



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring (FIM) Newsletter



Fatherhood Initiative
Project Manhood

Youth Leadership Conferences
Brother, You're on My Mind! ©

Big Brothers/Big Sisters
My Brother's Keeper

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No. 2

"Quarterly Publication of the International Committee on Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring" ©

Remembering Buffalo, Uvalde, et al.: "In your Anger, do not sin; do not let the sun set while you are angry." Eph. 4:26

BREAKING NEWS: CLEO CLICKS Presents 2nd District with \$100,000 DONATION FOR MENTORING



Holding the check from L-R: Michael Wilson, Basileus, Eta Pi Chapter; Dr. Andrew Ray, 39th Grand Basileus; Matt Stevens, Donald Williams, Chairman, 2nd D-FIMC; Kendall Smalls, 36th District Representative; Ben Jefferies, 28th District Representatives; Dr. Ronald Williams, District Chaplain; and David Miller, far left Cleo Clicks funder.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT ALL INFLUENCES, WHETHER POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE, WILL AFFECT OUR LIVES!

Our goal at CLICKS, is to provide and support positive influences and worthwhile experiences in the lives of young people. Our curriculum and activities are concentrated in the areas of law, sports, health, and social justice. Civic engagement, volunteerism, scholastic improvement and achievement, social skills, and career planning are also highly encouraged in CLICKS programs. It is our hope that through the CLICKS program, students are injected with a working knowledge and understanding of how the law works so that as they become adults, they know how they are protected and can use the law to effect change in their communities. We are leaders on a mission to create leaders. (See story, page 12)

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FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND BASILEUS



Brothers,

On Tuesday, May 17, 2022, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., became the first NPHC fraternity and third Divine Nine organization to receive Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Bureau for Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)- Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Omega joins Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. as the only Divine Nine organizations to receive this distinction from the United Nations.

Special Consultative Status provides the fraternity with the following:

International recognition of the humanitarian and other significant advocacy work being done by the fraternity globally and the enhancement of our efforts around the world

Influence with global leaders and governments;

Access to ECOSOC and other United Nations subsidiary bodies

Access to possible funding sources to support work relevant to the United Nations

Access to the various human rights mechanisms within the United Nations

Access to special events organized by the President of the United Nations General Assembly

This review cycle saw 266 new applications and 320 deferred re-applications from organizations worldwide. Omega's application was approved unanimously by the Committee on NGOs, comprised of United Nations Member State diplomats representing their respective governments.

Omega's association with the United Nations through Special Consultative Status provides us with the enviable opportunity to continue our legacy of encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation; identifying solutions to global economic, social, and health problems, and promoting higher standards of living, employment, economic empowerment and social progress for communities around the world. This will significantly raise the profile of our beloved Fraternity and all of our chapters in 17 countries on 4 continents.

I thank Brother Dr. Trevor Hodge, Immediate Past 13th District Representative, and Brother William Jemison, Chief of Staff to the 41st Grand Basileus, for their steadfast commitment and dedication, since 2019, in researching and completing our application packet and in presenting our case before the United Nations Committee on NGOs. These Brothers will now serve as Omega's Representatives to the United Nations Committee on NGOs/ECOSOC.

In Friendship,

David Marion, Ph.D.

Grand Basileus

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



International Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee

See the Websites: www.omegafandm.org
www.i-ylc.org



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Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Newsletter

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Ω Keep it on!



Ω Just a little ... Ω



bit longer!!!

Happy Belated Father's Day

FATHER'S DAY IS THE ONE OPPORTUNITY we have to recognize and celebrate Fathers. This is also a time and opportunity for us to look at the role of fathers and the impact they have in the lives of their children. In particular and of critical importance is the impact they have on their young male sons. Over the past few months, I have sat in on some of the fathers open forum sessions around the country where fathers of all ages come together to discuss and share issues and concerns.

These are powerful sessions because they get inside of what fathers are thinking on how they see themselves as fathers. They also share if their father was or was not involved in their lives and the impact it had on them as they took on the responsibility of being a father.

The sessions are very therapeutic because they give fathers the opportunity to express their concerns and frustrations with an unfriendly system or they are trying to work through some relationship difficulties with the mother or they come seeking ways to have a better relationship with their children. On some occasions a tear or two is shed because of the high level of frustration they are experiencing.

I strongly suggest that periodically every chapter engage in these sessions. It's really a good activity for all of our members because it helps to relieve some of the pressure of pent up frustration. It not only helps those who are expressing themselves but those who are listening. Many fatherhood issues have been solved in these sessions



Brother Robert W. Fairchild
Fatherhood Initiative Advisor

I encourage those chapters that have engaged in these sessions to **share your experiences with other chapters**. These sessions will also help everyone better understand why our efforts as a Fraternity of men reaching out into our communities working with fatherhood and mentoring is so critical. Using the sessions as a tool in our chapters and in our communities helps to give us insight into the problems. We can and are making a difference. ///

