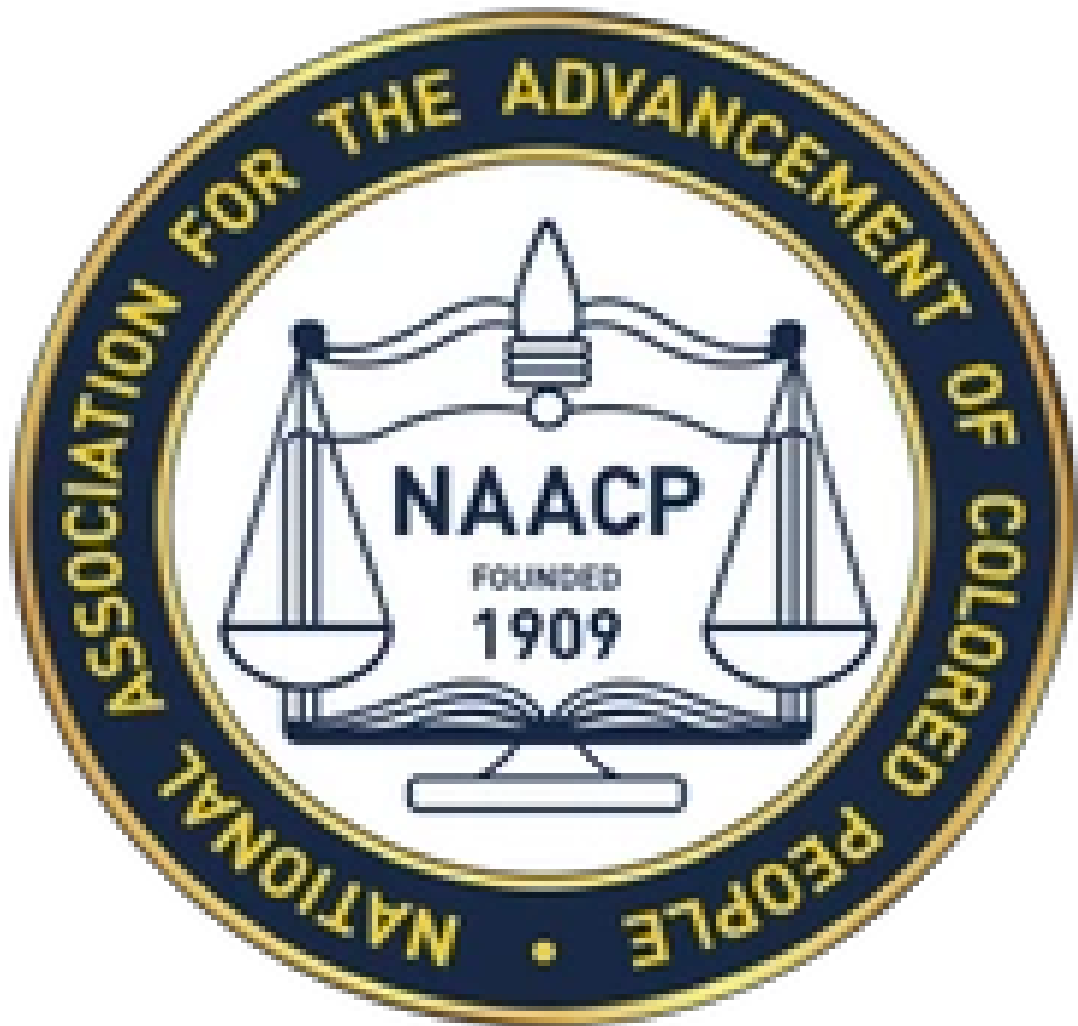


# Spring Valley NAACP



**68th Annual**  
Freedom Fund  
Membership Gala

**2022**

# 68th Annual

## Freedom Fund Membership Gala

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### LEADERS OF TODAY & TOMORROW

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

*Spring Valley Branch NAACP  
68th Annual Freedom Fund Membership Gala  
Honoring*



**LEADERS  
OF  
TODAY  
&  
TOMORROW**

Tendrina Alexandre  
Marie Medjine Antoine  
Joannamour Auguste  
Briana Brown  
Kevin Castel  
Olivia Castor, Esq.  
Ellen Sue Cola  
Ashton Coleman  
Calvin Demetrius  
Melissa Denizard  
Kathleen Fortune  
Valery Gabriel  
Aleah Green  
Jnanayoga Gross  
Jvankya Hardy  
Barrington Harvey  
Congressman Mondaire Jones  
Tahinah Lamour  
Dania Legros  
Nastasha Pollard  
Danyel Semple, Esq.  
Matthew Townsend  
Ra'Vynn Waters

**Former Youth Council Presidents  
and  
Young Adult Committee  
Members**

**Hybrid Program**

**December 10, 2022  
6:30PM**



Scan for  
NAACP Membership



**Annual Freedom Fund Membership Gala Program  
 Honoring Former Spring Valley NAACP Youth Presidents  
 Honoring Outstanding Leaders of Today and Tomorrow  
 December 10, 2022 at 6:30 PM**



**Mistress/Master of Ceremony**

Rabia Nagin, Executive Committee  
 Calvin Demetrius, President. Young Adult Committee

**Invocation**

Rev. Darwin Abraham, State Street AME Zion Church

**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

Briana Knight

**Greetings**

Dr. Hazel Dukes, NYS Conference President  
 & National Executive Board Member

**Welcome**

Wilbur Aldridge, Regional Director  
 NAACP Mid-Hudson/Westchester Region

Dejanae Buckley, SV Youth Council President

Willie J. Trotman, President Spring Valley Branch NAACP

**Musical Selection**

Danasia Manaya

**Honorees - Former Youth Council Presidents**

Congressman Mondaire Jones  
 Tendrina Alexandre  
 Joannamour Auguste  
 Briana Brown  
 Nastasha Pollard  
 Danyel Semple, Esq.

