

Sun-Reporter



A NEWS JOURNAL DEDICATED TO THE CAUSE OF THE PEOPLE • 77 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE ENTIRE BAY AREA

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BEST BUY IN THE WEST

TALENTED TWENTY-FIVE



Jameel Patterson

Geoffrea Morris

Larry McClendon

Brittini Chicuata

Jon Henry

Bivett Brackett

Tiffany Carter

Kumasi Aaron

Shakirah Simley

Tinisch Hollins

India Little

Ed Sanders

Marla Matime

Maika Pinkston

James Walker

Ryan Coogler

Antoine Davis

Fathina Holmes

Arieann Harrison

Gwendolyn Brown

Dante King

Cheryl Thorton

Floyd Trammell

Monique Guidry

Gerald Agee

Another 25 In The Fight For Victory

Sun-Reporter



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Dedicated to the cause of the people--
that no good cause shall lack a champion and evil shall not thrive unopposed.

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Carlton B. Goodlett, PH.D., MD.,
Editor/Publisher
1945-1997

Amelia Ashley-Ward
Editor/Publisher

We are proud to present the Sun-Reporter's Talented 25 class of 2022. They are fearless, creative, brilliant, experienced and energetic.

One honoree was raised in Oakland, played sports, served the community and is now one of the greatest Filmmakers in history.

Others are artists, telling the Black experience through media and dance.

Some are community organizers and educators, speaking out against injustice from City Hall to the state Capitol.

Many roam the City speaking truth to power, and are not ashamed to raise their fists saluting their powerful history.

They are leaders of the pack in the fight for women's rights, human rights and environmental justice.

They are grant writers and funders working to keep small Black businesses alive and thriving.

They lead community organizations offering support for quality education and jobs.

They are seasoned labor and religious leaders, helping guide our community through pandemics.

As I continue to serve as the proud Publisher of this 78-year-old newspaper, I'm encouraged by our class of Talented 25.

I'm extremely proud to have my 30-year-old journalist son join me here at the paper. Evan Carlton Ward graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in 2015 with a degree in electronic media. He will fit in perfectly with this group of Talented 25 freedom Fighters.

While working with his Mother, may Evan gain wings that will allow him to soar and preserve the Sun-Reporter's rich legacy of being a champion for the people.

As we enter into a New Year, the dream of a new world is Alive.

Let us March on until Victory is won.



Evan Carlton Ward and Publisher Amelia Ashley-Ward

Profiles by Evan Carlton Ward
Production/Design Jamie Muntner
Evol Knight

Brittini Chicuata



A native daughter of San Francisco's Fillmore District is sparking change across the city. Brittini Chicuata (she/her) serves as Director of Economic Rights at the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. In this role, she fights for economic justice policy advancement and leads with strategic vision through an anti-racism, anti-discrimination, and accessibility approach. Brittini is a lifelong anti-poverty advocate, with a particular fire in her belly for reproductive justice and security. Brittini has worked as a policymaker in public health, cannabis, criminal justice, food access, and birth justice over the last decade, co-writing and co-leading successful campaigns with tangible impact locally and nationally.

In 2022, Brittini served as campaign manager for Malia Cohen, helping to elect the first Black woman as State Controller in California history. Brittini is focused on helping realize the social and health needs of the most vulnerable communities and currently does that by expanding the work of government to make radical investments towards a more equitable San Francisco.

Ryan Coogler

Spike Lee recently said, "After I retire, I'm passing the torch to Ryan Coogler." Ryan Kyle Coogler is an African-American filmmaker from Oakland, California. He is known for directing the Black Panther film series, Creed, a Rocky spin-off and Fruitvale Station. He frequently casts Michael B. Jordan in his works. He also produced the Creed sequels, Judas and the Black Messiah and Space Jam: A New Legacy.

Mr. Coogler attended nearby Saint Mary's College on a football scholarship, then transferred to Sacramento State College. Later he was a graduate student in the University of Southern California School of Cinematic Arts. He eventually met and partnered with Oscar-winning actor Forest Whitaker who agreed to develop and produce his first feature-film project, Fruitvale Station (2013). The story is about the last 24 hours of the life of Oscar Grant (played by Michael B. Jordan), who was shot to death by a police officer at Oakland's Fruitvale BART station on January 1, 2009. Produced by Oscar-winning actor Forest Whitaker, the film premiered at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival, where it won the top Audience Award and Grand Jury Prize in the dramatic competition and was released in theatres on July 20, 2013. Made on a budget of \$900,000, the film grossed over \$17 million worldwide after its theatrical run.

In 2015, Coogler released his second film, Creed, a spin-off of the Rocky films, which Coogler directed and co-wrote with Aaron Covington. The film starred Michael B. Jordan as Apollo Creed's son Donnie, who is trained and mentored by his father's old friend and former rival Rocky Balboa, played by Sylvester Stallone. It received critical acclaim from critics and audiences and grossed over \$173 million worldwide. Among its accolades, Stallone won the National Board of Review Award for Best Supporting Actor, the Critics' Choice Movie Award for Best Supporting Actor, and Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actor - Motion Picture, and was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor.

In 2018, Coogler co-wrote and directed the Marvel film Black Panther, making him the first Black Marvel Studios director. The film starred Chadwick Boseman as the titular character, who is crowned king of Wakanda following his father's death, but is challenged by his cousin, Erik Killmonger (played by Michael B. Jordan), who plans to abandon the country's isolationist policies and begin a global revolution.

Upon release, the film grossed \$1.3 billion worldwide and broke numerous box office records, becoming the highest-grossing film directed by a Black filmmaker, the ninth-highest-grossing film of all time and the second-highest-grossing film of 2018. Black Panther was also a critical success. Rotten Tomatoes' critical consensus reads, "Black Panther elevates superhero cinema to thrilling new heights while telling one of the MCU's most absorbing stories—and introducing some of its most fully realized characters. The film was also noted for its representation of Black people and subject matter related to Afrofuturism. The film was nominated for seven awards at the 91st Academy Awards, winning three, and received numerous other accolades. Black Panther is the first superhero film to receive an Academy Award nomination for Best Picture, and the first MCU film to win several categories (those being for Best Costume Design, Best Production Design and Best Original Score).

Coogler served as co-writer and director on the Black Panther sequel, Black Panther: Wakanda Forever, which was released in the United States on November 11, 2022. The film has grossed over \$800 million dollars.



The San Francisco Human Rights Commission
congratulates its staff members, advisory committee
members, grantees, and partners named
to this year's Talented 25 list.

With gratitude for all you do for community,
and warmest wishes on this honor!

SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Geoffrea Morris

She is both a social worker and a licensed attorney with nearly 20 years of experience in improving the lives of children, families, and individuals throughout San Francisco's most disenfranchised communities. areas of public assistance, child welfare, criminal justice the former legislative aide for Supervisor Ahsha Safai

Geoffrea has spearheaded several successful neighborhoods that would include the renaming Park in Hunters Point through her Parks 94124 Wall Street, a coalition of seven young Black to revitalize Juneteenth festivities in the

In 2022, Geoffrea resigned from her government well as her own non-profit, Black Women Revolt recently was one of the lead sponsors of Genetic Privacy for Sexual Assault Victims spearhead several community initiatives which System and working with community to launch Market." The Food Empowerment Market is a model Safai. The market seeks to radically transform how insecurity in a more dignified and culturally affirming shopping experience that focus on nutritious foods to 2023 in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters



Geoffrea (Jah-free-ah) Morris is a San Francisco native, born and raised in the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood. Geoffrea holds a bachelor's in Child and Adolescent Development from San Francisco State University; a Masters in Social Work from California State East Bay; and a Juris Doctorate from Golden Gate University. For nearly two decades, Geoffrea worked as a public servant, in the reform, racial equity and legislative policy. Geoffrea is also representing San Francisco's District 11 neighborhoods.

initiatives supporting San Francisco's southeast of the Bayview's Public Library and renovating Hilltop organization. Geoffrea is also co-founder of SF Black leaders that formed in 2020 that initially sought southeast and to unite all Black San Francisco.

duties to run her own law and consulting firm as Against Domestic Violence (BWRADV). BWRADV Senator Scott Wiener's Legislation, SB 1228, the Act that recently passed. Geoffrea continues to would include reforming San Francisco's Redistricting the first government funded "Free Food Empowerment Geoffrea worked on while as an aide with Supervisor San Francisco deals with residents experiencing food way. The market seeks to provide residents with a unique relieve hunger. The Market is slated to open in the Spring of Point community.