In Friendship,

Brother Robert W. Fairchild

~~~ **NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** ~~~

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2022**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2022, Information for July, August, September, 2022**

**Our Goal: Publish Information from each District, each Quarter; Fatherhood and Mentoring Programs, Youth Leadership Conferences, Project Manhood, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Brother You're On My Mind.**

**Submit articles to: [geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net)**



## International Fatherhood Representative, Brother Thabiti Boone: Dads Matter

**N**EW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, School Officials, community organizations & NY Knicks joined together June 1, 2022 to promote student safety, academic achievement and community relations between police and community. The initiative took place in an outdoor community social mixer at New York City's Children's AID College Preparatory Charter Middle School. Also celebrated was the role and importance of Fathers. Brother Thabiti Boone, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee (FIMC) International Representative, attended as a special guest on behalf of Omega Psi Phi and NY Knicks. Children's AID College Preparatory Charter Middle School is located in one of the toughest neighborhoods in New York City.

Brother Boone was invited to participate by school Principal Dr. Robin Fleshman & Vice Principal Ms. Drema Brown. Principal Fleshman is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority and Vice Principal Brown is a member of Delta Sigma Theta (DST) Sorority.

The Charter school's annual event addressed the critical issue of community and school violence and how it impacts the safety of young people.



Brother Thabiti Boone, Inter Fatherhood Representative



Principal Dr. Fleshman, VP Ms. Brown both indicated the need for Divine 9 Fraternities and Sororities to continue working together to lift up the community and schools.

Photos 2&3 above: Police in attendance expressed their goal to maintain a trusting relationship with the community, especially among young people. In photo 3 are community leader Al Cohen, Brother Boone and community fathers.

**CHALLENGES IN OUR COUNTRY** of violence, whether in the form of mass shootings or other types of community violence, and creating safer communities that allow our children to attend school and live in their homes and neighborhoods free of violence, stress and stressors need to be continually a major priority.

In addition, promoting positive relationships between police, other law enforcement entities, schools and communities is important in *closing the gap on violence and maintaining safety*. School staff, community leaders like Mr. Al Cohen and his youth organization TCIONY (The Community Initiatives

of NY) along with 30 Police officers, had a wonderful time with the 500 students at the June 1<sup>st</sup> outdoor community mixer.

Students enjoyed Food, Snacks, Dancing, Games, Basketball and Fellowship. Police officers were *hands-on* joining in dancing and basketball activities with the young people. Brother Boone provided NY Knicks giveaway items that were well received and enjoyed by everyone.

The biggest highlight of the school/community event was the inclusion and celebration of Fathers. According to School official Ms. Shanda Holt, "We could not have an

*event without celebrating our school Father's. We wanted to do our part having an early Father's Day Celebration for them*".

In his remarks at the event, brother Boone shared, "Omega Psi Phi Fraternity has invested over 100 years impacting communities, mentoring young people, supporting fathers and men and facilitating anti violence initiatives." Al Cohen, CEO of TCIONY community youth program, said, "partnering with schools providing youth services keeps our youth on the right track."///



## PARENTING PERSPECTIVES ON **NARCISSISM**: What Kind of Adults Are We Raising?

### Brother Charles "Chuck" Clemons, M.Div.,

Board Certified Chaplain, Author\* and Lecturer  
12<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain, Board Member, Young Ambassadors  
Leadership Academy  
Omicron Mu Chapter, Chaplain

**P**ARENTING IS NOT EASY! In raising children, we must avoid extremes that may produce long-term effects on the thinking, feeling, and behaving of our children. Many children suffer from the extremes of neglect/abuse and over-praise. Absent fathers create a craving for attention (good or bad) in our children. Verbally or physically abusive fathers present a harsh, arrogant, unyielding picture of manhood to their children.

As damaging as these examples are it is deeply limiting to over-praise children to cause them to think they are superior to others; and, *that daily chores, responsibilities, and our accountability for how they play and treat others are beneath them*. This kind of parenting sets a child up to bully or dominate others and to be woefully disappointed when life doesn't go their way.

Parenting in these extremes creates a cauldron of influences that some clinicians, as well as theologians, would describe as developing the personality disorder of a narcissist. Below is a definition of this way of thinking, feeling, and behaving in life.

### DSM-5 Criteria for Narcissistic Personality Disorder<sup>1</sup>

A pervasive pattern of grandiosity (in fantasy or behavior), need for admiration, and lack of empathy, beginning by early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts, as indicated by five (or more) of the following:

1. Has a grandiose sense of self-importance (e.g., exaggerates achievements and talents, expects to be recognized as superior without commensurate achievements).

2. Is preoccupied with fantasies of unlimited success, power, brilliance, beauty, or ideal love.

3. Believes that he or she is "special" and unique and can only be understood by or should associate with, other special or high-status people (or institutions).

4. Requires excessive admiration.

5. Has a sense of entitlement (i.e., unreasonable expectation of especially favorable treatment or automatic compliance with his or her expectations).

6. Is interpersonally exploitative (i.e., takes advantage of others to achieve his or her own ends).

7. Lacks empathy: is unwilling to recognize or identify with the feelings and needs of others.

8. Is often envious of others or believes that others are envious of him or her.

9. Shows arrogant, haughty behaviors and attitudes.



Brother Charles "Chuck" Clemons, Chaplain, 12<sup>th</sup> District

The Book of Proverbs 22:6 teaches, *"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it."* This principle is true. Some may exhibit a few of these traits or all. We have witnessed national leaders who have thrived off the admiration of their constituents reflect the above tendencies. We live in a society that thrives off "Self-promotion," and "admiration." Children and adults regularly feed their pride through "selfies" and social media.

As we seek to be present and actively engaged with our children and mentor in the community, the principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift, now more than ever need to be displayed. Men of Omega, the support of Fatherhood and Mentoring initiatives seek to turn the tide of this trend and model humility, sacrifice, courage, kindness, and love to our children. The kind of leaders produced by these values will change families, communities, and a nation. ///

<sup>1</sup>Reprinted from American Psychiatric Association: *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition*. Arlington, VA, American Psychiatric Association, 2013, pp. 669–670. Copyright 2013, American Psychiatric Association. Used with permission.

\*Brother Charles Clemons, Jr., is author of, **"UNDIVIDED: A Biblical Response to What Divides U.S."**, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, 2020.





### Don't Let Them Down

by

Dr. Carl A. Blunt

**R**EDUCED CULTURAL TOLERANCE and increased racial tension continues to percolate and permeate throughout today's social climate, but for many Black folks this hostile environment is nothing new. Many of those currently serving as America's elected legislators have resorted to tactics that were initiated and utilized during reconstruction and regularly implemented until the mid-sixties.

Voter suppression, intimidation, nullification, and murder were common strategies that were systematically imposed on Blacks then, and it appears that playbook has been pulled out and opened up to again to inflict that same type of terror and control over Black people today.

Those tactics and others that were much more brutal, and savage severely hampered us but failed in extinguishing the spirit and progress of our people.

From the time laws were passed that defined human beings as property and who were deprived of basic rights held by free persons, Black males became the target of a fiendish and diabolical plot. During middle passage the kidnapped males were subjected to treatment that the enslavers hoped would cause those males to perceive themselves as inferior psychologically, spiritually, and emotionally.

The savage and abhorrent physical and psychological treatment of being helpless to protect their women from all sorts of abuse and rape, while being raped themselves was a deliberate process used in an attempt to place the Black males in a position of constant inferiority, inculcating them with subservient traits such as weakness, docility, and ignorance.

On the plantation the Black male was not considered the traditional head of the household. He was a target of ridicule and a constant victim of emasculation. The enslaved parents were not allowed to function in a family environment, they had no authority over their child and the child was not connected to the father at all. Under the American Slave Laws, the child was placed under the mother carrying her name not his. That law was referred to as *Partus Sequitur Ventrem* or translated to mean *Of The Womb*. All semblances of being a man was taken away.

Some social scientists still extol a fallacious theory that Black men are uncomfortable with being fathers based on the assumption that the physical scars from centuries of torment may no longer be visible but the psychological scars remain, mentally shackling and imprisoning many African American men today.

**THE NINETEEN SIXTIES** brought the nomenclatures of Negro and Colored as references to identify us. In the nineteen seventies the identifying names morphed into Black and Afro American but those names attached meanings as well. Negro and Colored intimated compliance, subservience, and the past while Black and Afro American represented pride, achievement, and the future.

Black people are not a homogenous group and the fact remains that many of our people still teach their children the false narrative that they must emulate white people in order to be successful. Black folks especially Black males, need to understand the rules and proclivities of the "so called" white



**Brother Dr. Carl A. Blunt**

culture to successfully navigate that world - not emulate it.

Exposing and teaching our young Black men the true history of Black male survival, adaptation, achievement, family protection and triumph in the face of over 400 years of systematic hate and racism is vital and an incumbent duty we have today as Black men. The Color of History should be a key staple in the delivery of our Fatherhood Initiative.

**A Thought:** Every morning when you wake up, remember the resiliency of the Black male and why you are here. You are the result of someone down your ancestral line who survived being shackled to others for several months in the bottom of a ship during middle passage. Someone who lost their language, customs, and traditions, worked from sunup to sundown free of charge; watched their babies being sold out from their mother's arms, and their women raped by ruthless enslavers. Lost their names, no birth certificates, fought in wars, faced the KKK, marched, jailed, and were lynched. Had property stolen and burned, ignored in history books, and stereotyped in Hollywood. Yet despite all that, we remain because they survived. ///

*As Always, Yours in Friendship & Fraternity,*

*Dr. Carl A. Blunt, an author, lecturer, and immediate past Board Chairman of the Omega Youth Leadership Academy. He also served as the 32<sup>nd</sup> First Vice Grand Basileus of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.*

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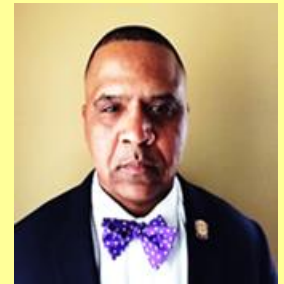
## Data and Omega

Submitted by Bro. Jerry Leftwich

Fourth District Fatherhood and Mentoring Chairman



*"In God we trust, all others bring data."* - W. Edwards Deming



Brother Jerry Leftwich

**M**ENTORING, FATHERHOOD, PHILANTHROPY, Social Action, and Community Involvement are all hallmarks of the work we do in Omega. We see evidence of this work in fraternity publications and social media feeds. Unfortunately, this work often lacks impact because it is not accompanied by data. Data is the proof that our endeavors are making an imprint on our youth and our communities.

To move Omega forward, we can no longer depend solely on dues to expand our organization and more importantly our efforts. Our fraternity is pacing to leverage the billions of dollars that are available from private, nonprofit, and government entities to assist in funding the great work we provide in the United States and abroad. Omega has assembled a team of talented grant writers to compete for the many grant opportunities that exist.

According to the Foundation Center, there are more than 87,000 foundations in the United States, which funded grants of over \$70 billion. The Future of Philanthropy reported a rising number of donors, 41%, say that grant maker transparency is an important factor in where they decide to give. This is where data is critical. Providing data to potential grantors tells our stories.

Omega leads the way in impacting our youth and our communities. However, we have done a less than stellar job of documenting and reporting our work through data. We need to change this narrative.

We have created a "basic" Google Form that can assist us in gleaning some baseline information. While we can always add additional information but choose to keep things simple. We believe that the more data points we ask for or the more complexity we seek, the willingness of Brothers to document decreases.

Please begin to use this document to help Omega measure its impact on any events that include mentoring or fatherhood-related activities. ///

**CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW:**

**The form is simple and quick to use. (Link to Form) "The goal is to turn data into information, and information into insight". Carly Fiorina – Former CEO of HP**

*"My experience and observation have convinced me that persistent asking outright for money from the rich does not, as a rule, secure help. I have usually proceeded on the principle that persons who possess sense enough to earn money have sense enough to know how to give it away, and that the mere making known of the facts regarding Tuskegee, and especially the facts regarding the work of the graduates, has been more effective than outright begging. I think that the presentation of facts, on a high, dignified plane, is all the begging that most rich people care for." (Up from Slavery, An Autobiography by Booker T. Washington)*





## *A Letter To Dad*

Dear Daddy,

I was staring at a woman in the mirror. Her reflection stares back at me, sometimes confused, sometimes confident. In her missteps, in her victories, there is a strength that cover her.

