



*Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service
Greater New York (NY) Chapter*



*Diamonds
and
Pearls
Gala*

April 7, 2019
5:00 PM – 10:00 PM
583 Park Avenue
New York, NY

#GNYSlinks
#GNYSlinks70
#GNYSlinksGala

Welcome

Dear Friends and Family,

I bring you greetings on behalf of the Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Incorporated and am delighted that you have joined us this evening as we celebrate seventy years of providing impactful and transformational service to our communities!

Our Chapter is comprised of powerful women who are *Linked in Friendship and Connected in Service*. We stand united today on the shoulders of our organizers and are dedicated to carrying their mantle so that our important work continues for generations to come. We represent a broad spectrum of black womanhood who balance personal and professional responsibilities while also devoting countless hours to community service. We use our God-given talents and resources to create brighter futures for the marginalized and underserved. We provide this service with a spirit of love and are gratified by the lasting friendships that we have developed in the process.

As we celebrate our rich legacy of seventy years of service, I would like to thank each of you for your continued support of our work. I challenge each of you to join us in our quest to continue to educate, encourage and empower our communities through service!

Warm Regards,



Donna Jones, Ed. D.
President
Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated



Executive Committee



- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| President | Dr. Donna Jones |
| Vice President | Lesley Horton Campbell |
| Treasurer | Deborah Whitfield |
| Financial Secretary | Ruth "Cookie" Jean |
| Recording Secretary | Janis Robinson |
| Assistant Recording Secretary | Aisha Christian |
| Corresponding Secretary | Calvina "Cally" Bostick |
| Parliamentarian | Olga Dais |
| Program Chair | Anita Diane Farrington |



Chapter Members

Ashley Michelle Alston
 Susan Davenport Austin
 Sydney Avent
 Gina L. Bolden-Rivera
 Charlita C. Cardwell
 Kalyn Johnson Chandler
 Joey Cole
 Michelle Cheney Donaldson
 Lisa Darleen Downing
 Mignon Espy Edwards
 C. Virginia Fields
 Elaine M. Flake
 Nailah Flake-Brown
 Kia Floyd
 Vivian Manning Fox
 Patricia J. Francis
 DeNora M. Getachew
 Icema D. Gibbs
 Kimberly Sheryce Hylton
 Deborah "Debbie" Jackson
 Victoria James
 Latoya Jeffers
 Jillian E. Joseph
 Michelle Laisure
 Lynn K. Law
 Tiffany Johnson Lewis
 Katherine Fields Marsh
 Marcella Maxwell
 Katrina McGhee
 Rhonda Joy McLean
 Ketly Michel

Gail Monroe-Perry
 Michelle Miller Morial
 Barbara North-Lightning
 Betty King Obiajulu
 Racquel Oden
 Rosemonde Pierre-Louis
 Anna Ponder
 Hasoni L. Pratts
 Margarette Purvis
 Arva R. Rice
 Dara Richardson-Heron
 Cari Robinson
 Tennille Robinson
 Sheryl Huggins Salomon
 Dominique Sharpton-Bright
 Helen C. Shelton
 Minta P. Spain
 Michelle D. Stent
 Alexis Thomas
 Nanette L. Thomas
 Gerri Warren-Merrick
 Linda Zango-Haley

Alumnae Members

Mary Ellen Arrington
 Virginia L. Arrington
 Dawn Mann Hurley
 Grace Y. Ingleton
 Karen Day Selsey
 Judith A. West



April 7, 2019

Greetings Link Sisters,

On behalf of the more than 15,000 members of The Links, Incorporated, I am elated to congratulate the members of the Greater New York (NY) Chapter on your **70th Anniversary Celebration!**

This is a time of reflection. It is a time to celebrate your chapter's long-standing achievements and friendships which exemplify your chapter's strong commitment to service in your community. The Greater New York (NY) Chapter's work sustains the rich legacy of our co-founders to be Linked in Friendship and Connected in Service.

I know the friends and supporters of the Greater New York (NY) Chapter join me in applauding President Donna Jones and your entire chapter membership on your outstanding endeavors. Thank you for your dedication and thank you for your impact. As we celebrate the **70th Anniversary of the Greater New York (NY) Chapter**, we also celebrate your continued service toward *Transforming Communities ~ Fulfilling Our Purpose*.

In friendship and service,

Kimberly Jeffries Leonard, Ph.D.
National President



Gala Co-Chairpersons' Message

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Incorporated Diamonds and Pearls 70th Anniversary Gala. This year's event will be an evening to remember, as we commemorate seven decades of service, sisterhood, and community impact. Thank you for joining us.

We are honored to co-chair this year's Gala, celebrating the transformative programming of our chapter.

Since 1949 the Greater New York Chapter has been serving the needs of women and girls throughout our communities. Our legacy of service in youth development, women's empowerment, financial literacy, senior care, and arts education has improved the lives of thousands across New York City and abroad.

With your help, funds raised tonight will support our long-standing programs along with our newest endeavor - Greater New York STEMulate - NSBE Jr. Program. In partnership with the NYU Tandon School of Engineering, we're making a bold, long-term commitment to ensure children of color are exposed to and prepared to pursue STEM careers.

On behalf of our entire Gala Committee, thank you for helping us ensure this important work continues. Together, we'll continue to meet the needs of those who need us most in our community.