**Musical Selection**

Briana Knight

Kevin Castel  
 Kathleen Fortune  
 Jvankya Hardy  
 Tahinah Lamour  
 Ra'Vynn Waters

**Musical Selection**

Danasia Manaya

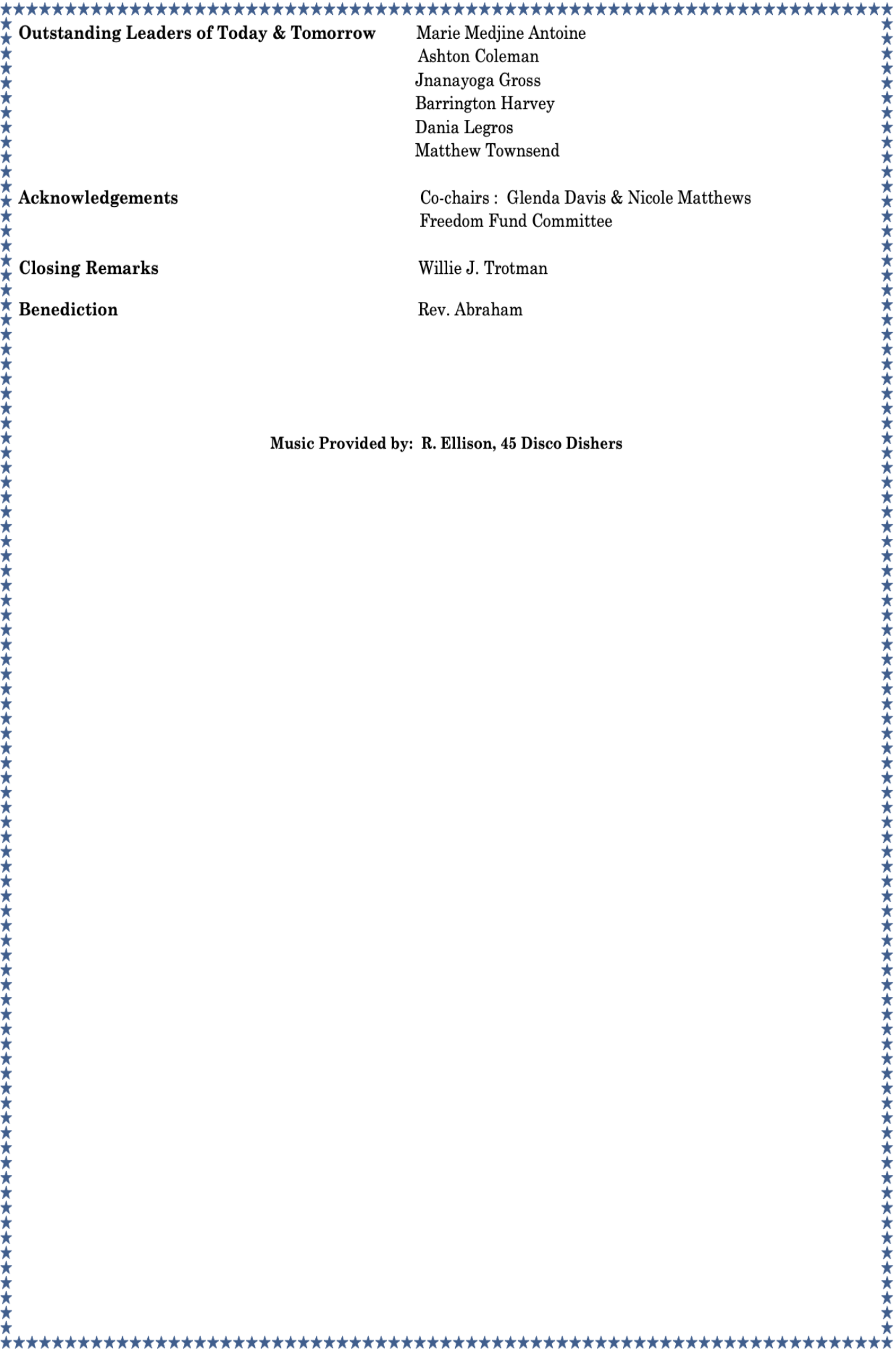
**Membership Appeal**

Bessie Walker, SV NAACP Assistant Secretary  
 Valery Gabriel, Young Adult Committee

**Outstanding Leaders of Today & Tomorrow**

Olivia Castor, Esq.  
 Ellen Sue Cola  
 Calvin Demetrius  
 Melissa Denizard  
 Valery Gabriel  
 Aleah Green

**Musical Selection or DJ**



**★ Outstanding Leaders of Today & Tomorrow**

Marie Medjine Antoine  
Ashton Coleman  
Jnanayoga Gross  
Barrington Harvey  
Dania Legros  
Matthew Townsend

**★ Acknowledgements**

Co-chairs : Glenda Davis & Nicole Matthews  
Freedom Fund Committee

**★ Closing Remarks**

Willie J. Trotman

**★ Benediction**

Rev. Abraham

**Music Provided by: R. Ellison, 45 Disco Dishers**

# Spring Valley NAACP

**Willie Trotman**

*Branch President*

Greetings:

On behalf of the Officers and Executive Committee of our branch, I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to our 68 th Freedom Fund Membership Gala on this December 10, 2022 at The Louis Kurtz Civic Center here in Spring Valley NY. The Spring Valley Branch of the NAACP was chartered in 1951 and continues to play a pivotal role in joining the New York State Conference and national NAACP fighting for the rights of the underserved, the voiceless, and equality for all.

