In 1966, the first Frederick Douglass Dinner was organized by Ann Sunstein Kheel, commemorating the work of both the League and those likeminded individuals whose work harkened to Frederick Douglass’ legacy. As the Chairman of this event for 25 years, Ann S. Kheel was a pillar of support for the League and the success of these dinners. While Mrs. Kheel aided New York, her husband Theodore W. Kheel served on the board of the National Urban League as Chair some years before Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.'s tenure as President.

Tonight, we thank you, Vernon E. Jordan, Jr. for being the Honorary Chairman of this Centennial Gala. Your support has been immensely empowering and uplifting throughout these past months and numerous years.

As we enjoy this centennial and celebrate all that the League has accomplished, we are mindful that tonight doesn’t outshine the present state that our world is in. COVID-19 and systemic racism have brought to the surface the pre-existing vulnerabilities that so many communities, particularly African Americans, in New York face—disparate health outcomes, lack of food, unequal access to financing and loans for small businesses, and the threat of foreclosure or eviction. It is our duty to work even harder to repair the damage done by the crises that continue to impact these communities.

Frederick Douglass once said, “we have to do with the past only as we can make it useful to the present and future.” New York Urban League’s history is full of important initiatives that inform the way that we will continue helping those who are underrepresented and underserved today. Your support is imperative as we look to the future and how we can improve society for all.

It is the work of each citizen that builds the foundation of change, and Mr. Jordan said it best: “You are where you are today because you stand on somebody’s shoulders. And wherever you are heading, you cannot get there by yourself. If you stand on the shoulders of others, you have a reciprocal responsibility to live your life so that others may stand on your shoulders.”

The giving acts that we perform will benefit others even years later, and we must remember to pay forward the kindness that we receive.

Again, we express our deepest gratitude to you, Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Each and every one of you have my sincerest gratitude for supporting the New York Urban League’s Centennial Gala. In a year that has been turbulent throughout, your trust and generosity are so invaluable and help to make our centennial more meaningful.

African Americans have survived through drastic situations before such as the Great Depression, but the upcoming months will be challenging all the same. The League has an imperative drive to uplift our vulnerable fellow citizens and will continue to steadfastly aid those who need us. Tonight, we celebrate 100 years of that ambition and willpower to improve society, and tomorrow we resume the hard work that has only been possible with your support.

I must thank our remarkable Honorary Chair, Vernon E. Jordan, Jr. I also thank our extraordinary honorees Hank Aaron, Michael Dowling, Crystal McCrary, Raymond J. McGuire, and Daniel Schulman. The Frederick Douglass and Ann Kheel Awards are bestowed upon individuals and organizations that reflect the mission of the League, and their support and activism make all the difference.

Additionally, I would like to thank those in the Honorary Committee—Billye Aaron, Harry Belafonte, Hon. Bill Bradley, Naomi Campbell, The late Hon. David N. Dinkins, Bethann Hardison, Iman, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Tonya Lewis Lee, Spike Lee, Hal Steinbrenner, Deborah Willis, David Winfield, Cole Anthony and Ella Anthony.

The staff as well as my board members at New York Urban League are incredible and hardworking. We are truly indebted to them. And of course, I thank Arva Rice, our President, for leading us in our endeavors.

Again, thank you for helping us get to where we are now, and I trust that you will support us as we move forward.

Sincerely,
Ward Corbett
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Thank you for your support of the New York Urban League as we celebrate our Centennial Gala. For 100 years we have been dedicated to advancing economic growth and empowerment, equality, and social justice for New York’s most vulnerable African Americans. When the League was founded in 1919 by interracial New Yorkers, their goal was to provide employment and connections for African Americans who had very few resources. Under the leadership of James H. Hubert, the first Executive Director, and Miss Elizabeth Walton, the first Board President, the foundation was set for the challenges and growth that our organization would experience as our impact and outreach evolved over the decades.

The New York Urban League’s Frederick Douglass Awards Dinner was founded in 1966 by Ann Sunstein Kheel, a board member who served as the Chair for the dinners for 25 years. We are honored to keep her vision alive as it sets the unique stage to celebrate our centennial and to salute our distinguished honorees: the late Hank Aaron, Michael Dowling, Crystal McGarry, Raymond J. McGuire, and Daniel Schulman. They have continued to stand with us and support our mission from our original date of June 1, 2020 to this 2021 virtual date. We commend each of them and their staff for their commitment.

In part, this journal attempts to provide milestones charting the League’s hard work and some of our accomplishments within this hundred-year-period. We have also included some alarming statistics from our recent publication of “The State of Black New York,” which spotlight the unacceptable condition of inequality that must be addressed. Lastly, a page has been included at the back for you to reflect and write about something we may have missed and/or your relationship with the League. You all are part of our history and journey, and we hope your personal additions will highlight that.

