

CCAGTC News

CCAGTC Launches Roots & Wings enews

Roots & Wings, a publication for gifted & talented and 2E families, was launched this month by C.C.A.G.T.C. This newsletter is designed to strengthen underrepresented families of Central Cities G/T and 2E. The newsletter will provide parents with support and education as they raise gifted and talented children. Objectives of the publication include increasing: 1) family functioning and well-being. 2) information and access to community resources and services for parents, and 3) parent information and training on positive parent-school interaction and involvement. 4) student identification and participation in G/T, creative, and advanced placement programs. 5) student performance/achievement through coordinated efforts by parents and teachers 6) parent involvement in the student's academic and creative achievement and school.

Introducing the CCAGTC Honor Wall

Established in 2022, the C.C.A.G.T.C. Hall of Fame celebrates the contributions of those whose work has positively impacted the lives of underrepresented G/T and 2e students and their families. During the 1980s & 90s, these Trailblazers fought for diversity & equity in gifted education before it became a prevalent social justice issue. C.C.A.G.T.C. honored Hall of Fame Trailblazers (1980 -2000) - Allyn Arnold, LaRoyce Bell, Patricia Carey Kimathi, Donna Ford, Madelynn Haddix, Dennis Hatmaker, Stacey Joy, Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte, Robert Martin, Michael McLinn, Yolanda Munoz, Mark Overstreet, Judd Perrine, Cassandra Roy, Rosa Serrano, Richard Shope, Shelia Smith, Anita Stills, Cathy Sumpter, Arlene Vavasseur, Young Williams, and Dorothy Woods Lawson. For information or to share stories or pictures of Hall of Fame members, contact info@ccagtc.

C.C.A.G.T.C. 2022 honorees

Central Cities Association for Gifted & Talented children was established in 2020 by Patricia and Ayikwei Kimathi, owners of The Learning Tree Enrichment Center. C.C.A.G.T.C. is a continuation of their long-standing commitment to providing educational support and advocating for equal opportunities for all children. Service awards recognize the work of those professionals who make a difference in the families of underrepresented gifted and, twice-exceptional, young people. Student Scholarships support the talent development of students and allow them to pursue enrichment opportunities. This year 2022 -2023, awards and scholarship winners were recognized at the annual C.C.A.G.T.C. Symposium.

2022-23 Visionary Award - Michael McLinn

The Visionary Award was presented to Michael McLinn. Michael McLinn, whose gifted organization was created in the late 80s inspired the creation of Central Cities Association for Gifted & Talented Children. Michael has dedicated 50 years of service informing educators & parents that the inner city has gifted children. Mike championed the idea of gifted magnets in the inner city; including 74th Street & Baldwin Hills Elementary School, Audubon Middle School, and Crenshaw High School. When L.A.U.S.D. dropped the Los Angeles County Gifted &

Talented Conference, his gifted organization sponsored the county conference and continued to share information about gifted children. C.C.A.G.T.C. looks forward to Michael continuing his legacy as an advisory board member.

2022-23 Michael McLinn Lifetime Achievement Award - Stacey L. Joy

The Michael McLinn Lifetime Achievement Award -was presented to Stacey L. Joy. Stacey Joy, a Board Certified and former L.A. County Teacher of the year is a 5th-grade teacher at Baldwin Hills Pilot & Gifted Magnet. She has been teaching gifted & talented inner-city children for over 20 years. She recognized that students in the inner city could reach high-performance levels, and she has constantly challenged her students to excel. Stacy has always had high expectations for her students, who are predominantly African American and Latino, and she has always pushed them to perform at their highest possible level. Stacey, we thank you for your service.

2022-23 Educators of the Year Award - to Baldwin Hills Pilot & Gifted Magnet

Baldwin Hills Pilot & Gifted Magnet. Principal Regina Myles accepted the award. Baldwin Hills whose students are predominantly African-American and Latino consistently exceed state standards in English and Mathematics and became a 2020 California Distinguished School for Closing the Achievement Gap. The school website says that" their mission is to work in partnership with the children, families, and community we serve to provide a strong academic, ethical, and culturally responsive education with measurable results." They offer culturally responsive, STEAM-driven, project-based learning for scholars along with chess, Engineering, Robotics & the visual & performing arts. This school services not only an exemplary institution that serves diverse student populations, but we recognize it as it is a role model for other schools.

2022-23 Gloria Armour Distinguished Service Award presented to Bridgette Myers

The **Gloria Armour Distinguished Service Award** is given to a mental health provider who are dedicated to looking for underserved gifted & talented children. As a Long Beach USD Licensed School Psychologist, Ms. Myers has been able to serve gifted and twice-exceptional students. She has been able to do even though Long Beach, like many school districts nationwide, no longer has a staff of psychologists dedicated to supporting gifted students. Ms. Myers, we applaud all you have done and look forward to continuing working with you in the Central Cities.

2022-23 Student Scholarship Awards

C.C.A.G.T.C. provides Student Scholarships to support the talent development of students and allow them to pursue enrichment opportunities. All scholarship winners are recognized at the annual C.C.A.G.T.C. Symposium.

The **Felica Wilson Dual Language Scholarship Award** was given **Jasmine Hutchinson-Kelley**, who plans to become a United Nations translator, and this summer has studied Korean language and culture with a private instructor.

The **Evelyn Dillard Beaty Visual & Performing Arts Scholarship award** was given to **K' Aire Copeland**, a 10th grader. K' Aire has attended Gravity Dance Company to enhance her passion for performing arts and her love for dancing.

The **Bobbye Beaty Medearis Women in Science Award** was given to **Mia Spenser**. 6th-grade middle school student who has a gift for using technology. She will attend a technology-based enrichment program.

The **Cecil Fields S.T.E.M. Scholarship Award** was given **Andre Rice Jr.**, a 6th grader. a student at Fly Compton Aeronautical Education Program is using his scholarship money to help him move toward his goal of becoming a pilot.