school in 1917.

In 1943 Archon Moreland had just completed his second year at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas, when he was drafted into the U.S. Navy, and at his discharge in 1946 he held the rank of pharmacist's mate. He returned to Southwestern, graduating with a B.A., and after moving to Los Angeles in the late 1940's, he worked at the Los Angeles County Harbor General Hospital as a dental technician. Mutual friends introduced him to

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Norris W. Overton

A retired U.S. Air Force brigadier general, Archon Norris W. Overton, 97, of Beta Nu Boulé, Northern Virginia, passed away on March 29, 2023. He held many positions at Beta Nu, as well as for the Northeast Region and at the Grand level. These included Beta Nu Sire Archon and Grammateus; Northeast Region Sire Archon and Grammateus; and member of the Grand Boulé Growth and Expansion Committee. Instrumental in establishing new member boulés within the Northeast Region, including Epsilon Zeta, Epsilon Sigma and Epsilon Rho, he also served as chair of logistics for the 53rd Grand Boulé, hosted by Beta Nu and Epsilon Zeta, and he played a key role in organizing Beta Nu as host of one of the Regional Boulé events. The Archons were fortunate and proud to have a man of his caliber as a fraternal brother for many years.

Born on January 6, 1926, in Clarksville, Tennessee, he graduated from Crispus Attucks High School in Indianapolis in 1946 and earned a B.S. in accounting from Indiana University in 1951. While at the university he served in the Air Force ROTC, which designated him as one of its distinguished graduates and commissioned him as a second lieutenant.

Archon Overton earned an M.B.A. from the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1959 and

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Myron F. Robinson

A committed servant of the community, Archon Emeritus Myron Frederick Robinson, 79, of Gamma Xi Boulé, Sarasota, Florida, transitioned to Omega Boulé on May 18, 2023. Initiated into Tau Boulé, Cleveland, in September 1996, he transferred to Gamma Xi in 2009 and was a member of the executive committee as well as the board of trustees of the Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation.

Born on December 15, 1943, in Youngstown, Ohio, the second child of Romeo James Robinson and Virginia Robinson, he graduated from Youngstown State University in 1967 with a B.S. in sociology, went on to graduate studies at the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Wisconsin, and completed the National Urban League Executive Development Program at Harvard University, which prepared him to become the youngest Urban League president in the country at the time he took the helm in Madison, Wisconsin, in 1972.

A mentee of Archons Whitney M. Young, Jr., Vernon Jordan and John Jacob, Archon Robinson served as an advocate for civil rights for more than thirty-seven years as CEO for various Urban League affiliates around the country, including New Haven, Connecticut; Greenville, South Carolina; and Cleveland, where he also was president of the Urban League of Greater Cleveland.

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James Charles Smith

Archon James Charles Smith, 86, of Alpha Alpha Boulé, New Orleans, peacefully entered eternal rest on March 6, 2023. Born on July 27, 1936, the first son of James Charles Smith and Annie Lee Keys, he was educated in the New Orleans public school system, graduating from Joseph S. Clark High School and going on to attend Southern University in Baton Rouge, where he was an active member of the ROTC. Upon graduation, he became a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army, and during his twenty years in the military he served as an infantry officer, an army ranger and an Army Airborne master parachutist paratrooper. At one of his last duty stations he acquired a master's degree in business administration from St. Mary's University in Norfolk, Virginia, where he was the first African American to earn a master's degree from that university.

After multiple tours in Vietnam, he earned several commendations, including the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Bronze Star, achieving the rank of lieutenant colonel at the time of his retirement. His next professional endeavor was with General Electric, where he was selected for GE's fast-track management program, managing large-scale program development initiatives until he decided to follow

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Sharolyn D. Yates Smith

An accomplished woman of style and grace, loved and cherished by many, Archousa Sharolyn Delores Yates Smith, 60, of Beta Gamma Boulé, Jackson, Mississippi, entered her heavenly home all too early on May 16, 2023.

Born on August 8, 1962, to Johnnie Harris and Anna Atkins-Crenshaw, she earned a bachelor of science degree, graduating with honors from "Thee I Love" Jackson State University, where she met her future husband, Sutter M. Smith.

After holding accounting positions with various companies and the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Archousa Smith became a key director for Mary Kay Cosmetics and later enjoyed success with her own business, Journalistics and D'Zigns, LLC.

Her career was balanced by an emphasis on family and diligent service in such community organizations as the LeFleur's Bluff Chapter of The Links, Inc., Jack and Jill of America, the National Coalition of 100 Black Woman and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

Archousa Smith is survived by her beloved husband of thirty-six years, Archon Sutter M. Smith; their sons Marve Smith and Johnathon Smith; her parents; and several siblings. Her warmth, compassion and genuine smile will be missed by all.



John B. Turner

A pillar of the community through his service, leadership, faith and passion, Archon John B. Turner, 81, of Beta Theta Boulé, Knoxville, Tennessee, passed away on April 7, 2023. Born in Sardis, Mississippi, on February 4, 1942, he grew up in Gary, Indiana, and earned a B.A. in mathematics at Fisk University in 1965, where he met his future wife, Clevonne Watkins.

