



2ND ANNIVERSARY GALA

BUILDING A MOVEMENT

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

6:00 P.M.

CASTLE ROYALE • YONKERS, NY



MAYOR MIKE SPANO



#YONKERSMBKMOVEMENT

The Executive Board, Members and Staff of
Construction and General Building Laborers' Local 79
are proud to support the

MBK “my brother’s keeper” Yonkers

Second Anniversary Gala Celebration 2018

Honoring:

**NYS Regent Dr. Lester Young, Jr
City of Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano
The Yonkers Guardians Association**



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Construction & General Building Laborers' Local 79, Mason Tenders' District Council of
Greater New York & Long Island, LIUNA, AFL-CIO, NYC-CLC
520 8TH Ave., New York, NY 10018 Phone (212) 465-7900 Fax (212) 465-7903

Message from Yonkers MBK Co-Chairmen

Dear Friends,

Welcome and thank for you joining us to celebrate Yonkers My Brother's Keeper's second anniversary at our gala, Building A Movement! Your presence is a gift to our magnificent young people and a decisive step toward creating lasting change in our community and beyond.

As you know, Yonkers' young men and women are the keepers of our future. Yet too many of them, particularly boys and young men of color, have been delayed, distracted or diverted on their paths to success. Yonkers MBK is dedicated to changing that narrative and ensuring that all our students can reach their full potential.

Since the City of Yonkers accepted former President Barack Obama's My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge on September 21, 2016, we have worked with countless committed partners to provide cradle-to-college and career mentorship and support to our young men. Though we have just begun, our movement is expanding quickly, generating excitement and interest throughout the District, the City, our region and the nation.

Yonkers MBK's first year delivered dynamic activity in Yonkers' eight high schools and around the community. Dozens of programs offered mentorship, college and career-readiness, pathways to social capital and, most importantly, focused on our six MBK milestones. Yonkers Basics took hold, aiming to boost the brain development of our youngest learners. Local colleges, major corporations and businesses opened new opportunities for high schoolers and graduates. In the movement's second year, MBK expanded into elementary and middle schools and around the city, and continues to grow.

This dynamism and the committed, unified leadership established by our Leading the Way award winner Mayor Mike Spano, has generated state and national recognition of Yonkers MBK as a forerunner in the movement to improve life outcomes for all our children.

As we celebrate this remarkable milestone, we are delighted to honor all our award winners – Regent Dr. Lester Young, Jr. Champion of Equity; The Yonkers Guardians Association Defenders of the Dream; students Nuryel Benitez Tomorrow's Leader Today and Antonio Jones Builder of the Future.

This is our first fundraising event and we are grateful for the generous level of support from so many members of our extended Yonkers MBK family. We are reminded that this is a Movement, not just a Moment of festivity and ask that you join us -- as a mentor, provider of internships or jobs, or financial supporter of our life-changing programs for the young men and women in our city.

Let's build this movement together, to benefit us all for generations to come.

With gratitude,



Dr. Edwin M. Quezada
Superintendent of Schools



Rev. Dr. Jim Bostic
Executive Director
Nepperhan Community Center

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.

September 6, 2018

Dear Friends of Yonkers MBK,

Since Yonkers' Mayor Mike Spano accepted President Obama's My Brother's Keeper Challenge two years ago, leaders from every corner of your city have come together and actively fought the institutional racism that we still live with today. In just two years, Yonkers MBK has truly become a shining example of the My Brother's Keeper initiative – and that is because of each of you. You have become a force in narrowing the opportunity gaps that America's young men of color encounter at seemingly every turn.

Growing up, I was taught that every American, no matter who they are, deserves the fundamental opportunity to reach their full potential. Regardless of your race or where you come from, you deserve to have a shot to achieve your dreams. Not a guarantee – just a level playing field.

Our hope that we can one day reach that point comes from a basic unarticulated commitment to a deep-rooted ideal: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." That is the dream I believe we should all be striving towards.

It seems to me that it is our obligation to keep all the wonderful possibilities that exist in the United States alive and real for every American and every generation to come. Because if given the chance, the American people have never let their country down.

I know you believe in these ideas as much as I do. Because for the past two years, Yonkers MBK and each of you have been diligently working to effect significant progress in your city. And you truly have already made a difference. For that, I cannot thank or praise you enough. It's passionate and determined Americans like you who continue to inspire me today.

I join you in applauding Mayor Spano, Dr. Lester Young, Jr., and the members of the Yonkers Guardians Association for their exceptional leadership on this issue. And I remain confident and optimistic that with your help, our best days still lie ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Biden", written over a diagonal line that extends from the bottom left towards the word "Sincerely,".

Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

Program

Reception and Musical Interlude	The Joey Berkley Band Westchester Center for Jazz & Contemporary Music Nuryel Benitez, Palisade Preparatory School Performing the National Anthem
Welcome.....	Dr. Edwin M. Quezada Superintendent of Yonkers Public Schools Co-Chairman, Yonkers MBK
Invocation	Rev. Steve Lopez President, Yonkers Board of Education
Master of Ceremonies.....	Joe Torres, WABC-TV Anchor and Host of 'Tiempo'
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.....	Cain Cato Yonkers MBK
Libation Ceremony.....	Greg Joyner, Yonkers MBK Program Facilitator
Message from Gala Co-Chairman.....	Edgar Santana, MBA, MSM/PA Trustee, Yonkers Board of Education
Special Guest Speaker.....	Aldrin Rafael Bonilla, Manhattan Deputy Borough President
Champion of Equity Award.....	Dr. Lester Young, Jr. Regent, New York State Board of Education
Tap Dance Performance	Joshua Johnson, Inspirational Entertainer

Dinner

Leading the Way Award	Honorable Mike Spano Mayor, City of Yonkers
Defenders of the Dream Award	Yonkers Guardians Association
Special Guest Speaker.....	Frederick Joseph, CEO, We Have Stories Philanthropist - Creator of #BlackPantherChallenge Saunders Trades & Technical High School Class of 2007
Builder of the Future Award.....	Antonio Jones, Gorton High School – Class of 2020
Tomorrow's Leader Today Award	Nuryel Benitez, Palisade Preparatory School – Class of 2019
Spoken Word Performance "What's Real"	Kevin Saunders, Founder, KS4Inspiration LLC Business Professional, Inspirational Speaker Lincoln High School – Class of 2003

Raffle Announcement

The Movement Continues	Rev. Dr. Jim Bostic, Executive Director, Yonkers Nepperhan Community Center Co-Chairman, Yonkers MBK
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Champion of Equity Award

Honoree - Lester W. Young, Jr.

Regent, New York State Board of Education



Lester W. Young, Jr. is serving his third term as Regent At Large, The University of the State of New York. Currently, he co-chairs the P-12 Education Committee and chairs the Regents Workgroup to Improve Outcomes for Boys and Young Men of Color, and the Early Childhood Workgroup. Continuing his commitment to service, in 2014, Dr. Young was appointed to the New York State Juvenile Justice Advisory Group.

A career educator, Dr. Young has served as a teacher, guidance counselor, supervisor of special education, principal, Associate Commissioner with the New York State Education Department, and Superintendent of Community School District 13. He also led the first New York City Office of Youth Development and School Community Services. A recognized educational leader

and innovator, Dr. Young was responsible for establishing some of the more successful high schools and middle schools in New York City and reproducing the nationally recognized Algebra Project and Comer School Development Program.

Dr. Young is a founding member and current Chair of the Adelaide L. Sanford Institute, and co-chairs the Community Advisory Council for Boys and Girls High School. He is a Life Member of the National Alliance of Black School Educators and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. He has also served on the advisory boards for Eagle Academy High School and the New York Office of the Children's Defense Fund, the Brooklyn Children's Museum and the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. Dr. Young volunteers as a mentor to principals and aspiring leaders throughout New York City. Many local and national education and civic organizations have recognized Dr. Young for his professional and personal contributions.

Leading the Way Award

Honoree - Mayor Mike Spano

City of Yonkers



A lifelong Yonkers resident, husband, father of three, and former New York State Assembly Member, Mayor Mike Spano has dedicated his life to standing up for Yonkers families.

Elected in 1992 as the youngest member of the State Assembly, Mike proudly represented Yonkers for two decades, fighting for students, protecting taxpayers and supporting economic growth. He led the Task Force on Sex Crimes Against Children and Women (SAVE New York), fought for the passage of Megan's Law, and secured legislation to protect children across the state. He also wrote the language enabling Yonkers to receive a direct portion of revenue from video lottery terminals at Empire City Casino in Yonkers. It was an enormous victory for Yonkers and its public schools, providing \$19 million in

direct aid annually for education in the city.

Mayor Spano helped create the New York State School Tax Relief (STAR) program and Enhanced STAR, and worked with Governor Andrew Cuomo to pass New York's property tax cap, bringing government in line with what taxpayers can afford. He also fought to pass some of the toughest state laws in the nation to protect children against dangerous sex offenders and violent criminals.

Since taking office as Yonkers' chief executive in 2012, Mayor Mike Spano has led the passage of balanced, bi-partisan budgets, without cuts to services, while leading the charge in rebuilding Yonkers Public Schools. Mayor Spano also launched one of the most ambitious and comprehensive energy plans of any city in the state – Yonkers Green City – saving taxpayers millions of dollars in energy costs, while protecting the environment.

With a strong focus on job creation and economic development, Mayor Spano is leading Yonkers' \$2.5 billion revitalization efforts with innovative new projects that are transforming Yonkers' growing waterfront, attracting new businesses, tech companies and the arts, and creating hundreds of new jobs across the city. Today, Yonkers is the fastest growing city in the state outside of New York City, sales revenues are up, home sales are up and property values are on the rise. Yonkers has recently been ranked among the safest cities in America and in the Top 100 Best Cities in which to live.

Mayor Mike Spano is committed to securing a strong financial future for the City of Yonkers and building upon its greatest strengths – its location, its history, its pride and its people.