Gratefully Yours,
Katrina McGhee
Icema Gibbs



KATRINA MCGHEE



ICEMA GIBBS



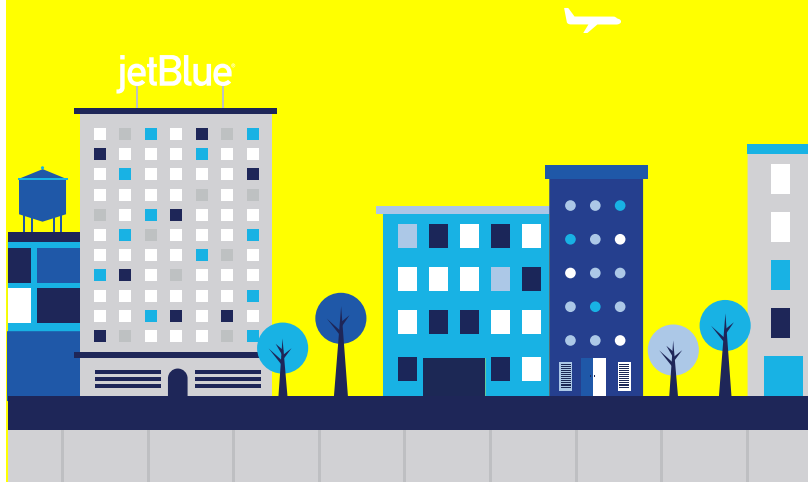
Link'd in Friendship, Connected in Service
Greater New York (NY) Chapter

Diamonds and Pearls 70th Anniversary Gala Committee Members

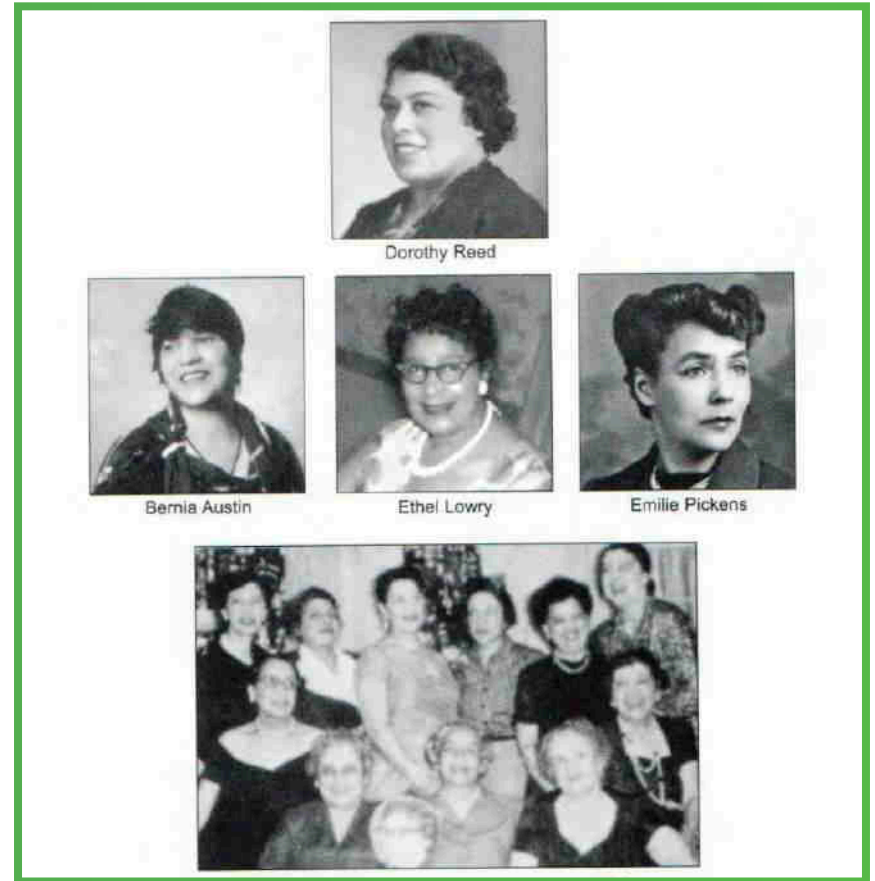
- Gina Bolden-Rivera
- Calvina Bostick
- Kalyn Johnson Chandler
- Olga Dais
- Nailah Flake-Brown
- Kia Floyd
- DeNora Getachew
- Debbie Jackson
- Ruth "Cookie" Jean
- Tiffany Johnson
- Jillian E. Joseph
- Lynn Law
- Rosemonde Pierre-Louis
- Marcella Maxwell
- Gerri Warren Merrick
- Barbara North-Lightning
- Racquel Oden
- Cari Robinson
- Janis Robinson
- Tennille Robinson
- Dominique Sharpton-Bright
- Helen C. Shelton
- Michelle D. Stent
- Nanette L. Thomas
- Deborah Whitfield
- Linda Zango-Haley

Congratulations to the Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Inc.

JetBlue proudly supports the Greater New York Chapter of The Links on their 70th Anniversary.



Charter Members May 21, 1949



Dorothy Reed



Bernia Austin



Ethel Lowry



Emilie Pickens



Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Incorporated

THE LINKS, INCORPORATED

"The Links Incorporated, founded by Margaret Roselle Hawkins and Sarah Strickland Scott (Philadelphia Chapter) in 1946 as "a group of friends committed to civic, educational, and cultural activities with the singular purpose of serving community needs for the improvement of life and the pursuit of excellence," became a national organization in 1949.

The Links, Incorporated, is one of the oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of women committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and persons of African ancestry. Membership consists of over 12,000 professional women of color, with 272 chapters in 42 states, the District of Columbia and Nassau, Bahamas. Through its philanthropic arm, The Links Foundation, the organization has contributed more than 24 million dollars to charitable causes. During this biennium, Links contributed 1.2 million documented service hours assisting communities throughout the United States, Africa and other developing countries.

THE LINKS, INCORPORATED



Certificate of Charter

We hereby Certify that the

GREATER NEW YORK CHAPTER OF LINKS, NEW YORK

was duly chartered on MAY 23, 1949 as a local chapter, having complied with all provisions of the Constitution and pledges to engage in advocating for Democracy through its civic, educational and international programs.

FOUNDERS
Margaret Hawkins
Sarah S. Scott
1946



[Signature]
National Vice President

The Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, founded in 1949, was the first chapter established in New York and comprises members from all five boroughs, Westchester and Long Island. The Chapter is dedicated to supporting programs that enhance the well-being of families and senior citizens in the New York City area. This year, the Chapter's programming will reflect the theme "STEAM-ulate Intergenerational Technology" in order to increase awareness and adaptation of technology across generations in our local community.

