

UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY

2023-2024
EDITION

DENTON JUNETEENTH

ZAHMARIA CHOICE
MISS DENTON 2024

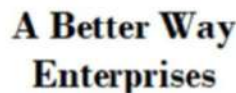
Honoring Legacy

WWW.DENTONJUNETEENTH.COM



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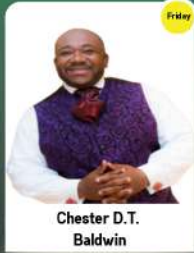
Honoring Legacy

DENTON JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

JUNE 14-19



Carolyn Traylor



Chester D.T. Baldwin



The Hawkins Boys

Friday
3:00 PM - Virtual Celebration
5:00 PM - Vendor Booths Open
6:00 PM - Gospel Night

Saturday
TBA - Basketball Tournament
8:00 AM - Softball Tournament
9:30 AM - XTREME HIP HOP (Fred Moore Park Basketball Court)
10:00 AM - Vendor Booths
10:30 AM - DJ Spinn Mo
10:30 AM - Children's Activities Open
10:30 AM - Parade
10:30 AM - Art Exhibit featuring Jedaiah Love Vann (Greater Denton Arts Council)
11:00 AM - Flag Football Tournament
1:00 PM - Heroes Luncheon Honoring Divine Nine Presidents (American Legion Hall Senior Center)
1:00 PM - Youth Talent Show
3:00 PM - Film Viewing: Olympic Pride - American Prejudice
4:30 PM - DJ Contest
6:30 PM - Live Music (Ends at 10:00 PM)



Larry Brooks & Nu Zion Travelers



K.Avett



DJ Spinn Mo

Monday
6:00 PM - Networking Mixer at North Central Texas College

Tuesday
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Family Search Genealogy Workshop (American Legion Hall Senior Center)
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM - Family Search Genealogy Workshop (American Legion Hall Senior Center)

Wednesday
11:00 AM - Flag Football Championship
7:00 PM - Poetry Slam featuring Black Caesar (MLK Jr. Rec. Center)



Dana Harper



Jedaiah Love Vann



Paul Born A Star Parker



CAAMIK



Yolanda Ford



Eyece



Fingerprints



Cadillac Muzik



Pluto The Perfect



Black Caesar

REMEMBERING OUR PAST - CELEBRATING FREEDOM

DENTONJUNETEENTH.COM

message from our chairman



WILLIE HUDSPEDTH

Happy Juneteenth! This year promised to be something special, and our God delivered. Juneteenth Celebration 2024 theme included the words Honoring Legacy. Well legacy has many definitions, but usually 'being given a gift or something left by ancestors' come to mind when we think of legacy. It was our desire as a committee to remember the gift of freedom that was given to us by the blood, sweat, tears, sacrifices, and very lives of our ancestors by thanking the creator for their lives, teaching our youth about the reason we have a holiday, and to celebrate because they couldn't so we could!

This was our first time offering a week of planned activities for our community. Over the years, we've received requests for poetry, art, networking and by the grace of God we were able to deliver all of it. THANK YOU to the City of Denton and Denton Parks Foundation for your continuous support of the festivities. Modern Woodman Fraternal Financial, Denton Housing Authority, Denton County Transportation Authority, Point Bank, Best Western Premier Crown Chase Inn & Suites, Denton Black Film Festival, Advantage Hail Repair, Bell Avenue Storage, Juneteenth.University, Empowered Outreach Church, and Just Serve.org.

Your sponsorship of this year's activities means so much. The great tennis player, Althea Gibson said, "No matter what accomplishments you make, somebody helped you" and nothing could be more true-sponsors- THANK YOU so very much.

Chester D.T. Baldwin and MP3 sang his number 1 hit, God is Good and reminded us that despite the challenges we face, God is good. I can say the week of activities was hard work, but blessed a lot of people. So, Denton Juneteenth Committee, thank you for your diligence, creativity and talents that you render freely year after year.

I believe we let freedom ring in Fred Moore Park, at North Central Texas College Downtown, the Martin L. King, Jr. Recreation Center, and at the Greater Denton Arts Council. Let's continue to let the melodies of freedom flow through each of us as we march on to victory in our everyday lives until we meet again next June. It is my hope that we will leave a thirst and hunger for freedom in the community members that celebrate with us, especially the young people. Of course, I must say thank you to my wife, Dr. Doretha Hudspeth, and Mayor Gerard Hudspeth for your continued support.

In conclusion, don't get caught Daydreaming as Dana Harper sings. Let's be intentional about lifting each other. Let's choose to be a hand up and not a burden. Finally let's choose to honor legacy as we continue the fight for freedom. "For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others" -Nelson Mandela.

Grateful,

**Willie Hudspeth,
Chair**



In a heartwarming display of community spirit and unity, the students of Rivera Elementary School can now enjoy a fully restored soccer field thanks to the efforts of local volunteers, businesses, and organizations. The project, completed just in time for the school year, was celebrated during a ribbon-cutting ceremony that underscored the importance of community partnerships.