Defenders of the Dream Award

Honoree – The Yonkers Guardians Association

Yonkers MBK Mentors 2017-2018

**Charles Walker, President, Stuart Barksdale, Jr.,
Neville Bennett, Alexander Bess, Lamont Brown, Jr.,
Douglas Clayton, Greg Depass, Darcy Drummond,
Karl Hippolyte, Ronald Taylor, Vincent Tilson, Jr.**



The Yonkers Guardians Association, incorporated in 1988 under the leadership of first president, Lieutenant Lorenzo Paul, is a fraternal organization comprised of African American Police and Detention Officers. Dedicated to promoting equal opportunities of appointment, assignment and promotion for members of the Yonkers Police Department, and to devising and executing plans to assist its members morally, financially, educationally and culturally.

The Guardians Association's mission is to encourage community members to be conscience of the criminal justice system and to enhance the quality of life in the African American community. Moreover, the Organization's goal is to foster an indispensable alliance with the community by creating partnerships, programs and building relationships with community based organizations that share the ideals and common principles of the Guardians Association.

In addition to working to increase the number of African American Police Officers, the Guardians Association have honored outstanding women in our community through their "Mother's Day Award Dinner." Using the motto, "Protecting our Future Today," the Guardians have also made a commitment to programs that help our local youth, partnering with Yonkers My Brother's Keeper initiative to mentor our local youth.

The Guardians have also formed alliances with the National Association of Black Law Enforcement (NABLEO), the Westchester/Rockland Guardians Association, the Nepperhan Community Center, Compact for Learning in the 21st Century, the CLUSTER Westchester Mediation Center, the Yonkers Department of Parks and Recreation, the Yonkers Drug Court, the Westchester Coalition Against Bigotry, the Yonkers NAACP, the Yonkers Public Schools, the Municipal Housing Authority and the Salvation Army.

Under the leadership of past presidents Lieutenant Lorenzo Paul, Detective Charles Morton, Detective Donald Wilson, Detective Stuart Barksdale, Police Officer Joseph Lecoq, Detective Vincent Tilson and current President Detective Sergeant Charles Walker, the Guardians seek to bridge relationships between Law Enforcement and the Minority Community; to be a voice against injustice and work to create opportunities for the members of the Yonkers community.

Builder of the Future Award

Honoree - Antonio Jones



Antonio is a junior at Gorton High School and is an active member of Gorton's MBK chapter, which he joined his freshman year. An honor roll and Smart Scholar student, Antonio has been an enthusiastic participant in Gorton's Cross-Age Tutoring Program for the last two years. Through this literacy initiative, Antonio prepared lessons and worked with School 16 and School 9 students to support younger students' proficiency in reading fluency and comprehension.

Antonio is a member of Unified Yonkers Student Leadership Council and represents Gorton's Medical Magnet program to visiting community organizations. As an active member of Gorton's NYGEAR UP college readiness program, the Gateway to the Future afterschool programs and played football for the

Gorton Wolves during his freshman and sophomore years.

Antonio was born in Hartford, New York and raised in Yonkers, where he attended PEARLS Hawthorne School before enrolling at Gorton High School.

Tomorrow's Leader Today Award

Honoree - Nuryel Benitez



Nuryel is a senior at Palisade Preparatory School and has been very involved with his school's MBK chapter since it began in 2016. He is a Century Honors student and versatile musician who has played in Yonkers' All-City Band, his school band and now accompanies his school choir on the guitar.

A lifelong soccer player, in his freshmen year, he became a kicker for the Palisade Prep Phoenix football team, fell in love with the sport and now plays for the Yonkers Brave. Nuryel is a member of Unified Yonkers Student Leadership Council and tour guide for new students at his school. In tenth grade, he was selected to participate in the STEER for Student Athletes nonprofit program, which has provided him with mentorship, opportunities to visit colleges, and helped him fundraise to attend football camp.

Nuryel is a first-generation Mexican American and is on track to be the first in his family to graduate college. He was born in Yonkers, attended Rosemarie Ann Siragusa School before enrolling at Palisade Preparatory School.

Master of Ceremonies – Joe Torres



Joe Torres is a full-fledged, purebred New Yorker. He was born in Brooklyn, attended P.S. 198 until the sixth grade when his family moved to Northern Westchester County where he graduated from John Jay High School in Cross River. Mr. Torres continued his education at The College at Brockport, State University of New York, where he earned a B.S. in Communications. Along with his wife Fran and their two boys, Joe still lives in the town where he grew up.

An Eyewitness News reporter and weekend anchor on WABC-TV, Mr. Torres also hosts 'Tiempo' a 30-minute public affairs program aimed at our region's ever-growing Latino population. Two days a week Mr. Torres comes in from the street and heads to the anchor desk. Each Saturday and Sunday evening Mr. Torres serves as Co-Anchor of the 5, 6 and 11 o'clock editions of 'Eyewitness News This Weekend.' 'Tiempo' airs each Sunday morning at 11:30.

Mr. Torres's distinctive storytelling ability garnered him a Peabody Award and the Edward R. Murrow Award for his reports on the world-changing events of September 11th. He also earned an Emmy Award for his coverage of Brooklyn's Greenpoint Gas Tank Implosions in 2001.