Geoffrea presently lives in San Francisco's Oceanview neighborhood, with her Husband Erik and two daughters, Erika and Eboni. Geoffrea is also a proud member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc.

Bivett Brackett has devoted her life to public service, and she knows what it takes to usher in change. She is a proud San Franciscan with over twenty years serving as a policy professional and community connector. The Lowell High graduate grew up in District 5 and raised her children in District 10. Bivett is showing no signs of tiring in her commitment to building wellness, generational wealth and bringing equity to Bay Area individuals and families in need. A pillar of her work by design focuses on capturing the stories, richness, and legacies of Black Leadership in San Francisco.

Bivett Brackett

Bivett has owned The Brackett Group since 2004 which specializes in delivering transformational business consulting services to non-profits and small businesses throughout Northern California. Never shying away from an opportunity to connect people with resources, Bivett has stood at the intersection and leverage their economic power alongside their term social welfare in underserved communities. supplier programs, asset accumulation grants,

In 2019, Bivett founded the Big+Black+Brunch and the black economic power base in San COVID, Big Black Brunch worked with over from permanent closure and helping others throughout the city.

As a firm believer in "return on investment" when working with community. She is a co-served on Mayor London Breed's COVID-19 also responsible for overseeing the creation units as a Commissioner with the Office of (formerly known as Redevelopment Agency). being appointed as the Chair of the Certificate spearheaded elements of Assembly Bill No. 1584 the new law signed by Governor Gavin Newsom in persons now qualify for the highest affordable housing is currently working with NCLF to identify over 10,000 families who were displaced because of the federally funded urban renewal program administered by the former San Francisco Redevelopment Agency in the predominantly African American neighborhoods in the Western Addition and Hunters Point areas in the 1960s and 1970s.



of public/ private partnerships, helping to showcase human and intellectual resources to improve long-term social welfare in underserved communities. Some of these initiatives included diversity and programs to close the digital divide.

a monthly meet-up to help build community Francisco one brunch at a time. During 135 Black businesses; preventing many secure new leases in prime locations

as well as "return on involvement" founder of SF Black WallStreet and Economic Recovery Taskforce. She is of thousands of affordable housing Community Investment and Infrastructure Her advocacy on the Commission led to her of Preference (COP) subcommittee which which expanded the COP program. Under September 2021, the descendants of displaced preference with MOHCD and a right-to-return. OCII

In her free time Bivett enjoys attending sporting events, concerts, hiking with friends on any pick of the Bay Area's stunning lookouts and trails, as well as hosting wine & food events. She also serves on various Board of Directors for organizations throughout the SF/Bay Area and mentors' youth. She is a proud mother, small business owner and longtime resident of San Francisco.



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Ed Sanders is the president of ES Gro Advisors up, a public affairs consultancy with over 20 years of experience implementing public policy, electoral, community-based and business growth initiatives, in both the private and public sectors. ES Advisors Group provides strategic support to clients regarding business development and strategic growth initiatives, public policy issues, and the development of targeted outreach and community education that provide solutions on a national, state, and local level.

In recent years, ES Advisors Group has led efforts to enact local flavored tobacco ordinances in southern California which will save lives and protect kids by ending the sale of flavored tobacco, especially menthol cigarettes. Ed was a Senior Advisor for the YES on Proposition 31 campaign which passed overwhelming in the November 2022 election. He has also worked with Los Angeles Labor leaders to enact an increase in the City's minimum wage, a move that looks to give working families a better chance at success.

ES Advisors Group continues to provide valuable perspective and insight for clients seeking to shape public opinion in support of business imperatives. Formerly a Special Assistant for two California Assembly Speakers: John A. Pérez and Karen R. Bass, Ed is a frequent contributor on KBLA (Radio) and Fox Soul (Television), where he shares his experience as it relates to the California political landscape.

Prior to public service, Ed managed several branches for a major U.S. commercial bank where he focused energies on providing small business capital and real estate financing to underserved communities and developing industrial corridors.

Ed and his wife, Effie, reside in Los Angeles with their two children.

Ed Sanders



Tiffany Carter



Tiffany Carter is a visionary restaurateur, entrepreneur, investor, and a classically trained Chef. She is the owner of Boug Cali Creole Bodega, one of the few brick and mortar Black businesses in San Francisco.

Known respectfully as Neighborhood Tiff, she is a San Francisco naïve from Bayview Hunters Point who believes that Black culture and representation are critical pieces of the City's history. As a community stakeholder and mother to a young Blacktivist, Tiffany is focused on developing and protecting Black space, Black Equity, and Black culture in San Francisco.

Tiffany Carter is also the co-founder of SF Black Wallstreet, an organization that puts Black entrepreneurship on display. Ms. Carter and other SF Black Wallstreet officials set up the 2022 Juneteenth event at Gilman Park.

CONGRATULATIONS

Talented 25

FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING
CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE COMMUNITY AND
THE GREATER BAY AREA



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WE'VE HEARD THE GREAT NEWS



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TO OUR COMMUNITY AND
THE GREATER BAY AREA

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India Marie Little is a Health Care Executive, Artist, Talent Manager, Producer, Choreographer, and dancer from San Francisco.

Ms. Little is an Executive Assistant at Kaiser Permanente Regional Office to the Senior Vice Presidents over Hospital and Health Plan Operations. She's also been the interim EA to the Vice President of Consumer Experience of NCAL for nearly 3 years.

India honed her dancing skills at San Jose State University and Alonzo Kings Lines Ballet. She has professionally taken the stage for numerous occasions choreographing and dancing. She's worked weddings, banquets, debutante balls, corporate events, and churches all over the country.

In 2013, India was featured as a solo performer in the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre's Production of "A Soulful Christmas." She went on to do that production for five years singing, dancing, and providing choreography for the featured dance routines in the production. From Fall of 2019 through the early portion of 2020, India worked professionally with the DanDan Performing Arts LLC as an Artist/Teacher for numerous Elementary Charter schools in the San Leandro/ San Lorenzo school district.

India began dance at the early age of 12. Performing Arts was always a passion. Groomed in the "Church" you participated in something to make up the "experience" on a Sunday morning. Singing, acting and dancing growing up in the church, it is evident India had a gift! Ms. Little studied many styles such as Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical, Flamingo, Ballroom, Hip-Hop and Modern, taking a special interest in Lyrical and Modern Dance. She trained throughout the years at San Jose State University and Alonzo Kings Lines Ballet to name a few (San Francisco, CA). India has professionally taken the stage for numerous occasions choreographing and dancing: weddings, banquets, debutante balls, corporate events and churches all over the country. As well as opening acts for notable renowned Recording Gospel Artists such as Ricky Dillard & New G! In 2013 India was honored to be featured as a solo performer in the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre's Production of "A Soulful Christmas." She went on to do that production for five years singing, dancing and providing choreography for the featured dance routines in the production. She has had the esteemed pleasure of choreographing three Motown shows for the Miraculous Foundation Church (Oakland, CA). Fall of 2019 through the early portion of 2020 India worked professionally with the DanDan Performing Arts LLC as an Artist/Teacher for numerous Elementary Charter schools in the San Leandro/ San Lorenzo school district providing a structured dance curriculum to grade school 3rd through 8th. August 28th, 2022 India produced her first Dance Production held at the Margaret Leshner Theater in Walnut Creek, CA entitled "Dare Dream Dance!" The highly anticipated /breath-taking sold out show will return to the stage August of 2023!