The initiative was spearheaded by the Denton Juneteenth Committee and supported by JustServe North Texas, showcasing the power of collective action. "The connections for the things that we needed just fell into place," said Robbie Evans, communications director for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and member of the Denton Juneteenth Committee. "As we talked about the service project, all of a sudden, there were connections of somebody who had bleachers to give us. We had connections for grass, and Tri-Tex Grass was able to donate the 15 pallets of sod needed to cover the field."

For years, students at Rivera Elementary had been unable to fully enjoy soccer at their school due to the poor condition of the field. Instead, they often crossed the street to the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center to play. Recognizing the need for improvement, the community rallied together to give these students a safe and enjoyable space to play closer to home.

The restoration project, which began last fall and wrapped up in May, involved extensive work, including leveling the ground and laying fresh sod. Volunteers also brought in equipment, donated soccer balls, and provided water hoses to ensure the field remains in top shape for the kids.



JUSTSERVE.ORG

THOMAS

RIVERA

ELEMENTARY SOCCER FIELD DEDICATION



**COMMUNITY
COLLABORATION
SCORES A GOAL:**

**RIVERA ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL GETS A
MUCH-NEEDED
SOCCER FIELD
UPGRADE**





“

That's really what it's all about, Helping the kids, helping them become happy individuals, and giving them a place to play that is safe

Robbie Evans

The new field stands as a symbol of unity, community pride, and the positive impact of service. With a fresh, green field now ready for action, Rivera Elementary students have a place to call their own and build lifelong memories.

Volunteer
PROJECT

dentonjuneteenth.com/volunteer

ZAHMARIA

THE
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TECHNOLOGY NOW

UNDER THE SCOPE



ZAHMARIA CHOICE MISS DENTON

As the reigning Miss Denton, Zahmaria is dedicated to making a positive impact both in her professional life and her community. With a degree in Political Science from Howard University, she has embodied the motto "Truth and Service" while building a successful career in community development banking, where she applies her expertise to drive meaningful change.



EMPOWERING CHANGE THROUGH LOVE

Beyond her career, Zahmaria is passionate about community service. Using her platform and position as a brand ambassador for the Miss America Opportunity, she has led several events in the DFW area ranging from public space revitalization to CPR. Additionally, Zahmaria is passionate about youth involvement. She currently leads "Little Wings, Big Impact," a project-based learning program that teaches students how to build robust service projects in service of their community.

Through her nonprofit organization, "Butterfly Effect," Zahmaria continues to inspire others to believe in the power of small actions to create significant, lasting change. As Booker T. Washington wisely said, "If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else."

In all she does, Zahmaria lives by the words of the hymn "Love Lifted Me," believing that love, in action, is the greatest force for change.



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR ARTIST AND PHOTOGRAPHERS
VIEW MORE AT
<https://carawayphotography.zenfolio.com/dentonjuneteenth>



CHARLA DEZHON JEDAIAH
NICHOLS JOHNSON VANN



**THE
GREY
AREA**



Jedaiah Vann

AT THE
GREATER
DENTON
ARTS
COUNCIL



"The Grey Area" is a captivating art collection that delves into the nuances of human perception and societal polarization. In this thought-provoking exhibition, Jedaiah explores the concept of the "grey area" as the ambiguous space between two extremes, where many people often find themselves navigating. Through this season's medium of choice, the collection sheds light on how the world's extreme views on both ends of the spectrum can alienate and perplex individuals, leaving them adrift in uncertainty. The artworks challenge viewers to confront the complexities of contemporary discourse and discomfort. Themes of ambiguity, contradiction, and the duality of human nature are prevalent throughout the collection. Jedaiah explores the tension between opposing ideologies, the blurred lines between right and wrong, and the struggle to find common ground in a polarized world. Each piece invites viewers to reflect on their own perspectives, biases, and assumptions, encouraging a deeper examination of the shades of grey that permeate our lives. "The Grey Area" serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of empathy, open-mindedness, and critical thinking in navigating the complexities of modern society.





Special Thanks To

City Of Denton

Parks Foundation

Denton Housing Authority

Modern Woodmen Fraternal

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DCTA

A Better Way Enterprise

Bell Avenue Storage

Best Western Premier

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Advantage Hair Repair

Just Serve

Juneteenth University

Caraway Business Solutions

Clark & Clark BBQ

Denton Black Film Festival

Denton Record Chronical

Stay Ready

Strittmatter Counseling

CELEBRATE WITH US



GET YOUR SWAG



dentonjuneteenth.com

**NEW
LOGO**





2024

GRAND MARSHAL



CARRIE LAWSON

Mrs. Carrie Lawson was born in a small town, Frierson, LA, but raised in Evelyn, LA. Later, she married the love of her life, Sam Lawson on January 19, 1957. After marriage, they moved their family (2 sons and 4 daughters) to Denton, Texas. She has resided in Denton for 57 years.

