

Congratulations
to our
2014 Honorees



Rose Award
(Recognition of Service Excellence)

Lucy Anderson

Julia Askew

Angela Bradford

Georgetta Carvin

Wilma Evans

Sandra Harrison

Sandra Massie Hines

Ofria Nell Hunter

Gaila Mitchell

Donna Robinson

Lucy Anderson

Lucy Hicks Anderson, JD, PRP is a native of Winnsboro, Louisiana. Currently, she resides in the Clear Lake City area of Houston with her husband of 42 years, Tophas Anderson, Sr. They are the parents of two grown children, Atty. Tophas Anderson, IV and Atty. Edra A. Bush. She is a graduate of Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA (B.S. degree); Brown University in Providence (M.S. degree); University of Rhode Island in Kingston (M.B.A. degree); and Thurgood Marshall School of Law in Houston (J.D. degree).

Before becoming an attorney, Mrs. Anderson worked as a chemist for the Gillette Company, ICI Americas and for Phillips Chemical Company which later became Chevron Phillips. She began her career in planning and budgeting and retired in the Specialty Chemicals Division as a territory sales manager.

In 2012, Mrs. Anderson became an attorney and a Professional Registered Parliamentarian (PRP), the highest level of accreditation awarded by the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP). She has served in various positions on the local, state and national levels of NAP. She served as President of the Texas State Association of Parliamentarians (TSAP) from 2010-2011 and was named 2014 Texas Parliamentarian of the Year. She is a board member on the American Institute of Parliamentarians and chairs the National Bylaws Committee. She is National Vice President of the American Institute of Parliamentarians Educational Foundation. As a professional parliamentarian she trains board members, conducts workshops, serves as a bylaws consultant, and presiding officer for organizations who employ her services.

In her law practice, Anderson Bush Firm, PLLC, Atty. Anderson focuses on preparing wills and trusts for her clients and represents them in probate court. Additionally, her firm handles matters in real estate, new business formations, trademark registrations, and nonprofit governance.

Atty. Anderson is Chairman of the Board of Wheeler Avenue Inner City Visions (ICV), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to generate financial resources to support the outreach and social service programs affiliated with Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church including providing services for the homeless and at-risk populations in the Third Ward of Houston, Texas. She is a member of The Links Incorporated, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Jack and Jill of America, Inc., the Houston Bar Association, and the American Bar Association.



Julia Askew

Julia Mills Askew is a native Houstonian from the Acres Homes community, the second oldest of six children. She attended public school, graduating from Carver Senior High School.

A two time graduate of Texas Southern University, Julia holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Health & Physical Education and a Master of Science degree in Physical Education. She has additional certifications in physical education, biology and mid-management. She has been an educator for more than 32 years - 14 years in administration and more than 18 years as a coach. Currently, she is the principal of a charter school in Spring, Texas.

Julia is actively involved in community service through Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority. She is a dedicated member and actively participates in the food drives, awareness walks, scholarship fundraisers, etc.

Julia has served as the Texas Southern University National Alumni Association President (TSUNAA) since 2012. During her tenure as president, she has implemented many initiatives including specific leadership training for national officers, a \$100,000 Alumni Challenge, and a targeted focus on membership. She lead the efforts for TSUNAA to be the first to donate to the Michael Strahan – Road to Canton campaign.

During Julia's tenure, alumni involvement has increased due to the enhanced relationship between the University's Office of Alumni Relations and TSUNAA. She has travelled to each TSUNAA chapter to meet with alumni leadership. She also reestablished TSUNAA's national alumni convention. Julia feels the alumni association of a university is very critical to the success, prominence and sustainability of the University, therefore, alumni should assist in the promotion of the goals and purpose of the University to encourage a continuing and increasing interest in the University among graduates, former students and friends and to foster acquaintance and good fellowship through information, being visible, education and service. She believes it is the alumni association's responsibility to increase alumni awareness of the academic mission of the University and support its fundraising, admissions and alumni career networking efforts. She feels alumni should participate from volunteer programs to event attendance to student mentoring, and to giving back financially. She is a firm believer in the saying there is strength in numbers and a community is only as strong as the people who support it.



Andrea Bradford

Andrea Annice Bradford is a native Houstonian. She is the proud wife of her high school sweetheart, Rev. Melvin Bradford, Pastor of Calvary Hill Christian Center. They have two children, Melvin and Adrienne and two granddaughters, Halo and Harper.

At the age of 40, Andrea decided to reenter college. She graduated from Houston Community College with highest honors. She also graduated from the Radiology Program with honors. She has now been employed with Houston Methodist Hospital for 15 years.

Andrea began her community service with the boys and girls of Sunnyside and Crestmont Park. When her husband started a football league, she started a cheerleading squad. They wanted to provide some inspiration for the youth of the area. Both, the football teams and the cheerleading squads won many championships. However, Andrea feels that her highest accomplishment came from the growth of the kids and gratitude of the parents which resulted in an award from University of Texas.