The couple married and moved to Indiana University, Bloomington, where Archon Turner earned a master's degree and, in 1972, a doctorate in higher education administration, beginning his forty-year career in this field. In 1974 he became associate dean of the graduate school at MIT, where, during his tenure, he recruited and mentored countless Black graduate students, and in 1990 he moved to Knoxville to assume the role of president of Knoxville College. After seeing the college through successful reaccreditation, he left to become senior vice president of education, training and diversity at the Tennessee Valley Authority. He established TVA University, which became a model around the world, and after retiring from TVA, he gave back to the community mightily.

Archon Turner and his wife were lifetime active members of the Fisk Alumni Association. An avid basketball and tennis player well into adulthood, he loved watching

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Sylvia Ann H. Wright

Archousa Sylvia Ann Henley Wright, 85, of Eta Boulé, St. Louis, passed away on February 28, 2023. She was born February 8, 1938, in West Point, Mississippi, the first of five children of James and Edna Henley, and the family moved to St. Louis when she was 3. She attended Cole and Marshall elementary schools and Sumner High School, which was the first high school in the United States for African American students west of the Mississippi River. Excelling in academics, she became a member of the National Honor Society, and after graduating in 1955, she attended Jewish Hospital College of Nursing, where she was one of the first two African Americans accepted into the program. She later became class president, and upon completion of her studies, she went on to earn a B.S.N. and an M.S.N. from Washington University in St. Louis and an M.Ed. from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Archousa Wright also studied at Harris-Stowe State College and in Thailand and Aruba as a member of Pi Lambda Theta, one of three main education honor societies and professional associations for educators in the United States. She began her professional career at the Jewish Hospital of St. Louis and Koch Hospital as a general duty nurse and later worked at St. Louis County Hospital as a psychiatric nurse.

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Bernard F. Ashe, continued

of the law of public sector collective bargaining in the state of New York, litigating more than ninety cases, winning almost 70 percent of them and creating a solid foundation for state and federal labor relations issues. He retired from there in 1996.

An adjunct faculty member at Fordham University, Roger Williams University and Cornell University, he served numerous organizations, including as a member of the board of directors and vice president of the Urban League of Albany and a trustee of the New York State Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection and Adelphi University.

In his four decades of involvement with the American Bar Association (ABA), Archon Ashe sat on many of its committees and commissions, including the Labor and Employment Law Section (1982–83), becoming the first African American chairman of a substantive section of the ABA. He also served on its Board of Governors, House of Delegates and Executive Committee as well as the ABA *Journal* editorial board.

He regularly contributed to professional journals, with a focus on labor and constitutional law. A collection of his personal papers, the Bernard F. Ashe Collection, is held at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture of the New York Public Library.

Archon Ashe received many awards, including the Whitney North Seymour Sr. Arbitration Medal from the American Arbitration Association in 1989, the Thurgood Marshall Justice Award from the NAACP in Albany, New York, in 2000, and the Nat Weinberg Award from Wayne State University in Detroit the following year. He received the Arvid Anderson Public Employment Lawyer of the Year Award from the ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law in 2017.

An emeritus member of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers, a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a life member of the American Law Institute, he held affiliations with the National Bar Association and the New York State Bar Association.

He is survived by his devoted wife of almost sixty years, Archousa Nannette Ashe; sons Walter (Wendy) Ashe and David (Rosemary) Ashe; grandchildren Ricardo, Miguel and Aech; his brother, Samuel Fleming (Mildred) Ashe; his brother-in-law, Marlin Johnson; and a host of nieces, nephews, colleagues and friends.

Donations can be directed to the Parkinson's Foundation, the American Cancer Society or the Howard University School of Law.

Timothy Edward Augustus Barrett, continued

the best doctors in the Bahamas, with a wildly successful practice. He seemed to win at everything he touched, but then, at his peak in the 1980's, he lost everything to a devastating addiction.

Fortunately, the epidemic that destroyed so many of our country's rising stars did not finish him off. Completely rehabilitated, he continued his education, specializing in psychiatry at the University of Manchester in England. He reemerged in the 90's, an expert in behavior, relationships and crisis management, called to the scene of robberies, shootings and drownings – anywhere that emergency psychological care in the wake of trauma was needed – and he became a valued resource to businesses throughout the Caribbean. Thousands benefited from his calm, down-to-earth approach to the worst of life's events.

Because he rebounded from his own "dark ages," the tools he offered to his patients and shared in his book, *Once: The High Cost of Not Living*, carried a unique authority, and he became one of

the nation's top consultants. Twenty-five years after being completely ruined, he was voted to succeed Horizal Simmons as president of the Medical Association of the Bahamas. He served a second term and then went on to become president of the Bahamas Medical Council, the very body that decades earlier had been forced to revoke his license.

Archon Barrett played the bass clarinet in the Bahamas National Symphony Orchestra. He studied theology and, like his father and grandfather, was ordained as a Baptist minister. At the 56th Grand Boulé in 2022 his welcome to the guest speakers – Barbados prime minister Mia Mottley and former Jamaica prime minister P.J. Patterson – and more than 1,800 attendees was delivered with mastery. His own example stands as powerful as any address ever delivered from that speaker's podium.

He is survived by his wife, Archousa Samantha Barrett; his daughter, Joelle Barrett; sons Timothy Barrett, Jr., Marc Barrett and Torriano Barrett; his daughter-in-law, Sonja Barrett; grandchildren Timothy A. Barrett, Delano and Dylan Hollingshead, and Naiah-Cemone and Soleil Barrett; his sister, Dianne Barrett; and a host of extended family members and friends.

