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Co-founder W.E.B. Du Bois Afro-American Studies Department, University of Massachusetts

Lift Ev'ry Black Voice of Fire:

Honoring Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, Larry Neal, J. Rosamond Johnson

A historic celebration of the unveiling of the first four markers of the SIGNS OF THE TIMES: Harlem Heritage Markers Project.

Emcee: Sheila Evans | **Music Curator:** Terrance McKnight | **Drama Curator:** Keith E. Johnston



Marcus Garvey



Malcolm X



Larry Neal



J. Rosamond Johnson

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2023
1PM-6PM

Making Harlem's History Unavoidable

Time has passed since Camille Billops shared her pearl of wisdom, but the truth connects timelessly: It's comforting for the cultures and peoples that seek to be seen in the most truthful way. For While We Are Still Here (WWSH), Camille Billops's quote is our reason for being.

The SIGNS OF THE TIMES: Harlem Heritage Markers Project has been a long time coming, and because this community's history is so vast, the prospect of capturing some of it, for posterity, is intimidating and inspiring. When we met Marline A. Martin, a current member of our advisory board, she was then the executive director of Arts Horizons/ Leroy Neiman Gallery. She said, "We need plaques all around Harlem," and when I mentioned the idea of markers to Bill Seraile, he sent me a list of more than one hundred people who had lived here at some point.

Bill said, "Harlem lacks an identity. Not an identity of culture, but, rather, an identity of its history: Who did what where? Who lived there?" So WWSH sought to answer those questions through the SIGNS OF THE TIMES. Bill's list, combined with While We Are Still Here's mission, provided the impetus for WWSH to begin a pre-pandemic application process with New York City: After many meetings and revised submissions to various city agencies, we were granted final approval.

*"IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE
WRITE OUR OWN HISTORIES,
OTHERWISE THEY WILL
SAY WE WERE NEVER HERE."*

**—CAMILLE BILLOPS, ARTIST
AND ARCHIVIST**

The African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund, New York Life, and WWSH

In 2018, in Boston, two board members and I attended a training organized by the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund (AACHAF). The Fund is the brainchild of its executive director, Brent Leggs. His colleague, Robert Bull, a fundraising-development expert, with many years of experience, facilitated the workshop.

As the weekend came to a close, Brent asked us what we wanted to see in Harlem. We told him "twenty-five markers to start," and due to his commitment to heeding Camille Billops's call to action—because that's what it is—and his vast network of funders that support African American preservation

efforts, we are unveiling the first four markers today. Without AACHAF's support, this idea would not have become a reality. New York Life also offered its financial and technical support for SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

The Who, What, Why, When, and Where



Antoinette Tisdale, as a child, held by her mother, Jessie M. Rockwood, at a Garvey Parade, courtesy of Antoinette Tisdale

In addition to Bill's list, we also learned of sites from other people who have an intimate familiarity with the distinctive history of this community. Most of them live or have

lived in Harlem, and they shared vital memories of places that are long gone, but still important.

We held a community forum at the George Bruce library on 125th Street. People came together to share their ideas about who and what should be honored with a marker. The meeting was facilitated by Joyce Dudley of Dudley and Associates.

Researcher, Deborah Cowell, complied people's choices onto a spreadsheet that included brief narratives on site histories, GPS coordinates, street addresses, and photographs. We used this information to begin the application process with the city. Through this process, WWSH learned that there are many New York City regulations regarding what can go into the sidewalk and where. For example, if the street is too narrow, no marker can be installed. If there are gas and electric lines adjacent to where you would like the marker, no marker can be installed, and, of course fire hydrants, bus stops, and bus shelters

have restrictions. This is why, for example, influential organizations such as Kamoinge and Weusi are not represented in this iteration of SIGNS OF THE TIMES. The street they occupied was too narrow to accommodate a marker.

The markers say, *we are here and this is what we did*. The markers are a way to magnify the Black journey toward recognition for that which we have contributed, not only to Harlem, not only to New York City, but to the nation and the world. Through SIGNS OF THE TIMES, we seek to leave visual reminders of Harlem as a locus of the heart of the African Diaspora, as the Capital of the Black world. This is where the dynamic creativity, spirituality, politics, and intellectualism came together and created a village, and in this village one could find an array of exotic and mainstream religions, new ways of theorizing about liberation, and artistry tied to freedom dreams.

