

# Order of Program

**Welcome and Sponsor Acknowledgement**

**Danyel Nicole Black, Founder/CEO**

**Mistress of Ceremony Introduction**

**Danielle Detiege**

**Mistress of Ceremony Keynote**

**Monica Pierre**

**Image and Scholarship Awards**

**Monica Pierre & CMF BOARD**

**Auction**

**Chuck Mutz, Black Tie Auctions**

**Closing Remarks & Toast**

**Danyel Nicole Black, Founder/CEO**

**Entertainment**

**T-Ray the Violinist and DJ B-Sharp**

[www.crownmefoundation.org](http://www.crownmefoundation.org)



**CROWN ME**  
FOUNDATION

# 2ND ANNUAL GALA

THE RITZ-CARLTON

**MIX, MINGLE & SHOP**

**6 PM - 7 PM**

**SEPTEMBER**

**SATURDAY**

**16**

**7 PM**

**2023**



**Danyel Nicole Black,**  
Founder/CEO

# Welcome

In the spirit of our beloved Crown Me Foundation, I have the GRAND HONOR of WELCOMING you to our SECOND ANNUAL GALA held at the exquisite RITZ CARLTON in DOWNTOWN NEW ORLEANS. I am Danyel Nicole Black, Founder and CEO of our beloved Crown Me Foundation. My Board and I are on the frontlines restoring Femininity, Self-Love, Self-Worth, and Mental/Emotional Health in our communities. Crown Me is a nonprofit organization on the move educating women and girls in order to prevent toxic relationships, retrain toxic upbringings, and create emotionally healthy women that thrive in our societies. This is a movement to help women and girls of all colors, sizes, and creeds to show up boldly, authentically, and confidently in the world knowing that someone valued them enough to invest in their futures.

Having had my own life encounters with toxicity, I have to be forthcoming with you by saying this mission is deeply personal. I know what it feels like to feel rejected, abandoned, and worthless. I have taken all of my pain and life's lessons and built the beautiful PINK and GOLD CROWN ME FOUNDATION! This is a PINK and GOLD MOVEMENT OF FEMININITY AND POWER!

We have done so many great things already such as: Blessing Bags for the women's shelter, New Orleans Women and Children's Shelter Bubble to Bubbly Fundraiser, Crown Me Kitchen, Crown Me Closet, Crown Me Ritz Experience HIGH TEA, Crown Me Spa Day, and countless seminars, to name a few.

Now we are having our 2ND Annual Crown Me Image Awards/Scholarship Gala in honor of my late grandmother Beatrice Foster. God knows how much I loved and still love her! I am so happy that you all are helping to honor her memory in such a beautiful way! Everytime I crown a woman, I see her! Whenever I am able to bring comfort or a warm embrace, I feel her! Whenever I lean into the mirror to put on lipstick, I smile at her! I know her strength and resilience lives in me! I am so proud that my grandmother, Queen Beatrice Foster, was the first to be buried with a crown me pin, She will forever remain our PINK & GOLD TRAILBLAZER beyond the SKY!

In the words of my sweet dear Queen Maw Maw, "The RACE has been SET! I BETTER RUN ON!" May we all run on together to build healthier relationships, families, and communities! I pray that every authentic and genuine connection made will allow us to continue to fulfil God's purpose in the earth! I love each and every one of you with all of my pink and gold heart! Showers of blessings upon you all!

Congratulations to all of our CROWN IMAGE AWARDEES and SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS! A heartfelt thank you to all of our sponsors, vendors, entertainers, and contributors! On this night, because of you, our dreams are coming true!



**Beatrice Foster**  
Scholarship Namesake and  
Grandmother of CEO



# CROWN ME FOUNDATION 2023 IMAGE AWARDEES





## Linda Frederick



Linda Dobard Frederick is a distinguished educator, marriage and family therapist, and mentor. She is very passionate about improving the lives of first-generation college-bound students and students from low-income families.

Linda received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Bachelor of Science in Transportation Management from Southern University at New Orleans and her Masters of Art in Mental Health Counseling from Xavier University of Louisiana. Linda has held the position of Director of the Student Support Services Program at Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) for fifteen years. Before SUNO, Linda served as Assistant Director/Counselor of the Upward Bound TRIO Program at Xavier University of Louisiana.

