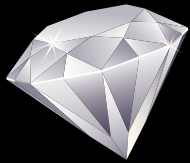


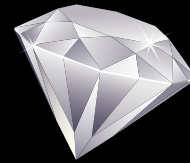


Urban League  
of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc.  
Presents

75TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING & AWARDS



*Gala*



Saturday, June 4, 2022

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

*75<sup>th</sup>*

*Diamond Anniversary*

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021



## DAVIS H. ELLIOT COMPANY, INC

**75+**  
**YEARS**  
*of*  
**ELECTRICAL  
EXCELLENCE**

The Davis H. Elliot Company, Inc. is a 100% employee-owned electrical service provider to investor-owned utility companies, rural electric cooperatives, municipalities and government and private entities.

Elliot was founded in 1946 and is recognized as a "top 10" industry provider today. Our footprint spans from Baltimore, MD to Oklahoma City, OK and we employ over 500 team members in Oklahoma alone. In the Greater Oklahoma City area we specialize in overhead and underground distribution, lighting, damage prevention and emergency restoration services. In addition, we are

evolving to extend transmission, substation, telecommunications, and clean energy solutions in our western territories over the coming years.

The safety, health and well-being of our Elliot family, business partners and members of the community is paramount. As we continuously strive to become the preferred provider of safe, reliable and efficient solutions, we do so by recognizing our role to ensure the equity of opportunity creating a workplace that is led and comprised of personnel of all backgrounds and experiences.

**WWW.DHEC.COM**

CONNECT WITH US @DAVISHELLIOT







**Urban League**  
of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc.

***Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.***

# Contents

Letter From Our President & CEO	5
Board of Directors	6
Our Mission	7
Staff	8
Young Professionals	11
Do You Remember	15
Financial Statement	20
Guild	21
Awardees	22
Life Member Inductees	26
Life Members	27
Members	28
Sponsors	30
Diversity Partners	31

# 2022

3900 N. Martin Luther King Avenue  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73111

main 405.424.5243

fax 405.424.3382

Visit us online at [urbanleagueok.org](http://urbanleagueok.org)



@UrbanLeagueOK

Donate to our programs at  
[paypal.me/urbanleagueokc](https://paypal.me/urbanleagueokc)



United Way  
Community Partner



**Urban League**  
of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc.

**PROUDLY PRESENTS OUR**

**2ND ANNUAL  
EXPUNGEMENT EXPO**

Join us Saturday, June 25, 2022 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

This will be a Drive-Thru event at  
the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City  
Located at 3900 N. Martin Luther King Ave  
Oklahoma City, OK 73111



DOBSON FAMILY FOUNDATION      CLIFF AND LESLIE HUDSON



**Urban League**  
of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc.

**75**

*Anniversary*

We Celebrate 75 years of service  
to Oklahoma City

December 19, 1946



# Letter From Our President & CEO

*L*ights, Camera, Action. Tonight we are shining the spotlight on the significant work the Urban League has accomplished and continues to do for the Oklahoma City community. For 75 years, the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City has been the premier social service agency and subject-matter expert in the African American community providing affordable housing, workforce development, employment, and education services.

For 75 years, the Urban League has been "HERE for the community". Deeply rooted physically and culturally in the African American community in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area, the agency's mission is to assist African Americans, other minorities and the poor achieve social and economic equality. Our core programs touch approximately 9,000 people annually.

The Urban League is HERE (Helping Empower and Retain Employees). The Urban League's workforce program focuses on strategic partnerships with criminal justice organizations, community colleges/ vocational training centers, employers, client linkages to support services, and trauma-informed approaches to case management. Our career coaches understand when people come to the Urban League, they struggle to meet basic needs and are often confronted with daily emotional and social challenges that create barriers to employment. The Urban League's workforce program is employment-focused and exceptionally well-equipped at providing supportive services to remove the obstacles to employment. The Urban League connects justice-involved clients to diversion opportunities and gives them the ability to change behaviors and obtain a second chance to achieve their goals. The Urban League has a long successful record of disrupting poverty in Oklahoma's African American community.

The Urban League is HERE (Helping Educate, Reward, and Encourage kids). The Urban League's Education and Family Development department provides tutoring and wrap-around support to Oklahoma City Public School District's Thelma Park Elementary and we operate a 2-star DHS licensed School-Age Learning Center at the Urban League's headquarters. The Urban League specializes in supporting minority children and offers an academically enriched learning environment where students from kindergarten through 6th grade can feel safe, welcomed, and comfortable to network with their peers. The program ensures improvement in school through academic



enrichment in science, literacy, technology, and math. The Urban League promotes social and personal skills development for parents/ caregivers by providing them with tools to create experiences to support their child's academic success.