Tonight, we gather in a hybrid form to acknowledge the work of our young leaders of today and tomorrow. Specifically, past presidents of our Youth Council and active members of our Young Adult Committee. We want to offer inspiration, acknowledge the dedication over the years, showcase their accomplishments as well as let them know how proud we are that they have continued to be activists.

During this period of COVID we want to specifically ask that you be vigilant in your healthcare for yourself and others around you.

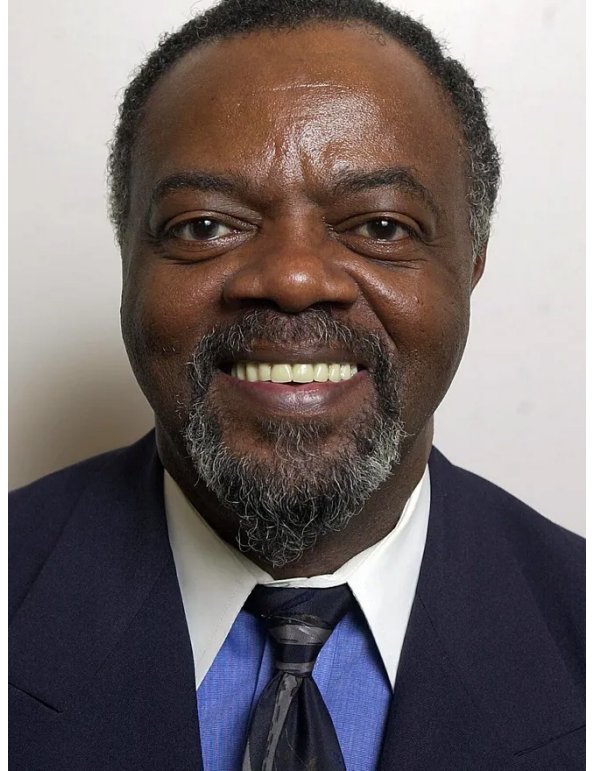
Our branch has joined with the Department of Health and several other organizations such as Westcop, The Martin Luther King Multi-Purpose Center and the Upper Room to ensure that all individuals, especially the undocumented, have access to healthcare services. COVID doesn't just attack the documented.

Our branch continues to meet virtually via zoom the fourth Monday of the month at 7pm and we encourage you to join us and share your ideas, concerns and perhaps become an active party in the oldest civil rights organization in the United States.

We also take this opportunity to offer our sincere gratitude to Congressman Mondaire Jones (first African American Congressman of the 17 th , District, former president of our Youth Council and former member of the National Board.) Senator Elijah Reichlin Melnick, former member of the Nyack Branch Executive Committee and Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski for their concerted efforts to not only service our communities with funding and legislation but also inspire the youth in our communities to believe that you can achieve no matter the challenges.

Again, I take the moment to hope all your holidays are joyful, the year of 2022 was fruitful and that the year 2023 will bring you good health, harmony and membership within the NAACP.

Willie J. Trotman  
President



# ABOUT US

## Our History

The Spring Valley Branch NAACP received its charter on June 25, 1951 and for over 60 years, the Spring Valley Branch NAACP has devoted its energy to ensure the Civil Rights of all members of community are upheld because equality is not a privilege; it's a right

## Our Mission

Our mission is to achieve equity, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate the well-being, education, and economic security of Black people and all persons of color.





# HONOREES

**Tendrina Alexandre**

**Marie Medine Antoine**

**Joannamour Auguste**

**Briana Brown**

**Kevin Castel**

**Olivia Castor, Esq.**

**Ellen Sue Cola**

**Ashton Coleman**

**Calvin Demetrius**

**Melissa Denizard**

**Kathleen Fortune**

**Valery Gabriel**

**Aleah Green**

**Jnanayoga Gross**

**J'vankya Hardy**

**Barrington Harvey**

**Congressman Mondaire Jones**

**Tahinah Lamour**

**Dania Legros**

**Nastasha Pollard**

**Danyel Semple , Esq**

**Matthew Townsend**

**Ra'Vynn Waters**

# Aleah Green



Aleah Green is a digital and visual storyteller whose work is at the intersection of creativity and community. It's always been her desire to tell the stories of people who are so often overlooked and disregarded in media--making sure their microphone is always on.

Aleah graduated from Spring Valley High School in 2017 and went on to receive Bachelors degrees in Broadcast Journalism and African American Studies from the University of Maryland in 2020.

Her campus involvement consisted of asking questions (to put it simply). She wrote for two-campus publications, focusing on Black events and entertainment, held leadership roles within the National Council of Negro Women, Maryland Association

of Black Journalists and Black Honors Caucus. Aleah is also a Spring 2019 initiate of the Kappa Phi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and served as President of the chapter in 2020.

