

3RD ANNUAL
**CSULB BLACK ALUMNI
SCHOLARSHIP GALA**



ONE VILLAGE
One Purpose

APRIL 22, 2023

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH

Event Program

Doors Open 4 p.m.

5:00 p.m. | Welcome
Mayor Rex Richardson

5:30 p.m. | Dinner

6:15 p.m. | Keynote
Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.
Secretary of State

6:30 p.m. | Awards
Darick Simpson
Pastor Wayne Chaney, Jr.
Kagba Suaray
Doris Robinson

7:15 p.m. | Live Auction

7:30 p.m. | Live Band

8:30 p.m. | Auction Close

9:30 p.m. | Doors Close



BLACK ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP GALA

Our Honorees



DARICK SIMPSON
President of the Earl B. and
Loraine H. Miller Foundation



PASTOR WAYNE CHANEY JR.
Pastor of the Antioch Church
of Long Beach



DORIS ROBINSON
Executive Director
CSULB-LBUSD Math Collaborative



KAGBA SUARAY
Professor CSULB Department of
Mathematics & Statistics



BLACK ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP GALA

MEET OUR HONOREES

DARICK J. SIMPSON

Community Partner of the Year

Darick J. Simpson is President of the Earl B. and Loraine H. Miller Foundation. Within his initial years of leadership, The Miller Foundation has continued to enhance its role as a Funder and innovative Community Collaborator with Foundations, Nonprofits and Businesses. Before joining the Miller Foundation in 2019 Mr. Simpson served 13 years as Executive Director of the Long Beach Community Action Partnership (LBCAP) and, three years as the Region IX Representative on the National Community Action Partnership Board. With his leadership LBCAP grew from 24 staff and a \$1.3 million budget to a high point of 120 staff and \$17 million. During this tenure he also provided leadership in serving thousands of families in poverty and creating the Public Access Digital Network (PADNET.tv) which serves the Long Beach Community. Throughout his career Mr. Simpson has established an excellent reputation as a community leader with diverse experiences that include business development, community development, youth programs and entertainment. In addition to myriad corporate and community accomplishments nationally, Mr. Simpson is a published Author with three books, a podcast and serves as a national CLIFTONSTRENGTHS Facilitator. He also served as a member of the Recording Academy and was a voting member of the Grammy Awards from 2008 - 2014. He has been nationally recognized as a PBS SoCAL American Graduate Champion, CCEJ Humanitarian Award Recipient, the 2020 California State University Long Beach, Leader in Residence and he was a 2022 Ronald McDonald House Few Good Men award recipient. Mr. Simpson is most proud to be a Father of Twins, Grandfather of five and Alumni of the University of Alabama.

PoeticD.com

PASTOR WAYNE CHANEY JR.

Community Partner of the Year

Pastor Wayne Chaney, Jr., affectionately known as Pastor Wayne, is the prototypical contemporary spiritual leader. His relevant teaching style and ability to cultivate spirited worship environments, aids in unifying people from diverse, cultural, ethnic, and generational backgrounds. Born into a three generation long spiritual lineage, he continues the legacy left by his grandfather, Joe Chaney, Jr., through his work as pastor of Antioch Church of Long Beach. However, Pastor Wayne's ministry extends beyond the congregation. His determination to influence societal culture, with the culture of Christ's kingdom, is evident in his work both inside and outside of the local church context.

Pastor Wayne Chaney Jr. has been the recipient of various awards and commendations. He has received congressional, senatorial, and presidential recognitions, and is noted in various publications. Pastor Wayne was featured on the cover of Church Executive Magazine, and for two consecutive years, the Long Beach Post named him one of its "Ten Most Powerful People." Pastor Wayne has received the City's Martin Luther King Jr. Peacemaker Award, and continues to steward a decades long legacy of civic engagement.

He has served on the Executive Board of Global Tribe International, whose mission is to rescue those in physical and spiritual poverty, reach communities with the gospel, and recruit and empower young leaders. He is also the past president of the Long Beach Ministers Alliance, and continues to serve as a mentor and friend to many leaders across the region and the globe.

In 2020, Pastor Wayne led the way by giving away over seven million dollars of household goods, kitchenware, personal care, diapers, and furniture to those in need in the Long Beach and surrounding areas. Pastor Wayne Chaney Jr. has never been satisfied with the status quo, so whatever the platform; he is determined to impact culture, create positive change, and lovingly work to advance the cause of Christ and His Kingdom.