Currently, Andrea is Vice President of the Mission Department at Calvary Hill Christian Center where she leads mission visits to Omega House Hospice for AIDS patients. She serves her community by feeding the homeless population at the Star of Hope Men's Shelters and Transitional Center. She assists in distributing the food from food trucks to hundreds of needy Houstonians. She is actively involved with the Black Heritage Society and helps to stage the Annual MLK parade. She is passionate about serving her community.

Andrea says that her future goal is to continue the mission work that the Lord has put before her; to be an humble servant; to be a shining example through her works; to make people's lives more joyful and to help them have a better quality of life.

Andrea's encouraging words, "I can do all things through God which strengthens me". She said that she thanks her family members and church family for their unending support and encouragement.



Georgetta Carvin

Georgetta Carvin is a native Houstonian who was raised in Trinity Garden by her mother. She has one sibling, a brother and one niece. Georgetta attended public schools, graduating from Barbara Jordan High School for Careers. She went on to attend Sam Houston State University, but returned to Houston graduating from Texas Southern University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting.

Georgetta has worked in the financial industry for over 13 years and is currently employed with one of Houston's largest credit unions (JSC FCU). Another of her passions is serving "disadvantaged", low-income families in her community by educating families on saving, borrowing, credit, and budgeting. She conducts seminars/workshops on Financial Planning.

"Ms. Gee" as she is affectionately known is truly a woman with a heart of compassion, specifically for women who are making strives to rebuild their lives after imprisonment. Her heart is also aimed at the health, safety, and education of our children and youth. She has served on the Board of Settegast Community Development Corporation and volunteered at Star of Hope, Dress for Success, Bridge Over Troubled Waters, Inc, Devine Creations, Inc, and PhillipCares Foundation.

In 2005, Georgetta founded Broken Chains Outreach Ministries to assist women transitioning from the prison system in reconnecting back to their families and communities. This ministry also established the IMPACT Scholarship Foundation in 2009 and has provided scholarships to 19 students.

Georgetta is currently pursuing a Masters of Arts in Christian Education with a concentration in Women's Ministry from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. She is working on her first women's bible study which she publish in 2015. You can find her inspiring blogs at **Church Girl**, www.wordpress.com.

Georgetta worships at Northeast Houston Baptist Church located in Humble, Texas under the leadership of Nathan Lino.

Encouraging Words and Thoughts: *"The joy of being a blessing to others and witness a person evolve into greatness is what makes life worth living."*



Wilma Evans

Wilma Evans moved to Houston from San Antonio, Texas and began her career with Arthur Andersen & Co. and Langham Petroleum Corporation. She retired from North Forest ISD after a twenty-two year career in 2004. In 2009, she cofounded and presently serves as the Managing Partner of DeMand Staffing and Consulting, LLC.

Wilma's vision of a better world is reflected in her life works and leadership positions in the Houston community. She is unrelenting in her commitment to the creating and expanding avenues of success of inner-city youth. As the immediate past president of North Houston Frontiers Club, Inc., she leads a team of volunteers committed to continuing the work and celebrating the life and journey of Martin Luther King, Jr. Over the past twenty-six years, North Houston Frontiers Club has raised over a million dollars for scholarships supporting three hundred & sixty deserving minority children in the Greater Houston area. She also supports helping women & children shelters by giving toiletries each year at the national convention and clothing to the Veterans' Center.

In 2009 at the National Convention of Frontiers International in Elizabeth, New Jersey, Wilma Evans became the first female to be elected Vice Chair. Three years later in 2012, she was elected to become the first Chairwoman for Frontiers International, Inc.

Frontiers International, Inc. is a non-profit community service organization founded in Columbus, Ohio in 1936 by Nimrod B. Allen. As Chairwoman, Ms. Evans leads the National effort of the Frontiers Club, by necessity requiring a sacrifice of time and commitment to a rigorous travel and meeting schedule.

Special Recognition

- Top 30 Influential Women of Houston
- Board of Directors – Motivating and Empowering Women to Excel, Inc.
- Fill Internal Service Award
- District Director – Frontiers International, Inc.



Sandra Harrison

Sandra Randolph Harrison is a genuinely unique woman. Her sense of style is perhaps only matched by her sense of humor. Always giving of herself, Sandra is a constant source of compassion, guidance and support to those around her. She embodies grace and dignity, strength and courage. She has an infectious laugh and love of life. Being the lifetime wife of McKinley Harrison and the mother of Bryan Harrison has afforded Sandra with the luxury of having multiple careers: She has been a chef, a chauffeur, an interior decorator, a landscaper, a gardener, a personal shopper, a nurse, and a negotiator. But to the lives of others she has been an inspiration and her random acts of kindness are worth their weight in gold.

