The Pi Iota Chapter and The Pi Iota Education Foundation

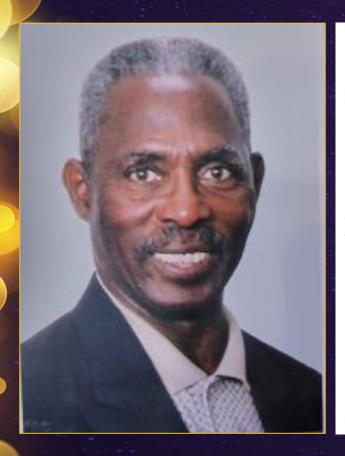
Present

## THE MORRIS LEE WILLIAMS SR. SCHOLARSHIP GALA





#### Morris Lee Williams Sr.



Morris L. Williams Sr. was born in Port Tampa City, Florida. Morris excelled academically and received numerous top honors as a student and played football while attending G.W. Carver High School and George S. Middleton High School. He matriculated to Morehouse College in Atlanta Ga. and then transferred to Florida A&M University where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry. In addition, he enrolled in the R.O.T.C. program and was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Morris received his Masters Degree from the University of South Florida.

Morris was an educator both in and out of the classroom. He spent a plethora of years teaching science and countless hours working with the young and teaching valuable lessons to each of his scholars. At an early age, one of the most valuable lessons he learned was knowing that "Education was the equalizer." Therefore he was enthusiastic about creating educational opportunities for young men and women as evident by the Morris and Christine Williams Scholarship through Keeny United Methodist Church and his longstanding commitment to the Omega Psi Phi Scholarship Programs intended for young men and women in the community.

Morris had a servants heart and extended himself to others because he firmly understood that God belled him to be a blessing, Years later countless students proudly recalled that he offered firm but fair counseling and provided clothes, shoes and other items a student needed to succeed. He served as a teacher and administrator for 41 years in the Hillsborough County Public School System and retired in 1997. As a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity for nearly 70 years, Morris held all chapter executive positions and served on many committees and was the long time chairman of the Pi Iota Chapter scholarship committee. He received the Lifetime Achievement Award as well as the Superior Service Award and the ultimate Omega Man of the Year Award



#### The Pi Iota Educational Foundation

Founded in 2005, the Pi Iota Education Foundation has worked with parents, teachers and counselors to empower and support our youth in the Tampa Bay Community.

This support is provided through education, events, cultural activities and scholarships. We believe that education is the key to building bright futures, strong families and even stronger communities. Our primary focus is to provide financial support to organizations involved in community service and youth pursuing advance education; especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

For more info visit: www.piiotafoundation.org



#### The Pi Iota Chapter



An unincorporated association of The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

During the late nineteen thirties and forties, men of Omega believing in the tenets of the Fraternity, dreamed of establishing a graduate chapter in the Tampa Bay area. The prime mover towards this objective was a young gynecologist, the late Dr. R. R. Williams, Jr. On a balmy October evening in 1946 a first formal get-together at the home of Dr. R.R. Williams was held. Those meeting with J.T. Brooks of Alabama State College and district representatives of the seventh district of the fraternity were: Brothers Gant T. Brison, John Henry Evans, James T. Hargrett Sr., Dr. Allen Lester, Lucious Mills, Garland V. Stewart and Dr. R. Reche Williams. Thus the Pi lota chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was organized.

For more info visit: www.piiota.org

# SPONSORS

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# SPRAIRS



#### Orlando Pizana

Professor Orlando A. Pizana was Born and Raised in Boston. MA. He earned his BA in English from Howard University in Washington, DC, and an MS in English Education from Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL. Currently, he is finishing his Ph.D. dissertation in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of South Florida with an emphasis in Adult Education. He is a 19-year employee at St. Petersburg College where he teaches in the Dept of Communications instructing students in English Composition I, II, Honors Interdisciplinary: Comp & Humanities Studies, and African American Literature, Prof. Pizana serves as a Church Steward and Chair of the Black History Committee at the Greater Mt. Zion AME Church in St. Petersburg, FL., and he is a Life Member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Prof. Pizana's goals include and are not limited to continued and focused development in his career as an instructor, guiding college students through the intricacies of English Reading and Writing Composition, while being an advocate for social action and community development for the sake of our future.