The four men honored today may well represent the varied, overlapping,

often complicated ideologies that can be found within the Black world. Marcus Garvey, who proclaimed himself to be the future “president of Africa,” inspired millions of people, across the globe with the words, “Up, you might race! Accomplish what you will.” Malcolm X, Larry Neal,

“Harlem lacks an identity. Not an identity of culture, but, rather, an identity of its history: Who did what where? Who lived there?”

—Bill Seraile

and J. Rosamond Johnson’s life work reflects this sentiment as well.

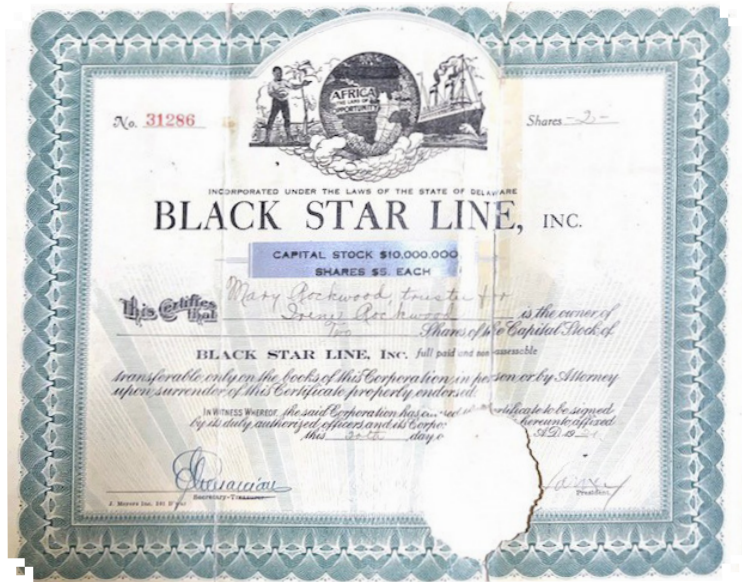
It is an honor to have Antoinette Tisdale share her memories of growing up in a Garveyite home. Her

father, Major Francisco Rockwood, served as treasurer of the Vanguard Local. Both she and her daughter, Sheree Leonard, have cherished memorabilia that is a living testament to Garvey’s dreams and influence.

The markers that we’ve unveiled today will be installed later this year. Next year, we will present the remaining nineteen SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

In the Spirit of Heritage,

Laura D. Taylor



Black Star Line stock certificate, courtesy of Sheree Leonard

UNIA/Marcus Garvey

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."

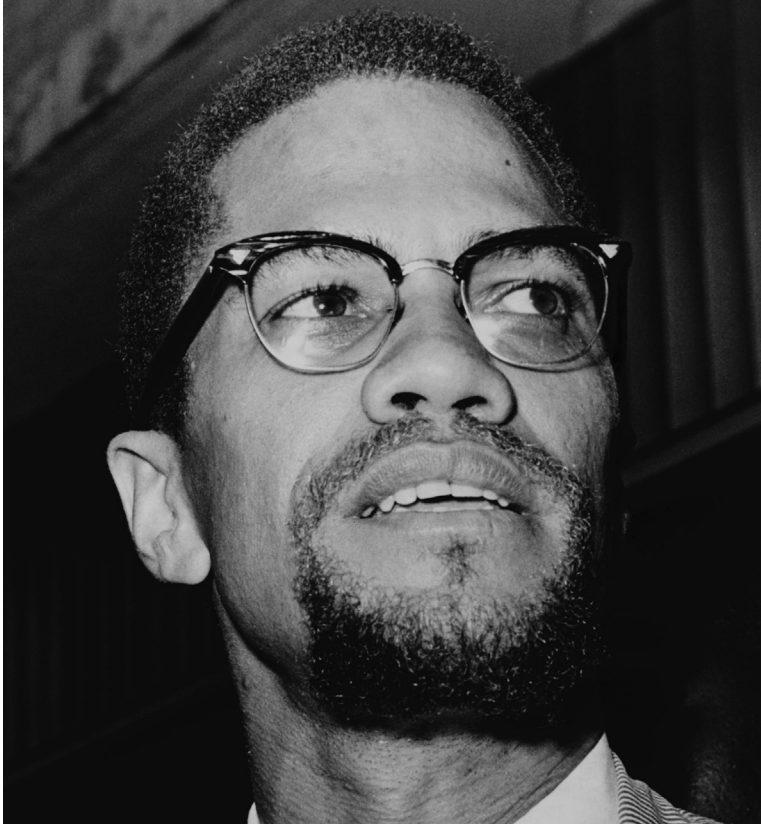
—Marcus Garvey

Marcus Garvey, an early proponent of Pan-Africanism, disembarked from the ship that transported him from Jamaica to New York City in 1916. The young activist had already earned a reputation of being a prolific traveler to African diasporic communities in Costa Rica, Honduras, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, and Great Britain and had also toured Glasgow, Paris, Monte Carlo, Boulogne, and Madrid. In every country, including his own, he observed and experienced the overwhelming poverty, lack of rights, and exploitation of Black people. And in every port of his journey, Mr. Garvey took action, sometimes by founding newspapers, encouraging unionism, or writing magazine articles. He also called for the end of white colonial rule in Africa.