India Marie
Little

Larry McClendon

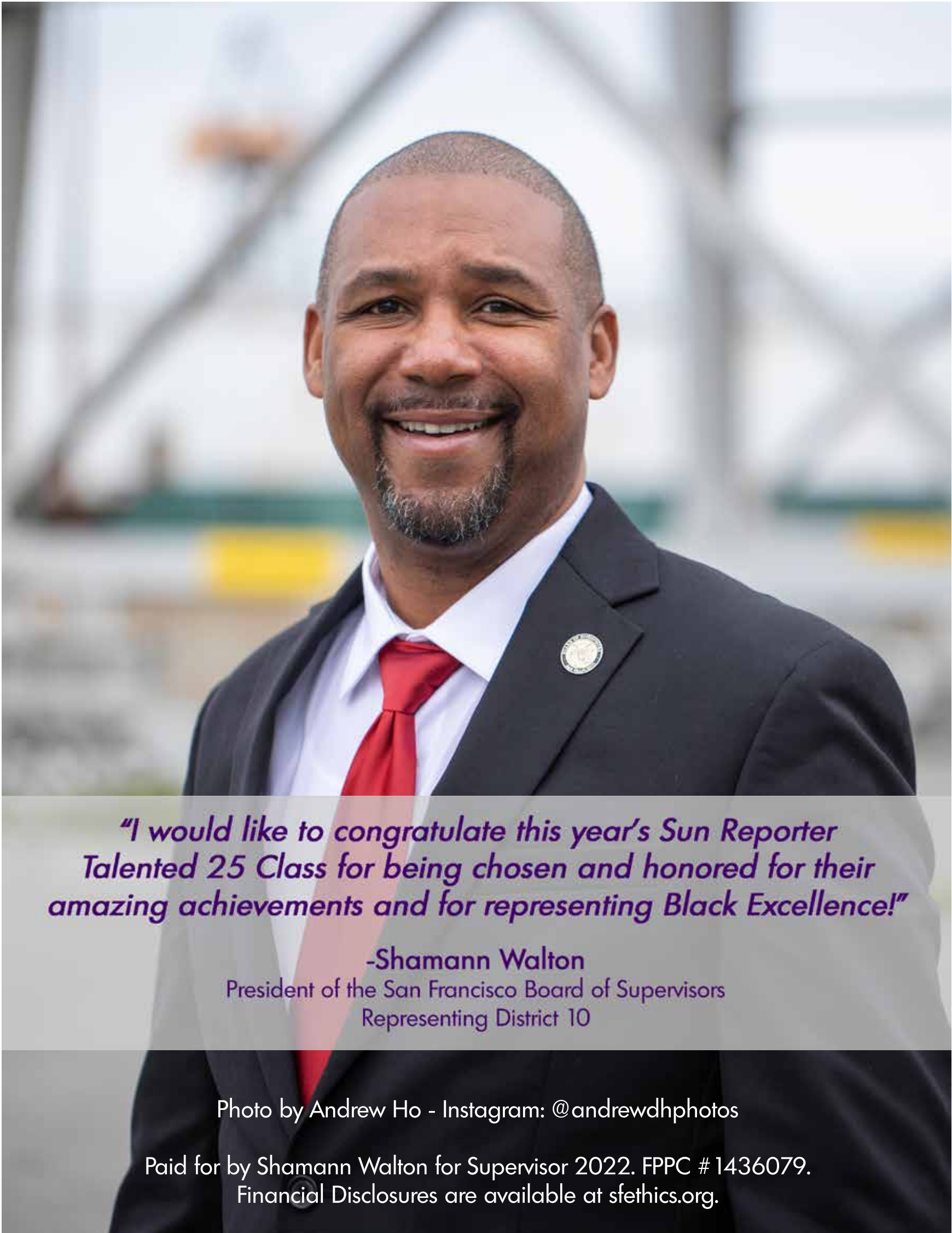


Larry McClendon is the Community and Economic Development Manager at the Office of Economic and Workforce Development. In this role, he serves as City Hall liaison between citizens of San Francisco and local government agencies, facilitating the exchange of information, helping resolve complaints, and ensuring equal access to funding, programs, and services.

Mr. McClendon wants to see the African American Businesses in the Bay Area thrive, and he's taking action to make that happen every day. His unique perspective - as someone with 15+ years of experience in the non-profit and government sector has given him an understanding of the urgent capital needs of businesses.

He is committed to directing economic development through promoting business growth, retention, and attraction with his help, African American businesses have stabilized their revenue base and continue serving their loyal community.

Larry recognizes the oppressive history of racial injustice, the structural inequities that remain today, and the trauma those inequities perpetuate. Acknowledging that history has left a profound mark on the present, Larry makes steps toward addressing past discriminatory practices. He is committed to racial equity and working toward dismantling the structural inequities that remain today, with the goal of helping the community achieve racial equity when race no longer determines one's socioeconomic outcomes. In recognition of this history and profound need and makes steps toward addressing past discriminatory practices in financing services, economic inclusion, and business support services.



"I would like to congratulate this year's Sun Reporter Talented 25 Class for being chosen and honored for their amazing achievements and for representing Black Excellence!"

-Shamann Walton
President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Representing District 10

Photo by Andrew Ho - Instagram: @andrewdhphotos

Paid for by Shamann Walton for Supervisor 2022. FPPC # 1436079.
Financial Disclosures are available at sfethics.org.

Marla A. Matime (Mah-team) is the founder and CEO of MAR.M Artistry & Consulting, a PR and marketing consulting firm in Southern California. Formed in 2016, MAR.M Artistry & Consulting provides an array of services within the media, communications, and music industries. Key services provided are strategic communication consulting, media and marketing planning, copywriting, editing, and vocal services such as, lead vocals, background vocals, and writing services. Launched in January 2021, The MAR.M Agency LLC, will be a full-service advertising agency aimed to service clients in order to reach Black and Ethnically blended communities.

Marla's community engagement is broad and distinctive. She is the Executive Director of the African American Caucus for the League of California Cities and has served as the Chief Operations Officer for Voice Media Ventures (Black Voice News and The IE VOICE), Communications Director of the Mt. Rubidoux SDA Church, and as Executive Director of the Riverside Philharmonic. She is the secretary of the newly formed Sojourner Truth Fund whose purpose is to uplift and empower the African Americans and individuals from the African Diaspora from poverty to financial security. Marla also serves on the board of directors as the Vice President of the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCA EJ) and chair of CCA EJ Action.

Marla has extensive experience in team building and management and has been successful in building and overseeing a communications team that delivers weekly news and information through video content, interviews, short docs, and social media engagement. In 2018, she successfully led two political media-buy campaigns simultaneously through Black publications throughout the state of California for the primary and general elections. In 2019, Voice Media Ventures was selected as a subcontractor to manage Black media outreach throughout the state of California and Ethnic Media outreach within the Inland Empire for the Census 2020. Marla led the media planning and buying for Voice Media, managing close to 50 outlets with a budget of \$2 million in advertising dollars.

During the 2020 General Election, Marla led and managed media campaigns for 4 separate campaigns concurrently with a combined advertising dollar total of close to \$1 million. In the same year, she secured an LLC for the MAR.M Agency.

In 2021, she launched a podcast called The MetaSpiritualist, which focuses on spiritual and religious discussions, guided meditations, affirmations, and sound healing. The nonjudgmental platform reaches people who want to spread faith and hope throughout the world by sharing their experiences. She is currently working on a political podcast for Black/African American members of government and public affairs. Marla is a dynamic and transformational leader in her circles of influence, providing empathic guidance and compassion.

She has a bachelor's degree in Communications with an emphasis in Journalism from the University of Phoenix. She is passionate about the condition of our communities and she assists in covering stories to bring awareness to what is happening in the world around those in the community.

She is a wife and mother of three and has resided in the Inland Empire for 13 years. Her drive and passion are to leave a legacy for her family through civic engagement and entrepreneurship. She seeks to empower those who have the quality and capability of making a positive impact in the world.

Marla A. Matime



Tinisch Hollins has over two decades of professional experience in community organizing, guiding government systems, and informing public policy to make social change. She is a gifted critical thinker, public speaker, and seasoned facilitator who uses both professional training and lived experience to build shared understanding and to frame practical and sustainable solutions rooted in community well-being.

Through demonstrated leadership in the fields of violence prevention and social justice, she has built effective partnerships with impacted communities, decision-makers, influencers, and stakeholders throughout California.

Currently, Tinisch serves as the Executive Director of Californians for Safety and Justice (CSJ), one of the nation's most effective criminal justice reform agencies. CSJ works to reduce wasteful jail and prison spending and advance common-sense public safety solutions that address the root causes of crime and achieve long-term safety.

In June 2020, she co-founded SF Black Wallstreet – an organization committed to preserving Black culture and building economic power in San Francisco.