In 1996, Mr. Torres joined the Eyewitness News team as a general assignment reporter. Throughout the last two decades he has established himself as one of the premier street reporters here in the nation's #1 television market. Versatility is his strength. Crime, politics, religion, education, transportation, business, whatever the subject, Mr. Torres has covered it all with an engaging and energetic style that fellow New Yorkers have come to know and love.

Perhaps most memorable for viewers has been Mr. Torres's extensive coverage of Pope's John Paul II, Benedict XVI and Francis. Before the death of John Paul II, Mr. Torres followed the globe-trotting Pontiff on his trips to Cuba, Mexico, and the Holy Land, providing New Yorkers with local angles to worldly events. Mr. Torres was at the Vatican for the Pope's Silver Anniversary and for his death, when millions flocked to Rome to say goodbye to the spiritual leader. Mr. Torres was at St. Peter's Square in April of 2005 when the white smoke from the Sistine Chapel informed the world of the election of Pope Benedict the XVI. Three years later Mr. Torres provided in-depth coverage of Pope Benedict's visit to New York. Mr. Torres returned to the Vatican and St. Peter's Square in March of 2013 for the historic election of Pope Francis, the church's very first Pontiff from Latin America.

Mr. Torres started his television career in 1987 as an NBC Page in New York. His first reporting job was at WSAV-TV in Savannah, Georgia where he served as a general assignment reporter and beat reporter covering county government. Mr. Torres then moved to ABC affiliate WNEP-TV in Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania to work as a Consumer Reporter, general assignment reporter and Weekend Anchor. In 1992 Mr. Torres landed a job as the Jersey Shore correspondent for Disney/ABC-owned WPVI-TV in Philadelphia.

Special Guest Speakers

Aldrin Rafael Bonilla

Manhattan Deputy Borough President



Mr. Bonilla began serving as Manhattan Deputy Borough President in December 2013, the first Dominican-American to hold this position. He also serves as the Borough President Trustee to the New York City Employee Retirement System Pension Fund and Secretary to the Theater Sub-District Council.

As Deputy Borough President, Mr. Bonilla has led Community Board reform efforts, civic technology initiatives, community leadership trainings, police-community relations forums and pension fund ESG advocacy.

Mr. Bonilla's prior experience includes executive and research positions in such areas as education - CUNY in the Heights, youth development - The Valley, Inc., technology - Fund for the City of New York, government - US Census Bureau and diplomacy - United Nations. He has worked for the African National Congress Observer Mission to the United Nations, serving as the office manager during the democratic transition period that ushered in the post-apartheid presidency of Nelson Mandela.

Deputy Borough President Bonilla has a Bachelor of Arts from Colgate University in International Relations as well as Master of Arts in Political Science and Master of Public Administration in Public Policy Analysis from Binghamton University. He also holds advanced certificates from Harvard University's Institutes of Higher Education and from University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business. Mr. Bonilla was born and raised in Washington Heights.

Frederick Joseph

CEO, We Have Stories

Philanthropist, Creator of #BlackPantherChallenge,

Saunders Trades & Technical High School – Class of 2007



Frederick Joseph is a marketing professional, philanthropist and media representation advocate. He has more than 10 years of storytelling, branding, fundraising and audience growth experience. Mr. Joseph is also the creator of the #BlackPantherChallenge, the largest GoFundMe campaign in history, raising over \$900k to send more than 70,000 children worldwide to see the 'Black Panther'. This movement has been covered by The Ellen Show, Al Sharpton Politics Today, the BBC, MSNBC, and countless outlets, in effort to move the needle past representation and visibility for black children. Frederick was also named the "2018 Bob Clampett Humanitarian of the Year" at the San Diego International Comic-Con for his efforts.

Mr. Joseph is the Founder and CEO of We Have Stories, Inc. a creative marketing agency committed to working on projects that can help create equity and impact the world. A percentage of our profits from all projects are dedicated to providing support for storytellers and content creators from diverse communities.

Mr. Joseph has led the creative development, marketing strategy, rebrand, and event coordination for multiple organizations and campaigns, including Pope Francis' United States welcome campaign, and CharityHasNoBoundaries.org. Frederick oversaw partnerships for the campaign with key influencers and organizations such as the New York Yankees, Oprah Winfrey, Stephen Colbert, and Mayor Bill De Blasio for campaign content. Mr. Joseph, a graduate of Saunders Trades and Technical High School, holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration in Marketing from New York University's Stern School of Business as well as Bachelor's Degrees in Political Science and Creative Writing from the Hunter College, City University of New York.

Featured Performers

Joshua Johnson

Inspirational Entertainer



Josh Johnson is an internationally recognized inspirational performer and speaker. Born and raised in Harlem, Josh's story of tap dancing in New York City subways to pay for tuition at Penn State University has inspired audiences around the world. Soon to be featured in Lightswitch Learning's 'Make It Happen!' series about people who have overcome great challenges to succeed in life, Josh has also performed on Dancing with The Stars, The Ellen DeGeneres Show, Nickelodeon Kids' Choice awards, and more.

