

DR. EMMANUEL  
HOSTIN



DR. MARIE-C.  
DURANDISSE  
PRESSLEY



LUCIEN  
METELLUS



DONYSHIA  
BOSTON-HILL



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DR. CRYSTAL  
BONDS



KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, INC.  
QUEENS (NY) ALUMNI CHAPTER

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DR. GERALD W. DEAS ACHIEVEMENT FOUNDATION



# Red Carpet Salute 2025

TERRACE ON THE PARK  
52-11 111th St., Queens, NY



SATURDAY, MARCH 8 [ 7PM-12AM ]



# Dr. Gerald W. Deas Achievement Foundation

Would like to thank

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# PROGRAM

- I. Welcome - Brother Bryan Taylor
- II. Foundation Remarks- Brother Caleb L. Terry, President
- III. Queens (NY) Alumni Polemarch's Message - Brother J. Marcus Poon
- IV. Blessing - Brother Garland H. Boyd
- V. Dinner
- VI. Remarks - NYC Councilmember Nantasha Williams
- VII. Award Presentations - Brother Bryan Taylor
- VIII. Champagne Toast - Brother Steve Chatman
- IX. Closing Remarks and Acknowledgements - Brother Bryan Taylor
- X. Party Time!!!

# Profile: About Dr. Deas

credit: DOWNSTATE Health and Sciences University

While some people wear a monogram to let us know who they are, Dr. Gerald Whitehead Deas adds an extra letter to his name. What we see is IDEAS. This is his way of enjoining us to think logically and put our best ideas into action.

## He Does It His Way

Physician, poet, patient advocate, playwright, media personality, political activist, public health crusader - Gerald W. Deas, M.D., MPH, MA, is all of these, and more. He has battled major companies and organized whole communities to protect the public's health.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, Dr. Deas attended Boys High School and later Brooklyn College, earning a bachelor's and a master's degree in Biochemistry. Drafted into the Army during the Korean War, he helped to identify the remains of fallen comrades. Out of this gruesome experience, he developed a lifelong hatred of war and its aftermath. Years later, after witnessing how violence in our neighborhoods was claiming the lives of so many youths, Dr. Deas and other physicians at Downstate and Kings County Hospital Center organized Doctors Against Murder (DAM) to encourage young people to reject violence.

Home from the war, Dr. Deas resumed his education with a single-minded purpose: to become a healer. After receiving a master's in public health from the University of Michigan, he enrolled at SUNY Downstate and became an M.D. in 1962.

In those years, few African-Americans enrolled in medical school, but Dr. Deas's talents were soon evident to the faculty as well as to his fellow students, who elected him class president.

After graduation, he performed both his internship and residency training in internal medicine at Kings County Hospital. In addition to joining the faculty of preventive medicine at Downstate, he served as an attending physician at Jamaica Hospital and at Mary Immaculate Hospital in Queens for 35 years.

Dr. Deas is adept at networking and using the media to foster public health awareness. His successful struggle in the 1970s against Argo Starch Company is legendary. After discovering that laundry starch was being sold in grocery aisles as a snack, causing black women to become anemic, Dr. Deas forced Argo to repackage its product in powdered form and to add a warning label, "Not Recommended for Food Use." In recognition of this service, the Food and Drug Administration awarded him a special commendation.

Emmy-award winning journalist Bill McCreary and Dr. Deas have been friends since the time they worked together on television's McCreary Report.

# Profile: About Dr. Deas (cont'd)

credit: DOWNSTATE Health and Sciences University

The first black medical columnist for the New York Daily News, Dr. Deas was medical correspondent for television's McCreary Report for 10 years, hosting the segment called "House Calls." He also hosted a weekly radio show on WLIB. He continues to write regularly for the Amsterdam News and other local papers.

As director of health education communication at Downstate and host of "Health Center," the cable TV show produced on campus, Dr. Deas alerts the public about such health hazards as food dyes and additives in sugary drinks that can trigger asthma attacks and behavioral problems in children.

At the 2002 Sports Ball, sponsored by the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health, Dr. Gerald Deas, shown with fellow honoree Russell Simmons, received the Legacy in Motion Award for his leadership in urban medicine.

Dr. Deas also uses the transforming power of poetry and music to convey his message. Pulitzer-Prize winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks has praised his poems as "rich with creative excitement." Often they contain warnings about common health dangers (Mr. Mean Nicotine and Sodium Confesses), or reminders for patients to take their medications (Cautionary Tale of Hattie Brown). His lament about a child suffering from sickle cell disease (A Black Child Who Can't Smile) was at one time a March of Dimes theme song. He also has written numerous musicals and plays that continue to be performed Off-Broadway.