DORIS ROBINSON

Alumna of the Year

Doris Robinson is the Executive Director of the CSULB-LBUSD Math Collaborative. A former Elementary School Principal, she received her education at Howard University, Washington, D.C., her Master's in Science at the University of LaVerne for Counseling, a California Teaching Credential at UCLA, and her administrative credential from California State University, Long Beach. Mrs. Robinson moved to Long Beach, California from Atlanta, Georgia in 1971 and resided in the Long Beach community for 40 years before moving to the Tustin, Ca community. She has served on many boards and committees in the Long Beach community. She was the principal of William Cullen Bryant Elementary School, Long Beach Unified School District, a Title I school with 81% of her students receiving free and reduced lunch for nine years. Under her leadership the school's test scores soared to 847% which was above the California State Department of Education requirement for all California Schools in the State.

In addition to her professional work, she has worked tirelessly for the Long Beach community volunteering for over forty years. Under Doris Robinson's leadership in the Harbor Area Chapter, the chapter has been able to partner with the Posse Foundation and provide over \$600,000 to deserving high school students at the California Academy of Math and Science. The Chapter has won three Western Area awards for their work with young students at Jordan High School and Academy of Math and Science both are Long Beach Unified School District schools under Mrs. Robinson's leadership. Robinson also has community involvement in the Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach Child Trauma Council, Jack & Jill of America, Inc, and so much more.

Overall, Mrs. Doris Cooper-Robinson's heart has always been for volunteering and impacting her community in a positive manner. She extends her professional career into volunteering daily. She holds great concern for her community and has made a difference not only in the lives of children but adults as well. When hearing her story, she began volunteering when she was nine years of age for an elderly neighbor who did not have family to care for her and Mrs. Robinson would go to her home and sit with her so that she would have someone with her. Furthermore, the parents respect and appreciate her concern for their children. Her philosophy is that the children have a **"Home family and a School family."** She embeds in all of her students that they are **"scholars"**, and they are expected to practice **"scholarly behavior."**

KAGBA SUARAY

Alumnus of the Year

Dr. Kagba Suaray is currently in his 16th year as a professor of Mathematics and Statistics at California State University, Long Beach. In this position, he serves as Graduate Advisor for one of the largest Applied Statistics masters programs in the state. He has also served as the director of Upward Bound Math Science at CSULB and is a product of the McNair scholars' program.

The Hesabu Circle came about in June 2020 as the intentional response of Southern California Black math faculty and university program administrators to the academic and social devastation caused by the dual pandemics of covid and systemic racism to our community. The result is the creation of a math circle for Black families with an Afrocentric lens thru culturally centered pedagogy. The Circle's vision is to be a far-reaching virtual support network with local in-person expressions, the first being in the greater Long Beach area. Virtual Hesabu Circle events on Zoom have reached hundreds of participants from four continents. Locally, partnering with the Jordan High Math Collaborative, LBUSD Black Student Achievement Initiative, Business of Student Success (BOSS), and Bridge Builders (non-profit arm of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc) has led to hundreds of local students learning about what it means to be a "Math-Is-Me-tician". This work gives students direct contact to PhDs and university students majoring in mathematics and physics that look like them. By providing this support, the Circle aims to increase interest and participation in the mathematical sciences by Black students, because sometimes you have to "see" it to "be" it.

As a founding member of The Hesabu Circle, he strives to help young people discover the power of their mathematical identity in the context of the Black community, as he did many years ago. The Hesabu Circle has held in-person and virtual culturally centered mathematical explorations with hundreds of participants from four continents.

As co-PI of the Long Beach Data Science Learning Community, an effort to increase participation in data science and machine learning for students of color (funded by the CSU and Apple), Dr. Suaray is at the forefront of this work in the city of Long Beach.

Our Keynote

SHIRLEY N. WEBBER



Shirley Nash Weber, Ph.D. was nominated to serve as California Secretary of State by Governor Gavin Newsom on December 22, 2020 and sworn into office on January 29, 2021. She is California's first Black Secretary of State and only the fifth African American to serve as a state constitutional officer in California's 170-year history.

Weber was born to sharecroppers in Hope, Arkansas during the segregationist Jim Crow era. Her father, who left Arkansas after being threatened by a lynch mob, did not have the opportunity to vote until he was in his 30s. Her grandfather never voted as custom and law in the South, before the Voting Rights Act of 1965, systemically suppressed voting by Blacks. Although her family moved to California when Weber was three years old, it was her family's experience in the Jim Crow South that has driven her activism and legislative work. She has fought to secure and expand civil rights for all Californians, including restoring voting rights for individuals who have completed their prison term.