This biography continues on our website: harlemnyc.org



Faith Temple/Malcolm X



"A race of people is like an individual man; until it uses its own talent, takes pride in its own history, expresses its own culture, affirms its own selfhood, it can never fulfill itself."

—Malcolm X

El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, more commonly known as Malcolm X, not only changed the image and determination of Black Americans forever, but he was a global phenomenon, touching people wherever he traveled. Even more astonishing is that his lasting influence on the world's perception of race, justice, humanity, and equality was accomplished at a very young age and in just a few short years.

This biography continues on our website: harlemnyc.org

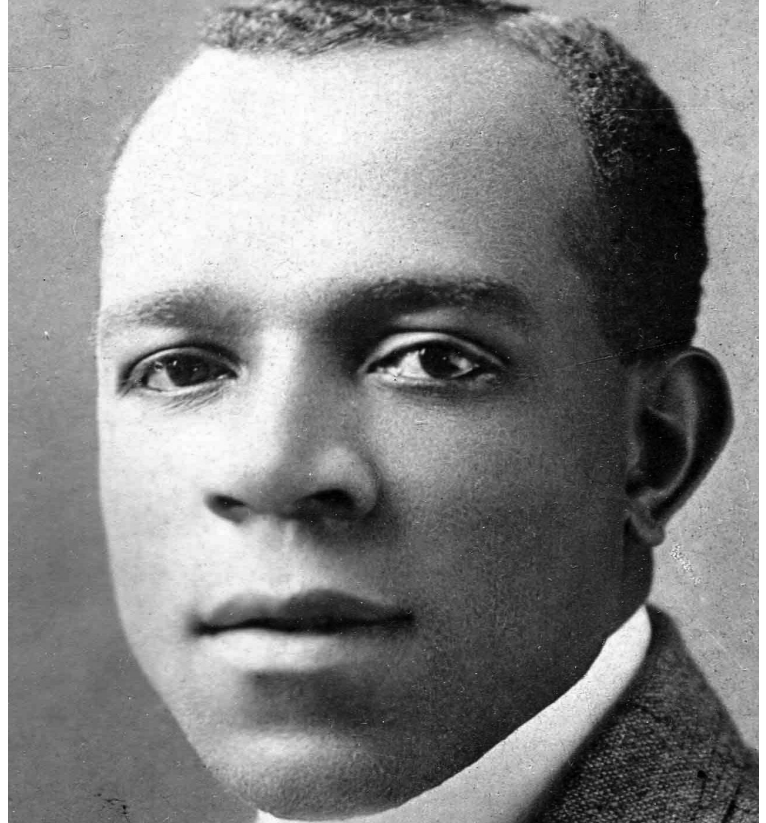
J. Rosamond Johnson

"The Negro Spiritual, plantation songs, and their idiomatic outgrowth form distinctive elements of American folklore, folksongs, and folk-music."