Aleah also served as the 2019-2020 Miss Unity of University of Maryland where her platform focused on the protection of Black women's bodies from the disproportionate impact of human sex trafficking; "We're taking our bodies back."

It's her love of asking questions that landed her internships with PBS Newshour Weekend, BET Networks, and the New York State Assembly.

Upon graduating, Aleah worked at Horizon Media where she activated culturally and socially responsible digital advertising campaigns for BET. Aleah then became an Events Social Coordinator with MTV Entertainment Group where she collaborated on social and digital strategy and production for culture-making events from the Movie and TV Awards to the VMAs. Aleah is now at IBM where she strategizes digital journey's to maintain brand reputation.

Just like any storyteller, Aleah isn't done asking questions and isn't done making an impact. This is only the beginning.



# Ashton Coleman



Ashton Coleman ,29, Rockland County, New York. He works as a Voting Systems Specialist for the Board of Elections and has been dedicated to serving his community for the past fifteen years. Ashton has been an avid advocate for the Black community and has always been passionate about ensuring that everyone has a voice.

He is also the owner of a Black-owned business, which provides services that are tailored to the needs of the local community. Ashton is a firm believer that everyone has the right to have their voice heard, and he strives to ensure that all members of the community are represented.

He takes great pride in his work and is dedicated to creating a fairer and more equitable society. Ashton has been an active member of the community for many years and is well-respected for his commitment to social justice and equality. He is often seen in the community working on projects to help improve the lives of his neighbors and make sure that everyone is represented. His dedication to his work, and to his community, is an inspiration to all around him.

# Barrington Harvey



Barrington was born and raised in the Bronx and based in Spring Valley, New York.

Barrington Harvey aims to revitalize his community through civic engagement efforts that build rapport amongst community members and local law enforcement.

With a genuine desire to improve the quality of life for the youth & village residents in his community, Barrington has dedicated his time with the Spring Valley NAACP to creating means of recreation & decompression while simultaneously assisting in community policing efforts.

He organizes charitable events that help those in need as well as raising the needed funds to present a scholarship. Barrington is an organizational facilitator who isn't afraid to roll up his sleeves and get to work when he is called upon.

Often repeating the phrase "Brick by brick we build a house"

Fueled by genuine desire for improvement, Barrington aims to create serenity within his community."

# Briana Brown



Briana Brown is a Supply Chain Readiness Leader at GE Aerospace. She brings over 9 years of supply chain, operations, and project management experience in the aerospace field, and for-profit and nonprofit ventures.

In her personal time, Briana founded and operated two not-for-profit foundations that provide scholarships to college-bound high school seniors in Metro New York and South Florida.

Briana has been recognized for her service to the community and efforts to increase collegiate retention by New York State Senator David Carlucci, the New York State Assembly, the NAACP Spring Valley Chapter, and her alma mater.

Briana holds a Master's of Business Administration from Auburn University and two Bachelors of Science degrees in Applied Math and Statistics and Technological Systems Management with a Specialization in Mechanical Engineering from Stony Brook University.

# Calvin Demetrius



Calvin Demetrius was born and raised in Spring Valley NY. He went to Paramus Catholic HS and graduated from SUNY Albany with a B.S. in Political Science. He currently works as a manager for strategic partnerships for a non-profit organization for underserved youth. However, his true passions lie in entrepreneurship and as a member of the Spring Valley NAACP.

Calvin has gone on to become a founding member of Spring Valley's first ever NAACP young adult committee and is an alumni of the NAACP's Next Generation

leadership Program. Calvin became the Spring Valley NAACP Young Adult Committee first Chairperson/President, and has continued to serve his community as a volunteer by providing mentorship as well as resume building and professional development training.

As a Young Adult Committee President, he led his team as they held a vigil for the death of George Floyd, helped in the passing of the Assembly Bill by holding a viral Power to the monitor social media campaign which provided East Ramapo Central School District's children a Monitor with veto power.

In addition to that they have held annual toy donations for Christmas, the Rem Bowl which was a 'Turkey Bowl' held during Thanksgiving in honor of a Spring Valley native who passed away due to gun violence, a Health and Wellness Day event, and even a 'Get Out The Vote' rally where Mondaire Jones first announced that he would be running for Congress.

In his free time, he works alongside a team of young entrepreneurs known as team Flushadelphia; a team made up of entrepreneurs who take pride in personal development and family-like mentorship. Their goals are to make a global impact by helping 100 families create an additional stream of income in a year.

# Danyel Semple, Esq.



Danyel Nadera Semple, Esq. was raised in Spring Valley, New York. From a very early age she loved reading and history, and at 10 years old decided she was going to be a lawyer.

She is a proud Guyanese-American and probably just as proud alum of Ramapo High School. During her senior year, she was President of the NAACP Youth Council, which taught her many skills that she still utilizes to this day. At 17 years old, she began attending her dream school, Georgetown University in Washington

D.C. While at Georgetown, Danyel studied Sociology and Film and Media Studies and decided she would become an entertainment attorney.

Through the T. Howard Foundation, an organization that introduces diverse college students from all over the country to the media industry through paid internships, Danyel interned at BBC America and HBO. Grateful for the opportunities and mentorship that T. Howard provided her, Danyel continues to be an active mentor to undergraduate and law students who aspire to work in the media field.