By providing Housing Expansion and Rebuilding Equitable communities, the Urban League is HERE. For 75 years, the Urban League has been the leader in minority economic development in Oklahoma through our housing, financial literacy, and business programs. Over 100 families maintained affordable housing during the COVID-19 crisis living in the 107 units of housing the Urban League owns and operates. We provide clients with free financial literacy and homebuyer education classes. Business coaching is also provided to minority businesses. Clients meet with an Urban League business advisor to enroll in RISE-UP Business Certification Programs. The Urban League is HERE (Helping Entrepreneurs Reach Excellence).

The Urban League's Community Convening and Social Justice (CCSJ) program focuses on fighting for social justice and addressing the racial inequalities in black and brown communities related to social mobility and economic empowerment. CCSJ advocates for clients on voter education and mobilization, criminal justice reform, police reform, and inclusive economic development. In 2021, the ULOKC hosted the largest Expungement Expo in the state of Oklahoma servicing 809 people. Anxious people stood in line outside the facility for hours before the event in hopes of getting information or assistance on how to expunge their records. The Urban League is HERE (Highlighting Expungement and Rehabilitative Excellence).

The Urban League is HERE. We are shining a light on our work and sharing a snapshot of the Urban League's services that have become life-changing for our clients. We continue to be unwavering, intentional, and impactful in serving people of color and the poor.

The Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City will continue to be the leading nonprofit organization serving this community for the next 75 years.

*Dr. Valerie Thompson*  
President and CEO





**Urban League**  
of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc.

***Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.***

# Board of Directors

## OFFICERS

Erin Wilcox, Board Chair, Cox Communication

James Mouton, First Vice-Chair, Community Volunteer

Andre Caldwell, Second Vice-Chair, Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.

Jake Whitmore, Treasurer, Medical Solutions

Chelsey McKnight, Secretary, VI Marketing & Branding



## MEMBERS

Jeremy Temple Almon, MD, Mercy Hospital

Beverly Barrett, First Fidelity Bank

Brandon Carney, Oklahoma State School Boards Association

Angie Christopher, 180 Medical

Deano Cox, AT&T Oklahoma

Hossein Farzaneh, Home Creations

Kristin Greenhaw, Judicial Law Clerk to Judge Amanda Green

Bridgette Hundon, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith

Leslie Johnson, Arvest Bank

Stephanie Johnson, Bank of Oklahoma Financial

Kelly Kinser, Crowe & Dunley

Kendall Konicek, Enterprise Holdings

Rusty LaForge, Stride Bank

Walker Milligan, Therapist

Nicole Rhodes, OG&E

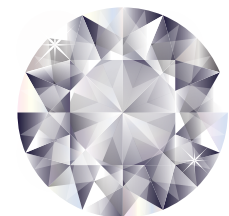
Matt Tilly, Devon Energy Corporation

Binoy V. Varughese, Boeing Corporation

LaShan Wiley, Loves Travel Stops & Country Stores

Ashley Wilemon, LDWW

Rebecca Whitmore, The Walt Disney Company







# Our Mission



## WORKFORCE & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

This program specializes in assessing and addressing barriers for individuals to increase their employability opportunities. We serve individuals who are unemployed, underemployed, seeking a career change, and previously or currently justice-involved. This program helps strengthen the economic well-being of Oklahoma County's African American families and other families living in poverty by increasing sustainable employment that will lead to self-sufficiency and less dependent on government subsidies. We provide access to industry-recognized certification, work readiness training, and connections with employers with an emphasis on high-demand occupations. We served over 1,880 clients last year. This program provides services through specialized initiatives:

- Diversion Hub • AT&T Education and Training • Young Adult Re-Entry Partnership (YARP)
- After Prison Work Initiative (APWI)

## EDUCATION & FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

This program specializes in supporting minority children to ensure success in school and development through achieving academic enrichment in subjects of science, literacy, technology, and math; social and personal skills development, and support to parents/caregivers by providing them tools to create environments and experiences that promote their child's academic success. We served 1,839 clients last year. This program provides services through specialized initiatives:

- School Age Learning Center • Strong Neighborhood Initiative (SNI) • Community Hope Center (CHC)

## HOUSING & FINANCIAL LITERACY

This program provides information on financial skills (budgeting, credit counseling, and debt management) for our clients to improve financial and/or housing stability. We provide access to affordable housing through our rental properties and supportive services. Residents also receive financial coaching to develop money management skills to remain self-sufficient and independent. Offers affordable homes by rehabilitating existing structures and constructing new homes, and prepares families for homeownership by hosting home buyer essentials workshops and webinars. We served 796 clients last year. This program provides services through specialized initiatives:

- City of Midwest City • Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency • Bank of America - Better Money Habits

## COMMUNITY CONVENING & SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Community Convening and Social Justice program provides education and advocacy on the barriers African Americans, and other minorities face. The department focuses on voter education and mobilization, criminal justice reform, police reform, economic development, and diversity and inclusion training. Urban League's HERE (Highlighting Expungement and Rehabilitative Excellence) program helps ex-offenders seal their records so that they can secure employment and move beyond the challenges of having a past criminal record by educating them about their rights. We served 3,420 clients last year.





# Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc.