We hope that you will continue to support us as the New York Urban League advocates for a new century of meaningful results for African American citizens of New York.

Sincerely,
Arva Rice
March 2021

Dear Friends,

Harlem, New York City, in 1919 was the cradle of Black art and culture, as migrants fleeing white supremacist terrorism in the South flocked to the city. These migrants brought new customs, new skills – and new challenges.

The New York Urban League rose to meet those challenges. Working hand-in-hand with the leading intellectuals, artists, writers and community activists of the time, the New York Urban League nurtured the Harlem Renaissance, established Harlem as a base for Black political power and broke down barriers to economic and social opportunity.

One of those artists, the playwright Abram Hill, captured this spirit in his article, History of The New York Urban League: “The story of the Urban League is a story of people. It is a story of people who, though of different races, of varying creeds and sects, and residents in widely separated communities, have found a common meeting ground in the belief that ‘America’s most baffling problem’ can be solved only by intelligent and united action. It is a story of people who not only hold their belief but who are, and have been, willing to give their time and their service to make their ideal a reality.”

For 100 years, the New York Urban League has been the city’s cultural, economic, and social heart and soul. Even Mayor Bloomberg wore the affiliate’s iconic apple-shaped emblem in his lapel throughout his tenure. Under the current leadership of the dynamic Arva Rice, the affiliate has flourished and expanded its influence even further. I congratulate her, along with her staff and board of trustees, on this incredible milestone.

Sincerely,

Marc H. Morial
President and Chief Executive Officer
National Urban League
March 16, 2021

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone as the New York Urban League celebrates its centennial at tonight’s 55th Annual Frederick Douglass Awards Gala.

New York has long been a champion of equal rights, inclusion, and opportunity for all our residents, and these core values have shaped the fabric of the five boroughs for generations. Leading organizations such as the NYUL are vital partners in upholding this legacy and ensuring that all people can share in our city’s great promise, and for over a century, it has been working tirelessly to uplift and empower the African American community. By providing leadership trainings, employment resources, academic support, community capacity building initiatives, and so many other vital services, the NYUL has built a bedrock of support for underserved New Yorkers and given them the tools they need to thrive. I applaud all those associated with the NYUL for their dedication to helping their neighbors and defending their rights and to forging a fairer, more equitable tomorrow for us all.

On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to tonight’s honorees. I offer my best wishes for a wonderful gala and continued success.

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio
Mayor
When the New York Urban League was founded, times were tough, and New Yorkers needed an advocate and a resource. We’ve come a long way in our ten decades of service, but in these difficult economic times there is still so much more to be done.

One hundred years ago, the New York Urban League was founded by a group of diverse New Yorkers concerned about the difficulties African Americans faced when migrating from the agricultural and rural South to the industrial urban centers of the north. NYUL provided jobs and advocated for employment in areas where Blacks were traditionally excluded. TODAY, the New York Urban League Employment Centers offer job placement and assistance for New Yorkers looking for ways to support their families in one of the worst economies in our City’s history.

Eighty years ago, NYUL fought discrimination by bringing White and Black New Yorkers together to open hospitals to Black doctors, patients, and other hospital workers. The NYUL used similar task forces and commissions to bring pressure to integrate public housing. TODAY, Fair Housing counselors help New Yorkers stay in their homes and fight discriminatory housing practices.

Sixty years ago, the New York Urban League created a sporting event to highlight historically Black colleges and provide students with Whitney M. Young scholarships for college. TODAY, the New York Urban League hosts the Whitney M. Young Football Classic each year and has cumulatively provided more than $15 million dollars in scholarships to needy students for college.

Thirty years ago, the New York Urban League partnered with the Board of Education to provide parents with the tools to better advocate and participate in their children’s education. TODAY, high schoolers in our leadership program on Staten Island participate in training, leadership activities, and service projects to become change agents and leaders in their own communities.

In addition, our Employment Services program provides New Yorkers with professional resume services, job placement and training. Our Fair Housing program helps tenants negotiate landlord issues and advocate for them in housing court. Indeed, we have accomplished a great deal in our 100 years, and we are not finished yet!
New York Urban League CEOs

JAMES HUBERT (1919-1943)
The first Executive Director of the New York Urban League, Hubert’s tenure was marked by the establishment of boys’ and girls’ clubs and fresh air camps, employment services, and conferences on social welfare. He spearheaded the League’s move into actively and visibly advocating on behalf of minorities by providing educational and job training, oversight of housing applications in the first Harlem housing project, encouraging unions to adopt nondiscriminatory practices, and by ensuring minority opportunity in the Depression-era W.P.A. projects.