Shortly after graduating from Georgetown, Danyel moved to Los Angeles, CA to attend Southwestern Law School. In May 2018, Danyel earned her Juris Doctorate with a Concentration in Entertainment and Media Law. Less than a year later, a day before she turned 25, she was sworn into the California bar, achieving her goal of becoming an entertainment attorney.

Danyel is currently the Associate Director of Business and Legal Affairs at Interscope Records where she negotiates, drafts, and develops record deals for some of the biggest artists in the world.

# Ellen Sue Cola



Ellen Cola attended Ramapo High School and graduated in 2016 with an Advanced Regents Diploma. While at Ramapo, she was involved in the NAACP Youth Council, serving as the 1st Vice President.

After receiving her high school diploma, Ms. Cola matriculated at Brown University. She started and became the President of the Brown University chapter of the NAACP and participated in the NAACP Next-Gen program.

For her senior capstone, she wrote an award-winning paper outlining the benefits of implementing a ward voting system in East Ramapo. Currently, Ms. Cola works as a Data Analyst at Microsoft and plans to pursue her master's degree in Data Science. She dreams of using this degree to provide government agencies with valuable data insights to inform positive change in her community.

# J'vanyka Hardy



J'vanyka Hardy former NAACP youth council president 2018-2021, Attended Ramapo High School class of 2021 serving as her class vice president and keeping the school spirit during 2020s US CoVid-19 pandemic.

J'vanyka has also been a member of the East Ramapo Superintendent club, served her community as Zeta success academy member and learned more about the judi-

cial system at Spring Valley's YPI Police Academy.

Now, Jvanyka is continuing her education at SUNY Morrisville to be achieving her bachelor's degree in science and minor in entrepreneurship with hope in opening her own practice as a nurse practitioner and later start her real estate business.

# Jnanayoga Gross



Jnanayoga Gross was born in Algiers, Louisiana. She was raised in Colima, Mexico along with her three siblings, Dulce, Turiya and Bindu. Her parents, Beatriz and Bindu Gross are jazz musicians.

Jnanayoga returned to the United States at the age of 24 to continue her college studies. She obtained her Paralegal Certificate from Rockland Community College and then went on to graduate from Purchase Community College with a bachelor's degree in Legal Studies. She has worked as

a paralegal in the not-for-profit law sector advocating for the indigent and immigrant communities of New York. She is a proud member of the Spring Valley NAACP chapter since 2018.

Jnanayoga is married to Michael Wilder. They reside in Piermont New York. During her spare time, she enjoys walks in nature with her husband, listening to music and spending time with her family and friends.



# Joannamour Auguste



Joannamour Auguste is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Toujour by Joannamour, a skin care products company that provides homemade organic body butter whipped to perfection.

She's also a Trade Operation Specialist for Regeneron Pharmaceutical, a prestigious New York-based biotechnology company.

Joannamour was a Spring Valley NAACP Youth Council member from the eighth grade through her senior year of high school. She worked through various staff and leadership roles, from Secretary during her Sophomore year to President during her junior and senior years.

As a valued member of the organization, Joannamour assisted with recreational projects, contributed to program planning and strategy sessions, and accompanied group field trips to local musical events and museums. She also participated in fundraising and community outreach initiatives.

During her tenure, she gained valuable skills such as public speaking, standing up for injustice, and more, leveraging her abilities in her career and private life. Joannamour believes that an effective leader can be the source of countless innovations that improve the world.

Joannamour's most significant professional accomplishment to date has been starting her own business. She's also credited with being a Transfer Transition Leader in college, where she helped plan and implement programs for all transfer and commuter students across campus throughout the semester. She was also a member of Albany Businesses Leaders Emerging, promoting social and professional development, community service, and fundraising.

Throughout her life, Joannamour learned from an early age the importance of giving back to the community. In the future, Joannamour plans to continue her community service activities by participating in important events in her area and passing down her knowledge and experience to young people.

When Joannamour isn't pursuing her career and business, she enjoys self-care and improving her mental health and well-being.

Joannamour Auguste was born in Haiti and moved to the US at the age of nine. She graduated from the State University of New York at Albany with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and a Business Administration degree from Rockland Community College. She's honored as an outstanding Youth Council President at the Spring Valley NAACP.

# Kathleen Hardy Fortune



My name is Kathleen Fortune. I am an immigrant from Haiti who moved to Rockland County 11 years ago and now am a US Citizen as of 2023. I had the opportunity to attend both Ramapo High School and Spring Valley High School then graduated from SVHS. I was introduced to the NAACP my sophomore going into my junior year of high school and 9 years later and they're still part of my life from Assistant Treasurer, Vice President, and President. The NAACP taught me how to put myself and my heart out there. I am currently a student at Berkeley College studying Surgical Technology and plan to continue my studies in Health Science. Although it's been a rough couple of years, trying to figure out where my heart belongs, I finally found

the career that fills my heart with joy. I am also Fitness enthusiast and quite frankly falling in love with fitness was something I never saw myself doing, but I never gave up on myself, consistently going even when I did not know what I was doing. Ninety pounds later I realized we are our biggest enemy the more we say we can not, the more we doubt, the harder it is to excel. I hope to inspire those around me and the NAACP has taught me that. Mr. Trotman has been more than just a mentor to me, he's a father figure, someone I know that is just one phone call away. I am not where I want to be yet, but I am far from where I used to be. Many will doubt you, but you and only you can determine what you want to do with the life that you were given. I truly believe in 1% everyday, if you could do a little of something you love every day before you know it, you'll no longer be a rookie. Believe in yourself, someone else's story is not yours, be the best you can be and what is meant for you will find you.