Much more could be said about this "old-fashioned country doctor," as he has been described by the New York Times, who has worked so hard to spread public awareness about sarcoidosis and other hidden diseases, and was making house calls until the age of 70. Although he has received a great many honorifics and awards, he prefers not to frame them but to give them away to young people. "They're the ones who need the encouragement," he says.

Dr. Deas credits his wife, Beverly, to whom he has been happily married for more than 45 years, for helping him through thick and thin.

She supported him during eight years of medical training, managed his private practice, often accompanied him on late night house calls, typed and edited his work for the media - and accomplished all this while also raising three children.

# Honorees



Donyshia Boston-Hill



Geoffrey Gross



Marie-Carmel  
Durandisse  
Pressley



Crystal Bonds



Lucien Metellus



Emmanuel Hostin



# Geoffrey Gross

Licensed Real Estate Professional

Geoffrey Gross is a Certified NYS MLS real estate professional with 16 years of experience in the industry. His expertise in the successful negotiations of Foreclosure Prevention, Loan Modifications, Short Sales and numerous real estate transactions has provided him with the recognition to be a leader in this profession.

Geoffrey is the office manager of New York Estates Group, Inc in St. Albans, NY where he provides training and mentoring to young agents in the real estate industry. He has a passion for helping his clients and the community make informed decisions regarding all matters in real estate. In fact, his Motto is " We treat every client like family."

Recently, Geoff has published his first real estate book entitled " Home Sales Made Easy" which is a guide to help selling your home less stressful and a more rewarding experience. Whether you are a first-time seller, or a seasoned homeowner, Geoff is available to help navigate you through the process.

Prior to joining New York Estates Group in June of 2008 Geoff was a Mortgage Consultant with AMB Funding where he successfully helped homeowners refinance their homes during the Mortgage Industry collapse from 2006 to 2008.



# Dr. Crystal Bonds

Superintendent, Community School District 29

Dr. Crystal Bonds is a veteran educator in the New York City public school system. Currently, she is the Superintendent of Community School District 29, in Southeast Queens, NY, overseeing (36) K-8 schools with 17,000 students. Dr. Bonds began her career in district 29 as a teacher and mathematics coach. She went on to leadership roles in New York City Public Schools, including as assistant principal, principal, and master ambassador principal, prior to becoming Superintendent of District 29.

Dr. Bonds has a profound personal connection to the district where she spent her formative years, and was also a parent in the district. Her desire is to give back to the community that poured into her, and to utilize her expertise to foster positive change, growth, and excellence in education for all students within this district.

For more than two decades, Dr. Crystal Bonds has represented the interests of public education at the local, state, national and international levels. Her

transformative educational leadership, as a K-12 educator, which is focused on promoting equitable educational experiences and outcomes for all children, undergirds her reputation both nationally and internationally. She has held several Board of Directors seats and has led national STEM organizations. In her role as superintendent she promotes targeted support for educators which has led to closing opportunity gaps. Dr. Bonds' educational lens and experiences at the elementary, middle school, and high school levels, reinforces her track record of excellence resulting in improvement in student achievement, compliance, and expanded programs for the district.

Under Dr. Bonds' leadership, during her tenure as the principal of the High School for Math, Science, and Engineering (HSMSE), according to US News and World Reports, the school became the highest achieving public high school in New York City and New York State, ranked #1 in (2022), from #30 (2012) when she began her principalship.



# Lucien Metellus

## General President, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Lucien Metellus is a distinguished leader with a rich heritage of Haitian descent. His educational journey began at Holy Cross School in Brooklyn and continued in Queens, NY, where he attended Springfield Gardens High School. Lucien furthered his studies at Syracuse University, earning a degree in Policy Studies.

Lucien's dedication to Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, began at the Zeta Zeta Lambda Chapter in St. Albans, NY. Over the years, he has held numerous leadership roles within the fraternity, including Chapter President, Vice President, Secretary, Director of Educational Activities, Associate Editor to the Sphinx, and Fundraising Chair. He has also served as the Chapter Advisor for the Theta Epsilon College Chapter at St. John's University and is a Life Member of the fraternity.

At the district level, Lucien has made significant contributions as Parliamentarian, Secretary, Director of Competitions, NY State Director of Conferences, NY City Area Director, NY State President, and District Director. His unwavering commitment to service extends to the Eastern Region, where he has served as March for Babies Coordinator, Parliamentarian, and Director of College Brothers Affairs. As a voting Board of Directors member, he has made impactful decisions, furthering the fraternity's mission.

