



NAACP

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

VIRTUAL 6:30PM-8PM

FREEDOM FUND EVENT 2020



Unity Over Division
Reparations Now

NAACP Manchester, NH, Unit 2069

naacpmanchesternh.com

Program Schedule

Welcome: *Viola Katusiime*

Invocation: *Ray Ealy*

Performance: *Lift Every Voice & Sing by Lo'Rencia Slan*

Presidential Remarks: *James T. McKim Jr.*

NE Area Conference President: *Juan Cofield*

BREAK

Speaker: *Tyrell Whitted of Black Lives Matter*

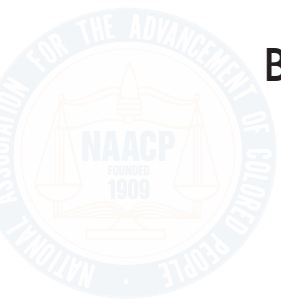
Keynote Speaker: Judge Greg Mathis

Award Presentations

Closing Remarks and Thank Yous

Performance: *We Shall Overcome by Lo'Rencia Slan*

Benediction: *Rev. Renee Rouse*



NAACP

Welcome to This Year's Freedom Fund Event!



As you may know, the Freedom Fund Event is our largest fundraising effort of the year. It fuels our activities for the entire year.

This year's event comes during a time of great disruption. The murders of Ahmad Arbury, Breonna Taylor, and particularly George Floyd juxtaposed with the COVID-19 pandemic and governmental actions have caused our city, state, and country to be turned upside down. Daily life has been changed forever.

These events have exposed disparities for people of color in all walks of life from healthcare to economic opportunity to criminal justice. They have created a hunger for justice in more people of all races than we have ever seen. And, thus, these events have provided us with opportunities for reconciliation and healing we could not have imagined at the beginning of the year.

To take advantage of these opportunities, this year's event topic is Unity over Division: Reparations NOW! And to help us understand why this moment is right to drive for reparations, even here in New Hampshire, we are pleased to have nationally known Judge Greg Mathis as our keynote speaker and special guest. He will lay the foundation for the work the Branch will be doing over the next year to push for reparations in the Greater Manchester Area. I hope you will hear his message and work with us to live into it.

The purpose of this event is, also, to lift up those who have been exemplary in their actions to fulfill the NAACP mission to secure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all persons. I offer my congratulations to all our award winners.

While this year's event is virtual, as so many have been, it is no small feat to put on. I am so very proud of the way the Freedom Fund Committee has worked to make this event happen. My thanks to them, to our sponsors, and to you for your attendance in what I know will be a great event we will be talking about for years to come!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James T. McKim Jr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James T. McKim Jr., Manchester NAACP President

KEYNOTE SPEAKER AND SPECIAL GUEST

JUDGE GREG MATHIS

Judge Mathis is the longest running African-American male host on television, now entering Season 22 of the Emmy® winning nationally syndicated, reality-based court show Judge Mathis. Judge Mathis is a national figure known for his advocacy campaigns for urban youth and equal justice. His inspirational life story of a street youth who rose from jail to Judge has provided hope to millions who watch him on the award-winning television court show Judge Mathis each day.

“Judge Mathis” continues to tackle various social issues. In each hour-long episode, Mathis lays down the law, presiding over real, hard-hitting cases, and Mathis’ decisions are legal and binding. The hallmark of Judge Mathis is the judge himself, as he combines a refreshing mix of social commentary, humor and humanity.

Judge Mathis’s public service career began in college where he led Free South Africa and voter registration campaigns on campus, while also working nights at McDonalds as a swing manager. After graduating from college in 1983, he joined the staff of Detroit City councilman Clyde Cleveland and continued to work as an advocate for equal justice with Reverend Jesse Jackson’s PUSH Excel, where he currently serves as Chairman. Judge Mathis currently serves as a member of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Board of Directors and has also served as a national board member of the NAACP and the Morehouse School of Medicine. In 2014, Judge Mathis was invited by President Obama to join the “My Brother’s Keeper” Task Force to offer his expertise in proven strategies and promising ideas in the area of empowering young minority men.

In his efforts to reach out to youth and ex-offenders both in and outside of the courtroom, Judge Mathis opened the Mathis community center in his hometown of Detroit and has assisted thousands of youth with his non-profit agency Young Adults Asserting Themselves (Y.A.A.T.), an agency that provides career, business start-up and job opportunities, as well as job training and college enrollment assistance.