We will continue to raise funds to assist domestic violence victims with legal services, teach seniors how to be safe, provide academic support and cultural enrichment opportunities to high school students, develop a music appreciation program for young students as well as provide scholarship support for college bound students. Globally, the Chapter has embarked on its second three-year program that provides resources, support, education, and economic empowerment to a cohort of marginalized women in Haiti.

Proceeds from our fundraising efforts will be used to develop and sustain transformational programs that address technological change, domestic violence, exposure to the arts, serving an expanding senior citizen community in addition to providing scholarship support. For more information, log on to the Chapter's website at greaternewyorklinksinc.org.

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KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND
NEW YORK



UNITED STATES SENATOR

April 7, 2019

Dear Friends,

It is a privilege to send greetings to everyone attending the Greater New York Chapter of The Links' 70th Anniversary Diamond and Pearls Gala.

I am grateful to organizations like the Greater New York Chapter of The Links for their commitment to supporting and uplifting African Americans and persons of African ancestry. For 70 years, The Links has influenced the lives of thousands across New York through its commitment to community service in the areas of youth development, women's empowerment, financial literacy, and STEM education. Furthermore, its dedicated work has international impact with projects like Clean and Safe Water Project, which help women of Haiti rebuild their lives and communities.

Our diversity is what makes New York so strong and vibrant, and I am proud to represent each of you in the United States Senate. It is my sincere hope that this continued work inspires others to become invested in community development.

Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful event and many more years of continued success.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator

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April 7, 2019

The Links, Incorporated
Greater New York Chapter
New York, New York

Dear Distinguished Guests,

I wish to extend my congratulations and well-wishes to the Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Incorporated on their 70th Anniversary Celebration.

This Diamonds and Pearls Gala is a celebration of the growth and accomplishment in our community led by fearless women including the distinguished honorees, Ms. Alma Rangel and Ms. Christina Lewis Halpern personifying the grand tradition of service and education in the African-American and African-descendant community here in the New York Metropolitan area.

This groups leaderships, tonight's honorees, and the dedicated community members with us tonight have made The Links, Incorporated, an inspiration for women of color across the nation. We are very fortunate to have a chapter here in New York's 13th Congressional District that has for seven decades been a shining example of public service for women of color.

It is a privilege to celebrate the Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Incorporated during this Diamonds and Pearls Gala in honor of your 70th Anniversary. I look forward to seeing this organization grow and thrive in its eighth decade of service and leadership and beyond.

Sincerely,

Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

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ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR



STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THE CAPITOL
ALBANY, NY 12224

LETTITIA JAMES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

(518) 776-2000

April 7, 2019

April 7, 2019

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the 70th Anniversary Diamonds & Pearls Gala, hosted by the Links of the Greater New York Chapter.

The Empire State is fortunate to be home to extraordinary organizations whose humanitarian endeavors and philanthropic enterprises cultivate fellowship as well as service to the community. The Greater New York Chapter of the Links is a flourishing part of a national and international chain of friendship, achievement, and support.

Since 1949, this dedicated association, comprised of successful and talented African-American women, has been committed to the betterment of society, through educational, cultural, and civic activities. You gather this evening in the spirit of friendship and service to pay tribute to those who have made a profound and positive difference and I join in congratulating your distinguished honorees – Christina Lewis Halpern and Alma Rangel. I am certain that your membership's ongoing efforts will ensure that this organization will be a vibrant resource for the communities and neighborhoods of Greater New York, and around the world, for many years to come.

With warmest regards and best wishes for a memorable evening.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO

WE WORK FOR THE PEOPLE
PERFORMANCE • INTEGRITY • PRIDE

♻️ printed on recycled paper

Greater New York Chapter of the Links
P.O. Box 650453
Fresh Meadows, NY 11365

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to extend greetings to all who have gathered for the 70th Anniversary Diamonds and Pearls Gala of the Greater New York Chapter of the Links. Your participation in this event, not only pays tribute to tonight's honorees, but also salutes one of our nation's oldest and most venerable volunteer service organizations.

As you reflect on the Chapter's long, rich history, you can take great pride in the tremendous accomplishments it has made over the past seven decades. Through the tireless work of generations of members, you have established premier programs to enrich the lives of countless people of color. From youth development, healthcare initiatives, the arts and economic empowerment, this organization continues to provide crucial services to those in need. Most recently, the Greater New York Chapter has partnered with NYU Tandon to ready the next generation of girls to pursue careers in STEAM. Through programs such as this, the Chapter is bringing together diverse organizations to generate progressive change for all New Yorkers. I commend all those who have made this possible.

Let me also take this opportunity to recognize tonight's awardees: Christina Lewis Halpern and Alma Rangel. Congratulations on being recognized for your many achievements.

Once again, I commend the Greater New York Chapter of the Links and congratulate them on reaching this special anniversary. I wish you much continued success during the next 70 years and beyond.

Warmest Regards,

LETTITIA JAMES

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ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS
NEW YORK STATE SENATE, 35TH DISTRICT
PRESIDENT PRO TEM ♦ MAJORITY LEADER

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the **70th Anniversary Celebration of the Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Inc.** Since its founding seventy years ago, this organization has provided quality programs and services that transform the lives of many people in our African-American and Hispanic communities, and I am thankful for its continuous hard work and dedication.

The Greater New York chapter of the of the Links, Inc. has the proud distinction of being the first chapter established in New York state and one of the original eleven chapters of the organization. The programming, which focuses on community service, has been implemented through strategies such as public information, education, economic development and public policy campaigns.

This celebration would not have been possible without your support, so I appreciate you for being here today. **The Greater New York Chapter of the Links, Inc.** is well-served by your involvement, and I thank you for helping make a difference in the lives of others.

Best Wishes,

Andrea Stewart-Cousins
New York State Senator, 35th District
President Pro Tem, Majority Leader



NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

April 7, 2019

Dear Friends:

Please accept my sincere greetings as you gather for the Greater New York Chapter of the Links 70th Anniversary celebration.

