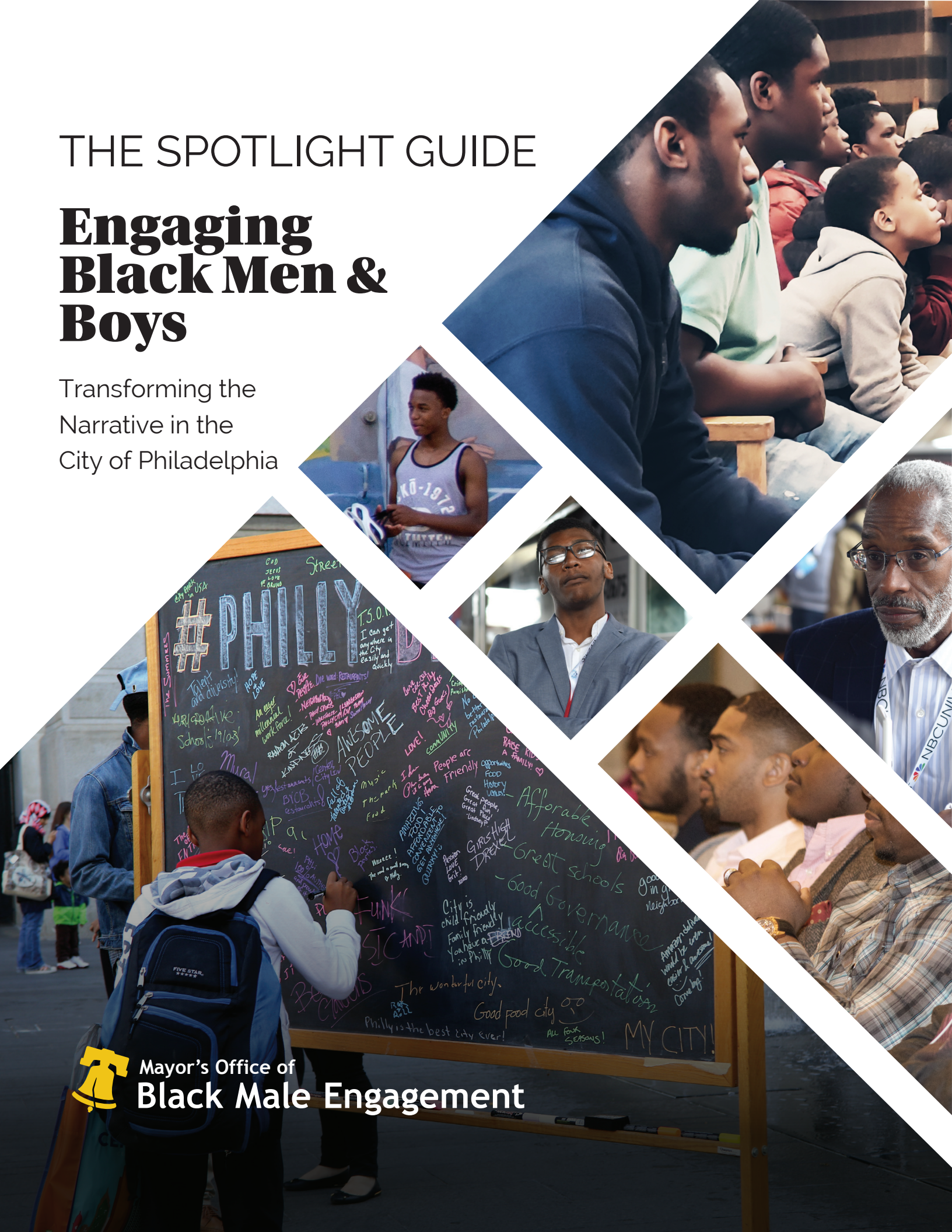


THE SPOTLIGHT GUIDE

Engaging Black Men & Boys

Transforming the
Narrative in the
City of Philadelphia



Mayor's Office of
Black Male Engagement

ABOUT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF BLACK MALE ENGAGEMENT (OBME)

Leadership



Octavius L. Blount


Coordinator | Editor of Spotlight Guide

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Octavius L. Blount is a leader, thinker, innovator, and proud South Philadelphian. Currently, he serves as Coordinator for the Mayor's Office of Black Male Engagement - tasked to support the moving of the needle with creating an equitable Philadelphia for men and boys of color by eliminating disparities and creating opportunities. Octavius has 11 years of experience as a youth advocate, 7 years in the field of Black Male Achievement/Engagement, 3 years of experience as a behavioral intervention specialist with middle & high school aged Black males. Additionally, he is the Founder and Chief Visionary Officer of The G.A.A.M.E. Project, a school-based youth mentoring & youth development program designed to build the retention and graduation rates of young African American males in high school through providing/