In 2009, in honor of his years of work and commitment to his hometown of Detroit, the city named one of the streets, Mathis Avenue, after him. The street is part of a new housing development, which replaced the housing projects he grew up in.

Judge Mathis has received numerous awards and keys to the city from government officials and is the recipient of Honorary Doctorates from both Florida A&M University and Eastern Michigan University. He has been recognized for his efforts by numerous newspapers, magazines and television networks. He has appeared on such shows as The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, The Today Show, Larry King Live, and The Ellen DeGeneres Show.

Judge Mathis is married, and the proud father of four children, and recently became a grandfather.



Award Recipients



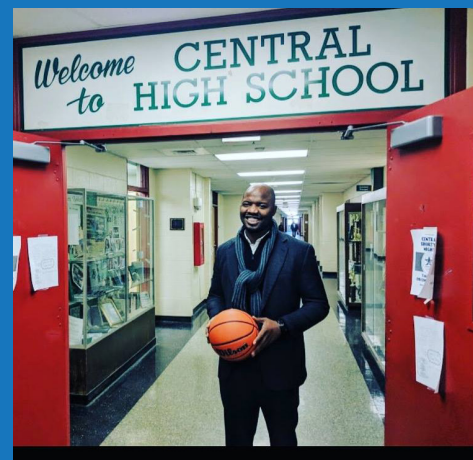
Sudi Lett

A graduate of Tuskegee University in Alabama, Mr. Lett returned to Manchester, NH and founded Bishop Elite. Bishop Elite AAU Basketball is a youth mentor program wrapped around basketball and skill training. Through the program young men and women experience the opportunity to travel and compete in such places as Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, Orlando, Memphis, and Pittsburgh. Mr. Lett graduated over 100 student athletes from the Bishop Elite program attending such colleges as Harvard, Manhattan, Franklin Pierce, SNHU, Quinnipiac, Missouri, and Kentucky University respectively with a strong base in education. Mr. Lett also organized B-Elite tutoring and college preparatory support.

Mr. Lett was also a former Varsity Basketball Head Coach at Litchfield's Campbell High School. As coach he led the Campbell boys basketball team to the Division III finals in 2017. With a strong base in education, Mr. Lett formerly worked at the Manchester School District in the Special Education program.

He is also a long-time supporter of the African Caribbean Celebration. Mr. Lett joined the committee creation of the "We Are One Festival", combining the African Caribbean Celebration and the Latino Festival. He serves as Co-Coordinator of the "We Are One Festival", from 2018 to the present day.

Mr. Lett currently works as Youth and Education Coordinator for Granite State Organizing Project (GSOP) and Head Coach of the Varsity Boys Basketball Team at his alma mater Manchester Central High School.



Award Recipients Cont.



Dr. Nathalie Ahyi-Amendah

Dr. Nathalie Ahyi-Amendah was born in the city of Lomé, the capital town of TOGO (a French speaking country in west African). Before we delve into Dr. Nathalie Ahyi-Amendah biography it is important to mention that she comes from a family where education is valued and where sons and daughters are expected by their family members to reach the highest level of academic achievement. Nonetheless she is a motivated dedicated and high achiever in her own right.

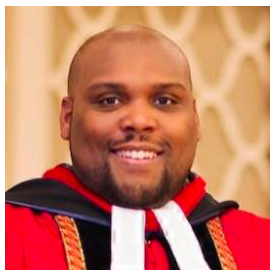
As a remarkably high academic achiever Dr. Nathalie Ahyi-Amendah obtains a master's degree in plant physiology from the University of Lomé in 1999. Years of coaching by her herbalist uncle drove her passion for pharmacognosy which led her to Purdue university where she pursued a master's degree in the Medicinal Chemistry Department. Equipped with a master's degree in molecular pharmacology and Medicinal Chemistry from Purdue University (West-Lafayette, IN), as a relentless researcher she pursued and obtained her Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology from Indiana University and Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI). Dr. Nathalie Ahyi-Amendah Joined the pulmonary department of Boston University Medical Center because of the focus of their research on pneumonia which disproportionately affect under-served populations. She later worked as the Director of the NH Health & Equity Partnership for three years. After a quick stop that lasted two years at Pfizer in North Andover she joined Takeda Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge where she is currently working.