Weber attended the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where she received her BA, MA and PhD by the age of 26. Prior to receiving her doctorate, she became a professor at San Diego State University (SDSU) at the age of 23. She also taught at California State University at Los Angeles (CSULA) and Los Angeles City College before coming to SDSU. She retired from the Department of Africana Studies after 40 years as a faculty member and serving several terms as department chair.

Before her appointment, Secretary Weber served four terms as an Assembly Member representing California's 79th Assembly District, which includes parts of the City of San Diego as well as several cities and communities in the San Diego region. Weber also served as a member and chair of the San Diego Unified School District and has twice served as a California Elector, including

chairing the California College of Presidential Electors on December 14, 2020.

During her tenure in the Assembly, Weber chaired the Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee, Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Public Safety, and Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Health. Weber was the first African American to serve as the chair of the Assembly Budget Committee. She also served as a member of the Standing Committees on Education, Higher Education, Elections, Budget, Banking and Finance.

In addition, Weber chaired the Select Committee on Campus Climate, which was created to examine and mitigate hate crimes on California's college and university campuses. The committee also explored student hunger, sexual assaults, homelessness, and freedom of expression. She formerly created and chaired the Select Committee on Higher Education in San Diego County, which explored the need for an additional higher education facility in San Diego and ways to improve the quality, affordability and equal access of higher education in the region.

From 2019 - 2020, she served as chair of the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC), which consists of the state's African American legislators and has the goal of promoting equal opportunity for California's African American community. Weber broke records during her tenure by garnering extraordinary support for CLBC's efforts and its projects.

Weber's genuine passion and tireless quest for equality and fairness in all sectors of life have resulted in her pursuit of reforms in education and criminal justice. Her equity-oriented legislation includes: school finance and accountability, classroom safety, ethnic studies, early learners, attendance and dropout rates, quality instruction, law enforcements' use-of-force and body camera practices, reparations, the CalGangs' database, Affirmative Action, inclusive jury selection and instruction, predatory lending, resources for exonerees, restorative justice, racial profiling, among others. Weber has also pursued public policy changes related to health, senior citizens, veterans and military families.

Secretary Weber is a mother of two adult children, three grandchildren and was married for 29 years to the late Honorable Daniel Weber. She is number six in a family of eight children. Her Parents, David and Mildred Nash, are deceased. Her hobbies are reading and traveling.



Thank You

For your endless devotion to making a difference on this campus, to the Black community, and for influencing the future of various students that will thrive due to your perseverance and passion for change. Your ability to lead with compassion and integrity is an example to follow. Words can neither qualify nor quantify the gratitude we have for your ongoing work and commitment to all.

WE HONOR YOU
DR. JOHN HAMILTON



BLACK ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP GALA

CONNECTING TO CAMPUS & *Building Community*

Student Success & Equity

Student Success and Equity in the Division of Student Affairs is focused on actively working to remove barriers to accessing education and engaging students to ensure they retain and meet their educational goals, we are dedicated to serving all students and working across campus & partnering with the greater community.



Assessment & Evaluation



California Student Opportunity and Access Program



CSULB- LBUSD Math Collaborative



CSULB Village



Dream Success Center



Early Academic Preparation



Educational Opportunity Program



Guardian Scholars



Men's Success Initiative



Office of Multicultural Affairs



Pregnant & Parenting



Summer Bridge Program



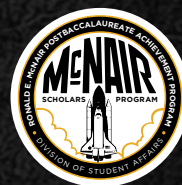
Testing



TRIO Educational Opportunity Center



TRIO Educational Talent Search



TRIO McNair Scholar's Program



TRIO Student Support Services Program



TRIO Upward Bound



University Outreach & School Relations



Women's Gender & Equity Center

STUDENT AFFAIRS



Dr. Beth Lesen

I want to extend my warmest congratulations to all the award recipients and scholarship recipients for their outstanding achievements. Your hard work, perseverance, and commitment to excellence are what make you stand out, and we are excited to see how you will use your talents and skills to make a positive impact on The Beach community. I also want to thank the community for their generous support and for believing in the power of education to transform lives. Without your unwavering support, this event would not have been possible, and we are grateful for your continued support in making our community stronger and more vibrant.

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS INC.