engaging in educational and social supportive interventions and discussions. Blount is a graduate of Arcadia University Sociology department and earned his Master's in Social Work from Bryn Mawr College GSSWSR program. Before entering into the Mayor's Office of Black Male Engagement, Octavius engaged and developed strategic partnerships with various stakeholder groups as the Engagement and Advocacy, Intern for Mentor IR, co-developed and facilitated workshops as a workforce development coach at Episcopal Community Services, and designed behavioral interventions & trained youth as an EducationWorks Social Worker for Philadelphia Youth Court. Octavius has been a member or contributor to various organizations such as being a Member of 100 Black Men Philadelphia Inc., Advisory Council member for Mentor Independence Region, Community Engagement Committee for Black Alumni Association at Arcadia University, Vice President of I.M.P.A.C.T (Intelligent Men of Color Purposefully Accomplishing College Together), volunteer, guest speaker and now co-planner of the 2019-2020 Black Male Development Symposium (BMDS).



We accomplish these goals with the help of the following programs:

- **My Brother's Keeper Philadelphia initiative**
- **The Mayor's Commission on African American Males**
- **The Philadelphia Men & Boys of Color Collaborative**

History

The Mayor's Office of Black Male Engagement (OBME) operates as the first office of its kind in the United States of America. Utilizing a policy-driven – collective impact model, OBME leads the City's work around closing the opportunity divide for men and boys of color in Philadelphia.

OBME serves as a voice and liaison between individuals, organizations and local government.

If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward.

- Dr. Martin Luther King

Mission

We work to align and focus resources and initiatives towards the specific goal of reducing economic and social disparities along with improving outcomes for Black men and boys and the communities in which they live.



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A group of five men in suits are standing in front of a large bronze statue of a Black man. The men are smiling and looking towards the statue. The statue is a large, dark bronze figure of a Black man in a suit, looking upwards. The background shows a building with large windows and columns. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the image, containing the title and a paragraph of text.

TRANSFORMING **the Narrative of Black Men & Boys**

Our intention is to broaden and deepen the dimensions in which Black men and boys are seen, from the one-dimensional stereotype to the fullest spectrum of our humanity.



73.9%

of Black boys ages 3 and over
enrolled in nursery school,
preschool or kindergarten

(ACS Data: 2017)



85%

of Black males (18+) have a high
school diploma, GED, or
equivalent

(ACS Data: 2017)



5%

of all the teachers in the city of
Philadelphia are African
American males, slightly higher
than the nation - which stands at
less than 2%.

This number is on the rise of
increasing by 2025 through the
efforts of The Fellowship: Black
Male Teacher for Social Justice

668,123

Total Black
population*

304,270

Total Black male
population*

1,580,863

Total Philadelphia population*



72.1

years of age

the life expectancy of
Black males is increasing

*(Philadelphia 2017 ACS Census)

SPOTLIGHT SERIES

Overview

Changing The Narrative

In the Mayor's Office of Black Male Engagement we host spotlight series where we recognize promising, hardworking, and inspiring Black male leaders in the City of Philadelphia. This series was administered to highlight the work they do, how they make an impact on the lives and people they serve, and how they're transforming the narrative and image of Black men. Ultimately, we want to showcase and raise the visibility of positive Black men in Philadelphia. The Mayor's Office of Black Male Engagement believes that positive representation has the power to show young Black males their own potential. Our intention is to broaden and deepen the dimensions in which Black men and boys are seen, from a one-dimensional stereotype to the full spectrum.

We have highlighted 40 special guests on our show from a variety of professional backgrounds such as Government, Business, Educational institutions, Health facilities, Labor organizations, civic organizations, nonprofit sector, and many other entities. Our Spotlight Series can be seen via our YouTube channel and they can also be viewed on our social media outlets on Facebook and Instagram @OBMEPHL.

SPOTLIGHT

Guest Speakers



Antar T. Bush

Health Education Coordinator for the AIDS Activities Coordinating Office of Philadelphia

Antar Bush, LSW, MPH(c), is the Health Education Coordinator for the AIDS Activities Coordinating Office of Philadelphia focusing on the CLUB 1509 (Community Linkage for Urban Brothas). Antar is an enthusiastic social researcher, mentor, and writer of social justice issues. He is the author of two articles featured in the Philadelphia Gay News "What Happens in Prison Stays in Prison" and "The Great Philadelphia Pumpkin Patch" in 2015 & 2016. Antar is also working on a series of essays chronicling his experiences with the criminal justice system. His background in the LGBTQA public health, criminal justice, and social work has led him to number of opportunities and community leadership roles, including an invitation to the White House. Antar is a graduate of West Chester University's MSW program and is currently getting his second masters degree in Community Public Health at WCU.