Throughout her professional career, Linda has presented various workshops and trainings in the areas of soft skills, learning styles, career assessment, test anxiety, reducing work stressors, and more. She has also taught courses in Marriage, Family, and General Psychology. As a grant writer, Linda secured approximately \$7,000,000 in TRIO funding over her 15 years of employment at SUNO. Throughout her career, Linda has counseled individuals, families, and mentored students. Linda meets students and clients where they are and knows how to motivate others to build their self-confidence. Linda enforces an academic mindset and assists students in gaining access to tools necessary for college in order for students to achieve their goals. Linda's idea of success is having the opportunity to see her current and former students find their purpose in life and extend their blessings to others. Linda enjoys gardening and vacationing with her husband Rivers of 34 years. She is the proud mother of three handsome sons.





## Sarah Dickerson



I've had a camera in my hand since I was seven. I have clear memories of being a student at Belle Chasse Primary School and playing with film cameras. I remember having that developed at Walgreens and waiting very impatiently to get my images and negatives back. I remember getting aggravated with the way our first digital camera drained batteries so quickly. It's been nearly 25 years since I picked up my first camera. I grew up in my grandfather's shadow. He was my best friend and partner in crime against Mom. He taught me to always talk to the stranger, to learn their stories, and get to know the person sitting next to me. Between having the camera and learning that passion for humanity, a career in photography was a no brainer, however, I did my best to fight against it in lieu of something more credible. Despite that effort, I finished college with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, a concentration in Photography, and a minor in Art History. I also hold a Bachelor of General Studies and a minor in Humanities. Again, I fought being a working artist for several years until finally, it got to be too much and I threw my hat in the ring. I started the company in 2019 and have been growing since.

My goal is to look for the story in people. My grandfather taught me early on that despite who we are, where we come from, what we look like, what creed we are, deep down we're all human and we're connected by core aspects. We all need to be loved, to share our stories, and to know laughter. We all have this need to be seen by those we love, whether that's ourselves or someone else. My goal is to help people do just that, to see themselves in a way that they are able to cherish for a lifetime then one day pass down to their children. We're all human and we're all in this together. My question to the universe will always be, "How are we connected," not "how are we different?"



sarah  
dickerson  
PORTRAITS



## Frances Love Harris

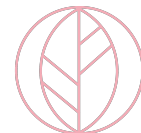


Frances Love Harris is the owner and the lead wellness inspirer of Peace of Serenity Massage & Wellness, a boutique wellness spa in the Metro New Orleans area-Harvey, offering luxurious massage modalities, customized skin care experiences and a variety of wellness products and services, specifically with the guests in mind.

Frances is a trustworthy entrepreneur from Marrero, LA, a small-town on the outskirts of New Orleans. Frances wholeheartedly embraces her culture in everything she does. She discovered her gift and passion for helping others to cultivate a healthy mind, body and connection early in life.

Frances has been a licensed and certified massage therapist since 2016. Previously, Frances worked over 10 years in Regional Leadership within the hospitality industry and draws from the knowledge and experience she gained in those roles to successfully own and operate her own brand.

By providing guests with wellness services, along with personal experiences and challenges, Frances recognized the need for self-care and connection which led her to begin developing wellness retreats for groups, couples, corporations, and businesses, in which she works as the lead strategist. As the retreat development and planning continues to grow, Frances has begun to educate and empower self care by way of speaking engagements for the overall wellness of professionals by implementing best self practices for a successful way of life and career. A proud mother of 3, Frances is passionate for all people and improving their overall well-being.



Peace of Serenity  
MASSAGE & WELLNESS



## Dr. Elise Johns



Dr. Elise Johns is a compassionate and dedicated therapist known for her integrated approach to healing and personal growth. She is a distinguished Assistant Professor at the University of the Cumberland. Her extensive educational background includes a doctorate in Counselor Education from the University of New Orleans and a master's degree in Counseling Psychology from Troy University .With a deep emphasis on openness, trust, and honesty, Dr. Johns creates a safe and non-judgmental space where clients can explore challenging issues with confidence and security.

Drawing from a diverse range of therapeutic techniques, Dr. Johns guides her clients on a journey towards improved coping skills, enhanced self-efficacy, and positive change. Her therapeutic style strikes a balance between validation and support for transformation, recognizing that the power for change resides within each individual.

With a wealth of clinical experience, Dr. Johns has made significant contributions to the field of mental health. Her professional journey includes work in outpatient mental health treatment, grief counseling, crisis intervention, training clinics, and establishing a thriving private practice in New Orleans, where she has served the community for the past 8 years. Her expertise extends to individuals dealing with depression, anxiety disorders, PTSD, bipolar disorder, behavioral management concerns, ADHD, self-esteem issues, and couples' challenges.