Richard H. Bowling IV, continued

Hillsborough Street in Raleigh had been integrated because of his race or that officials arranged accommodations at the Outer Banks for him and several friends to avoid trouble at a well-traveled beach. While enrolled at NC State, he was drafted into the army, and after two years of active duty, touring Europe, he returned to NC State, graduating with a degree in electrical engineering. He was hired by Western Electric (now AT&T) in 1964 and spent ten years there as a planning engineer within the missile defense

division, the only Black engineer in the division at the time.

His dissatisfaction with the racial atmosphere at Western Electric led to a desire to venture out on his own, and on September 21, 1971, while still working at Western Electric, he opened the doors of the restaurant Cosmos I (with a capacity of 500 people) to a needy community – which showed its appreciation night after night, with Cosmos becoming a respected name in the entertainment world. Two years later the restaurant added a new dimension with a noon-time lunch buffet, which became a social meeting place for professional and businesspeople. With an exceptional chef, private parties, large banquets and wedding receptions were held there, and Cosmos I became known as “a restaurant by day and a club by night.”

In 1974 Archon Bowling resigned from Western Electric. The nightclub business had become so popular that needed a larger venue. He could not find anyone who would rent him the space he needed, so he bought the Florida Street Shopping Center, and in November 1974 Cosmos II was born. Boasting a capacity of 1,200 people, it was the largest disco in the Southeast – long before *Saturday Night Fever*. Archon Bowling brought disco to North Carolina, and disco was the key to overnight success. With superior quality music accentuated by a multimedia environment, Cosmos II set the standard in the South for disco entertainment. This unique creation (which combined his ingenuity as an electrical engineer with his talent as an artist), in addition to serving as a nightclub, was the answer to hosting larger affairs for fraternities, sororities and organizations.

Archon Bowling was elected to the steering committee of the International Disco Association (IDA) and served as a panelist at the 1977 IDA conference in Atlanta. In addition to the two legendary nightclubs, he was owner/operator of

The Vineyard and M.C. Square as well as one of the co-owners and consultants of Trevi Fountain, Inc.

An incredibly successful businessman despite the barriers and institutional racism he faced, he never forgot those who struggled to reach greater heights. A tireless advocate for business development in southeast Greensboro and for minority business owners, he cofounded South Eastern Economic Development (SEED), which focused on economic development for Black contractors and other business owners. His concern for equal treatment of all citizens led to the founding of the Other Voices leadership program in 1994, its mission to develop skills and strategies that help participants understand and eradicate prejudice and discrimination on a personal, organizational and community level. Archon Bowling, along with other Beta Epsilon Archons, educators within the Guilford County school system and North Carolina A&T State University, developed and hosted an African American Male Leadership Summit in 2010 to address critical issues facing young African American men.

He was a board member of United Way of Greensboro and the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, the public address (PA) announcer for NC A&T State University basketball and football and for five CIAA and four MEAC basketball tournaments, and chairperson of the Mayor's Committee on Drugs and the Mayor's Committee on Human Relations. He was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, past president and member of Greensboro Men's Club, a member and past national president of the American Bridge Association and a member of the Board of Management of the Hayes-Taylor YMCA.

Having a deep passion for his beloved James B. Dudley High School, Archon Bowling envisioned and founded the Dudley Alumni Association (DAA) (1975) and served two-terms as its national

president (2011–15). Using state-of-the-art technology and his entrepreneurial talents, he restructured and strengthened the organization, offering creative solutions to meet the global challenges of the time, thereby creating a legacy of service.

In 1980 he was named a North Carolina delegate to the White House Conference on Small Business. In 1997 he received the Greensboro Merchants Association's Circle of Excellence Award for sales and marketing. In 1998 he was honored at the annual meeting of the Greensboro Area Chamber of Commerce, receiving the Nathanael Greene Award. He also received the National Association for Community Leadership's Distinguished Leadership Award (May 2000), the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce Other Voices Change Agent Award (2003), induction into the James B. Dudley High School Educational and Sports Hall of Fame/Hall of Distinction (2007), the Achievement Award from the Dudley Alumni Association (2007), and the Tau Omega chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity 2013–14 Citizen of the Year Award. He was inducted into North Carolina State University's Forever Club in 2014, and he served as grand marshal for Greensboro's 2021 Martin Luther King Annual Parade.

In addition to being the owner and manager of Freeman Mill Square Shopping Center for twenty-nine years, he was a competitive national duplicate bridge player, ranked thirty-third in the nation for several years. Other hobbies included golf, chess, table tennis, and creating computer and graphic designs. He also became a licensed private pilot, according him the opportunity to fly up and down the East Coast to attend special events and meetings.

Archon Bowling and his beloved Archousa, Treana Adkins Bowling, enjoyed twenty-eight years of marriage that was rich with adventure, travel and service to the commu-

nity – all filled with love and devotion. He is survived by Archousa Bowling; sons Richard Bowling V and Donte (Kia) Bowling; daughters Shonica (James) and Amber (Kevin); his sister, Jane (Randy); his sister-in-law, Chris Hollis; six grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family members and friends.