Chris Banks

Executive Director, The BANKSGiving Company

Philly raised and educated, Chris Banks attended Northeast High School and Temple University, where he studied Communications and Political Science. He currently runs a nonprofit organization based on teaching young adults about different aspects of business and finance. The 501c3 organization is called "The BanksGiving Company." In addition to creating and managing the vision of BanksGiving, Mr. Banks was a Finance and Policy Analyst at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

"I'm passionate about giving everyone choices and resources to meet their goals. As hard as things can be growing up in the inner city, I happen to think that there are more opportunities presented to us than we notice or take advantage of. I want to help kids understand that," says Mr. Banks when asked about his connection to the purpose of the company.

BanksGiving is driven by such a passionate leader, and is furthered by others in and out of the community that believe in the mission and believe in the purpose that BanksGiving works so hard to drive forward.

[Change the narrative, changes your destiny.]
- **James Baldwin**



4th District Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr.

Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr. is a champion for education, an ally for criminal justice, and a friend of the environment. The Honorable Curtis Jones Jr. represents the 4th District of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania which includes Allegheny West, Belmont Village, East Falls, Manayunk, Overbrook, Overbrook Park, Roxborough, Wynnefield and sections of West Philadelphia. Councilman Curtis Jones Jr.'s consistent and dedicated approach has earned him the trust, loyalty, and respect of both his constituents as well as his colleagues as he was unanimously elected Majority Leader on January 2, 2012 to January 4, 2016. Currently in his third term, Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr. is the Chairman of the Committees on Public Safety, Commerce & Economic Development and Vice Chair for Parks & Recreation & Cultural Affairs.



2nd District Councilman Kenyatta Johnson

A man with a mission to serve, Councilman Kenyatta Johnson represents the 2nd District, which covers parts of Center City, South and Southwest Philadelphia and also includes the stadium area, Philadelphia International Airport, the Navy Yard and the Eastwick, Grays Ferry, Hawthorne and Point Breeze neighborhoods.

The youngest member of City Council, Johnson arrived on the political scene in 1998 determined to end gun violence through Peace Not Guns, an organization he founded after the murder of his cousin – to prevent violence through education and the creation of programs that would give youth an alternative to the streets. That activism led to a successful run for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, where he served as State Representative for the 186th Legislative District from 2009 until 2012 when he took the oath of office for City Council.

The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.

- **Martin Luther King, Jr.**



Darin Toliver
MSW

Darin Toliver has over 15 years professional experience in social work, in the areas of childhood development, mental health, and education. A graduate of Temple University, Darin holds a Master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice. Darin is one of the co-founders and current vice president of the Black Men at Penn School of Social Work, Inc. at the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice. This grassroots, advocacy group seeks to recruit black males into the profession of social work as well as providing prison re-entry services, anti-racism and violence prevention trainings to urban and suburban schools around the country. As a community advocate, Darin is an acting Commissioner on the Mayor's Commission of African American Males (MCAAM), a position appointed by Mayor James Kenny. He is currently working on his PhD in Social Work Education at Widener University, with a particular interest in evidenced- based research and strategies that will decrease violence. Currently a member of the National Association of Social Workers, Darin was selected by Generocity as one of 12 people of color strengthening the social impact sector in Philadelphia.



Zachary R. James
Director of Business Development, MyNewPhilly

Zack is a graduate of the School of Tourism & Hospitality at Temple University with a Bachelor's of Science in Sport & Recreation Management. With a heavy focus on hospitality and marketing, Zack took his skill set to New York where he spent his senior semester as a marketing intern for the WNBA's New York Liberty. Zack became addicted to the fast-paced work environment of New York City and decided to start his professional career with the New Jersey Nets of the NBA. Over three years, Zack had the opportunity to work in ticket sales, customer service & retention and event production. His experience in so many phases of operation made him an ideal fit for the premium sales team that was at the forefront of opening the much anticipated Barclays Center. Zachary also became one of the first staff members to receive hospitality training from the famed Disney Institute. From the sales of premium seating to implementing a comprehensive networking platform, Zachary became a part of the fabric that brought professional sports back to Brooklyn.



Darryl Bunridge
Executive Director & Vice
President, City Year Philadelphia

Darryl is a native of the Pittsburgh suburbs. He is a graduate of Penn State University and a lifetime member of the Penn State Alumni Association of which he is currently serving his third term on the Penn State Alumni Council, the governing body of the association. He is also a Co-Chair of the National Service Task Force in Philadelphia, Committee Member of the Cedar Park Neighbor Association Scholarship, and Founder of the Berta and Earnest Jr. Diversity Scholarship in State College, PA

Darryl was named the Executive Director and Vice President of City Year Philadelphia in July 2015. In this role oversees a staff of 45, an AmeriCorps team of 205 and a \$9.7 million budget to further City Year's mission to help students on a track to academic and social-emotional success.



David C. Williams
Attorney, Kline & Specter Law
Firm

Davis is a graduate of the United States Military Academy, and served in Iraq, Bosnia and Germany, as interned for a judge in the Republic of Botswana as a civilian. He was awarded the Army Commendation for Meritorious Service for duty during Operation Iraqi Freedom II, a theater of war in which he supervised the operational and combat readiness of 23 soldiers and led a convoy that placed radar teams in northeastern Iraq.