Tinisch previously served for two years as CSJ's Associate Director as well as the California State Director of Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice (CSSJ), after starting with the organization as the Bay Area chapter coordinator of CSSJ. Her leadership helped to pass historic first-in-the-nation legislation that extended employment leave for all survivors of violence, as well as legislation permitting crime victims to terminate their leases if they no longer feel safe in their homes following a crime. Tinisch also played a pivotal leadership role in the defeat of Proposition 20, a regressive ballot measure on the 2020 California ballot that sought to repeal numerous successful criminal justice reforms.

She has been deeply engaged in the Bay Area social justice movement as the community organizer, policy advocate and systems navigator for nearly two decades. Tinisch has worked passionately to bring the voices of survivors to the center of community engagement and public policy and has advocated tirelessly for those voices to guide decisions, priorities, and resources. Prior to joining CSJ in 2019, Tinisch served in various leadership capacities in local government, including at the San Francisco Human Services Agency and in the San Francisco Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice.

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CONGRATULATIONS

to **TINISCH HOLLINS**

Executive Director of Californians for Safety and Justice



the Co-Founders of

SF Black Wall Street

and to all of this year's **TALENTED 25 HONOREES!**



THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO TO UPLIFT, PROTECT, AND ADVANCE THE COMMUNITY!

Kumasi is the weekday morning Anchor for ABC7. She loves all the challenges and variety that role brings. From covering breaking news and major events, to live interviews and segments, Ms. Aaron truly enjoys talking with and learning from people, then sharing that experience through creative storytelling.

She loves her name... now. But in elementary school when teachers could barely pronounce it...not so much! Kumasi is named after the city of Kumasi in the West African country of Ghana. No, She's not from there. Her mother happened to see it in a book, liked it, and decided that would be a great name for her daughter. She vetoed Kumasi's father who was planned on naming her Clarissa. But he got to name her brothers, Joe and John.

Kumasi grew up in Florida and studied accounting at Florida A&M University. But after a summer internship that left her stuck behind a desk all day, she knew she had to find something that allowed her to be creative, meet interesting people, and be out and about. Journalism was it!

When Ms. Aaron graduated with her accounting degree, she couldn't get a job in TV News. So, she got a post graduate internship at ABC News, which led to behind the scenes work at WABC and NBC Nightly News. It was the best training she could have had, and where she really developed her passion to tell compelling and impactful stories.

Kumasi's first job on air was as an Anchor/Reporter in Fayetteville, Arkansas. She then headed back to her home state of Florida as an Anchor/Reporter in Jacksonville, where she started to wear her natural hair on air for the first time! She felt free being her authentic self, and she realized part of her work would be encouraging others by example to do the same.

Next, Kumasi headed west to Denver where she worked as a National Correspondent and Anchor with The E.W. Scripps Company. The role took her across the country covering stories like Hurricane Irma, the presidential inauguration, and the Ghost Ship Fire in Oakland.

Today, Kumasi is one of the top anchors in the Bay Area. Please feel free to send her an email at Kumasi.M.Aaron@abc.com to share a potential news story, or to just say hello!



Maika Pinkston



Awoman of God and a staple in her community, Maika N. Pinkston grew up in Bayview Hunters Point. The daughter of Stephanie Mcgee and Michael Pinkston, she was born November 1, 1979. Her Grandmothers, Maya Francis Mcgee & Melderd Pinkston, were both community leaders. They were also first ladies at Paradise Church & Bethel Baptist Church. Maika is known for her cheerful, open-minded, and calm personality. She is a people person.

Maika has proven people skills and works with patients in a clinical setting. She also works at a summer day camp and after school program with children. She is a master at providing top quality customer service, teamwork, and leadership.

In 2018, Ms. Pinkston began educating the community on living a natural and healthy lifestyle. She's educating the community by using social media and Healthy Events. Her healthy events use sound healing and paint therapy. She also provides organic-based groceries to the community and tenants in multiple housing redevelopments.

Ms. Pinkston organized volunteers to distribute healthy organic groceries, healthy delicious hot meals, Personal Protective Equipment, and emergency supplies during the pandemic. She partnered with several other nonprofits in the community such as the Young Community Developers Alpha Philip Randolph Institute and YMCA.

Maika has worked closely with Shoreview Environmentalist and Environmental Justice. She was an Ambassador for CENSUS 2020 for Bayview District, Fillmore District, & Chinatown.

Ms. Pinkston will continue to love and support urban communities. Providing our youth with employment and cleaning the community streets. As Maika says, "A clean environment is a healthy and safe environment"!

SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMMING



- Hidden Gems (Every Tuesday) features individuals, leaders, businesses, and organizations making a difference in our communities. It also gives a spotlight to the Black and Brown businesses to show support and to make it possible for the money spent to be recycled back into our communities. Hidden Gems airs every Tuesday at 7:00 pm PST (9:00 pm CST/ 10:00 pm EST).
- Educational Thursday (Every Thursday) is a segment that provides a digital presentation with the intent to educate our community and provide important information that is essential for the betterment of our Black and Brown people. This segment aims to create success in life, work, sustainability, education, homeownership, empowerment, and more. Educational Thursday airs weekly at 6:00 pm PST (8:00 pm CST/ 9:00 pm EST).
- Sunday Conversation (Every Sunday) segment consists of panel discussions that explore a variety of topics that are impacting our Black and Brown communities. It provides a platform to connect, reflect and develop ways to come together to heal and help each other. Sunday Conversations airs every Sunday at 2:00 pm PST (4:00 pm CST/5:00 pm EST).



SUPPORT OUR CAUSE

Our vision is a community where everyone has food, a voice, and a safe place to call home. To do that, we come alongside families and communities, helping them to make that vision a reality. You are part of this vision. Together, we're going to keep pushing and keep fighting until people everywhere have the tools, education, and opportunity they need.

WE ALSO OFFER:

- Marketing
- Digital Flyer Creation
- Photography & Videography
- (Including Drone and 360 Booth Services)



Jon Henry

Jon Henry was raised in San Francisco's District 10 located in Bayview Hunters Point. He watched the neighborhood endure numerous social challenges; a direct result of limited resources available to his community.

At just eighteen years old, Jon made a conscious decision to become a mentor and community activist with Alive and Free Omega Boys Club. For the last twenty-four years, Jon has committed himself to inspiring change in his community including, but not limited to mentoring incarcerated youth at San Francisco's Youth Guidance Center (YGC). Feeding the homeless as well as assisting in the distribution of as many resources as possible within San Francisco communities are a passion of Jon's.

Jon's passions birthed his organization, Both Sides of the Conversation. He saw a need to provide a platform that addressed issues negatively impacting Black and Brown communities. Changing the narrative has remained his focus.

Both Sides of the Conversation is a community where everyone has food, a voice, and a safe place to call home. To do that, Jon reached out to local families and communities, helping them to make that vision a reality.

BSOTC holds a program called Hidden Gems that meets every Tuesday, and features individuals, leaders, businesses, and organizations making a difference for San Francisco communities. Hidden Gems also gives a spotlight to the Black and Brown businesses to show support and to make it possible for the money spent to be recycled back into San Francisco communities. Hidden Gems airs every Tuesday at 7:00 pm PST (9:00 pm CST/ 10:00 pm EST).

Educational Thursday (Every Thursday) is a segment that provides a digital presentation with the intent to educate San Francisco communities and provide important information that is essential for the betterment of the city's Black and Brown residents. This segment aims to create success in life, work, sustainability, education, homeownership, empowerment, and more. Educational Thursday airs weekly at 6:00 pm PST (8:00 pm CST/ 9:00 pm EST).

Sunday Conversation (Every Sunday) segment consists of panel discussions that explore a variety of topics that are impacting San Francisco's Black and Brown communities. It provides a platform to connect, reflect and develop ways to come together to heal and help each other. Sunday Conversations airs every Sunday at 2:00 pm PST (4:00 pm CST/ 5:00 pm EST).

As the Executive Director of BSOTC Jon continues to positively and influentially impact the community. One of his many accomplishments is appointment as commissioner by the San Francisco mayor's office.