ASI Beach Pantry



ASI Business Office



ASI Government



ASI Beach Pride
Events



Isabel Patterson Child
Development Center



Student Recreation
& Wellness Center

HEALTH & WELLNESS



Accessible Instructional
Materials (AIM)
Center



Alcohol, Tobacco &
Other Drugs
Program



Basic Needs



Bob Murphy
Access Center
(BMAC)



Cal Fresh Outreach
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Psychological
Services



Project Ocean



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Housing &
Residential Life

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



Campus Rules &
Regulation



Career Development
Center



CARES Team



Club Sports &
Recreation



Dean of Students
Office



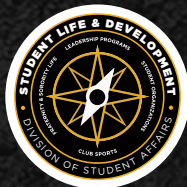
First-Year Beach
Connections



Parent & Family
Orientation



Student Conduct &
Ethical Development



Student Life
& Development



Student
Orientation, Advising,
& Registration



Veterans Services

OTHER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



Student Success
and Equity



DSA
Communications



Free Speech

April 7, 2023

Dear Black Alumni Scholarship Donors,

It is with great pleasure that I can write to you today. I want to thank you all for your endless support and compassion. I am proud to be part of a community that ensures that Black scholars can obtain success.

You made my transition from New Orleans to Long Beach a memorable one. When I arrived in California, I feared that I would not make connections with people here because of our different cultures. However, you proved that to be wrong as soon as I stepped foot on campus. I have been showered with affection and gracefulness since being introduced to the community in 2020. It is because of you that I can afford my tuition and have access to affordable housing. I have also been able to raise my grade point average because I do not have to deal with stressors because I feel secure in knowing that my Black scholar's family will assist me in any way that they can. Your generous contribution is greatly appreciated, and I will do everything in my power to pay it forward. Thank you so much and never forget that you continue to inspire our Black scholars to be as brilliant, courteous, and generous as you are in the future.

With an abundance of love and sincere gratitude,

Kayla Marie Brooks



BLACK ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP GALA

The Carpenter Center is proud to support the Black Resource Center and the next generation of scholars, and honored to be one of the co-sponsors of the 3rd Annual Black Alumni Scholarship Gala.



Darick Simpson
President of the Earl B.
and Loraine H. Miller
Foundation



Pastor Wayne Chaney Jr.
Antioch Church of
Long Beach



Doris Robinson
Executive Director of
the CSULB-LBUS
Math Collaborative



Kagba Suaray, PhD
Professor CSULB
Department of Mathematics
& Statistics

**Congratulations to this
year's honorees!**

Cabaret

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Programming
subject to change

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
LONG BEACH

BLACK ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT **MARCUS HOBBS** GIVES BACK WITH **Loads of Love**

Hobbs has dedicated his life to improving the lives of people in his community as a community engagement specialist and social activist. He grew up in an underserved community in various parts of Long Beach where he experienced the challenges associated with poverty firsthand.

As soon as he began his education at Long Beach State University, he returned to his community with the determination to make a positive impact. A few of the local community organizations that he has worked with include Long Beach Center of Economic Inclusion, THE SIX, and Doug Haubert City Prosecutor. He has also graduated from Leadership Long Beach.

He is passionate about issues related to education, youth empowerment, and community development. With his first event titled Community Health Day, where leaders from all over the city came together to provide diapers, backpacks, uniforms, school supplies, fresh produce, and other essential items, his passion for community engagement and social activism quickly gained attention. As a result, he gained a reputation as a respected community leader and voice of change.

Loads of Love is an essential resource for thriving communities because it addresses a basic need that is often overlooked: access to clean clothing. Many people, particularly those experiencing homelessness or living in poverty, find it difficult to access laundry facilities. When one does not have clean clothes, it is difficult to maintain hygiene, attend school or work, or feel confident and dignified in social situations. Our goal with Loads of Love is to remove a barrier that can negatively impact people's health, education, and employment opportunities, thereby improving the overall quality of their lives. Moreover, Loads of Love promotes a sense of belonging and provides an opportunity for people to connect with one another, as well as access other resources and support. Loads of Love serves as a valuable resource for fostering inclusive, equitable, and supportive communities.



Long Beach community comes together for free laundry event

To help Marcus with his next Loads of Love event, please reach out to him at

<https://brand.page/ProjectXLB> | MarcusHobbs@Projectxlb.org

We are proud to support the 3rd Annual
CSULB Black Alumni Scholarship Gala

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Supporting Education

The Port of Long Beach supports local students with internships and scholarships and we work closely with CSULB and our other local education partners to develop our workforce and leadership of the future.