# Kevin L. Castel



Kevin L. Castel is a dedicated and talented finance professional and serial entrepreneur. He currently works as a valuation associate helping clients in various industries with business valuation services.

He graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a dual degree in Accounting, Finance, and International Economics. During his last year of college, he launched his first fashion brand focusing on athleisure wear for both men and women. Kevin is a real estate in-

vestor working with various investors in acquiring and selling single-family and multifamily properties in Florida and New Jersey.

Kevin is a husband and a father of two beautiful daughters. Kevin and his family live in North Jersey.

# Matt Townsend



Matthew Townsend is a passionate and dedicated educator and mentor within his community and the East Ramapo Central School District. He is committed to providing students with the tools and resources needed to succeed and reach their full potential.

Matthew has been a teachers educator for over 10 years and has served in various roles including as a mentor. He is also an active member of the community, volunteering countless hours to various organizations and charities.

Matthew is passionate about helping young people reach their goals, whether it's academic success or personal development. He has been known to go the extra mile for his students, providing additional resources and mentorship opportunities when needed. He is also an advocate for social justice and equity within the school and community. He believes in the power of education to create meaningful and lasting change.

Matthew is an inspiring leader who strives to make a positive and lasting impact on the lives of those around him. He is a role model and mentor to his students, colleagues, and community members. His passion and dedication to helping others is a testament to his commitment to social, academic growth and development.

Matthew is an invaluable asset to the East Ramapo Central School District and his community.

# Marie Medjine Antoine



Marie Medjine Antoine is a 24-year-old activist, who dedicates her time towards creating community change.

A recent graduate from The City College of New York, she earned her Bachelor's in Sociology and Black studies with a minor in Women Studies with an Associate's Degree in Sociology from Rockland Community College. She is also a recipient of the Edward Scobie Award granted to a graduating senior, majoring in Black Studies that has shown academic achievement and excellence

in Africana Social Science. Through the Beyond Identity Fellowship and Colin Powell Racial Justice fellowship she was able to learn the necessary steps in creating a sustainable community.

Over the summer, she interned at the Hudson River Fish Advisory with Cornell Cooperative Extension, a program ran through the Rockland County Conservation and Service Corp, and the African American Historical Society of Rockland to better understand how she can help her community of Spring Valley, NY.

She is the curator of 'Beyond the Wall,' an artist showcase located in Spring Valley, focused on giving artists of color space for their creative expression and 'Across the Diaspora,' a 4-week Black History month program focused on the history of Rockland County, along with creating space of Black uplift and healing.

# Melissa Denizard



She has been called “the voice that students around the country need to hear.”

Melly (aka Melissa Denizard) is a 23-year old cultural worker, activist, and organizer bridging public speaking, music, and visual art to illustrate Black Feminist Queer futures.

She began her career as a social justice advocate when she was 14-years old, advocating for gender & racial equity in the East Ramapo School District.

Now recognized by Natalie Portman & Kerry Washington’s Black Voices for Black Justice Fund, Melly’s work expands our understanding of Black identity, history, and liberation all while centering the unique experiences of Black girls, women, and femmes.

# Congressman Mondaire Jones



Mondaire Jones is the 35-year-old Congressman from New York's 17th District, serving Westchester and Rockland Counties.

He serves on the House Judiciary, Education and Labor, and Ethics Committees and is the first openly gay, Black member of Congress. He also serves as the youngest member of the Democratic House leadership team, Deputy Whip of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, and Co-

Chair of the LGBTQ Equality Caucus.

A product of East Ramapo public schools, Mondaire was raised in Section 8 housing and on food stamps by a single mother who worked multiple jobs to provide for their family. He later graduated from Stanford University, worked at the Department of Justice during the Obama Administration, and graduated from Harvard Law School.

He is a co-founder of the nonprofit Rising Leaders, Inc. and has previously served on the NAACP's National Board of Directors and on the board of the New York Civil Liberties Union. As well as past-President of the NAACP Youth Council.

# Nastasha Pollard



Nastasha Pollard served as NAACP Youth Council President for two years. She then left Rockland County after graduating from North Rockland High School to attend University of Miami, FL where she received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Mathematics.

After working as a Critical Care Registered Nurse at NYU Langone Hospital, Lenox Hill Hospital, NYP Cornell Hospital, and Memorial Sloan Kettering, she went to Florida to complete her Masters in Nurse Anesthesia at the University of South Florida in Tampa. Upon completing her masters, she worked for the past 4 years at Mount Sinai Hospital providing Anesthesia to patients for all surgeries and procedures as

well as served on the Rapid Response Team during the COVID 19 Pandemic.

Today, Nastasha now owns her own Anesthesia business working for herself, where she provides anesthesia to a multitude of outpatient surgery centers and private offices throughout New York City.

During her time off, Nastasha enjoys traveling the world, chasing the sun, time with friends and family, and working on getting her new children's book Puffy into little hands and more spaces. You can find her book at [www.thepuffystory.com](http://www.thepuffystory.com) or [@thepuffystory](https://www.instagram.com/thepuffystory) on social media.