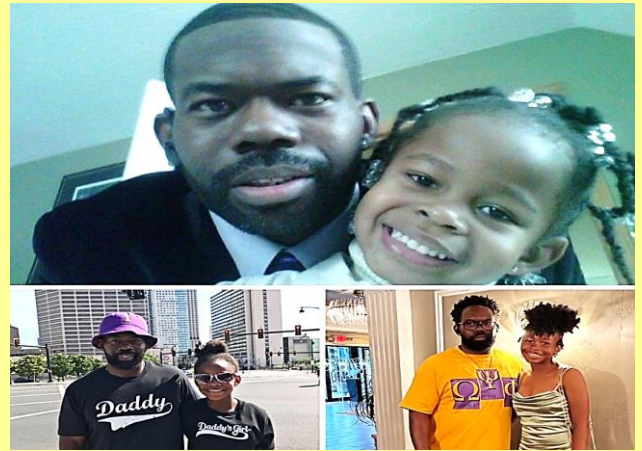
As I stare closer, in the depths of her eyes, I see you. The man that knelt to the ground to teach her about works unknown and streets all too familiar. Your example, humble and strong, showed me to how to navigate a world that seems terrifying and uncertain.

Your hard work taught me that anything is possible, that my dreams are withing arms reach, and if seems impossible, you would be there to help me build a bridge.

You held me tightly when my fears threatened to overwhelm me. In the middle of the night, your voice would reassure me, and as long you were around I knew I was safe.

I know your life has not been easy! Your dad was not there to teach you all of this. How did your find the strength? How did you know your next step? Who was there when you needed help?

Although the journey has not been kind, you have traveled this far Not only that, but you have ensured to



be that man, I could rely on. That father I needed and that you did not have.

You are the strength that covers me. The love that has taught me how to love and how to expect to be treated. The anchor that grounds me in the uncertainty. The voice, although far away reassures me, that comforts me, and encourages me.

So today, I thank you for being the daddy I so needed. I honor you, for your life well lived, for the journey you continue to walk. I asked you that you continue with me in this walk because as I become more of a woman, I will always need you, my dad. ///

Love you always  
Your Daughter

### **SEE OUR WEBSITES:**

**Sign up for the 2022 International Youth Leadership Conference at website below**

**Johnson C. Smith University**

**July 21, 2022**

**Register [HERE](#)**

**[www.i-ylc.org](http://www.i-ylc.org)**

**<http://omegafandm.org/briefing-room/fatherhood-and-mentoring-newsletter/>**



## Getting Personal: About Being A Father “1<sup>st</sup> District Virtual Call”

On Thursday, June 9, 2022, at 7:11 pm via Zoom, a second round of talks on Fatherhood was conducted in a Roundtable Talk entitled “Getting Personal About Being a Father” was presented by the Formidable First District and sponsored by the First District Fatherhood Initiative Mentoring Chairperson Brother Anthony B. Lilley.

In traditional fashion, we were led in prayer by our District Chaplain Brother Lilley. Brother Lennitt Bligen the 37th First District Representative was present for the Roundtable panel discussion and mentioned that he was pleased and happy with the Committee putting on this panel on Fatherhood.

Brother Bligen also shared his feelings on the importance of Fatherhood and gave uplifting words on the important role our Fraternity plays on being a Father. Next, there were a few words by the International Fatherhood Chairman Brother Robert Fairchild, followed

by the Immediate Past First District Representative Brother Francois Fils-Aime.

Brother Lilley served as the moderator of the panel for the roundtable panel discussion. The panel consisted of Brothers from 1995 to 2022. We are also happy to announce that there were 40 Brothers that participated in this RoundTable discussion.

The panel consisted of Brothers Charles Green Lambda Rho Chapter, James Craig Lambda Rho, Joseph Santana Tau Iota, Dre Woodbury Iota Chi, Darrell Williams Sigma Nu, and Jason Ross, Gamma Chapter. The panel participants were allowed to introduce themselves, state the number of children they have and give an opening statement before the main questions were asked.

The questions asked by Brother Lilley led to very spirited and uplifting dialog among the participants. The moderator asked for openness and transparency from all participants, which also led to a true understanding of the importance of Fatherhood. It also led to the Brothers learning from each other as well.

Terms such as “Lowering Tone,” “Let them see you” “Spending Time” and “Family Components (Roles)” were mentioned as tools to improve oneself in being a better Father.

There was also advice for Brothers who will be future fathers. The panel discussion came to an end, but could have lasted longer. However, the brothers of the First District needed to get back to their respective Father duties. Expressions of togetherness, openness, excitement for the next panel discussion, and the happiness of being able to attend such a panel discussion ruled the ending comments.

This panel discussion was what we all needed at this time, it allowed a venue to speak on firsthand experiences, share thoughts and ideas and most importantly allowed us to bond as Brothers. It also shows that there is still work, to be done, and we in the First District are up to the task. Stay tuned for the next panel discussion on Fatherhood in near future. ///

### GETTING PERSONAL ABOUT BEING A DAD QUESTIONS asked by brother Lilley on the 1<sup>st</sup> District Virtual Call

1. State your name, number of children and provide an opening statement
2. What was your relationship like with your father?
3. What's the most important thing about being a father that matters to you?
4. What is the one thing from being a father that you would pass onto your child(ren)?
5. What advice would you give to future fathers?



## Iota Chi Chapter's Brunch and Ball Program in Cambridge and Roxbury

Written by Bro. Woodberry

**Cambridge/Roxbury, MA** - The Iota Chi Chapter had a successful year with the Brunch and Ball Cambridge and Roxbury. Mentoring over 60 youth for the year, students were able to cover topics such as financial literacy, healthy habits, and hygiene, basic auto maintenance including how to safely change a tire, and also short and long-term goal setting to name a few. Students were also encouraged to bring a friend each session.

Over the year we have seen tremendous growth in this program and we have partnered with the Cambridge Police Department, The Moses Center for the Youth, and the Roxbury YMCA. After mentoring sessions and a healthy meal, students were able to participate in 3x3 tournaments and ball up with the Bruhz.

Over the summer, we will be keeping in contact with students as they begin their summer jobs and activities. Our program will start again in the Fall.

Students at Brunch and Ball Roxbury honored the Executive Director of the YMCA, Kathryn Saunders for her outstanding support and commitment to the Brunch and Ball program. At the closing ceremony, students presented her with flowers and a card. In the future, we hope to not only mentor students but take them on an HBCU tour that would expose them to college and career opportunities for people who look like them. ///



### WHAT DID KING REALLY SAY (BELIEVE):

*"I must make two honest confessions to you, my Christian and Jewish brothers. First, I must confess that over the past few years I have been gravely disappointed with the white moderate. I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in his stride toward freedom is not the White Citizen's Council or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate, who is more devoted to 'order' than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice; who constantly says: 'I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I cannot agree with your methods of direct action'; who paternalistically believes he can set the timetable for another man's freedom; who lives by a mythical concept of time and who constantly advises the Negro to wait for a 'more convenient season.' Shallow understanding from people of good will is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection."* Passage from **Letter from the Birmingham City Jail**, by Martin Luther King, Jr, April 16, 1963.

**Sign up for the 2022 International Youth Leadership Conference at website below**

**Johnson C. Smith University**

**July 21, 2022**

**Register HERE**

**[www.i-ylc.org](http://www.i-ylc.org)**





**(Continued from page 1)****74<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> District Meeting**

**The 74<sup>th</sup> Second District Meeting** was held April 28 to May 1, 2022. This was a special moment with precious memories and a wonderful celebration of excellence for more than 1,000 Omega men in attendance. The Omicron Chi Chapter and District Marshal, Brother Jiles Ship hosted the first in-person conference in two years at the Meadowlands Hilton in New Jersey.

There were many highlights, such as the election of a new leadership team, showcase of youth performing arts, stepping contest, service awards, and celebration of Brother Kevin Ampofo, the 37<sup>th</sup> District Representative for outstanding leadership during the COVID pandemic.

The Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) was sponsored by Corridor 4, Eta Pi Chapter, the recipient of the Grand Basileus 2022 FIMC award. The conference featured the topic “It’s OK Not to be OK, focused on mental wellness with a distinguish panel of professionals that shared their personal stories, coping strategies, and practical tools to reduce daily stress levels. ///

**CLEO CLICKS Donate \$100,000**

**WE ARE EXCITED TO SHARE “BREAKING NEWS”:** 2<sup>nd</sup> District Chapters were selected by **Cleo Clicks**, a national mentoring organization that provides funding for mentoring services. Cleo Clicks’ grant funder presented a \$100,000 check to the 2<sup>nd</sup> District to support a pilot initiative for District Chapters that are engaged in mentoring programs in New Jersey, Philadelphia, and Delaware.

**The challenge to the newly elected district leadership team and new Chapter Basilei will be to help increase the number of chapters with meaningful mentoring programs.**

Second District is well positioned to make a greater impact with mentoring programs targeted for dads and young people. The Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee’s (FIMC) theme is “Mentoring in the Midst of a Crisis.”

The FIMC Committee appreciates Brother Matt Stevens for his leadership and support of the Districtwide strategic vision for connecting the district to Cleo Clicks to enhance mentoring programs that impact our dads and young people. Brother Stevens provided step-by-step instructions and guidance for success, to include templates to submit accurate monthly reports on time. ///

**Co-Parenting and Joys of Fatherhood: Presence and Engagement Makes a Difference**

**MAY 3, 2022, QUES ON THE MOVE PODCAST** was about Co-Parenting from the perspective of two Dads who are raising their children to grow and glow into responsible young adults. Our guests were Mr. LaVon S. Thomas, Sr., (Omega Man) who is a father of six and Mr. Edwin Jackson a father with five young Kings. We asked both men their “why” for being in their children’s lives. Their message was: *even though you don’t live as a family under the same roof, it’s about taking ownership of your responsibility.* Dads’ consistent presence and involvement make a tremendous difference in the growth and development of children. Take-a-ways from the conversation are:

- a. Be respectful.** Recognize that each parent brings something of worth and value to the table that is important to your children’s growth and development.
- b. Love your child more than you are in pain with your child’s mother.** The child’s social and emotional well-being must be the top priority.
- c. Children ought to be involved with both parents.** Helping our young people develop self-confidence and self-esteem is important to their well-being.
- d. Be open to compromise, practicing effective communication and being consistent** with expectations in each home.

Co-parenting is not perfect. Both parents must find a way to work together in raising their queens and kings; our children’s healthy growth and development must be of paramount importance to both parents. ///



## Omega Men Uplifting Community Charter Day Weekend: Omega Men Support Historical Emory Grove Rotary Club (HEGRC)

**O**n Friday, May 20, 2022, **Historical Emory Grove Rotary Club (HEGRC)** was featured as a guest on Bobby Gales "Taking It To the Streets" segment of WHUR. The show highlighted the Community Day celebration held Sunday, May 22, 2022. Community Day was conducted in partnership with the **Black Physicians Healthcare Network (BPHN)**, and the host Emory Grove United Methodist Church in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Five Omega Men supported the first in-person gathering during **Mu Nu Chapter's Charter Day weekend**: Brothers Richard Tyler, Jeff Diggs, Shawn Wilkinson, Donald Williams, and Greg Wims. The partnership arrangement brought the community together for a fun-filled day of promoting unity. The day featured community leaders, activities for the children, and a panel discussion of relevant and timely issues including: maintaining healthy relationships as a wellness strategy; COVID-19, mental health, suicide awareness and prevention, healthcare accessibility and affordability for Blacks and people of color.

In addition, many community members took advantage of testing, screenings, and vaccine/booster shots. A free fish dinner was served and children enjoyed free ice cream. Efforts are underway to duplicate this work around the DMV.



**Pictured L-R: Brothers Shawn Wilkinson, Jeff Diggs, Richard Tyler, Charter Member initiated 3-Mu Rho-1969 in Annapolis and Donald Williams**

Brother Greg Wims, initiated December 7, 1995 as an honorary member sponsored by then Brother Grand Adam McKee. In 2017/2018, Brother Wims, the first African American District Governor of Rotary covering Central Maryland, founded the HEGRC as Rotary Governor for #7620. HEGRC is a satellite club of Montgomery Village Rotary Club. For information, click on: [www.historicemorygroverotary.org](http://www.historicemorygroverotary.org).

Brother Donald Williams, II, is a HEGRC charter member since its inception in 2017. In the first five years HEGRC has proudly served families in the community, giving time, talents, and resources to uplift the Upper Montgomery County Black community. Our prioritizes are health, education, social justice, and promoting a viable and caring community by putting *Service Above Self!* Brother Richard Tyler, a charter member of Mu Nu Chapter and key leader helped organize and

plan the community engagement event at his Church campus.

During the COVID pandemic, the Black Physicians Healthcare Network (BPHN) increased their visibility by teaming with community organizations such as HEGRC. BPHN is a culturally tailored health and wellness strategy that focuses on building a trustworthy and inclusive model for total health engagement of the Black communities in this County. BPHN providers are a multi-disciplined, multi-specialty group of physicians & health care providers. Its mission is to improve the overall health of Black people in Montgomery County, MD. For inform: <https://www.bphnetwork.org>

Support from the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity has meant much to assist communities in navigating the social emotional, educational, financial, political, and psychological challenges in the Black community. ///

**SEE OUR WEBSITES:**

**<http://omegafandm.org> & REGISTER I-YLC HERE [www.i-ylc.org](http://www.i-ylc.org)**



**DISTRICT MENTEE SPOTLIGHT – KAPPA IOTA IOTA | YOUNG MEN OF DISTINCTION**



Rickey Taylor  
YMOD Graduate of 2021

- Full time student at Old Dominion University
- Majoring in Electrical Engineering
- Service member in the United States Air Force Reserve
- Training for commission and to become a pilot