Mrs. Lawson is a faithful member of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, where she has served for over 50 years. Her service areas over the 50 years include the choir, Kitchen Committee-Chairperson, Deaconess, and Mother to many! She finds the good in everyone and truly loves all.

Her favorite Bible verse is Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me." If she could, she would feed the City every Sunday. This is just one representative idea of how big her heart is and the love she has for people.

2024

MR. & MS. JUNETEENTH



JOSHUA & NICOLE WEBB

NextGen Pastor Joshua M. Webb, was born & raised in Desoto, TX & a proud graduate of Desoto H. S. Josh took his love for football and became a Coach for Cedar Hill H. S. where he received TWO State Championships as he served the youth. Webb presently works for Kingdom Collegiate Academy at OCBF as the Spiritual Formation Director in Christian Education. He is also pursuing a degree in Theological Studies. Currently, he serves as the Pastor of the NextGen Student Ministry at Pleasant Grove B. C. Of Denton. Pastor Josh ministers to the youth by creating a space for growth, mentorship, & identity in Christ for every generation even college students in the Denton community.

NextGen Pastor Joshua Webb, is proudly married to his wife Margaret Nicole Banks-Webb, born to Beverly Tutt in Dallas, TX & a graduate of Cedar Hill H. S. Nicole, went on to graduate from Prairie View A&M University with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Marketing. She later started a marketing company Endless Network, LLC that helps businesses & nonprofits with marketing & media. She currently works at Uplift Summit as a Digital Media Educator. As she faithfully serves next to her husband, she is also committed to the mission of pouring into women in the Denton community as the President of the Ministers Wives and Widows Ministry for the North Eastern District Baptist Association in Denton under the leadership of Pastor Henry Thomas. The Webb's are proud parents to Magdalene & Daniel. Pastor Joshua & Lady Nicole Banks-Webb, both serve under the leadership of Senior Pastor H. D. Webb, II & First Lady Barbara Webb at Pleasant Grove

2024

COMMUNITY SERVICE



CLIFTON MAXFIELD

Hailing from Springtown, Arkansas, Clifton is a dedicated father of two daughters and a proud grandfather. In February 2007, he purchased People's Funeral Home and has since served as its owner and general manager. An alumnus of the Dallas Institute of Funeral Service, Clifton is also the President and General Manager of Ace Three, Inc., a company renowned for its pursuit of excellence and professionalism in the Death Care Industry, ready to tackle the challenges of the twenty-first century.

Additionally, Clifton operates Maxfield's Gift to Life Corporation, Inc., where he is committed to helping others overcome life's challenges. He offers workshops that teach valuable coping mechanisms to deal with issues such as depression and anxiety.

Clifton Maxfield's dedication to the City of Denton and its citizens is truly remarkable. Join us in celebrating his unwavering commitment to our community!



Hometown Heroes



Johnny Ray Adkins



- ▶ born in Dallas, Tx. 59 y/o
- ▶ Marital Status: Married w/ 3 daughters and 4 grandchildren
- ▶ Education: Bishop Dunne Catholic School. and North Texas State University
- ▶ Occupation: Field Rep. for the Department of Commerce for 19 years
- ▶ Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. for 40 yrs.
- ▶ Chairman for the Community Action Committee for The Dynamic Denton-Lewisville Alumni Chapter of K A Psi. We strive to be a strong and positive influence Denton Co.
- ▶ I love being of service to others. DLA has a motto: Brotherhood 1st.

Cleopatra Birckbichler



Born and raised in the City of Denton and worked for the City of Denton Police Department for more than 24 years as a Detention Officer and a Police Officer. She is the first black female Police Officer for the City of Denton. Cleo also served as an Adjunct Professor at North Central Texas College in Corinth, Texas and she is currently an 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher for the Denton Independent School District and serves as the Social Studies Department Chair and 8th Grade Team Lead. She was named the 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year at Rodriguez Middle School for the Denton Independent School District.

Cleo graduated from Texas Woman's University in May of 1995, receiving a bachelor's degree in criminal justice with a minor in History. She has served on the City of Denton Library Board and has served as the Chair.

She is a proud and dedicated member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated-Denton County Alumnae Chapter, where she currently serves as the Chapter President. Cleo also serves as the Delta Southwest Regional Investigator Coordinator and as the Primary Advisor for the Zeta Eta Chapter at the University of North Texas, where she was awarded the 2023-2024 Advisor of the Year.

She has been married to Tom Birckbichler, a Denton Police Officer for 26 years and they have an intelligent and beautiful daughter that is a senior at the University of North Texas and who is the President of the Zeta Eta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Cleo is very family oriented and loves giving back to the community. She is extremely dedicated to the Denton County Community.

Kalen Birckbichler



Born and raised in the City of Denton. She is a senior at the University of North Texas majoring in Human Resource Management. She currently serves as the President of the Zeta Eta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., in which they were recently awarded the National Pan Hellenic Council Chapter of the Year.

Kalen has made the President's List and/or the Dean's List since she has been a student at the University of North Texas. She has served as a member of the NAACP at UNT as well as BSU-Black Student Union. She served as a mentor for the Black Student Experience. She is a member of the Order of Omega and Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society.

