

NEIGHBORHOOD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CLINIC PRESENTS

A WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Ruth & **NAOMI**

AWARDS LUNCHEON

**AN AFTERNOON OF FELLOWSHIP & INSPIRATION
CELEBRATING THE ENDURING BONDS BETWEEN WOMEN**

TOGETHER IN THE SPIRIT OF:
REFLECTION | RESILIENCE | RESET | RENEWAL

MARCH 8, 2025 | NOON – 3PM

**GIANDO'S ON THE WATER
BALLROOM**

Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon

WASHINGTON OFFICE
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Yvette D. Clarke
Congress of the United States
9th District of New York

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS
AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT,
MANUFACTURING, AND CRITICAL MINERALS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, DATA,
AND COMMERCE
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT, MANAGEMENT,
AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Dear Members of the Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic,

On behalf of myself, the Clarke Family, and the people of the Ninth Congressional District of New York, I wish to extend my greetings to your organization and its many devoted members as we celebrate your legacy of success and excellence at the Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic's 2025 Ruth & Naomi Luncheon. I'd also like to express my sincere gratitude to the Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic family for never wavering in your organization's foundational mission.

For more than two decades, the Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic has persisted as an invaluable resource and friend to philanthropists, humanitarians, foundations, governmental and political entities, faith-based institutions, and countless others who have committed themselves to bettering the lives of our most underserved and overlooked neighbors. Under the leadership of your founder, Reverend Dr. Valerie Oliver-Durrah you have faithfully and wholly dedicated yourselves to the people you serve and carried out your noble cause. For that, you will always hold my gratitude.

It has long been my belief that we must continue to celebrate the organizations and individuals who are committed to uplifting our community and blessing our people with the love and care they deserve. Thus, it is my privilege and pride to acknowledge the Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic as one of our city's most tireless champions and advocates. Thank you for your work, your leadership, your faith, and your passion, and may your organization continue to succeed long into tomorrow.

Respectfully,

Yvette D. Clarke

Member of Congress



**NEIGHBORHOOD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CLINIC
PRESENTS A WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM**

Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon

MARCH 8, 2025 | 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
GIANDO'S ON THE WATER

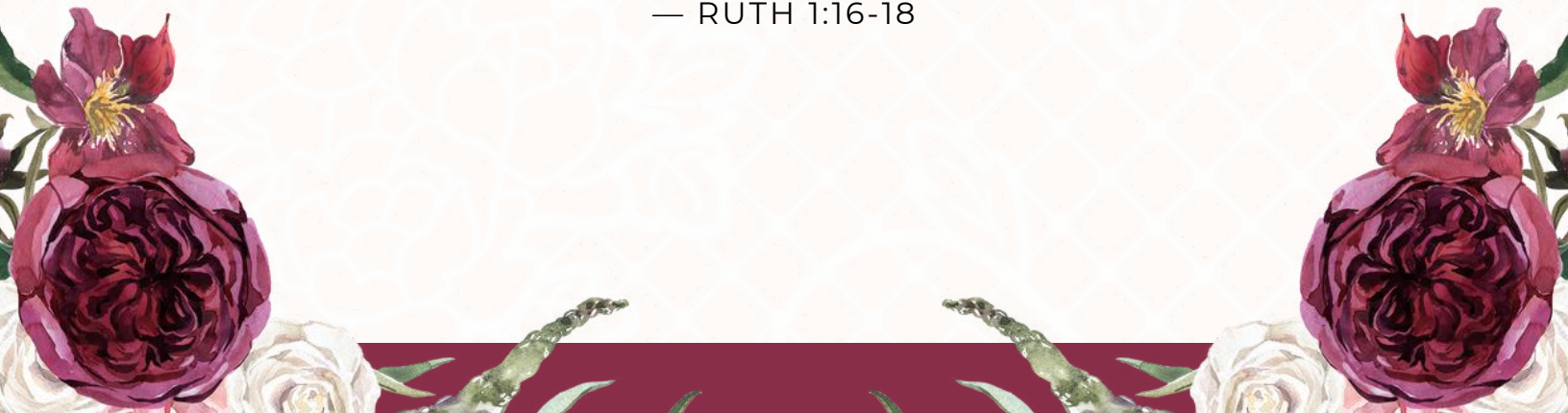
"BUT RUTH REPLIED,
'DON'T URGE ME TO LEAVE YOU
OR TO TURN BACK FROM YOU.