Bobby Lee Collins, continued

Affable and charismatic, he was a member of numerous organizations, among them the Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., the National Dental Association, the Mississippi Dental Society, the Memphis Dental Society and the Shelby County Dental Society. In 1993 he became the first African American president of the Tennessee Board of Dentistry and was featured in *Jet* for this accomplishment. A life member of the NAACP and a board member of the Memphis chapter of the American Red Cross, he was an honored member of the U.S. and International Registry of Who's Who of Professional Dentistry. In 2001 the Consumers' Research Counsel of America listed him as one of the "top dentists in America," and he was selected as an emeritus member of the Academy of General Dentistry in 2017.

Archon Collins leaves to cherish his memory his two daughters, Kim Collins and Valerie "Joy" Collins; grandchildren Constance Bayne-Johnson and Taylor Presley; great-grandchildren Cameron and Leah Johnson; and a grandson-in-law, Jeff Johnson. He also leaves a brother, Walter (Wanda) Collins; a sister, Margaret R. Singleton; and a host of nieces and nephews, cousins, friends and colleagues.

Otis Graham Cox, Jr., continued

the Boys & Girls Club of America, and the foundation board of Fairmont State University, and he was a past president of the Rotary Club of Cheat Lake. He also served as Exalted Ruler of the Morgantown Elks Lodge #411, director of operations and project manager at Action Facilities Management, cabinet secretary for the West Virginia Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety under Governor Cecil Underwood, and deputy administrator for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration under George H. Bush. He is forever a brother of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

A longtime faithful member of Greater St. Paul AME Church in Morgantown, he loved his church and his church family, and he especially loved teaching Sunday school, which he continued to do until COVID-19 closed the church in 2020.

His final employment venture during retirement landed him as a security officer with the Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Morgantown, where he began to experience significant memory and physical decline related to Alzheimer's disease.

He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife of thirty-nine years, Archousa Wanda Cox; his daughter, Wendi Lindler; sons Kevin (Catherine) Cox and Keith (Mindy Parsley) Cox; six grandchildren: Jonathan Lindler, Alexis Lindler, Joshua Lindler, Ariana Lindler, Christina Cox and Caitlin Cox; great-grandchildren Tyson, Alexandria and Adrien; his aunt Jaye; and many dear cousins, nieces and nephews. His siblings Tremayne Cox and Patricia A. McDaniel predeceased him, as well as his first wife and the mother of his children, Zelma Adams Cox.

Fulton B. Eaglin, continued

ment, he served as president of the United Way of Michigan and on the national United Way board, and as president of the Ypsilanti Community Schools Foundation from 2009 until 2015. A lifelong Kiwanian, he was president of the Ann Arbor club in 1989 and the Claremont club in 2018, for which he received the Kiwanis's Distinguished President Award. As one of his fellow Kiwanians said, "Fulton's perspective of equity and inclusion in all things challenged and enhanced people's lives."

An avid motor vehicle enthusiast, he owned multiple motorcycles, vintage cars and boats; most of all, he loved and was devoted to his family.

He is survived by his wife of forty-three years, Archousa Jan Collins-Eaglin; his son, Dr. Fulton Christopher (Emilie) Eaglin; his daughters, Dr. Jennifer (Stephanie) Eaglin and Jessica (Kurt) Eaglin, Esq.; grandsons Maxwell and Amos Waldman; and his sister, Valerie Eaglin. The family invites donations to the Kiwanis Club of Claremont, where a scholarship fund has been established in Archon Eaglin's name.

Linda Lee Estes, continued

Very active in the community, she spent a great deal of time volunteering with organizations of which she was a member, including Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., The Links, Inc., Jack & Jill of America, the Twelve Days of Christmas, Inc., and the Junior League of Houston.

She leaves to cherish her memory her beloved husband, Archon Clarence V. Estes; her father, Walter Lee; her daughter, Taylor Nichole Estes – a first-year medical student at Howard University; her son, Miles Dylan Estes – a theater major at Sam Houston State University; her mother-in-law, Latonia Estes;

sisters-in-law Teri Estes (David) Hightower, Janice Estes, Sylvia Jean Estes and Cheryl Darlene Estes; and her brother-in-law, Lionel Estes. She was predeceased by her mother, Elizabeth Lee, and her father-in-law, Clarence Estes, Sr.

She is also survived by her biological parents, Patricia "Bonnie" Johnson and Paul W. (Minetta) Prejean; siblings Early Johnson, Shirley Prejean (Ray) Malonson, Tony (Carolyn) Prejean, Carl Prejean, Ted (Travis) Prejean and Natasha Prejean Livingston; and a host of extended family members.

Christina Kent Ford, continued

of Our Crowd (a social organization) and a charter member of the Greater Springfield chapter of The Links, Inc.

Archousa Ford leaves to mourn her passing and continue her blessed legacy her three children, Donald A. (Pamela) Ford, Jr., Christel F. (Thomas) Berry and Douglas E. Ford; five grandchildren: Brendon T. (Marcia) Berry, Donja A. Ford, Geoffrey T. Ford, Amber C. Berry and Chelsea B. (Dante) Pearson; five great-grandchildren: Laila J. Ford, Addison L. Bolden, Jackson B. Berry, Olivia R. Berry and Levi I. Pearson; her sister, Doris Adams; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was predeceased by her husband of fifty-nine years, Archon Donald A. Ford, who passed away in 2011. He served in the U.S. Air Force for more than twenty years, earning the rank of senior master sergeant, and he had a twenty-one-year career as dean of student affairs and affirmative action officer at Westfield State University.