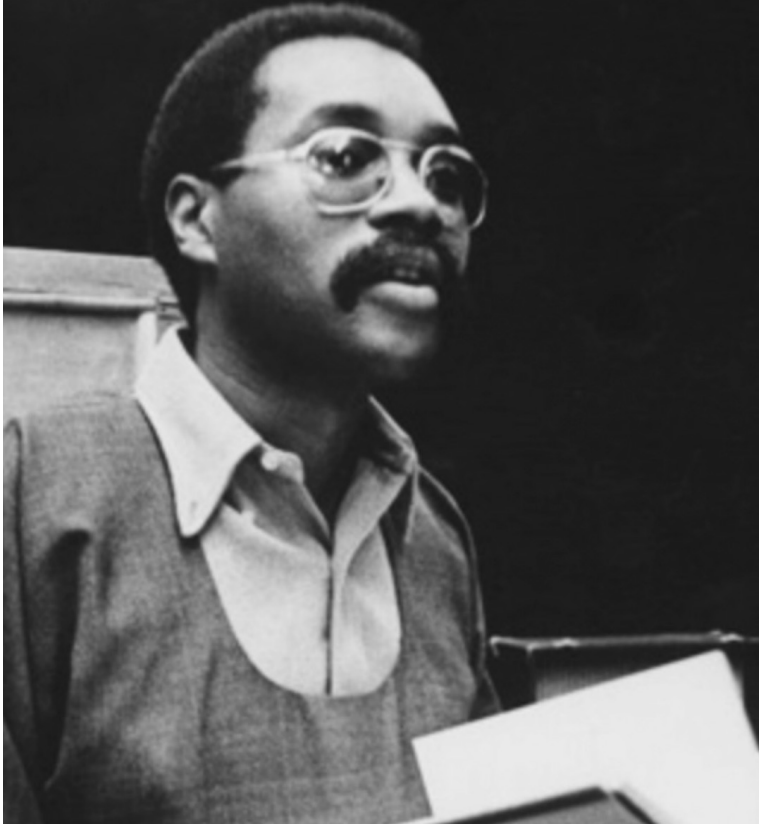
—J. Rosamond Johnson

J. Rosamond Johnson is known as one of the most prolific African American composers. The maestro was also a musicologist, arranger, teacher, pianist, soldier, actor, and producer. He serenaded audiences with his own songs and the rich, complex melodies of spirituals and plantation songs. Mr. Johnson understood that "negro" music was one of the few styles that were truly an American invention. He was an early proponent of this perspective and is one of the people of his era to foster the idea that the distinctive music of Black slaves is worthy of having a permanent place in American music history.

This biography continues on our website: harlemnyc.org



Lawrence “Larry” Neal



“It is a profound ethical sense that makes the Black artist question a society in which art is one thing and the actions of men another. The Black Arts Movement believes that your ethics and your aesthetics are one.”

—Larry Neal

Lawrence P. Neal was a scholar, professor, poet, critic, and playwright. A visionary, he was one of the engineers of the Black Arts Movement, which emerged in the 1960s. He worked closely with Amiri Baraka, founder of the Black Arts Repertory Theater in Harlem, to reestablish an arts practice that not only reflected the issues, challenges, and victories within the Black community, but also married politics and aesthetics in a responsible and restorative way. The goal was to create poetry, novels, visual arts, and theater to reflect pride in Black history and culture and to affirm that art was a means to awaken Black consciousness and achieve liberation.

This biography continues on our website: harlemnyc.org

Program and Itinerary

1:00-2:00

Marcus Garvey/UNIA, 2395 Frederick Douglass Blvd.

BUS DEPARTS FROM THIS SITE.

This is the site of the Marcus Garvey Meeting Hall, named for the founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association who fostered Black pride.

Remarks

William Seraile, professor emeritus, Lehman College | Raymond Dugué, first assistant president general of the UNIA | Antoinette Tisdale, daughter of Major Francisco Simone Rockwood of the UNIA and treasurer of the Vanguard Local | Sheree Leonard, granddaughter of Major Francisco Simone Rockwood

Performance

Eon Grey, "The Principles of the Universal Negro Improvement Association" (Excerpt from Garvey speech)

2:30-3:30

Malcolm X/Faith Temple Church, 1763 Amsterdam Ave.

On February 27, 1965, Ossie Davis eulogized Malcolm X, as "Our Black, Shining Prince" at Faith Temple Church.

Remarks

Ilyasah Shabazz, daughter of Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz | Herb Boyd, Malcolm X scholar

Performance

Andre Blake, "The Race Problem," "There's a Worldwide Revolution Going On" (Excerpts from Malcolm X speeches)

4:00-4:30

J. Rosamond Johnson, 437 W 162nd St.

THIS WILL BE THE LAST BUS STOP.

A prolific composer known for “Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing,” he championed Black music in the US and Europe.

Remarks

Melanie Edwards, granddaughter of J. Rosamond Johnson | Terrance McKnight, musicologist, radio and podcast host

4:35-5:00

Lawrence “Larry” Neal, 12 Jumel Ter.

Neal was a force in the 1960s Black Arts Movement. He was a playwright, poet, professor, and Guggenheim Fellow.

Remarks

Sam Anderson, Lincoln classmate of Larry Neal | Playthell Benjamin, friend of Larry Neal | Evelyn Neal, widow of Larry Neal | Avatar Neal, son of Larry Neal

5:00-6:00

Lift Ev’ry Black Voice of Fire

Performance Honoring J. Rosamond Johnson and Larry Neal

Morris-Jumel Mansion, 65 Jumel Ter.