Lucien's leadership prowess transcends the fraternity. He has chaired Founders' Day, Membership, and served as Parliamentarian, Vice-President, and President for the Pan Hellenic Council of Greater New York. His extensive involvement in the Pan Hellenic Council

showcases his dedication to the collective efforts of historically black fraternities and sororities.

On January 12, 2024, Lucien was elected as the 37th General President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, set to assume office on January 1, 2025.

Professionally, Lucien boasts a 20-year career in information technology, currently serving as a Project Manager & Senior Business Analyst at Centrilogic. His expertise has led to substantial cost savings for businesses through innovative technology solutions. With over 10 professional certifications and degrees in leadership, project management, religion, and technology, Lucien is a true asset in his field.

Lucien's commitment to "Servants of All" is evident in his volunteer work with organizations such as the Center for Hope and Safety, Youth Partnership of Bergen County, Boy Scouts of America, March of Dimes, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America.

A published poet and writer, Lucien also serves as Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee in Frederick, MD, appointed by the mayor. He is deeply involved in his church, teaching Christian Education to young adults and serving as a minister.

Lucien is a devoted family man, happily married to Esther Slack-Metellus, with whom he shares a son, Jeremiah, and a daughter, Janae.



# Donyshia Boston-Hill

USTA Eastern, Strategic Partnerships

Donyshia Boston-Hill, is recognized as one of the Marketing industry's creative thinkers, the architect for iconic concerts and events. She heads the United States Tennis Association-Eastern Section's National Junior Tennis and Learning Programs, founded by Arthur Ashe, providing low to no-cost tennis in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. She also leads USTA Eastern's Strategic Partnerships and Events influencing the future of sports marketing, including the HBCU Spring Coming, and the US Open.

As CEO of Keeper of the Brand Marketing Agency in its 10<sup>th</sup> year, she has produced memorable events. Most noteworthy are the Annual National Urban League - Whitney M. Young Jr. Leadership Conference, WBLS Circle of Sisters, Essence Festival, HOT 97 Summer Jam, the Harlem Fine Arts Show, the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival, and Bethpage Polo at the Park to name a few.

During her 20+ year corporate career she held leadership and management positions within several media and entertainment companies, including HOT 97, 98.7 Kiss FM, 101.9 RXP, The Loud Digital Network, The New York Knicks and Madison Square Garden College Basketball. She developed a deep relationship with the community, activating programs with HOT 97's Hip Hop Has Heart Foundation and the Kiss Cares Foundation.

Donyshia is a mentor to women throughout the country, providing one-on-one guidance on entrepreneurship. Her passions include using her voice to uplift women and entrepreneurs via Tower Talk Business Radio on 90.3 WHPC and a podcast on iHeartMedia. She is a rare breed, a NYC gal who is enveloped in Georgia style and grace.

She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Epsilon Pi Omega Chapter, Queens, New York. The Greater Queens Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, and Jack and Jill of America, Inc. currently serving as President of Nassau County Chapter.

Her hobbies include designing diamond engagement rings for Ice Princess NYC, Interior Decorating and Gardening.

Donyshia is an alumna of St. John's University, New York University and the Goldman Sachs 10k Small Business Program. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her loving husband Kevin Boston-Hill, member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., and their two children.



# Dr. Marie-Carmel Durandisse Pressley

Delta Sigma Theta, Eastern Regional Director

Walking in her divine calling as a psychologist, educator, and thought leader, Dr. Marie-Carmel Durandisse Pressley embodies intelligence, beauty, and a fierce determination to succeed in every endeavor she pursues.

Dr. Durandisse Pressley's career in leadership and professional service spans over 20 years, beginning with administrative and supervisory roles at The City of New York's Administration for Children's Services (ACS) and an externship at Rockland Children's Psychiatric Center. Her passion for teaching led her to serve as an adjunct professor at the College of New Rochelle, where she taught graduate courses in psychology and counseling.

Her foundation in service was cultivated during her undergraduate years at St. John's University, where she became a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. Initiated into the Omicron Alpha Chapter, she served as Vice President, chaired the Annual Breast

Cancer Forum and Breast Cancer Awareness Committee, and represented the chapter on the NY Metropolitan Council. Her leadership earned Omicron Alpha numerous awards, including the prestigious Soror of the Year recognition.