# Staff

## EXECUTIVE TEAM



**Dr. Valerie Thompson**  
*President & CEO*  
29 years of service



**Shani Nealy, PHR, LMFT**  
*Senior Vice President*  
26 years of service



**Lonnetta Smith, MBA**  
*Vice President of Programs*  
20 years of service



**Amber Williams**  
*Staff Accountant*  
7 years of service



**Jabar Shumate, MHR**  
*Vice President of C.C. & S.J.*  
2 years of service



**Chip Hobbs**  
*Facility & UrbanWorks Manager*  
9 years of service



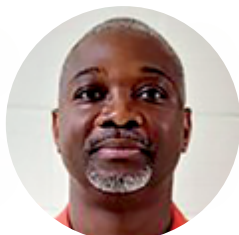
**Kendall Walton**  
*PR/Communications Assistant*  
1 year of service



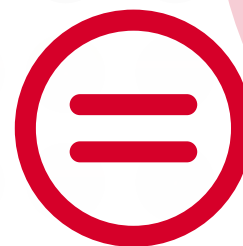
**Alexis Coleman**  
*HR Assistant*  
3 years of service



**Constance Tran**  
*Marketing Content Manager*  
3 years of service



**Corey Woodley**  
*Compliance Coordinator*  
Under 1 year of service



**Morgan Davis**  
*Health Equity Grant/Reporting Lead*  
Under 1 year of service

## WORKFORCE AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT



**Ollivett Brothers, MBA**  
*W. & C.D. Coordinator*  
8 years of service



**Courtenie Jackson**  
*Diversion Hub /Career Navi. Assistant*  
Under 1 year of service



**Dean Riley**  
*YARP Job Developer/OGE Case Manager*  
5 years of service



**Sharryc Smith**  
*UYRP Assistant Advocacy Counsel*  
Under 1 year of service



## EDUCATION AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT



**Dee Liggins**  
*School Age Coordinator*  
8 years of service



**Stephanie Moore**  
*School Age Specialist/Master Teacher*  
4 years of service



**Cedric Currin-Moore**  
*STEM/Coordinator*  
6 years of service



**Shequila Garcia**  
*School-Age Teacher/Community Health Navigator*  
3 years of service



**Claudia Felder**  
*Assistant Teacher*  
2 years of service



**Dinna Coleman**  
*Van Driver*  
2 years of service



**LaKeshia Braggs**  
*Van Driver*  
Under 1 year of service



**Korea Kirksey**  
*Assistant Teacher*  
Under 1 year of service



**A'mani Rashidi**  
*Assistant Teacher*  
2 years of service



**Vance Roland**  
*Van Driver*  
1 year of service



**Asreal Hicks**  
*Assistant Teacher*  
Under 1 year of service



## COMMUNITY CONVENING AND SOCIAL JUSTICE



**Skyla Parker**  
*Diversity Equity & Inclusion Program Coordinator*  
1 year of service



**Shenice L. Huff**  
*Community Convening and Social Justice Specialist / HRSA Administrative Assistant*  
8 years of service



**Diedra Davis**  
*Affordable Housing Manager*  
9 years of service



# Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc. Staff

## HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA)



**Angel Hill**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Angela Houston**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Colby Payne**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Cory Moore**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Dyan Gaines**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Harold Scarborough**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Jendayi Douglas**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Kavon Mukes**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Lauryn Hudson**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Mickael Stephens**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Sandra Currin-Moore**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Tandra Mukes**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Tamique Perry**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Whitney Cox**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*



**Willett Jones-Burge**  
*Community Health Navigator*  
*Under 1 year of service*







## HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA) NOT PICTURED

**Chanel Long**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Clarence Long**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Cynthia Winston**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Detra Pennon**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Donna Thompson**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Drew Kemp**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Evelyn Vaughn**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Janice Kemp**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Kara Busby**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Keitano Roberts**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Kimala Hubbard**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Reginald Hines**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Ricky Henderson**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Sheila Douglas**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*

**Tracey Hightower**

*Community Health Navigator  
Under 1 year of service*



# Young Professionals

*Dear Urban League Family,*

75 years of service to the community is a tremendous milestone, and the celebration is further heightened in a year where we finally get to reconnect in person again. The nation, and our community even more specifically, endured significant challenges over the past couple of years. The Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City's commitment to bringing us back together illustrates its resilience and provides a glimpse into how this organization has continued to impact the community, despite all possible setbacks, over the past 75 years.

The Young Professionals' purpose is to support our affiliate's mission; we thank the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City for supporting us and allowing us to do so. We encourage everyone within the age range of 21-40 to come and join the movement. We need your energy and talents, and we need them today.