As a part of the Brightside Therapy Collective, a non-profit private practice group with a mission to provide affordable mental health services to the community, Dr. Elise Johns exemplifies a commitment to accessible and compassionate mental health care. Dr. Johns' research and teaching interests encompass a range of vital topics, including multicultural competencies, LGBTQIA issues, spirituality, and the ethical competencies required of clinicians working with terminally ill clients. Her work not only contributes to the growth of the counseling profession but also enhances the understanding and compassion that counselors bring to their clients' lives.





## Mary Jane Walsh



Mary Jane Walsh, owner of Mary Jane Walsh THRIVE, is an international executive coach who has helped thousands of individuals to expand their vision, develop strategies for growth, achieve revenue goals and gain back their time. She is truly passionate about helping her clients achieve remarkable goals in both their personal and professional lives.

Her services include business and executive coaching, leadership training, executive retreats and more.

She was very excited to lead a business retreat in Florence, Italy in September of 2022, and will lead an upcoming retreat to Lyon, France in September of 2023.

She is truly passionate about finding ways to help people thrive.

MARY JANE  
WALSH

THRIVE





## Scarlett Paniagua



Scarlett Paniagua, a media buyer with 14 years of experience, has driven great results in terms of successful advertising campaigns, both in digital and traditional advertising mediums. Her skills are best presented in negotiating the prices in advertising, reaching target audiences, and managing ROI for clients. With her great communication and critical thinking skills, Scarlett works smoothly with everyone.

Scarlett Paniagua got her Master in Advertising and Marketing from Sunburst Media. She also completed courses, such as The Digital Marketer, Marketing Analyst Job, Business, Accounting, and Finance.

Scarlett is now a business owner of 3 companies - MVGENERATIONS Marketing Agency, Premier Solutions LLC, and Tutti-frutti in River Ridge, Metairie, and Kenner, and two small non-profits - Simba Initiative and AMIGA.

Scarlett's hobbies include creating dessert ideas and reading fashion books. She loves to visit Disney World when she wants to unwind from working too much. Being with family gives her a sense of peace and being a kid at heart.





## Kiva Davis Reynolds

Kiva Davis Reynolds joined Fidelity Bank in 2013 as part of the New Orleans East Banking Team. Prior to joining Fidelity, Kiva worked in Banking Operations, Accounting, and Retail Banking at Hibernia and Capital One Bank, respectively. Kiva has over two decades of banking experience and a unique perspective. She is now an AVP Small Business Relationship Manager where she develops and manages Small Business relationships. Prior to joining the Small Business Team, Kiva was the inaugural graduate of the Accelerated Leadership Program at Fidelity Bank. Kiva is a native New Orleanian and was educated in the New Orleans public school system. She obtained a Bachelor's degree in Business Management and a Master's Degree in Business Administration.

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AWARDS

2023 New Orleans City Business Money Maker Honoree  
2023 Northshore Go Red for Women Executive Leadership Team Member  
2022 Biz New Orleans Women to Watch Honoree  
2021 2022 New Orleans Regional Black Chamber of Commerce  
Ambassador of the Year  
2021 Fidelity Bank Chairman's Core Value  
2020 Fidelity Bank Presidents Club Winner





## Valerie M. Grubb

A dynamic, engaging, and entertaining speaker who draws on decades of senior-level leadership experience in a variety of industries, Valerie M. Grubb educates and inspires her audiences to achieve breakthrough results, exceed their own expectations, and propel themselves to success.

Val helps companies improve productivity and grow their bottom line by elevating employees from tactical thinkers to strategic leaders. With extensive corporate experience including founding the Oxygen channel and InterActiveCorp (parent company to Expedia, Home Shopping Network and TicketMaster just to name a few), and senior leadership roles in NBC Universal and Rolls-Royce, she can translate complex skills such as leadership, inspiring accountability and motivating others into actionable steps that resonate with new managers to senior executives. In her keynotes and training programs, she covers topics such as strategic thinking, developing next gen leaders, finance for non-financial managers, building a culture of accountability, leading change, managing managers and many others—in short, the skills, knowledge, and capabilities that are key to successful leadership. Her presentations are highly interactive: rather than “talk at” her audience, she invites them to participate in an extended conversation. Described by one client as “engaging, humorous, insightful, and inspiring,” Val has a confident, easygoing, and intelligent style that enables her to build a strong connection with her audiences that helps them get the most of their time with her and leaves them well-positioned to follow up on what they learn. She has taught senior leaders and high-potential employees throughout the USA, Asia, Europe, South America, and Central and Eastern Europe. Valerie is certified as a Marshall Goldsmith Executive Coach, and she is an Everything Disc® and Patrick Lencioni 5 Behaviors of a Cohesive Team authorized partner and facilitator.

