



CONCERNED BLACK MEN OF MASSACHUSETTS, INC.

Andrew J. Davis Jr. 19th Annual Unity Breakfast

Saturday, April 19, 2008 • 9am to 12noon • Boston Marriott Cambridge

“Caring for Our Youth”

Media Advisory

For release • 20 March 2008

- What** **19th Annual Andrew J. Davis Jr. Unity Breakfast**
- When** **Saturday, April 19, 2008 • 9am – 12 noon**
Boston Marriott Cambridge • 2 Cambridge Center (Kendall Square), Massachusetts
- Who** **Concerned Black Men of Massachusetts**
- 2008 Theme** **"Rebuilding Community, Empowering Youth"**
This year's theme continues to celebrate the principles upon which the organization was founded and renews its commitment to preparing young men to lead productive lives as contributing members of their home, school, and community environments. Sadly, we find that many of the conditions that led to the founding of CBMM in 1989 — a rise in crime and violence among young people — are with us once again.
- Why** **Paul Robeson Institute For Positive Self-Development (PRI)**
Proceeds from the Unity Breakfast, the primary means of generating funds for CBMM's youth initiatives, will provide critical support to PRI. The youth mentorship program, based each week at the John D. O'Bryant African American Institute at Northeastern University, offers positive and constructive alternatives to crime, violence, drugs, and declining scholastic achievement.
Outstanding young achievers from PRI will be recognized and three exemplary supporters of urban youth initiatives will be honored: Award-winning actor **Clifton Powell** from LA, an Emerson College graduate; **Pastor Ray Hammond, MD**, considered one of New England's most influential spiritual leaders and community servants; and **Chief Anthony Scott**, the first African-American appointed Chief of Police in Holyoke, Massachusetts.
- Featuring** **Piano Prelude • Arrival Entertainment**
Andrew Braxton, lead pianist, Sleeping Bee Jazz Ensemble
Sleeping Bee Jazz Ensemble • Breakfast Entertainment
Specializes in writing, arranging, producing, and performing music
Terrel Harris • Co-emcee
Emmy Award-winning television reporter
PRI student • Co-emcee
To be announced
Branches Steel Band • Youth Performers
Preserving, promoting and exposing youth, adults and families to Caribbean steel drum music
- Awardees** **Clifton Powell • Paul Robeson Leadership Award**
Celebrated actor, producer and director, Clifton Powell has built a resume of great performances in films, on television, and on stage since he began his professional career. With memorable performances on the big screen in the Taylor Hackford film RAY opposite Jamie Foxx and as the unforgettable 'Pinky' in FRIDAY and FRIDAY AFTER NEXT, on television as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in SELMA, LORD, SELMA, and on stage in the national tour of David E. Talbert's THE FABRIC OF A MAN as 'Blair,' opposite Shemar Moore, for which he won the NAACP's Theater Award for Best Actor, he has established himself as a dynamic and versatile actor. A native of Washington D.C., Powell started his acting career at Workshops for Careers in the Arts, a professional program designed to train aspiring young artists. Powell is a graduate of Emerson College with a B.S. in Speech and Education, and now makes his home in Los Angeles. (Full bio: www.cbmm.net)

Pastor Ray Hammond, MD • Paul Robeson Leadership Award

Pastor and Co-founder of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Boston and Executive Director of Bethel's Generation Excel program, Pastor Hammond has a long history of involvement with youth and community activities. He is Chairman and Co-Founder of the Boston TenPoint Coalition, an ecumenical group of Christian clergy and lay leaders working to mobilize the greater Boston community around issues affecting black youth. In addition, he serves in a leadership capacity for numerous religious, community, academic and policy organizations, including Chairman of The Boston Foundation; Executive Committee Member for the Black Ministerial Alliance; Vice President for Membership of the Boy Scouts Minuteman Council; Trustee for Catholic Charities of Boston, United Way of Massachusetts Bay, and Yawkey Foundation; and Director for the Boston Globe and Citizens Bank of Massachusetts. Pastor Hammond also continues to work in local and district youth activities in the AME Church. (Full bio: www.cbmm.net)

Chief Anthony Scott • Paul Robeson Community Service Award

In May of 2001, Chief Anthony Scott became the first African-American appointed Chief of Police in Holyoke, Massachusetts where he currently serves. He was appointed by former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney to the Governor's Commission on Criminal Justice Innovation and has received several community awards since becoming Holyoke's Police Chief. A chapter dedicated to Chief Scott in "Long River Winding: Life, Love & Death Along the Connecticut," a book published in 2003, chronicles individuals who have impacted quality of life in the Connecticut River Valley. (Full bio: www.cbmm.net)

Outstanding Student Achievement Recognitions

- PRI Essay Contest winners and other outstanding young men
- Mary McLeod Bethune Institute scholarship winners

CBMM

Concerned Black Men of Massachusetts

In April 1989, a group of 10 Black men from around the Boston area met to discuss quality of life issues for African Americans. From this gathering, CBMM was formed and the non-profit organization was incorporated on June 21 of that year. CBMM is comprised of a partnership of men from different backgrounds and professional disciplines, working in spirited cooperation with women and families. The organization is dedicated to asserting the Black male's significance to the perpetuation of family and community cohesiveness through education, social, and cultural principles, and economic interdependence.

PRI

Paul Robeson Institute for Positive Self Development

CBMM believes young people are capable of making positive life choices when provided viable and constructive alternatives to the negative influences they encounter every day. Through PRI's Saturday academy, CBMM helps as many as 150 at-risk, inner-city male youth each week during the school year. PRI mentors — academic professionals, business leaders, science and technology experts, and exemplary college students — present students with alternatives to drugs, gangs, and violence, and provide academic, physical, and social enrichment programs. From its base at Northeastern University, PRI operates on Saturdays from 8:30am to 12noon, in concert with the public school calendar. It serves boys ages 7 through young adult in the Paul Robeson Academy (grades 3 - 6), the Boys to Men Program (grades 7 - 8), and the D-Two Program (grades 9 -12).

In memoriam

Andrew J. Davis Jr.

CBMM is dedicated to community service, as exemplified by the late Andrew J. Davis Jr., who took great pride in his work with CBMM and his efforts to mentor youth in the Greater Boston area. Davis' years of service garnered many awards, including the 1989 Good Neighbor Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the 1996 Boston Herald Community Hero Olympic Torch Relay Award, and the 1999 Alston-Brighton Unsung Hero Award. (Full bio: www.cbmm.net)

Tickets & Information

\$30 in advance • \$40 at the door

To purchase tickets or for more information about CBMM, PRI, the 2008 breakfast, and this year's awardees, visit www.cbmm.net, or call New Image Associates at 617.541.8642

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EDITORS NOTE:

Color and black-and-white photos and interviews with awardees available on request.

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