



UNA USA

Westchester Chapter
and Bronx Chapter



Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service

PROGRAM

Celebration of
UN DAY

With Westchester and Bronx
Chapters of UNA-USA and
The Links, Incorporated



23 October 2022

3:00 to 4:30 pm

via Zoom

Nourishing Peace & Restorative Justice: Innovative Programs for Youth

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UNA-USA

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UN DAY EVENT
OCTOBER 23, 2022
3:00 – 4:30 PM

Opening

UN Day message from **UN Secretary General** (video)

Welcome: **Marcia Brewster**, President, UNA-USA
Westchester Chapter

Welcome: **Hillary Fleming**, President, Westchester County
Chapter, The Links, Incorporated

SDG16 Introduction: **Tatiana Scantlebury**, President, UNA-
USA Bronx Chapter

Keynote

International perspective on Justice and Youth
Asha Castleberry-Hernandez
Founder, Diversity in National Security Network
Former State Department Officer at
U.S. Mission to the UN

Panel

Panel members:
Joanne Dunne, Moderator; Executive Director, Youth Shelter
of Westchester
Hon. Kathie Davidson, Panelist; Dean, NYS Judicial Institute;
on the Gender-Responsive Initiatives and Partnerships
(GRIP) Court
Hon. Jared Rice, Panelist; City Judge of New Rochelle City
Court; on the Opportunity Youth Part (OYP) initiative
Hon. Lyndon Williams, Panelist; City Judge of Mount Vernon
City Court; on that Court's Emerging Adult Justice Initiative

Video: Hudson Link Program

In Conversation:
Sean Pica
Executive Director of Hudson Link for
Higher Education in Prison
WITH
Colleen Gardephe
UNA-Westchester, Program Co-Chair
Coordinator, Opportunity Youth Part (OYP) initiative

Remarks by **Lily Brady**, Graduate of the GRIP program
Discussion/Participant Q&A

Marcia Brewster

Special Guests

Closing

KNOW YOUR SDGs



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PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES



ASHA CASTLEBERRY-HERNANDEZ

Asha Castleberry-Hernandez, is the founder of Diversity in National Security Network (DINSN). Diversity in National Security Network is a bipartisan coalition of National Security and Foreign Policy practitioners committed to diversifying the National Security private and public sector. DINSN works to amplify the contributions of diverse practitioners in the U.S. and actively creates opportunities to enter and succeed in these sectors. She is a political appointee who served with the Biden-Harris Administration as a senior advisor in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs at the U.S. Department of State and major in the U.S. Army Reserve. Asha is a distinguished national security expert whose career includes serving as the Kuwait desk officer at U.S. Army Central, working on security cooperation with the Office of Military Cooperation and the Kuwait Ministry of Defense, and senior key leadership engagement officer for Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq. During the Obama administration, Asha served at the U.S. Mission at the United Nations working peacekeeping operations in Africa. In 2020, Asha ran as a Democratic candidate for Congress in New York District 17.



JOANNE DUNNE

Joanne Dunn, the first woman to be named executive director of The Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, since its incorporation in 1975. Ms. Joanne Dunn has worked to improve the lives of troubled youths in Westchester, For the past two decades.

The Mount Vernon based organization was conceived by a Westchester judge and school teacher who recognized the need for early intervention in the lives of young offenders, Youth Shelter Program of Westchester has been providing a home-like alternative to jail for young men, for over 40 years, with great results.

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES (Joanne Dunne, continued)

Ms. Dunn is a servant leader, she leads with heart and believes in the power of TEAM. She encourages all around her to believe within themselves and that no matter what level you may be on (the floor or the ceiling).....you can lead. Ms. Dunn's ability to effectively lead with passion, courageousness and humility allows everyone on her team to be guided through a unique blueprint. Her fiery passion for the work she does is infectious and motivates everyone, especially women, to go forth and multiply the passion and purpose. Ms. Dunn always reminds all who come in contact with her to walk in their purpose, and let it be your guide to greater things.

Her mission in life is to empower and employ others to channel their pain into their purpose; particularly those who are troubled with life's obstacles and helping them use these adversities as a vehicle for good/change. She continues to push her own boundaries personally and professional.

As an absolute believer in second chances, Joanne listens, establishes continuous communication and rapport amongst those she encounters. Joanne knows all too well about second chances, as she has needed a few and believes they are not to be wasted. She provides a nurturing environment that involves enthusiasm, flexibility, creativity and a willingness to change adapt and overcome. As for most people, challenges often become road blocks and the story ends there but not for Joanne she dives head first into adversity. Her motto in life is "Shoot for the moon and if you fall short you will still be amongst the stars... and with God all things are possible.