Prior to founding Val Grubb & Associates, Ltd., Valerie served as the vice president of strategic operations at NBC Universal, where she oversaw business development opportunities and spearheaded on-air quality initiatives for the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China. Valerie played a seminal role in the 1999 formation and subsequent success of Oxygen Media which led to the company’s purchase by NBCU in 2007. Before joining Oxygen, Valerie was the vice president of operations for Barry Diller during the inception of IAC, where she managed the integration of newly acquired companies including Home Shopping Network, TicketMaster and Expedia just to name a few.

She began her career as an engineer with Rolls-Royce where she earned increasingly senior assignments, culminating in her appointment as director of public affairs. Valerie graduated with a mechanical engineering degree from Kettering University and obtained her MBA from the Indiana University Kelley School of Business. She is a graduate of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program, the Institute of Politics at Loyola University, the Council for a Better Louisiana (CABL) Leadership Louisiana program and the New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute (NORLI). Valerie currently serves on the Board of Directors for the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, the New Orleans Film Society, the New Orleans Opera Women’s Guild, and the New Orleans Chapter of the National Speakers Association. Valerie has published two books: *Planes, Cars, and Automobiles: Connecting with Your Aging Parents through Travel* (Greenleaf) and *Clash of the Generations: Managing in the New Workplace Reality* (Wiley).



# VALERIE M. GRUBB

KEYNOTE SPEAKER, EXECUTIVE COACH, TRAINER



## Tammy O'Shea



Tammy O'Shea is a passionate advocate for community banking, believing that employees are the strongest advocates for any organization. With a deep understanding that culture forms the lifeblood of any institution, she specializes in internal marketing to foster a culture of internal brand ambassadors. Her expertise extends to external marketing, where she shares an organization's mission and values with the world.

As the Chief Marketing Officer of Fidelity Bank, Tammy shoulders significant responsibilities that shape the institution's identity and impact. She is entrusted with brand management, advertising, public relations strategy, social media, and overseeing donations, events, and sponsorships. In addition, Tammy serves as the corporate spokesperson and collaborates with all business entities to help them achieve their objectives while ensuring Fidelity Bank's product lines align with client needs.

Tammy O'Shea recognizes the pivotal role of social media in Fidelity Bank's marketing strategy. She uses it to humanize the brand, infuse personality, and educate the audience. Rather than overt selling, her approach is focused on enabling the audience to learn more about Fidelity Bank and its commitment to giving back to the community.

Fidelity Bank's mission, "Here for Good," serves as a guiding principle in Tammy's work. With a rich history spanning 111 years, the organization's decisions revolve around the core value of longevity, ensuring it remains a safe, sound, and relevant business in a rapidly changing industry. As a mutual organization, Fidelity Bank gives back to the communities it serves through financial contributions, education, and volunteerism. They also prioritize doing good by their clients, utilizing a consultative approach to discover their needs and provide tailored solutions.

What sets the Fidelity Bank experience apart is their unwavering commitment to their mission, vision, and values. They combine personalized service with cutting-edge technology, allowing clients the flexibility to interact with their banker or utilize self-service options in their modern offices.

Tammy O'Shea's remarkable contributions to Fidelity Bank and the community have not gone unnoticed. In recognition of her outstanding achievements, she was honored as one of the 2022 CityBusiness Women of the Year, celebrating her success in business and her impactful contributions to the region. Her dedication to fostering a culture of giving back and her commitment to the bank's mission make her an invaluable asset to Fidelity Bank and the community it serves.







## Sonjanita Jordan



Sonjanita Coleman Jordan is the CEO/Founder of DUAL Support which is a non-profit organization that helps women dealing with separation/divorce and the trauma of relationships. She is also the owner of LA Paralegals, LLC which is a freelance/contract paralegal firm. Sonjanita has been a paralegal for 19 years with a vast career that spans several areas. She is a 2004 graduate of the University of New Orleans where she received her ABA-approved Paralegal Certificate. She is a current member of the New Orleans Paralegal Association (NOPA) and served 3 terms as its president from 2015-2017.