Founded with core values of Friendship, Integrity, Honesty, Service, Commitment, Family Relationships, Courage, Respect for Self and Others, Legacy, Confidentiality, Responsibility, and Accountability, the Greater New York Chapter of the Links has the proud distinction of being the first chapter established in New York and one of the original 11 chapters. Your award-winning Chapter with numerous National and Eastern Area awards has provided many programs and services, as well as scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students.

The Links Incorporated is an exemplary example of the power of women making a difference. Today, with a membership of over 15,000 professional women of color in 288 chapters located in 42 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and the United Kingdom. It is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of extraordinary women who are committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry.

The outstanding programming of The Links has five facets, which include Services to Youth, the Arts, National Trends and Services, International Trends and Services and Health and Human Services, has made an impact on the communities you serve and deserves to be saluted. You can be proud of the qualities that have brought you this far and of the potential that you possess.

Again, congratulations, and best wishes to the Greater New York Chapter of the Links for a joyful evening.

Sincerely,

CARL E. HEASTIE
Speaker

28 WELLS AVENUE, BUILDING #3 5TH FLOOR • YONKERS, NEW YORK 10701 • TEL: (914) 423-4031 • FAX: (914) 423-0979
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THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007

April 7, 2019

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to join the Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Incorporated in welcoming everyone to its 70th Anniversary Celebration.

My administration is committed to making New York the fairest big city in the nation, and we are deeply grateful to local organizations that share this mission and work tirelessly to achieve it. For seven decades, the dedicated women of the Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Incorporated have served, empowered, and united communities of color across the five boroughs. Through their efforts to promote careers for girls in STEM, combat domestic violence, celebrate African American culture, foster financial literacy, and more, the members of this chapter have helped ensure that New Yorkers of every background have access to the tools they need to thrive and laid a foundation for our city's young people that will uplift them for the rest of their lives. This evening's event offers a wonderful opportunity to applaud this organization for all it has done to help forge a brighter, more equitable city for all our residents, and I look forward to everything it will accomplish in the years ahead.

On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to tonight's honorees. Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful evening and continued success.

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio
Mayor

CHAIR
Budget & Revenue

COMMITTEE MEMBER
Codes
Finance
Health
Rules
Transportation

DISTRICT OFFICE
(212) 222-7315
165 West 129th Street
Suite 912
New York, NY 10027

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK

BRIAN A. BENJAMIN
Senator, 30th District
Senior Assistant Majority Leader



March 13, 2019

Dear Friends,

I would like to extend warm greetings and congratulations to The Links, Incorporated, on your 70th Anniversary Celebration.

For 70 years, the Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated has been committed to fostering community outreach in the New York metropolitan area through impactful, quality programs for African Americans. As champions of such important initiatives, as well as providing scholarship support, I am honored to support and share in this milestone celebration. Your work and voice continues to make a difference in the lives of women, children and families.

As you gather on Sunday, April 7, 2019, united in friendship and connected in service, I proudly join in recognizing this year's distinguished Honorees Alma Rangel, Community Icon and Christina Lewis Halpern, Community Impact. Both of them are an invaluable asset to our community.

Warmest regards and best wishes for an enjoyable event.

Sincerely,

Brian A. Benjamin
New York State Senator, 30th District



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER
SCOTT M. STRINGER



April 7, 2019

Greater New York Chapter
The Links, Inc.
New York, NY

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to extend best wishes to all attending the Greater New York Chapter of the Links 70th Anniversary Diamonds and Pearls Gala.

Since 1949, the Greater New York Chapter of the Links has done outstanding work to empower and uplift women in across the five boroughs. The Greater New York Chapter of the Links is committed to supporting young New Yorkers through a wide range of innovative programing and mentorship opportunities. From its career development and STEM programs to its international service projects, the Greater New York Chapter of the Links gives youth the tools and resources they need to become the next generation of leaders, scholars, and innovators. I am confident the Greater New York Chapter of the Links will continue this important work for years to come.

Congratulations to tonight's honorees, Christina Lewis Halpern and Alma Rangel. Their remarkable commitment to the Greater New York Chapter of the Link's mission is evident in all they do.

Thank you to the Greater New York Chapter of The Links for organizing this celebration of community and service. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Scott M. Stringer
New York City Comptroller

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Please support all the work of the Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Incorporated with a 100% tax-deductible donation to the Links Foundation by texting

Links70

to

243725

on your cell phone

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Community Impact Award



CHRISTINA LEWIS HALPERN

Christina Lewis is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of All Star Code, a leading organization creating economic opportunity by developing boys and young men of color with entrepreneurial mind-sets and the tools they need to succeed in the technological world. Since she founded All Star Code in 2013, it has taught coding to over 400 students with offices in New York City and Pittsburgh — with 85 percent intending to major in computer science-related subjects.

Founded in 2013, All Star Code partners with industry-leading companies, including Google, Goldman Sachs and AT&T, to host “Summer Intensive” educational programs in New York City and Pittsburgh, PA. The program’s progressive curriculum is built on the principles of “daring greatly,” “celebrating failure,” and “telling your story.” Graduates gain access to an enriching network and years of follow-up.

Christina has shared her unique perspective on creating economic opportunity through tech as a keynote speaker and panelist at influential events hosted by The Wall Street Journal, The Atlantic, J.P. Morgan, Ivy League universities, and West Point, among others. Several top-tier news outlets, including ABC, Fortune, Fast Company and Business Insider, have profiled the success and growth of All Star Code. The Obama Administration (“Champion of Change for STEM Access”), Jet Magazine (“top 40 under 40”), The Root (“17 women in STEM you should know”) and NowThis Money have honoured Christina as a leading social entrepreneur in their “living legends” series.

Christina’s 2012 memoir, *Lonely at the Top*, reflects on the journey and impact of her father, Reginald F. Lewis, who was a Wall Street pioneer and the first Black man to own a billion-dollar U.S. company. His success story is the inspiration for All Star Code.