DR. EDWARD S. LEWIS (1943-1964)
For more than 20 years, Lewis led the League through milestones in minority representation on the city police force, area hospitals, investment institutions, real estate development companies, and housing management. During his tenure, the New York Urban League expanded into Queens, the Bronx, and Staten Island (The Brooklyn branch had been founded in 1916 and the Manhattan branch was to become a separate entity, within the NYUL).

ALEXANDER J. ALLEN (1964-1967)
Mr. Allen’s tenure as Executive Director was characterized by attention to police/community relations and the need for quality integrated education. Under his direction, the first black police officer was appointed as Captain. He helped form the United Council of Harlem Organizations to address issues affecting the community, and also initiated the Success Center, a training program for high school dropouts. Operation Open City, a housing advocacy project, was instituted under his leadership as well as programs dealing with voter registration, leadership development and veteran’s affairs.

REV. EUGENE CALLENDER (1967-1968)
During his tenure, League-sponsored community action programs were prolific and Rev. Callender began the famed Street Academies providing educational alternatives for high school dropouts. As a result, Harlem Prep, the Street Academy’s own college preparatory school was formed. The school served as the model for similar programs in cities around the country. Under his guidance, the annual Frederick Douglass Awards Dinner was established to recognize those who have made outstanding contributions toward equal opportunity. In addition, Rev. Callender spearheaded the most comprehensive historical survey ever produced by African American artists, which was assembled and became a cultural highlight for the League.

JUDGE LIVINGSTON WINGATE (1968-1974)
Under Judge Wingate’s directorship, the League strengthened its grassroots base. He pursued New York programs that addressed the problems and needs of the least served people in the community and elicited the help of trained NYUL community organizers to implement the programs. Judge Wingate oversaw the creation of the United Federation of Black Community Organizations, the Afro-American Day Parade, the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Football Classic, the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Awards, and the establishment of the Youth Enrichment Services program, which supported court-referred youngsters. During his term, the League’s Housing Development corporation developed 536 units of housing on Staten Island as well as a highly successful day care center, which is still in operation today.

HORACE MORRIS (1975-1983)
Faced with the organization’s enormous indebtedness, Mr. Morris, with his wealth of administrative experience, undertook the task of settling in place an internal structure that could restore the League to financial solvency and reassert its positive image and advocacy efforts. He oversaw the launching of many innovative programs and the publication of two annual Status of Black New York reports. Under his directorship, the League’s central office was moved to midtown, and a strong central administration was developed to provide assistance and program support to the borough branches.

HARRIET MICHEL (1983-1988)
As the first woman to head the New York Urban League, Ms. Michel demonstrated her exceptional leadership abilities by re-energizing the League’s efforts on behalf of African Americans and by raising a significant amount of program funding. She also established measurable benchmarks by which to gauge the effectiveness of the various programs. In addition to instituting a housing renovation and Senior Citizen Program, her greatest achievements were in the areas of employment training through a computerized Job Bank and the enlistment of minority mentors. Educational initiatives included the establishment of college internships, scholarships and educational programs, skills enhancements, and summer youth employment.

DONALD POLK (1988-1990)
During his term as President and CEO, Mr. Polk’s major achievements were administrative in nature. He was responsible for restructuring and reorganizing the agency, which was experiencing financial hardships, and putting it on firm footing. His internal reorganization included eliminating multiple levels of management, revitalizing Borough Advisory Boards by bringing in new leadership, and making long-lasting changes to increase employee compensation such as instituting staff benefits, initiating a retirement plan and raising salaries where appropriate. Having served on the subcommittee of the New York City Charter Revision Commission, Mr. Polk was involved with advocacy in many areas and worked to strengthen the organization’s relationship with other non-profit agencies.

DENNIS M. WALCOTT (1990-2001)
As a young student, Mr. Walcott received his first summer job through the New York Urban League. Then, as President and Chief Executive Officer of the organization, he reasserted the League’s priorities by moving its headquarters back to Central Harlem. Programs implemented during his directorship include: Healthy Start; Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership; Building Block; Project Peace; and a program to study pregnancy in African American women. As a member of the Board of Education, Mr. Walcott brought the clout of the League to bear on city-wide educational issues.

ARVA RICE (2009-present)
Ms. Rice became the 11th President and CEO of the New York Urban League in April 2009. Prior to coming to the New York Urban League, she served as Executive Director of two non-profit organizations — Project Enterprise and Public Allies New York which focused on entrepreneurship and youth leadership, respectively. As the League’s second female CEO, Arva brings to the position a passion for education and leadership. She has overseen the COVID-19 Emergency Fund, the latest State of Black New York report released in 2020, the Small Business Support Center, Diversity Lab, and joined Gov. Cuomo’s Police Reform Committee.

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2020 onward

To date

- Initiated the COVID-19 Emergency Fund, providing grants to students and families in our employment and youth services programs.