Kalen is dedicated to serving the community of Denton in which she volunteers her time on numerous worthy projects. She enjoys reading, learning, volunteering, and spending time with family and friends.

Upon graduation Kalen plans to attend graduate school and obtain a master's degree in Sports Entertainment Management.

Donald Crayton



- ▶ Donald is a proud member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He was initiated into the organization in January of 2008 thru Pi Beta Chapter of Illinois State University. He is the current Basileus of the Eta Mu Mu Chapter here in Denton, TX. He and his family reside in Little Elm, TX.

Steve Johnson



Steve A. Johnson was born in Texarkana, AR. He attended Liberty - Eylau and graduated in 1977. Attended the University of North Texas on a track scholarship where he obtained a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice in 1983. He started his career in criminal justice as a Juvenile Probation Officer at Denton County Juvenile Probation Office from September 1983 until January 1991. Upon leaving Denton County Juvenile Probation Office, he obtained employment with the United States Probation Department as a United States Probation Officer for the Eastern District of Texas in February 1991. In September 2015, he retired from the probation office as a Senior United States Probation Officer for the Eastern District of Texas. He has two children and three grandchildren.

Eric Hill



A graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a bachelor's degree in education and a minor in Legal Studies.

Resident of Anna, Texas since 2020

Presently employed as Senior Customer Success Manager with RealPage Incorporated.

Was initiated into Phi Beta Sigma, Fraternity, Incorporated, Xi Delta Chapter on April 13, 1991.

Saphire Life Member SLM123

- Current President of Phi Beta Sigma, Fraternity, Incorporated - Omicron Sigma Chapter
- First Vice President - Omicron Sigma Chapter
- MIP Chairmen for Omicron Sigma Chapter
- Served as Director of Bigger & Better Business on chapter, State and Regional levels
- Served on International Bigger & Better Business Team
- Served as Second Vice President Omicron Sigma Chapter
- Chaired major fundraising events for the Omicron Sigma Chapter
- Immediate Past President of National Pan - Hellenic Council North Dallas Suburbia Chapter
- Have served in leadership roles within National Pan - Hellenic Council North Dallas Suburbia Chapter as Pan Rep representative for Omicron Sigma Chapter. In this capacity I also served as Parliamentarian, Financial Secretary, Vice President and President.
- Served as a member of the International Human Resources Committee with Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated.
- Currently serves as a member of the Honorary Brotherhood Committee within Phi Beta Sigma, Fraternity, Inc.

In addition to service with Phi Beta Sigma, Fraternity, I enjoy travelling, spending time with family and friends and service with his Prince Hall Mason Lodge, John R. Lewis #280.

Roger McLaughlin



Pledged and crossed into Omega Psi Phi on Saturday, November 20, 1976 at Zeta Chapter, Virginia Union University. He was number four on the line of four young men who were all sophomores. Originally from Williamsburg, VA, Roger obtained his B.S. in Math at Virginia Union and also holds a B.S. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Howard University.

Roger currently resides in Lewisville with his wife Cheryl and daughter Dohre'. He has an older daughter Brittany who resides in Dallas with her daughter Marleigh. He is currently employed by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma as an IT Project Manager.

Bradaisea Ridge-Law



- ▶ Bradaisea Ridge-Law is a dedicated MBA candidate at Texas Woman's University, where she combines her academic pursuits with a passion for community service and leadership. Since being initiated into Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated in Spring 2022, Bradaisea has demonstrated her commitment to the sorority's values and mission by serving as both president and public relations chair of her undergraduate chapter. During her tenure, she has accumulated over 100 hours of community service, showcasing her dedication to making a positive impact.
- ▶ In addition to her academic and sorority responsibilities, Bradaisea is an entrepreneur, running her own T-shirt making business, Vinyl Visions Custom Designs. Her business focuses on creating affordable custom items, ensuring that personalized apparel is accessible to everyone. Through Vinyl Visions, she also strives to give back to the community, furthering her commitment to service and social responsibility.
- ▶ Bradaisea's unique blend of leadership, community service, and entrepreneurial spirit highlights her as a dynamic and influential figure, both within her academic institution and the broader community.

Katina Stone-Butler



Is a classically trained singer/songwriter, activist, and entrepreneur. She co-hosts the "Black History for White People" podcast, which boasts approximately 45,000 global listeners and nearly 2 million downloads since its July 2020 debut. The podcast expanded its reach with a book in September 2022. She founded The Fountain to support Black women and other women of color via the intersection of faith, culture, and creativity. Her new company, Hood Sensory, provides stylish sensory apparel for those with neurodivergent and sensory conditions, emphasizing the Black and indigenous perspective. Her song "Black Requiem" powerfully advocates for the dignity of Black lives, showcasing her dedication to using justice artistry as a voice for social change. Katina is a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc, Phi Psi Zeta Lewisville Chapter. She resides in Denton with her husband of 26 years and three sons.