We're proud to support CSULB's third annual Black Alumni Scholarship Gala – congratulations to your 2023 honorees.



Port of
LONG BEACH
THE PORT OF CHOICE



Long Beach Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



*Congratulations on the 3rd Annual
CSULB Black Alumni Scholarship Gala
April 22, 2023*



THE INSTITUTE

- The institute is an intensive 10-month program that engages and challenges community leaders to discover together how to make Long Beach a better city. Visit [The Institute](#) to learn more about our programs!



YOUTH LEADERSHIP

- Our free [Youth program](#) offers a unique opportunity for 30+ high school students to join with emerging youth leaders from Long beach to experience an environmentally focused community leadership program.

CONGRATULATIONS

CSULB BLACK ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP GALA

FROM THE

April Parker
F o u n d a t i o n

Our goal is to improve the health, social, and economic outcomes of historically disinvested Black communities



APCares (Community Supportive Services)

Comprehensive case management to ensure equitable access to essential supportive services that promote stability, security, and wellbeing



APWorks (Economic Development)

Business navigation and equitable access to capital to promote economic resiliency for socially and economically disadvantaged individuals



APHealth (Health Equity)

Gender, disability, and culturally affirming health education and healthcare navigation

APRIL PARKER

Executive Director, Entrepreneur,
Veteran, Mother & Wife



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE 2023 HONOREES

Darick Simpson

President of the Earl B. and Loraine H. Miller Foundation

Pastor Wayne Chaney Jr.,

Pastor of Antioch Church of Long Beach

Doris Robinson,

Executive Director of the CSULB-LBUSD Math Collaborative

Kagba Suaray,

Professor CSULB Department of Mathematics & Statistics

And all the recipients of the Black Alumni Scholarship Fund.

Let's also remember and honor all those students of color who came before. Those who with very little means, and/or no financial support, persevered against great odds to reach their educational goals.

John Sealy, M.D.



Civilization, it was once said, is a race between education and catastrophe—and we intend to win that race for education.

John F. Kennedy



H. Maxie (Max) Viltz



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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
LONG BEACH

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RENTAL ASSISTANCE

MEDICAL BILL ASSISTANCE

RAPID REHOUSING

Congratulations to the Honorees

2023 HONOREES

Darick Simpson

Community Partner of the Year

Pastor Wayne Chaney Jr.

Community Partner of the Year

Doris Robinson

Alumna of the Year

Kagba Suaray

Alumnus of the Year



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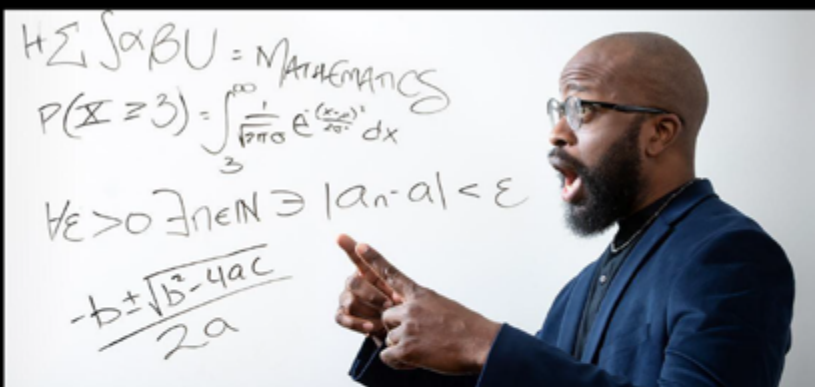


SUPPORTINGSTUDENTS@CSULB.EDU



As proud supporters of the CSULB
Black Alumni Scholarship Fund, we celebrate
all efforts to support the mission of the
Black Resource Center and scholarships for
students. We are honored to be of service.





The Hesabu Circle congratulates honoree **Dr. Kagba N. Suaray**, CSULB Professor of Mathematics and Founder of the Circle; and all of the Black Scholars graduating from Cal State Long Beach in 2023!

The **Hesabu Circle** is a space created by black mathematicians & educators where black students "from pre-K to post-doc" can connect with each other & faculty, and rediscover our innate excellence in the mathematical sciences.



GUARDIAN SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The CSULB Guardian Scholars Program assists current/former foster youth in their educational pursuits by offering services such as academic counseling, financial aid advising, tutoring, mentorship, skills assessment, and math and writing labs throughout their academic career. Additionally, the CSULB Guardian Scholars Program provides advising with an academic counselor who has knowledge about on-campus resources and other critical services available from different departments throughout the university which will assure college retention and graduation.