Excerpts from Larry Neal’s works: Bryce Michael Wood, “New Space/The Growth of Black Consciousness in the Sixties” | “The Black Arts Movement,” “Malcolm X—An Autobiography” | J. Rosamond Johnson’s music will be performed by Damien Sneed, piano | Marcelle Davies-Lashley, voice | Josh Henderson, violin.

Presenters and Performers

Playthell George Benjamin, noted blogger and journalist, is the producer of “Commentaries On the Times,” which he writes and delivers on WBAI. Playthell is an award-winning journalist, who has been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in two different categories. His byline has also appeared in the *Guardian Observer of London*, the *Sunday Times of London*, *High Times*, the *Village Voice*, and others. He has been a professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.



André Blake is a New York film and television veteran with over fifty film and television credits to his name. He has worked with Academy Award winners, Denzel Washington and Julia Roberts to name a few. Most recently, André played Dr. Claude Baptiste on the NBC hit show *New Amsterdam*. He is also a prominent figure in the voice-over world. He has been the voice of the BET Network, Church’s Chicken, Subway, Amtrak, AT&T, Ford, and many others. Born in Port Of Spain, Trinidad, and raised in Hempstead, Long Island, and Harlem, New York, this veteran is poised to make even more noise in the coming years. Keep your ears and eyes open, as you will see and hear more of Mr. Blake in the future.



Herb Boyd is a professor, journalist, and author, who has written or edited more than twenty-five books, including, *Three Centuries of African American History as Told by Those Whole Lived It* (oral histories); *Civil Rights: Yesterday and Today*; *Baldwin’s Harlem*, a biography of James Baldwin (finalist for NAACP Image Award); *Brotherman—The Odyssey of Black Men in America* (an anthology) (with Robert Allen, received American Book Award); *We Shall Overcome* (used in classrooms internationally); *Autobiography of a People*; and *The Harlem Reader*. He has scripted several documentaries on cold cases of martyrs from the Civil Rights era.





Marcelle Davies-Lashley is a singer/songwriter Brooklyn native of West African descent. She has toured five of seven continents opening hearts with her electrifying stage presence and huge voice. Some of her most recent projects include being the featured singer in Carrie Mae Weems's opening of *The Shape of Things* and Carl Hancock-Rux's *I Dream A Dream That Dreams Back At Me* for the Juneteenth performances at Lincoln Center in 2021. She was the singer/arranger for the Billie Holiday Theater's *A Walk Into Slavery*, directed by Dr. Indira Etwaro. Davies-Lashley is the creator of her one-woman show, *Liberian Girl in Brooklyn*, which premiered at Mabou Mines's Suite Space 2019 series. She is also a percussionist and has sung background for Macy Gray, Bono, Angelique Kidjo, BeBe Winans, Lizz Wright and others. Her first EP is titled *Easy to Love*. She has new music on the horizon.



Raymond Dugué was born and raised in Ayiti (Haiti) and educated in the United States. Brother Raymond Dugué serves as the first assistant president general of the UNIA/ACL, the Universal Negro Improvement Association, African Communities League—the organization that the Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey founded, in Kingston, Jamaica. Dugué believes in “One God, One Aim, One Destiny,” and, of course, “Race First.” First Assistant President General Dugué attended the City College School of Engineering in Harlem, graduating with a bachelor of engineering in chemical engineering in 1984. Afterward, he completed a second degree in mathematics, following the footsteps of his African ancestors, the race of men and women who were the first to educate and enlighten the world in mathematics, science, medicine, the arts, spirituality, and everything else.



Sheila Evans is an independently contracted licensed New York City tourist guide. Evans founded Sheila's Tours, an established local and international tour consultancy. She has led tours in twenty-two cities on five continents. Evans is the author of *Cathedral Parkway Towers at Harlem's Gate* and several audiobooks. A lifetime member of the Actors Studio, Evans worked on stage, film, and television, including recording children's books for Troll Books. Evans is a member of the Screen Actors Guild and Actors Equity. Sheila's stage and union name is spelled SHELA Evans. She holds a master of science in education with honors from CCNY. She has taught Acting for Animators for fourteen years at the School of Visual Arts. She is on the board of directors of the CCNY Black Alumni Group and the chairperson of the United Tenants Association of Cathedral Parkway Towers Inc.