- The Diversity & Inclusion Lab will be an incubator for recruitment, best practices, and other diversity and inclusion initiatives. It will provide an environment for New York City’s most creative minds, forward thinking companies, premiere colleges and universities and top African American talent to interact. The goal is to make the NYC workplace one of the most inclusive in the world.

- NYUL’s HBCU Fair continues to impact many Black youth in NYC. Between 2017-2019 there were 6,390 onsite admissions offered and over $4.5 million offered in scholarships.

- Arva Rice joined the Police Reform Committee mandated by Governor Andrew Cuomo.

Future plans

- The Small Business Support Center will be designed to serve the critical needs of Black small businesses physically located in the five boroughs, particularly those in the hospitality industry. The high touch individualized approach will offer clients:
  - Access to capital via in-house loan and grant fund
  - C-level management support in all back-office and front-office functions including Finance and Accounting, Technology, Business/Strategic Planning, and Sales and Marketing
  - Literacy training in business management and technology

- The Diversity & Inclusion Lab will be an incubator for Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives, Recruitment and Best Practices. It will provide a communicative and collaborative environment for New York City’s most creative minds, forward thinking companies, premiere colleges and universities and top African American talent to interact. The goal is to make the NYC Workplace one of the most inclusive in the world.

Historical Context

- In 2018 median household income in Central Harlem was $48,500, about 25% less than citywide median household income ($64,850). The poverty rate in Central Harlem was 25.1% in 2018 compared to 17.3% citywide. (Source: American Community Survey, NYU Furman Center)
Historical Context

1927 Harlem average monthly rent was $4516, and weekly family income was $310-75. Tuberculosis death rate was 327 per 100,000 among Blacks, compared with 47 per 100,000 among Whites.

1949-1959

Leadership

JAMES P. FOLEY
Board President | 1952-1954

SOOPRA YARRALL-JACKSON
Board President | 1955-1956, 1959-1960

THEODORE W. KHEL
President | 1956-1959, 1960-1963

FREDERICK W. RICHMOND
Board President | 1963

New York Urban League was involved in the civil rights movement, focusing on housing, education, and equal rights. The league played a role in desegregating housing in Harlem and fought for equal rights in education. They worked with the NAACP,CORE, and other civil rights organizations to fight for racial equality.

1959-1969

Leadership

ALEXANDER J. ALLEN
Executive Director | 1964-1967

LIVINGSTON WINGAS
Board President | 1964-1967

DAVID A. SCHULTZ, JR.
Board President | 1965-1968

JOHN MOSSER
Board President | 1965-1968

DAVID B. MCCALL
Board President | 1968-1969

In 1965, the first Frederick Douglass Housing Project was opened in Harlem, providing affordable housing to low-income families. The league also established programs to support education and economic opportunities, such as the Youth Development Services Program, which provided career training and job placement assistance.

1969-1979

Leadership

HORACE MORRIS
Executive Director | 1975-1983

ROBERT A. BERNHARD
Board President | 1974-1975, 1975-1976

CHARLES E. MELLARD
President | 1976

WILLIAM H. KILPATRICK
Chairman of Board | 1979-1989

The New York Urban League established the New York City's first inpatient mental health facility for African Americans, providing comprehensive mental health services. They also started the Youth Enrichment Program, which provided educational and recreational activities for young people.

1979-1989

Leadership

HARRIET MICHIEL
President | 1980-1988

DONALD FOLK
President | 1980-1990

JOHN BARRETT
Board Chair | 1980-1988

New York Urban League established the annual historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) College Fair, which provided thousands of students and parents with information on the college application process, and a comprehensive job fair that gave the community access to employment.

1989-1999

Leadership

DENNIS M. WALCOTT
President | 1988-2000

PAUL H. BRAUN
SUNY DURFEE
JEAN-MICHELE HORTHOZ

May 12, 1993, Mayor Dinkins filled one of his two vacant seats on the board, appointing Dennis M. Walcott, president of the New York Urban League, to the NYC Board of Education.

1999-2009

Leadership

DARWIN DAVIS
President | 2000-2008

JEAN-MARIE HORTHOZ
NOEL HANNON

New York Urban League hosted the first major AIDS conference in the city, bringing together policymakers, public health officials, and community leaders to discuss the growing crisis of the AIDS epidemic. They also provided education and support services to those affected by the disease.

2009-2019

Leadership

ARIKA RICE
President | 2009-2019

DARWIN DAVIS
JEAN-MARIE HORTHOZ
NOEL HANNON

NYC Urban League has focused on education, economic opportunities, and health, working with communities to improve outcomes for underserved populations. They have also been advocates for issues such as affordable housing, educational equity, and criminal justice reform.