Kevin Saunders

Founder, KS4Inspiration LLC, Business Professional,
Inspirational Speaker, Lincoln High School – Class of 2003



Kevin Saunders was born in Belize and raised in Yonkers and is a product of the Academy of Finance at Lincoln High School. He graduated with an MBA from Pace University and earned CPA (Certified Public Accountant) and CFP (Certified Financial Planner) designations while working for Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, a global accounting firm. Beyond his career pursuits, Kevin aims to inspire high school students, college students, and young professionals to live purposefully by providing inspirational artistic performances as well as educational and entertaining workshops and learning experiences. Kevin is CEO and founder of KS4Inspiration LLC, which provides a platform for other credentialed and

experienced speakers and practitioners to provide inspiration and education to audiences of all types.

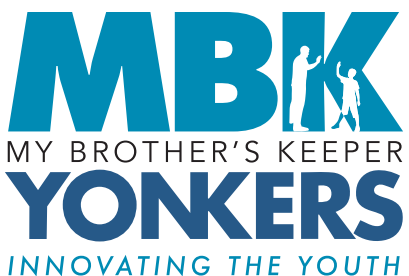
Westchester Center for Jazz & Contemporary Music and The Joey Berkley Band



After searching the area for a jazz ensemble program that would challenge their sons, Paul and Elizabeth Sander decided to create their own program and formed The Westchester Center for Jazz and Contemporary Music in Yonkers, New York. The Sanders appointed musical director Joey Berkley, an educator and successful professional musician - Joey Berkley's Bandits that perform a mixture of sounds from Jazz, Funk Rock to Pop.

The Center includes professionals who participate and contribute to the teaching process. These professionals share their experience and advice while playing alongside the students, helping them to sharpen their skills. The Center sponsors Yonkers MBK after-school Jazz Ensemble Program.

Liz Sander is Executive Vice President and Chief Actuary at Odyssey Reinsurance Co. in Stamford, Ct. Paul Sander is a former software development professional who is a teacher and doctoral candidate in theology at Fordham. The Center is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a national nonprofit arts organization which is able to accept tax deductible donations on the Centers behalf.



Yonkers MBK's Mission

Address persistent opportunity and achievement gaps facing young men of color by providing them with cradle-to-college and career support and mentorship.

Yonkers MBK Milestones

The following goals guide our movement:

1. Ensure all children enter school cognitively, physically, socially, and emotionally ready
2. Ensure all children read at grade level by third grade
3. Ensure all youth graduate from high school
4. Ensure all youth complete post-secondary education or training
5. Ensure all youth out of school are employed
6. Ensure all youth remain safe from violent crime and have a second chance

Yonkers MBK's First Two Years BUILDING A MOVEMENT Highlights

MENTORSHIP and COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Each One-Reach One – In collaboration with the New York State Mentoring program, this fast-growing mentoring initiative has paired mentors from the Yonkers community, La Unidad Latina Fraternity, the Yonkers Guardians Association, and the Vulcan Society of Westchester County with MBK high school students.
- Father's Day Breakfast – Initiated and hosted by Rev. Dr. Jim Bostic and the Nepperhan Community Center, this annual mentorship-fostering event celebrates the bond between young men and their fathers and father-figure mentors.
- Yonkers Basics – Community groups, libraries, churches across Yonkers have hosted Basics workshops, which center on parenting/caregiving practices that stimulate brain development in babies under three.

KEY SKILL BUILDING

- KodePal Coding Course – Each of the 12 MBK students in KodePal learns the programming languages Java and Python from a dedicated college student-instructor via remote screen sharing. This weekly course is hosted by The PowerLab.
- Financial Literacy – Wells Fargo professionals bring lessons about budgeting, credit, and saving to our MBK high school groups.

- Yonkers MBK Dress for Success Closet – Donation Center in Roosevelt High School provides professional attire for job and college interviews for our college and career readiness efforts.

ENRICHMENT

- Future Leaders Academy – Now in its second year, nearly 100 at-risk young men of color (grades 7-11) have participated in this intensive Saturday series. The five-session program is designed to empower students to develop leadership, real world skills, and seed an interest in STEM.
- EmpowerYou– Nepperhan Community Center’s program for young men and young women, supporting healthy families, relationships, parenting skills, financial literacy, job readiness.
- Gallery Summer Basketball Program - Served 1,000 young men and offered life skills lessons interspersed with games.

LITERACY

- Cross-Age Tutoring: Literacy – This fast-growing literacy program trains high school students in lesson planning and delivery and pairs them with younger learners at several elementary schools.
- MBK Book Clubs – School MBK chapters read and discussed Madd Truth: Lasting Lessons for Students of Life by Dr. Alfonso Wyatt, who met with more than 60 students to discuss what they learned and sign their books. Dr. Wyatt also met with the MBK Steering Committee to discuss impactful youth development approaches.