*Sincerely,*

*Serrell Mure*

President



# Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City inc. **After School Tutoring Program**

**August 2022 – May 2023**

Monday – Friday

2:30pm – 5:30pm



**NOW ENROLLING/LIMITED SPACE**

**DHS and Private Pay accepted  
Transportation provided from local schools**

**Contact Dee Liggins for more information  
405.424.5243 Ext 125**

**@urbanleagueok**







**Urban League**  
of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc.

# URBAN YOUNG ADULT REENTRY PROGRAM

## ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A FRESH START?

### WE can HELP!

Join us at Urban League for the UYRP

#### WHO CAN JOIN?

- 18-24yrs old
- Currently or Previously Justice Involved
- Low Income
- Eligible to work in United States

#### WE CAN HELP

- High School Diploma / GED PREP
- Work Readiness Skills Building
- Work Experience

#### FREE CAREER TRAINING

- OCCC
- OSU-OKC
- Rose State College  
(Construction, Healthcare, Logistics or Technology)

## BENEFITS

- Earn a High School Diploma / GED
- Earn a credential at a Community College
- **EARN Up To \$1000 as you achieve YOUR Goals**
- Get a JOB in a High Demand Industry

**HURRY - REGISTRATION IS LIMITED  
DON'T MISS OUT!**

**[cjackson@urbanleagueok.org](mailto:cjackson@urbanleagueok.org)  
or call 405-696-2981**

[www.urbanleagueok.org](http://www.urbanleagueok.org) [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [@urbanleagueok](#)

*Urban League is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. This project is financed in whole or in part by funds from the US Department of Labor as administered by the National Urban League.*

**United Way  
Partner Agency**





**Urban League**  
of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc.

**Urban League of Greater  
Oklahoma City congratulates**

**SHANI  
NEALY,**

*Senior Vice President,*

*National Urban League Quarter  
Century Club Member*



**ON**

**25**

**YEARS  
OF SERVICE**





# Urban League

of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc.

Presents

## Do You Remember?

A GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

### A Moment in Urban League History.....

1946-1957...The acceptance of Blacks as apprentices in local unions and the entrance of Black women in local hospital-based nursing training. The first Executive Director of the Urban League, Cenoria D. Johnson, was appointed and the Urban League was housed in the basement of the Stiles-Street YWCA on Northeast 2<sup>nd</sup> St. and Stiles.

The Urban League's efforts produced:

- The hiring of the first 12 Black Firemen
- The hiring of the first Black Bus Drivers
- The acceptance of Blacks as apprentices in local unions
- The entrance of Black women in local hospital-based nursing training
- The appointment of Blacks to major local and state boards and commissions



BUILDING A LEGACY

3017 N. Martin Luther King, Ave.





# Do You Remember?



The Urban League helped in the development of the first African American firefighters, the entrance of African American women in local hospital-based nursing training, and the appointment of African Americans to local and state board and commissions.- urbanleagueok.org. Image source - Metropolitan Library System Collection. No Date



Above: Middle is the late Whitney M. Young, former National Urban League President & Civil Rights Leader



Ground Breaking Ceremony for 3017 N. Martin Luther King, Ave.





*Far right, Former Executive Assistant, Jeannie McCauley-Smith;  
Middle, Former President/CEO, Mr. Leonard Benton.*



COLLEEN: Erna Winters; Willie "W.B." Rogers, recipient of the Marian Beard-Dobbertsen Volunteer Service Award; Alma Washington.



Congratulations  
Erin Wilcox!

**COX**

Thank you for your commitment to serving our community and the Urban League. Your passion for people is building a better future for the next generation.

Cox is proud to support Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City.

Find out more at [cox.com](http://cox.com)



# Do You Remember?



Life Member Ceremony at Annual Gala

Urban League OKC Staff with National Urban League President, Marc Morial





Urban League  
of Greater Oklahoma City, Inc.



**Presents the**  
**14th Annual**  
**Back to School Bash**  
A Drive Through Event

**SAT | JUL 23 | 2022**



\$50 Uniform/Clothing Gift Cards,  
Limit 2 per family



[WWW.URBANLEAGUEOK.ORG](http://WWW.URBANLEAGUEOK.ORG)

# Financial Statement

JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021

## Public Support

Special Events ( <i>Special Events/Fundraising</i> ) . . . . .	71,640
Contributions . . . . .	1,416,572
Local United Way Allocation . . . . .	363,977

<b>Total Public Support</b>	<b>1,852,189</b>
-----------------------------	------------------

Fees and Grants from Government Agencies . . . . .	1,220,775
( <i>Federal and State Financial Asst./Grants</i> )	

## Other Revenue

Program Fees/Misc. & Interest Income . . . . .	160,040
( <i>Program income/endowment/interest income/rental/misc</i> )	

<b>Total Public Support and Revenue</b>	<b>3,233,004</b>
---	------------------

## Expenses

Program Services . . . . .	2,159,252
Management and General . . . . .	224,106
Fundraising . . . . .	25,666

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,409,024</b>
-----------------------	------------------

<b>Change in Net Assets from Operations.</b>	<b>823,980</b>
--	----------------

## Capital Additions

Increase (Decrease) in Endowment Fund Beneficial Interest . . . . .	
Change in Net Assets from Operations . . . . .	823,980
Net Assets, Beginning as Restated . . . . .	2,303,048

<b>Net Assets at Year End</b>	<b>3,127,028</b>
-------------------------------	------------------



## Partners working TOGETHER

OG&E's partnership with the Urban League will help put young people to work with great careers, benefits, and a bright future.

