

A SPECIAL, *Virtual* CELEBRATION

P U B L I C S C H O O L S

HALL *of* FAME

NASHVILLE PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

PRESENTED BY



FIRST HORIZON
FOUNDATION

SEPTEMBER 29, 2021

EVENT CO-CHAIRS



Kate Chinn



Alfred Degrafinreid II



The Nashville Public Education Foundation supports teachers and leaders to build schools where all kids thrive.

To fulfill our mission, we advocate for change, support MNPS as a consulting partner and critical friend, promote excellence and innovation, and convene stakeholders to drive community solutions.

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Awards Program

OPENING

Nashville Children's Theater, Summer 2021

WELCOMING REMARKS

Kate Chinn and Alfred Degrafinreid II, Event Co-Chairs

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTED BY BELMONT UNIVERSITY

REMARKS BY DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS, DR. ADRIENNE BATTLE

ANNETTE ESKIND INSPIRING EDUCATOR AWARD PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTED BY UBS

THOMAS J. SHERRARD INSPIRING INNOVATION AWARD PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTED BY NISSAN NORTH AMERICA

REMARKS BY MAYOR JOHN COOPER

NELSON C. ANDREWS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATION

PRESENTED BY VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

ABOUT THE NASHVILLE PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

PERFORMANCE BY ALORA YOUNG

Poet, Performer, and Activist; Metro Nashville Public Schools 2020 graduate

CLOSING REMARKS

Kate Chinn and Alfred Degrafinreid II, Event Co-Chairs

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AWARD PRESENTERS



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Matranga Wood Designs

Moving Picture Boys
Metro Nashville Public Schools
Nashville State Community College
Office of Mayor John Cooper

2021 PUBLIC SCHOOLS HALL OF FAME

.....
Award Winners
.....



Distinguished Alumni Award



Lisa Ferrelli

Senior Vice President, Mid South
Global Commercial Banking,
Bank of America

BELLEVUE HIGH SCHOOL

Lisa Ferrelli currently serves as a Senior Vice President with the Mid South Global Commercial Banking team at Bank of America and is responsible for client relationships and business development in the middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky area.

A graduate of Bellevue High School, she is a proud product of Metro Nashville Public Schools and dedicated to giving back to the city of Nashville. She is passionate about civic and community engagement on behalf of children and families, demonstrated through her service on several boards, including the Nashville State Community College Foundation Board of Trustees, the Advisory Board for Belmont University Master's program for Mental Health and Pastoral Care, and the YWCA, where she currently serves as board treasurer. She will also serve as president for the 2022-2023 term for Nashville Rotary.

Ferrelli is an active supporter of Go Red for Women, Habitat for Humanity, and Bank of America's volunteer network, and participates in several Bank of America Diversity & Inclusion networks, including LEAD for Women and Power of 10. She was recently named one of the Nashville Business Journal's Women of Influence and Power Leaders in Finance.

“ She is so proud of her public education. She will tell you all day long that she loves this city, and she wants to do her part to make it a great place. ”
- Janet Miller, CEO, Colliers International

“ We are so happy to have her on the foundation board for Nashville State...She has a passion for K-12 and postsecondary. ”
- Joey Hatch, Community Volunteer

Distinguished Alumni Award



Donald Hardin, Jr.

Co-owner and Manager,
Don Hardin Group

MAPLEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Don Hardin exemplifies a true dedication to the growth, vibrancy, and diversity of the city of Nashville. A graduate of Maplewood High School, he co-owns and manages Don Hardin Group, a construction management firm based in Nashville serving Fortune 500 clientele across the country as well as community-based organizations. Serving in this role for over 20 years, Don has led the Don Hardin Group on projects such as the Music City Center, First Tennessee Baseball Park, Vanderbilt University Commons, HCA's national campaign to comply with ADA, and Meharry Medical College's Turner Family Center. His team also managed the design and construction of the National Museum of African American Music that opened in early 2021.

Don's role as a Board member for the Metro Nashville Procurement Standards Board has shown his commitment

to a vision for an equitable, thriving city by working to ensure the growth and opportunities in Nashville are shared by a diverse group fully representative of our city. Don's work is rooted in a core business philosophy of collaboration, demonstrated in his numerous volunteer engagements, including serving on the boards for organizations such as the YMCA, Nashville Classical Charter School, the Nashville Black Chamber of Commerce, and the Nashville Business Incubation Center.