*The San Francisco Giants
congratulate the
2022 Talented 25 honorees.
Thank you for your
leadership and commitment
to our community.*



Antione Davis



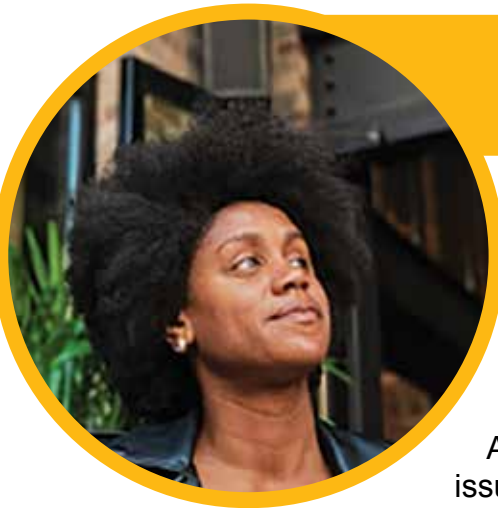
Antione Davis is a Lieutenant with the San Francisco Fire Department currently stationed in San Francisco's Bayview District. He currently serves as the President of the San Francisco Black Firefighters Association, the Mentor Liaison of City EMT, and Co-Director of the SF Fire youth Academy. He is passionate about serving and giving back to the community. At the age of 29, he is the youngest to serve as President in the organization's 50-year history. As the organization's chief, he wants to make sure the BFA is actively engaged in making the community better. He knows that much is required of him and is guided by the rich legacy left by the torch bearers whose shoulders he stands on.

Antione Davis is a Bay Area native who was born and raised in Richmond, CA. He attended school in the West Contra Costa Unified School District and is a graduate of Pinole Valley High School. He furthered his education at Contra Costa College earning an athletic scholarship to play football at the University of California Berkeley, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Science with a concentration in Legal Studies. He is an alum of EMS Corps, the Alameda County Career Pathways in Emergency Medical Services Program that City EMT is modeled from.

After receiving his Emergency Medical Technician License in 2015, he was hired with the San Francisco Fire Department November of 2016. He joined the San Francisco Black Firefighters Association in 2017 and aspired to build genuine community relationships by being a positive role model. He also advocates for his members within the San Francisco Fire Department.

Raised by a single Mother in fast moving Richmond, California, Antione managed to stay out of trouble by playing sports. He attended Contra Costa Junior College, where he was guided by famous football coach Alonzo Carter. He later received a scholarship to play for UC Berkeley and graduated with a degree in Legal Studies.

Shakirah Simley



Shakirah Simley is a writer, seasoned organizer, and community development and policy strategist with over 15 years of experience working on social justice, food, gender, and racial equity issues. She is the Executive Director of the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center, one of SF's oldest Black-led and serving community-based organizations, and home to some of the only permanent supportive affordable housing for transitional-aged youth in SF.

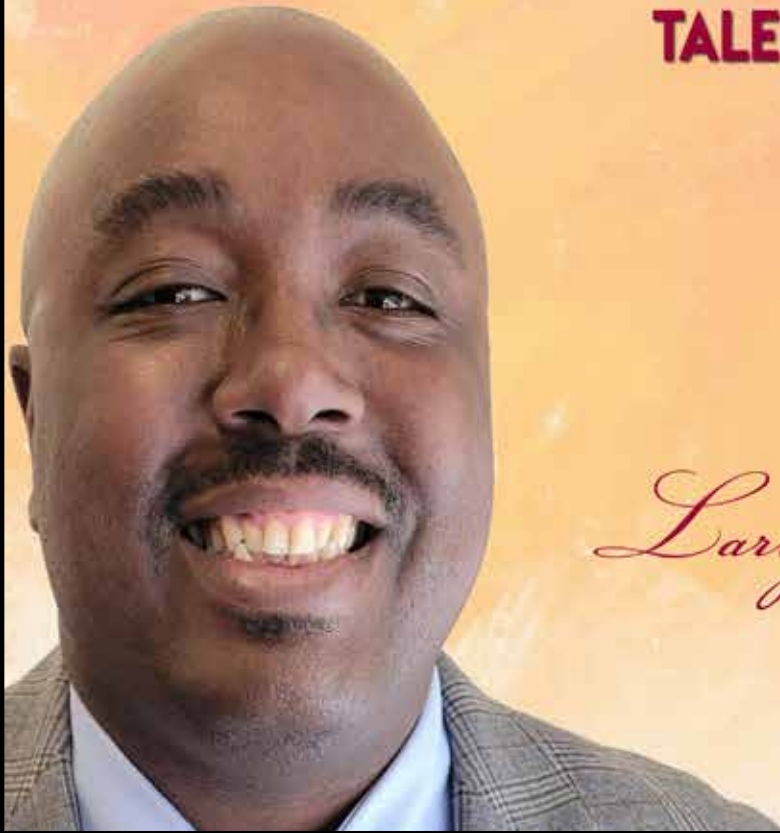
A champion for racial equity and collaborative leader, Shakirah Simley continues to address systemic issues that have impacted generations of San Franciscans while uplifting the lives of families, youth, and seniors at Booker T. Shakirah has a proven track record of public service, having previously served as the inaugural Director for the Office of Racial Equity for the City and County of San Francisco, and the leader of the Southeast Community Center in Bayview.

She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and a former Fulbright Scholar to Italy. She serves as a Board member for SPUR, the Alliance for Girls, and Foodwise. She is a former food artisan and forever food justice advocate. She has been featured in local and national publications including the SF Chronicle, KQED, New York Times, Eater, Bon Appétit, and National Geographic.

Ms. Simley was a U.S. Fulbright scholar to Italy for Anthropological study, where she received her master's degree, cum laude.

The daughter of a social worker and granddaughter of a Black Panther, Shakirah was born and raised in Harlem, New York. Shakirah has lived in San Francisco for over 15 years, working to change access and opportunity for low-income communities and generations of young people to come.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SUN-REPORTER'S
TALENTED 25 CLASS OF 2022**



Larry McClendon

"The future belongs to those who prepare for it today." **Malcolm X**

Congratulations to my fellow Sun-Reporter Talented 25 honorees
I look forward to working with you to build a better community

Jameel Patterson



James D. Walker, Sr.

proven leader, James D. Walker, Sr. leverages over 30 years of program management and leadership development experience to create lasting impact. He successfully applies a variety of competencies including data analysis to design informed strategic solutions to navigate complex social issues.

James D. Walker creates value through context-driven solutions based on real-life organizational challenges. His programs combine immersive learning, industry dialog, peer exchanges, and discussions with subject matter experts to provide more relevant and impactful experiences for his clients.

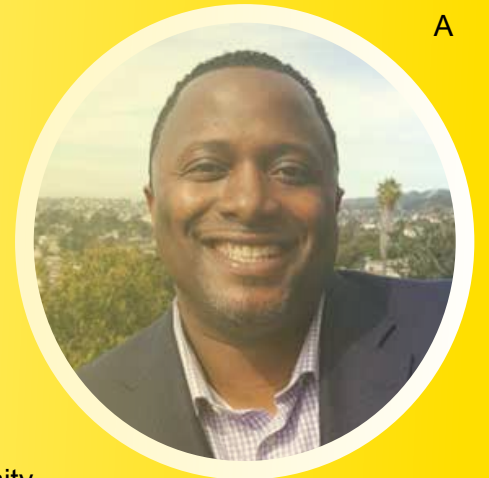
As the Founder of Diogenes Community Solutions, Mr. Walker is committed to vigilantly serving communities and clients in the pursuit of equity. Based in the bay cities of Oakland and San Francisco, Diogenes Community Solutions collaborates with partners nationwide.

Colleagues and partners know James as a change agent, advocate, and social entrepreneur, passionate about community development and tenacious in the pursuit of goals. Equally adept at strategic planning and tactical interventions, James has worked with over 100+ partners nationwide to achieve transformative community-level change.

James' strength is the ability to translate vision into specific action plans and inspire others to follow. He actively listens to the needs and concerns of clients, the community, and stakeholders in order to find win-win solutions.

Having over 30 years of program management and leadership development experience, Mr. Walker resolves to deliver lasting positive impact in every engagement. His approach includes a variety of competencies including program assessment, innovative designs, and informed strategic solutions to navigate complex social issues.

