

# Phoenix

## AWARDS DINNER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2019 | 6:30PM  
WALTER E. WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER  
HALL D

# WELCOME

Welcome to the 2019 Annual Legislative Conference Phoenix Awards Dinner! The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. (CBCF) is delighted to honor this year's awardees for their exceptional contributions to our communities, our culture and our nation. This year's awardees are outstanding examples of the difference we all can make to better our world.

The annual Phoenix Awards Dinner is not only an opportunity to celebrate and honor the achievements of our exceptional awardees and to thank the Congressional Black Caucus for its service, but it is a time to renew our efforts to eliminate the many political, social and economic disparities that continue to exist for millions of African Americans. The impact of civil and social movements over the last 50 years has played a pivotal role in changing the trajectory of American history. This year's theme, "400 Years: Our Legacy, Our Possibilities," commemorates the resilience and courage of African Americans and our African ancestors, and celebrates our opportunities for global impact for generations to come.

Since its founding in 1976 as a nonpartisan, nonprofit, public policy, research and educational institute, the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. has remained committed to educating and empowering the next generation of leaders through scholarship, internship, fellowship and study abroad programs. Our mission is to advance the global black community by developing leaders, informing policy and educating the public.

Thank you for supporting the mission of the CBCF and for attending the Phoenix Awards Dinner. We value your leadership and look forward to staying in touch with you year-round. Please visit [cbcfinc.org](http://cbcfinc.org) and follow @CBCFInc on Instagram and Twitter for the latest information about the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.



**OMAR J. DORSEY**  
Actor



**ISHA SESAY**  
International  
Journalist



**KIANNA KELLY-FUTCH**  
Miss District of Columbia's  
Outstanding Teen



**ANTHONY HAMILTON**  
Artist, Singer and Songwriter

# Phoenix

## AWARDS DINNER

Video Presentation . . . . . Who I Am

Greetings . . . . . Isha Sesay and Omar J. Dorsey  
Co-Emcees

National Anthem. . . . . Kianna Kelly-Futch

“Lift Every Voice and Sing” . . . . . Kianna Kelly-Futch

Remarks . . . . . The Honorable Mayor Muriel E. Bowser  
Mayor, District of Columbia

Recognition of Leadership Programs. . . . . David A. Hinson  
President and CEO, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

Invocation . . . . . Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II

Remarks . . . . . Rep. Cedric L. Richmond  
Board Chair, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

### DINNER

Remarks . . . . . Rep. G.K. Butterfield  
and  
Rep. Frederica S. Wilson  
Honorary Co-Chairs, 2019 Annual Legislative Conference

Remarks . . . . . Rep. Karen R. Bass  
Chair, Congressional Black Caucus



## WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Performance ..... Anthony Hamilton

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

Spark Session ..... Dr. Julianne Malveaux

## PHOENIX AWARD PRESENTATIONS

CBCF Chair's Award ..... Dr. Calvin Mackie  
Author and Entrepreneur

CBC Chair's  
Phoenix Award ..... Dr. Wanda M. Austin  
Co-Founder, MakingSpace, Inc.

ALC Co-Chair's  
Phoenix Award ..... Rep. Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

ALC Co-Chair's  
Phoenix Award ..... The Exonerated Five

Harold Washington Award ..... Rev. Al Sharpton  
Founder, National Action Network

# PROGRAM

THE LEGACY OF THE  
CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION'S

# Phoenix Award

Each year, the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. recognizes extraordinary individuals who, through their efforts and accomplishments, have made significant contributions to society. These individuals receive the prestigious, CBCF-commissioned Phoenix Award.

Legend says that the phoenix bird lived a solitary life in a faraway land. When the phoenix knew its time had come, it chose the tallest palm tree on which it built a nest filled with essences such as myrrh and cassia. At the next dawn, the sun ignited the fragrant spices as the phoenix expired. After nine days, a fledgling phoenix rose out of the ashes.

Like its namesake, the Phoenix Award symbolizes the immortality of the human spirit and an eternal desire to reach its full potential. As we honor this year's awardees, we recall North Carolina Representative George Henry White's 1901 farewell address to Congress. Born enslaved in Rosindale, North Carolina, Representative White was elected to the House of Representatives in 1896. He campaigned for increased spending on African-American education and proposed a bill that would make the lynching of American citizens a federal crime.