Dr. Ahyi-Amendah and Dr. Eklou Romaric Amendah tied the knot in West-Lafayette, IN in December of 2001. Their first child Kimberly-Priscilla was born in June 2007 then Aldrich-Joseph came eight years later. Since they moved to New Hampshire in 2008, her family has been participating in NAACP events including having providing services at the We Are One festival under the Health Equity Partnership umbrella and supporting community-based non-profit organizations like Mary Georges' "Victory Women of Vision". Dr. Nathalie Ahyi-Amendah has been highly involved in the African community in New Hampshire as the director of the Health

Equity Partnership. When asked why she enjoys working in her community she stated: "I have always been involved in the African communities everywhere I lived. I have always been motivated by this type of work because of my experience at the main hospital in Togo where health disparities are mainly consequences of social status (income and geography), while in the United States health disparity is predicated on racial, ethnic and linguistic background as well as income ". Her deep concern and interest in community health issue was what led her to the NH Health & Equity Partnership as a program director where she engaged stakeholders from the community, the state and other coalitions on the complex issue of equity specifically culturally Effective Organizations, workforce diversity and Race Ethnicity and Language Data.

Dr. Nathalie Ahyi-Amendah is always interested in using her science and research experience to help members of her community. There is say in French: "No one is happy alone." Building a fair and sustainable community is important in the development of human race.

Award Recipients Cont.



Reverend Eric Jackson

The Rev. Eric Jackson is the immediate past president of the Manchester NAACP. During his tenure the Branch's presence in the Community has been strengthened along with membership as well as financially through the strength, wisdom, support, and leadership of the Executive Committee, 1st Vice President Claudette Williams, lifelong branch member Jacqui Davis, past President Woullard Lett and Branch Membership. Nothing brought Rev. Jackson more joy than serving the membership of the Manchester NAACP and advancing the mission of the NAACP in the Greater Manchester area.

Rev. Jackson currently serves as Pastor of the Plymouth Congregational Church, UCC in Syracuse, NY. He also served as the inaugural Lead Organizer of the Love 2020 Project with Faith and Action and the Granite State Organizing Project to strengthen the awareness of the needs of the Greater Manchester area amongst the 2020 Presidential candidates.

Rev. Jackson earned his M.Div at the Theological School of Drew University and is pursuing a Ph.D. in African-American Preaching and Sacred Rhetoric at Christian Theological Seminary. He is honored to receive this award and celebrates the continued growth of the Branch under the leadership of President James T. McKim and the Executive Committee. Rev. Jackson served as Pastor to congregations in New Hampshire for several years and serves on the Board of Directors of the United Church of Christ.



PHOTO BY MACK RICHARDSON



PHOTO BY MACK RICHARDSON

History of the NAACP

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded in 1909 by a multiracial group activist and interested citizens. The principal objective of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of minority group citizens of the United States. The NAACP is committed to non-violence and relies upon the press, the petition, the ballot, and the courts, even in the face of overt and violent racial hostility.



Manchester, New Hampshire Branch #2069 was established in 1964 by a group of Black and White citizens who believed in the democratic process to ensure equal opportunity for all. The organization was founded at a time in the history of New Hampshire when the minority population was very small. Residents of African descent were subjected to the typical social practices current at that time. As the nascent Civil Rights movement was emerging in the South, the New Hampshire Union Leader became a vocal opponent; however, the Manchester NAACP founders believed that the principles of freedom and democracy were not limited by race, creed or color. They came together to form a chapter of the NAACP, the premier civil rights organization of the day, as a beacon of support for brotherhood and civil rights.

In its 55th year history, the leadership and membership of the organization has been a testament to the diversity of Manchester, New Hampshire. Branch activities have included housing and employment discrimination programs, college preparation workshops and support for the passage of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. state holiday. Individuals of every age, race, religion and creed have been members of the Manchester Branch. Despite the challenges faced by members, Branch #2069 has been chartered for 55 years continuously. We continue to carry on the tradition of the largest and oldest, the best and boldest civil rights organization in America.

Mission

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

Vision Statement

The vision of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights without discrimination based on race.

Objectives

The following statement of objectives is found on the first page of the NAACP Constitution—the principal objectives of the Association shall be:

- To ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of all citizens
- To achieve equality of rights and eliminate race prejudice among the citizens of the United States
- To remove all barriers of racial discrimination through democratic processes
- To seek enactment and enforcement of federal, state, and local laws securing civil rights
- To inform the public of the adverse effects of racial discrimination and to seek its elimination
- To educate persons as to their constitutional rights and to take all lawful action to secure the exercise thereof and to take any other lawful action in furtherance of these objectives, consistent with the NAACP's Articles of Incorporation and this Constitution.