James is also a talented Keynote Speaker who can deliver practical lessons that can be implemented immediately. =



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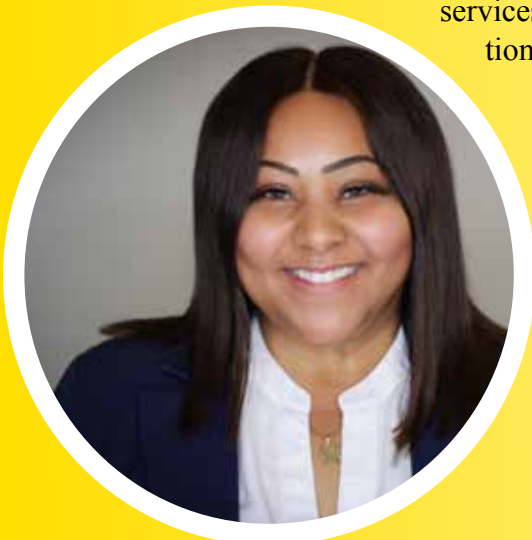
Gwendolyn Brown

Gwendolyn Brown is the Executive Director of Inner City Youth, a BLO based in the OMI district of San Francisco since 1997, currently under the umbrella of Young Community Developers. ICY was founded by her late father Michael Brown, a City Bus Driver turned Real Estate Investor and her great aunt, Gwendolyn Austin, an educator for the SFUSD for over 40 years.

Currently, Ms. Brown manages two programs: the ICY Beauty Academy and the OMI Job Center. The ICY Beauty Academy is a rigorous 18-week Training Program consisting of four training modules, each lasting roughly 5 weeks. The ICYBA is a pre-apprenticeship that prepares young women ages 16-24 the fundamentals to enter any Cosmetology program. The OMI Job Center provides workforce services to SF residents including a business center, employment assistance, placement, same day training certification, barrier removal and supportive services.

Gwendolyn is a second-generation leader continuing the legacy of Economic Development, Sovereignty, and Property Ownership for Black San Franciscans through her work as a founding member of SF Black Wall Street. Ms. Brown is also an Executive Committee Chair of SF Black Led Organizations Coalition (SFBLOC) and a Member of the SF African American Reparations Taskforce.

She is a proud product of San Francisco Public Schools and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Mills College in Oakland, CA. In addition to her day job, Ms. Brown also operates two businesses in San Francisco and is a Real Estate Investor.





**Timothy Alan Simon,
Esq. & Kimberly Brandon
would like to
congratulate the Sun
Reporter's 2022
Northern California
Talented 25!**

**Your dedication to Black
Excellence is paving the
way for future leaders
like yourself! We pray
you continue to
influence and guide
people with your
impactful ideas and
leadership!**



Maya Angelou once said, “there is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.” Luckily, educator Dante King isn’t afraid to share his stories with the world. He is a native of San Francisco, and the author of the new book *The 400-Year Holocaust: White America’s Legal, Psychopathic, and Sociopathic Black Genocide and the Revolt Against Critical Race Theory*. Dante is also a professor of American History, African American History, and Black Studies. His research interests include the intersections of race, racism, and legality throughout pre-and-post colonial America. Dante currently serves as guest faculty at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine (UCSF), as well as the Mayo Clinic. Dante is a historian, scholar, public motivational speaker, thought-leader, facilitator, and coach.

Dante has worked and consulted for more than 15-years as a human resource management professional specializing in the implementation of anti-racist practice, and organizational development and change.

In 2018, Dante partnered with the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to develop and enact the City and County of San Francisco’s Racial Equity Ordinance, which led to the first-ever citywide Office of Racial Equity (2019).

Dante was previously the Deputy Director for the Department of Public Health Office of Health Equity, in San Francisco, one of the largest public health organizations in the country with more than 8,000 employees. He led and directed the development and implementation of the department’s Racial Equity Action Plan, which focused on improving both workforce and health equity outcomes. He also led the development and implementation of several highly impactful antiracism and racial equity policies and programs (i.e., Antiracism Recruitment and Hiring Policy, Healing Time Off, Respect in the Workplace, etc.). One of his most significant accomplishments, while at the SFDPH, was the implementation of the department’s first ever Antiracism and Racial Equity Leaders Fellowship, a 12-week cohort which included more than 50 executive and senior leaders.

Dante King



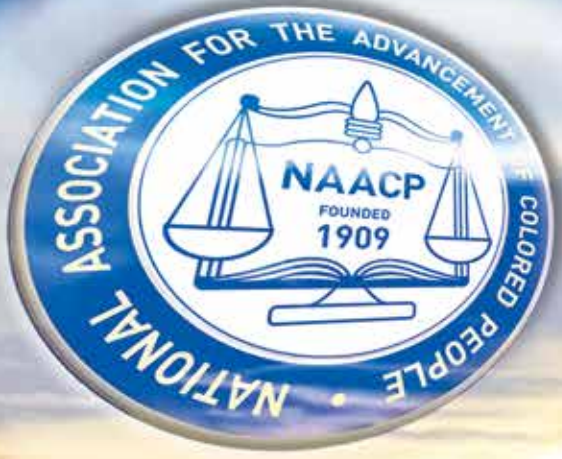
Monique Guidry

Monique Guidry, a San Francisco native, is the Owner/Director of Guidry’s Early Care & Education Program, a multi-aged family childcare home in San Francisco’s OMI-Lakeview neighborhood. She has spent nearly 30 years educating and providing care to young people, while expressing a deep passion and providing unrelenting advocacy for children, families, and other Early Childhood Educators (ECE). She is a co-founder of the African American Early Childhood Educators organization, which addresses racial disparities in the Black ECE community of San Francisco.

Monique is currently a member of the Child Care Planning and Advisory Council, the Early Childhood Community Oversight and Advisory Committee, Low Income Investment Fund’s National ECE Practitioners Advisory Committee and Build Up California Advisory Board. She has served the California Early Childhood Mentor Program for over 25 years as a Mentor Teacher and Selection Committee member and is Past President of the Family Child Care Association of San Francisco.

In addition to Monique’s professional expertise, her parents (Louis & Alice Guidry) taught her the value of being part of a community and giving back, always emphasizing, “Community is an extended family.” She has devoted her entire life to service in her community. She is a member of the OMI Community Collaborative, Young Ladies Institute and Invest Black.

Monique lives in San Francisco with her husband and their teenage son – an accomplished artist!



THANK YOU TO THE TALENTED TWENTY-FIVE

**Keep on fighting
and sailing for
the common good of ALL!**

for being involved and working to make a better San Francisco for African Americans and all people, giving essence and meaning to the words of the poet who said:

**I'm tired of sailing my little boat
Far inside of the harbor bar;
I want to be out where the big ships float**

**—
Out on the deep where the Great Ones
are! ...**

**And should my frail craft prove too slight
For storms that sweep those wide seas
o'er,**

**Better go down in the stirring fight
Than drowse to death by the sheltered
shore!**

— Daisy Rinehart

San Francisco NAACP
1290 Fillmore Street
San Francisco, CA 9411

Phone: 415 922-0650
Email: naacpsfbr@att.net
Website: www.sfnaacp.org

Rev. Dr. Amos C. Brown, President

Arieann Harrison

Arieann Harrison is following in her late mother's footsteps. A woman on a mission with no means to quit. Arieann is the Founder of The Marie Harrison Community Foundation, Inc, for social and environmental justice in San Francisco's District 10, Bay View/Hunters Point area, the 2nd largest Super-Fund in the United States.

Marie Harrison, Arieann's mother, worked at the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, where a radiological defense laboratory operated from 1946 to 1969. Marie served as one of the first environmental justice managers who spearheaded the campaign to shut down the Pacific Gas & Electric plant back in the 1970's. Her efforts lead to an investigation into the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard radioactive contamination and cover-up. In her later years, Marie would attend press conferences with an oxygen tank in tow to fight for District 10. Marie fought for D-10 until she lost her battle with pulmonary disease in 2019.

Marie Harrison's untimely death sparked a fire inside of Arieann. Pulmonary disease typically came from smoking, but Arieann knew her mother never picked up a cigarette in her life. This convinced Arieann that she and other Bayview Hunters Point residents were exposed and harmed by toxic chemicals coming from the shipyard.