*"Within Young Men of Distinction, Kappa Iota Iota, I have learned many great lessons, met amazing people and been granted many opportunities. Young Men of Distinction is one of the main reasons I am the man I am today and the path that I pursue. Not only at school but outside of school. Mr. McKeithan works to pursue the program and be that mentor needed whenever. He motivated and pushed me even when I felt like giving up or at my lowest points. He welcomed me into his home and treated me as his own son. Mr. McKeithan was more than a mentor to me and like a father to me and even after graduating I still could rely on him and tell him anything and not be judged and given wisdom and comfort within those times. The program, Young Men of Distinction, will open many great doors, network with people you've never thought you would meet and give young men the tools, knowledge and wisdom to be great leaders within society today and build a lifetime bond."*

**Zeta Mu Mu** - On April 16, 2022, Members of Zeta Mu Mu came out to support the Ricky Walker 1st Annual Skillz Camp. Ricky Walker a former draft pick by the Dallas Cowboys and sponsor for the Tidewater Dawgs Youth Football & Cheerleading Organization. TDY Football mentors to a group of young males ages 5 years of age to 12 years old using football and physical activities to connect with children. The ZMM FI&M committee showed enthusiasm and positive energy as the encouraged kids to dig deep and persevere the many drills. During one drill Brother Stanley Payne participated in the 40-yard dash running a tortoise like 5.6 flat. Students learned new and fun drills as they get their minds and body ready for the upcoming fall season. The encouragement by the ZMM left a long-lasting impression on the kids, parents, and community.



ZMM | RW Camp | April 2022

**On June 12, 2022**, the Third District raised \$50,956.00 in its St. Jude fundraising goal for the Power of Giving 2022. St. Jude, founded in 1962, was the first fully integrated children's hospital that served young African American communities during the civil rights era. There is an exhibit at the **National Civil Rights Museum** that reflects on the 60-year legacy of defying racial inequities within healthcare, and spotlights Black leaders, staff and patients whose lives shaped and were shaped by St. Jude. St. Jude patients and their families never receive a bill for treatment, travel, housing, or food. St. Jude has achieved a 94% survival rate for ALL. Approximately 11,630 children age 14 and younger are diagnosed with cancer in the U.S. each year. One in 300 boys and one in 333 girls will develop cancer before their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday. St. Jude's research and treatments are shared throughout the medical industry. In addition, treatments invented at St. Jude have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20% to more than 80% since the hospital opened more than 50 years ago. For more information on St. Jude and the Third District's support of St. Jude's, please visit [www.3rddistrictques.org](http://www.3rddistrictques.org) and [www.stjudes.org](http://www.stjudes.org). ///





## 4<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Jerry Leftwich, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring



### 81<sup>st</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> District Meeting Fatherhood Initiative

Submitted by Bro. Steven H. Robertson, Basileus  
Zeta Kappa Kappa

One of the highlights of the 81<sup>st</sup> Fourth District Meeting was hosting a Fatherhood Initiative Warrensville Heights and Mentoring Program at Elementary School.

Led by Brother Jerry Leftwich, Program Chairman for this important program and Brother Darnell Robertson, Fourth District Marshal along with the Zeta Kappa Kappa Chapter, 20 Brothers of the Fourth District met with approximately 30 students in a continuing effort to give back to the community.

To further educate and empower our youth, discussions centered on choosing successful career paths, and focusing on positive life skills through the use of the four cardinal principles Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift.

Students were enlightened and informed by remarks from Brother Elder David L. Reliford, 4<sup>th</sup> District Representative, Brother Lamar Cole, Immediate Past District Representative and Brother Paul H. Sadler, Sr., Pastor of the Mt. Zion Congregational Church.

Brother Donald J. Jolly, II, served is Superintendent for the Warrensville Heights School District and alumnus include Brother Steven H. Robertson, Basileus of Zeta Kappa Kappa Chapter, along with 4 to 5 Brothers.

The dedication to volunteerism, service, mentoring and outstanding work of the members of the Fourth District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., continues to uplift and strengthen the Greater Cleveland community. ///

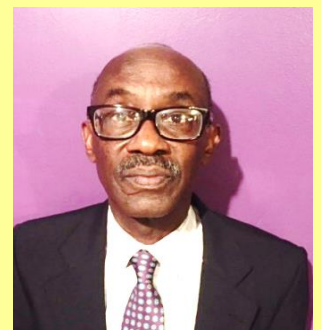
## 5<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Michael Milliner, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

### The Legendary Fifth District Fatherhood Initiative & Mentoring Committee

*THE LEGENDARY FIFTH DISTRICT under the leadership of District Representative Brother Sam McKenzie and First Vice District Representative Brother Quincy Snider continues to offer programming that promotes Fatherhood throughout the State of Tennessee and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.*

**Fifth District Youth Leadership Conference Great Success:** The Inaugural Fifth District Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) was held on April 30<sup>th</sup> and was attended by more than 75 youth ages 11-18, and other members of the community. The virtual conference entitled, "Preparing Today for Tomorrow's Success" was unique in the way it kept our young people engaged from topic to topic by awarding prizes based upon the participant's answers to topic questions. The topics for discussion included: The Unreasonable Man; The Power of Manners; Making Money Be Mo' Money (Regions Bank Workshop); To Fight or Not to Fight.

The Fifth District YLC Chair Brother Julius Hill stated, "I am very pleased with how the kids paid attention and interacted with the presenters. I know some of those kids had an experience today that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. I look forward to the committee doing even bigger and better things next year."



Brother Julius Hill  
YLC Committee Chairman

Circulation 30K+ Vol. 9

Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Newsletter

No. 2

15

Ω Keep it on!



Ω Just a little ... Ω



bit longer!!!

## Memphis Lamplighters Punch Ticket

**MEMPHIS OMEGA LAMPLIGHTER'S** Hop Team competed in the 2022 World of Step Texas Regional Qualifier Competition in Tyler, Texas. The World of Step is an organization that created a space within the dance world to celebrate the innovators and change-makers; and to highlight methods of teaching in order to embrace and celebrate the art form of Step.

The Memphis Omega Lamplighter's Hop Team competed in two routines that were placed in the 12-18 Intermediate/Advanced Solo-Duet-Trio Category. Lamplighter Christopher Vinson competed in his Hop solo titled Throwback Thursday. His solo placed overall high score in Stroll winning the "Rep your Country" Award. The second routine was a Trio Group routine titled "The Revolution." This was performed by Lamplighters Christopher Vinson, Kevon Chapman, and Marcus Scott. The Trio placed 3rd overall, and were presented with a **Golden Ticket** and an Invitation to the 2022 International World of Step National Step Competition which will be held May 21, 2022, in New York City, New York.

After the Competition, The Memphis Omega Lamplighters had the opportunity to meet and



**Lamplighters: Marcus Scott, Jordan Lee, Jahari Eskridge and Kevon Chapman**

fellowship with The Tyler Texas Omega Lamplighters and the brothers of the Sigma Omicron Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. This was an Awesome experience for the young men to bond and create long lasting friendships and share their experience of how this program is affecting their lives. We were showered with food, fun and just amazingly uplifting conversations. ///

### Fatherhood Initiative Funds Awarded

Gamma Phi Chapter of Nashville, Tennessee was the recipient of a \$5,000 award in recognition and support of Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiatives aimed at providing programs and services that celebrate and encourage effective parenting and relationship building.

The award was presented as part of the 74<sup>th</sup> Fifth District Meeting held in Louisville, Kentucky. Also, during the 74<sup>th</sup> Fifth District Meeting, First Vice District Representative Quincy Snider presented the Inaugural Fifth District Committee of The Year Award to the Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee of the State of Tennessee and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Congrats to all. ///

### Mentees Tour Science and Law Centers

As part of its Youth Mentoring Program the brothers of Gamma Phi Chapter in Nashville, Tennessee have adopted not one but two middle schools; H. G. Hill and I. T. Creswell. In the past several months these students of H. G. Hill have visited the Adventure Science Center which offers engaging learning experiences and science fun through hands-on, interactive exhibits, innovative programs, and full-dome productions in a state-of-the-art planetarium. (Pictured to the right)



**Pictured L-R: Michael Bennett, Chapter Chairman; Clarence Nabaa, Chapter Basileus; Dr. David Marion, 41<sup>st</sup> Grand Basileus; Sam McKenzie, 23<sup>rd</sup> Fifth District Representative and Michael Milliner 5<sup>th</sup> District Committee Chairman.**

Also, during this period, the students of I.T. Creswell had an experience of a lifetime visiting and observing the procedures of a Davidson County Superior Court. Each of these experiences were transformative as the Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated in the procedures of a Davidson County Superior Court. Each of these experiences were transformative as the Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated in the Fifth District continue to fulfill their obligations to lift as we climb. ///





## **It's Father's Day: A Personal Salute to a Friend** ***"In All The World"***

By Melvin L Williams, Jr.

**Rockingham, NC** = June 19, 2022 is a date that many men look forward to. It's Father's Day – a holiday that recognizes, remembers, and honors men for the work they have done to father or mentor a young person. This year, Father's Day will be filled with mixed emotions because on August 5, 2021, I lost a dear friend, brother, and mentor, James E. Clemmons, Jr. Over the years, Brother Clemmons and I shared conversations on Father's Day. If nothing more, we chose to reflect and support each other.

Brother Clemmons was a loving and supportive father and grandfather. There was nothing he wouldn't do for his son (also a brother) and grandchildren. I remember one summer he was going to Florida to pick up his grandson to help his son, who was facing some childcare issues on base. He couldn't wait to get on the road. By the time I called to see when he was hitting the road, he said he had already logged in two hours of drive time! There was nothing that was going to keep him from providing relief to his son by resolving the childcare issues.

In Matthew 24:4, we find that Jesus tells us to, "Watch out that no one deceives you." Life can throw monkey wrenches in our paths. Too often, these distractions can be the tool of the enemy forcing us to get sidetracked and take our focus from the prize, Him.

Brother Clemmons' laser focus on his faith, family, and community

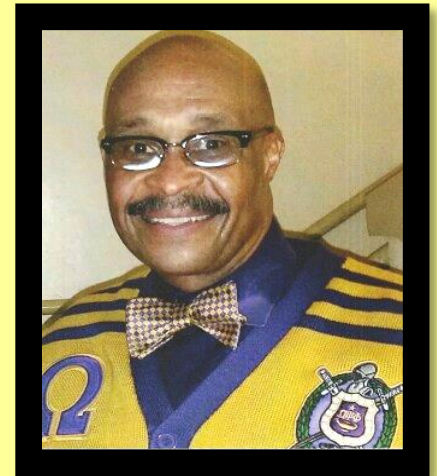
minimized distractions. Clem made sure everyone's lives were better. Clem may or may not have known the date of his earthly departure, but he made sure he treasured every opportunity he could with his son and grandson.

The past three years we have been dealing with COVID and its effects on our everyday lives. There are few things I learned during COVID:

1. The time I spent in these different organizations doing what I call busy work was shut down by COVID and the busy work wasn't even missed.
2. Working from home and the time spent with my wife, Priscilla, made me look at life totally differently. COVID helped me to see and understand what was/is important in my life.
3. What's my true spiritual makeup.
4. What does "doing more" look like and is it worth it?

Also, I thought a lot about my purpose in life the past few years. Clem knew his purpose and what being a servant to others meant. Clem invested his energy in serving others. Those that knew Clem will attest to his loyalty as a friend, as a brother, and his commitment to selflessly helping others.

As I reflect on Clem's life and what he meant to me and so many others, I will direct them to read Matthew 25 in its entirety. Clem was sent here by our Lord and Savior to be a servant and he served others with



**Brother James E, Clemmons, Jr.**  
**Omega Man Laid Low**

class, passion, understanding. He served from his heart.

After reading this article, I hope that every brother, will start planting seeds not only in the lives of their inner circle but do as Mark 16:15 tells us. "Go into all the world." Clem did this up until the last day he was here on this earth.

At his homegoing service, speaker after speaker shared their relationships with Clem and spoke of their conversations. Every conversation included the same question, "How are you and the family doing? Just checking on you to make sure that you were ok and didn't need anything". Serving and sharing throughout Richmond, Wake, and Hoke Counties as well as other places across the country shall remain one of his greatest legacies.

A Servant to Mankind but a friend to many. Serve on my Brother! ///





## Sixth District 2022 Father of the Year - Mr. Andrew Brown, Jr.

**Greenville, SC** = The Mighty Sixth District hosted its 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Greenville, SC and for the 8<sup>th</sup> year, the district honored a man with the Father of the Year award. This year's winner was Mr. Andrew Brown, Jr. who is a proud father of two sons Byrum and Davis, and the husband of his lovely wife, Nicole.

In a letter of recommendation for Mr. Brown, Mrs. Lassiter, a retired Rolesville High School Principal wrote, "*Anyone who knows Drew knows how much he loves his family and cares about other people. His compassion genuinely drives him to help students have their place within the school community. Also, Drew understands that the reason he pours himself into the work is not*

*only to support his sons but all the student athletes as the booster club president. He knows the athletes personally and is quick to speak to them, give them a high five or even one of his incomparable bear hugs. He serves as an incredible model of love, a fatherly love that extends far beyond his immediate family of four but also to the 'Family' at Rolesville High School".* The full-page letter spoke to all character looked at for this award.

After reading all of the letters of recommendation, it was clear that the 2022 Mighty Sixth District Father of Year could only be Mr. Andrew Brown, Jr. For this recognition, Mr. Brown received a plaque, a gift basket, a \$100 cash prize, and two tickets to a Carolina



L – R: Mr. Andrew Brown, Jr, Mrs. Brown, Brother Melvin L. Williams

Panther home football game of his choosing. The Mighty Sixth District congratulates Mr. Andrew Brown, Jr. as the 2022 Father of the Year. ///