John Gibbons, continued

chusetts State Police, he became the first Black U.S. marshal for the state of Massachusetts when President Barack Obama appointed him to this federal position. During his eleven-year tenure he presided over some of the most high-profile cases, including the 2015 trial of the Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev and the 2011 capture and trial of the fugitive mob boss James "Whitey" Bulger.

Archon Gibbons embodied incredible talent, dedication to finding justice for victims, incomparable grace and loyalty to brotherhood.

He is survived by his wife of thirty-nine years, Archousa Shelby Robyn Hall-Gibbons; his son, Jonathan C. (Katrina) Gibbons; his mother, Edith (Fomby) Gibbons; his brother, Ronald Gibbons; sisters Pamela Gibbons Winston and Donna Gibbons Beaudoin; and grandchildren Mia Gibbons and Jaxson Gibbons.

Diana L. Gibson, continued

"brilliant," "regal," "well organized," "low-key," "nurturing" and "forceful." She and her husband enjoyed a fifty-year love affair, at the same time actively trying to improve the world. They were quite a team.

On January 1, 1975, the couple were blessed with the birth of their son, Steven Larry Gibson, who accompanied them on many summer globe-trotting adventures as they traveled the world. Steven, now a physician, is the head of cardiac anesthesiology at Walter Reed National Military Center.

After twenty-five years of teaching, Archousa Gibson embarked upon a second career, supporting three important political leaders. She was the business manager of Archon Kurt Schmoke's successful 1987 Baltimore mayoral campaign and was the City Hall office services

manager during his twelve years in office. Later, she became a staff assistant to the late Archon Elijah Cummings, U.S. representative for Maryland's Seventh Congressional District, and, until her death, she continued to work in that capacity for Sire Archon Kweisi Mfume.

Archousa Gibson leaves to cherish her memory her husband, Archon Larry S. Gibson; her son, Steven Larry Gibson; her daughter-in-law, Cicely Germain Gibson; her precious grandson, Gavin Larry Gibson; and many other relatives, friends, colleagues and former students.

Clyde Woodrow Hall, continued

He authored *One Hundred Years of Education at Savannah State College 1890-1990*, preserving the history of his beloved institution, where he established the Dr. Clyde Hall Endowed Scholarship for engineering technology students, and he wrote many articles for professional journals as well as four copyrighted family genealogical studies.

His professional career prior to Savannah State included a position as chief program officer at Booker Washington Institute in Kakata, Liberia, and he was a professor and department head at Tennessee State University and professor at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. He was a devout member of First Congregational Church, seemingly blessed by God as a light in the world to help many along their journey.

A board member of the Georgia State Board of Technical and Adult Education, the Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission and the U.S. Office of Education Panel of Consultants on Vocational Development, he received many honors, including the Richard R. Wright Award from SSU, the Bradley University Centurion Society Award and the King-Tisdale Achievement Award. He received proclamations from

Savannah mayor John P. Rousakis and from Georgia governor Joe Frank Harris. Archon and Archousa Hall were honored as special guests at the U.S. presidential inauguration of Jimmy Carter.

His wife of seventy-two years, Archousa Maud Lee Blount Hall, preceded him in death on April 4, 2019. He is survived by his sons Woodrow Hall and Alvin Hall; his daughter, Lydia (Vil, Sr.) Johnikin; grandchildren Danielle Hall, Taylor Hall, Christopher Hall, Lashanda Johnikin Barber and Vil (Tawanda) Trey; his great-grandchild, Davis Barber; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Victor Maurice Julien, continued

two decades, set the bar for corporate engagement in the African American community. He was an early principal manager of the groundbreaking Budweiser Superfest, a global music festival that featured such iconic superstars as Quincy Jones, Stevie Wonder, Chaka Khan, and Frankie Beverly and Maze.

Through the *Lou Rawls Parade of Stars* telethon benefit for the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), Archon Julien helped lead the company's effort to raise more than \$200 million in support of HBCUs, including his alma mater, Morgan State. He green-lighted many ancillary activities in support of the telethon, including the 1989 *Scroll of Commitment*, a traveling exhibit that featured a parchment scroll that allowed people to sign in support of UNCF.

Other UNCF-related activities he oversaw included the Bryant Gumbel UNCF Golf Tournament, which featured celebs such as the NBA great Bill Russell and Yankee icon Yogi Berra; and the Nate Moore Celebrity Challenge.

Along with Wyman F. Smith III and other colleagues, Archon Julien managed the company's relationship with the National

Urban League, providing support for national and local conferences that included more than two dozen local fundraising concerts, dubbed *A Night to Remember*. He also managed Anheuser-Busch's support for other national civil rights and social organizations, including the NAACP, the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, the National Black MBA Association, the National Brotherhood of Skiers, the National Bar Association, the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and many others.

He was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., the Morgan State University Alumni Association (life member), the Guardsmen, the Masons, and the Birthday and Anniversary Club, and over the course of his life, Archon Julien lived with his wife in New York City; Baltimore; Bloomfield, Connecticut; and Chesterfield, Missouri (a suburb of St. Louis).