RISING
CENTENNIAL GLIMPSES

HARLEM PREP OPEN
60 Former Dropouts Pioneer Revoltion in Education

NEW YORK URBAN LEAGUE NEWS

88%
comparing to
72%
THE STATE OF BLACK NEW YORK

GPA not NRA
Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world.

if you don’t stand for something, you’ll fall for anything.

i stand for those no long have a voice.

YITSANU NYULU

NYULU CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION

CENTENNIAL GLIMPSES
My five years with NYUL were marked by growth, specifically in the number of new programs targeting teen pregnancy, educational enhancement focusing on grades 9-12, alternative sentencing programs for young offenders, employment and AIDS. At our peak, we claimed tens of thousands of clients annually. This success was made possible by an incredibly talented and creative team of young borough directors and program officers, including Esther Bush, Steven Sims, Amina Abdur-Rahman, Darwin Davis, and Debra Fraser-Howze. Esther and Darwin eventually became presidents of local Urban Leagues, Amina became a nationally recognized leader in public school reform, Steven Sims became the Vice-President and Director of Operations for the National Minority Supplier Development Council and Debra, through an NYUL initiative, founded the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS. I was and continue to be very proud of developing a cadre of young black leaders.

We had many successes, but none was more impactful than the AIDS program that had its origins as a teen pregnancy project. Realizing that an alarming number of black teen girls were being impregnated and infected by older black men who as crack addicts had AIDS, in 1985 we convened a 2 day black leadership retreat of politicians, prominent clergy and civic leaders to discuss the scourge facing our community. From that beginning, through the foresight, drive, passion and extraordinary organizational skills of Debra Fraser-Howze, grew a national organization to provide focus, education, policy directives and resources to fight AIDS in the black community. The National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS became the national leading voice on AIDS issues.

The staff was serious and driven, but we found joy in continuing the tradition of hosting the Whitney M. Young football game between 2 HBCU’s at Yankee Stadium each fall. Black college football in New York City! Tens of thousands of HBCU fans came every year to support the colleges and the scholarships the NYUL provided from game proceeds. The battling marching bands, the fiercely loyal alumni, the celebrity honorees and the afterparties were for us a small re-creation of the black college experience.
One of my favorite experiences was the Whitney M. Young Scholarship presentations to HS seniors. Countless number of NYC students who benefited from the proceeds of the Football Classic.

The other experiences that stand out are the creation of new programs that served people in need of jobs, better health care or improved schools.

On a separate note, I see people who are now adults who tell me they were a recipient of the WMY Scholarship or Education advocates who say they received their training at the League’s advocacy training program approximately 25 years ago.
• Worked as a summer employee of the League as a kid, and Director of Education under the League’s President, Harriet Michel.

• Developed partnership to resurrect the State of Black New York report, and helped to seed the lives of hundreds of nonprofit professionals.

• Worked with the New York Urban League’s executive team staff, select board members, and donors to retire $3.3 million in historical debt in 4 years.

• Broke through a $20 million dollar threshold in total scholarships given to Black, Latinx, Asian, and immigrant New York City students. The Whitney M. Young Classic was a cornerstone among the many scholarship funds.

Lastly, kudos to the extraordinary staff who weathered the challenges to keep the legacy of service to our core customers alive and well via the New York Urban League.
The New York Urban League is most honored to award the Frederick Douglass Award to Hank Aaron, posthumously.

A 25-time All Star, Hank Aaron was one of the most accomplished players in baseball history. Starting his career in Mobile, Alabama, he played for the Mobile Black Bears and the Indianapolis Clowns before joining the Braves where he made historic strides. Ultimately surpassing Babe Ruth's homerun record in 1974, he was recognized as baseball’s all-time homerun king for 30 years. To date, Aaron still holds Major League Baseball records for most career runs batted in, extra base hits, and total bases.

Aaron was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1982, and in 1999, Major League Baseball created the Hank Aaron Award to honor his contributions to baseball. Though successful, Aaron experienced the difficulties of living in a segregated society and bearing the brunt of discrimination. His life’s work showed a drive to improve conditions for minorities and underserved communities.

Off the field, Aaron rejoined the Braves as the Vice President and Director of Player Development. He played a major role in forming programs that encouraged minorities to play baseball and founded the Hank Aaron Rookie League Program.

The Dreamchaser Scholarship, presented annually by the Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Foundation (founded by Aaron and his wife, Billye Suber Aaron), awards grants to young students with limited financial capabilities so that they may develop their skills and pursue their passions.

We thank Hank Aaron for providing the opportunity for the New York Urban League to pay homage to him and his accomplishments.
Michael Dowling is one of healthcare’s most influential voices, taking a stand on societal issues such as gun violence and immigration that many health system CEOs shy away from. As President and CEO of Northwell Health, he leads a clinical, academic and research enterprise with a workforce of more than 74,000 and annual revenue of $13.5 billion.