Since joining Kline & Specter, Williams has worked on many important personal injury, medical malpractice and whistleblower cases. He was made a partner in 2017.

He was chosen each year from 2013-2017 as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer — Rising Star, which places him in the top 2.5 percent of attorneys in the state who are 40 or younger. He also was honored in 2013 with a Diverse Attorney of the Year award given by The Legal Intelligencer to outstanding minority attorneys from across Pennsylvania.



Donavan West
CEO Culturally Congruent
Solutions

As a business development consultant, Donovan has coordinated a series of workshops and symposiums designed to empower and educate micro-entrepreneurs in Philadelphia, Chester, Delaware & New York. Donovan managed a project at Lincoln Financial Field for the Philadelphia Eagles football games where he hired and supervised over 500, normally disenfranchised, employees to work. During his final year as an undergraduate at Penn State University, Donovan worked on Capitol Hill for former United States Senator, Carol Moseley-Braun



Dr. Howard Stevenson
Constance Clayton Professor
of Urban Education; Professor
of African Studies; Human
Development and Quantitative
Methods Division; Graduate
School of Education, University of
Pennsylvania

Dr. Stevenson is the Constance Clayton Professor of Urban Education, Professor of African Studies, in the Human Development & Quantitative Methods Division of the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Stevenson is Executive Director of the Racial Empowerment Collaborative (REC), a research, program development, and training center that brings together community leaders, researchers, authority figures, families, and youth to study and promote racial literacy and health in schools and neighborhoods. He is also the Director of Forward Promise, a national program office funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to provide philanthropic support for organizations committed to improving the health of boys and young men of color and their families to help them heal from trauma of historical and present-day dehumanization, discrimination, and colonization.

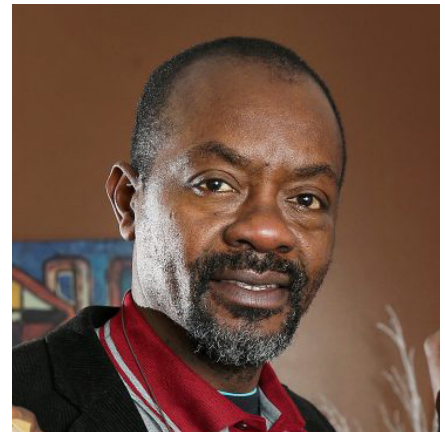


Dr. Marc Lamont Hill
Owner Uncle Bobbie's Coffee &
Books

Dr. Hill is a renowned scholar, journalist and social commentator who grew up in North Philadelphia. Hill received his undergraduate degree from Temple in 2000, and holds a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Hill is the author of four books and editor of two others, and has been widely published in academic and popular journals. Ebony Magazine has named him one of America's 100 most influential black leaders. He is a frequent guest on CNN, and a host on the VH1 and BET networks. He was also the inaugural host of HuffPost Live. Currently, Dr. Hill is the Steve Charles Professor of Media, Cities, and Solutions at Temple University. Prior to that, he held positions at Columbia University and Morehouse College.

Dr. Hill is also the Owner of Uncle Bobbie's Coffee and Books on 5445 Germantown ave Phila, Pa 19144



Eric Nzeribe, Founder
FunTimes Magazine

Eric founded FunTimes Magazine in 1992 in Monrovia, Liberia, to bring "cheer" to the dreary life in Liberia during the civil war. The magazine has since become a platform for candid discussion and serves as a conduit of information to/from Africans, Caribbean and the Diaspora. It is headquartered in Philadelphia, PA, and debuted in the United States in October 2008. Eric is passionate about highlighting the achievements, business, heritage, culture and beauty of Africans and Caribbean all around the world. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management, from University of Jos, Nigeria and Master of Science in Publication Management, from Drexel University, PA.

[A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives.]

- **Jackie Robinson**



Tamir Harper
Founder & Executive Director,
UrbEd Advocates

Tamir graduated from Science Leadership Academy in Philadelphia where he was a member of the Community Involvement Club and the Black Student Union.

When Tamir was 17 years old he Co-Founded UrbEd Inc., a nonprofit that advocates for a quality and efficient urban education, by working to disband the school-to-prison pipeline, increase teacher diversity, improve building conditions, and advocate for local control of schools. Tamir currently serves as the Executive Director of UrbEd. Tamir works to reconstruct the field of education and empower every young person to reach their highest potential.

Tamir Harper is a Frederick Douglass Distinguished Scholar at American University studying Secondary Education and Communications



James Burks
Director of Workforce
Development, Episcopal
Community Services

James currently serves as the Director of Workforce Development at Episcopal Community Services (ECS) and oversees job readiness, paid internships and mentoring programming. Joining ECS in 2014, James has served in various positions in the Workforce Development department, most notably in the areas of providing coaching to participants focused on obtaining and retaining employment, and building relationships with local employers and training programs. Prior to ECS, James spent 5 years with the City of Philadelphia's Office of Homeless Services (formerly the Office of Supportive Housing) where he was responsible for the data and research gathering, report creation, and performance measure outcomes monitoring for emergency housing programs.