Arieann is now making a difference in District 10. Harrison, like her in the community to help educate residents about the toxic environment from high rates of cancer and respiratory illness' caused by over district. These sites include the old PG&E plant, Recology the retired U.S. Navy's shipyard (home of the atomic bomb-contamination left to seep into the soil, and contaminate the residents are located on 5,384 acres, 17.9% of San Francisco, Arieann is working to educate and mobilize residents with so-brought on by long-term systemic social, economic, and environmental long term solutions to combat climate change, with transparent Arieann focuses on the science of the impact of historical genocidal by systemic racial and economic injustice, as well as the move gentrification.



mother, attends conferences with government officials, conducts outreach mental past, and advocates for long term residents who have suffered 300 documented toxic sites located in the Bay View/ Hunter Point (waste management), San Francisco's sewage treatment plant, and where residents worked cleaning ships full of toxic and radioactive air during clean-up for new housing.) 124,301 of the city's 875,114 where the majority of residents live below the poverty line. lution-based tools to not only improve generational health problems ronmental injustice, but also use to find scientific and engineering accountability to the community. cide on residents in disenfranchised communities in the Bay View toward displacement of community residents still fighting to be heard by

Marie Harrison Community Foundation Inc was founded by Arieann back in 2020. As executive director, Arieann works with community partners and government agencies to deliver services to program participants. Most recently, with the help of community partners and support from Bay Area Air Quality Management (BAAQMD), Arieann successfully self-nominated the Bayview/ Hunters Point community for California Assembly Bill (AB)617 status requiring the California Resource Board (CARB) to reduce air emissions in partnership with the community.

Arieann works at the intersection of public health, environmental justice/racism, and climate change—focusing on making the connections between historical practices and current conditions. She uses both her toxicology background and her legal training to address environmental issues. Her areas of expertise include environmental justice, policy, partnership development, public health, facilitation, education, organizational enhancement, climate change, data analysis, and toxicology. She is particularly interested in the application of the Clean Air Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Clean Water Act, and how populations have been disproportionately harmed under the misuse of these laws.

Harrison is a 54-year-old mother and grandmother who's lived and worked her whole life in Bayview Hunters Point. She graduated from School of the Arts and attended City College of San Francisco.

Jameel Patterson

Jameel Patterson has been in social services for 30 years. He was inspired by his mother, Barbara Patterson, who fed and ministered to the homeless for 20 years. She would bring Jameel with her when she prepared the food on Saturday and served it later in the evening. This made Jameel grow socially on a variety of levels. He would conversate with community members and homeless volunteers on a regular basis.



Jameel would meet business officials whom his mother established relationships with and consistently donated food to. This served as Jameel's weekend for 7 years.

He grew connections with the religious community because his mother's organization, The United Council of Services, was Christian based. Jameel's mother would also take him to community meetings with local city departments in attendance, like the Department of Human Services.

Today, Jameel continues to work with the homeless. He's been working in the field for 10 years as a counselor. He has helped people get SSI, welfare, housing, medical and immigration status.

His first official job was with the Coleman Advocates Youth group called YMAC. The organization paid their youth workers and trained them to become community advocates. This gave Jameel experience in the progressive and liberal world of politics. A few of YMAC's alumni currently work at city hall and some have even become politicians. While at YMAC, Jameel worked on drafting legislation, community rallies, workshops, public speaking, and outreach. He also drafted criteria for the first youth commission selection, created a youth line, and helped establish the first youth vote. He also organized rallies against police brutality alongside CNN political commentator Van Jones.

Jameel graduated high school, but never finished city college. However, while he was in college he studied administration of justice, political science and theology.

He became a peer counselor for students and worked for a student-run mentorship program that guided students on what courses suited them.

Congrats to the Talented 25!

SEIU 1021 is a diverse, member-driven union, whose members make our cities, schools, counties, and special districts safe and healthy places to work.

Our mission is to ensure that all workers have a voice in our union, workplaces, government, and communities. We are also committed to fighting for racial, economic, and environmental justice for all.

"I would like for us to acknowledge all our members who sacrificed during this pandemic to protect our communities. Our members showed up to work every day, and did their jobs no matter the risk or the sacrifice. They are some of our unsung heroes."

- Theresa Rutherford, SEIU 1021 President



Cheryl Thornton,
SEIU 1021 member



The Sun Reporter's Talented 25 List highlights African-American leaders in a variety of fields. Congratulations to SEIU 1021's member leader Cheryl Thornton who is listed alongside other established leaders who are making outstanding contributions to our community and the entire Bay Area.

Fathina Holmes



Fathina Holmes represents “The Ground Movement” in San Francisco, where she lives and works actively with her community. Ms. Holmes can be seen marching around the city pounding the pavement and providing her neighbors with access to career and job opportunities.

Fathina Holmes is a San Francisco native who has committed her life to serving disadvantaged communities of color, the reentry population, women in the construction trades, and to provide ongoing empowerment and support in workforce development.

For over 20 years, Fathina has worked with disadvantaged communities in career training, mentorship, case management, intake and retention efforts. She serves in a lead role at the Office of Economic and Workforce Development on construction training and placement efforts on high priority, impact projects throughout San Francisco. She works closely with the contractors and stakeholders on construction projects to ensure fair and equitable job opportunities and career advancement in the trades for Bayview residents and San Francisco at large.

Fathina also leads several re-entry efforts including her work within jail facilities, where she provides workforce training and brokers job opportunities for the Interrupt Predict and Organize (IPO) reentry program, and other jail initiatives. Before OEWD, Fathina worked for Young Community Developers, Inc. providing job placement and retention support for District 10 residents.

Fathina has received numerous published and unpublished accolades for the impact work she does. In 2018, she was honored and received a Phenomenal Woman in Career Development award from the A. Philip Randolph Institute. She has also received various awards and recognitions from the City and County of San Francisco and the California legislature who recognized her contribution to workforce as well to meaningful change in the Southeast and similarly situated communities.

In 2005, Fathina, as a member of the San Francisco Public Utilities Community Benefits Committee, helped create the Southeast workforce plan for the construction work currently taking place in the Southeast. Fathina currently sits on Mayor London Breed’s pre-apprenticeship committee.

Floyd W. Trammell

Reverend Floyd W. Trammell has been the Senior Pastor of the First Friendship Institutional Baptist Church in San Francisco for over 20 years. He is a graduate of Morehouse College with a Bachelor’s Degree in Religion and he has attained a Master’s of Divinity Degree from American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley, California. He is currently a Doctoral Candidate in Pastoral Care and Counseling at San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, California.

In the fall of 2008, he was guest lecturer at the University of Berkeley where he focused on the plight and progression of the Church in America.

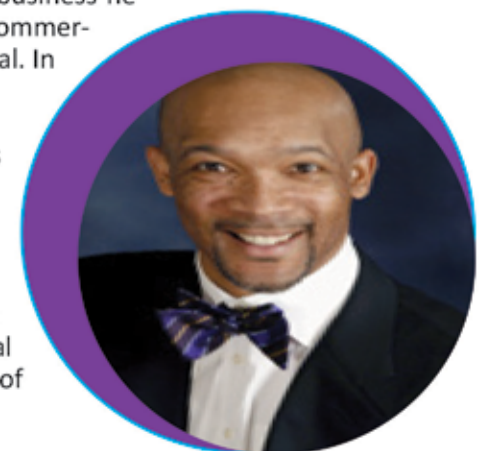
Since being licensed to preach the Gospel at the age of twelve in El Centro, California, Floyd has worked diligently to build a new, relevant, and revolutionary ministry. In 1996, he was recruited by Dr. Amos C. Brown, Pastor of the historic Third Baptist Church of San Francisco, to develop a strategic “Plan for Growth” for the young adult population of the church and community. After serving as an associate minister for Third Baptist Church, Floyd was called as the Pastor of the First Friendship Institutional Baptist Church.

As a shepherd, Floyd has led the First Friendship Church by creating a vision and mission. He has modified traditional components of the church and moved the congregation to embrace a progressive social ministry. Reverend Trammell has done extensive counseling with a diverse population throughout San Francisco. One of the milestones of his pastorate focused upon opening the doors of the church to house 50 homeless families who sleep within the church facility seven nights per week three-hundred sixty-five days a year.