**WHERE YOU GO I WILL GO,
AND WHERE YOU STAY I WILL STAY.**
YOUR PEOPLE WILL BE MY PEOPLE
AND YOUR GOD MY GOD.

WHERE YOU DIE I WILL DIE,
AND THERE I WILL BE BURIED.
MAY THE LORD DEAL WITH ME,
BE IT EVER SO SEVERELY,
IF EVEN DEATH SEPARATES YOU AND ME.'

WHEN NAOMI REALIZED THAT RUTH WAS DETERMINED
TO GO WITH HER, SHE STOPPED URGING HER."

— RUTH 1:16-18





Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon

“SURROUND YOURSELF
WITH ONLY PEOPLE
WHO ARE GOING TO
LIFT YOU HIGHER.”

– OPRAH WINFREY

“Let's Break Bread”

RUTH'S JOY

OPEN BAR: MIMOSAS, BELLINIS, WHITE & RED WINE, JUICES & WATER

TO START

FIELDS OF GRACE SEASONAL MIXED GREENS

VIBRANT SALAD INSPIRED BY RUTH'S JOURNEY THROUGH THE FIELDS OF BOAZ

BREAKING BREAD BASKET

WARM BREAD, SYMBOLIZING FELLOWSHIP, NOURISHMENT, AND SHARED BLESSINGS

ENTRÉES (CHOOSE ONE)

HARVEST BLESSINGS PENNE À LA VODKA

A COMFORTING DISH CELEBRATING ABUNDANCE AND GENEROSITY

PROMISE OF THE SEA BROILED SALMON WITH DIJON SAUCE

SYMBOLIZING STRENGTH AND PERSEVERANCE THROUGH LIFE'S JOURNEY

FAITH & FAVOR CHICKEN MARSALA

SAVORY DISH HONORING THE SPIRIT OF RESILIENCE AND DIVINE PROVISION

LEGACY OF LOVE EGGPLANT PARMESAN 🌿

REPRESENTING NOURISHMENT AND SHARED WISDOM ACROSS GENERATIONS

TO FINISH

SWEET DEVOTION CHOCOLATE CAKE

A DECADENT TRIBUTE TO THE RICHNESS OF FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP

NAOMI'S COMFORT COFFEE & TEA SERVICE

WARM AND SOOTHING, LIKE PASSED DOWN WISDOM



Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon

"I COME AS ONE,
BUT I STAND
AS TEN THOUSAND."

– MAYA ANGELOU

Welcome and Reflections

Dear Guests, Sisters, and Friends,

With deep gratitude, we welcome you to the Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon, a celebration of women's resilience, mentorship, and generational bonds. Inspired by the biblical story of Ruth and Naomi, today we honor remarkable women whose relationships transcend bloodlines and embody love, loyalty, and shared purpose.

The story of Ruth and Naomi teaches us about the power of steadfast relationships, the unwavering commitment to walk alongside one another through triumphs and trials. As Ruth declared:

"Where you go, I will go; where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people, and your God my God." – Ruth 1:16-18

These words serve as the foundation of today's celebration. The Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon is more than an event—it is a testament to the enduring strength of women uplifting one another.

This gathering calls us together in the spirit of **Resilience | Reflection | Reset | Renewal**, reaffirming our commitment to fostering a culture of compassion, empowerment, and intergenerational mentorship.