#### Gwen Myers

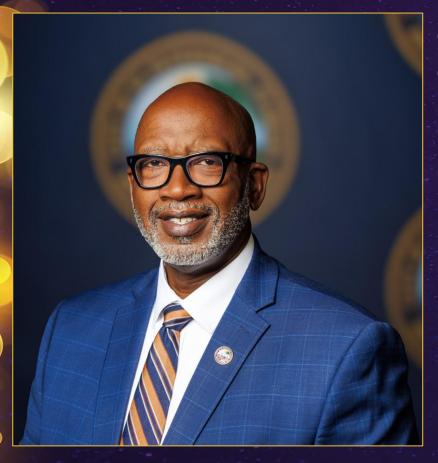
Commissioner, District 3 Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners

Commissioner Gwen Myers is a native and lifelong resident of Hillsborough County. She worked in Hillsborough County Government for 25 Years, from 1988 through 2013, in the departments of Housing and Community Development and Health and Social Services.

She was elected to the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), District 3 November 2020 and re-elected November 2022 to serve her constituents for four more years. She has long been an advocate for improving transportation, affordable housing, and healthcare in the county. She plans to lead the County with the new construction of an African American Art and Cultural Center. Commissioner Myers utilizes the theme, "It's About the People". Commissioner Myers has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration/Accounting from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU).

Since sworn into office, Commissioner Myers continues to work hard fulfilling her campaign promise, "It's About the People".

Commissioner Myers helped lead the County through the COVID-19 crisis during the height of the pandemic, working with the community and local churches ensuring African Americans had access to the COVID-19 vaccine.



#### Kenneth T. Welch

Mayor, City of St. Petersburg

Kenneth T. Welch is the Mayor of St. Petersburg. He is a third generation St. Pete resident, father of two daughters, a graduate of THE Lakewood High School, a fan of the SunRunner and a strong believer that if we keep our eye on Inclusive Progress - it will always lead the way. As Mayor, Ken is working to make St. Pete a city for everyone through his guiding Principals of Accountable Government and Pillars for Progress. You'll often hear him say...."We Are St. Pete!"

### VOCATIONAL

AWARDS

#### **Building Better Brothers**



MISSION: To Transcend the Trajectory of inner city economically disadvantaged middle school males through POSITIVE Exposure Experience Opportunities.

- Exposure LEADS to EXPANSION: The Earlier The Better
- IF THEY DON'T KNOW THEY'LL NEVER GO
- BUILDING BRIDGES FOR OUR YOUNGER BROTHERS TO NAVIGATE LIFE

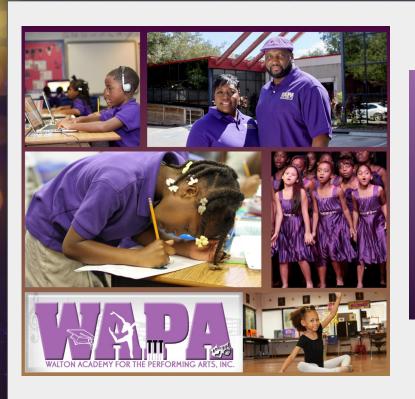
#### The Kingsman



We are a non-profit organization created to help African-American boys attending Title 1 schools get to and through college tuition free



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#### Walton Academy's Voices of Inspiration & Inspire 2 Dance

Voices of Inspiration (VOI) and Inspire 2 Dance (i2D) are an elite group of talented young performers. Our mission is to inspire, encourage and motivate our audiences. For more than 18 years, the students at Walton Academy have pleased the hearts and minds of many community organizations and groups in the state of Florida. These "Little Ambassadors with Eagles' Wings" have given choral, dance and theatrical performances at statewide conferences, senior citizens facilities, universities, hospitals, community festivals and parades.