Prior to founding All Star Code, Christina was an award-winning journalist, including five years as a staff writer for *The Wall Street Journal*. Her writing has been published in *The New York Times Magazine* and other publications.

Christina is a member of the Board of The Reginald F. Lewis Foundation and Chair of the Class of 2002 Associates Committee for Harvard College, her alma mater. She is also on Hunter College’s Computer Science Advisory Board and is an angel investor and advisor to other entrepreneurs.

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MISSION

All Star Code creates economic opportunity by developing a new generation of boys and young men of color with an entrepreneurial mind-set who have the tools they need to succeed in a technological world.

VISION

All Star Code envisions a country where all young men of color have access to the tools of success, and where the ability to thrive is available to all who are willing to dare greatly.

Community Icon Award



ALMA E. RANGEL

Family, friends and associates describe Alma Rangel as passionate, socially conscious and driven. A woman of great vision, she has tested the limits of possibility in her work as a social worker, activist, wife, and mother.

Alma Rangel has spent the better portion of her adult life helping others. Her strong commitment to her family and community has been an inspiration to many over the years. When Alma began her career, there were few women in rewarding positions for her to emulate. Therefore, she capitalized on her training and drive to trail-blaze her own path. This would ultimately make her a role model for other young women as they pursued their own career

goals. Her immediate desire was to promote the vision and values of Harlem and New York City to a broader constituency that views Harlem as the center of African-American culture.

Upon graduating from college, she began searching for opportunities and ultimately chose New York, starting with the Department of Social Services. Having been awarded a scholarship to Hunter College School of Social Work, it provided her with the introduction of what would be her life's work. Mrs. Rangel spent the next several years working for the Department of Aging as Deputy Director of the Harlem Branch office.

As a young professional, Mrs. Rangel served as a social worker with the Department for the Aging. She was also a member of New York Mayor John Lindsay's Administration and a member of Governor Nelson Rockefeller's White House Commission on Aging. While living in Washington, D.C., she was a producer of a cable television program entitled "Ask Congress," which aimed at increasing public awareness of legislative and public policy in Congress. She also served as Public Relations Director for former Congressman James Scheuer.

While in Washington, D.C., Mrs. Rangel found herself involved not only in the local community, but in the international diplomatic corps, assisting with protocol and the assimilation of new spouses and foreign diplomatic wives. During her over two decades in Washington, she was a Founder and Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses, a social fundraising arm of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF), which awards grants to college students around the country. She was also a founder of the CBCF Internship program which offers undergraduate juniors and seniors as well as recent graduate students the opportunity to learn about the legislative process, leadership and careers in the policy-making process. Students work with congressional members and committees, attend leadership development seminars, complete community service projects and produce policy papers.

In her ongoing endeavor to help the City of New York and the Harlem Community, Mrs. Rangel became a member of the Board of Directors of the Y.M.C.A. of the City of New York; Columbia University School of Nursing Board of Visitors; President and CEO of the Ralph J. Rangel Foundation, which provides scholarships to students; the Apollo Theatre of the Performing Arts as well as a member of the Board of Directors of the Parkinson's Disease Foundation.

During her time as a social worker and trips abroad to visit imprisoned Americans, rural villages, soup kitchens, and Peace Corps projects on many continents, she developed an interest in speaking with women's organizations on issues that affect women in developing countries. Specifically, Mrs. Rangel became interested in the role of Cuban economy as it relates to women and the human rights of women in Cuba after her visit to Cuba in 2002.

In addition to Mrs. Rangel's domestic and international experiences, she has a special interest in issues related to the care and well-being of senior citizens. Serving on the Board of the New York Foundation for Senior Citizens (NYFSC), her hard work resulted in the construction of the Alma Rangel Gardens, which is an 89-unit apartment building that provides housing and support services for low and middle-income seniors located in Harlem, New York.

Mistress of Ceremonies Michelle Miller Morial



Michelle Miller is the co-host of “CBS This Morning: Saturday.” Miller joined the broadcast in July of 2018. Her work regularly appears on the “CBS Evening News,” “CBS This Morning” and “CBS Sunday Morning.” She has also appeared as a correspondent on “48 Hours.” Miller joined CBS News in 2004.

In addition to her co-hosting and reporting duties, Miller is a member of the Board of Advisors at Hampton University’s Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications. Michelle is a proud member of the Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Inc. She is

also a founding member of the Women’s Leadership Initiative for the United Way of New Orleans and has served on the March of Dimes National Communications Advisory Council. Previously, Miller served as vice president of the YWCA of Greater New Orleans and president of both the Black Journalists Association of Southern California and the New Orleans Association of Black Journalists.

**COLGATE BRIGHT SMILES, BRIGHT FUTURES
CONGRATULATES
THE GREATER NEW YORK CHAPTER OF
THE LINKS, INCORPORATED
ON THEIR 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!**

**We look forward to our continued
partnership because every child deserves
a future they can smile about.**



**To learn more about our program,
visit www.colgatebsbf.com**

CONGRATULATIONS
Greater New York Links
on your 70th Anniversary

facebook

The Links Inc. member's level of generosity is rivaled by few. It is what has sustained our organization through its most exciting and challenging times alike. In addition to giving our time, talents and treasures to support the local communities we serve, Links members have made personal contributions in honor of our 70th Anniversary to support this event and our programming at the following levels:

1949 Club

Donna Jones, Ed. D.
President, Greater New York Chapter

Elaine M. Flake
Greater New York Chapter

Nailah Flake-Brown
Greater New York Chapter

Audrey Gaul
Alumnae Member – Eastern Area

DeNora Getachew
Greater New York Chapter

Deborah “Debbie” Jackson
Greater New York Chapter

Tiffany Johnson
Greater New York Chapter

Dr. Marcella Maxwell
Platinum Member, Greater New York Chapter

Katrina McGhee
Greater New York Chapter

Betty Obiajulu
Platinum Member, Greater New York Chapter

Dr. Nanette Thomas
Greater New York Chapter

70th Anniversary Club

Gina Bolden-Rivera
Greater New York Chapter

Icema Gibbs
Greater New York Chapter

Jillian E. Joseph, Esq.
Greater New York Chapter

Diamonds & Pearls Club

Patricia Francis
Greater New York Chapter

Racquel Oden
Greater New York Chapter

Rhonda Joy McLean Esq.
Greater New York Chapter

Menu

Salad

Lola Rosa Lettuce with
Roasted Delicata Squash
Baby Candy Beets
Spiced Pecans
Tart Cherries,
and Blood Orange Emulsion

Dinner

Pan Seared Branzino
Sweet Potato and Turnip Hash, Onion Confit,
Caper and Parsley Gremolata

Dessert

Molten Chocolate Cake
Vanilla Ice Cream
and Seasonal Berries

Beverages

LinkTini
Douglas Hill Chardonnay
Douglass Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

Program

President's Welcome

President Donna Jones, Ed.D, Greater New York Chapter of The Links, Incorporated

Vice Area Director Greeting

Shuanna Tucker-Sims, Ph.D. The Links, Incorporated

National President Greeting

Kimberly Jeffries Leonard, Ph.D. The Links, Incorporated

Invocation

The Rev. Dr. Elaine M. Flake
National Chaplain, The Links, Incorporated

Mistress of Ceremonies

Michelle Miller Morial
Co-Host, CBS This Morning Saturday
National Correspondent, CBS News

Dinner Service

Awards Presentations

Special Performance

Ms. Angie Stone

Dessert and Dancing
DJ Kaos

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Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service
Greater New York (NY) Chapter

Celebrates



The Links, Incorporated is an organization of accomplished, dedicated women who are active in your community. The Links members are newsmakers, role models, mentors, activists and volunteers who work toward the realization of making the name "Links" not only a chain of friendship, but also a chain of purposeful service.

Read more on our Facets and for additional information on our dynamic programs please reference our website at <https://www.greaternewyorklinksinc.org>



*Linked in Friendship
Connected in Service*





Health and Human Services

Marcella Maxwell, Ph.D., Michelle D. Stent, Esq. Co-Chairs
Deborah Whitfield, MBA, Gail Monroe Perry, Vivian Fox, Mintia Spain, MD, Ruth
"Cookie" Jean, R.Ph., P.D., Rhonda McLean, Esq., Michelle Laisure
Community Partnership Elder Educational Seminar Series

In 2010, the Health & Human Services Facet (HHS) formed the Senior Community Partnership in response to the identified needs, issues and problems of the senior service community of West, East and Central Harlem. The Partnership provided educational seminars to inform and empower seniors to recognize and cope with the complexities, causes and symptoms related to elder abuse. As of June, 2018 our forums have grown to include legal assistance, healthcare, wellness, hearing, eye care, mental health, medications, caregiving, Medicare updates, home safety and lifestyle changes. Participation in our educational series has developed through our numerous Community Partners including AARP NY, Abyssinian Baptist Church, Health and Golden Life Ministries, Caringkind, Esplanade Gardens, Health Advocates for Older People, Brookdale Center for Aging & Healthy Living at Hunter College/CUNY, Carter Burden Network, Harlem Advocates for Seniors, the New York Foundation for Senior Citizens and Touro College of Pharmacy. The HHS program is ongoing in support of our mission to provide geriatric education and information on how to age gracefully through engaging in intellectual stimulation, networking and learning how to meet the challenges of aging.

The primary objective of the GNY Links Community Partnership Educational Elder Seminars is to target community-based elder African American, Caribbean, Latino, Asian women and men whose health and well-being might be compromised by healthcare needs, housing, domestic violence, legal issues and other lifestyle changes as they find themselves aging with diminishing support and access to services.

To date, HHS has sponsored over fifty seminars and workshops utilizing donated community-based facilities including colleges/universities, medical institutions, housing community rooms, senior centers and partner organizations. The HHS Elder Educational Series has reached over 5,000 senior participants for program forums and workshops through our Community Partners, chapter members and marketing/media efforts. HHS has utilized community experts in healthcare, geriatrics, communication, hearing, eyesight, physical fitness, medical insurance, senior wellness, lifestyle, elder law and housing.

As the program has progressed, seniors expressed the need for information on health, hearing specialists, lifestyle, geriatric specialists, housing, medications, medical coverage, usable technology, financial planning, home safety, lifestyle and wellness. Due to the range of topics and issues discussed, additional advocates have asked to join, and we now consider our partnership a major coalition of concerned and active residents, groups, organizations, agencies and ministries. The outcome of this effort will be an informed and educated senior population; hopefully empowered to mobilize the needed supports and resources for living in the greater Harlem community and Chinatown.





Services to Youth & Scholarship

The Services to Youth (“STY”) facet of the Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, is the lead facet for the creation of a NSBE Jr. Chapter which incorporates our STEM and STEAM based Umbrella Programming. In addition to this programming, the Chapter continues to provide academic support and cultural enrichment to at-risk high school students at Independence High School (IHS).

The STY facet is working with a new community partner CAMBA, a workforce development organization, to provide IHS students with a pathway to success for an often overlooked population. IHS is a public transfer high school designed to help students who may have reached the age to graduate, but who have insufficient academic credits. The immediate goal of transfer high schools is to enable students to graduate as opposed to receive a GED. Graduation from high school is a huge win for this student population. Many of the students are interested in continuing their education and either plan to attend community college as a first step or enter the workforce right after graduation.

Our work reinforces and supports the existing academic enrichment provided to IHS students during the academic day. Chapter members and outside experts organized and facilitated impactful workshops with respect to writing skills, business etiquette, and financial literacy. Several Links shared their stories with the students during Black History and Women’s History month. The facet has also provided a range of enrichment opportunities, such as a fitness and healthy eating class, Brazilian dance, and an Alvin Ailey performance.

The Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated has a long and rich legacy of giving scholarships to students. For the last four years, we have partnered with the New York Urban League in selecting and awarding Links Scholarships. It has been a fruitful and productive collaboration. The Chapter has also generously supported the Eastern Area HBCU Scholarship Initiative for the past two years.

Our aim is to provide money to start the students on their journeys and help nurture their success. While our financial scholarships are for only one or two years, our support and connections, would remain with them throughout their journey. The Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated continues to make a positive difference in these students’ lives.

Services to Youth Facet

- Barbara North-Lightning - Co-Chair
- Arva R. Rice - Co-Chair
- Kalyn Johnson Chandler
- Anita Diane Farrington
- DeNora M. Getachew
- Icema D. Gibbs
- Lynn K. Law
- Katrina McGhee
- Janis Robinson
- Tennille Robinson





International Trends And Services

Problem or Situation Addressed: The 2010 catastrophic earthquake devastated the nation of Haiti. Millions of Haitian citizens were affected by the major structural damage in Port-au-Prince and other settlements in the region. Despite international humanitarian aid, six years later, the people of Haiti are still suffering. This suffering was even further exacerbated in 2016 by Hurricane Matthew. The International Trends and Services Facet of the Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, in partnership with the Greater Allen A.M.E. Cathedral of New York, Master's Touch Ministries and Dr. Eugene Maklin have developed a dynamic service program that targets the need for clean water, as well as the empowerment of women who are survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

On May 10, 2016, six members of the Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, ITS Facet journeyed to Haiti for the dedication of four water wells in Croix des Missions. In November 2016, in the wake of Hurricane Matthew, three additional wells were constructed. Strategically located in different sectors of Croix des Missions, these wells provide clean water to an area serving 20,000 people that includes a school, a church, a marketplace and four neighborhoods. Without these wells, water-borne diseases would continue to increase morbidity and mortality. The wells are managed by local community leaders.



In addition to the well dedications in May 2016, the Greater New York Link members who made the journey to Haiti had the opportunity to welcome the second cohort of women to join the Links to Helping and Healing in Haiti program. More than 40 women have started a three-year curriculum that is designed to provide support, healing, educational training and entrepreneurial opportunities. Through individual and group counseling sessions, as well as expressive arts therapy, the participants are taught various topics, such as self-defense, nutrition, English as a second language and enhancement of self-esteem. Empowerment packs that include toiletries, undergarments, flashlights, multi-vitamins, solar lights, MP3 players loaded with comforting music and feminine products are given periodically. The newly inducted group of women, 2016 to 2019, came from Croix des Missions.

List activities/outputs implemented:

- Seven water wells constructed to serve an entire community
- Empowerment Packs and hurricane relief aid delivered to 40 women and families
- Individual and group counseling sessions;
- Self- defense classes;
- Expressive arts therapy;
- Job, Nutrition training and Entrepreneurial classes
- Economic Empowerment classes





The Arts Facet of the Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated continues to embrace our Chapter’s integrated programming around the theme: “STEAM-ulate Intergenerational Technology.” In this manner, we have developed a three-tier, multi-year arts program covering music, visual art and dance for the elementary school students of Public School 197, the John B. Russwurm School in Harlem. Since there are no full-time certified arts teachers in music, visual art, dance and theater at P.S. 197, the programming that our facet provides made a critical difference for the students.

Our program followed a cohort of approximately 50 students that were in the third grade during the 2015-2016 programming year, through the fifth grade. Having completed its third year in 2018, the program exposed students to classical musical performances and instruction by graduate school students from the Mannes School of Music; classical music appreciation and education using the Sphinx curriculum; dance instruction through the American Ballet Theatre - Make a Ballet on Tour; Visual art appreciation and hands-on instruction by teachers at the Museum of Art and Design and a private instructor.



Moving forward, the GNY Links Facet is collaborating with our Links Sisters across the Chapter to develop and support the STEAM umbrella platform by aligning with organizations such as the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and a host of choreographers, costume designers and more. We are also working with the National Museum of Mathematics, recently hosting a day-long outing for our cohort during which they learned about the principles of mathematics and the role that mathematics plays across multiple disciplines.

Lastly, our Facet continues to advance our mission of supporting women in need. As a long-term collaborator with the Urban Women’s Retreat, GNY Links devote dedicated hours to volunteer with this groundbreaking organization and the Arts Facet continues the tradition of organizing and presenting an annual Christmas Party for women and children at a domestic violence shelter. We have helped hundreds of women and children and provided holiday cheer and kindness.





National Trends And Services

The VISION of the National Trends and Services facet is to eliminate disparities by reducing barriers to services through advocacy, education, and service. Our MISSION is to empower our members to effectively empower the communities in which we work. Our GOALS include increasing the number of sustainable and measurable programs; increasing collaborative partnerships; and extending our existing initiatives to include communities identified as having the greatest need. Over the past four years, the National Trends Facet has been focused on:

Education

In partnership with International Trends and Services and Services to Youth Facets, provided STEM education to over 900 young girls of color through STEMulate NYC - the precursor program to our STEMulate NSBE Jr. Program and through the screening of the acclaimed movie 'Hidden Figures and exposure to women of color in aeronautics and aviation.

Community Engagement

In partnership with the Arts Facet, continued support of the Urban Women's Retreat Residence facility operated by Urban Resource Institute (URI) an organization providing life-saving, empowering social services for New Yorkers who are suffering and recovering from domestic violence.

Advocacy

National Trends and Services partners with Her Justice each year to stand with women living in poverty in New York City by providing free legal help to address individual and systemic legal barriers through its Story by Story Stair Climb.

Over the past four years, the NTS has developed and expanded programs to further our mission to increase awareness about intimate partner abuse, as well as enhance the economic stability of our target community.

We are so very proud to be the Greater New York Chapter of the Links!