Joanne is a dual recipient of the Peekskill NAACP outstanding service to youth and families award. In addition, has received the outstanding community servant for youth award from the Nu Si Zeta Chapter of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc, has been honored by the National Council for Negro Women for being a "Women of Distinction" as it relates to her civic work in empowering young ladies to fulfill their full potential. In addition, she has also received the Westchester Woman of Influence Award, the Business Council of Westchester 40 under 40 Rising Star Award and recently she was one of three women throughout the County to receive the 2022 Shero Award from the Westchester County Youth Bureau. She is a graduate of Leadership Westchester and a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated. Moreover, to her credit, March 23, 2022 was declared Joanne Dunn day in Westchester County, NY and most recently she was awarded the 2022 Top Business and CEO Awards by 914Inc. She has been featured in the City & State Power100 Westchester.

In her spare time, she is a champion for children in need of a home and works with the Abbott House along with the Westchester County Dept of Social Services to promote and locate foster families. However, Joanne's greatest riches included her family, her husband Darryl and their children (1 biological son and 2 foster care children)

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES



HON. KATHIE DAVIDSON

On July 7, 2021 Chief Judge Janet DiFiore and Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence K. Marks designated Hon. Kathie E. Davidson as Dean of the New York State Judicial Institute, a statewide judicial education and research center focused on the latest developments in the law and other disciplines that influence the law. As Dean, Judge Davidson oversees the creation and delivery of training seminars for newly elected and appointed Unified Court System (UCS) judges, continuing education programs for UCS judges and lawyers, and cooperative education programs with state and federal judicial systems, legal academics and other interested stakeholders.

Since 2018, Judge Davidson had been serving as Administrative Judge for the Ninth Judicial District, which encompasses Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland and Westchester counties, and was responsible for implementing and enforcing all policies, rules and directives of the Chief Judge and managing day-to-day administrative support and supervision of all 1150 judicial and nonjudicial staff, trial courts, and agencies within the district.

In 2007, Judge Davidson was appointed as the Supervising Judge of the Family Courts in the Ninth Judicial District, by the then Chief Administrative Judge Jonathan Lippman. Judge Davidson was elected as a Family Court Judge in November of 2003, and began her Judicial career presiding over Juvenile Delinquency, PINS, Family Offense Petitions, Custody and Visitation cases, and continued to preside over Abuse and Neglect cases, the Integrated Youth Court other related Family Court matters.

Prior to being elected a Family Court judge, from 1998-2003 Judge Davidson was a Deputy County Attorney with the Westchester County Law Department. Some of her accomplishments were the implementation of the Westchester County Laws §308, The Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise Law. She was a member of the County's first delegation invited to receive training in Hate Crimes, at the Simon Wiesenthal Center Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles, California. Judge Davidson was an attorney for the child with the Juvenile Rights Practice of the Legal Aid Society (formerly known as the Juvenile Rights Division of the Legal Aid Society) in Bronx County. She was an investigative attorney with the New York State Department of Education and private practitioner specializing in Family Law.

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES (Hon. Kathie Davidson, continued)

The Judge serves as a Commissioner of the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission that promotes racial and ethnic fairness in the courts, and as a member of the New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, the Commission on Parental Legal Representation, and the Committee on Families and the Law, in addition to holding membership in numerous professional and volunteer organizations.

Judge Davidson earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Simmons University (formerly Simmons College) in Boston, Massachusetts, and her Juris Doctor at Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C. She is a member of the Howard University Alumni Association. Judge Davidson was the first African-American woman appointed as Supervising Judge in the Ninth Judicial District, was the first woman to be appointed Administrative Judge in the Ninth Judicial District, and was the first African-American to be appointed Administrative Judge outside of New York City.



HON. JARED RICE

Judge Jared R. Rice joined the bench in the New Rochelle City Court in January 2020, where he presides over criminal, civil, and traffic matters daily. In October 2020, Judge Rice initiated the Opportunity Youth Part (OYP), the first Emerging Adult Justice initiative in the 9th Judicial district, which works with defendants ages 16-24 who are justice-involved. Through the use of extensive community partnerships, OYP has engaged with more than 200 young individuals to provide workforce development, educational services, behavioral health, mentoring, housing assistance, and other key supports.

Prior to 2020, Judge Rice was a public defender in the Mount Vernon City Court for 14 years where he was the lead attorney in the Adolescent Diversion Part. Additionally, between 2011 and 2019, Judge Rice was a member of the New Rochelle City Council where he spearheaded Westchester's first My Brother's Keeper initiative, which focused on the cradle-to-career development of youth, particularly boys and young men of color. Judge Rice is a lifelong Westchester resident, and he resides in New Rochelle with his wife Jasmine and their children, Jocelyn, and Jayden.