Sonjanita is an original member of NFPA's Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Committee and is a passionate proponent of rehabilitative grace and restorative justice. She was awarded NFPA's inaugural Justice Champion Award in 2018 and NOPA's 2016 Paralegal of the Year Award. She also served as NOPA's Student Mentor Committee Chair for 2 years. Sonjanita is a former member of the Louisiana State Paralegal Association (LSPA) and was awarded LSPA's 2011 Outstanding Paralegal of the Year Award. Sonjanita serves on the Paralegal Advisory Board at Herzing University and on the General Legal Studies Advisory Board at Tulane University. She is also a speaker, author, adjunct professor, mentor, advocate, subject matter expert, minister and Master Life Coach.

Sonjanita has a heart and a passion for people and wants to see everyone succeed in their personal and business lives!





## Monica Pierre



Monica Pierre is a speaker, Emmy Award-winning reporter, story coach and founder of The Story Maker Academy where she teaches how to discover, develop and deliver stories for influence, impact and legacy. Monica is also host of *The Powerhouse Woman Show*.

As a veteran reporter and talk show host, Monica has interviewed thousands of people from all walks of life. She knows there is more than enough room for all stories to be told, shared, and valued.

Monica is Assistant Professor of Practice with the department of Mass Communication at Xavier University of Louisiana where she teaches podcasting, broadcast announcing and storytelling to the next generation of media talent.





2023  
Beatrice Foster  
Scholarship  
Recipients



# CROWN ME FOUNDATION

## BEATRICE FOSTER SCHOLARSHIP







# CROWN ME FOUNDATION

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE



Jaylin



# CROWN ME FOUNDATION

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE



*Yanvi*



# CROWN ME FOUNDATION

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE



*Yasmin*



2022  
CROWN ME  
IMAGE  
AWARDEES





**CROWN ME**  
FOUNDATION

IMAGE AWARDEE



**CROWN ME**  
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IMAGE AWARDEE





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IMAGE AWARDEE



JOLIE BERNARD

**CROWN ME**  
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IMAGE AWARDEE



ELIZABETH BROEKMAN



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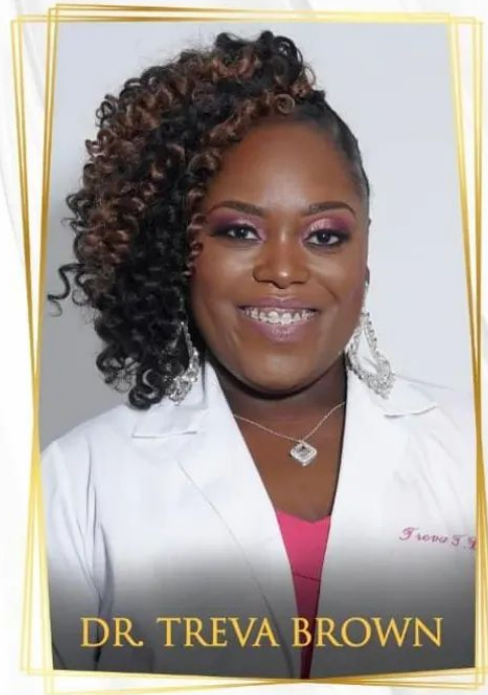
IMAGE AWARDEE