Mr. Dowling has received numerous awards, including the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and a number of honorary degrees from Fordham University, University College Dublin (Ireland) and the prestigious Queen’s University Belfast. In 2017, he served as the Grand Marshal of the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in NYC and he chairs the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

Prior to joining Northwell in 1995, Mr. Dowling served in New York State government for 12 years, including leadership roles as Director of Health, Education and Human Services, Commissioner of Social Services, Deputy Secretary and a Chief Adviser to former Governor Mario Cuomo. Earlier, he was a Professor of Social Policy and an Assistant Dean of Fordham’s Graduate School of Social Services.
Crystal McCrary is an award-winning film, television producer, director and author. She began her career practicing entertainment law with the New York City firm of Paul Weiss before leaving to pursue a career in writing, directing and producing. Since that time, she has written for several magazines, published two New York Times best-selling novels, and produced original programming for TV & Film including HOMECOURT ADVANTAGE, GOTHAM DIARIES and INSPIRATION: Profiles of Black Women Changing Our World. She also produced the independent film DIRTY LAUNDRY (FOX Films) and for six seasons has served as co-creator/executive producer for the NAACP Image Award nominated BET documentary series LEADING WOMEN and LEADING MEN. She also created and executive produced the documentary series INSIDE: Black Culture profiling The Studio Museum in Harlem, Evidence Dance Company and Abyssinian Baptist Church.

Ms. McCrary directed and produced the documentary, LITTLE BALLERS as well as the series LITTLE BALLERS INDIANA, both for Nickelodeon Sports. She is now in production on three films which include the history of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, the building of the George Lucas Museum of Narrative Art and Ariel at 35 which tells the story of the oldest and largest African American asset management firm in the United States.

Dedicated to and outspoken on education, children’s rights and women’s issues, Ms. McCrary has appeared on several national television shows including Good Morning America, The TODAY Show, and CNN. Ms. McCrary has also appeared as a guest co-host on ABC’s The View. She has also interviewed President Bill Clinton and Mayor Michael Bloomberg for her television shows. Ms. McCrary was named to Crain’s-New York Business Forty Under Forty.

Ms. McCrary is a cum laude graduate of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and New York University School of Law and American University (J.D., 1995). Ms. McCrary also studied International European Community Law in Paris, France. She lives in New York City with her husband and three children.
Raised by a single mother and his grandparents in Dayton, Ohio, Ray McGuire and his two brothers didn’t have much growing up. But they had family, faith, church, a loving home and a deep-seated belief that education was their ticket to anywhere.

With a lot of student loans and borrowed money, Ray went to Harvard, becoming the first in his family to graduate from college. He then enrolled in a four-year JD/MBA program at Harvard University. After earning degrees in law and business at the same time, Ray went to New York for a job on Wall Street.

Over the last 36 years, Ray has led businesses responsible for generating $20+ billion a year in revenue supporting public and private sector clients around the world. He recruited and built teams to do multi-billion-dollar deals, and he advised the CEOs of companies on how to help their businesses grow, thrive and create jobs. For the last 13 years, Ray was the head of Global Corporate and Investment Banking at Citigroup and the longest-tenured head of investment banking in the history of Wall Street. As a Citi Foundation Board member, Ray helped the firm improve the lives of people in low-income communities. He also recently helped write a groundbreaking report on the economic impact of systemic racism. Through mentoring, Ray has held the door open for many others including those who grew up like him.

Ray gives back to the city by serving on the boards of the New York Presbyterian Hospital, the New York Public Library, the Whitney Museum and the Studio Museum in Harlem. He has also served on advisory boards for the Council of Urban Professionals, Sponsors for Educational Opportunities, Management Leadership for Tomorrow and others.

Ray is married to Crystal McCrary McGuire. Together they are raising three children.
Dan Schulman is focused on democratizing and transforming financial services and e-commerce to improve the financial health of billions of people, families and businesses around the world. With extensive corporate experience and a lifelong commitment to social justice, he believes the private sector has a responsibility to serve multiple stakeholders and to improve the state of the world. Under Dan’s leadership, PayPal has been named as one of the top companies on JUST Capital’s and Forbes’ JUST 100 list, featuring “companies doing right by America.” PayPal has also been recognized as a Fortune Change the World company for its work to tackle the biggest challenges facing society today.

Dan has frequently been recognized by Fortune as one of the top 20 Businesspersons of the Year. In 2017, he received the Brennan Legacy Award, established to honor the late Supreme Court justice and his career-long commitment to social justice and “common human dignity.” Dan has also been honored by the Council for Economic Education (2017) and the Financial Health Network (2018) for his promotion of economic and financial literacy to create a better informed society. In 2020, Robert F Kennedy Human Rights honored him with the Ripple of Hope Award, which recognizes those who have demonstrated a commitment to social change and a passion for equality, justice and basic human rights.