National Trends and Services Facet:

- Jillian E. Joseph, Esq. – Chair
- Alexis Thomas, Co- Chair
- Nailah Flake – Brown
- Iceema Gibbs
- Rosemonde Pierre-Louis
- Hasoni Pratts
- Margarette Purvis





Greater New York STEMulate – NSBE Jr. Program

The Greater New York Chapter of the Links, Inc. launched a STEMulate NSBE Jr. Chapter to increase the number of African-American females pursuing STEM education and careers. This endeavor aligns with the partnership between the National Links organization and the National Society of Black Engineers, to increase the number of African-Americans graduating with engineering degrees to 10,000 by 2025. This past year we targeted 9th and 10th grade African-American females to participate in our inaugural cohort.



Objectives | Highlights | Benefits

- We will deliver transformational sustainable STEM and STEAM-based programming with the support of all five Facets through an Umbrella Model. There was a unanimous decision among the entire Links Chapter membership (for the first time in over 20 years) to collaborate on program delivery and host a minimum of two programs per Facet through the lens of their Facet goals and mission. Our goal is to have community impact on this student cohort and their families and it aligns with the lower income communities that are served by our five Chapter Facets
- We will leverage STEM-based partnerships to deliver content and provide financial and in-kind support for workshops and programs. These partners will also provide students with STEM role models alongside of Link members. Partners this past year included Digital Girl, Inc., National Grid, Con Edison, the American Association of Blacks in Energy and the NYU School of Engineering.
- Short term learning outcomes during the inaugural phase have been to increase STEM and STEAM awareness through content focusing on energy and the role that it plays in smart cities; these career paths in energy and technology are typically not on the radar of high school students. It builds on their familiarity/comfort with technology (such as their mobile phone devices) makes learning fun while building confidence in their abilities.
- All programs are free and have included cultural excursions to the Museum of Mathematics, a dance outing to Alvin Ailey coupled with workshop on the intersection of dance and physics, a coding workshop teaching website design while inspiring them to innovate smart home technology ideas for seniors, a hands on robotics workshop after hearing from two Black female engineers doing pioneering work in the field, and an energy hackathon inspiring them to hack for the good of sustaining our environment and humanity!



The Women's Issue Committee

The Greater New York Chapter Links' collaborations have allowed us to reach heights of excellence and perform the extraordinary. 70 Years of great achievements nurtured, with the cooperation of many minds, with a common vision, working toward common goals. Coming together was the beginning...keeping together has been progress...working together is success.

We are so very proud to be Sisters in the GNY Chapter of the Links

- Gail Monroe-Perry – Chair
- Marcella Maxwell – Co Chair
- DeNora Getachew
- Debbie Jackson
- Ruth "Cookie" Jean
- Jillian E. Joseph
- Michelle Miller
- Rosemonde Pierre-Louis
- Hasoni Pratts
- Margarette Purvis
- Janis Robinson
- Helen C. Shelton
- Michelle D. Stent
- Alexis Thomas



ANGIE STONE



Angie Stone (born Angela Laverne Brown) is an American Grammy-nominated recording artist, songwriter, producer and actress. She rose to fame in the late 1970s as “Angie B”, a member of the hip-hop trio “The Sequence”, and then later began working with futuristic rap group “Mantronix” along with

singer-musician Lenny Kravitz. In the early 1990s, she became a member of the R&B trio “Vertical Hold”.

In 1999, Stone released her solo debut album *Black Diamond* on Arista Records label; which was certified gold and spawned the R&B single “No More Rain (In This Cloud)”. After transitioning to the renowned “J Records” under the leadership of record mogul Clive Davis, she released another gold selling album in 2001 titled *Mahogany Soul*; which included “Wish I Didn’t Miss You”; Stone’s most successful single to date. She is most celebrated for her tribute song to black men “Brothas”.

A special thank you to music sensation,
Angie Stone for making our evening
extra special

A MUSIC ICON

She has since released five albums: *Stone Love* (2004), *The Art of Love & War* (2007), *Unexpected* (2010), *Rich Girl* (2012), and *Dream* (2015) with the late Tommy Ford. Stone has appeared on television shows such as VH1’s *Celebrity Fit Club*, and TV-One’s *R&B Divas*. She’s starred in movies such as *The Fighting Temptations*, *Pastor Brown* and *School Gyrls*, and she will be featured in the upcoming seasons of Centric’s Original series *Saints and Sinners*. She has dominated the R&B charts, with four top 10 albums, including a number one, and 10 singles, including a top 10. She has sold over 9.4 million albums in the U.S. and over ten million worldwide.

Currently, under her production company “A CornerStone Productions”, Stone is transitioning to working behind the cameras as Executive Producer of a TV Talk Show “It’s On Peachtree with Angela Carr-Patterson”, a reality series “Diamonds in the Rough”, and her Black Live Matter tribute video – “Brotha Remake” on YouTube. She founded and manages a young hip-hop group 565 NATION (formerly known as D’Squared Live) along with former Sequence group member Gwen “Blondy” Chisolm, as well as her charity organization “A Stone Heart of Love Foundation”.

Angie Stone has been nominated for three Grammy Awards and in 2016 received six Grammy nods for her recent album “Dream”. She has been most successful on the R&B charts, with four top 10 albums, including a number one, and 10 singles, including a top 10. She has sold over 9.4 million albums in the U.S. and over ten million worldwide.



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Image courtesy of NASA

Congratulations to the New York Chapter of The Links for providing 70 years of community leadership and service. We wish you many years of future success!

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Danyf Z. Laizure—President and CEO

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"Echoes of Africa" – October 1969 – At the American Museum of Natural History Black-tie event reported in the New York Times and Women's Wear Daily.

Career Conferences - All-day programs for high school students
Round Table conferences – Sunday afternoons at Carnegie House

International efforts

Greater New York Chapter began a long history with the United Nations, spearheaded by chapter president Audrey Thorne in 1964.



International Year of Women - Women's City Club - October 1976





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ON 70 YEARS OF
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C. Virginia Fields
President & CEO



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Greater New York (NY) Chapter

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