We are honored to share this moment with you and deeply grateful for your presence and support. May today inspire us to continue the legacy of Ruth & Naomi—mentoring, uplifting, and strengthening each other for generations to come. With gratitude and anticipation,

Brooke Durrah

Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon Visionary Partner
NTAC Business Strategist, Durrah Hurrah

Rev. Dr. Valerie Oliver-Durrah

Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon Visionary,
Founder and CEO
Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic (NTAC)

Ruth and Naomi Steering Committee

NTAC Board of Directors



NTAC LEADERSHIP



CHAIRPERSON, REV. SYLVIA KINARD, ESQ.
FIRST VICE CHAIR, REV. DR. KANYERE EATON
SECRETARY/TREASURER, MS. GAYLE GILBERT
PRESIDENT & FOUNDER, REV. DR. VALERIE OLIVER-DURRAH

The Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic (NTAC) is a strategic partner and advisor to philanthropists, foundations, government and political entities, public institutions, grassroots nonprofit organizations, and faith-based institutions wishing to improve their programs and organizational effectiveness in addressing the needs of low-income and service-starved communities.

For over 30 years NTAC has built a portfolio of experience and best practices, giving focus to grassroots endeavors and capacity building for community-centered non-profit. By strengthening nonprofits and nurturing networks, NTAC has customized trainings and hands-on guidance, designed to empower volunteers, staff, management and board level nonprofit practitioners.

STEERING COMMITTEE



Co-Chair

DR. JAN ROBINSON MCCRAY
EDUCATOR & COUNSELOR

Committed to empowering minds and nurturing growth. With expertise in academic guidance, personal development, and student advocacy, she supports learners in achieving educational success and emotional well-being.



Co-Chair

RAHJIA VANDIVER
EDUCATOR

Committed to equitable, high-impact learning. Specializing in ELA K-5, Priority Learning Standards, and CR-SE, empowering educators to foster inclusive, high-quality instruction.



Co-Chair

ELWADA YOUNG
SVP & COO OF UNITED WAY OF NYC (RETIRED)

Longtime Brooklyn resident, brings 30+ years of civic leadership and commitment to community service, mentorship, and empowerment spans nonprofit initiatives to global outreach.



Member & Media Contact

SHARMAN BLAKE
PR SPECIALIST (RETIRED)

Responsible for managing and maintaining a positive public image for non-profit and faith-based institutions by building relationships with the media, writing press releases, and responding to public inquiries.



Member

JULIE GLEMAUD
NURSE PRACTITIONER (RETIRED)

Health advocate dedicated to compassionate care and patient advocacy. With a career devoted to wellness, prevention, and community health, she continues to inspire through her legacy of service.



Member

MARCIA MELENDEZ
ENTREPRENEUR & REALTOR, eXp Realty

Helping individuals and families achieve homeownership and financial success with market expertise, strategic insight, and a passion for community empowerment.



Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon

“WHEN
WOMEN AND GIRLS RISE,
THEIR COMMUNITIES
AND THEIR COUNTRIES RISE
WITH THEM.”

– MICHELLE OBAMA

About our Mistress of Ceremonies

Deborah Bolling Jackson, known professionally as Debi B, has had a diverse and impactful career spanning human resources, higher education, radio broadcasting, photography, and philanthropy. Born and raised in New York City, she began her career in human resource administration before transitioning to higher education as the University Assistant Director of Affirmative Action at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

For over three decades, Debi B was a prominent voice in New York City radio, co-hosting the Sunday Classics on 107.5 WBLS alongside her husband, the legendary Hal Jackson. The show was rated #1 for over ten years and had the largest listening audience in Sunday radio history. Her broadcasting career took her around the world, including live broadcasts from South Africa, the Bahamas, the US & British Virgin Islands, Senegal, Jamaica, England, Ghana, and Egypt.

As a photographer, Debi Jackson became the first to host annual one-woman photographic shows at the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building in Harlem for three consecutive years. Photos by Debi Jackson captures moments from her extensive travels, and relationships with entertainers with all proceeds donated to the Youth Development Foundation (YDF).

Debi Jackson serves as CEO and President of the YDF, which has awarded over \$2.5 million in scholarships and prizes through the Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International (HJTII) competition. As producer of HJTII, she showcased young talented women and provided them exposure to the entertainment industry. Some HJTII alumni include the Honorable Reverend Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook, Sheryl Lee Ralph, Tariq P Henson and Jada Pinkett Smith.