Together, we are providing access to energy industry on-the-job training with OG&E contractors. We're promoting careers in energy to a young, diverse generation. *Because we know this may benefit families for generations to come.*

At OG&E, we **do more** than energize a power grid.

**OG&E**  
We Energize Life

© 2022 OGE Energy Corp.



# Guild

## *Greetings!*

I am Kjulonda Ogles, President of the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City Guild. Dedicated supporters of the movement have galvanized to assist our affiliate leaders in carrying out the mission of the Urban League. This organization is equipped and excited about the charge to assist in the empowerment of a community. We are nearing the third year battling the COVID-19 Pandemic; and our members are still on the frontlines administering Vaccinations, promoting improved Mental and Physical Health Awareness, and Family Advocacy.

Will you accept the challenge and become a member to support these critical activities? Please consider giving what we have coined the "3 T's, Time, Talent, and Treasure". There is plenty of work to go around!

We look forward to you joining the movement and making a lasting impact on our communities.

*Sincerely,*

*Kjulonda Ogles*  
President

## **2022 Urban League OKC Guild Officers**

Kjulonda Ogles, President • Chaunte Gilmore, Vice-President • Lynnise Hammon- Treasurer • Tonya Carey- Recording & Corresponding Secretary • Y'vonne Hilmon- Member at Large • Radawn Williams- Member at Large (Not Pictured)  
• Christopher Harrison, Sr.- Parliamentarian (Not Pictured) • Felecia Wyatt- Sergeant-at-Arms (Not Pictured)  
• D'Andrea Love -Historian







# Awardees



## VILONA P. CUTLER AWARD Florence's Restaurant

Florence Jones-Kemp was born on a rural farm in Boley, Oklahoma. Other than the year being 1931, the exact date of her birth is unknown. Her mother recalls it as March 4th; her father is sure it is March 5th. Her delayed birth certificate list both days. She is the 4th of 5 children born to Elizabeth and Robert H. Jones, who moved to Oklahoma City in 1943. She attended Douglas High School and was a majorette in the school band. She is a proud member of the 1950 graduating class and is Douglas' oldest living majorette. She excelled in home economics and appeared to be headed for a career as a tailor and patternmaker. She was such a talented tailor that her teachers recruited Florence regularly to make clothes for their children and grandchildren.

In the summer of 1950, after high school graduation, Florence made a bold decision to move to California with her aunt, Carrie Johnson, and cousin Mildred Reval. Her cousin Mildred and her husband were business owners in Merced, California and the restaurant they owned was a local hot spot. Florence lived with them and learned every aspect of the business, still not knowing how it would affect her future. Florence had opened several restaurants in OKC throughout her life before she decided she would purchase a plot of land and build a home for her business from the ground up in 1969. She started three other businesses, including a barbershop, a self-serve car wash, and a residential rental property.

At age 90, she's still going strong. Mrs. Kemp is the mother of two daughters and two sons. She also is a cancer survivor. Florence's restaurant will celebrate its 70th year in business in April. She has gained not only local but national attention and accolades. Her signature dish has been named one of the top 3 chicken dishes from Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives. Florence created a retail product line of her fried chicken seasoning, cornbread mix, pancake and waffle mix, and barbeque sauce. In February of 2022, she became the first person in Oklahoma to be awarded the national prestigious James Beard Award. She has been a March of Dines volunteer, donated food to worthy charities, and fed countless strangers and others.



## MARIAN BEARD-DOBBERTEN VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD Erin Wilcox

Director, Customer Retention, Cox Communications

Erin has more than 25 years of call center sales and leadership experience. For the last 19 years, she has worked for Cox Communications in Nebraska, Virginia, & Arizona before moving to Oklahoma in 2014. She currently serves as the senior leader for the inbound retention call center teams in Oklahoma City. Erin has had the honor to serve as the Board Chair for the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City since the onset of the Pandemic. She holds a degree in Organizational Leadership from UCO and is an avid reader, a determined jogger, and is passionately involved in company Employee Resource Groups & ID&E initiatives. Erin and her husband of twenty-six years, Doug, have two children, Quinn (19) and Avery (17), and two beloved pups, Beckett and Knox.