Revered Floyd also holds a position as the Executive Director for the West Bay Local Development Corporation, Inc. He uses business-negotiating skills to acquire commercial tenants leasing. In addition, he provides direct management for 25,000 square feet commercial space. Furthermore, Reverend Trammell holds the position of Spiritual Care Manager for San Francisco General Hospital. In this role he directs the spiritual care services for over 107,000 patients and staff.

While Reverend Floyd has been blessed to share his gifts in ministry and community development, his greatest passion is preaching, teaching and pastoral care. Floyd was inducted into the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. International Distinguished Board of Preachers at Morehouse College. Floyd has for the last nine years served as member of the State of California Workforce Investment Board.

Reverend Floyd is blessed to share his ministry with his lovely wife of seventeen years, Dr. Kyla R. Johnson-Trammell, Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District. Dr. Johnson-Trammell is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, with a Masters in Educational Leadership from the University of Berkeley. Dr. Kyla Johnson-Trammell graduated with a Doctoral degree in Educational leadership from the University of California Berkeley. Floyd and Kyla Trammell are the proud parents of Noah Suah Trammell(14) and Naima Rebekah Trammell(12).





AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT COUNCIL

SALUTES THE LEADERSHIP OF PASTOR GERALD AGEE

HIS LEADERSHIP IS UNMATCHED. WE THANK HIM FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO ALL COMMUNITIES DURING THE COVID-19 TESTING CAMPAIGN.

OUR PARTNERS:

BLACK WOMEN ORGANIZED FOR POLITICAL ACTION (BWOPA)

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS

CA/HI NAACP

CALIFORNIA CHURCHES

- CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
- AME CHURCH
- CME CHURCH
- SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
- CALIFORNIA BAPTIST CONVENTION

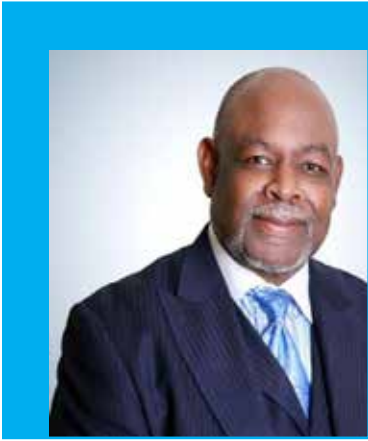
CALIFORNIA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

- GREATER LOS ANGELES AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- FRESNO METRO BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- CENTRAL SAN DIEGO BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - INLAND EMPIRE
- SAN FRANCISCO AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- OAKLAND AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- SACRAMENTO BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- CALIFORNIA BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- SILICON VALLEY BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- SOLANO COUNTY BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- MONTEREY COUNTY AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- CALIFORNIA SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
- TABERNACLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

CALIFORNIA BLACK MEDIA

- SACRAMENTO OBSERVER
- SACRAMENTO HUB
- SUN-REPORTER PUBLISHING COMPANY (SUN-REPORTER, CALIFORNIA VOICE, METRO REPORTER GROUP)
- POST NEWS GROUP (OAKLAND POST, VALLEJO POST, STOCKTON POST, SOUTH COUNTY POST, SAN FRANCISCO POST, RICHMOND POST, MARIN COUNTY POST, BERKELEY TRI-CITY POST)
- THE BAY AREA REVIEW
- SAN FRANCISCO BAY VIEW
- EAST PALO ALTO TODAY
- OBSERVER NEWS GROUP
- (BAKERSFIELD OBSERVER, LOS ANGELES NEWS OBSERVER, THE VALLEY'S NEWS OBSERVER)
- VOICE MEDIA VENTURES (BLACK VOICE NEWS, IE VOICE)
- WESTSIDE STORY NEWS
- SAN BERNARDINO AMERICAN NEWS
- INLAND VALLEY NEWS
- OUR WEEKLY - LA & ANTELOPE VALLEY
- RICHMOND PULSE
- LA SENTINEL & LA WATTS TIMES
- LA FOCUS
- INGLEWOOD TODAY

- PACE NEWS
- PASADENA/SAN GABRIEL VALLEY JOURNAL
- CARIB PRESS
- COMPTON HERALD
- SAN DIEGO VOICE & VIEWPOINT
- SAN DIEGO MONITOR
- CENTRAL VALLEY VOICE
- THE PRECINCT REPORTER GROUP (PRECINCT REPORTER, TRI-COUNTY BULLETIN, LONG BEACH LEADER)



Gerald L. Agee, Sr.

Dr. Gerald L. Agee, Sr. is the founder and Pastor of Friendship Christian Church (FCC) which began January 2, 1994 in West Oakland with approximately 25 members. He attended Rhema Bible College in Tulsa, Oklahoma where he graduated with honors in May 1993. Pastor Agee received his Bachelor and Masters degree in 1995 and 2001 respectively from Friends International Christian University.

In 2008 Pastor Agee received a Doctor of Ministry from Friends International Christian University. He is also the founder of Friendship Bible College which started in 2009 with emphasis on the principles of faith as well as a doctrinal course of study.

Dr. Agee has served as the President of the Pastors of Oakland, an ecumenical group, founded by Bishop Bob Jackson of Acts Full Gospel Church to come together and work on city issues to bring shalom to the City of Oakland. He has served as President since 2011 and has help to bridge many gaps between churches, communities, civic leaders, and businesses. Pastor Agee has faithfully and diligently worked in Oakland community

He is a family man who loves spending time with his family. He has been married to the love of his life, Alesia for 22 years. They have two beautiful children together, Marquis and Omega.

Back in 2020, Dr. Agee joined forces with Alameda County officials to launch a free COVID-19 testing site at the West Oakland Health Center. The site opened June 3rd and addressed an identified need to increase access to testing for African Americans in Oakland to fight against crime, poverty and homelessness. He has received numerous awards and commendations, including recognition from Mayor Jerry Brown and former Mayor Elihu Harris of Oakland, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Assemblywoman Wilma Chan and others.

He loves to teach the word of God with simplicity, and humor so that those who hear can easily understand apply God's principles in their lives.

He is a family man who loves spending time with his family. He has been married to the love of his life, Alesia for 22 years. They have two beautiful children together, Marquis and Omega.

Back in 2020, Dr. Agee joined forces with Alameda County officials to launch a free COVID-19 testing site at the West Oakland Health Center. The site opened June 3rd and addressed an identified need to increase access to testing for African Americans in Oakland.

Cheryl Thornton

Cheryl Thornton has roots in the deep southern states of Alabama and Georgia. During the social and economic upheavals of the 1960s, her parents migrated to California, and when Watts was destroyed following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, they moved again, landing in the Bay Area, where her father attended the UCSF Dental School.

During high school, Cheryl received an internship from the SF Department of Public Health to work in the City's Bayview District, where residents have been historically subjected to inadequate or outright lack of healthcare support. Her earlier exposure to Black disenfranchisement and a predilection for activism enabled her to connect the dots between housing, healthcare, and education, as pivotal to the emancipation of San Francisco's Black communities. Therefore, her resolve to develop communities focuses on youth.

Over the years, local activists such as Art Agnos, Enola Maxwell, and Espanola Jackson pushed tirelessly for comprehensive healthcare services to the City's Southeast sector. Yet, as access improved through various Federal, State, and local legislation, the disparity in healthcare provision remains a poignant reality in this part of San Francisco.

Cheryl remains optimistic about the impact of her continuing activism as the Vice President of the Community Health Chapter for SEIU 1021, Cope delegate for political action, and the local NAACP's Youth Council leader. In her role, she advocates on behalf of voter registration and redistricting awareness, particularly in District 10. Her recognition in the 2022 publication of Sun Reporter's 2022 Talented 25 Special Edition --is a well-deserved honor for which she is most grateful.

Cheryl continues to advocate for racial equity and the full inclusion of Black perspectives in political processes. Recently, she led a community-rooted effort to provide public comment to the City of San Francisco's Redistricting process that led to keeping historic Black neighborhoods such as Potrero Hill, Bayview, and Sunnydale together to protect Black political representation in city government.



Congratulations to the Sun-Reporter's 2022 Talented 25!!!



The Honorable Malia M. Cohen

Controller-Elect & Chair, California State Board of Equalization



Your extraordinary service and achievements is an inspiration to the Bay Area communities.

Thanks for leading us into a brighter future!