

We Thank our Sponsors and Vendors for making this event a success

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF BLACK LAW ENFORCEMENT (NOBLE)

PHOENIX SOCIETY OF PASADENA

PASADENA FIRE FOUNDATION

PASADENA BLACK MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION (PBMEA)

PASADENA POLICE OFFICER ASSOCIATION (PPOA)

PASADENA POLICE RELIEF ASSOCIATION (PPRA)

PASADENA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

PASADENA LATINO EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION (PLEA)

PASADENA FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION LOCAL 809 (PFFA)

ROCHELLE BRANCH

PAMELA E BURTON

WALLACE FAMILY FOUNDATION

CHICK-FIL-A

SAILOR'S BREW COFFEE

ESZYLFIIE TAYLOR, Taylor Insurance & Financial Services, Pasadena, CA

STEPHEN BABALOLA, Toyin's African Wear

CHEF ROMAN STYLES IV, Mealionaire meal prep & catering

VERONICA MILES, Four Clover Homes

MICHAEL LATTIMORE, Life Coach, Soul-Centered Transformation

SO CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE/VITAL VOICES

Special Thank You to Emeka & Rhythms Family Band, Rhythms of the Village, Altadena CA

"EVERY GREAT DREAM BEGINS WITH A DREAMER.
ALWAYS REMEMBER, YOU HAVE WITHIN YOU THE
STRENGTH, THE PATIENCE, AND THE PASSION TO
REACH FOR THE STARS TO CHANGE THE WORLD."

-Harriet Tubman

2023

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

CELEBRATING BLACK EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE

'Honoring Trailblazers Past, Present and Future'

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2023

THE PASADENA SENIOR CENTER
PASADENA, CA



KEYNOTE SPEAKER



PHYLLIS CURRIE joined the City of Pasadena in 2001 as General Manager of the Water and Power Department (PWP).

In her 14 years in Pasadena, PWP added new electric generation at the power plant; built a water treatment plant funded by NASA to clean up ground water contamination; and embarked on multi-year infrastructure improvement programs to upgrade the city's water and electrical distribution systems. She and her staff engaged in stakeholder-driven water and energy resource planning leading to aggressive goals for renewable energy, and water conservation. She also held leadership positions in industry associations.

Prior to Pasadena, positions held by Ms. Currie during her 30-year career with the city of Los Angeles included Chief Financial Officer of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, assistant city administrative officer and director of the city's rent control program.

Since leaving Pasadena, she has worked as a consultant with many electric and water agencies on strategic planning and governance. She is a director on several boards, including that of a regional transmission operator in the Midwest, serving as board chair for 3 years. She is active in several non-profit and community organizations, including Pasadena Rotary.

Ms. Currie is a UCLA alumna with a BA in political science and an MBA and completed the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

"IF YOU WANT TO LIFT YOURSELF UP, LIFT UP SOMEONE ELSE"

- Booker T Washington, 1856



The San Gabriel Valley Chapter of National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), the Phoenix Society of Pasadena (Black Firefighters), and the Pasadena Black Municipal Employees' Association (PBMEA), welcome you to the Annual Black History Pancake Breakfast.

The Black History Pancake Breakfast began as a luncheon inside the Pasadena Police Department, over 25 years ago. Police Officer Simone Alexander, who has since married (Morris) and Retired as a Police Corporal, had a passion and desire to acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of African American who were instrumental in shaping the city of Pasadena, specifically the police department.

Her vision was that of family coming together around a delicious meal where we could remind ourselves and expose others to our real history, traditions, accomplishments and yes, our struggles. Throughout the month of February, the police department was in essence a Black History Museum. African Art adorned the hallways and a Black Inventions Museum greeted City Department Heads and Community guests as they entered the lobby. It was hoped that the luncheon and "Museum" would encourage learning moments, as we spotlight African American Men and Women who chose to pick up the mantle of serving this city in spite of the hurdles, lack of acceptance, closed doors, and obstacles set to hinder and tear us apart.

The annual luncheon gave way to a breakfast and a collaboration between the San Gabriel Valley Chapter of NOBLE (National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives), the Phoenix Society of Pasadena Black Professional Firefighters, and PBMEA (Pasadena Black Municipal Employees Association).

This year's theme, "Celebrating Black Employee Excellence — Honoring Trailblazers Past, Present & Future" honors those who accepted being the 'first', and through their determination navigated barriers and opened doors for a better Pasadena, and those who continue to carry on the work.



WELCOME

INTRODUCTION OF HONOR GUARD

STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Natalya Romo-Jones

BLACK NATIONAL ANTHEM

'Lift Every Voice and Sing'

Veronica Chriss

Minister of Music, Castaic AME Community Church

INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Larry E. Campbell

Senior Pastor of First A.M. E. Church, Pasadena

BLACK HISTORY BREAKFAST OCCASION

BREAKFAST SERVED

DRUM WELCOME

MC WELCOME

Jarvis Shelby and Lt. Carolyn Gordon, Pasadena Police

Justin Hester, Pasadena Fire

DIGNITARIES AND SPECIAL GUEST

HONORING JOHN J. KENNEDY

Presented by Councilmember Tyron Hampton

KEYNOTE SPEAKER INTRODUCTION

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Ms. Phyllis Currie

DRUM/TRADITIONAL AFRICAN DANCE PERFORMANCE

Rhythms of the Village

COMMITTEE INTRODUCTION/VENDORS

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

'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,
True to our native land

BLACK HISTORY MONTH BREAKFAST

PAST • PRESENT • FUTURE
CELEBRATING THE LIFE & LEGACY OF

CELEBRATING BLACK EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE

Mack & Jackie
Robinson



WELCOME

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MC WELCOME

Justin Hester, Pasadena Fire

BREAKFAST SERVED DRUM WELCOME

DIGNITARIES AND SPECIAL GUEST FILM - HONORING MACK ROBINSON

Presented by Councilmember Tyron Hampton

KEYNOTE SPEAKER INTRODUCTION KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Phillip Dunn

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