## JAY GALT CORPORATE PARTNER AWARD Davis H. Elliot Company, Inc.

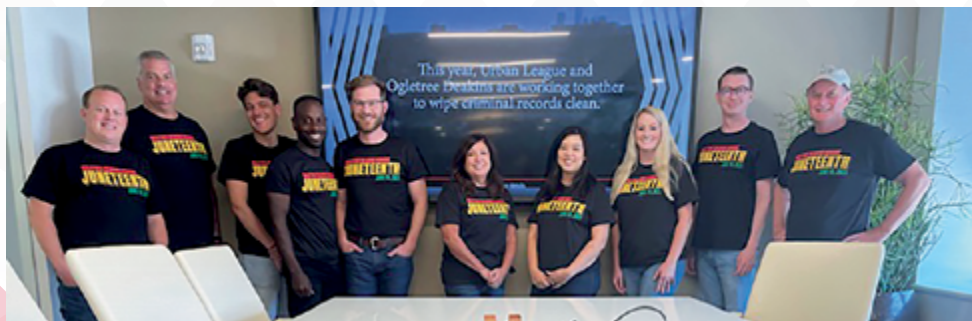
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In addition, we are evolving to extend transmission, substation, telecommunications, and clean energy solutions in our western territories over the coming years. The safety, health, and well-being of our Elliot family, business partners, and community members are paramount. As we continuously strive to become the preferred provider of safe, reliable, and efficient solutions, we do so by recognizing our role to ensure the equity of opportunity creating a workplace that is led and comprised of personnel of all backgrounds and experiences.

## JAY GALT CORPORATE PARTNER AWARD OG&E

OG&E is Oklahoma's largest electric utility, serving nearly 900,000 customers in Oklahoma and western Arkansas. For more than 120 years, the company has provided customers the safe, reliable, and affordable electricity needed to energize their lives. OG&E invests in the future by creating a culture that values diversity and inclusion and partnering with local organizations to strengthen diversity in the energy industry, making OG&E a stronger and more resourceful organization.

The company's partnership with the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City on its Urban Reentry Jobs Program helps make this a reality. Program participants earn industry-recognized credentials and learn targeted employment skills to help them transition to an exciting, stable career. OG&E is committed to developing a skilled workforce that is diverse and reflects the many communities they serve.



## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.

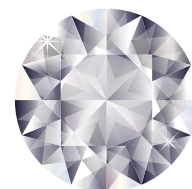
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. is one of the largest labor and employment law firms representing management in all types of employment-related legal matters. Premier client service, as outlined in the firm's Client Pledge, is one of the firm's top priorities and a cornerstone of its core values. U.S. News – Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms" has named Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. a "Law Firm of the Year" for 11 consecutive years. In 2022, the publication named Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. its "Law Firm of the Year" in the Employment Law – Management category. Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. has more than 900 attorneys located in 53 offices across the United States and in Europe, Canada, and Mexico. The firm represents a diverse range of clients, including many of the Fortune 50 companies in the U.S.

The Oklahoma City office of Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. is comprised of nine talented attorneys practicing the full spectrum of labor and employment law.

## BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR Leslie Johnson

Leslie Johnson has served on the Urban League Board many times over the last several years and currently serves on the Finance and housing committees. Leslie grew up and attended school in Newcastle, Oklahoma. After graduation Leslie attended the University of Oklahoma, where she majored in music education, focusing on vocal, composition, and playing multiple instruments. Leslie was also a member of the University of Oklahoma vocal ensemble and had the honor of singing with Cab Calloway during a performance of Porgy and Bess at the Civic Center Music Hall in OKC. She lives in Tuttle with her husband Jerry, and together they have six kids and nine grandkids.

Leslie has been in banking for over 40 years, serving in various positions, and is currently the Senior Manager of Small Business Lending for Arvest Bank. Throughout her career, Leslie found that she had a passion for helping to provide quality affordable housing for low to moderate-income families and seniors. Leslie helped families purchase their first homes by teaching financial readiness classes and first-time homebuyer classes. She also taught several courses to small business owners to help them learn more about the financial aspects of running a small business. Leslie served on the board for Junior Achievement for several years and enjoyed volunteering to teach financial literacy classes to school-age kids. She volunteers for Habitat for Humanity, The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, and United Way.





# Awardees



## JANICE SCOTT-LEE

Janice Scott-Lee worked for the Urban League for more than 25 years. During her employment she served in several capacities including Vice President and Interim-President/CEO. Ms. Lee is a past Board Member and past President of the Urban League Guild. She was the founder of the Guild's Albert Javar Scott Scholarship. The scholarship was named after Ms. Lee's late grandson.

Mrs. Lee worked on projects such as Thanksgiving Baskets, the Guild's Annual Black and White Ball, the Guild Scholarship Committee and the Annual Gala Committee. She has chronicled the history of the Urban League in various documents and kept the movement alive with vivacious spirit.

This criterion for this award was developed by the Urban League staff in the June 2013 based on the criteria that the awardee: has a positive attitude; possess leadership qualities such as: integrity, ethics, innovation & character and extends to help others beyond their designated job duties.