Dan is actively involved in the World Economic Forum, as a member of the International Business Council, and the Board of Governors and Board of Stewards for the Future of Financial & Monetary Systems platform. In addition, Dan is a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and an International Advisory Council member of the Singapore Economic Development Board. Dan is a board member of Verizon Communications, Inc., and previously served as Non-Executive Chairman of NortonLifeLock (formerly Symantec Corporation). He also serves on the boards of Business Roundtable, The Economic Club of New York and Autism Speaks.
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<th>Year</th>
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| 1966 | A. Philip Randolph  
Robert W. Sarnoff  
Hon. Robert F. Wagner |
| 1967 | Gardner Cowles  
Rev. Leo McLaughlin, S.J.  
Rev. James H. Robinson, D.D. |
| 1968 | Stephen & Audrey Currier, in Memoriam  
Hon. Robert J. Magnum  
Rev. Msgr. Gregory Mooney |
| 1969 | Dr. Albert H. Bowker  
The Boys of Yesteryear, Inc.  
Donald McGannon |
| 1970 | Ossie Davis  
Ruby Dee  
Harvey G. Mehlhouse |
| 1971 | Ennis Francis  
Frederick D. O’Neal  
Pepsi-Cola Company |
| 1972 | Joan Ganz Cooney  
Rev. William A. Jones, Jr.  
Whitney M. Young, Jr., in Memoriaam |
| 1973 | Robert A. Bernhard  
Jackie Robinson, in Memoriam |
| 1974 | Dr. Kenneth Clark  
Dr. Anna Arnold Hedgeman  
Andrew Heiskel |
| 1975 | *Aspiring Youth in the Street Academy Program*  
Dr. John L.S. Holloman, Jr.  
John Mosler |
| 1976 | James L. Hicks  
Hon. Constance Baker Motley  
J. Henry Smith |
| 1977 | Bertha Harris  
Rt. Rev. Paul Moore, Jr.  
Dr. Robert C. Weaver |
| 1978 | Romare Bearden  
Lloyd K. Garrison  
Hon. Ernest G. Green |
| 1979 | His Eminence, Cardinal Cooke  
Louise Fisher Morris, in Memoriam  
Gil Noble |
| 1980 | 369th Veteran’s Association, inc.  
Arthur Mitchell  
George Wein |
| 1981 | Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corp.  
Doris Turner  
George Weissman |
| 1982 | Clara Hale  
Joseph Papp  
Rev. M. Moran Weston |
| 1983 | Lois K. Alexander  
David J. Mahoney  
Hon. Percy E. Sutton |
| 1984 | Gordon Parks  
Lillian Roberts  
Tom Wicker |
| 1985 | James Chancey, Andrew Goodman & Michael Schwenner, in tribute  
Charlayne Hunter-Gault |
| 1986 | James L. Ferguson  
Dr. Bernard W. Harleston  
John T. Patterson, Jr. |
| 1987 | Dorothy I. Height  
Lloyd Richards  
Lewis Rudin |
| 1988 | Harry Belafonte  
Mrs. Kate Hicks  
Thomas S. Murphy |
| 1989 | Stanley W. Hill  
Hon. John V. Lindsay  
Dr. Clifton R. Wharton, Jr. |
| 1990 | John B. Carter  
Bishop Emerson J. Moore  
Dr. Betty Shabazz |
| 1991 | Ahmet M. Ertegun  
Theodore W. Kheel  
Florence M. Rice |
| 1992 | Horace W. Morris  
William A. Schreyer |
| 1993 | Dr. James R. Dumpson  
Osborn Elliott  
Judith Jamison |
| 1994 | John J. Barrett  
Eugene L. McCabe |
| 1995 | Edward Lewis  
Josie McMillian  
James E. Preston |
| 1996 | Wynton Marsalis  
Leonard Riggio |
| 1997 | Dick Gidron, Sr.  
Victor Gotbaum  
Cicely Tyson |
| 1998 | Barbara Smith  
George M. Steinbrenner, Ill  
Eugene h. Webb |
| 1999 | Earl G. Graves, Sr.  
Dr. Muriel Petioni  
Walter V. Shipley |
| 2000 | Dr. Roscoe C. Brown, Jr.  
Toni Fay  
Tom Freston |
| 2001 | Mrs. Theodore W. Kheel  
Ken Miller  
Russell Simmons  
Rev. Dr. Gardner C. Taylor |
| 2002 | Ralph Dickerson, Jr.  
Westina Matthews Shatteen  
Robert B. Willumstad |
| 2003 | Gerald Boyd  
Carla A. Harris  
Dennis D. Swanson |
| 2004 | Michael Caridi  
Jeffrey S. Fried  
Bud Greenspan  
Ken Kaess  
Marie Christmas Rhone |
| 2005 | John Esposito  
Tonya Lewis Lee  
David Slackman |
| 2006 | CVS Caremark  
GEICO  
Macy’s  
Dennis M. Walcott |
| 2007 | John King (Ann S. Kheel Honoree)  
UPS  
NYUL Young Professionals (Ann S. Kheel Honoree) |
| 2008 | Edward Enniful  
Amalgamated Bank  
Sherry Bronfman (Ann S. Kheel Honoree)  
Michael Cardozo  
Deutsch (Volunteer Award) |
| 2009 | Marva Aleen, Hue-Man Bookstoree  
Raymond McGuire, Citi  
Franklin A. Thomas, TFF Study Group |
| 2010 | The Hon. David N. Dinkins  
Marcus Samuelsson  
Cora Weiss (Ann S. Kheel Honoree) |
| 2011 | Charles M. Blow  
Zane Tankel and Apple-Metro  
KEM  
Michele Cahill (Ann S. Kheel Honoree) |
| 2012 | Bethann Hardison  
UPS  
NYUL Young Professionals (Ann S. Kheel Honoree) |
| 2013 | Edward Enniful  
CVS Caremark  
John King (Ann S. Kheel Honoree) |
| 2014 | Jason Franklin (Ann S. Kheel Honoree)  
Amalgamated Bank  
Sherry Bronfman (Ann S. Kheel Honoree)  
Michael Cardozo  
Deutsch (Volunteer Award) |
| 2015 | Erica Payne (Ann S. Kheel Honoree)  
Tracy Reese  
Tiffany R. Warren |
| 2016 | Dapper Dan (Icon Award)  
Kyle Hagler  
Valeisha Butterfield Jones (Ann S. Kheel Honoree) |
| 2017 | Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce  
JP Morgan Chase |
| 2018 | Grasshopper Bancorp, Inc.  
Sunny Hostin  
Kenneth Thompson, posthumously (Ann S. Kheel Honoree) |
New York City’s staggering black youth unemployment rate, its deteriorating housing, a school system that is not responsive to the needs of minority school children and a critical lack of decent health services for the poor provide the New York Urban League with its greatest challenge.