**AVIS BROWN**

**CROWN ME**  
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IMAGE AWARDEE



**DR. TREVA BROWN**



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IMAGE AWARDEE



STEPHANIE V. CHAMBLISS

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IMAGE AWARDEE



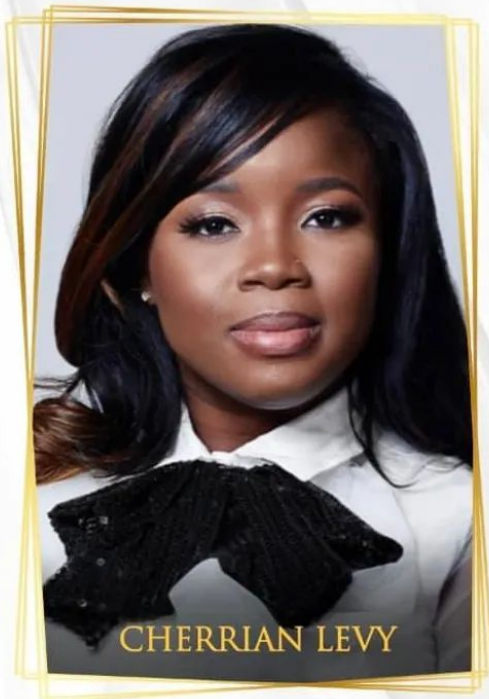
TIFFANY MCGARY-CYPRIAN





**CROWN ME**  
FOUNDATION

IMAGE AWARDEE



CHERRIAN LEVY

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IMAGE AWARDEE



ELIZABETH MANSHEL





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IMAGE AWARDEE



LACI SHERMAN

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CASSANDRA JAMES WEATHERSBY



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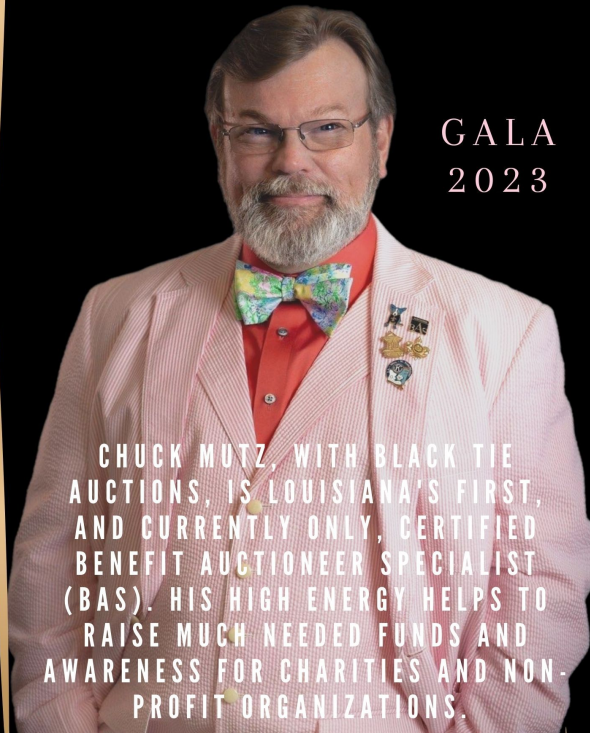
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**CHUCK MUTZ**



GALA  
2023

CHUCK MUTZ, WITH BLACK TIE AUCTIONS, IS LOUISIANA'S FIRST, AND CURRENTLY ONLY, CERTIFIED BENEFIT AUCTIONEER SPECIALIST (BAS). HIS HIGH ENERGY HELPS TO RAISE MUCH NEEDED FUNDS AND AWARENESS FOR CHARITIES AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.



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# T-RAY the Violinist

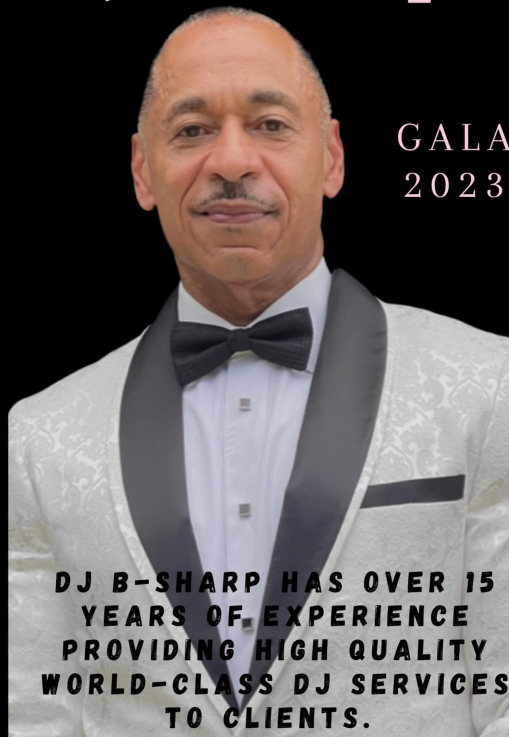
GALA  
2023

T Ray is a modern day  
musical  
genius representing a  
wide array of genres  
while delivering  
eclectic fusions on his  
magical strings!



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**DJ B-Sharp**



GALA  
2023

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# 2023-2024 BOARD ELITES





*Thank You*

to the ELITE  
BOARD

MEMBERS of  
our beloved

**CROWN ME**  
FOUNDATION



**CROWN ME FOUNDATION**

and Our Founder and Queen CEO Danyel Nicole Black  
wishes to extend a heartfelt pink and gold thank you  
to our elite Board members:

Queen President: Dr. Breanne McGhee

Queen Vice President: Kay S. Oplinger

Queen Danielle Detiege

Queen Jolie Bernard

Queen Sabrina Landry

Queen Jessica Jones-Langford

Queen Shannon Fangsrud

Queen Angelica Williams







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