## JANICE SCOTT-LEE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

### Shenice L. Huff



Shenice L. Huff has been a community contributor for almost twenty years. Shenice helps the OKC community by hosting free work-readiness training and employment leads, tutoring, and mentoring to anyone who asks for help. She is also a Certified Life Coach. She is the founder of RearView Resource Services, Inc., an agency she created to inspire formerly incarcerated individuals to focus on the successful path ahead instead of the journey they are leaving behind. This agency assists with employment, life skills, coping skills, and overall life preparedness. Shenice has more than ten years of nonprofit experience with strengths in organizing, planning, and executing events. She has worked with youth in various capacities for over ten years. Twelve years ago, Shenice was a founder of the Urban League's Annual Back to School Bash concept, providing innovative ideas for the revamping of the community event. She is a current member of the Annual Back to School Bash's "Dream Team."

Shenice is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and an active member at True Vine Ministries. Shenice grew up in Spencer, Oklahoma, where she continues to dedicate herself. Shenice gives unselfishly with every project. She has two wonderful sons, Derwin and Daylen.

## JANICE SCOTT-LEE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

### Skyla Parker



Skyla Parker is from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Relations in May 2020 from the University of Oklahoma. She then pursued her Master's degree in Strategic Communications through an accelerated program at the University of Oklahoma, where she graduated in 2021.

Parker is no stranger to Urban League as she interned for the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City in the spring of 2019, where she received the Lisa "Lee" Evans Scholarship award at the 72nd Annual Gala. During her short time as an intern and now as a full-time employee, Parker has greatly enjoyed working for the Urban League. She receives this award for Employee of the Year with great honor and would like to thank the Urban League Staff, Partners, and Sponsors for their nomination and continued support of the Urban League's mission.

## LECIA D. SWAIN-ROSS AWARD

### Lorenzo A. Banks



Lorenzo Azar Banks is a native of Tulsa, Oklahoma, but currently resides in Oklahoma City. In 2005, he obtained his undergraduate degree in Mathematics Education from the University of Central Oklahoma. Soon after graduating, Lorenzo entered graduate school to study applied mathematics, taking another step closer to becoming a doctor of mathematics. During graduate school, Lorenzo was named defendant in a lawsuit where he defended himself, thus leading to his future as a lawyer.

Today he is a partner in this law firm in which the vision of MRL lives on. Lorenzo also serves as an adjunct professor and the Assistant Director of Admissions and Director of Diversity Initiatives for Oklahoma City University School of Law. Lorenzo is an active member of the Oklahoma Bar Association, a board member of the Oklahoma Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and the Oklahoma County Bar Association, and the Oklahoma City Association of Black Lawyers. He volunteers his time and services through several different programs where he gives free advice and assistance to veterans, the black community, women, and other groups in Oklahoma City. For almost a decade, Lorenzo has traveled the country, giving this presentation for colleges, family reunions, churches, and other groups to discuss civilian and police officer interactions.





# Life Member Inductees



**W**hen a person decides to be identified with an organization for life, it is a monumental commitment. When that commitment is given to the Urban League, it means that the person wants to be involved with the mission, policies and work of the League for their entire sojourn on this earth. They are letting the world know that they are dedicated to vision and work of the Urban League Movement and they are willing to spend a lifetime to help the League live up to its mission.

We are proud to welcome into the ranks of life membership 3 extraordinary individuals.

## ANGIE CHRISTOPHER

Angie is no stranger to the work of the Urban League, having spent nearly two decades serving the league in various capacities including a founding member of the Oklahoma City chapter of the Young Professionals, as well as two tenures as a board member, board chair and currently serves on the board development committee and chairs the Community Convening & Social Justice Committee. Some of the most rewarding experience for Angie with the league is the years spent volunteering with the Back to School Bash as well as her personal gifts and participation with the holiday gifts delivered to families served by the league. Most recently through the league, Angie has been named as a co-chair of the Oklahoma City Chamber DEI Executive Council supporting the Leadership and Mentorship committees.

Angie has been a leader with 180 Medical for the past five years and currently serves as the Vice President, Global Talent and Human Resources Home Service Group as subsidiary of ConvaTec, Inc. supporting employees in seven (7) different countries and the global DEI Black Employee Network co-chair. She also is President of A.R. Christopher and Associates, a legal and HR consulting firm servicing small businesses and not-for-profit organizations.

She was honored locally in 2019 with Journal Record Woman of the Year, Women Making a Difference, and the 180 Medical President's Award honoring the most significant contributor for the organization.

She is passionate about service to the community which includes work with her local church, the Oklahoma City Public Schools, Guiding Right Inc., and her own non-profit, Diamond Daughters, mentoring and developing young girls to be leaders.

She holds a Juris Doctor Degree and a Bachelors of Arts degree from the University of Oklahoma and is an avid part of the Sooner-Nation.

She holds fast to the words of Maya Angelou, "I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."



## BRIDGETTE HUNDON

Bridgette is a Financial Advisor with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management in downtown Oklahoma City. With 20 years of experience in financial services she focuses on providing wealth planning strategies to successful executives, individuals and families. Bridgette possesses a deep understanding of the psychology of wealth. She utilizes this knowledge to help her clients identify their financial goals and then create a wealth plan to help them achieve those goals.