HORACE MORRIS
President | 1975-1983

Founded on April 1, 2003, NYULYP is one of 64 chapters of the National Urban League Young Professionals. The award-winning New York Urban League Young Professionals (NYULYP) is a 200+ member volunteer auxiliary of the New York Urban League, composed of members aged 21-40 who are committed to serving and supporting our affiliate and the NYC community. The organization trains, develops, and educates young professionals to take leadership roles within Urban Leagues, the civil rights movement, and society-at-large. Our dedicated members of dynamic young professionals provide over 16,000 hours of service throughout the five boroughs of NYC and supporting the New York Urban League. Specifically, we help staff the annual HBCU Fair, serve as mentors to Whitney M. Young, Jr. scholars, co-sponsored get out the vote, voter registration drives and census count initiatives. We have served on the Urban League Board of Directors, special events committees and most recently our immediate past president Shalima L. McCants joined the NYUL staff as the Chief Program Officer.

On behalf of NYULYP, I am delighted to continue our support of the New York Urban League and the Frederick Douglass Awards Dinner. As we look forward to the next one hundred years, we thank you for your continued support, and look forward to your future support as we continue to empower the next generation of African Americans.

Eu’nice R. McCoy,
President
Tell us and/or post about your favorite New York Urban League moment at www.nyul.org

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The interaction of economic distress and convenience of processed foods results in overall poor health outcomes in poor and minority communities.

Our small business support center can be a game changer for you and our small businesses across New York. We provide a wide range of services to support businesses in the city.
- Business support
- Workforce development
- entrepreneurship
- Access to capital
- Project management
- Marketing and branding
- Business strategy and planning
- Leadership training

Our small business support center is ready to help you today.
This is the closest some kids will ever get to college.

A lot of kids who should go to college never get there. Many don’t know where to go for financial help, or career guidance. Others aren’t sure how to apply, or what courses to take. And too often the result is a wasted life. That’s where the New York Urban League comes in. Helping minority kids get into college is just one of the things we’ve been doing for more than sixty years. We are also actively involved in the important areas of housing, employment, health, and social welfare.

As always, our basic goal is to make sure all New Yorkers get the chance they deserve. But we can’t do it alone. You can help. Become a member. Volunteer your services. Or send a contribution to the New York Urban League, 1500 Broadway, New York, New York 10036. (212) 730-5200.

The New York Urban League 🍊