Jordan Parisse-Ferrarini
Founder, Trades for a Difference

Jordan is a construction consultant and design build contractor from Philadelphia, PA. Jordan is familiar with the adversities and pressures facing many young adults from humble beginnings who grow up in our city. He believes that positive guidance, opportunity and educational resources can help them attain success. Jordan holds multiple trade licenses and certifications including a Construction Management Certification from Temple University, an ICC Master Electrical License, and a NAHB Carpentry Certification. He is a nationally awarded and published design build contractor having received the NKBA National 30 under 30 Award. Jordan is also an engaging public speaker at universities, national trade shows, and community engagement platforms.

I am because we are and because we are, therefore I am.



Keith Warren

President, 100 Black Men of Philadelphia, Inc.

A Toledo, OH, native, Keith moved to Philadelphia, PA to complete his degrees in Business Management Law and Finance. He also is the owner and operator of I.Y.B. Consultants, a locally based sales and marketing company that has been in existence for over 15 years. Over the years, Keith has done contract and consulting work for a host of local, regional, national and international corporations, including Vanguard, Pfizer, GlaxoSmithKline, Morgan Lewis & Brokious, among others.

As the grand-son of a devoted pastor, it was instilled in him while growing-up, that if you have and you are blessed - that you should give and share one's blessings. Keith currently serves as President and Chairmen of the Board of 100 Black Men's Philadelphia Chapter where he has been serving for the past five (5) years.



Marcus Allen

CEO Big Brothers & Big Sisters Independence Region

On April of 2013, Marcus became the first African American CEO in Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Independence Region. For three consecutive years, he has significantly grown BBBS, as measured by number of children served, revenue generation from donors and programs and overall visibility. This impressive growth garnered BBBS Independence a "Gold Standard Award" in 2013 and the coveted "Pinnacle Award" in 2014 from BBBS America, given to only four affiliates of the 334 affiliated agencies across the country. As a result, Allen now manages the largest one-to-one mentoring program in the Commonwealth and the third largest Big Brothers Big Sisters Agency in the nation. Allen is a visionary leader, spending much of his time defining how BBBS Independence Region can have a greater impact on the over 200,000 children facing adversity in greater Philadelphia.



Michael Robinson

Director for Community Outreach and Hiring-Office of Human Relations, Temple University

Michael Robinson is the Senior Pastor at the Greater Enon Missionary Baptist Church (North Philadelphia) and also serves as the director for Community Outreach and Hiring-Office of Human Resources at Temple University.

It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.

- **Frederick Douglass**



Vincent Cobb II

CEO The Fellowship: Black Male Educators for Social Justice

Raised in Syracuse, New York, Vincent began his community work in high school as an organizer and youth activist for the Hip Hop Summit Action Network. His love for youth, education, and community was inspired by his seventh-grade black male teacher who motivated his passion to radically change the world. In college, Vincent founded the Empowering Minds Movement, offering high school students early experiences with mentoring, conferences organized by student groups, and college benefit concerts. He has received numerous awards, including Camelback, Education Pioneers, New Schools, and BMe Community fellowships, and he was recognized by the Knight Foundation as a top school leader energizing hundreds of teachers and school leaders.



Otis Hackney

Chief Education Officer

Philadelphia native Otis D. Hackney III began his career as a mathematics teacher at Germantown High School. Otis Hackney believes in improving opportunities for all children. After service in different schools throughout Philadelphia, Otis joined South Philadelphia High School as principal, where he successfully helped heal divisions after high-profile instances of racially motivated school violence. Under his leadership, the school also adopted a "community school" approach by creating unique partnerships with supportive service providers. In 2016, Mayor Jim Kenney appointed Otis Hackney to serve as the City of Philadelphia Chief Education Officer. As Chief Education Officer, Otis believes that our students come first and will work to improve opportunities for every child.



Mike "The Motivator" Nelson

Student Motivational Speaker

Mike was raised in West Philadelphia, and from an early age Mike could not figure out how to be a successful student. Mike Nelson has worked in the education field for the past 5 years in the roles of Student Motivational Speaker, Educator and Student Advocate. He specializes in youth and student development working with various educational programs, nonprofit organizations, middle schools, high schools and colleges in the United States of America. Today, Mike stands as an advocate and champion for education, as Mike will be graduating this June with his Master of Arts degree with a concentration in Urban Studies.

I have discovered in life that there are ways of getting almost anywhere you want to go, if you really want to go.

