

2016 LIVING LEGACY AWARDEES

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) is pleased to present the recipients of its 2015 Living Legacy Awards. These distinguished men, women, organizations and institutions are recognized for their extraordinary work to improve African American life, history and culture. The Living Legacy Award was created in 2012, with co-sponsor Farmers Insurance, in homage to the Black History Month theme of that year and has been bestowed to over fifty recipients.



INGRID SAUNDERS JONES

Ingrid Saunders Jones is the Chair of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW), an organization which is focused on health, financial literacy and education of children and families.

NCNW is a not-for-profit organization comprised of a network of 37 national African American women's organizations and 240 local community and campus-based sections. Together, these organizations have a combined outreach to nearly three million women.

Ms. Jones is a well-respected global leader who joined The Coca-Cola Company in 1982 and held roles of increasing responsibility focusing on the company's corporate giving and community outreach. During her three-decade career with the company, Ms. Jones led the transformation of Coca-Cola's philanthropic outreach, growing a U.S.-focused program into a global initiative touching millions of lives each year.

Under her leadership as Senior Vice President of Global Community Connections and Chair of The Coca-Cola Foundation, the Foundation awarded over \$500 million to community organizations. These organizations included the United Negro College Fund, Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Catalyst - the Critical Difference for Women Program at Ohio State University, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the World Wildlife Fund, Girls Scouts of the United States of America and The Coca-Cola First Generation Scholarship Program, to name a few.

Prior to joining The Coca-Cola Company in 1982, Ms. Jones had a variety of work experiences. She taught in public schools in Detroit, Michigan and Atlanta, Georgia early in her career, and later went on to serve as the Executive Director of Detroit Wayne County Child Care Coordinating Council. In 1977, as part of the Atlanta Fellows Program, she was assigned to the Atlanta City Council. After her fellowship year, she moved on to serve as the Legislative Analyst in the Office of the President of the Atlanta City Council. Two years later, Ms. Jones joined the Mayor's office as Executive Assistant to The Honorable Maynard H. Jackson, Jr. In 1982, she accepted a position at The Coca-Cola Company.

Her commitment to community development extends beyond the doors of The Coca-Cola Company's headquarters and she currently serves on several national and local boards. These boards include the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, The Carter Center, the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, the Woodruff Arts Center, and Clark-Atlanta University. Ms. Jones is a member of the Comcast NBC/Universal Diversity Council, the Rotary Club of Atlanta, the Society of International Business Fellows, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and the Links.

Recognition of her contributions include the 2013 National President's Award from Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, the 2012 Triumph Award for Community Engagement from the National Action Network, the 2012 Legacy Award from 100 Black Men of America, the 2011 Jackie Robinson, Robie Humanitarian Award, the 2010 Distinguished Citizen Award from the Boy Scouts of America, the 2010 Corporate Responsibility Award from ESSENCE Magazine, the 2008 Executive Leadership Council's Achievement Award, the President's Award from Morehouse College, YWCA's Woman of Achievement, the Ohio State University Foundation's John B. Gerlach Development Award and the Georgia State University, School of Business, Hall of Fame, and many others.

A native of Detroit, Ms. Jones earned a bachelor's degree in education from Michigan State University and a master's degree in education from Eastern Michigan University. Her alma mater, Michigan State University, honored her with an honorary Doctorate of Humanities. She also has honorary degrees from Spelman College, Knoxville College, Morris Brown College, the Atlanta College of Art and the Morehouse School of Medicine.



CHARLES BIBBS

Charles Bibbs is an accomplished Fine Artist, entrepreneur and philanthropist who has always believed that we are the keepers of our culture, and as such. He has spent much of his life working toward developing a cohesive, energized African American Community. Bibbs' artwork fuses African American and Native American cultural themes that make powerful cross-cultural statements. His work is thought provoking and capable of arousing strong emotions that cross ethnic, gender and generational barriers. His artistic renderings convey a deep sense of spirituality, majesty, dignity, strength and grace – a distinctive style drawn from his ethnic heritage.

Comments are often made about the larger-than-life appearance of Bibbs' work. The artist himself notes, "A lot of artists paint from different vantage points in reality. Some paint from the top looking down; others from straight on. I have a tendency to paint as if I'm looking up. That has always been my viewpoint on life -- from the bottom up." This viewpoint has led to the exaggerated hands, feet, and height of Bibbs' characters – features which have become trademarks of his work.

Bibbs states, "My most important goal is to make profound aesthetic statements, that are ethnically rooted, and at the same time arouse spiritual emotions within us."

Bibbs has also founded a number of organizations and businesses to help in the growth of African American artistic expression such as: Art 2000, Art on Tour, Images Magazine and the Inland Empire Music and Arts Foundation. His own corporation, B Graphics and Fine Arts, Inc., is recognized as one of the leading publishers and distributors of beautiful African American images.

One thing that the Moreno Valley, CA, artist wants to convey to viewers of his work it is that each of his paintings is a reflection of themselves. "I want them to realize that each piece of art is about them. It's about the deep inner feelings of one person being pictured in a way that touches you."