## Mighty Sixth District Fatherhood/Mentoring Program of the Year

**Cary, NC** = Xi Mu Mu Chapter's Golden Knights Mentoring Program was recognized as the mentoring program of the year for the Mighty Sixth District. The Golden Knights Mentoring Program was started just six years ago and has made an impact in Wake, Lee, and Johnston Counties.

The goal of the program is to uplift young African American males to their fullest potential. The Brothers of XI Mu Mu Chapter serve as mentors and youth leaders in their service area. With a large part of the chapter's service areas considered rural, the importance of these young men seeing professional men of color serving role models is vital. The Golden Knight's Mentoring Program is associated with and funded by Noble Aspiration Foundation 501(c)3, which was established by the Xi Mu Mu Chapter to help uplift the community.



The Golden Knights Mentoring Program has been designed to address the academic, social, and community issues that students are confronted with daily. The program is designed for students to work independently and collectively in cooperative learning circles with selected tutors, mentors, and expert professionals from members of the Xi Mu Mu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. ///



## **7<sup>TH</sup> District - 2022 Youth Mentee High School Senior Graduates Salute**

The 7th District - Fatherhood Initiative and Youth Mentoring Committee is honored to salute our Class of 2022 - Youth Mentee Senior High School Graduates from across the great states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi. On behalf of the 7<sup>th</sup> District Council, we wish our graduates continued success in their selected university/college, military and profession of choice.

We salute the 7<sup>th</sup> District Family Village, State/Local Chapter Youth Mentoring Chairmen, Omega Brothers, Parents and our many Community Partners for committed service in mentoring our Youths to succeed in life. The 7<sup>th</sup> District continues to pray and provide guidance for their continued development as young men, and academic scholars entering into their freshman year of college in the Fall of 2022 and/or chosen profession. ///

Submitted in part by: Sigma Phi Chapter - AL, Beta Mu Nu Chapter - AL, Lambda Alpha Alpha Chapter - FL, Chi Omega Chapter - FL, Upsilon Psi Chapter - FL, Psi Mu Nu Chapter - FL, Zeta Beta Beta Chapter - GA & Beta Pi Chapter - FL.



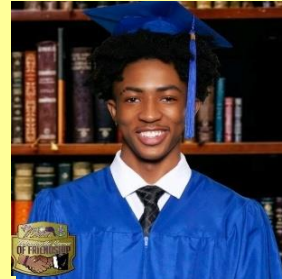
**Garyan Finch, L.A.M.P.S**  
Zeta Beta Beta - GA  
Gainesville High School  
Lanier Technical College



**Jabazz Carruth, L.A.M.P.S**  
Zeta Beta Beta Chapter  
Gainesville High School  
U.S. Navy



**Demetrius Brown -**  
Salutatorian  
Uplift in Action Mentee  
Psi Mu Nu Chapter - FL  
Bridge to Success Academy  
Savannah State University



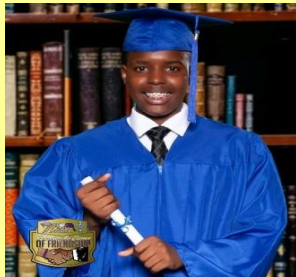
**Kamarian Banks**  
Uplift in Action Mentee  
Psi Mu Nu Chapter - FL  
Bridge to Success Academy  
Trend Setter's B&B School



**Cortlan Davis**  
Uplift in Action Mentee  
Psi Mu Nu Chapter - FL  
Bridge to Success Academy  
Full Sail University



**Robert Lawton**  
Uplift in Action Mentee  
Psi Mu Nu Chapter - FL  
Bridge to Success Academy  
Military / Firefighter



**Tramell Nelson**  
Uplift in Action Mentee  
Program, Psi Mu Nu Chapter  
- FL, Bridge to Success  
Academy, Florida State Coll



**Le'Marcus Bonner**  
Omega Lamplighters  
Lambda Alpha Alpha  
Chapter - FL  
Atlantic High School  
St. Thomas University



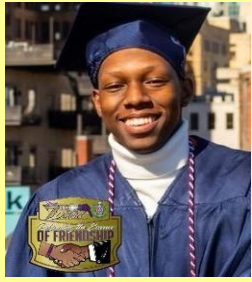
**Caleb Burk**  
Lamplighter Youth Group  
Omicron Tau Chapter -  
FL Lincoln Park Academy  
Indian River College/FL  
Tech



**ShunDrea Bagmon**  
Black Rhinos Mentoring  
Beta Mu Nu Chapter -  
AL Shades Valley HS  
Auburn University







**Christian J. Brown**  
Black Rhinos Mentoring  
Beta Mu Nu Chapter - AL  
Cornerstone High School  
Troy University



**Micah Small**  
Black Rhinos Mentoring  
Beta Mu Nu Chapter - AL  
Calera High School  
United States Navy



**William Lankford**  
Black Rhinos Mentoring  
Beta Mu Nu Chapter - AL  
Pelham High School  
Elon University



**Kennedy Holland**  
Omega Sparks Mentoring  
Sigma Phi Chapter -AL  
Evangel Christian Academy  
Alabama A&M University



**Marsalis Whitfy**  
Omega Sparks Mentoring  
Sigma Phi Chapter- AL.  
Auburn High School  
Ventura College, CA.



**Kyle Fannin**  
Omega Sparks Mentoring  
Sigma Phi Chapter - AL  
Robert E. Lee High  
School, Montgomery  
Treholm Tech



**James E. Lovejoy II**  
Omega Sparks Mentoring  
Sigma Phi Chapter - AL.  
Dr. Henry A. Wise Jr.  
Upper Marlboro, MD  
Xavier University



**Christopher Morgan**  
Manhood Youth  
Development Foundation  
Beta Pi Chapter - FL  
Gainesville High School  
Santa Fe College / FAMU



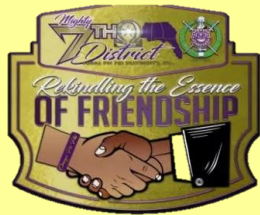
**Jacques Daniels**  
Manhood Youth Development  
Foundation  
Beta Pi Chapter - FL  
Sante Fe High School



**Rei Hines Jr.**  
Manhood Youth  
Development Foundation  
Beta Pi Chapter - FL  
Gainesville High School



**Nyquan Hook-Morris**  
Manhood Youth  
Development Foundation  
Beta Pi Chapter - FL  
P.K. Younge High



**Antoine Mack**  
Manhood Youth  
Development Foundation  
Beta Pi Chapter - FL  
Buhholtz High School



**Amari Thompson**  
Omega Lamplighter  
Youth Group  
Chi Omega / Upsilon Psi  
Robert F. Munroe HS  
FAMU



**Amontre Pollock**  
Omega Lamplighter  
Youth Group  
Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi  
Tallavana Christian HS  
TCC



**Darell Williams**  
Omega Lamplighter  
Youth Group  
Chi Omega / Upsilon  
Psi Chapter  
FAMU DRS HS  
TCC







**Jabari Johnson**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Lincoln High School**  
**TCC**



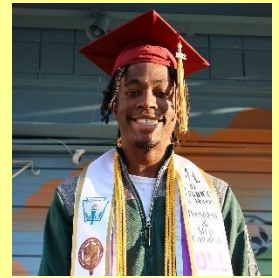
**Jamari Gunn**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Robert F. Munroe HS**  
**UNF**



**Jared Grier**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Godby High School**  
**TCC**



**Gabe Nance**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Rickards High School**  
**FAMU**



**Jaylen Ezekiel**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**FSUS/TCC AA**  
**FAMU**



**Jeremiah Williams**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Robert F. Munroe HS**  
**Langston University**



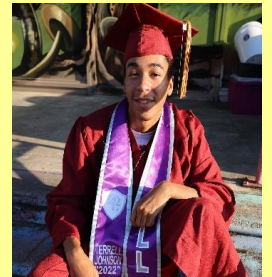
**Jordyn Nelson**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon**  
**Psi FSUS HS**  
**FAMU**



**Joshua Robertson**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Lincoln High School**  
**Thomas University**



**Joshuwa Coleman**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Rickards High School**  
**TCC/FAMU**



**Terrell Johnson**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**FSUS HS TCC**



**Kaleb Jones**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Rickards High School**  
**BCU**



**Rodney Henry II**  
**Omega Lamplighter Youth**  
**Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Lincoln High School**  
**TCC**



**Ryan Henry**  
**Omega Lamplighter Youth**  
**Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Lincoln High School**  
**TCC**



**Zaire Boone**  
**Omega Lamplighter**  
**Youth Group**  
**Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi**  
**Rickards High School**  
**TCC**






## 2021 - 2022 Seventh District Fatherhood Initiative & Youth Mentoring Service Awards


On behalf of the 7<sup>th</sup> District Fatherhood Initiative and Youth Mentoring Committee, we are happy to salute our 2021-2022 FIMC Service Award Winners. Also, we salute all our Local Chapters/Brothers for their valued time and commitment to carry out Fatherhood Initiatives and Youth Mentoring

projects throughout the many local communities within the State of Florida, Alabama, Georgia & Mississippi. Submitted by: Bro. Jonathan Gaines – 7<sup>th</sup> District Chairman ///

**Father of the Year**  
Small Graduate Chapter




Bro. Quavante McGregory  
Iota Omicron Chapter  
Clarksdale, MS




2021- 2022 Fatherhood Initiative and Youth Mentoring Service Award

**Father of the Year**  
Large Graduate Chapter





Bro. / Colonel Tony Reyes  
Eta Nu Chapter  
Pompano, Florida





2021- 2022 Fatherhood Initiative and Youth Mentoring Service Award

**Fatherhood Initiative**  
Small Graduate Chapter of the Year



Nu Xi Chapter - Natchez, MS

**Fatherhood Initiative**  
Large Graduate Chapter of the Year

Chi Gamma Gamma Chapter - Marietta, GA

**Youth Mentorship**  
Small Graduate Chapter of the Year

Lambda Tau Chapter - Brunswick, GA

**Youth Mentorship**  
Large Graduate Chapter of the Year






Beta Rho Chapter - Itta Bena, MS

**Fatherhood Initiative and Youth Mentorship**  
Undergraduate Chapter of the Year




Upsilon Psi Chapter - Florida A&M University

**Fatherhood Initiative and Youth Mentorship**  
Statewide Organization of the Year

State of Georgia - Bro. Marvin Broadwater, Sr. / FIMC State Chairman

## Mississippi Gulf Coast Omega Lamplighters





## Mother to Son Brunch



On April 30, 2022 the Mississippi Gulf Coast Omega Lamplighters Hosted their first event dedicated to the mothers of the Gulf Coast. The event was attended by over 150 mothers, fathers and sons. The guest were entertained by Brother George “Chuck” Patterson (PE2000) and were given words of wisdom by Brother Reverend Cory Watts (YE 97).

The event was catered by local restaurant and caterer Brick and Spoon. Each Lamplighter took responsibility for the presentation of the welcome, purpose, introductions, and introduction of guest speaker. The speaking highlight was a rewrite of the poem “Mother to Son” by the Lamplighters. ///

## Psi Kappa Kappa Chapter Que Closet: Semi Annual Clothes Drive

Submitted by: Bro. Albert Woods - Huntsville, Alabama



**Madison, AL** – The Brothers of PKK participated in its semi-annual clothing drive known as the Que Closet on April 16, 2022. The Que Closet was held at the Calvary Hill Community Center located at 2900 Fairbanks Street, Huntsville. Que Closet provides new or nearly new, contemporary, seasonal apparel, shoes, and accessories to families in the Huntsville community. Clothing items were solicited, donated, and collected from members of the PKK Chapter.

The community center provides social and recreational activities for youth and adults. Que Closet

empowers men and women by providing quality attire to aid adults and students in their professional, school, and personal life. During this inaugural event, the chapter was able to contribute to 17 families and give over 250 items of clothing and shoes to residents of the Calvary Hill community which is synonymous with the 10<sup>th</sup> Calvary Regiment of the Buffalo Soldiers. Calvary Hill or 10<sup>th</sup> Calvary Hill is named for the location of the 10<sup>th</sup> Calvary Division encamped in Huntsville, AL following their service in the Spanish-American War. //

## Spring Break “The Road Trip”

**Fort Rucker, AL** – The young Men of Manhood Youth Development Foundation (MYDF) road tripped during their Spring Break to these historic sites: The Equal Justice Initiative Center & the Legacy Museum,

Montgomery Alabama, 16<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church, Birmingham, AL, MLK Museum & Loraine Hotel, Memphis, TN. This trip started off in Florida and passed through or visited Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee.





We travel approximately 1,500 miles. What an awesome and informative trip. Their lives will not be the same due to the vast amount of knowledge they received and will be sharing with their peers. The first stop on the trip was Fort Rucker, AL, Military base where the young Men were able to interface with Warrant Officers training to be helicopter pilots. They learned of some of the most potent helicopters in the skies, namely the Apache. They also learned basic procedures of conduct when on U.S. Military bases.

After Fort Rucker we departed for Montgomery, Alabama. We toured the Equal Justice Initiative Center and the Legacy Museum which depicts Black lives from enslavement to mass incarceration. After lunch we

departed for Memphis, TN., where we complete tours of the MLK Museum and the Lorraine Hotel. The next stop was to stop in Birmingham, Alabama where we visited 16<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church where the lives of four little African American girls were claimed. ///



### **“Tie For Your Future”**

Submitted by: Bro. Bryant C. Cline - Beta Mu Nu Chapter of Calera, AL



During the second quarter of our fraternity fiscal year, Beta Mu Nu Chapter participated with the Lifting as We Climb Foundation (LAWCF) mentoring session for the Black Rhinos of Alabama Mentoring Program. During this session titled, “Tie for Your Future”, the mentees at Pinson Valley and Clay-Chalkville High Schools were provided the importance of tying a tie and how this level of professionalism will help them during their future careers and life.

Neckties have always symbolized nobility, honor, and leadership. Each mentor was assigned a group of mentees to practice this skill. By the end of the session, mentors notice a new confidence in each of the mentee’s face. With this education and new skill, these young men are already looking the part towards a brighter future. ///

### **“The Power of Effective Communication”**

Submitted by: Bro. Bryant C. Cline - Beta Mu Nu Chapter Calera, AL

During this session, mentees at Fairfield Preparatory High School were trained on the importance of effective communication. Effective communication skills are fundamental to success in many aspects of life. Many jobs require strong communication skills. People with good communication skills also usually enjoy better



interpersonal relationships with friends and family. Effective communication is therefore a key interpersonal skill and learning how to improve your communication has many benefits. ///



## Importance of Conflict Resolution

IN TODAY'S MODERN SOCIETY, violence in schools is too often a headline in the national news. Whether it is fighting, bullying, weapons, or drugs, our youth are exposed to far greater threats with the use of social media. The brothers of Beta Mu Nu and the Black Rhinos of Alabama mentoring program had the opportunity to educate a group of teenage males at Bessemer High School on the positive impact conflict resolution can have on their personal lives and within their community. ///

## Mentoring and Career Development



**Macon, Ga** – On June 15, 2022, the following members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., participated in the “Mentoring and Career Development” initiative. The program was held at the Glorious Hope Baptist Church, 3805 Napier Ave Macon, Ga.

The following brothers were in attendance, George Dixon, Jermaine Rountree, Paul Kelley, Rondell Davis, Joe Dupree, Phillip Brown, and Sam Reid. A select number of Brothers conducted brief presentations of their career choices as shown below:

Phillip Brown – The benefits of being a Firefighter in Bibb County. He discussed the importance of saving lives, being respected in the community, salary, benefits, and how rewarding it feels to help the community.

Paul Kelley – His first career as a licensed professional plumber, and his call to Preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He also discussed the

benefits of salary, studying the Word of God, and how fulfilling it feels to share the “good news of Jesus Christ”.

Rondell Davis – The benefits of being a United States Marshall. He spoke about the duties of a U.S Marshall, from apprehending criminals to protecting Judges and other government officials. He also pointed out the benefits such as salary, medical, and most of all making sure our country is a safe place to live.

Joe Dupree – Spoke about how rewarding it is to be able to serve the community and High School he attended. Coach Dupree is the Head coach and Athletic Director at South-West High School in Macon Ga. He pointed out that doing what you love is very rewarding and it does not feel like work because he is doing what he loves - serving the kids of Macon, Ga through coaching and mentoring.