Manchester NAACP Branch Officers

President

James T. McKim

Vice President

Claudette Williams

Treasurer

Arnold Mikolo

Secretary

Curtis Smith

Assistant Secretary

Edna White

Executive Committee

Donna Brown, Legal Redress Committee Chair

Judy Elliott, Membership Committee Chair

Shalimar Encarnacion, Education Committee Co-Chair

Chris Kelly, Environmental & Climate Justice Committee Co-Chair

Brenda Lett, Health Committee Chair

Woullard Lett, Education Committee Co-Chair

Arnold Mikolo, Economic Justice Committee Chair

Aron DiBacco, Freedom Fund Committee Chair

Jacqueline Davis, At-Large Member

Donald Stokes, At-Large Member

2020 Freedom Fund Planning Committee

Aron DiBacco, Chair

James T. McKim

Dawn Pater

Claudette Williams

Jacqueline Davis

Brenta Lett

Jena McClary

Shaunte Whitted

Katie Schelzel

Become a Member Today!



NAACP

Manchester, NH Unit #2069

Manchester NAACP Monthly Meetings

Our organization meets with the public every fourth Thursday of each month to discuss important issues that are affecting our community and plan ways to take a proactive approach to addressing these matters. We meet via Zoom as of today, but will meet in person when it is safe to do so.

Get involved and help your community! Everyone is welcome at the NAACP Manchester Branch.

Visit: [naacpmanchesternh.com/
become-a-member](https://naacpmanchesternh.com/become-a-member)

Thank you to our 2020 Freedom Fund Sponsors:



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DRC-NH is dedicated to eliminating barriers for people with disabilities across the state. Call us to schedule a free consultation on a disability discrimination issue with an experienced attorney.

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- Access and Accommodation
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- Special Education
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- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Mental Health
- Voting
- Housing



Photo Attribution: Lawrence Roffee

Advocating for the legal rights of people with disabilities

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VOTE



**In Loving Memory
William E. Davis Sr.**

Congratulations Sudi Lett



Recipient of Manchester NAACP's Freedom Fund Award

Granite State Organizing Project is proud to work with Sudi in his capacity as Young Organizer's United and Education Coordinator.

Showing Up for Racial Justice
of Concord NH is proud
to support the work of the
Manchester N.A.A.C.P.
Find us on Facebook at:
Concord NH Showing Up For
Racial Justice- SURJ or
Twitter @**ConcordNHSURJ**




NAACP ★★★★★
VOTE!
Our Lives Depend On It

DONATE TO THE NAACP
MANCHESTER, NH UNIT #2069

Your generous gift will help us fund our mission to help
those in need. Together, we can make a difference.

 **Donate**



A blue-tinted, halftone-style image of the Statue of Liberty, showing her head with the crown and her right arm raised holding the torch.

We are grateful to be supporting the NAACP of Manchester and its 2020 Freedom Fund benefit.

ACLU
New Hampshire



RE-ELECT

**MICHAEL
CONLON**
for **HILLSBOROUGH
COUNTY ATTORNEY**

CONLON4NH.COM

First Term Highlights:

- Collaborated with Attorney General's Office to address "systemic issues" in office
- Developed 4-year Budget Plan to bring critical resources to office in measured, responsible manner
- Secured largest budget increase in over a decade within months of taking office, with no increase to taxpayers
- Notable improvements on communication issues that caused problems with local police departments
- Formed prosecution units to support victims of violent felonies & cybercrime

Paid for by Michael Conlon for NH. Fiscal Agent Michael Conlon

Greater Nashua Area Branch NAACP

Branch #2008-B | Established 2004
Greater Nashua Area Youth Council 28AC-B

Congratulations

to all of tonight's award winners!



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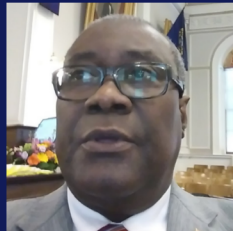


nashuanaacp.org

The New Hampshire Democratic Party
is proud to support the Manchester NAACP's

Freedom Fund 2020 Event!

To all of the incredible Democratic
candidates, elected officials, and activists,
thank you for all you do.
Let's win in November!



NHDP
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