He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife, Archousa Mabeline Julien; his sister, Victoria Julien Bea; his niece, Kim Bea (Daniel) Anderson; and a host of extended family members and friends.

Damon Lee III, continued

there to prepare themselves for capturing the American dream. It was enlightening to see students who looked like him excelling not only in athletics but also in academics and student government, receiving ongoing support from professors and university administrators who encouraged hard work and accomplishment to prepare for a successful future. That, coupled with the excitement and camaraderie of the on-campus fraternities and sororities and the Greek shows during pledge week, was an experience like no other.

During his years at TSU, Archon Lee met and married his college sweetheart, Carolyn Cooley, a student at Fisk University, and they later had a son, Damon Lee

IV. Unfortunately, the marriage was short-lived. After that, Carolyn resided in Washington, D.C., while Archon Lee lived in Los Angeles, limiting the amount of time he could spend with his son, although they visited each other regularly through the years.

Upon graduating from TSU, Archon Lee was hired by IBM as a power supply production analyst at their Kingston, New York, manufacturing facility. After a year in Kingston, he moved back to Los Angeles, taking advantage of the opportunity to work within IBM in the sales and marketing division, where he found his passion and excelled as a sales representative. He later became a sales manager in Dallas, then moved on as a western area program manager of word processing systems in Newport Beach, California. He was promoted to branch manager in Los Angeles, where he was named Regional Branch Manager of the Year for two out of three years. Subsequently he became the vice president of product marketing in Atlanta. Additionally, he became administrative assistant to the division president in Atlanta and then western area manager of educational systems in Los Angeles. He received many accolades throughout his career with IBM, one of which was the prestigious Division President's Award for personnel management, the highest personnel satisfaction survey award in the nation.

After twenty-six years at IBM, corporate restructuring occurred, and Archon Lee accepted a buyout, eventually landing an account executive position at Southern California Edison (SCE). There he met Roxanne Akasaka Dyhre, and the couple married in October 2010. He always said, "I was a lucky candidate when I married Roxanne."

One of Archon Lee's most significant passions was in mentoring. He became involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles and the Inland Empire and was matched with an 8-year-old named

Daniel Clarke. Though the mentoring relationship formally ended when Daniel turned 18, Archon Lee said, "We will have a lifelong friendship. It's one of the best things that ever happened to me . . . Watching Daniel change and grow is a feeling that's almost beyond explanation. I will have it with me for the rest of my life." He always referred to Daniel as his second son. He joined the board of directors of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles and the Inland Empire in 1999 and served on the executive committee.

His commitment to young people didn't stop there. In late 2001 he started a program to provide mentors from Sigma Pi Phi and SCE's employee ranks for students at John Muir Middle School. Like many other students at the school, the student he mentored once a week resided in foster care and benefited from the attention paid by a caring adult. For more than ten years Archon Lee provided his time, talents and resources to Xi's social action program, "See Your Potential," providing mentors to students at the Watts-Willowbrook Boys and Girls Club and the Owen Knox Elementary School.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America selected him and Daniel (along with three other matches) to ride on its 2001 Rose Parade float. For his contributions as a community leader, Archon Lee was recognized at the Angels baseball game in July 2003 as a "Halo Hero."

Throughout the years, he financially supported the Angel City Achiever Program, Tennessee State University, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Archon Lee loved cars. He knew all the pluses and minuses of different vehicles and how they performed or underperformed. He also enjoyed traveling, gardening and sometimes participating in the Rosarito Ensenada fifty-mile

Pacific Coast bike rides with his wife. He enjoyed working out at the gym, going on walks, watching movies and *Dateline*, *48 Hours* and *20/20* episodes, studying the stock market, keeping up with politics, and watching *In Touch Ministries* with Dr. Charles Stanley every Sunday morning with Archousa Roxanne. They also enjoyed being members of the Couple Club and socializing over dinner and great conversations.

Archon Lee was preceded in death by his son, Damon Lee IV (2011). He is survived by his loving wife, Archousa Roxanne A. Lee; his son, Daniel K. Clarke; his sister, Kimberly Lee (Anthony) Lamb; his two favorite people, who call him Grandpa: Emiko Brennan (8 years old) and Kaiya Brennan (5 years old); and many extended family members, special friends and loved ones. With his passing, the Fraternity has lost one of its significant members.

James Long, Jr., continued

'ooh and ahh' . . . My AKA [Alpha Kappa Alpha] sorors immediately loved him." The two were married during their senior year on April 18, 1954.

Archon Long was battalion commander of the engineering ROTC at Lincoln. After graduation he became a member of the Army Corps of Engineers, attending the U.S. Army Engineer School in Virginia. A first lieutenant, he was selected to the All-Army all-star basketball team and invited to try out for the U.S. Olympics team. After his army discharge he returned to Lincoln University in 1957 as director of recreation and physical education.

The couple, who eventually had four children – Karen, Kathy, Kaye, and James "Kipp" Long III – moved for a few years to Kansas City, Missouri, where Archon Long was a coach and teacher at Lincoln High School and a director of safety at

Western Electric. In 1970 the family moved to Massachusetts when he became a human resources manager for General Electric's aviation plant in Lynn.