# Olivia Castor, Esq.



Olivia Castor is a first year Corporate Associate in the Chicago office of Kirkland & Ellis, LLP. Prior to working at Kirkland & Ellis, Olivia attended Harvard Law School, where her time was heavily dedicated to building community and learning about movement lawyering and advocacy.

While at Harvard Law School, Olivia served as the co-founder of The Bell Collective for Critical Race Theory, the Vice President of the Caribbean Law Students Association, the co-chair of the Black Law Students Association's Social

Committee, and a research assistant to Professor Eloise Lawrence whose work focuses on Subversive Lawyering. She was also a student attorney in the housing law clinic where she advocated on behalf of low-income tenants of color facing displacement and individuals facing housing instability due to domestic or sexual violence.

Olivia received her Bachelor of Arts, cum laude from Harvard College in 2017 where she was a joint major in African American Studies and Social Studies.

In her spare time, she loves traveling, trying out new restaurants, and watching period pieces on tv.

# Ra'Vynn Waters



Ra'Vynn Waters was born in Valhalla, N.Y. to her parents Beth Brown and Reginald Waters. She is a native of Rockland County. Ra'Vynn is a graduate of North Rockland High School and Rockland Community College (RCC).

Ra'Vynn has spent over the last eight years of her life volunteering with various organizations in Rockland County including Habitat for Humanity (HFH), Spring Hill Community Ambulance Corps, and the Spring Valley NAACP.

Ra'Vynn began her work with Habitat for Humanity as a member of RCC's HFH club. In her time with the organization, she has helped to renovate and build homes in Rockland County, Passaic County and New Orleans, LA.

In fall of 2014, Ra'Vynn became a member of the Spring Hill Ambulance Corps., where she has been proudly serving her community as an Emergency Medical Technician. There,

Ra'Vynn achieved one of her early career goals by helping those in need as a medical professional.

In 2013, Ra'Vynn began her journey within the NAACP as a member of the Spring Valley NAACP Youth Council. She started her course of leadership within the organization as the Assistant Secretary of the youth council.

She then moved on to the position of Treasurer and eventually became the President of the youth council for two consecutive terms. During this time, Ra'Vynn made her cross into leadership on the New York State Conference Youth and College Division Executive Committee.

In 2014, Ra'Vynn was appointed as the Fundraising Chair for the NYS NAACP Youth & College Division. In the following year, she was elected to the office position of First Vice President, in which she served three terms. In February of 2018, Ra'Vynn was sworn in as a member of the NAACP's National Board of Directors representing Region 2. Ra'Vynn was reelected for her second term as a member of the National Board of Directors in December of 2019.

Ra'Vynn served on the National Board in numerous roles. As a member of the Environmental Justice and Climate Change Committee and Convention Planning Committee. She also served as Vice Chair of the Board's Economic Development, Health Committees, and Youth Works Committee. Over the past few years, she has organized community clean ups with Keep Rockland Beautiful, planned and hosted the Dr. Hazel N. Dukes Distinguished Leadership Banquet, organized town halls, conventions, a National Financial Literacy Campaign as well as numerous other events, trainings, and programs.

In her time of being a member of the NAACP, Ra'Vynn has received a multiple notable awards and honors including Dora Young Community Service Award, Spring Valley Branch President's Award, Miss New York State NAACP Youth & College, and the Dr. Hazel N. Dukes Distinguished Leadership Award.

# Tendrina Alexandre



Tendrina Alexandre is a proud Haitian- American and lifelong Rockland Resident, who graduated from Spring Valley High School in 2012.

She was introduced to the NAACP through her guidance counselor in 2010 and had the privilege of serving as the Spring Valley Youth Council President from 2011-2012.

Tendrina attended the University at Albany, and obtained Bachelor's Degrees in Communications and Journalism. She is proud to have

been involved with her campus' NAACP and serve on the board as Assistant Secretary.

After earning her Bachelor's Degree, Tendrina worked for six years in state and federal politics and government. Most recently, she served on Congressman Mondaire Jones' team as a District Representative, and was proud to serve her neighbors in this role.

Currently, Tendrina works as Marketing Coordinator for the America branch of Grand Seiko, a Japanese, luxury, watch brand. She also serves as a worship leader at New Life Tabernacle. In her spare time, she pursues her love for media, fashion, and community.

# Valery Gabriel Antoine



Valery Gabriel is a first-generation educator who proudly graduated from the East Ramapo Central School District. She obtained a Bachelor of Science in Education/ Spanish from Iona College and a Master's of Science in TESOL at Lehman College.

Over the years, Valery Gabriel has served as a multilingual early childhood educator in the Bronx and has shown tremendous leadership. She has served as a grade team leader for years and on numerous committees such as Restorative Justice & Equity Team, Wellness Team, School Climate and initiated a marketing team for the school.

She is currently a 3rd-5th grade ENL teacher in Rockland shining her light and lifting up

others. Ms. Gabriel is a global citizen who has traveled all over the world. She has spent many of her summers teaching abroad and has taught in Zambia, India, Montenegro, Haiti, Thailand, and Spain. She is currently looking forward to her next trip to Switzerland where she will be with studying their education system alongside some amazing educators. She extended that love for culture in her school by initiating and leading a language club where students learn concepts of French and Spanish and explore others culture.

Although Ms. Gabriel has gone through some great obstacles in her life, she continues to live a life of service, mentors others and volunteers in numerous organization such as the NAACP ( Young Adult Committee) and The Rockland County Haiti Relief.

