



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Yonkers Public Schools extends its gratitude to those who have made this Celebration a success

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#### THANKS TO OUR GUEST SPEAKER

Edward Fergus. P.H.D

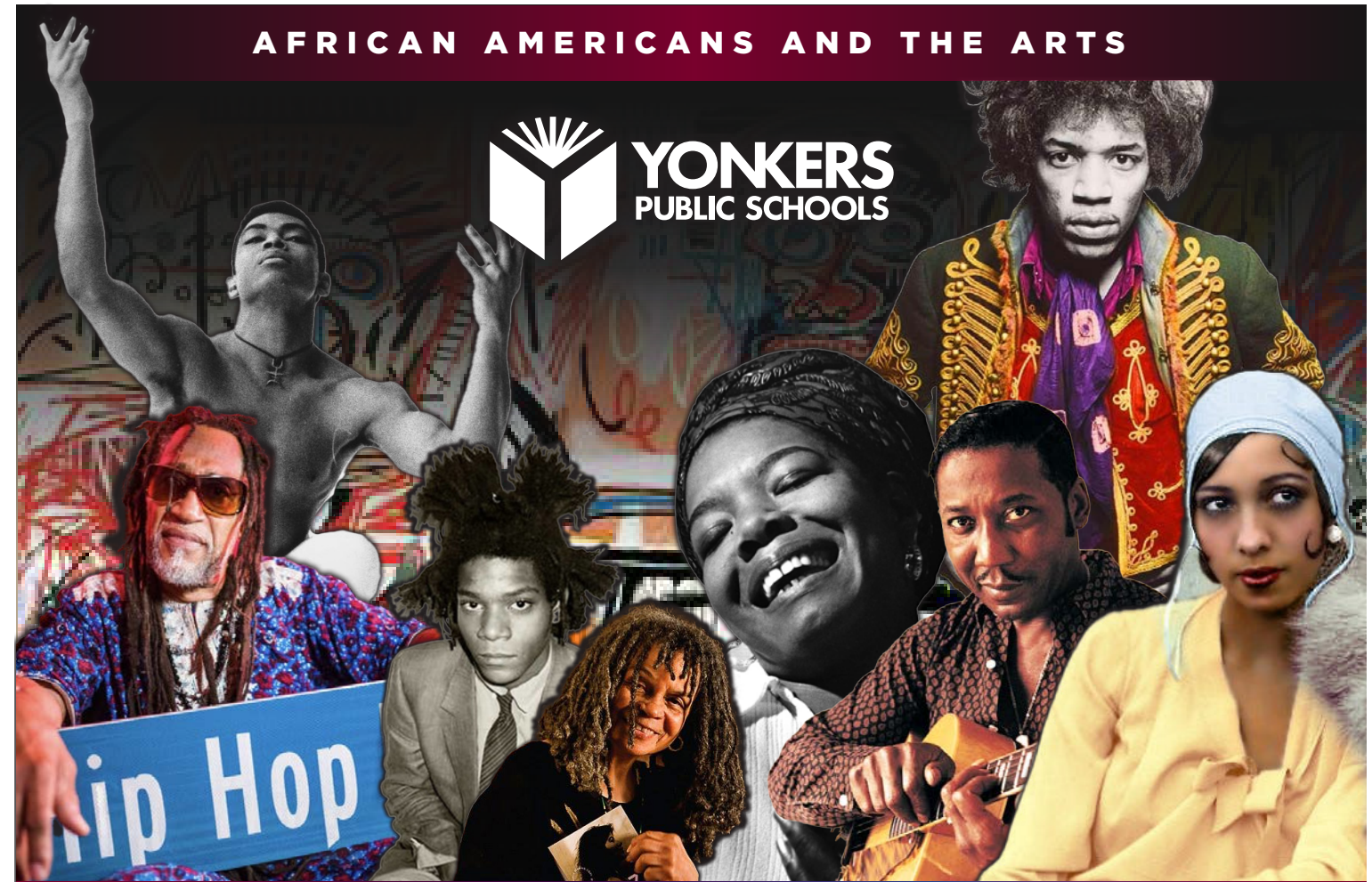
Professor, Rutgers University

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO

The Administration and Student Ushers of  
Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies

*A special thanks to all the talented students,  
Teachers, Administrators, Central Office Staff and  
Community Members for their support and contributions*

## AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE ARTS



# BLACK HISTORY *Celebration*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024

5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL – EARLY COLLEGE STUDIES

631 Tuckahoe Road, Yonkers, NY 10710



AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE ARTS

Masters of Ceremonies

Jason Martinez

YPS NYS MBK Fellow, Grade 12  
Saunders Trades and Technical High School

Justin Lauture

YPS NYS MBK Fellow, Grade 12  
Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies

Processional .....	<b>The Lightning Drumline</b> <i>Barack Obama School for Social Justice</i> <b>Isaac Schneider</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
Welcome.....	<b>Dr. Luís Rodríguez</b> <i>Interim Superintendent, Yonkers Public Schools</i>
Greetings .....	<b>Rev. Steve Lopez</b> <i>President, Yonkers Board of Education</i>
Pledge of Allegiance .....	<b>Corbin Wright</b> <i>Grade 11, Charles E. Gorton High School</i>
Lift Every Voice and Sing .....	<b>PEARLS Hawthorne School Middle School Choir</b> <b>Bernadette Tornabene</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
By J.W. Johnson & J. R. Johnson	
Remarks .....	<b>Mayor Mike Spano</b> <i>City of Yonkers</i>
People Get Ready .....	<b>PEARLS Hawthorne School Middle School Choir</b> <b>Bernadette Tornabene</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
By C. Mayfield	
Libation Ceremony .....	<b>Cameron Williams</b> <i>NYS MBK Fellow, Grade 12, Yonkers Middle High School</i> <b>Juan Morales</b> <i>NYS MBK Fellow, Grade 12, Saunders Trades &amp; Technical High School</i>
Dance Selection.....	<b>Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies Steppers</b> <b>Jonathon Mack</b> , <i>Director</i>
African Americans and the Arts I.....	<b>Dr. Matthew Gonzales</b> <i>Executive Director, Inquiry, Social Studies and Sciences</i>
Beacon of Light.....	<b>Imani Roman</b> <i>Grade 12, Saunders Trades and Technical High School</i>
Poem by Imani Roman	
Dance Selection.....	<b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy Dancers</b> <b>Simone Palmer</b> , <i>Coordinator</i>
Rise Up .....	<b>The Saunders Trades and Technical High School Choir</b> <b>Avid Williams</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i> <b>Freddie Bartley</b> , <i>Music Coach</i>
By C. M. Batie & J. Decilveo	
Arr. by A. Williams	
Introduction to Guest Speaker .....	<b>Lenex Sikafoo</b> <i>Grade 11, Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies</i>
Keynote Speaker .....	<b>Edward Fergus, Ph.D</b> <i>Professor, Rutgers University</i>
African Americans and the Arts II.....	<b>Dr. Cynthia Y. Palmer</b> <i>Director, Library Services</i>
Four African American Spirituals.....	<b>Yonkers Middle High School Madrigal Singers</b> <b>Michiko Pereira</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
Arr. M. Pereira	
Cry Me a River	
By A. Hamilton, Arr. by M. Pereira	

What Army.....	<b>Eugenio María de Hostos MicroSociety School</b> <b>HipHop Dancers</b> <b>Daniel Garcia</b> , <i>Teacher</i>
HipHop Dance Performance	
What a Wonderful World .....	<b>Patricia A. DiChiaro School Choir</b> <b>Konstantino Tsoukalas</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
By L. Armstrong	
Man in the Mirror	
By M. Jackson	
The Black Panther Party .....	<b>School 9 Performance Troupe</b> <b>Arleth Ruiz-Clark &amp; Euphemia Saydee</b> , <i>Directors</i>
Higher Ground .....	<b>Eugenio María de Hostos MicroSociety School Choir</b> <b>Colette Hebert</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
By S. Wonder	
He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands .....	<b>Cecilia Tucker-Myers</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
Traditional Spiritual	
African Americans and the Arts III.....	<b>Dr. Stephanie McCaskill</b> <i>Interim Assistant Superintendent, Yonkers Public Schools</i>
Caged Bird .....	<b>Ava Corporan</b> <i>Grade 9, Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies</i> <i>My Sister’s Keeper</i>
Poem by Maya Angelou	
Dance Compilation .....	<b>Mosaic Dance Troupe</b> <i>Yonkers Montessori Academy</i> <b>Sheldon Gomes</b> , <i>Teacher</i>
If I Can Dream .....	<b>Cesar E. Chavez School 6th Grade Choir</b> <b>Riccardo Proia</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
By W.E. Brown	
Dance Compilation .....	<b>Exquisite Force Dance Troupe</b> <b>Loniece Edwards &amp; Arleth Ruiz-Clark</b> , <i>Directors</i>
African Americans and the Arts IV .....	<b>Dr. Michelle Yazurlo</b> <i>Assistant Superintendent, Yonkers Public Schools</i>
Inner City Blues.....	<b>Lincoln High School Performance Troupe</b> <b>Robert Zion</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
By M. Gaye	
Freedom Train	
By R. Dilworth	
Dance Compilation .....	<b>Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies</b> <b>Latin Dance Club</b> <b>Charyna Penafortuna</b> , <i>Teacher</i>
Be a Light.....	<b>9th Grade Choir</b> <i>Yonkers Montessori Academy</i> <b>Tara Caloia-Moccia</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
By T.R. Akins, J. Miller, J. Thompson & M. Dragstrem	
What’s Going On .....	<b>Devon Plunkett</b> <i>Safety Officer, Barack Obama School for Social Justice</i>
By M. Gaye	
African Americans and the Arts V .....	<b>Dr. Frank Hernández</b> <i>Assistant Superintendent, Yonkers Public Schools</i>
The Entertainer .....	<b>Yonkers Midde High School Band</b> <b>Ted Kuhn</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
By S. Joplin	
We Shall Overcome .....	<b>Paideia School 24 Choir</b> <b>Laura Olivieri-Reyes</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
By C. A. Tindley	
I Dream a World.....	<b>Adaugo Egbuab &amp; Kareem Mardawi</b> <i>Grade 6, Paideia School 24</i>
Poem by Langston Hughes	
People Get Ready (Reprise) .....	<b>Paideia School 24 Choir</b> <b>Laura Olivieri-Reyes</b> , <i>Music Teacher</i>
By C. Mayfield	
Closing Remarks.....	<b>Lisette Colón-Collins</b> <i>Assistant Superintendent, Yonkers Public Schools</i>