As proud supporters of the CSULB Black Alumni Scholarship Fund, we celebrate all efforts to support the m of the Black Resource Center and Scholarships for students. We are honored to be of service!

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2023 EVENTS



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Congratulations **HONOREES**

**"You may not control
all the events that
happen to you, but you
can decide not to be
reduced by them."**

- Maya Angelou

**The Law Offices of
Michele A. Dobson
is proud to support the
students of California State
University, Long Beach.**

Attorney Michele A. Dobson
Law Offices of Michele A. Dobson
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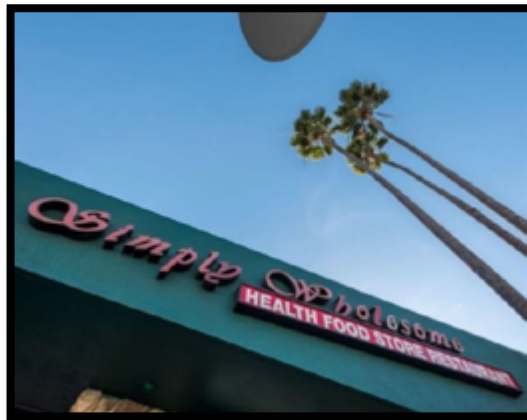
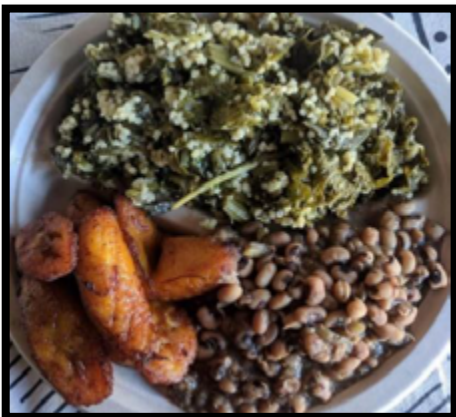
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When we become unapologetically intentional about our vision, our boundaries, our beliefs and our standard, life changes tremendously. We walk in a renewed path of purpose.

Congratulations to the 2021 honorees, we are all steady rising.



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Celebrating those who strengthen our community

Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center joins CSULB
in celebration of the city's rich cultural diversity.
Congratulations to all the honorees.

dignityhealth.org/stmarymedical



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**CONGRATULATES THE 2023 HONOREES OF THE
3RD ANNUAL**

BLACK ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP GALA

Darick Simpson **President of the Earl B. and Loraine H. Miller Foundation**
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Doris Robinson **Executive Director of the CSULB-LBUSD Math Collaborative**
Kagba Suaray **Professor CSULB Department of Mathematics & Statistics**

**BLACK ALUMNI SCHOLARS
WE ARE PROUD TO BE A PART OF YOUR VILLAGE**

Jesse Carpenter • Brian Burton • Courtney Tucker • Emmanuel Waters



HISTORY, HERITAGE AND HOMAGE

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SAN MARCOS • SONOMA • STANISLAUS



Long Beach State
salutes the
2023
Black Alumni
Scholarship Recipients

**With your support, our Black
Students will succeed.**

LONG BEACH STATE
UNIVERSITY



Congratulations

TO ALL OF THE
2023 BLACK ALUMNI
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

WISHING YOU CONTINUED
SUCCESS IN YOUR
FUTURE ENDEAVORS.



ASSOCIATED
STUDENTS INC.
LONG BEACH STATE UNIVERSITY



is proud to be a sponsor of the

ONE VILLAGE ONE PURPOSE

**3rd Annual
CSULB Black Alumni
Scholarship Gala**



LBCC is an award-winning higher education institution for its work within equity, diversity and inclusion. We are committed to serving our Black students, faculty and classified staff through academics, support services and programs. As the #1 transfer college for CSULB, we look forward to seeing our own LBCC Black students one day honored at the CSULB Black Alumni Gala.

www.LBCC.edu

Congratulations

to the
3rd Annual Black Alumni Scholarship Gala
HONOREES

DARICK J. SIMPSON Community Partner of the Year **PASTOR**

WAYNE CHANEY JR. Community Partner of the Year **DORIS**

ROBINSON Alumna of the Year

KAGBA SUARAY Alumnus of the Year



From Vice President Beth Lesen



Student Affairs

REMEMBER THEIR NAMES

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