PARTNERSHIPS

- First Tee teaches life and golf skills to students. This year culminated with a visit to Morgan Stanley for career exploration; golf with hosts at Meadow Brook Club in Jericho, New York.
- Monroe College made possible a private early screening of Blank Panther for nearly 250 Yonkers MBK students.

EMPOWERMENT SPEAKERS

- NBA Cares Ambassador Felipe Lopez; Ex-NFL Motivational Speaker Lee Rouson; Author-Music Executive June Archer; James “That Vitiligo Guy” Mcleod.

REGIONAL SUPPORT AND NETWORKING

- Superintendents MBK Network – Yonkers Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, in partnership with Ossining Superintendent of Schools Dr. Raymond Sanchez, formalized a network of district superintendents from around the Lower Hudson Valley to collaborate and organize activities around MBK milestones.
- Lower Hudson Valley MBK Alliance – Yonkers MBK Co-Chairman Rev. Dr. Jim Bostic organized and oversees 10 regional MBK groups for collaboration and mutual support.
- New York State Regents’ Ongoing Support – Regent Lester Young and Regent Judith Johnson have attended nearly all of Yonkers MBK’s significant meetings and events including the launch of Yonkers Basics; a working session with CBMA; Superintendents MBK Network meetings.

YONKERS MBK LIBATION CEREMONY

This powerful tradition offers our young men the opportunity to honor a person or persons, past or present, in their lives or not, through the pouring of libation. Students add a few drops of water to a symbolic tree of life. After each person speaks, the group repeats “Ashay” (pronounced a-SHAY) three times, meaning “so it is” in the Yoruba language of West Africa.

Thank you to our sponsors

Champion of the Movement



Spolzino Smith
Buss & Jacobs LLP

Leader of the Movement

Deloitte.

Supporter of the Movement

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Mayor Mike Spano

Millennium Strategies

Monroe College



ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS

NEW YORK STATE SENATE, 35TH DISTRICT

DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE LEADER

I am Delighted to Join My Friends at
Yonkers My Brother's Keeper
On the occasion of their
Second Anniversary Gala Celebration:
Building A Movement

I am pleased to extend my congratulations and best wishes to
all of this year's honorees:

NYS Regent Dr. Lester Young Jr.
City of Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano
The Yonkers Guardians Association
Nuryel Benitez
Antonio Jones

Thank you to everyone involved for building opportunities for
our young people and helping them achieve success in our
Yonkers Community.

BEST WISHES TO
YONKERS
MY BROTHER'S KEEPER
ON THE

2nd Anniversary Gala

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HONOREES

DR. LESTER YOUNG, JR.

MAYOR MIKE SPANO

YONKERS GUARDIANS ASSOCIATION

NURYEL BENITEZ
PALISADE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2019

ANTONIO JONES
GORTON HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2020



SHELLEY B. MAYER

State Senator
37th District

Paid for by Friends of Shelley Mayer.



I am honored to salute

My Brother's Keeper Yonkers

*On the occasion of your
2nd Anniversary Gala Celebration*

and

*congratulations to the honorees:
Dr. Lester Young Jr., NYS Regent
Honorable Mike Spano, Mayor, City of Yonkers
and
The Yonkers Guardians Association*

*J. Gary Pretlow
Member of New York State Assembly
89th District*

Best Wishes to Yonkers My Brother's Keeper For Two Outstanding Years Creating Opportunities for our Young People

The Movement Continues

CONGRATULATION TO THE HONOREES

Dr. Lester Young, Jr., New York State Regent

Mayor Mike Spano, City of Yonkers

The Yonkers Guardians Association

Antonio Jones, Gorton High School

Nuryel Benitez, Palisade Preparatory School

THANK YOU

Yonkers MBK Gala Committee Co-Chairmen

Edgar Santana, Trustee, Yonkers Board of Education

Euthimios Theotokatos, Director, Office of Constituent Services, City of Yonkers

Gregory Joyner, Yonkers MBK Program Coordinator, Yonkers Public Schools

and

Joe Torres, WABC-TV News Anchor and Host of 'Tiempo'

YONKERS BOARD OF EDUCATION

President Rev. Steve Lopez

Vice President Judith Ramos Meier

Andrea Brown

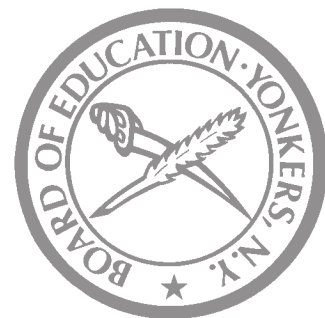
Kevin Cacace

Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio

John Jacono, Pasquale Mondesando

Edgar Santana

Dr. Nader J. Sayegh



GENERATION YONKERS

Joins in celebrating the

YONKERS MY BROTHER'S KEEPER SECOND ANNIVERSARY GALA

and congratulates all the honorees.

Mayor Mike Spano

New York State Regent Dr. Lester Young, Jr.