Bridgette is devoted to giving back in her own life and is passionate about financial literacy and equality & inclusion in the classroom and boardroom. She serves on the Urban League board and also partners with the American Heart Association, ReMerge, Oklahoma State University Foundation, Oklahoma Council on Economic Education, Junior Achievement as well as John Marshall Academy of Finance.

Bridgette received a B.S. from Hampton University and an M.B.A. from the University of Dallas.





# Life Member Inductees



## KEVIN MAXWELL



Kevin Maxwell is the supervisor of New Construction for OG&E. In his 30-year tenure with the utility, Kevin has served in various roles including recruitment, technical training, customer service and transmission and distribution. He is also the co-founder and current chair of OG&E's Black Together employee resource group. He received his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Central Oklahoma and his master's degree in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix. A lifelong resident of Northeast Oklahoma City, Kevin can often be found volunteering at various community events and organizations in the area such as the annual Perry Publishing & Broadcasting turkey giveaway and the Urban League's Black Men Do Read and Back to School Bash activities. In addition, Kevin serves as a greeter leader at Peoples Church and has invested in the next generation as a church youth leader, mentor for OG&E's Cristo Rey student program, Youth Leadership Exchange mentor and Special Olympics coach/mentor. He resides in Northeast Oklahoma City with his wife Gayle – who is a 2019 Urban League life member inductee.

## RAY POTTS



Ray Potts, after achieving the rank of Lieutenant in the United States Air Force, returned to school to obtain a Masters in Geology and later a law degree. He co-founded PSEC, an independent energy company and served as its President and CEO for over 30 years until its sale to ONEOK. At that point the company became Potts Exploration.

Ray has served as chairman of the Natural Gas Committee of the Independent Association of Petroleum Geologists of America. Ray also was president of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association. He served for eight years as a member of the State Board of Education and later as the first President of the Oklahoma City Public School Foundation.

He was recently inducted into the OCU Business School Hall of Honor in 2017 with his wife, Pat Potts. Ray supports investment in early childhood education because, "it produces the best return for the individual and for society."



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# Life Members

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Mr. Eddie Allen  
Dr. Jeremy Almon  
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Anderson  
Dr. Jason Banister  
Mrs. Marian Beard-Dobberteen (d)  
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Benton  
Mr. M.T. Berry  
Mrs. Dianna Berry  
Ms. Mary Blankenship-Pointer  
Mrs. Cathy Blevins  
Mr. Jim Blevins  
Mr. Jeb Boatman  
Mr. Larry Bradley  
Ms. Ollivett Brothers  
Ms. Tajuana "Tee" Brown  
Mr. Andre Caldwell  
Mr. James Chappel, P.E., PMP  
Ms. Angie Christopher\*  
Mr. Matt Clouse  
Mr. Sam Combs III  
Mr. Deano Cox  
Mr. Frank B. Cox  
Mr. Cedric Currin-Moore  
Ms. Devyn Denton  
Mr. Bruce Dobberteen (d)  
Mr. David Donchin  
Mr. Sam Fulkerson  
Mr. Bryan Gibson  
Mrs. Irma Graham  
Mr. Ed Hamilton  
Mrs. Juanita V. Harris  
Mr. Larry Hawkins  
Mr. Havered Lee Hill  
Mr. Kelvin "Chip" Hobbs  
Mr. Chad Holean  
Mr. Carl Holmes (d)  
Mr. Kenneth Hudson  
Mrs. Effie Hildreth Hudson (d)  
Ms. Bridgette Hundon\*

Ms. Shenice L. Huff  
Ms. Denise Isamah  
Mr. Lawrence E. Jackson (d)  
Mrs. Mayme P. Jackson (d)  
Mr. Darryl Jefflo  
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Mr. Reginald Johnson  
The Honorable Willa Johnson  
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Mrs. Mautra Jones  
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Ms. Amber Williams  
Mr. Corey Woodley  
Rev. Dr. George E. Young, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. James "Bunyan" (d) & Evelyn "Faye" Greenhoward  
The Kerr Foundation  
Public Service Company of Oklahoma  
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(d) Deceased  
(\*) Inductee





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Felisha Anderson Fox  
Malcolm Baker  
Mark Beck  
Kasi Bennett  
Nakeia Billingsley  
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Belinda Bowen  
Everett Bradford  
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Leslie Johnson  
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Homer Jones  
Ronald Jordan  
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Tonya Thompson  
Blair Tillman  
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Gwendolyn Walter  
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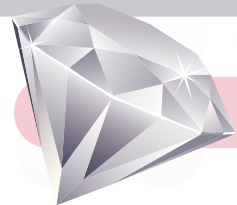
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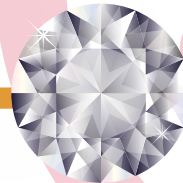
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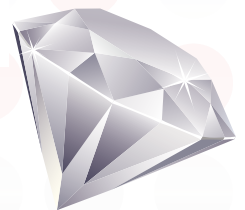




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