A resident of Massachusetts for more than fifty years, Archon Long created the Association of Black Citizens of Lexington and was a board member of Lynn's Salvation Army and its Boys and Girls Club. He and Archousa Long helped found the Henry Buckner charter school in Cambridge, respectively serving as chair and vice chair. His hobbies included oil painting and golf, and he was such a square dance aficionado that he had a square dance program televised in Jefferson City.

His dedication to community and family was summed up in a motto he repeated to his children: "All for One and One for All! The team that won't be beat, can't be beat!"

Archousa Long said that her husband was supportive of her pursuit of a law degree and election to the American Bar Association's House of Delegates. Their children said that they would miss Archon Long singing "You Are So Beautiful" and "Mona Lisa" to their mother and "My Girl" to his daughters and granddaughters.

His grandchildren called him "Our gentle giant, our dance partner, our professional cartoon artist [he drew cartoon place mats for his children and grandchildren] and our mischief buddy," and said they would always remember him for his peach cobbler, filling the house with the sound of Motown and sneaking them treats. "Thank you," they said, "for teaching us that strength is not grandiose, but kind and understanding; that being a good listener is the greatest skill one can hold; that devotion is the best gift you can give your family; that no matter what, you would always be there supporting and cheering us on."

Norma Jean Marks McKinney, continued

of the Greater Seattle Chapter of The Links, Inc., she was a voracious reader, a consummate host, and an amazing and creative cook, and she liked to dance. A dear cousin once described her spirit when she was a child: "She'd wake up and be singing."

Preceded in death by her husband, Archon Herman L. McKinney, Jr., who passed away in 2014, she is survived by her three children, Kristal McKinney, Kevin (Carrie) McKinney and Kent (Angela) McKinney; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; her siblings Helen Burns, Debbie Marks and Sydney (Ernest) Roberts; and countless extended family members and friends.

George Henry Moreland, Jr., continued

Claudia Bishop, a lab technician at the hospital, and for their first date they went to a Pacific Coast League baseball game at Wrigley Field in South Los Angeles. They were married on August 24, 1952.

Archon Moreland earned his medical degree from the California College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (which in 1962 affiliated with the University of California, Irvine School of Medicine), and in 1958 he opened a medical office on Van Nuys Boulevard in Pacoima with another physician and a dentist. He later moved his family practice to Sylmar.

During his career he was affiliated with San Fernando Hospital, Pacoima Lutheran Hospital, Serra Memorial Hospital and Providence Holy Cross Hospital. At Holy Cross, he held several leadership positions, including chair of the department of family practice and trustee.

Always active in the community, he was one of the founders of the Pacoima First United Methodist Church, a member of the Centinela Advisory Board of the California

Community Foundation and a lifetime member of the NAACP.

Archon Moreland was preceded in death by his wife of sixty-one years, Archousa Claudia Bishop Moreland. He is survived by daughters Pamela Moreland, a journalist and former *Los Angeles Times* staff writer, and Judith Moreland, an actor/director who teaches at UCLA; and many loving nieces and nephews in California, Texas and Oklahoma.

Norris W. Overton, continued

graduated from the advanced management program at Harvard University's Graduate School of Business Administration in 1972. He completed the Air Command and Staff College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces by correspondence and the Air War College by seminar.

He was assigned as a finance officer in the 18th Fighter-Bomber Wing in Chinhae, Korea, in February 1952. His other assignments included deputy finance officer at Forbes Air Force Base, Kansas; finance officer at Grenier Air Force Base, New Hampshire; finance officer at Bordeaux-Mérignac Air Base, France; and deputy accounting and finance officer at Lindsey Air Station, Germany. In 1959 he became chief of the comptroller services division of the U.S. Air Force Plant Representative Office, Curtiss-Wright Corp., in Woodridge, New Jersey. A similar assignment followed in 1960 at the contract management division in Milwaukee. In 1963 he assumed duties as the staff accounting and finance officer of the Karamursel Common Defense Installation in Turkey, and in 1969 he was transferred to Headquarters U.S. Air Force in Washington, D.C., as executive officer to the deputy assistant comptroller for accounting and finance. He later became the deputy assistant comptroller.

His many military awards include the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, the Bronze Star Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Outstanding Unit Award, the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation and the Vietnam Gallantry Cross. In 1972 he became the deputy chief of staff, comptroller at the U.S. Air Force Academy and in 1976 was named deputy chief of staff, comptroller, Pacific Air Forces Headquarters. Promoted to the rank of brigadier general in 1979, he also served as vice commander of the Army and Air Force Exchange Services. He retired in 1981, and after his distinguished military career, Archon Overton served as an executive with Amtrak.

He is survived by his wife, Archousa Patricia C. Overton, and a host of friends and family members.

Myron Frederick Robinson, continued

He sat on a number of corporate boards, including Key Bank and Carolina First, and nonprofit boards including John Carroll University, the University Hospitals of Cleveland, Doctors Hospital of Sarasota, the Manatee County Library Foundation, the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce, Plymouth Harbor in Sarasota and the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, to name a few.

He was initiated into Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., in 1963, was a Prince Hall Mason and most recently was the moderator of the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Sarasota.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife of fifty-six years, Archousa Brenda King; children Myron Rodney and Myra Michele; four grandchildren; and a host of friends and extended family members around the world.