The Yonkers Guardians Association





to



On the Occasion of Your
2nd Anniversary Gala

and

Special Congratulations to my fellow Honorees:

NYS Regent Dr. Lester Young Jr.
The Yonkers Guardians Association
Nuryel Benitez & Antonio Jones

*On behalf of the young men in Yonkers we have impacted so far
and the great work you continue to do,
it is my honor to receive this award from MBK Yonkers.*

Thank you,

MIKE SPANO
Mayor



*Congratulations & Best Wishes For Continued Success To
My Brother's Keeper Yonkers
Second Anniversary Gala Celebration*

Building a Movement

September 27, 2018

*Honoring
New York State Regent Dr. Lester Young
City of Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano
The Yonkers Guardian Association
And Yonkers Public School students Nuryel Benitez and Antonio Jones*



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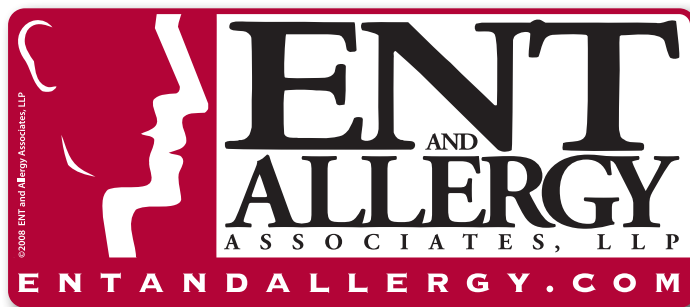
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BUILDING A MOVEMENT**

Congratulations to this year's honorees:

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- ▶ City of Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano
- ▶ The Yonkers Guardians Association



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and Congratulations to Honorees:*

*Dr. Lester Young, Jr.
Mayor Mike Spano
The Yonkers Guardians Association*

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The Yonkers Commission on Human Rights

Joins in Celebrating

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Second Anniversary Gala Celebration

“Building A Movement”

**WE CELEBRATE AND HONOR OUR MAGNIFICENT
YOUNG MEN OF COLOR AND ALL OF THOSE WHO
WORKED HARD TO SUPPORT THEM!**

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87 Nepperhan Ave Suite 313 Yonkers, NY 10703

Email: YonkersHRCommission@yonkersny.gov

**Best Wishes to My Brother's Keeper
Yonkers for Continued Success!**

and

**Congratulations on the
Second Anniversary of the
Building A Movement Gala!!**



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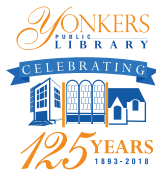
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to



for another inspirational year
lifting up the young people of Yonkers!



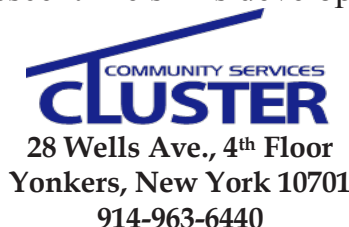
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Susan Thaler, Deputy Director

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2nd Anniversary Gala Celebration Honorees:**

**New York State Regent Dr. Lester Young, Jr.
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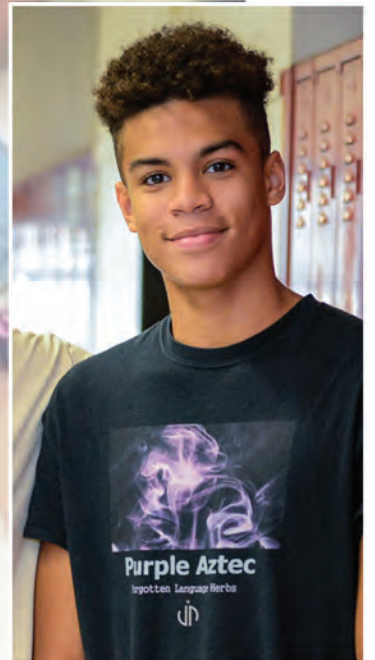
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SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VALUABLE GALA CONTRIBUTORS

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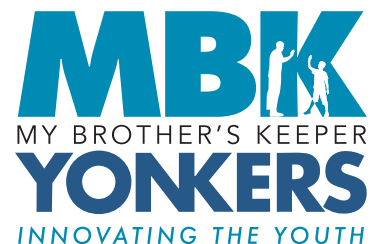
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Congratulations to Tonight's Honorees

**Dr. Lester Young, Jr.,
Mayor Mike Spano &
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KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND
NEW YORK



UNITED STATES SENATOR

September 27, 2018

Dear Friends,

It is a privilege to send greetings to all of you attending the Second Anniversary Gala Celebration hosted by Yonkers, My Brother's Keeper.

I am grateful to Yonkers, My Brother's Keeper for its service to the youth of Yonkers who face many hardships while attaining their education. I am thankful for organizations like this one that remind us of the values, lessons, and ideals that will help us build a strong future for our nation. Their efforts exemplify the positive contribution an organization can make to their profession, community, and country.