- **Langston Hughes**



Andrew Williams

Program Manager Boys Track, DHS

Andrew Williams holds a Bachelor of Arts in Social Relations and a minor in Criminal Justice from Cheyney University. He also holds a Masters in Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania. Professionally he is a Social Worker with Philadelphia's Department of Human Service (DHS). At DHS Williams is a program coordinator for the Boys T.R.A.C.K. Character Enrichment program; which is a non-athletic mentoring program that follows Barack Obama My Brother's Keeper Initiative. He is also a Prison Parent Facilitator for Parent Action Network at Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility. In the role of a program coordinator he services dependents and marginalized youth through mentoring and life skills development. As a prison parent facilitator, Williams support and educate incarcerated fathers to enhance their outlook on fatherhood and improve their parenting capacity through conflict resolution, anger management, childhood development, and role modeling. Williams has been employed at DHS for over 20 years and has managed both roles as a Parent Facilitator and Program Coordinator for over 10 years. Williams is an advocate for self-efficacy and strongly believes that when young and adult men have the opportunity to acquire the necessary skills to actualize their own capabilities they will be industrious in their own lives, family, and community.



Mitch Little

Executive Director, Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity (CEO)

Mitch leads the city's anti-poverty initiatives as Executive Director for the Office of **Community Empowerment and Opportunity**. The agency acts as a convener, funder, and evaluator contracting with a wide variety of grantees to advance federal Community Service Block Grant - supported initiatives in benefit access, housing security, learning preparedness, financial security, and workforce development. In 2013, CEO released "Shared Prosperity Philadelphia, Our Plan to Fight Poverty". As the Community Action Agency for the city and county of Philadelphia, CEO seeks to align the city's efforts to lift individuals and communities out of poverty and increase opportunities for low income individuals and families. Mitch serves on a number of Boards of Directors including YesPhilly, an alternative school for out-of-school young adults, and mentors young professionals as a member of the African-Americans in Government Mentoring Program.

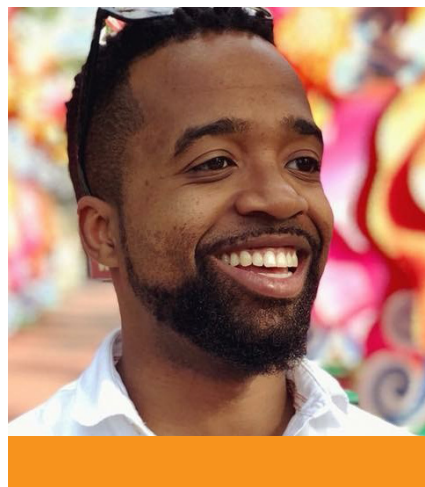
Representation has the power to show us our own potential.



Seitu Stephens

Lincoln University - Director, Office of Community & Government Relations

Mr. Stephens is a higher education administrator providing strategic leadership and guidance to public and charter high schools and two and four year universities. His wide range of professional experience encompassed positions as; a budget and legislative analysis for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, Subject Matter Expert on online learning platforms for institutions of higher education, and conflict resolution and criminal justice graduate school level instructor. Seitu is Chairmen of the Chester County Community Service Block Grant Administrative Board, Board Member at Imhotep Institute Charter High School, member of Lincoln University's Academic Leadership Committee, and past Board member of Coatesville Arts Studio. Seitu has a Bachelor's Degree in History and Black Studies with a minor in Secondary Education from Lincoln University, a Juris Doctorate from Widener University, and is currently enrolled in Immaculata University's Ed.D. in Higher Education Leadership program. Seitu has held positions on Lincoln University campus from Interim Campus Director to now Director, Office of Community & Government Relations. Seitu is a West Philadelphia native having graduated from University City High School.



Stephen Tyson Jr.

Program Director, City Year Philadelphia

Stephen is a musician, filmmaker, educator and founder of JusListen Entertainment - a multimedia arts-based company dedicated to promoting critical thinking and freedom of artistic expression through Hip-Hop culture.

As an artist (performing under the moniker "Ellect") he has amassed over 1 million total plays across digital platforms including SoundCloud, iTunes, Spotify, and Tidal. He has performed at venues including the Apollo Theater, Nuyorican Poets Café, and Caffè Lena. Stephen also wrote and composed the theme song for "StarTalk All-Star" on Sirlus XM Radio.

Stephen is currently pursuing his Ed.D. in Educational Leadership at Arcadia University. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from Franklin & Marshall College, and a Master's degree in International Peace & Conflict Resolution from Arcadia University. He is also a proud member of the Universal Zulu Nation, founders of Hip-Hop culture.



Reverend Dr. Alyn E. Waller
Senior Pastor of Enon Tabernacle
Baptist Church in Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania

Reverend Dr. Alyn E. Waller is the Senior Pastor of Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A highly sought after revivalist, lecturer and musician, Dr. Waller is a true visionary who has been described by Upscale Magazine (February 1999) as "an individual who has been called to operate far beyond the restraints of traditionalism."