Her philanthropic work extends to various organizations, including Black Women For Black Girls, Power 2 Inspire, Black Women of Influence, Harlem Week, the National Association of Black Female Executives in Music & Entertainment, Wheelchair Charities, Women In The Black and Caregivers Outreach Mentorship Empowerment, Inc. In 2024, Ms. Jackson was appointed as a member of the selection committee for the National R&B Music Society's Atlantic City Walk of Fame.

Debi Jackson's career exemplifies her commitment to education, entertainment, and empowering young women, with a personal motto that reflects her positive outlook: "Smile at the world and the world will smile back at you".



2025 HONOREES



Ruth & Naomi Resilience Award

JAZMINE PARRIS

CROSS BORO REALTY, BROKER

JOYCE TURNER

CROSS BORO REALTY, BROKER



Ruth & Naomi Reflection Award

CAMILLE HASTICK

PRESIDENT, HASTICK FAMILY FOUNDATION

DR. EDA F. HARRIS-HASTICK

LIFE-LONG EDUCATOR, AUTHOR, AND COMMUNITY ADVOCATE



Ruth & Naomi Reset Award

MALIKKA D. KARTERON

PRESIDENT & CEO, GLOBAL25

PHILIPPA L. KARTERON

ASST. COMMISSIONER OF NYC (FORMER)



Ruth & Naomi Renewal Award

KENNEDY AUSTIN

POLICY ANALYST & PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCATE

JENNIFER JONES-AUSTIN

PRESIDENT, FEDERATION OF PROTESTANT WELFARE AGENCIES

Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon

"WHEN WOMEN
SUPPORT EACH OTHER,
INCREDIBLE THINGS HAPPEN."

– VIOLA DAVIS



PROGRAM CONTRIBUTORS



Opening Remarks

REV. DR. KAREN S. DAUGHTRY

PASTOR, THE HOUSE OF THE LORD CHURCH



Mistress of Ceremonies

DEBI B. JACKSON

NY RADIO ROYALTY, PHOTOGRAPHER, VISUAL ARTIST & PHILANTHROPIST



Keynote Address

REV. KIMBERLY COUNCIL

DEPUTY BOROUGH PRESIDENT OF BROOKLYN



Musical Selections

CHARISA THE VIOLIN DIVA

VIOLINIST & SONGSTRESS



Musical Selections

DIANA SOLOMON-GLOVER

OPERA SINGER AND LIBRETTIST



Entertainment

WYNDIE OH!

MINISTER, VOCALIST, ACTRESS & MODEL



Benediction

REV. DR. BARBARA E. AUSTIN- LUCAS

BISHOP, AGAPE TABERNACLE INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

NEIGHBORHOOD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CLINIC PRESENTS

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM

MARCH 8, 2025 | 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

12:00PM

REGISTRATION & WELCOME RECEPTION

12:30PM

OPENING CEREMONY AND INTRODUCTION OF EMCEE

REV. DR. VALERIE OLIVER DURRAH & BROOKE DURRAH

RUTH & NAOMI COMMITTEE CHAIRS

DEBI B. JACKSON, RADIO ROYALTY, MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES

MUSICAL SELECTION

CHARISA, THE VIOLIN DIVA, "GOODNESS OF GOD" SONG BY CECE WINANS

INVOCATION AND BLESSING OF THE FOOD

REV. DR. KAREN DAUGHTRY, PASTOR, THE HOUSE OF THE LORD

12:45PM

RUTH & NAOMI OPERATIC TRIBUTE TO BLACK MOTHERHOOD

DIANA SOLOMON-GLOVER, "SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE A MOTHERLESS CHILD"

shining a light on the black maternal health crisis, while honoring the enduring strength and resilience of women across generations

12:50PM

LUNCH SERVED - TABLE SERVICE

INTERLUDE BY WYNDIE OH!

