

Welcome to the 46th Annual
Equal Opportunity Day Gala



Sankofa Soiree

Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present,
Shaping the Future.

Honoring
Haynes Heroes

Rev. Frank Brunson
Gloria Campbell
Darren Hammond
Linda Marcelli
Jason Mathis



Pinellas County
Urban League



Supporting excellence and all that it inspires.

At Duke Energy, we believe in the power and potential of excellence and achievement. Thank you for all the ways you inspire and enhance life in the communities we share.

Proud to support The Pinellas County Urban League.

DUKE-ENERGY.COM



BUILDING A SMARTER ENERGY FUTURE®

Thank you to our Sponsors



JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.



WELLS
FARGO



Foundation for a
Healthy St. Petersburg



BAYFRONT HEALTH

GRAYROBINSON



KATHY CASTOR
14TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
INVESTIGATIONS
RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, DATA
AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY, CLIMATE
AND GRID SECURITY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON
THE STRATEGIC COMPETITION
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND THE CHINESE COMMUNIST
PARTY



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0914

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2052 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3376

TAMPA DISTRICT OFFICE:

4144 NORTH ARMENIA AVENUE
SUITE 300
TAMPA, FL 33607
(813) 871-2817

ST. PETERSBURG DISTRICT OFFICE:

136 FOURTH STREET NORTH
SUITE 201
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33701
(727) 369-0201

www.castor.house.gov

October 14th, 2023

Dear friends,

It is with great pleasure to extend my congratulations to the Pinellas County Urban League for its 2023 Equal Opportunity Day event as well as for the hard work you undertake yearlong to help ensure a brighter future full of opportunity for all. Pinellas County Urban League – with a mission for nearly 50 years to lift African Americans and others in underserved communities through education and job training, housing and community development, workforce development, entrepreneurship, health, and quality of life – builds on the historic progress made towards equal opportunity and will strengthen our aim to live out the words of the Declaration of Independence, all people “are created equal.”

It is also with great pleasure to congratulate this year’s Haynes Heroes: Frank Brunson, Gloria Campbell, Darren Hammond, Linda Marcelli and Jason Mathis. From education to housing, this recognition shining a light on your decades of advocacy for a better community for all is well deserved.

On behalf of the constituents of the 14th Congressional District of Florida, I once again congratulate the Pinellas County Urban League, new CEO Nikki Gaskin-Capehart, its supporters and honorees for your unwavering commitment to equal opportunity and I look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathy Castor".

Kathy Castor
U.S. Representative
Florida – District 14



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Appropriations, *Vice Chair*
Ethics and Elections, *Vice Chair*
Agriculture
Appropriations Committee on Criminal
and Civil Justice
Appropriations Committee on Health and
Human Services
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs
Rules

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Administrative Procedures Committee

SENATOR DARRYL ERVIN ROUSON
16th District

October 14, 2023

Pinellas County Urban League

46th Annual Equal Opportunity Day Gala Sankofa Soiree

Dear Pinellas County Urban League:

I am honored to recognize The Pinellas County Urban League on their 46th annual Equal Opportunity Day Gala. The Urban League has been an ever present resource that the community has been able to rely on for almost half a century. As we celebrate this year's accomplishments with the theme, "*Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, Shaping the Future,*" I believe this organization will use its rich history of advocacy paired with a new historic trailblazing leader in President/CEO Nikki Gaskin-Capehart to continue the lasting impact that are forged through intentional community partnerships.

A special congratulations to the Haynes Heroes Frank Brunson, Gloria Campbell, Darren Hammond, Linda Marcelli, and Jason Mathis. This recognition named in the honor of Pinellas County public servant and legend the late Rev. Watson L. Haynes, II, is more of a blessing than an award. May this recognition ignite a new flame in your passion for service to others.

May we remain cognizant that the work we do for the people is the only work that matters and will improve the lives of the people. We say thank you to the Pinellas County Urban League for all of its works.

Sincerely,

Darryl E. Rouson, Senator District 16



RENÉ FLOWERS
COMMISSIONER

PINELLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PHONE (727) 464-3614 • FAX (727) 464-3022 • 315 COURT STREET • CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33756
www.pinellas.gov

October 14, 2023

Nikki Gaskin-Capehart, President/CEO
Pinellas County Urban League
333 31st Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33713

Greetings,

I am honored to extend congratulations to the Pinellas County Urban League as you celebrate your 46th Annual Equal Opportunity Day Gala. Your theme, "Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, Shaping the Future" reminds us that we must not forget the past accomplishments, appreciate where we are today, and work diligently in shaping our future in a positive way that will impact all our citizens.