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES



HON. LYNDON WILLIAMS

Judge Lyndon Williams is a Mount Vernon City Court Judge presiding over criminal and civil proceedings. Judge Williams spearhead the creation of the Mount Vernon Emerging Adult Justice Part - an initiative for resolving criminal cases through alternatives to conventional prosecution and incarceration for young people ages of 18-25 years old. Prior to joining the court, Mr. Williams served on the Westchester County Board of Legislators. In addition, his practice as a corporate lawyer covered a wide range of litigation and transactional experience for major corporations. He is a former President of the Westchester Black Bar Association and volunteered for several nonprofit organizations.



SEAN PICA

Sean Pica is the Executive Director of Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison, a not-for-profit organization that provides college education, life skills and re-entry support to incarcerated and formerly incarcerated men and women to help them make a positive impact on their own lives, their families and communities.

Mr. Pica's responsibilities as executive director include program and operations management, business development, fundraising and the implementation of the organization's strategic goals and objectives.

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES (Sean Pica, continued)

Mr. Pica has presided over Hudson Link's growth in size and scope. During his tenure, he has grown the program from 60 students attending Nyack College at a Sing Sing Correctional Facility, to more than 650 students attending college preparatory and college programs annually in six New York State Correctional Facilities and 750 college degrees awarded since the organization's inception. He expanded Hudson Link's services to include an Alumni Services Program which focuses on the very important work of providing re-entry support for its' more than 1,400 alumni to help them transition back to their families and communities.

Mr. Pica also launched a subsidiary of Hudson Link, New Beginnings, a transitional housing initiative. New Beginnings purchases dilapidated houses in Westchester County, NY and employs alumni to work with contractors to renovate the properties which then serve as safe and stable housing for formerly incarcerated people. Mr. Pica now serves as Vice President of New Beginnings.

Under Mr. Pica's leadership, Hudson Link has been featured in several documentaries including HBO's University of Sing Sing, PBS First Degree, and Moxie Pictures Zero Percent.

Mr. Pica received his MPS from the New York Theological Seminary and his MSW from Hunter College. He serves on the New York State Council on Community Re-Entry and Reintegration, as Board President for the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison, Board Member for the Sing Sing Prison Museum Project and is a founding member of the New York State Consortium for Higher Education in Prison.



COLLEEN GARDEPHE

Colleen is currently Coordinator for the Opportunity Youth Part (OYP) initiative in New Rochelle City Court. This groundbreaking OYP initiative matches disconnected justice-involved Emerging Adults, ages 18-24, to positive community resources that provide workforce training, job placement, educational opportunities and assistance with substance abuse and behavioral health challenges. OYP has engaged with more than 200 young participants. Colleen helps connect the participants to positive resources and tracks their progress, creating weekly reports for the presiding Judge, the ADA and defense attorneys.

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES (Colleen Gardephe, continued)

Prior to this role, Colleen served as the Managing Director of My Brother's Keeper New Rochelle (MBKNewRo) from 1/15 to 5/21, creating dozens of educational, career, and literacy programs and events for children, teens, and young adults, ages 0-24. New Rochelle was the first community in Westchester and one of the first in the state to accept President Obama's My Brother's Keeper Challenge to develop programs and policies to lift all children, particularly boys and young men of color. She created the MBKNewRo Action Plan Report, which served as a blueprint for the initiative. Colleen launched the "Take a Student Ambassador to Work Day" initiative, piloted a College Essay program for high school seniors, led a community collaboration to install seven customized pop-up libraries in New Rochelle, created a Community Reads outreach, and oversaw community forums, film screenings, an interactive Implicit Bias Workshop and ESPN Career Workshops for Boys of Color. Colleen also served as a Mentor to six high school students.

In 2019, Colleen joined the Board of Directors for the Westchester chapter of the United Nations Association, serving as the Co-Chair of the Program Committee. She created events that shed light on Maternal Inequities for Women of Color, highlighted innovative Youth Justice initiatives, and identified ways Cities, Schools and Individuals can address Climate Change.

Colleen has also served as the Content Editor for MedShadow.org, the Managing Editor of "Healthy Kids" magazine and the Director of Communications for Family Services of Westchester. She was also the co-author of a book on Pregnancy and Parenting and the co-author of a United Way Report on Third-Grade Reading Levels in 7 Low-Income Communities. She is a 2017 Graduate of Volunteer New York's Leadership Westchester program and received an "Outstanding Community Leader" Award in 2017 from the New Rochelle Council of Community Services, where she served as secretary from 2020 to 2022.



LILY (BASILE) BRADY

Lily (Basile) Brady was born in the Philippines and entered the foster care system there at an early age. She was adopted in 2001 by an American woman who brought Lily to NY. At age 13 Lily came in contact with the Westchester Family Court and was placed in the care and custody of the Westchester Department of Social services for a few years. After foster care, Lily graduated from Barry University and held several jobs. Lily is now married to ex-NFL player, Donald Brady.