Representative White was aware that his outspoken comments on civil rights would result in the loss of his next election. In his last speech to Congress, Representative White issued a declaration to his colleagues about the future of the Negro in the American Congress:

***"This, Mr. Chairman, is perhaps the Negroes' temporary farewell to the American Congress; but let me say, Phoenix-like he will rise up someday and come again."***

## CBCF CHAIR'S PHOENIX AWARD

*is presented to an individual whose work and accomplishments serve as a role model for the African American community and the African Diaspora.*

*This year's award is presented by Rep. Cedric L. Richmond to:*



### **DR. CALVIN MACKIE**

Entrepreneur, Inventor and Author

Dr. Calvin Mackie is an award-winning mentor, an inventor, an author, a former engineering professor, an internationally renowned speaker, and a successful entrepreneur. His message as a mentor, author, speaker, and entrepreneur continues to transcend race, gender, ethnicity, religion, and time. A lifelong resident of New Orleans, Dr. Mackie graduated from high school with low test scores requiring him to undertake special remedial classes at Morehouse College. He completed his degree in Mathematics at Morehouse in 1990, graduating Magna Cum Laude and a member of the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society. He was simultaneously awarded a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Georgia Tech, where he subsequently earned his master's and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering in 1996.

In 2009, then Louisiana Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu appointed Dr. Mackie to the Louisiana Council on the Social Status of Black Boys and Black Men. The board elected Mackie as the chair where he led the state's effort to create policy and programs to positively impact the quality of life for black males and families in the state of Louisiana. Committed to community service, Mackie is an active member of the 100 Black Men of Metro New Orleans.

In 2014, Dr. Mackie founded STEM NOLA, is a nonprofit organization founded to expose, inspire and engage communities about the opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Mackie continues in his role as President and CEO of the Channel ZerO Group LLC, an educational and professional development consulting company he co-founded in 1992. He has presented to numerous civic and educational institutions, government entities, professional associations, and businesses of every size and industrial focus. Through his travels and online mentoring presence, Mackie reaches millions of students and professionals annually. Dr. Mackie is a devoted husband to his wife, Tracy, and father to his two sons, Myles Ahmad and Mason Amir.

## CBC CHAIR'S PHOENIX AWARD

*is presented each year to an individual who exhibits the highest standards of dedication, ability and creativity.*

*This year's award is presented by Rep. Karen R. Bass to:*



### **DR. WANDA M. AUSTIN**

Co-Founder, MakingSpace, Inc.

Dr. Wanda M. Austin is an American businesswoman who is internationally recognized for her work in aeronautics and systems engineering. She is co-founder of MakingSpace, Inc; a systems engineering and leadership development consultant; and a motivational speaker. She served as interim president of the University of Southern California for the 2018-2019 academic year, and led the institution through a crucial transition period. She is the former president and CEO of The Aerospace Corporation, an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to the application of science and technology toward critical issues affecting the nation's space program.

From January 2008 until October 2016, Austin led the organization's 3600 employees and managed annual revenues of \$950 million at 17 U.S. locations. As the sixth president, she was the first woman and the first African American in the 57-year history of the organization. Austin served on the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology until January 2017, advising the President of the United States in areas where an understanding of science, technology and innovation is key to forming effective U.S. policy. Austin was a member of the Defense Science Board, the Defense Policy Board and the NASA Advisory Council. She is an honorary fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and a member of the National Academy of Engineering. She is a trustee for the University of Southern California and on the Board of Directors for the Chevron Corporation and Amgen.

Austin is committed to inspiring the next generation to study the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) disciplines and to focus on careers in science and engineering. She is the author of *Making Space: Strategic Leadership for a Complex World*, which explores the leadership principles she learned during her decades-long journey as an engineer, space industry executive, daughter, wife and mother.



## ALC CO-CHAIR'S PHOENIX AWARD

*is presented to an individual who exemplifies leadership and social responsibility on a national level.*

*This year's award is presented by Rep. G. K. Butterfield to:*



### **REP. BARBARA LEE**

U.S. House of Representatives

Congresswoman Barbara Lee represents California's 13th Congressional District. She serves on the Appropriations and Budget Committees and is a member of the House Democratic Leadership, where she serves as the Co-Chair of the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee, and as Chair of the Majority Leader's Task Force on Poverty. Lee is a former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. Lee has authored or coauthored all major legislation relating to HIV/AIDS during her tenure in Congress, including the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. In 2005, Lee was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize for her work in global peace and security. Congresswoman Lee is the lone Member of Congress to vote against the 2001 AUMF, which gave the President a blank check for endless war.