# UPSILON DELTA LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP



#### **3D Urban Diversity Scholarship Foundation**



Founded in 2022 by the men of the Upsilon Delta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc to continue make a positive lasting impact on the USF and Tampa communities to stand as a legacy representing it's members and their families for generations to come.

#### Mission

The mission of the 3D Urban Diversity Scholarship Foundation is to uplift lives and build an enduring legacy rooted in Dignity, Dedication, and Duty.

We are committed to empowering the Tampa Bay community by supporting undergraduate students, mentoring youth, promoting financial independence, and providing scholarships and resources that open doors for future leaders. Grounded in Honor, Service, and Perseverance, we strengthen our brotherhood and inspire transformation that reaches far beyond today.

#### Vision

The 3D Urban Diversity Scholarship Foundation envisions a future where our legacy outlives us all.

We envision a future where every young person in our community has access to mentorship, financial support, and the tools for success. Through service and unity, we strive to be a beacon of hope, equity, and purpose for generations to come.



#### Nyesa Baptiste

**Award Amount: \$500** 

High School: Douglas County High School, Douglasville, GA

**College: Emory University** 

**Major: Nursing** 



#### Cornell Boyd III

Award Amount: \$500

High School: Jesuit High School, Tampa, FL

**College: Morehouse College** 

**Major: Business Management** 



#### **Chandler White-Brooks**

**Award Amount: \$500** 

High School: Tampa Preparatory School, Tampa, FL

College: Bethune Cookman University

**Major: Political Science** 



#### Marsalis Walton

**Award Amount: \$500** 

High School: Brooks DeBartolo Collegiate High School, Tampa, FL

College: Hillsborough Community College

**Major: Computer Engineering** 

### BOOK

# STIPENIDS



#### 2025 Student Book Stipends

Award	Student	Award	Student
\$1000	Alayna D. Hadley	\$1000	Evan L. Mallory
\$1000	Morgan L. Sheriff	\$1000	Eden Edwards
\$1000	Eva Jasper	\$1000	Cameron Hodges
\$1000	Areon Atkinson		

\*These awards are given out in two \$500 payments

### SCHOLARSHIPS



#### Tyler Vilmenay

Award Amount: \$2500

**High School: Middleton High School** 

Tentative College or University of Attendance:



#### Vynsynt Vann II

Award Amount: \$2500

High School: Hillsborough High School

Tentative College or University of Attendance: University of Florida



#### Kaleb Williams

Award Amount: \$2500

**High School: Middleton High School** 

Tentative College or University of Attendance: Florida State University



#### Johnnie Tyson

Award Amount: \$2500

High School: Tampa Bay Tech

Tentative College or University of Attendance: Peru State



#### **Chad Bryant**

Award Amount: \$2500

**High School: Middleton High School** 

Tentative College or University of Attendance: University of South Florida



#### **Sharod Ford**

Award Amount: \$2500

High School: Florida College Academy Prep

Tentative College or University of Attendance: Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University



#### **Sevion Daniels**

**Award Amount: \$5000** 

**High School: Jefferson High School** 

Tentative College or University of Attendance: Louisiana State University



#### **Ed Shaw**

**Award Amount: \$5000** 

**High School: Jefferson High School** 

Tentative College or University of Attendance: Clark Atlanta, Lane College



#### Malachi Brown

**Award Amount: \$5000** 

**High School: Middleton High School** 

Tentative College or University of Attendance: North Carolina A&T



#### Darnell Seme

**Award Amount: \$5000** 

High School: Chamberlain High School

Tentative College or University of Attendance: University of South Florida

# CLOSING REMARKS