The program lasted from 11 am until 1 pm. After the brothers spoke to the youth, the remaining brothers, Rountree, Dixon, and Reid partnered with the speakers and participated in a question-and-answer session where kids asked questions that included learning what it takes to pursue the career field that interest them the most.

The brothers also stressed the importance of education as being the foundation of a solid career. The mentees and the brothers exchanged contact information as well as confirmed a follow-up session that will be held in the second week of July 2022. The total man-hours for the session were 14 hours. And the below goals were achieved.

Creating opportunities and mentoring relationships with the kids give us a way to guide them in achieving their goals and show that there are successful people who look like them. There are benefits to gaining education and hard work. ///





## 8<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Alton Guidry, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

### Celebrating Our Omega Squire Young Men Milestone in Life: Supporting Our Community

**Upsilon Omega Chapter** had several Omega Squires that graduated from high school. We want to take the time to highlight their accomplishment and share what their plans are for the near future.



**Keith Jones** – Graduated Hazelwood Central. He will attend North Carolina A&T University; major, Accounting & Economics.



**Kacey Townser** – Graduated Hazelwood West. Will be joining the Marines to help protect our nation.



**Caelan Wilson** – Graduated North Tech, Accepted in Boeing Training Program. Will start career at Boeing, Tech University. July 2022.



**Kaden York** – Graduated Sullivan High School. Will be attending Arkansas Tech University.



**Mason Wright** – Graduated, Francis Howell North. Will attend Lincoln University, MO; major: Communication. Recruited to join the golf team.

**UPSILON OMEGA SQUIRES** participated in the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Annie Malone May Day Parade with the men of Upsilon Omega Chapter. Our participation helps the organization to alleviate children and families' immediate crisis and offer emergency food, shelter, clothing, education, and therapy with our donations. It also helps to educate Omega Squires in 9 Historic Black Neighborhoods - their influence in shaping the American culture.

As the Upsilon Omega Squire Mentorship Program continue to grow and evolve around the needs of today's youth, we want to continue to educate them on their black history. It is important that our youth have some knowledge of the past, understand who they are and have some knowledge of what they can become.

We focused on 9 historic black neighborhoods and their influence on the American culture. This was an interactive reading and discussion that allowed the Squires to read aloud short articles and having the opportunity to ask questions. Some of the historic neighborhoods studied included Greenwood (Oklahoma's Black Wall Street), Harlem, New York, U-Street, Washington D.C., and the Fourth Avenue District, Birmingham, Alabama just to name a few. We were excited to see our undergraduate and graduate brothers in attendance. This is something we are asking all brothers to do so that our young men can continue to see professional men who look like them. ///

Brother Darren Keith Henderson, (Omicron Sigma Spring 2006)  
Upsilon Omega Squires Youth Mentorship Program Co-Chair  
8<sup>th</sup> District Budget Committee Member  
Upsilon Omega Foundation Board Member – Ways & Means

\*\*\*\*\*

### Eighth District Father of the Year

Submitted by Brother Alton Guidry



The 8<sup>th</sup> District would like to honor Father of the Year for Mu Nu Nu Chapter, brother Jonathan Jones. Brother Jones is heavily involved in his kids' lives. He is a foster parent and sponsors and coaches several youth basketball teams. Brother Jones is also assisted by Brother Christopher Williams of Mu Nu Nu. ///

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## 9<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Sedric Myers, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring



**THE OMEGA GENTS OF MU MU NU** North Houston Ques ended the 2021-2022 school calendar year with a bang. On behalf of the Omega Gents, we are proud to say that we congratulated, celebrated, and gifted four young men who are now high school graduates. The following are the names of our graduates; Malcolm Hubbard, Jr., (attending Morehouse College), Daylon Manuel (attending Houston Baptist Univ.), Aareyn Thomas (U.S. Marines), Delrick Williams (attending North American Univ.). We congratulate these young men and pray that God will lead, guide, direct and protect them! ///

### Mu Nu Nu Blood Drive

On Saturday, June 11, the Omega Gents of Mu Mu Nu partnered and participated in the 2022 Charles R. Drew Blood Drive. The Houston Coalition of Omega's gave the responsibility of hosting the blood drive to Mu Mu Nu Chapter.

The Chapter's Health Initiative Committee planned, organized, and facilitated a worthy and successful event. At the end of the day 37 brothers of MMN came to work, and 17 Omega Gents participated as well. Our main achievement was facilitating the collection of 28 pints of blood from 30 donors. Initially, we were told not to expect more than 10 donors.

As the Chairman of the Omega Gents, I congratulate our Health Initiative Chairman and co-chairmen Brothers Cornelius Allen, 09' and Terence Brown, 22' for their leadership and engagement. JOB WELL DONE. RQQ! ///



### SEE OUR WEBSITE:

**Sign up for the 2022 International Youth Leadership Conference at website below**

**Johnson C. Smith University**

**July 21, 2022**

**Register HERE**

**[www.i-ylc.org](http://www.i-ylc.org)**



## Fatherhood Initiative



**THE FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE TEAM**, led by Brothers Le'Marc Holcombe and Alan Thompson conducted an interview via Zoom with Mr. Brandon Jernigan on April 21, 2022.

Mr. Jernigan is originally from Los Angeles, CA. He presently serves as a Supervisory Contracting Specialist, Chief, Space & Product Support Contracting Branch, with the Cryptologic & Cyber Systems Division, Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA) – Lackland Air Force Base, TX. Brandon is also the proud recipient of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (Psi Alpha Chapter) Father of the Year for 2021.

During the interview, Mr. Jernigan conveyed that one of the most difficult moments he experienced as a dad was when his Air Force wife was deployed from 2012-2013 and having to serve in the role of single parent with three children. He had to carry all the weight, learning how to do his daughter's hair, get them all to school daily and ensuring he was able to get his oldest into college. The experience made him stronger, and he deeply appreciated having his wife in his and the children's lives.

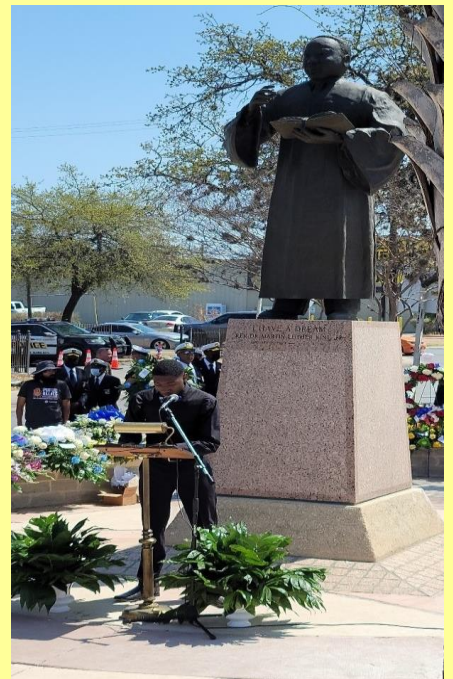
On Tuesday, May 3, 2022, the FI team mobilized the Devine 9 (D-9) leadership and several other guests to Cleft of the Rock Church (San Antonio, TX) to receive a presentation by the Workforce Solutions Alamo on the "San Antonio Ready to Work (RTW)" program. The RTW is an educational and job placement program focused on helping thousands of San Antonians improve their quality of life and their respective households. If you have any eligible fathers, mother and youth out there, please have all eligible individuals click on the link below and register now: <https://readytoworksa.com/> ///

## Omega Gents

**San Antonio, TX** – On April 3, 2022, Omega Men and Omega Gents of Psi Alpha attended the 2022 Martin Luther King, Jr., Wreath Laying Ceremony at MLK Plaza, San Antonio. The wreath laying was done in lieu of the MLK March and attended by distinguished guest such as: Mayor Ron Nirenberg, Mayor Mary Dennis of Live Oak, and City Councilmen.

After some spectacular singing and remarks from guests, Omega Gent Tyler Hardaway, Junior at Judson high school, introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Carey H. Latimore. Dr. Latimore is an Associate Professor of History at Trinity University where he is co-director of African American Studies and past Chair of the History Department. He is author of: **The Role of Southern Free Blacks During the Civil War Era; The Life of Free African Americans in Richmond, Virginia 1850-1876; and The Unshakeable Faith: African American Stories of Redemption, Hope, and Community.**

Dr. Latimore's remarks were directed on how far black people have come in American history since the enslavement of Africans. His message to the audience is that we have much more to do to achieve the equality we desire. The same message was stated by Mayor Ron Nirenberg. The message was well received by the guests in attendance and the Wreath Laying was completed by several local and national organizations. ///





## The Eight Annual: Marcus Sheppard Sr. Omega Men and Friends Offshore Fishing Trip

**June 11, 2022**, the fishing trip started as an excursion for a small group of Omega Men who loved fishing. With the leadership of Marcus Sheppard, Sr., and the persistence he conveyed, his vision - *making the fishing trip a reality and an annual event* - was achieved.

Brother Sheppard, Sr., said he had a dream to charter a fishing boat and make the trip a bonding opportunity for fathers and sons to generate precious memories in alignment with the Father's Day Weekend. The Father and Son Fishing trip was born in 2014. Over the years, the trip would become a day spent fraternizing with men of Omega, their selected friends, significant other, sons, daughters, and grandchildren or just having an enjoyable fishing time.

A twelve-hour deep-sea charter, the **Texsun 2** seating 55, was booked. From Pier 19 in Galveston, the Texsun 2 traveled approximately 60 miles offshore in the Gulf of Mexico for Red Snappers. Along with playing cards and dominoes, fish stories could be heard in the air-conditioned cabin. The longest Red Snapper and Non-Red Snapper contests were held. **Brother Sedric Meyers (Nu Phi Chapter) caught the longest Red Snapper and won \$150 cash; Brother Andre Ceasar (Theta Chi Chapter) caught the longest non-Red Snapper fish and won \$125 cash.** At the end of the day, everyone (*even the few that didn't gain their sea legs*) left the boat with two nice-sized Red Snappers and a lot of memories for years to come. ///



## 10<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Cyrill Weems, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

### 10<sup>th</sup> District Undergraduates Welcome Special Guest

**Detroit** – During a time when the spotlight is supposed to be on their own successes and achievements, the 10<sup>th</sup> District undergraduates unselfishly share some of their time to acknowledge a special group of young men at the Undergraduate Luncheon.

The **37<sup>th</sup> Tenth District Representative Derrick Ivory** offered the opportunity for the local metro Detroit area chapters to invite mentees from their mentoring programs to attend the undergraduate luncheon to experience an environment where African American males in college are acknowledged for their academic and civic achievements. Fortunately, 6 young men, varying in grades 8 thru 12 were able to attend.







The young men got a lot more than just seeing the undergraduates acknowledged for their achievements. They were afforded the opportunity to be in a room with over 200 professional black men in suits and working on one accord, an environment that none of the mentees had been in before. They also had the opportunity to

learn business attire guidelines and dinner table etiquette, which will help them now, and, in the future. Last, the young men had the esteemed pleasure to meet and take a photograph with Brother **Ricky Lewis, our First Vice Grand Basileus and District Representative Ivory**. ///

### 10th District Host Timely YLC

As youth in the communities begin to re-engage into everyday society from the **Covid-19** Pandemic isolation, they unfortunately need to be reminded of the challenges and dangers of encountering law enforcement. Sadly, **“The Talk”** is still a required part of our African American lives. Our young men are maturing to the ages where they will begin to drive and hang out with friends unaccompanied and unsupervised by the responsible adults in their lives.

The 10<sup>th</sup> District Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee (FIMC) hosted its Spring 2022 Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) for young men in the 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grades. The topic of discussion was “Encountering Law Enforcement: Learning the Do’s and Don’ts”. This topic is not new. It is, however, extremely timely, as the deadly cases for this demographic of young males encountering law enforcement has begun to rise again.

The YLC was attended by youth within the 10th District (Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana) as well as youth from Alabama, Ohio, Virginia and Georgia. The attendees also included Parents, Teachers and Omega men. Bro First Vice Grand Basileus Ricky Lewis attended and provided encouraging words to our young men. The presentation was structured to provide the attendees the with the

understanding of the rights and expectations of law enforcement as well as the rights and mindfulness that the detainee should be aware of.

We invited two speakers with one presenting the police perspective and the other providing the legal perspective from the eyes of the civilian. One of our guest speakers, Brother Hoard, a Chicago Police Officer, provided the officers perspective on what the average officer is trained to pay attention to when making stops. He also helped our young men identify when they may be in a “no win” situation with an officer and how to act accordingly. Our other guest speaker, Mr. Dramon Foster - “a Lawyer”, provided our attendees with details of their legal rights during a stop and when to leverage or abort their rights.

The resounding lessons our young men took away from the discussion were:

- (1) They realized they have rights during a stop and what some of the rights are.
- (2) There may be situations where the main focus of the stop for them is to **“comply to survive the stop”**, regardless of whether they believe they are being wrongfully treated at the time of the stop. Congratulations to the 10<sup>th</sup> District FIMC on another great Youth Leadership Conference! ///



## From the Omega (Mentee) Academy ... to Omega Man

**Southfield, Michigan** - In 2019 a young man was signed up for the Omega Psi Phi mentoring program started and run by the Tau Kappa Kappa Chapter in Southfield, Michigan called O.M.E.G.A Academy (One Man Eager to Get Ahead). This young man was in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, very well-mannered and seemed open to the idea of being a part of a group mentoring program.

He was in a single parent home due to the loss of his father in prior years. With the many challenges in this young man's life, he remained respectfully focused on following his mother's request to be in this mentoring program. He was one of nearly 40 mentees in the program that year. He had no in-depth understanding of Omega Psi Phi when arriving to the program.

As the school year moved forward, he learned more about developmental topics on Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift. He took well to the mentorship and leadership efforts provided to him through the program. He also had a chance to observe the bonds and friendship between the mentors while they worked with the mentees on the many topics each week.