Brandy Nicole Todd - Barnes



Is the youngest and only girl born to her parents, Joe and Karen. She is the product of Moss Point School District, located in Moss Point, MS. After graduating in 2005, she attended the Alpha Lyrae Vega - Talladega College, located in Talladega, AL. There she obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and Economics. While at Talladega, she joined Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. via the Iota chapter in the Fall of 2007. In 2010, she returned home, then moved to Dallas, TX in 2012. She holds two Master degrees, Human Resources and Management from Walden University. Since moving to Dallas Metroplex, Brandy has been very active in the community and her Sorority. Internationally, Brandy serves Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. in many capacities such as International Finance Committee, Chapter Charter/Expansion Committee and Vice - Director of Research and Special Projects. Locally, she is one of the "Electrifying Eight" Presidents in the DFW Metroplex. Brandy proudly serves as the leader of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. - The Phenomenal Progressive Phi Psi Zeta chapter (or as she likes to say, "The Chapter on the Hill") located in Lewisville, TX, serving Denton and Collin Counties. Professionally, Brandy has been in the Auto Finance industry for over 10 years. Currently, she serves as a Dealer Credit Analyst for a Prime Auto Finance company. One of her goals is to continue to make spaces in Corporate America for minorities to grow and thrive. In her spare time, she loves to spend time with family and friends, shop and travel!

Alice D. Walker



Alice D. Walker served as president of the Omega Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. From 2019-2020.

She has won numerous awards including the Women's History Month Salute for her leadership and contributions to the sorority, her chapter, and the community. She supports the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Under her leadership, the chapter committed to serving the Denton MLK Jr. Recreation Center.

LaWanna Willis



A native of Mississippi, attended Jackson State University where she graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and a Master in Public Accountancy. LaWanna believes that when we are united as "ONE" we are stronger together in love, purpose, and service for all mankind.

LaWanna currently serves as President of the Omega Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® as well as, a Board Advisor for the Alliance for a Brighter Community Foundation. With a heart for service, she has made significant impacts in her community while serving her chapter in the following leadership roles: First and Second Vice President; Assistant Treasurer; HBCU for Life Chairman; Think HBCU Co-Chairman, the Alliance for a Brighter Community Foundation Board of Directors, and ABC Foundation Treasurer. She is an active member of several committees. As a servant leader, she is an active participant in all international and community program initiatives. LaWanna is a two-time recipient of the Omega Alpha Omega Chapter Member of the Year.

Professionally, LaWanna has over 20 years of accounting and audit experience. She is currently a Risk Management and Governance Manager for a fortune 500 aerospace and defense company. She is an active member of the Employee Resource Groups where she currently serves in a Global Finance role. She has served in several Regional and local roles to support diversity and inclusion efforts, retention, and recruitment. In addition, she volunteers with the company's community outreach efforts.

LaWanna is a Life Member of the Jackson State University National Alumni Association and an active member of the DFW JSU Chapter. She currently mentors several JSU students and is a certified STAR Recruiter. She also serves on the Student Recruitment, Scholarship, and Fundraising committees.

In her free time, she enjoys traveling and loves nothing more than spending time with her family and friends. She credits her parents for instilling the importance of family and helping others. She knows that all things are possible with God.

Jesse Watts



Jesse Henry Watts Jr. comes from a long line of men in service. Following in the footsteps of his grandfather and father, he spent 20 years in the U.S. Army serving his country through 2 deployments and retired with an honorable discharge. Jesse spends his time enjoying the many pleasures of life: video games, comics, attending musicals and supporting the arts, and reading anything he can get his hands on. He does all of this while remaining devoted to his family and God. Jesse attended Fayetteville Technical Community College and earned 3 Associates Degrees: computer programming, cyber security, and computer networking. He currently attends Texas Woman's University where he is pursuing a Bachelors in Computer Science with a minor in Business. In the spring of 2024, Jesse joined the brotherhood of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. With his brothers and family he hopes to continue his education and personal growth as he pursues his passions.