Melanie Edwards, granddaughter of J. Rosamond Johnson, worked for forty years at The Modern School, which was founded by her mother, Mildred Johnson, where she served in many roles. Following the closing of The Modern School, she has worked at Fordham University, the Schomburg, and the East Harlem Council for Community Improvement. Throughout her career in education, she has maintained an interest in photography and local New York history. She holds a bachelor of science in mass communications from Emerson College. She is currently seeking a publisher for her grandfather's unpublished autobiography.



Eon Grey has been acting for over three decades and has previously appeared in a plethora of works, including *Grandma Sylvia's Funeral* off-Broadway, at the Soho Playhouse, and *Billie's Blues* at the French Theatre Festival. Recent credits include feature films *My Last Best Friend*, starring Eric Roberts; *Made in Dublin*, which premiered last month at the Galway Film Festival; and the dark comedy *Double Blinded*. He just completed filming for the Irish TV series, *The Dry*, starring Ciarán Hinds. He has appeared in commercial work for Sony, Coca-Cola in the United States, Otterbox in Ireland, and the Sunday World newspaper. A graduate of New York University, Eon was a co-founder of the American Theatre of Harlem. He currently splits his time between Ireland and New York City.



Josh Henderson is a cross-genre violinist, violist, and composer. As a classical soloist, he has performed with companies worldwide. Josh has carved a reputation in jazz, rock, hip-hop, and country-fiddle for his dynamic performances. He has served as music director for the Emmy award-winning Damien Escobar (of Nuttin' But Stringz), where he performed at several events across the globe, including a performance at the 2013 Hip-Hop Inaugural Ball hosted by Russell Simmons and honoring Barack Obama. He also served as music director to pop singer, Zahra Universe, on her South Korean tour, and to the spoken word artist LikWuid Stylez. Josh has also performed, recorded, and collaborated with artists such as Chris Brown, Michael Bublé, Bilal, Solange, the Sugar Hill Gang, and Paul McCartney—to name a few. As a founding member of the ensemble, Warp Trio, he has led the group on hundreds of concerts and University residencies. He is currently on the artist faculty at NYU and the Longy School of Music in Cambridge.



Keith Edward Johnston is a Renaissance man (actor, director, musician, writer, visual artist, and teacher). He is also co-founder of Back-A-Yard Theatre, artistic director of American Theatre of Harlem, and senior director/teaching artist for CUNY Creative Arts Team (CAT). He received an AUDELCO nomination for outstanding music director/composer 2022 (*Lambs To Slaughter*). *Singin Wid A Sword In Ma Han* won an Audience Favorite Award at the Fringe Festival in 2009. Keith served as director, dramaturg, and performer for BET's 30th Anniversary Upfront. For the Pulitzer prize-winning play, *Ruined* he was music director, composer, and performer. Keith has shared his distinguished talents in dozens of productions over the past thirty years.



Damien Sneed is a pianist, vocalist, organist, composer, conductor, arranger, producer, and arts educator whose work spans multiple genres. He has worked with jazz, classical, pop, and R&B legends, including the late Aretha Franklin and Jessye Norman, Wynton Marsalis, Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross, J'Nai Bridges, Lawrence Brownlee, the Clark Sisters, and many others. Sneed is a 2014 Sphinx Medal of Excellence recipient. Some of the faculties he has served on include the Juilliard School of Music, Manhattan School of Music, Berklee



College of Music, and NYU. In 2020, Alvin Ailey Dance Theater commissioned Sneed to create an original score for *Testament*. The Opera Theatre of Saint Louis commissioned him to compose *The Tongue & Lash*, an opera imagining a post-debate conversation between James Baldwin, which premiered in May 2021, and a reimagined adaptation of Scott Joplin's opera, *Treemonisha*, which premiered on May 20, 2023.

Ilyasah Shabazz is an inspirational role model and advocate for youth and women and girl empowerment. Her life work is devoted to helping others find inner strength and purpose. While she is frequently asked to speak about the legacy of Malcolm X, she shares that it is her mother, Dr. Betty Shabazz's wisdom, courage, and compassion that guide her. She has more than six years' experience as a college professor, and more than twenty years' experience as administrator and implementer of cultural and community outreach initiatives, serving diverse populations. As key advisor to public and private organizations, she develops diversity and community-focused programs that align with business, academic, and organizational goals. Ilyasah is an author, artist, mentor, educator, motivational speaker, and citizen of the world, connecting and activating networks and resources to create measurably positive outcomes. She has published five multiple award-winning publications with outstanding novelists and is currently working on the next.