After graduating Dr. Waller went to Ohio University in Athens where, in 1987, he was awarded a Bachelor's Degree in Music Business. Dr. Waller has earned a Master of Divinity Degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky (1990) and a Doctor of Ministry Degree in Ministry to Marriage and Family from Palmer Theological Seminary in Wynnewood, Pennsylvania (1998). In 2014, Dr. Waller received an honorary doctorate from Lincoln University.



Dr. Darren Lipscomb
Director of Outreach,
Recruitment, and Enrollment
Services, Delaware Community
College

Darren is an Army veteran, having served as an Intelligence Analyst with the Pennsylvania National Guard's 56th Stryker Brigade in Iraq in 2009 and providing support to Louisiana residents during the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Darren is also a college administrator, having interned at West Chester University, Immaculata University, and Temple University and working at Delaware County Community College since 2010. Darren holds a Master's degree in Counselor Education from West Chester University, PhD from Widener University's Higher Education Leadership program and is currently a law student at Temple University. Darren currently serves as chair of the Mayor's Commission on African American Males and recently received his doctorate.



Dr. Wayne Williams
Assistant Professor of Instruction
Accounting at Temple University
Fox School of Business

Dr. Williams joins the Fox School from the Community College of Philadelphia (CCP), where he had served Director of Education Services. At CCP, Williams served on committees to support the college's five-year strategic plan and promote programs designed to improve success rates for students of color. He also launched an entrepreneurship education program with CCP's largest grant award to date.

Dr. Williams earned his Doctor of Education in Higher Education Management from the University of Pennsylvania. He received his Master of Science in Taxation and Financial Planning from Widener University, and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from the Fox School.

Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome.

- **Booker T. Washington**



Mike Morrow

Founder | FLTR | A Hybrid Marketing Company

Michael Morrow was born and raised in the Philadelphia area and attended Millersville University of Pennsylvania on a basketball scholarship. Upon graduating from Millersville with a Bachelors of Science in Communications Broadcasting, Michael learned one of his most important lessons life can teach! Education works best with a plan! Spending most of his time playing basketball and socializing, Michael never did the work of pursuing other interests.

A horrible work experience at Michael's first job as a salesman encouraged him to focus on finding a career that his interests and talents could best be utilized.

12 years later, Michael created a hybrid marketing agency that helps brands connect with their target audience through the insights of niche experts/influencers.

Some of the popular brands Michael and his team have had the pleasure of working with are Remy Martin, Coors Light, Miller Light, Ciroc, McDonald's and BET.

Some of the talent Michael and his team have had the pleasure of working with are DJ Mustard, Timbaland, Wyclef Jean, Big Sean, Curren\$y, Bun C, Ice Cube, N.O.R.E and many more.



G.Lamart Stewart

Senior Pastor/Teacher/Police Officer

G. Lamar Stewart Sr. is the Senior Pastor/Teacher of the historic Taylor Memorial Baptist Church, in the Nicetown-Tioga section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Under the leadership of G. Lamar Stewart Sr., Taylor Memorial Baptist Church has added over 250 members to the body of Christ, developed ministries for the entire family-unit, intentionally serves the Nicetown-Tioga community through monthly random acts of kindness (local missions & evangelism) and spiritually strengthens the church through Discipleship and Christian Education in alignment with the vision; "A Church Empowering Disciples To Make Disciples". G. Lamar Stewart Sr. is a member and was ordained under the spiritual leadership of Dr. Alyn E. Waller of the Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

G. Lamar Stewart Sr. also serves the City of Philadelphia as a Police Officer. He is currently assigned to Southwest Police Division as a Community Engagement Officer. G. Lamar Stewart has implemented numerous programs geared towards improving relations between the police and communities they're sworn to serve. One of those initiatives called "Turning A New Corner", which transforms heavily populated urban street corners into job interview sites, uniting employers with job seekers-many who are returning citizens.

If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward.

- **Dr. Martin Luther King**



Shuja Moore
Crown Mentality
crownmentality@gmail.com

Today's youth are bombarded with negative images of what it is to be successful and how to be an adult leading many of them to make wrong choices in life. Despite having wonderful parents, Shuja Moore sought to find success in the streets instead of the boardroom causing him to serve 12 years in prison. Now, Shuja is a man on a mission to assist at-risk youth shed criminal thinking.

"I founded Crown Mentality to help kids who were like me, ambitious but misguided, to focus their ambitions in the right direction."

Shuja Moore is a writer, mentor, community activist and motivational speaker. He began his redemptive journey to help change the criminal mentality of inner-city youth by mentoring fellow inmates. He went on to write for several publications across the nation. Since his release he has gone on to speak at schools, juvenile institutions and drug and alcohol centers causing Shuja to be given the helm of Stop the Madness, Stop the Violence, a 501(c)(3) organization with an 18-year history serving Philadelphia's youth. He is currently working on a series of short films designed to show youth the advantages and disadvantages of making the right choices in life.