She recently initiated “The Gabriel Language Scholarship” for ENL students and hopes to extend it to students who are passionate about languages.

# Tahinah Lamour



Tahinah is a passionate and dedicated individual who values learning and giving back to her community.

She has spent years contributing community service with various organizations such as the NAACP, and Americorps, where she developed a summer enrichment program for underserved children and teens residing in Pittsburgh, PA. She also aided in the development of the RISE (Research, Immersion in Science) program at Dominican College in New York, where she mentored high school children in cultivating research skills.

She graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology and currently works with data and sample management at Regeneron, where she has continued her path by promoting and representing the diversity, equity and inclusion programs at the pharmaceutical company.

Moving forward, she intends to continue to develop her scientific knowledge and technical skills. She also values fiscal responsibility and is passionate about spreading kindness, and social causes such as improving the conditions of incarcerated people, improving the lives of the unhoused, making education accessible for all, and spreading awareness about animal rights.

No matter what the future holds for Tahinah, her commitment to science, community service, and improving the lives of vulnerable populations will serve as a guide in her endeavors, and hopefully as an inspiration to those who follow.

# Dania Legros



Dania Legros is a licensed Physical Therapist Assistant from Spring Valley. Dania has been an active member of the NAACP since her sophomore year of attending Spring Valley High School. She graduated from Orange County Community College in 2019 and is in the process of obtaining her B.S followed by Doctorate from Mercy College.

In 2020 she proposed and organized the First Annual Spring Valley NAACP

Young Adult Committee Toy Drive. With less than 4 months to organize and collect donations Dania along with the support of her best friend as well as the NAACP Young Adult Committee were able to provide a toy for over 100 children.

This past holiday season in 2022 for their 3rd annual Toy Drive the NAACP Young Adult Committee Toy Drive provided over 300 children with a gift. No family is turned away and this past season is attest to that as we had volunteers run out to purchase toys once we ran out with over 10 families waiting in line. Each gift is wrapped and personalized with the child's name before being given to the parents. Donations, funds and volunteers are members of the NAACP as well as personal family and friends. Next year Dania hopes to do more than just provide toys but also an experience for each family.

# The Negro National Anthem: "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

by James Weldon Johnson (June 17, 1871 - June 26, 1938)

Originally written by Johnson for a presentation in celebration of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. This was originally performed in Jacksonville, Florida, by children. The popular title for this work is:

## 'THE NEGRO NATIONAL ANTHEM'

Lift every voice and sing  
Till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the listening skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us,  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun  
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,  
Bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears have been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past,  
Till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by Thy might  
Led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, Our God, where we met Thee;  
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
May we forever stand.  
True to our GOD.

# Save THE Date

**SPRING VALLEY NAACP  
&  
VILLAGE OF SPRING VALLEY**

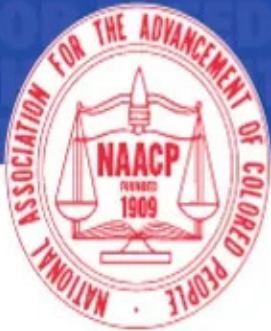
**SAT | JUNE 17 | 11 AM - 4 PM**  
**2023**

**MEMORIAL PARK, SPRING VALLEY, NY**

**SPRING VALLEY NAACP  
845.362.6227**

**VILLAGE OF SPRING VALLEY  
845.352.1100**





# Join the **FREEDOM** FIGHT FOR **DURING OUR MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN**

Membership is the life-blood of the NAACP. We depend on our members' generosity to insure the NAACP's independence. We depend on you to keep the flames of freedom burning bright!

## 1 MEMBER INFORMATION *(please print clearly)*

Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.  Miss  Other \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name M.I. Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address Apt./Suite

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Unit Affiliation Current Membership No. *(if renewal)*

\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No. Email Address

Are You A Registered Voter?  Yes  No  
Solicitor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign \_\_\_\_\_

## 2 MEMBERSHIP TYPE *(please check one)*

REGULAR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP	LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Adult <i>(Ages 21 &amp; older)</i> .....\$30*	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior Life <i>(Payable in annual installments of \$25 or more)</i> .....\$100** <i>(Ages 13 &amp; under)</i> ____/____/____ Date of Birth
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth with Crisis Magazine <i>(Ages 20 &amp; under)</i> ..\$15*	<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Life <i>(Payable in annual installments of \$50 or more)</i> ...\$400** <i>(Ages 14-20)</i> ____/____/____ Date of Birth
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth without Crisis Magazine <i>(Ages 17 &amp; under)</i> . \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Life <i>(Payable in annual installments of \$75 or more)</i> ....\$750**
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Corporate .....\$5,000*	<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Life <i>(Payable in installments of \$150 or more)</i> .....\$1,500** <i>Only available to Silver or Regular Life Members</i>
<i>* Includes a 1-year subscription to The CRISIS Magazine</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Diamond Life <i>(Payable in installments of \$250 or more)</i> ....\$2,500** <i>Only available to Gold or Golden Heritage Life Members</i>
<i>** Fully-paid Life Memberships include a 10-year subscription to The CRISIS Magazine</i>	
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## 3 PAYMENT

Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_  MasterCard  VISA  American Express  Cash

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  Check *(checks and money orders should be made payable to: NAACP)*

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Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_ **Or Pay by Credit Card Online at: [www.NAACP.org](http://www.NAACP.org)**

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



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c. 2023

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