“**He does a really great job of balancing his personal ambition with a need to have an impact on the broader community.**”

- Michelle Hernandez Lane, Chief Procurement Officer & Purchasing Agent,
Metropolitan Nashville Davidson County

“**Being able to see him be from the city, from the public school system, and to see the ultimate professional that he's turned into, it's a great example that he's set that I follow each and every day.**”

- Preston T. Bailey III, Project Manager, Don Hardin Group

Distinguished Alumni Award



Dr. Alex Jahangir

Director, Division of Orthopaedic Trauma, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Alex Jahangir's care for his community extends well beyond his role as an orthopaedic trauma surgeon. Dr. Jahangir is the director of the division of orthopaedic trauma at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, while also serving as the chair of the Metropolitan Board of Health of Nashville. In March 2020, Mayor Cooper named Dr. Jahangir chair of the Metropolitan Nashville Coronavirus Taskforce. In this volunteer role, he has led the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including developing and implementing policies that have mitigated the spread of the coronavirus in Nashville, increasing equitable access to testing and vaccination for all Nashville's residents, establishing a robust public health infrastructure, and serving as a vital and trusting source of information to the public regarding COVID-19 in Nashville.

Dr. Jahangir's commitment to the health and vitality of our city extends to his community involvements, including serving as a founding board member of ThinkTennessee, a nonpartisan think tank that empowers state and local leaders to act on pragmatic ideas that promote opportunity for Tennesseans. Dr. Jahangir received the Nashville Chamber of Commerce's 2020 Spirit of the Region Award and was recognized by Major League Soccer as a 2020 Community MVP for his service to the Nashville community.

“ I think when you look at what a hero is or somebody who deserves recognition it's somebody who's selfless. He's truly a public servant. ”
- Chief William Swann, Director Chief, Nashville Fire Department

“ His heart, mind, and soul are tied to supporting humanity. Whether it's education, whether it's physically helping someone like me and countless others...his motivation in life is to give back.”
- Doug Brown, patient and longtime friend

Inspiring Educator Award



Jan Esterline OVERTON HIGH SCHOOL

Jan Esterline started his career working as an elementary school music teacher in central Pennsylvania. His passion for music led him to Nashville, where he worked as a composer and arranger in Music City. After getting married, he began working in Nashville's hospitality industry. It was at this point in his career that he discovered both a need and a passion for teaching English to Nashville's growing immigrant community and returned to the public school classroom. After teaching SIFE (Students with Interrupted Formal Education) at Overton High School for several years, he now teaches math primarily to English Learner students recently exiting SIFE or newly arriving in the U.S.

Mr. Esterline believes one of the most important things a teacher can do is to "meet each student where they are. That means you know their situation, their family, where they've come from, what their needs are. You meet them where they are, and then you take them as far as you can today."



Daven Oglesby LAKEVIEW ELEMENTARY DESIGN CENTER

Daven Oglesby comes from a family of educators. He began his career in Metro Nashville Public Schools as a substitute teacher before becoming a paraprofessional assisting teachers in the special education classroom. He continued his pursuit to become a full-time lead teacher, ultimately earning his teaching license through Lipscomb University's inaugural Educational Assistant Teaching Fellowship. He has found his calling working with students with disabilities, and is currently a special education teacher at Lakeview Elementary Design Center.

Mr. Oglesby is driven by his passion to provide his students with the most equitable education possible. "I want to give them the teacher I wished I would have had in school. Someone who saw me, someone who cared about me, someone who wanted to see me do well and be successful. I want to make sure that I'm doing everything I can in my power to support each one of my students."

Inspiring Innovation Award



BeWell in School

Founded by Metro Nashville Public Schools teacher Riki Rattner, BeWell in School is a nonprofit that teaches mindfulness and movement as a proactive behavior management system to empower students, teachers, and communities with tools to self-regulate. BeWell in School's programs have helped reduce disciplinary

issues in school while boosting teacher morale, increasing student engagement, and improving academic test scores.

Rattner was inspired to build BeWell in School through classroom teaching and her personal yoga journey, discovering a passion for increasing access to the tangible tools that changed her own life. "If our greater community isn't invested in our most vulnerable students, we're not going to see real change," says Rattner. "It takes everybody understanding and being committed to equitable education where students are getting what they need to be successful in the classroom and beyond."



FUTURO, Inc.

FUTURO, Inc. is an inclusive college success and professional development nonprofit primarily serving Latinx students between the ages of 18 and 27. The organization creates opportunities for leadership, career growth, and civic engagement for students to attain both degrees and employment, all with the

goal of creating a more inclusive, diverse, and equitable workforce.

The wealth of support from FUTURO alumni, professional mentors, and volunteers provides students with guidance, inspiration, and opportunities for job shadow, internships, mentorship, career growth, and professional development. FUTURO's Executive Director Jennifer Novo shares her inspiration for this work, saying that "to be able to inspire somebody to help make their dreams come true is so motivating. We all have a responsibility to ensure that we have a community that is well educated - a community that learns and supports one another."