A graduate of Prairie View A&M University, Sandra is a retired Educator who served students in elementary, middle and high school both as a Science Teacher and Guidance Counselor. Students reminisced about her tenure stating that she encouraged them to use their brains, ask questions, and arrive at their own answers. "Mrs. Harrison loved to challenge us and, more than anything", students stated "...she loved us." After thirty years in the educational arena, when even the most dedicated teachers were looking forward to retirement, this amazing woman was not ready to stop sharing her talents. Maybe her decision can be attributed to the fact that she is the eldest girl of eight siblings and was responsible for caring for her three younger brothers. Or perhaps she is reminded of the scripture Matthew 7:12 (ESV) that states "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law of the Prophets." This scripture beautifully captures the benefits of her volunteering. Volunteers can choose to stay or walk away at any time without any real loss to themselves, yet she has been persistent in helping others.

Sandra enjoys volunteering her time at "the Gathering Place". Senior citizens meet there monthly and wait in anticipation to experience the meals that she has meticulously planned, cooked and served utilizing her extraordinary culinary skills. She has also organized and established memorial funds for families who have lost love ones, or are experiencing financial woes. Her random acts of kindness extend far beyond the Greater Houston Area. Friends know that if you cannot contact her by phone that simply means that she is off somewhere helping someone in a remote area. The giving of her time and energy comes from her personal desire to make a difference for others and also to encourage others to volunteer. We are grateful for her constant presence as a passionate ally, friend and listener



Sandra Massie Hines

Sandra Massie Hines is a graduate and notable alumni of Worthing High School. She is a Born-Again Christian, and a single mother who raised five children. A proud native Texan, she was born and raised in the Sunnyside community of southeast Houston to Christian parents: Willie "Curly Bill" Massie Jr. and wife, Hattie Mae "Doodie Girl" Massie.

Sandra Hines is the CEO of Jr. Achievers-Texas Youth Against Drugs and Crime. Her years of service have been committed, volunteer service without external funding. She works consistently throughout Houston and Harris County focusing her time, skills and talent to enhance the lives of those disenfranchised and forgotten. Ms. Hines is known throughout her community as a "Champion of Human Rights and Decency." She has created Community Drugs Programs, Crime Alcohol and Gang Prevention and Intervention Programs, Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Feed the Needy Food Outreach Programs serving the poor, homeless, elderly and women with children, Health Fairs, Job Fairs, Town Hall meetings focusing on HIV/ Aids, Peer Mediation and Violence Prevention Programs. Due to her persistence, dedication and commitment to community, she has been dubbed, Mayor of Sunnyside.

In 2006, Ms. Hines received recognition from President George W. Bush for her outstanding community service and received acknowledgement from Governor Rick Perry. She was honored by the State of Texas, State Representative Al Edwards and presented with a House Resolution named after her 81(R) 2613.

Sandra Hines was one of twenty Houston women chosen to meet with 100 women from various African countries, Nigeria, Togo, Uganda and others to share information concerning "similarities and differences" as they developed into womanhood. On Dec 16, 2008 Sandra Massie Hines, Pastor Lola and Elder Robert Stevenson collaborated with Larry Jones of Feed the Children to give away seven 18 wheelers filled with food, toys and fresh meat at Sunnyside Park to alleviate food shortages after Hurricane IKE.

"As I walk thru the valley of the shadows of death, I will fear no evil..." has been the mantra of this dynamic woman of Houston, Ms. Sandra Massie Hines, *Mayor of Sunnyside*.



Ofria Nell Hunter

Ofria Nell Wilson Hunter is a native of Rosenberg Texas born to the late Elder R. A Wilson, Sr. and Mrs. Laura Wilson. She is a product of the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District where she graduated from A.W. Jackson High School. Texas Southern University was her choice for college. She enrolled in the Education curriculum at Texas Southern University and earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education.

Realizing that the elementary level education lays the foundation upon which future learning builds, Ofria Hunter resumed her studies and obtained a Master of Arts Degree with a Minor in Child Psychology. Many of her students still communicate with her frequently. She devoted 35 years of her life to the teaching career before retiring. She first taught at Cornelius Elementary, then Berry Elementary in Houston ISD. Realizing that the elementary level education lays the foundation upon which future learning builds, she resumed her studies and obtained a Master of Arts Degree with a Minor in Child Psychology. Many of her students still communicate with her frequently.