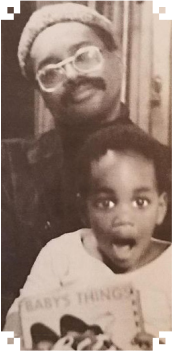
Sheree Leonard is the granddaughter of Francisco Simone Rockwood, and is a second-generation Afro Cuban American and New Yorker from the Bronx. A proud HBCU alumna, she attended Bethune Cookman University and Bowie State University, receiving a master of science in education in guidance and counseling. She retired after serving twenty years in education as a teacher and professional school counselor in Prince George's County, Maryland. Sheree currently resides in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, and is a licensed clinical professional counselor at District Heights Family and Youth Services. A pearl of wisdom from her grandfather: "Surround yourself with people who are intelligent." In other words, don't be the smartest person in the room.



Terrance McKnight serves humanity and music by “bringing everyone’s culture to the table, by not putting one above the other, but rather by ensuring a big enough table with a place for all.” McKnight is an author, radio and podcast host, commentator, curator, writer, and pianist active in various cities, including Atlanta, Philadelphia, and New York. McKnight is the weekday evening host for WQXR, New York’s only all-classical music station. In early 2023, in association with the station, his production company, Concert Black LLC launched a podcast. He also has another radio show with WQXR entitled, *All Ears with Terrance McKnight*, which received the ASCAP Deems Taylor Radio Broadcast Award. McKnight’s forthcoming book, *Concert Black*, has an anticipated release date in 2023.



Avatar Neal has had the privilege of living at 12 Jumel Terrace his entire life. He was born in June 1971 and later adopted by Evelyn and Larry Neal. His earliest childhood memories are of dinners and gatherings with some eccentric characters. Nelson Stevens, the painter, and Paul Carter Harrison, the playwright, belting out riffs from *Miles Davis’s Kind of Blue*. He remembers Sonia Sanchez, the poet, and Charles Fuller having heated discussions on the plight of the African American artist and their responsibility to the community through their art. All the while, his mom and dad played the ring leaders, host, and hostess. Avatar would play the fly on the wall soaking it all in and enjoying the electric energy that seemed to bounce off the walls. One of his favorite things was listening to the sound of his father’s typewriter. He recalls that you could hear that sound throughout the house from sun up to sun down. He would like to believe that if you are silent enough and put your ear to the ground, you can still hear his father’s typing.



Evelyn Neal is Larry Neal's wife and widow. They had been married a few years and were settling in. He was a prolific poet and respected scholar, and she had a blossoming career in medicine and science. When they decided to purchase a home, two key things were most important to them: living in a Black neighborhood and a home that required no renovations, allowing them to move in right away. That is what they found at 12 Jumel Terrace. Soon after moving in, in 1971, they adopted Avatar and began the joys of parenthood. Unfortunately, Larry transitioned in 1981. Avatar and Evelyn continue to live in the home. Even though the neighborhood has changed over the years, they still enjoy living there. She still loves the feeling of being in a real community. Evelyn is grateful to have discovered this gem of a peaceful enclave in a busy New York City.



Antoinette "Toni" Tisdale was born in New York City. She is the only daughter of Francisco Simone Rockwood, an avid Garveyite who migrated from Cuba to the United States in 1920. Her father and grandmother were active in the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). Marie Antoinette, Antoinette's grandmother, worked as a Black Cross nurse in Jamaica and Cuba. After emigrating to New York, her father joined UNIA Vanguard local, where he partnered with several cooperative businesses throughout Harlem. Antoinette still owns the Black Star Line stock certificates that her father purchased. As an adult, Antoinette continued to visit the Vanguard local where she brought her children on special occasions to participate in activities. She currently lives in Toledo, Ohio, having retired from forty years as a registered nurse. Antoinette worked at Bronx State Hospital and then at Toledo Mental Health Center in Ohio. She is passionate about keeping the memory of Marcus Garvey, the UNIA's mission, Black pride, and economic independence alive.



Bryce Michael Wood received his bachelor of arts from University of Notre Dame, where he was a Division I athlete for the Fighting Irish. His Off-Broadway appearances include *Hamlet*, *Superhero*, and *Othello*. He has also been in regional productions of *King Lear*, *TopDog/Underdog*, *Twelfth Night*, *Detroit '67*, *Gloria*, *Oedipus*, *The Royale*, *Smart People*, *Welcome to Fear City*, and *Row*.