Distinguished Service Award

Senator Brenda Gilmore

District 19, Tennessee General Assembly

Senator Gilmore has devoted her life to public service. She is driven by a lifelong motivation for improving the lives of women and children in Nashville and the state of Tennessee. She is being honored with the Nelson C. Andrews Distinguished Service Award for her lifetime of dedication to a career in public service investing in young people.

Senator Gilmore currently represents District 19 in the Tennessee General Assembly. She has previously served as a Metro Council Woman for Nashville Davidson County for eight years and as a State Representative for District 54 for twelve years. Prior to her public service, she served for twenty years as Director of University Mail Services for Vanderbilt.

Senator Gilmore's family, friends, and colleagues describe her as a committed public servant, passionate about community work and doing whatever she can to help others' lives change for the better. She maintains a highly enthusiastic spirit for her work, setting an inspiring example for both youth and adults alike.



“ **She is committed to public service, she's committed to community work, she's committed to improving the lives of others.** ”

- Erica Gilmore, Metropolitan Trustee of Nashville and Davidson County and Senator Gilmore's daughter

Senator Gilmore's numerous local and national involvements demonstrate her driving dedication to her community, particularly to women and women of color. She is currently involved in several Nashville-based organizations, including Tennessee State University's Alumni Association, Women in Numbers, the Nashville Women Political Caucus, the League of Women Voters, the NAACP, and the National Hook-Up of Black Women.

She serves as a board member of the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, National Council of State Legislators, and is a member of the Executive Board of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators. She previously served as President of the Women's Network of the National Conference of State Legislatures, and as State Director of Women in Government.

Senator Gilmore formerly served as president of the women's business organization CABLE, and served on the board of the John F. Kennedy Susan Gray School for Children, which serves youth who have been abused or have special needs. Senator Gilmore previously served on the board of the Middle Tennessee YMCA, where she was instrumental in raising nearly \$4 million for the Northwest Nashville YMCA.

The Nashville Public Education Foundation is honored to recognize Senator Brenda Gilmore with the Nelson C. Andrews Distinguished Service award for her unwavering and continually inspiring dedication to our city's youth both in and beyond her career as a public servant.



“ She has never lost her childhood enthusiasm for things. She’s an example for our children to follow, for adults to follow.” ”
- Lois Winston, long-time friend

“ Senator Gilmore is a public servant. And she was a public servant before she was elected to office.” ”
- Saralee Woods, Host, Bookman/Bookwoman Podcast



Head Middle Magnet School, Metro Nashville Public Schools

PAST HONOREES

NELSON C. ANDREWS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Tom Ward
Judge Richard Dinkins
Lewis Lavine
Judge Sheila Calloway
Renata Soto
Juli and Ralph Mosley

Phil Bredesen
Dr. Bill Frist
Margaret O. Dolan
Dr. Robert Fisher
Orrin Ingram
Tammy Genovese

Kix Brooks
Thomas J. Sherrard III
Bill Purcell
Nelson C. Andrews
Dr. Jean Litterer
Annette Eskind

THOMAS J. SHERRARD INSPIRING INNOVATION AWARD

Gideon's Army
Restorative Student Leaders
UniCycle
The Educator's Cooperative
Nashville Public Library's Limitless Libraries program
The Nashville Newcomer Academy

ANNETTE ESKIND INSPIRING EDUCATOR AWARD

Nikki Healy
Amanda Dardy
Crystal Hicks
Mary Jane Manley
Jarred Amato

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Clint Gray
Derrick Moore
E.J. Reed
Gini Pupo-Walker
Kasar Abdulla
Dr. Adrienne Battle
Jimmy Granbery
Harry Allen
Rashed Fakhruddin
Anne Lowry Russell
Shannon Hunt
Joey Hatch
Dr. Valerie Malyvanh Jansen
Janet Miller
Judge Waverly D. Crenshaw Jr.
Joe Steakley
The Rev. Dr. Becca Stevens
Decosta Jenkins

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Mark Rowan
Beverly Keel
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Sandra Lipman
James Bearden
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The Nashville Public Education Foundation believes we all have a role to play in ensuring every child can thrive in school each day. We believe the pathway to providing an equitable, just education for all students includes not only improved conditions at the school level, but also targeted policy change that will break down systemic barriers to success. We believe every student deserves to thrive in school but we can't get there without your help.

**Your support helps ensure every child in Nashville is thriving
in every school every day.**

Learn more at nashvillepef.org