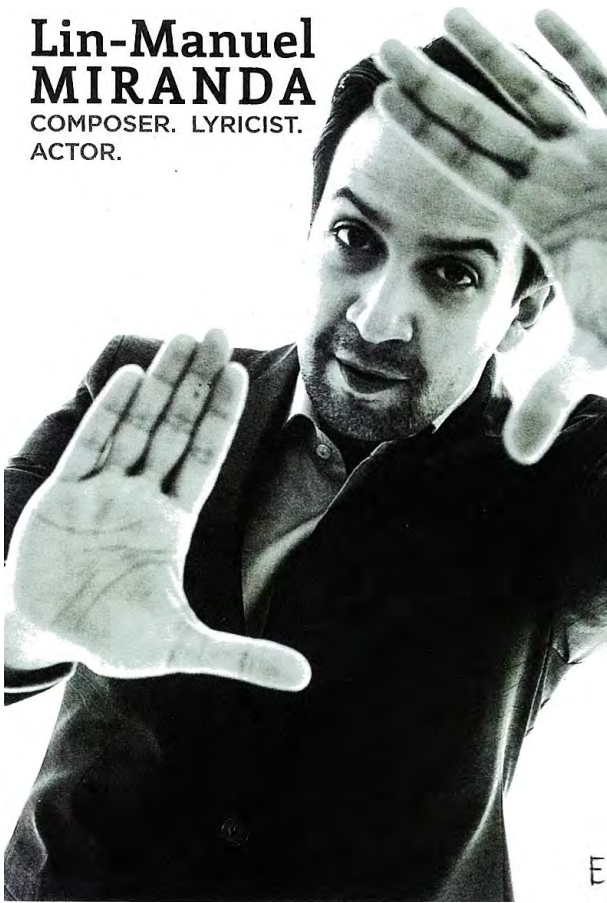
Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kirsten Gillibrand".

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator

Lin-Manuel
MIRANDA
COMPOSER. LYRICIST.
ACTOR.



From The Desk Of
LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA

EDGAR & EDWIN —

THANK YOU KINDLY FOR YOUR SWEET AND
THOUGHTFUL LETTER. YOUR SUPPORT TRULY
MEANS THE WORLD. ALTHOUGH AN ALREADY
PACKED SCHEDULE REGRETFULLY PREVENTS
ME FROM ATTENDING, I WISH YOU A
SUCCESSFUL GALA. HERE'S SENDING YOU AND
THE REST OF MY BROTHER'S KEEPER
MOVEMENT ALL THE BEST.

SIEMPRE,
Lin-Manuel

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Honoring

New York State Regent Dr. Lester Young, Jr.

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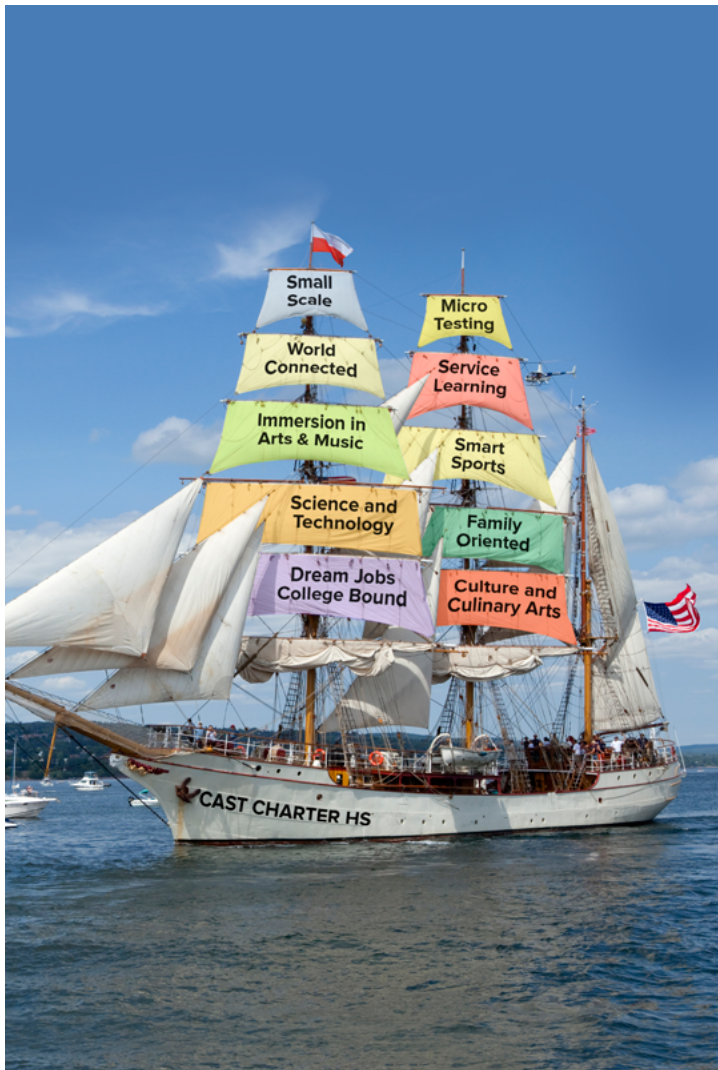
"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." ~ Helen Keller



**CONGRATULATIONS TO
My Brother's Keeper Yonkers
Building a Movement Gala**

**HONORING
Dr. Lester Young, Jr., New York State Regent
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