Congratulations to Mrs. Nikki Gaskin-Capehart as the Pinellas County Urban League newly appointed President and Chief Executive Officer. We wish you much success in your new role.

Congratulations to The Haynes Heroes: Frank Brunson, Gloria Campbell, Darren Hammond, Linda Marcelli and Jason Mathis. As you continue to serve our community, please be encouraged with the words from I Peter 4:10-11, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."

In His Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "René Flowers".

Commissioner René Flowers
Pinellas County Commissioner, District 7



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

October 14, 2023

Congratulations to the Pinellas County Urban League on your:

**46th Annual Equal Opportunity Day Gala
Sankofa Soiree**

The theme, "*Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, Shaping the Future*," is providential given the recent appointment of the first woman to lead the organization, Mrs. Nikki Gaskin-Capehart. As President and CEO, her record of proven leadership will elevate the Pinellas County Urban League to new heights as it continues its legacy of empowering communities and changing lives.

Congratulations to Haynes Heroes Frank Brunson, Gloria Campbell, Darren Hammond, Linda Marcelli, and Jason Mathis. This is truly an evening to celebrate your accomplishments in the spirit of Inclusive Progress and Intentional Equity—principles that guide my administration and the work we do every day.

The Pinellas County Urban League has faithfully supported St. Petersburg and its residents since it was established in 1977. Thank you for your partnership and collaboration throughout the years. We commend you for your ongoing commitment to lift up individuals through strategies that work, such as economic empowerment, job training and education, housing, and community development. We look forward to our continued work together to make St. Petersburg a stronger community.

We Are St. Pete,

Sincerely,

Kenneth T. Welch
Mayor



WE ARE ST. PETE



Building stronger communities

At JPMorgan Chase, we are committed to our communities and work with our partners to provide innovative solutions that foster community development, address affordable housing needs and drive inclusive economic growth.

We congratulate the Haynes Heroes honorees: Frank Brunson, Gloria Campbell, Darren Hammond, Linda Marcelli and Jason Mathis.

JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.

jpmorganchase.com/impact



Pinellas County
Urban League

Empowering Communities
Changing Lives.

Thank You to Our Lifetime Members

Alaina Simmons
Alvin Nesmith
Andrea Nikki Gaskin-Capehart
Betty J. Simmons
Dr. Carol Mickett
Atty. Cindy M. Innocent
Deeda Nesmith
Edwin Narain
Erik C. Smith
Frank Riddick
Grant McMillon
Irv Cohen
James O. Simmons
James Oscar Simmons, III
Joseph and Marylou Bourdow
Leroy Sullivan, Jr.
Linda Marcelli
Dr. Moses Allen
Dr. Patricia S. Helton
Rabbi Michael Torop
Dr. Tonjua Williams
Valerie Pendarvis-Haynes
Watson L. Haynes, II
William Lafferty
William Puller



Celebrating community spirit

Friends, family, neighbors, and local business owners are the backbone of this community. Our vibrant spirit comes alive at events like these.

It's an honor to proudly sponsor the Pinellas County Urban League Equal Opportunity Day Gala.

[wellsfargo.com](https://www.wellsfargo.com)

The Affordable Connectivity Program



Stay connected and save up to **\$30/mo.*** on your Internet service.

Great news! You may be eligible to receive high-speed Internet service at no cost* from Spectrum through the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).

This program was created to ensure eligible households like yours will have the services you need.

The need for fast, reliable Internet is more critical than ever and Spectrum is committed to bringing you the best speeds available. Find out if you are eligible for this great program and start enjoying fast Internet speeds. We look forward to welcoming you as a Spectrum Internet® customer.

QUALIFYING GROUPS:

- Lifeline eligible*
- Free or reduced school lunch or breakfast eligible
- Pell Grant recipient
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit

SPECTRUM INTERNET®

for **\$0** /mo*

**HIGH-SPEED INTERNET
AT NO COST***

*Depending on level of Spectrum Internet service.
Benefit expires upon termination of ACP.*



We've made it easy to find out if you qualify:

1 STEP 1: CONFIRM QUALIFICATION

Your household may qualify for the Affordable Connectivity Program. Visit acpbenefit.org to find out more.