Performing Artist

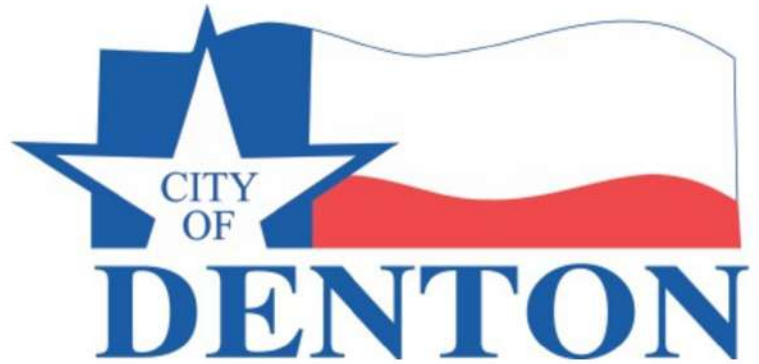


The Hawkins Boys



The Hawkins Boys, a contemporary gospel soul group, uniquely blend traditional gospel vocals with smooth, inspirational contemporary melodies. Comprised of Joe, Rick, Lemuel “Lamar” Hawkins, Aaron Gordon, and Rickey Griggs Jr., the group aims to share music that reaches multi-generational and cross-cultural audiences. Their EP *Vanquish*, released under Melvin Williams Entertainment, reflects their mission to inspire and uplift through faith-based music. Natives of Dallas, Texas, the group formed after a spiritual call led brothers Lemuel and Joe back to their musical roots. Known for their soul-stirring performances and passion for ministry, The Hawkins Boys use their platform to reach young people and convey God’s love. Their single, “Great Change,” written during the pandemic, echoes their message of hope and faith. Through prayer and teamwork, the group overcomes challenges and continues ministering, recently touring with gospel legend Fred Hammond.

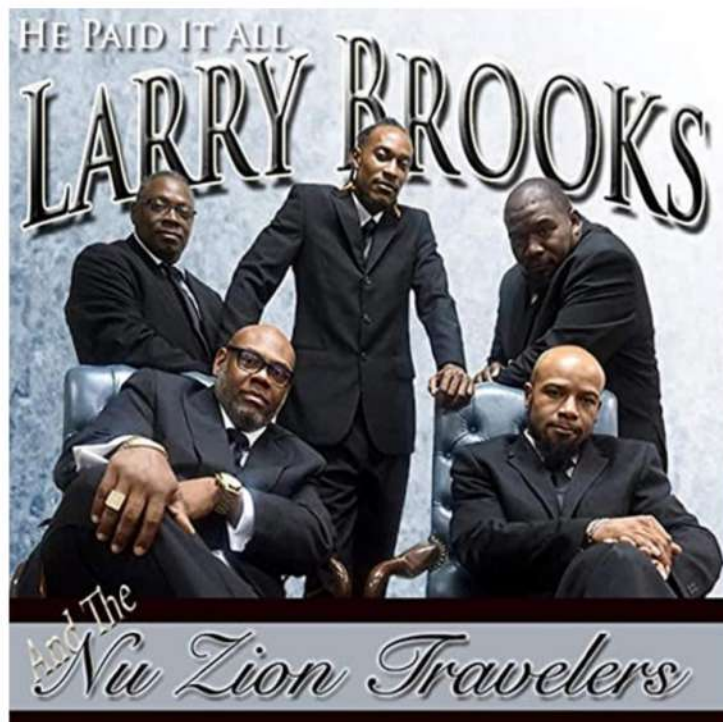




Chester D.T. Baldwin

Chester D. T. Baldwin, affectionately known as the "Prime Minister of Praise," is a prominent figure in the gospel music world. With over four decades of experience, his influence is unparalleled, making him a highly sought-after recording artist and church choir workshop clinician. Raised in Liberty, Texas, Chester's musical talents emerged early, playing for his church by age 12 and becoming minister of music at 15. His no-nonsense approach emphasizes discipline and reverence in gospel music, with his workshops transforming church music ministries across the U.S. and internationally. Chester's unique blend of traditional and contemporary gospel has garnered him numerous accolades, including nominations for Stellar and Soul Train Awards. Beyond his music, Chester is a devoted father and grandfather, known for his unwavering faith and leadership in the gospel community.

Larry Brooks & The New Zion Travelers of Dallas Texas is no strangers to the quartet world of gospel, you may recognize me through my gifts of playing Keyborad, Bass, & Lead Guitar, some of my resume list Willie Neal Johnson & The Keynotes of Tyler Texas, The Texas Boys, The Zion Travelers (with my father) and more, we have a new CD release looking to come to your city soon, We are currently working on our 2012 calendar, for booking engagements, radio/television interviews, live shows and more contact Gee Timmons CEO GTProductions (fb) inbox. We will keep you posted on our upcoming schedules, information booking engagements and more contact Gee Timmons CEO GTProductions Thank you Larry Brooks & TNZT



K.Avett



K.Avett (pronounced "Kay-uh-vet") is a talented recording artist, songwriter, and Registered Nurse whose unique blend of R&B and Jazz has captivated audiences worldwide. Her debut album, *Revelations: Manifestations of My Truths*, and the standout track "The Matter" gained her the prestigious Indie Soul Grammy Award. Her second album, *Lioness*, demonstrated her artistic growth, topping UK Soul Charts and earning her nominations from Soultracks. Known for her dynamic stage presence, she has performed at notable venues and opened for artists like Corrine Bailey Rae. Beyond live performances, K.Avett's music has featured in indie films, and her parallel career in nursing underscores her belief that "Music IS medicine." As she works on a new EP, fans eagerly await her return, ready to be inspired by her soulful, healing artistry.