Rev. Dr. Douglas M. Carpenter

Rev. Dr. Douglas M. Carpenter, Sr. along with his wife, Rev. Felisa E. Carpenter are the Pastors of the Philadelphia Prayer, Praise and Worship Center Church, Inc., 51st & Locusts Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19139, a ministry that God allowed them to birth in their home in May 1998. Pastor and Co-Pastor Carpenter have two children of their own, a daughter, Delayna and a son, Douglas Jr. and a godson, Michael T. Wearen that God allowed them to help raise.

Pastor Carpenter was called to the ministry in August 1981. He preached his initial sermon in May 1983 at the Society for Helping Church. He was licensed and ordained at the Society Church by his Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Repsie M. Warren.

Pastor Carpenter received his Certificate in Biblical Studies from the Manna Bible Institute in May, 1985. He then received his B.A. in Organizational Management from Eastern University, St. Davids, PA and his Master of Theological Studies from the Palmer Theological Seminary of the Eastern University. He then received his Doctor of Ministry from the Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, PA.

I'm capable of anything, my imagination can give me wings.

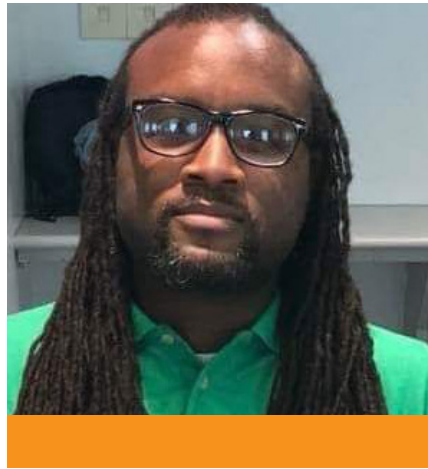
- Nas



Nisiar Smith

CEO & Founder The People's Innovation Movement; Founder, Philly Phinancial Literacy Week

Nisiar is currently a student at Penn State university studying Finance. A recipient of the 2017 Humanitarian MVP Award from Police & Fire Federal Credit Union for his service to its members, in which he assisted over 2,500 members, helped book over 700+ loans to increase profits by 22% for a year over year return, and decreased the member debt ratio by 35%. Nisiar has dedicated a lot of his time into making a difference in the community. With over 5 years experience in the financial industries, Nisiar is expanding his reach by becoming a member of the black congressional associates in Washington DC. He is also currently an instructor for Temple University Pan African Studies community education program. Nisiar is dedicated to the evolution of seeing members of the community achieve financial freedom, by being an example and providing resources.



Gabriel Bryant

Engaging Males of Color (EMOC) Coordinator and Youth Initiatives Specialist at the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS)

Gabriel Bryant has spent his life and career as a community advocate, who has a passion for supporting young people and social justice. He currently serves as the Engaging Males of Color (EMOC) Coordinator and Youth Initiatives Specialist at the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS). In this capacity, he works to promote mental health and wellness for men and boys color. In addition, he is a member of several civic organizations and is an active mentor to youth in the city. He has lectured and served as a panelist at a number of colleges and universities across the country (including the University OF Pennsylvania, New York University and Howard University), often on issues focusing on males of color, community organizing and a variety of leadership trainings.



Akinseye Brown

ECBACC Vice-President: Champion of the Black Age of Comics

Mr. Akinseye (pronounced: ah-keen-shay-yay) Olaseni Brown is an award-winning, multi-talented illustrator whose portfolio consists of diverse projects and whose work ranges from graphic design to paintings to comic book and children's book illustrations. His publishing company, Sokoya Productions, founded in 2006. Since 2009, Mr. Brown has served as ECBACC Vice-President, and continues to serve in his previous capacity since 2006 as the Education Chair for the Storytelling That Advances Reading Skills (STARS) Workshops. These workshops are facilitated city-wide / regionally as public lectures on art & literacy education that also include introducing participants to the various career choices that exist within the comic book industry along with learning about the comic book production process.

RESOURCE List

[Service to others is the rent you pay for
your room here on earth.]

- **Muhammad Ali**

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Activist | Publisher | Founder, FunTimes Magazine

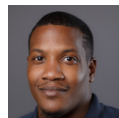
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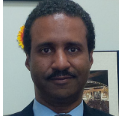
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**Stephen J. Tyson, Jr.**

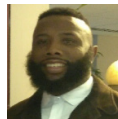
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Executive Director of the Racial
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Director, Forward Promise

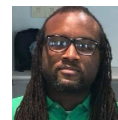
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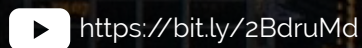
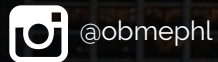
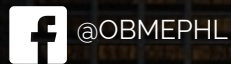
Education
is the most
powerful
weapon
which you
can use to
change the
world.

- **Nelson Mandela**

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Mayor's Office of
Black Male Engagement

www.phila.gov/departments/mayors-office-of-black-male-engagement/