He graduated from high school and transitioned to college during the Covid-19 Pandemic. During this period in his life, the mentors remained in touch with him and made themselves available as a resource to support his success.

He began his collegiate career at Morehouse College in a virtual capacity with sights set on a Medical Degree. His first year was a success finishing with a B+ average.

In April 2022, **Christian Kimble** became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He was initiated into the fraternity at Psi Chapter and was the 9<sup>th</sup> in his MSP group.

We are excited and proud to have our mentoring efforts support a productive young man, a college student, with many years to make a positive impact at the college level and many more as a post-college member of the fraternity. We are proud to welcome Christian (9-Psi-2022) to the Fraternity and the 7<sup>th</sup> District has a great young talent to continue to mentor in Omega. Brothers- Keep mentoring! We don't always realize the influence we are having on the youth we are working with and how they are watching us. ///





## ***Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Twelfth District***

Greetings Brothers of the Massive and Progressive 12th District, please ***take a moment to view the Videos below***

**[Videos] DR's Post-District Meeting Message and GOTV Campaign on the importance of voting.**

I hope and pray that this message meets you and your family safe and in the best health and spirits. Please listen to this important message regarding the 77th 12th District Meeting and the upcoming Fall and Winter Council Meetings.



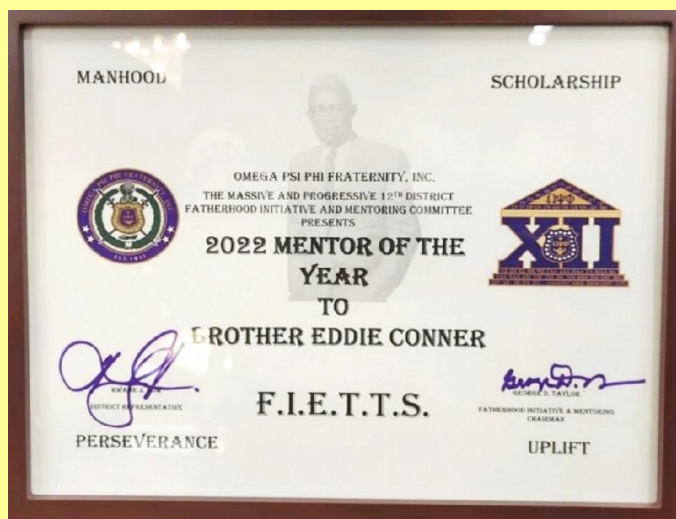
**In Friendship,  
Brother Kwame Dow  
34<sup>th</sup> Twelfth District Representative  
The Massive & Progressive 12<sup>th</sup> District  
(213) 840-3578  
[kwamedow@kwamedow.com](mailto:kwamedow@kwamedow.com)  
[@12thDistrictRep](#)**

**Follow the 12<sup>th</sup> District at the social media links below:**





## FIMC of the Massive and Progressive 12<sup>th</sup> District Makes Inaugural Awards



During the 12<sup>th</sup> District meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, in May 2022, the 12<sup>th</sup> District's Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee (12<sup>th</sup> D-FIMC) presented Service Awards to our **Mentor of the Year, Brother Eddie Conner**, and **Corporate Partner of the Year, JAM Industries, Inc.** Our illustrious Fraternity and District has made a commitment to raise the awareness in our community of the importance of responsible Fatherhood and Mentoring as well as the importance of collaborating with local organizations that are giving back to our communities.

Thank you to Good Brothers of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

In Friendship,

Brother Eric O. Johnson

Basileus Phi Omicron Chapter

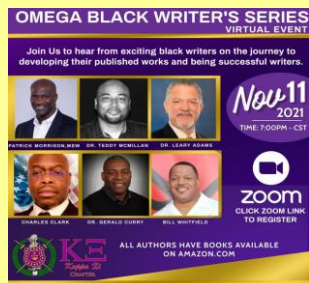
12<sup>th</sup> District Co-Chairman (FIMC)

For more information, call me at 202-600-0050

or email me at [ericojohnsonq@gmail.com](mailto:ericojohnsonq@gmail.com)



# THE OMEGA WRITER'S SERIES: Empowering Through Literacy



## OMEGA WRITERS' SERIES

**Las Vegas, NV** – Members of the Omega Writers Series are increasingly putting pencil to paper - pin to paper – or fingers to the key board. Regardless of how they are doing it, they are engaged in the production of content that accrues to the benefit of brothers, fathers, sons and all others. A big thank you to the brothers of the 12<sup>th</sup> District led by Brother District Representative Kwame Dow and the Kappa Xi Chapter led by Basileus Dr. Andre Denson and their Immediate Past Basileus Jermon Kearney for their support.

## Manhood/Scholarship: Empowering through Literacy

**Las Vegas, NV** - It began July 2021, when Brother Jerry Holliday noted that five local members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., had authored and published a book within the past 2 years. Feeling the need to promote and recognize these Scholarly Men of Omega, the idea of the Omega Black Writers Series was born.

The Omega Black Writers Series is a Zoom Webinar with the goals of:

- Promoting the Cardinal Principle of Scholarship being exhibited by Omega Men through literature while also promoting literacy and encouraging reading.
- Allowing Omega Men who have written and published books to promote themselves, their book and market their book via the virtual Webinar event.
- Bringing recognition to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., on a public platform available to all on a local, regional, and national basis.

The Omega Writers Series is in full swing and includes participation from throughout Omega land as shown by the displays above. **The most recent Omega Black Writers Webinar took place Thursday, June 23, 2022.**

For future Omega Writers Series webinars, register on either the Omega Black Writers Facebook or Instagram Page, or Kappa Xi Chapter. ///

Program Theme: *Black Intelligence: Empowering through Literacy*

**FIRST WEBINAR** was held November 11, 2021, at 5:00 PM PST with the following participants and their listed publications:

**Bill Whitfield** – “Remember The Time – Protecting Michael Jackson In His Final Days”

**Dr. Colonel Gerald Curry** – “Striving For Perfection – Developing Professional Black Officers”

**Dr. Leary Adams** – “An Educators Journey to A Successful School: Moving A Failing School to Success”

**Dr. Teddy McMillan** – “Sol & Simonton”

**Patrick Morrison** – “Before Common Ground Living the American Dream: The Journey of an Immigrant American Football Player”

**SECOND WEBINAR** was held December 2, 2021, at 5:00 PM PST with the following participants:

**Charles Clark** – “My Brothers Shield”

**Dr. Darryl J. Brown** – Thinking About Your Thinking. Harnessing the Brain and Body’s Emotional Intelligence To Support Our Mental Health





**Dr. Mateen Diop** – The Making Of A Mad Man: How One Former Inner-City Principal Was Shaped to Serve Through Motivation Adversity & Determination

**Charles Moore, CPA** – the after Math of brown v. board of education

**THIRD WEBINAR** was held April 14, 2022 at 5:00 PM PST with the following participants:

**Eddie Norwood** – “Lessons I Learned from My Father”

**William D. Frazier** – Black American Entrepreneur In China”

**Dr. Zachary S. Robbins** – Restorative Justice Tribunal And Ways to Derail Jim Crow Discipline in Schools”

**Michael Williams, Sr.** – “Black Innocence A Sample Conversation”

The Omega Black Writers Series I, II and III have been an overwhelming success with over 350 registered attendees including current and former national officers of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc, members of the public from throughout the United States and a substantial number of members from other Divine 9 organizations.

### Omega Youth Leadership Academy: Prepares for Summer Programs

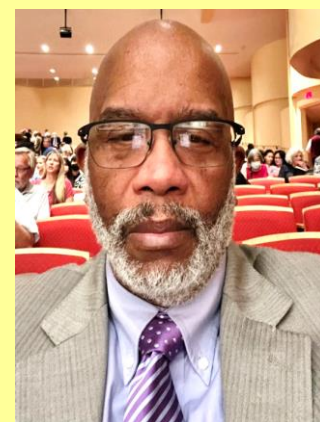
**Tempe, AZ** – On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. Board members Jay Williams and Marc Sutton hosted a beginning of Summer “Meet & Greet” Bar-B-Que for parents and volunteers in preparation for Omega Youth Leadership Academy’s “Post Covid” Summer Program.

New recruits mingled with OYLA Alumni, their parents, volunteers and board members as energy was generated for the upcoming 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Living Above The Influence Conference next month on May 21<sup>st</sup> and the OYLA Book Club which is scheduled to begin in July.

Since the last 2 LATI Conferences had been conducted virtually due to Covid restrictions, the opportunity to advertise “in person” workshops again, by hosting an outdoor Bar-B-Que sent a perfect message. That marketing strategy seemed to work as

The feedback has been extremely positive, with much appreciation expressed to all the Writers who participated in the event for sharing their journey, lessons learned and their road to successful writing and publishing their novels.

Brother Holliday wishes to thank the Writers and who gave of their time and Brother Donovan Bell for his IT expertise to support the Omega Black Writers Project. Brothers are asked to support these Authors by purchasing a copy of their books on Amazon, ///



**Brother Jerry Holliday  
Founder**



### Volunteers & Parents at the Bar-B-Que

several new parents expressed interest in having their young men attending the Living Above the Influence Conference. ///



## Omega Youth Leadership Academy's 11th Annual Living Above The Influence Conference & Workshops



Arizona State Professor, Brother Dr. Terry Alford's presentation on how engineering impacts our world.

**Phoenix, AZ** – On May 21<sup>st</sup> 2022, the board of directors of the Omega Youth Leadership Academy re-launched its face-to-face Living Above the Influence (LATI) Conference & Workshop after 2 years of being conducted virtually.

Brother Danny White, the conference moderator, kicked off the opening session by setting the order of the day then introducing motivational speaker Dr. Will Moreland whose interactive presentation definitely got the attendees motivated.

The young men then moved upstairs to workshops that were diverse in content. Topics covered included: college preparation & admission, vocational & entrepreneurial alternatives to college, surviving a police stop, Brother You're On My Mind, mental health and wellness, naturopathy-healing, successful virtual interviewing skills, creative introduction to filmmaking & creative YouTube Programming and Manhood-preparation for the future. //

Each year an additional workshop is set aside for the parents and mentors in attendance. This year the parent/mentor registration was so high that two back-to-back workshops were scheduled for them. The first workshop titled Moving Forward Post Pandemic hosted by **Brother Dr. William Smith**, dealt with regaining academic, recreational and spiritual balance for parents and their children.

The second workshop hosted by Brother Clyde Miller addressed maintaining mental balance. Both the parent and student workshops were very well attended, and the feedback received by the attendees was positive and very encouraging. Several parents promised to bring friends next year.

The closing session speaker was Bro. James Jones, former Green Bay Packer Super Bowl Champion who amassed over 5000 receiving yards and lead the league with 51 touchdowns. Bro. Jones' message was about setting goals and not allowing others to divert your focus and lead you astray. His message was punctuated by his admission that his story is living proof of how *"Living Above the Influence"* is a good thing: *he was homeless the first 15 years of his life.*



Students, Parents, Presenters, Mentors, OYLA Committee, Phi Iota & Xi Nu Nu volunteers.



Essay winner David Gordon receiving a laptop from Bro. Dwayne Ross with Bro. Michael Bowers and Bro. Carl A. Blunt

**Future Living Above the Influence Conference/Workshops will bear the name of OYLA Co-founder Brother Larry C. Ross, Sr. ///**





## SoCal “OWT” ON HEALTH WALK: FROM SAN DIEGO TO FAIRBANKS TO TAIPEI AND MOST 12<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT POINTS IN BETWEEN, BROTHERS ARE “HEALTHING-UP”

*“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! ...”*

**June 4, 2022** – Under the watchful eye and sage leadership of **Social Action Committee Chairman Brother Alonzo Duncan**, several brothers signed on to the **12<sup>th</sup> District’s Virtual Health walk**.

This was an inter-generational walk with brothers participating on-line with tags from the early 1960s (Brothers Benson Thomas ‘61 and George D. Taylor ‘61) to the 2000s.

Brother Nate Rivers brought out several members of his community in Alaska including members of the

Devine 9 as well as Masonic groups and auxiliaries and city officials. **Brother Keith Parker**, of the **Children’s Institute, Los Angeles**, announced a big Father’s Day event sponsored by the Children’s Institute Fatherhood Initiative.

Brother Derek Pina, Phi Iota Chapter, 2021, who lives in AZ logged on from Taiwan while on a business trip, Brother Gerald “Cisco” Brown, Tau Tau Chapter, phoned in from Memphis and Brother Donovan Bell, from the 8<sup>th</sup> District,

chimed in from the famous and friendly Fargo, North Dakota.

**Twelfth District** dignitaries, Brothers Kwame Dow, Andrew Davies, Nick Thompson, and others including brother **Ricky Lewis, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Grand Basileus** and 12<sup>th</sup> District Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Chairman Dr. George D. Taylor, were there *in-force* to support the initiative as well as *stay-the-course* of keeping themselves and the 12<sup>th</sup> District healthy. ///

### SoCal Men of Omega, Celebrating Fatherhood *“Just thinking about dad”*

**Southern California** - On June 9, 2022 under the leadership of Brother Edward Young, SoCal Area Representative, brothers from the Southern California Area came together and engaged in a virtual conversation about fatherhood.

On the zoom call was a cross section of brothers from the area. The evening’s conversation began as most Omega meetings, with a prayer by our District’s Chaplain, Brother Charles “Chuck” Clemons, Jr.

Brother Young began the conversation with questions for the men to ponder and respond. Brothers on the call represented a cross section of members including new fathers, fathers with grade school children, fathers with adult children, and fathers with grandchildren.

During the discussion, questions asked by SoCal Area Representative Brother Young were:

1. If you could ask your father anything, what would you ask him?
2. What one piece of advice would you give to 1<sup>st</sup> time fathers?

The questions generated a deep discussion with brothers responding openly to each question. Brother DR Dow challenged the FIMC to plan similar programs each quarter in each Area of the Massive and Progressive 12<sup>th</sup> District. ///



## 13<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Michael Robinson, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

### ULL Hosts 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Father & Daughter Dance

By

Brother Randy Pringle

**Mainland, Japan** - The Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. hosted their 6th Annual Father & Daughter Dance on Saturday, April 16, 2022, at the Officers' Club on Yokosuka Naval Base. This year's theme was: **"Under the Sea: Welcome to the Mermaid Lagoon"**.

The event was sold out with over 125 participants from the Kanto Plain communities in attendance. Each young lady received a special gift bag upon arrival. The evening featured live entertainment, special father-daughter photos, face-painting, a buffet meal, and "lots" of dancing. The guest speaker Captain Carolyn C. Rice, Commanding Officer, U.S. Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command/Naval Hospital Yokosuka, inspired the fathers and daughters with words of encouragement.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and the pandemic, the brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter had to postpone this extremely popular event for the last three years. All fathers and daughters that attended this year's event were glad to once again have an opportunity to



**Guest Speaker, Captain Susan Rice, Commanding Officer U.S. Navy Medical and Readiness Training Command, Yokosuka, Japan with Father and Daughter Dance Coordinator Brother Randy Pringle**

spend quality time together with their young Princesses who strengthened their family bond.

This event also left precious memories to cherish in the future. Upsilon Lambda Lambda remains committed to uplifting our youth throughout the Kanto Plain communities of Japan. ///



**Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter attending Father and Daughter Dance: Bro. Lymas Johnson, Bro. Randy Pringle (Keeper of Records and Seal), Bro. Sentwali Helton, Bro. Bruce Bonaparte II, Bro. Keestaun Kelley, Bro. George Garrison IV, Bro. Vic Taylor, Bro. Baba Ibrahim, Bro. Marcus Snoddy (Basileus), Bro. Charles Hicks (Vice Basileus), and Bro. David Days; Fathers and Daughters prepare for dinner.**





## Tenacious 13<sup>th</sup> International District's Salute to Black Male Educators

By Brother Michael Robinson

**DURING THE MONTH OF MAY 2022**, Educators working at various titles, and locations on the district the 13<sup>th</sup> International District schools, colleges, and universities website. The goal was to inspire Representative Brother Tracy throughout the 13<sup>th</sup> District by young Black males to enter the field George highlighted Black Male placing their photos, names, job of education. ///



**Sentwali Helton**  
Upsilon Lambda Lambda  
Lead Math Teacher  
Zama Middle/High School  
Camp Zama Army Base,  
Japan



**Allron O. Monsanto MED**  
Zeta Xi Chapter  
Educational Consultant  
VI Department of Education  
St. Thomas USVI



**Dion G. Parson**  
Zeta Xi, Chairman  
Comm & Performing Arts  
University of the Virgin  
Islands, St. Thomas, USVI



**Robert Morgan Jr.**  
Beta Nu Nu Chapter  
University Professor  
Texas Southern Univ  
Univ of Houston Texas



**Colonel (Ret) Alfred Francis**  
Zeta Xi, JROTC, Senior Army  
Instructor, Central High  
School, St. Croix, USVI



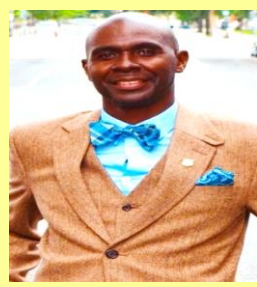
**Dr. Trevor V. Hodge**  
Chi Mu Mu Chapter  
Philotimo Educational  
Consultants,  
Birmingham, England



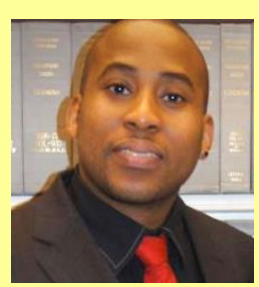
**George Garrison IV**  
Upsilon Lambda Lambda  
SPED Specialist  
Yokosuka Middle School  
Yokosuka, Japan



**Delreco Bonaby**  
Pi Xi, Science Teacher  
Queen's College High  
School, Nassau, Bahamas



**Darryle Albert**  
Theta Rho Chapter  
Educational Technologist  
Hohenfels Middle High  
School, Hohenfels,  
Germany



**Paul Brown**  
Chi Mu Mu  
Science Teacher  
British Int'l School of  
Casablanca, Morocco



**Adanda Fondon**  
Lambda Xi Chapter  
Online Instructor  
Albany State University  
Osan, South Korea



**Alfonso Atwaters**  
Lambda Xi Chapter  
Middle School Teacher  
Heonsan Middle School  
Yongin, South Korea



**Tracey D. George**  
Eleventeenth 13th  
International District  
Representative

**"I want to make it clear that the black race did not come to the United States culturally empty-handed. The role and importance of ethnic history is in how well it teaches a people to use their own talents, take pride in their own history and love their own memories."** *John Henrik Clark*



**THERE IS GROWING INTEREST IN SEEING MORE BLACK MEN IN THE CLASS ROOM** teaching young children. On April 28, 2022, Norah O'Donnell featured a special on CBS News programming entitled: **Nonprofit Aims To Recruit More Black Male Teachers: "If you can see it, you can be it"**.

Jim Axelrod, chief investigative correspondent and senior national correspondent for CBS News, who wrote the story quoted a study that showed, "just one teacher of color in third through fifth grades reduces a student of color's chances of dropping out before

graduation by up to 39%. But Black men make up [just 2%](#) of teachers in the U.S."

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/nonprofit-aims-to-recruit-more-black-male-teachers/>

Programs inspiring Black males to "think teaching" as a viable profession is wanted. Brother Tracy George is thankful for the time, dedication, and service provided by the brothers working in the field of education. He hopes their actions will also shine a spotlight on the importance and need to improve the numbers of Black male educators around the globe. ///

## 13<sup>th</sup> International District Congratulates First Time Dads

By Brother Michael Robinson

**T**wo Brothers from the 13<sup>th</sup> International District recently enjoyed the thrilling experience of becoming a father for the first time.

Brother Donald Gardner of Theta Rho Chapter in Stuttgart, Germany and Ms. Maya Ballard welcome their first baby Little Donald Gardner III aka Tre into the world on Friday, May 13, 2022, weighing 6 lbs. and 7 oz.

Brother Gardner stated "the first time I held my son, it felt like everything now has significantly more purpose. My family and I are thankful for our healthy baby; he's truly a blessing from God".



Brother Baba Ibrahim of Upsilon Lambda Chapter in Mainland, Japan and his wife Ms. Tyesha Stelle also welcome their first baby Xena Marie Ibrahim into the world Saturday, June 4, 2022, weighing 6 lbs. and 8 oz.

Brother Baba said, "becoming a father was the best moment of my life. The first time I saw my daughter, the feeling was unexplainable but when I held her, I understood completely. In that moment, I learned the true definition of the word Love."

Brothers of the 13<sup>th</sup> International District sends their congratulations to first time dads: Brother Donald Gardner and Brother Baba Ibrahim on the new additions to their families. ///





## 13<sup>th</sup> International District Promotes Purple Up

By Brother Michael Robinson

**Okinawa, Mainland, South Korea** – During the month of April, three chapters from the 13<sup>th</sup> International District joined the Department of Defense and schools on military installations in promoting “Purple Up! for Military Kids” initiative: Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter in Okinawa, Japan; Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter in Mainland, Japan; Lambda Xi Chapter in South Korea.



Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter with students and staff members at Nile C. Kinnick High School in Yokosuka, Japan.: Teacher Mr. Travis Stephens, Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter Vice Basileus Charles Hicks, Principal Ms. Kira Hurst, Assistant Principal Dr. Quiana Obeng, and Bro. Randy Pringle supporting Purple Up at Nile C. Kinnick High School in Yokosuka, Japan.

The color of purple was chosen because it represents the combined colors of all branches of the military: Army green, Coast Guard blue, Air Force blue, Marine red, and Navy blue. The goal of “Purple Up!” is for military youth to see the support in their schools, youth groups, child development centers, family child-care homes, and the community. Brothers of the 13<sup>th</sup> International District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. takes great pride in participating in the “Purple Up! for Military Kids” initiative to honor our military youth around the globe. ///

## Month of the Military Child

By Brother Michael Robinson

**APRIL, THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD**, underscoring the important role military children play in the armed forces community. Sponsored by the Department of Defense Military Community and Family Policy, the Month of the Military Child is a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and the challenges they overcome. This year’s theme is “Military Children and Youth: Standing Strong and Proud”.

Throughout the month of April, DoDEA encouraged schools to plan special events to honor military children and requested administrators and principals to incorporate the theme of the month of April into their everyday duties and responsibilities. These efforts and special events displayed the importance of providing children with quality services and support to help them succeed in the mobile military lifestyle. The Brothers of the 13<sup>th</sup> International District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. joined the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA), Department of Defense, and the military community in celebrating April as the Month of the Military Child. ///



Bro. Clarence Johnson, Bro. Michael Robinson, Bro. Brandon Spencer, and Bro. Chris O’Sullivan with 5th grade student displaying Month of the Military Child sign he made.



## Congratulations Class of 2022

By Brother Michael Robinson

**GRADUATION IS A SPECIAL TIME** to recognize the accomplishments of our children, family, and friends as they prepare to take another major step-in life. The Brothers of the 13th International District sends a well-deserved congratulations to the Class of 2022. During the past year, students around the world faced many challenges due to COVID-19 restrictions which involved constant adjustments to their education and social lives. The lessons learned and experiences will indeed help them reach success in the future. ///



Jacqueline Shadai George with father, 13<sup>th</sup> international District Representative Tracy George. Graduated from Plano East High School in Plano Texas and plans to attend LSU majoring in Pre-Health Program.

Ashley Smith, daughter of Brother John Smith, Sigma Gamma Gamma Okinawa, Japan. Graduated Kadena HS Okinawa, plans to attend Howard University, major, International Business.

Chloe Sterling with her father Brother Andre Sterling, Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter in Mainland, Japan and mother. She graduated with honors from Marietta High School in Marietta, Georgia with a full basketball scholarship to James Madison University majoring in Marketing.

Ke'Andra Heyliger with her father Brother Clement Heyliger, Eta Iota Iota Chapter and mother. She graduated from Sr. Croix Central High School in the United States Virgin Islands and plans to attend the University of the Virgin Islands majoring in Nursing and aspirations to be a pediatric nurse.



Carolina da Graca, daughter of the 13<sup>th</sup> International District Deputy Representative Brother Robert Morgan, received her bachelor's degree in Science from Texas Southern University with a 4.0 g pa. She plans to continue her education through graduate school to obtain her PhD.

Victoria S. Barnes with her father, Brother Eric Barnes charter member of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter in Mainland, Japan. She received her Doctor's Degree from Morehouse School of Medicine.

Zariah Mekhi Spencer, daughter of Brother Brandon Spencer, Lambda Xi Chapter, South Korea. She graduated from Strong Beginnings at Camp Humphreys Child Development Center; will attend Kindergarten at Humphreys Central Elementary school.





## Lambda Beta Beta Chapter Project Aspiration

Participates In Army Aviation Exposition

By Brother Matthew Tassin



Photo 1 - Captain Manning with mentees sitting in cockpit of AH-64 Apache aircraft; Photo 2 - Bro. Josiah Graham, Bro. Chris Butler, and Bro. Erik Stith of Lambda Beta Beta Chapter with mentees onboard AH-64 Apache aircraft.

**Honolulu, Hawaii** – The Brothers of Lambda Beta Beta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi, Inc. Project Aspiration Fatherhood and Mentoring Program mentees participated in an Army Aviation Expo held at Wheeler Air Force Base on Tuesday, April 26, 2022.

The event was hosted by Captain Matthew Manning, a minority Aviator, Bravo Troop, 2nd Squadron, 6th

Cavalry Regiment, Commander. He is responsible for the management and training of 69 Troopers, which includes 18 Aviators, 36 Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) and 15 maintainers. Matthew commands 8x AH-64 Apaches, and 4x RQ-7B Shadows, totaling over \$400 million.

Other endeavors include, spearheading a mentorship program to increase the diversity and inclusion

within the Army's Aviation designator. The program was designed to encourage minorities (race and gender) to become Aviators. Captain Manning has served as guest speaker at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other ROTC programs nationwide enlightening Cadets on the process of becoming an Aviator thus continuing the legacy and tradition set forth by the Tuskegee Airmen and Redtail history.

Captain Manning said, "It was an awesome experience to be part of the positive energy and enthusiasm being poured into our youth!" ///



L-R: Captain Manning describing functions of rotary, radar, armament, and landing gear to mentees and family members: Captain Manning checks on excited mentees sitting in the cockpit of AH-64 Apache aircraft. Mentee's experience what it feels like sitting onboard UH-60M Blackhawk aircraft.



L-R: Mentees enjoy sitting in the driver seat of AH-64 Apache aircraft: Mentees and family members enjoy taking a photo with AH-64 Apache in the background.



## SGG Host 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual “Are 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Smarter than Omega Men Contest”

By Brother Cortez Pree



Brother Toneo Gulley ponders a question while the contestant patiently awaits his answer: Photo 2 – Bro. Roderick Singleton, Vice Basileus Brian Tanner, Bro. John Smith, Bro. Elvis Jackson, Bro. Toneo Gulley, and Basileus Cortez Pree pose with the contestant and their prizes

**Okinawa, Japan** - On April 15, 2022, Sigma Gamma Gamma hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual “Are 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Smarter Than Omega Men Contest” at the Crow’s Nest on Camp Shields Naval Base in Okinawa, Japan. All elementary schools on the island submitted a contestant to test their talents against the brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter: Khyle Rey (Zukeran Elementary), Dennis Torres (Zukeran Elementary), Bryer Schielke (Bechtel

Elementary), Khloe Dwyer (Zukeran Elementary) Aamir Fontenot (Kadena Elementary), Leanna Foerster (Amelia Earhart Intermediate School), Karter Kin-Phillips (Kinser Elementary), and Nikolas Gibson-Romero (E.C. Killin Elementary) represented their respective schools.

The contest derived from the game show “Are You Smarter than a 5<sup>th</sup> Grader” required the contestants to answer questions about Math, Spelling,

Geography, Vocabulary, and Science. The students were paired against each other in no particular order or precedence. All participants recited the “Anti-Bullying Pledge” prior to the commencement of the contest. The contestants battled for five rounds and each was asked one additional question for a special cash prize: \$25 in cash for their participation. Omega Men proved victorious with 5 – 3 wins. ///

### Sigma Gamma Gamma and Tomodachi Bridge Builders Assist Mental Health Providers

By Brother Cortez Pree



Photo (L) – Basileus Cortez Pree and Tomodachi Bridge Builders Brandon Pree and David Washington present a prize to a corn hole contestant: Photo (R) –Tomodachi Bridge Builder President Malik Aubrey and Brandon Pree provide Mental Health Pamphlets to a customer



**Okinawa, Japan** – During the month of May, the brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter and their mentees, the Tomodachi Bridge Builders, supported local organizations in providing mental health information to the patrons of Kadena Air Base and Marine Bases on the island of Okinawa, Japan. On May 22, 2022, the brothers and mentees participated in the Kadena Air Base Mental Health Walk that was conducted at Marek Park. The Tomodachi Bridge Builders served as guides to assist participants in registration, starting the event, breaking

down equipment, and clean up after the walk was completed.

On May 28, 2022, the mentees issued mental health pamphlets to customers at the Commissary block sale. Also, during the event, Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter, and the mentees setup a corn hole contest. Participants competed for \$150 in gift cards. Basileus Cortez Pree stated mental health awareness remains a top priority of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter and the Tomodachi Bridge Builders. ///

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Ω Keep it on!



Ω Just a little ... Ω



bit longer!!!