Dana Harper

Dana Harper is a remarkable vocalist known for her soul-stirring performances on NBC's *The Voice* and a journey shaped by passion, perseverance, and talent. The daughter of NBA player Derek Harper, Dana found constant inspiration in music despite a life of travel. Her high school choir achievements, including becoming the #1 tenor in Texas, underscored her vocal skill. Moving to New York for college, she immersed herself in the city's vibrant music scene, performing at iconic venues like Showtime at the Apollo. She also earned recognition on TV, placing second on BET's *106 & Park* and winning MTV's *Wild 'N Out Wednesday*. Now based in Dallas, Dana's performances are booked solely by word of mouth, a testament to her talent and personal connections. Her story highlights the enduring power of live performances and personal relationships in the music industry.



A Better Way
ENTERPRISE

Special Thanks From Our Committee & Volunteers

Cheydon

First, thank you to the City of Denton and the Parks Foundation for your continued support. Then, a tremendous shout of thanks to the MLK Jr. Rec Center staff for fielding questions and your outstanding customer service to the committee. Finally, DeMichael & Chason, mommy loves and appreciates you for every late evening, box carried, table set-up and errand ran...thanks! The Bridget, thanks for all the promotions.

I am most grateful to every artist and to Pastor Larry Davies for making this Juneteenth Celebration one of worship and entertainment. Hats off to the committee for your faithfulness. May God keep blessing us to create unity in the community. Love y'all, Cheydon

Birdia

First and foremost I would like to thank God for giving me life health and strength . I would also like to thank twin soles. for their constant donation . Isaac & Ezekiel Johnson they have been my go to weather running errands ,research, helping me to reach our goals. my entire family for giving me liberty to serve the city of Denton.last but not least my Husband Michael Johnson who continues to support me in my endeavors. Family you rock. Sincerely Birdia Johnson

Meredith

It is with much gratitude that I say THANK YOU for being a huge part of the success of our 2024 Denton Juneteenth Celebration. Without amazing community members, supporting businesses, national and local performers and finally, vendor participants we could not do what we do in the city of Denton every year. I would like to specifically thank Modern Woodmen, Advantage Hail Repair and Bell Avenue Self Storage for being multi-year supporters of our event! We could not do this without you guys!



*"Unity In The
Community."*



**denton
PARKS
FOUNDATION**

As an accomplished National Recording Artist, Minister of Music, songwriter, producer, and community activist Kathy Taylor has been appointed for a time such as this to bring music that not only inspires, but encourages, uplifts, and heals the spirit and soul of mankind. Kathy is the walking embodiment of the term “Minister of Music”.

Her musical gifts have brought her before both national and world leaders. She has ministered before Queen Elizabeth, former President Bill Clinton, Senator Hillary Clinton, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Cicely Tyson, Maya Angelou, and many others. Kathy has received resounding critical acclaim for her outstanding, soul-stirring and inspirational performances.

She began her recording career as a soloist with the legendary James Cleveland’s Gospel Music of America and The Mass Choir. She was the featured vocalist on songs such as, “Anticipation”, “It’s Your Decision”, “He Did It” and “I Got My Joy Back”. These projects, along with her captivating and live performances have catapulted Kathy into the national spotlight.

In her never-ending quest to serve the Kingdom of God, Kathy answered her calling and founded Kathy Taylor and Favor, a multi-talented singing ensemble known for their meticulous and breath-taking harmonies. They have graced the stage with many of today’s most renowned gospel artists. To their acclaim, they have released three projects to date. The first two albums produced by Kathy were entitled, “He’s Worthy” and “What Would It Profit Me to Gain the Whole World and Lose My Soul?”, which were both well received. The third album, “Taylormade”, was released on Aleho International Records, under the leadership of gospel music executive, Al ‘The Bishop’ Hobbs, and produced by Grammy Award winning, legendary gospel music producer, Sanchez Harley. This powerful collaboration produced an incredible project that yielded a Stellar Award Nomination.

DISCOGRAPHY:

- He’s Worthy
- What Would It Profit Me to Gain the Whole World and Lose My Soul?
- Taylormade

Kathy’s purpose is tri-fold. She has fully embraced her mission to carry the gospel in song all over the world. Through Kathy, God continues to pour out His Spirit. Her dedication to the Body of Christ and limitless love of God places Kathy in a unique position to minister the “Good News” of Jesus Christ. Today, Kathy allows herself to be a vessel God can use to pour out His spirit upon all flesh, for tomorrow she desires to make the music relevant to the next generation. For yesterday, she stands humbly on the shoulders of her mother and grandmother to carry the gospel in song to the uttermost parts of the world.

DENTON
JUNETEENTH
CELEBRATION

Virtual artist

Yolanda Ford

Breanna Cox – Ms. Juneteenth

Zahmaria Choice

Charlotte McCartney, Tonya W. Johnson, Pianist

DeSean Norman

Mother Jerusha Smith

Katlyn Robinson

James Vivian & the LB Band

iPromise Dance Team

Varinia Peace

Denton Theatre's Dream Girls under the direction
of Elizabeth Moose. Cast: featuring: Travis Brown

as Curtis, Imari Powell as Effie White, Adia

Harkless as Deena Jones, Micaela Workman as

Jimmy "Thunder" Early, Sashaine Walter –

Lorrell Robinson; Blake Oliver as CC White,

ChiChi Omedga as Michele Morris

Theresa Buntain, Jolanda Pegues, Jackie Lawson

Dezhon Johnson

Thank you!