Lee's honors and distinctions include receiving the Dean's Appreciation Award from the University of California at Berkeley School of Social Welfare, and the Willie L. Brown, Jr., Leadership Award, both in 2001. Lee was also nominated for the Alfred R. Nobel Peace Prize. In 2009, The National Urban League honored her with the Congressional Leadership Award; and, in 2012, she received the Lifetime Legacy Achievement Award from the United Nations Association. Lee is the mother of two sons, Tony Lee and Craig Lee.

## ALC CO-CHAIR'S PHOENIX AWARD

*is presented to an individual who exemplifies leadership and social responsibility on a national level.*

*This year's award is presented by Rep. Frederica S. Wilson to:*



### THE EXONERATED FIVE

#### Activists

The men known for decades as the Central Park Five—Antron McCray, Kevin Richardson, Yusef Salaam, Raymond Santana, and Korey Wise—have taken a new collective moniker. In the wake of the renewed attention Ava DuVernay's 'When

They See Us' has brought to their case, the men are now frequently referred to as The Exonerated Five.

Thirty years ago, when the men were children between the ages of 14 and 16, they were coerced by police into falsely confessing to committing a brutal crime—the rape and beating of Trisha Meili, who was attacked during an after-work jog in New York City's Central Park. The boys served between six and 13 years in prison before their exoneration in 2002 after the crime's real perpetrator confessed. Years later, the city settled a lawsuit with the men for a collective \$41 million.

## HAROLD WASHINGTON PHOENIX AWARD

*is presented to an individual who has contributed immeasurably to African American political awareness, empowerment and the advancement of minorities in the electoral process.*

*This year's award is presented by The Congressional Black Caucus to:*



### **REV. AL SHARPTON**

Founder, National Action Network

Born on October 3, 1954 in Brooklyn, N.Y., Rev. Sharpton began his ministry at the tender age of four, preaching his first sermon at Washington Temple Church of God & Christ. Just five years later, the Washington Temple Church's legendary Bishop F.D. Washington licensed his protégé, Rev. Sharpton, to be a Pentecostal Minister. Rev. Sharpton's civil rights career began almost as early as his ministry. At 13, Rev. Jesse Jackson and Rev. William Jones appointed him Youth Director of New York's SCLC Operation Breadbasket, an organization founded by Dr. King in 1971.

In 1991, Rev. Sharpton founded National Action Network (NAN) to promote a modern civil rights agenda that includes the fight for one standard of justice, decency and equal opportunities for all people regardless of race, religion, nationality or gender. NAN works within the spirit and tradition of Dr. King, and today the nonprofit organization boasts over 100,000 members and employs dozens.

Through NAN, Rev. Sharpton has organized campaigns on ending gun violence, pushing for worker's rights, eliminating unjust policies like stop-and-frisk, fighting for more women and minority-owned businesses, a minimum wage increase, and education reform. He even embarked on a national education tour with former Republican Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich at the request of President Obama – arguing for the protection of voting rights, immigrant rights, pay equity for women, gay and lesbian rights and a plethora of other causes.

Rev. Sharpton was educated in New York City Public Schools and attended Brooklyn College. He has an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity from Bethune-Cookman University, Virginia Union University and an honorary degree from A.P. Bible College. He resides in New York City and has two daughters, Dominique and Ashley, who are both active in NAN and with his radio and television shows.

# HONOREES

THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION, INC. THANKS THE 2019

# Phoenix

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# 116<sup>th</sup>

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*\*in order of seniority*



The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. thanks Altria for its generous support of the annual Phoenix Awards Dinner and its continued support of our mission and programs which enables CBCF to advance the global black community by developing leaders, informing policy, and educating the public.

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Our operations are diverse. So are the employees of ConocoPhillips. We believe that different opinions, ideas and experiences are what inspire innovation throughout our company. We applaud the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. for its continued efforts to provide leadership development programs and educational services to emerging Black leaders. Together, we celebrate the many dimensions and benefits of an inclusive environment. We are proud to sponsor this year's 49th Annual Legislative Conference.

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ALC Phoenix Awards Dinner.



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