James Charles Smith, continued

his entrepreneurial spirit and start and run his own company.

In 1985 he established Systems Engineering and Management Associates, Inc. (SEMA), which began as a small minority-owned New Orleans-based firm that provided solutions in information technology, including systems engineering, systems integration and information management. Through his leadership, the company became a multimillion-dollar enterprise, one of the largest minority employers in the city of New Orleans, managing government contracts with the Departments of Defense, Energy and Transportation, as well as the State Department, FEMA and the EPA. Archon Smith received the Entrepreneur of the Year Award from *Black Enterprise*, and for ten straight years *Black Enterprise* recognized SEMA as one of its Top 100 Black-owned companies.

Archon Smith served two decades on the board of directors of Liberty Bank, one of the top Black-owned banks in the United States and the first to reach \$1 billion in assets. He was an active board member at the time of his passing. Engaged civically and socially, he held memberships in several organizations. He was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (established at Howard University in 1911), in December 1958, and he was a member of the Studs Club, a civic, social and pleasure club, as well as the Bunch Club, a well-known New Orleans African American Mardi Gras Carnival club.

Archon Smith is survived by his children, Rodney (Leesa) Smith, Michael Smith, Wanda (Dave) Radler and Donna (Don) Murphy; his siblings, Jesse Smith, Helen Smith and Charles Rush; his first wife of thirty years and the mother of his four children, Melba A. Smith-Dudley; ten grandchildren: Lauren, Matthew, Mycah, Brendan, Breana, Alana, Malique,

Fallon, Kayla and Nathan; and three great-grandchildren: Jordan, Isaiah and Isabella.

John B. Turner, continued

all sports and hosting Super Bowl parties and barbecues, and he was famously known for his baby back ribs. At gatherings at his home, you could find him “talking trash” over card games or grooving to classic rhythm and blues.

Whether at home or at work, he was a gifted listener, counselor, speaker and educator, giving his life early to Christ. For the past thirty years he was a faithful servant of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, dedicating his time, talent and treasure to its beautification and prosperity.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife of more than fifty-five years, Archousa Cleovonne Watkins Turner; daughters Stephanie E. (Charnelle Bryant) Turner; Robin M. Turner and Bridget Turner (Robert) Kelly; grandchildren Alex and Addison Kelly; and a host of extended family members and friends.

Sylvia Ann Henley Wright, continued

In 1961 she married John Aaron Wright, a student at Harris Teachers College. Shortly after he began teaching, Archousa Wright gave birth to their first child, John, Jr., and following the example set by her mother, she opted to become a full-time mom, a decision she remained committed to even after the birth of their next two sons, David and Curtis. She served as a den mother, PTA volunteer and officer, and once the children were in school full-time, she entered the field of education as a health occupation instructor, yearbook and senior sponsor in the Wellston School District.

She was employed as a special education instructor with the

Special School District of St. Louis County and as a technical high school health occupation instructor and department chairperson, retiring in 1988. During her tenure with the Special School District she worked as a sponsor of the Vocational Industrial Club of America. As part of her professional career, she proctored professional nurse licensing examinations for the state board of nursing and then was a health services assistant curriculum writer for the University of Missouri–Columbia.

Chairperson of the Friends of the University City Public Library, a member of the Wednesday Club–St. Louis and a Golden Soror in her beloved Alpha Kappa Alpha

Sorority, she was also active in her church as a Sunday school teacher, co-superintendent of the Sunday school, coleader for the Methodist Youth Fellowship and a member of United Methodist Women. She was a delegate to the ICC Conference in Korea and Japan and one of the founders of the church's annual fundraiser, Junk-Tique.

Archousa Wright coauthored two books with her husband and assisted him in writing many others. A well-seasoned traveler, she visited more than forty countries in Africa, Europe, Asia and South America, with her husband, sons and grandchildren all sharing her love for travel. When she was not traveling, she liked

spending time with her grandchildren and indulging in her favorite hobby, reading. She lived to see her three sons attend college, two receiving doctorates.

Archousa Wright leaves to cherish her memory her husband of sixty-one years, Archon John A. Wright, Sr.; sons John (Carmel) Wright, Jr., David (Almaz) Wright and Curtis (Kelly) Wright, Sr.; grandchildren John Wright III, Anastasia Wright, Chloi Wright, Curtis Wright, Jr., Clayton Wright, Haley Landre, Caleb Wright, Ezana Wright and Isabella Wright; a half-sister, Rhodie Hakim; a half-brother, Jonathan Scott; special brother and sister, Adam Scott and Maggie Scott; and a host of extended family members.



CORRECTION



NEW ARCHON NICOLAS T. ABRAMS

The captions for two photographs of two new Archons on page 74, as part of the article “Gamma Boulé Selects Five Distinguished Archons,” in The New Archons section of THE BOULÉ JOURNAL, Volume 87, Number 2, summer 2023 edition, were inadvertently switched. The correct captions with photographs of new Archons Nicolas T. Abrams and Garnett Hall are provided here.



NEW ARCHON GARNETT HALL

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ATTENTION ALL GRAPTERS! **EDITORIAL DEADLINES**

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All articles documenting Christmas Is For the Archousai events must be submitted on the Grapter Portal by January 15, 2024.

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Fall 2024
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SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
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