The Community It Took

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Sam Anderson
Playthell Benjamin
Alexa Birdsong
Basir Mchawi
Ademola Olugbefola
In Memoriam, Bob Gumbs

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Yvonne Wakim Dennis, researcher, writer
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Karen D. Taylor, researcher, writer

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Siyaka Taylor-Lewis

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Chenzira Taylor-Lewis

LIFT EV'RY BLACK VOICE OF FIRE AND SUGAR HILL MUSIC FESTIVAL EVENTS

Technical

Bill Toles for The Black Atlantic
Creative Collective—Sound

Crew Chief

James "Prez" Carter

Mover

Rich Burrell

Enormous appreciation is due to Nicholas Pettinati and Christina Yee, of the Department of Transportation; Community Boards 9, 10, and 12; the Public Design Commission; and the Landmarks Preservation Commission. Thanks are also due to Victor Edwards, Marie Dutton Brown, and Melanie Edwards. Gratitude to E. Maurice Robinson-Cook for his outsized creativity in graphic design.

COLEMAN HAWKINS: THE MAN WHO CHANGED THE SOUND...

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023 | 1:00 - 2:00
445 W. 153rd Street

Emcee: Sheila Anderson of WBGO

This marker unveiling pays homage to the supremely influential tenor saxophonist, Coleman Hawkins. His musical legacy remains a benchmark for the music that we have come to call jazz. Remarks include a reading of a statement prepared by NEA jazz master, Sonny Rollins, who considers Hawkins a primary influence.

Following the unveiling, a 1st line and 2nd line will proceed to the Sugar Hill Luminaries Lawn at Edgecombe Avenue and 155th Street for the 7th Annual Sugar Hill Music Festival, where a special tribute will be performed in Hawkins's memory.

Coleman Hawkins: The Man Who Changed the Sound of Black Music



445. W. 153rd Street | 1:00PM

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7TH ANNUAL SUGAR HILL MUSIC FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023 | 3:00 - 8:00

Sugar Hill Luminaries Lawn
Edgecombe Avenue and W. 155th Street

Sheila Evans, emcee

Lineup is still in formation...

Allan Harris
Steven Oquendo Latin Jazz Orchestra
Sugar Hill Quartet



The poster is divided into two main sections. The left section has a purple background and features the text "7th annual" in a gold script font at the top. Below it is a stylized city skyline made of blue and white dots. Underneath the skyline, the words "SUGARHILL" are written in large, bold, blue capital letters, and "MUSIC FESTIVAL" is written in white capital letters on a gold rectangular background. At the bottom of this section, the date and time "Saturday, September 9, 2023 3pm-8pm" are listed in white. The right section has a blue background and features a portrait of Allan Harris, a man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a black fedora and a dark suit. Below the portrait, the event details "Sugar Hill Luminaries Lawn Edgecombe Avenue and W. 155th St. Sheila Evans, emcee" are listed in white. At the bottom of this section, the text "Lineup is still in formation..." is written in white, followed by the names of the performers: "Allan Harris Steven Oquendo Latin Jazz Orchestra Sugar Hill Quartet" in white.

7th
annual

SUGARHILL
MUSIC FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 9, 2023
3pm-8pm

Sugar Hill Luminaries Lawn
Edgecombe Avenue and W. 155th St.
Sheila Evans, emcee

Lineup is still in formation...

Allan Harris
Steven Oquendo Latin Jazz Orchestra
Sugar Hill Quartet

Sunday, November 5 | 3:00

Lenape Land Acknowledgement, 601 W. 125th St. with Chief Reggie of the Matinecock Nation

The dedication of the Lenape Land Acknowledgement marker will be followed by the opening reception of *Lenapehoking Algonquian Nation Artists Today*, at the Spitzer School of Architecture. Curated by Nadema Agard, a Powhatan/Cherokee/Sioux visual artist, the exhibit brings together the work of many Algonquian artists. The Algonquian nations of the Northeastern Woodlands call their ancestral homeland Lenapehoking or “Land of the Lenape,” which includes New York, Connecticut, Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Northern Delaware, with New York City at its heart.

The contemporary works in this show range from historic references to cutting-edge statements by Algonquian nation artists who are originally from Lenapehoking and those who are also culturally and linguistically related to the Lenape.

The works of these artists represent a Land Acknowledgement on this Island known as Manahatta or Menatay and are a symbol of the ongoing Indigenous presence in Lenapehoking, Turtle Island (Native North America) and the world at large. We are the past, present, and will be future contributors to a global civilization.



Nadema Agard

Artists

Paul Deo (Powhatan)
Courtney Leonard (Shinnecock)

David Bunn Martine (Shinnecock)