2 STEP 2: REDEEM YOUR SAVINGS WITH SPECTRUM

Call Spectrum at **1-833-660-0447** or visit Spectrum.com/ACP to sign up for high-speed Internet and save up to \$30 a month if you qualify.

If you are a current Spectrum Internet customer call 1-833-660-0447 to save up to \$30/mo. on your service.

3 STEP 3: ENJOY FAST INTERNET

Surf and stream with your Spectrum high-speed Internet service and home WiFi. A temporary monthly credit will be applied to your account.

Spectrum

*Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP): Program benefit limited to one per household; Limited time offer; benefit expires upon FCC's termination of the Program. Income eligibility requirements apply. A recurring credit of up to \$30/mo (\$75 in Tribal Lands) will be applied directly to eligible customers' accounts; customers are responsible for charges over \$30/mo. Standard rates apply following end of the Program period; may vary by location. Taxes and fees extra depending on the area and subject to change during and after the Program period; installation/network activation, equipment and additional services are extra. Services subject to all applicable service terms and conditions, subject to change. Services not available in all areas. Restrictions apply.

Programs that meet the Lifeline requirement are Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, Federal Public Housing Authority (FPHA) support and Veterans and Survivor's Pension benefit. Alternative Verification Process also eligible to qualify.

©2022 Charter Communications.



Honoring
Haynes Heroes

Rev. Frank Brunson
Gloria Campbell
Darren Hammond
Linda Marcelli
Jason Mathis



Pinellas County
Urban League

Empowering Communities
Changing Lives.



RAYS™

TAMPA BAY
ROWDIES™

are proud to support

THE PINELLAS COUNTY URBAN LEAGUE



Sankofa Soiree

Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, Shaping the Future.

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Welcome!

Emcees: *Carl Lavender and Erica Riggins*

Negro National Anthem

Greetings from the President of the National Urban League

Marc H. Morial

Recognition of Elected Officials

**Greetings from Pinellas County
Urban League Board Chairperson**

Rodney Wilson

Vision 2030

Pinellas County Urban League President and CEO

Nikki Gaskin-Capehart



Sankofa Soiree

Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, Shaping the Future.

Blessing of the Food

Board Member Pastor *Louis Murphy*

Dinner

Sankofa Spotlights

Haynes Heroes Award Ceremony

Empowering Communities. Changing Lives

Honorees: *Rev. Frank Brunson | Gloria Campbell
Darren Hammond | Linda Marcelli | Jason Mathis*

Invitation to Join the Pinellas County Urban League

Board Chair *Dr. Tonjua Williams*

Closing Remarks & Announcement

Pinellas County Urban League President and CEO

Nikki Gaskin-Capehart

After Party on Picasso Terrace

ADVANCING RACIAL AND HEALTH EQUITY IN THE COMMUNITY WE CALL HOME



Foundation for a
Healthy St. Petersburg

healthystpete.foundation



Supporting Minority Businesses is Our Business



Register your minority-owned small business with Hillsborough County and unlock new opportunities.

Hillsborough County Minority and Small Business Enterprise Programs create a competitive advantage for minority businesses in construction, contractual services, professional consulting services, and commodities.

Benefits for Hillsborough County certified minority-owned businesses:

- Assistance to subcontract/contract on competitively-bid Hillsborough County procurements
- Notification of Hillsborough County bidding/contracting opportunities
- Listing in Hillsborough County's certified minority business directory
- Referrals to organizations seeking certified Hillsborough County minority businesses
- Invitations to trainings, business development activities, and special outreach events



Learn more at
HCFLGov.net/MWSBE
or call (813) 829-2650



**Hillsborough
County Florida**
Minority & Small Business
Enterprises

Unlock your business potential with the Florida Small Business Development Center at Pinellas County



PCED.org/Consulting

Are you a tech entrepreneur or small business owner looking to take your business to the next level?

Confidential, no-cost consulting is available to all entrepreneurs who want to grow their business.

Get started today and make an appointment with a professional certified business consultant to help you design growth strategies and get help with financing, improving cash flow, winning government contracts, exporting and more.