With 24 years of dedicated service to Delta Sigma Theta, Dr. Durandisse Pressley is now the Eastern Regional Director. Previously, she served as the Eastern Regional Member of the National Scholarship and Standards Committee. At the local level, as President of the Queens Alumnae Chapter, she led the chapter to consecutive Chapter of the Year awards (2016-2018). Under her leadership, the chapter earned multiple honors, including the Exemplary EMBODI (Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence) Award, a Technology Award, and Special Recognition for work with the March of Dimes. Dr. Durandisse Pressley has also served as a Membership Intake Trainer, a DID Trainer, and a member of the Sorority's National Strategic Partnership Taskforce.

Known for her high energy and dedication, Dr. Durandisse Pressley is guided by her faith and often proclaims, "Jesus is real." Friends and colleagues describe her as a woman of God, deeply committed to her family, friends, and the communities she serves.

Currently, Dr. Durandisse Pressley works as a Bilingual/Clinical School Psychologist for the Nyack School District. She resides in Rockland County, NY, with her loving and supportive husband, Markee, their wonderful son, Messiah, and their beautiful daughter, Mahlana. She is also a proud member of a large, close-knit Haitian family.



# Dr. Emmanuel Hostin, MD

Orthopaedic Surgeon

Dr. Hostin is a highly accomplished leader, clinician and dedicated servant to his community. He is a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon and a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. His private practice, Hostin Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine, spans Queens, The Bronx, and New York City, where he specializes in treating knee and shoulder injuries. He performs minimally invasive procedures, including meniscal repair and ligament reconstruction of the knee as well as rotator cuff, labral and biceps tendon repairs of the shoulder. More invasive open surgeries, including robotically assisted partial and total knee replacements, also fall within his expertise. He is authorized by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board to treat workers with on-the-job orthopaedic injuries. His affiliations include Mount Sinai West Hospital and the Empire State Ambulatory Surgical Center, where he is a shareowner.

A product of rigorous training and determination, Dr. Hostin earned his medical degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, followed by an orthopaedic surgery residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital and a Sports Medicine Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania Health System.

A proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. since December 1, 1988, Dr. Hostin was initiated into the Zeta Gamma chapter at Johns Hopkins University where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a B.A. in chemistry. He is currently a member of the New Rochelle-White Plains Alumni chapter, where he is the immediate past Keeper of Records and now serves as the Vice Polemarch.

In addition to his fraternity contributions, Dr. Hostin serves as Treasurer of the Jack and Jill Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., which focuses on the education as well as the health and wellness of African-American children and their families. He has held this role for nearly two years and has been a dedicated board member for over five years, exemplifying his commitment to leadership and service.

Beyond his service and professional achievements, Dr. Hostin takes pride in his 26-year marriage to his wife, Sunny; together they have raised two wonderful children: Gabriel, a senior at Harvard, and Paloma, a freshman at Cornell University. He is a devoted family man who finds joy in serving his community and fraternity with the same dedication he brings to his medical practice.



# Dr. Gerald W. Deas Achievement Foundation

## Scholarship for Achievement Application

Please share link below with  
male High School Seniors

Application deadline  
April 15, 2025





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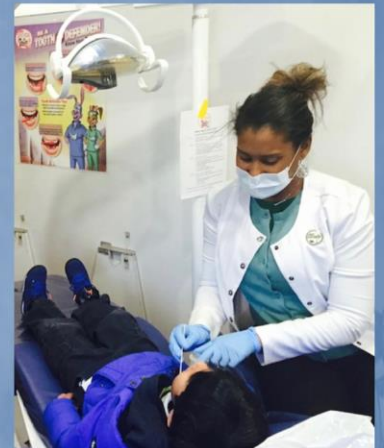
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# Congratulations

## DONYSHIA BOSTON-HILL!



FOR RECEIVING THE ACHIEVER AWARD AT THIS YEAR'S RED CARPET SALUTE!  
YOUR HARD WORK DOES NOT GO UNNOTICED BY OUR TEAM, AND WE ARE  
THRILLED THAT OTHERS RECOGNIZE YOUR DEDICATION AS WELL.

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*The Queens Alumnae Chapter  
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*Congratulates*

*Dr. Marie-Carmel Durandisse Pressley  
Eastern Regional Director  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.*

*on being honored by the Queens Alumni Chapter of  
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*Chapter President - Cynthia J. Gresham*

First Vice President – Donna Atmore-Dolly  
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Chaplain – Rev. Dr. Keisha Agard-Williams  
Sergeant At Arms – Lorna Atmore  
Custodian – Regina Seabrooks  
Parliamentarian – Hon. Denise Johnson-White  
Nominating – Timyiaka Noel  
Immediate Past President- Charelle Hassell-Gilbert