Ofria Nell Hunter has numerous accomplishments in her life. She is a community and church leader, an organizer, and the Immediate Past President of our sister NWOA Chapter, Metro South East Houston. She has shown enthusiasm and passion in providing excellent and successful leadership. She enjoys mentoring the students and helping to develop their minds to become successful leaders in this diverse society. She is the founder and organizer of "The Widows Mite". Through this program, she has provided baskets of food to widows at Thanksgiving and Christmas for the past five years. Additionally, Ofria is a former member of Eta Phi Beta and has volunteered with Dress for Success, Houston Food Bank and Breast Cancer Awareness. She is a Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar, and Alternate Precinct Judge. A devoted member of the North Main Church of God In Christ (C.O.G.I.C), Pastor Willie J. Collins, Ofria serves on the Usher Board, Mission, and Women's affairs Committee. She is Chairperson of the Gift Committee.

Ofria Hunter is the mother of three adults, Andreia C. Houser, Cliffatine S. Houser, John R. Hunter III (Ginger), the grandmother of three adults Adrian, Heather F and Donnie L Houser, (Monica). Her favorite Bible Verse is "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13



Gaila Mitchell

Gaila Johnson Mitchell has taught for 30 years in the Music Education field. She graduated from Kashmere High School, and received her degree from University of Houston (Main Campus). Her assignments ranged from elementary school general music teacher positions to high school director of bands. Many who observed the transformation in her students and their music skills found her teaching techniques to be stellar. Throughout the years, students and the communities of seven schools reaped the benefits of her exceptional leadership and teaching skills: Jennie Reid/LaPorte Elementary (LaPorte ISD); Southmayd Elementary (Houston ISD); Burbank Middle School, Sam Houston High School, E.O.S. Education Academy, and Phillis Wheatley High School – all in Houston ISD. Gaila's bands were known to win the most envied band awards. She helped to pave the way for local female band directors to survive and thrive in a male dominated career area. She taught her students about God, how to pray, accept responsibility and demonstrate good sportsmanship along with teaching them to read music and play their instruments. Many of her students who were leaning toward juvenile delinquency, truancy, and other non-productive lifestyles gained self-confidence and became high scholastic performers, not to mention becoming leaders in their communities. From her high school days when she starred on Channel-13 with her sister, Daphne as the Summer Jazz Workshop performers, Gaila has been a media favorite. Her ability to attract the media helped her to acquire a lead role in the movie documentary, *Thundersoul* that depicts the life and legacy of Prof. her high school marching and stage band director.



Gaila continues to play the flute, and has performed with Kirk Whalum, Joe Carmouche, Daryl Coley, Donald Lawrence, the late Arnett Cobb, late Grover Washington, and the late David "Fathead" Newman, Bubbha Thomas, James Williams, Sylvester (Stank) LeBlanc, Sam Jackson, Howard Harris, Horace Young III, Frank Lacy, Michael Louis, Wendell Brooks and many more. She was a lead teacher at the Summer Band Camp (Texas Southern University), Music Theory Teacher (Summer Jazz Workshop). She frequently performs at community benefits for alumni associations and churches.

After 30 years of teaching, Gaila has decided to pursue her dreams of being a music consultant and business owner, which includes starting her own school. She is sole owner of Queenmusique Productions. Gaila is the mother of two children - Sarita Washington Croffie (Terrence) and Richard Washington, Jr. (Ricky) and 3 grandchildren (Emery, Terrence (T.J.), and Aliana.

Donna Robinson

Donna Robinson is a native Houstonian of Acres Homes. She graduated from Waltrip High School in 1980 and attended the University of Houston where she studied Human Services. Donna has been married to Rev. Henry L. Robinson Sr. for 30 years. She is the mother of Omega (daughter) Henry Jr. (son) Grandmother of Oryonna, Jordan and Sidney, the God-mother of Angel (LuLu) Smith Mills.

Donna's passion and career choice is working with the developmentally challenged. She started her career as a teacher in special education. For the past 19 years, she has been working with adults as Vocational Coordinator and Rights Protection Officer at Reach Learning Activity Center Day Habilitation Program for persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. She advocates inclusion in the community for the disabled. Her joy is inspiring and encouraging them to become productive embers of society. She recruits employers for the clients as she manages the Supported Employment, Center for Vocational Development, Scholars Targeting and Reaching Success and In-house Contract Programs.

Dedicated to serving her community, Donna is also a supporter of Texas Women Empowerment Foundation and Acres Homes Chamber of Commerce . She has served as Secretary of Opportunities Productive Employment Network, a network of employment professionals and social service agencies organized to leverage resources and promote meaningful employment opportunities for the disadvantaged. She is a 2010 Graduate (best class) of Leadership North Houston, a multi-community based organization committed to educating and enhancing the involvement of existing and emerging leaders.

An extremely proud member of The Faith Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Jesse L. Bess, Pastor, Donna serves as Sunday School Teacher, Auxiliary Decorator, Pastor and Wife Anniversary Chairperson and Newsletter/Bulletin Coordinator. Her leisure pursuits include: decorating, reading, singing, and shopping.

Donna's most notable and memorable thought is "Only what you do for **Christ** will last, only what you do for **Him** will be counted in the end".