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

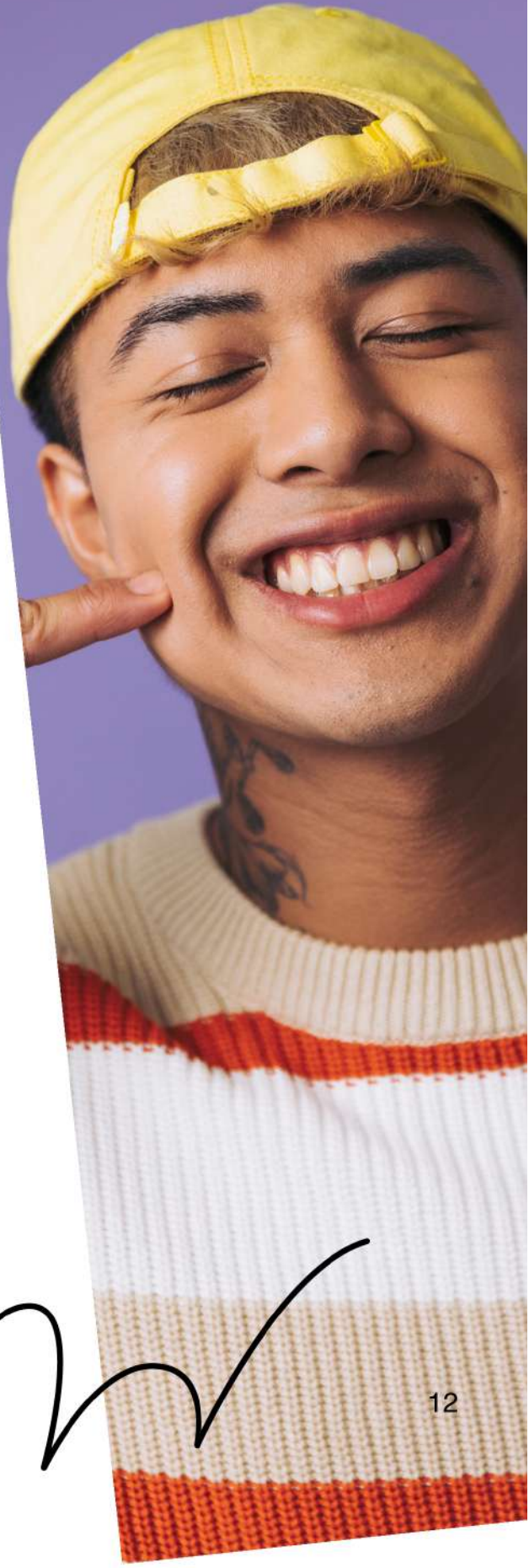
Cheyron Brown

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Anthony R. Caraway

VIDEO PRODUCTION SPECIALIST

Solid Rock Productions LLC.



SPINNIN'
M O
RECORDS



Robbie Evans

I want to extend my deepest gratitude for your incredible support and dedication to making this year's Juneteenth celebration a success. Your passion and commitment helped create an event that truly honored the spirit and significance of this important day. Your efforts with the children activities, heritage art program, first aide booth, stage hands, runners, and especially Mayor Hudspeth in the dunking booth, were invaluable, and your energy and enthusiasm made a real impact on everyone who attended. Thanks to you, we were able to celebrate freedom, heritage, and community in a way that was both meaningful and memorable. Volunteers like you are the heart of this celebration, and we are so grateful for everything you've done. Thank you for being a vital part of this event and for helping us continue to uplift and celebrate our shared history. With heartfelt appreciation,

Robbie Evans
JustServe.org

Frank Cudd

Dear Volunteers and Donors,

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the 2024 Juneteenth service project at Tomas Rivera Elementary School. The new soccer field will have a lasting impact on the students, whose academic scores have improved significantly through participation in outdoor sports.

Special thanks to Richard Clarke, Director of Carrollton Parks and Recreation, for donating the soccer goals and bleachers, and to Tri-Tex Grass of Pilot Point for providing 15 pallets of grass. We are also grateful to Joseph Johnson Construction for grading the land and moving the grass pallets to the field.

To the incredible volunteers from the community, JustServe, and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—your dedication and hard work in laying out the field on short notice were truly remarkable.

Thanks to each of you, the students at Tomas Rivera Elementary now have a beautiful space to learn, grow, and play.

With gratitude,
Frank Cudd

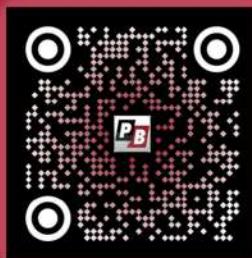


DENTON JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Special Thanks From Our Committee & Volunteers



YOUR NEIGHBORS LOVE US
YOU WILL TOO



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Argyle Aubrey Denton Flower Mound Lake Cities Lewisville Little Elm Pilot Point