PINELLAS COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
PCED.ORG



THE *Original*
**WING
 JOINT**
 SINCE 1983

11 Tampa Bay Area Locations
originalhooters.com



HOOTERS®



We proudly support the Pinellas County Urban League's mission to empower communities and change lives.

We extend our most heartfelt congratulations to
Mrs. Nikki Gaskin-Capehart
 on her new role as the President & CEO.



Inclusivity LLC is a full-service consulting firm that passionately believes a diverse workforce fuels creativity, innovation, and economic growth.




www.inclusivityllc.com

be heard.



BAYFRONT
HEALTH

choose well.

When it comes to your health, you want the best care available. You want Bayfront Health. A connected network of primary and specialized physicians, ERs and a hospital focused on a forward-thinking and innovative approach to wellness. Giving you more reasons to choose well. BayfrontHealth.com

SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE



PINELLAS COUNTY URBAN LEAGUE



46TH ANNUAL

Equal Opportunity Day Gala

PINELLAS COUNTY



SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"Leading The Way For A Safer Pinellas"

Become a partner in changing
the lives of local families in the
community you serve.

[habitatpwp.org](https://www.habitatpwp.org)



“

Our home will be the home my
children can always come back
to. It will be the home that is
safe and it will provide stability
for my family.

krystal spaulding

Future Habitat Homeowner &
Investor Services Representative



GRAYROBINSON

IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE

PINELLAS COUNTY URBAN LEAGUE

46TH ANNUAL

Equal Opportunity Day Gala

Boca Raton | Fort Lauderdale | Fort Myers | Gainesville | Jacksonville | Key West | Lakeland
Melbourne | Miami | Naples | Orlando | Tallahassee | Tampa | Washington, D.C. | West Palm Beach

[gray-robinson.com](https://www.gray-robinson.com)



JOE AND MARYLOU BOURDOW

L LAWSON FUNERAL HOME
AND CREMATION SERVICES, INC.



Serving Largo, Clearwater, North and South Pinellas County

4535 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg, FL 33713 • (727) 623-9025
www.lawsonfuneralservices.com • lawsonfh@live.com



WELCOME TO MINDFUL MOVEMENT

MINDFULMOVEMENTFLORIDA.ORG

Our Mission at Mindful Movement Florida is to educate and empower underserved communities to be proactive about issues affecting their health. Mindful Movement programs work in the Pinellas County school system and St. Petersburg community by using mindfulness practices, yoga, and meditation as the foundation for teaching students how to make healthy lifestyle choices and enhancing academic success and creative expression for all students (youth and adult).

**Honored to Be Partnered with The Urban League of
Pinellas County**

Continued Blessings and Namaste



Thank You!



Pinellas County
Urban League

*Empowering Communities
Changing Lives.*

Board, Staff, and Volunteers



AVmedia®

Serving people the way they WANT to be served.

JABEZ MITCHEM

PROMOTER. ENTERTAINER. HOST.

NOW BOOKING FOR 2023 - 2024

- ✔ NIGHTLIFE PROMOTIONS
- ✔ SOCIAL EVENT HOSTING
- ✔ FAMILY EVENT HOSTING
- ✔ PRODUCT PROMOTIONS
- ✔ LIVE MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT



(807) 230-0414



JABEZ MITCHEM



@THEREALJABEZ



JM@M.MUZIC@GMAIL.COM





CELEBRATING OVER FOUR DECADES OF SERVICE

St. Petersburg College is proud to support the Pinellas County Urban League in our shared commitment to shaping a better future through education, workforce development and community advancement.

SPC St. Petersburg
College

spcollege.edu



Pastor Louis M. Murphy, Sr.

Our Mission:
Impact the world by equipping believers with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our Vision
To bring about an effective change within a 2-mile radius of the church and beyond.

In Person Sunday Services
*7:45 & 10am Worship
9am Sunday School
10am KYDS Church (2nd- 4th)
10:30am Teen Church

*Live streaming:



www.mzprogressive.org

955 20th St S
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
727-894-4311
info@mzprogressive.org



Congratulations

Nikki Gasikin-Capehart

on being appointed the new CEO and President
of the Pinellas County Urban League



Pinellas County
Urban League

*Empowering Communities
Changing Lives.*