1:20PM

A WORD ON LOVE, LOYALTY, AND LIGHT

KEYNOTE ADDRESS | RUTH 1:16-18

REV. KIMBERLY COUNCIL, DEPUTY BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

1:40PM

AWARDS CEREMONY - HONORING DYNAMIC RUTH & NAOMI DUOS

RESILIENCE

JAZMINE PARRIS & JOYCE TURNER

REFLECTION

CAMILLE HASTICK & DR. EDA F. HARRIS-HASTICK

RESET

MALIKKA D. KARTERON & PHILIPPA L. KARTERON

RENEWAL

KENNEDY AUSTIN & JENNIFER JONES-AUSTIN, ESQ.

2:15PM

"PASSING THE MUSTARD SEED" PRESENTATION

A FAITH-BASED EXCHANGE

PRESENTATION BY BROOKE DURRAH & DEIDRA TOWNS

2:35PM

CLOSING REMARKS & THANK YOUS

REV. DR. VALERIE OLIVER DURRAH

2:40PM

BENEDICTION

BISHOP BARBARA E. AUSTIN-LUCAS

2025 *Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon Honorees*



Leadership Legacy

JAZMINE PARRIS

CROSS BORO REALTY, BROKER

Forebearer

JOYCE TURNER

CROSS BORO REALTY, OWNER

The Ruth & Naomi “Resilience” Award: A Legacy of Love, Mentorship, and Community

Joyce Turner and Jazmine Parris embody a legacy of wisdom, guidance, and unwavering commitment to one another and their community. Their mother-daughter bond is built on mentorship, resilience, and shared purpose, much like the biblical story that represents loyalty, faith, and the passing of knowledge from one generation to the next.

Joyce has spent decades ensuring homeownership opportunities and financial literacy access for her community. Jazmine brings a fresh perspective, blending innovation with tradition to expand pathways to generational wealth.

Together, they are not just business partners, but pillars of their community—working to empower families, preserve legacies, and uplift those around them. Their story is a living testament to faith, leadership, and the power of generational wealth, reminding us that true success is not just in what we build for ourselves, but in what we pass down to those who follow.

Joyce Turner: A Legacy of Leadership, Service, and Community Empowerment

With a distinguished career spanning over three decades, Joyce Turner has established herself as a pillar of leadership in real estate, finance, and business. A licensed New York State Real Estate Broker and Real Estate Appraiser, she is widely recognized for her commitment to excellence, integrity, and community empowerment through homeownership and financial literacy.

Joyce's dedication to "Democracy in Housing" is evident in her active membership and past presidency of both the Bedford Stuyvesant Real Estate Board, Inc. (BSREB) and the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB). She is also a key figure in the Bed-Stuy Gateway Business Improvement District (BID), where she plays a crucial role in the neighborhood's economic growth and revitalization.

Beyond real estate, Joyce has been a trusted tax consultant for over 35 years, serving thousands of clients through Cross Boro Business Services. Her generosity extends to senior citizens, whom she supports with free tax preparation services—a true reflection of her passion for financial empowerment and service.

Adding yet another dimension to her career, Joyce serves as the Travel Consultant Manager for the Brooklyn office of Our Gang Travel, a premier agency offering unforgettable experiences, including its signature "Cruise the Night Away" events.

Joyce's commitment to service and legacy is deeply rooted in family. Her father, William Turner, founded Cross Boro Realty in 1964, setting a standard of integrity, service, and community upliftment. Today, Joyce proudly carries that torch alongside her daughter, Jazmine Parris, ensuring that the Turner family's impact on the community continues for generations to come. Her journey is one of resilience, leadership, and empowerment—a testament to the belief that homeownership and financial literacy are essential to generational wealth and stability.

Jazmine Parris: Upholding a Legacy, Pioneering a Future

Following in the footsteps of her mother, Joyce Turner, and grandfather, William Turner, Jazmine Parris represents the next generation of leadership in real estate and finance. Since joining the family business in 2012, Jazmine has solidified her role as a licensed Real Estate Broker, Property Manager, and Accountant, ensuring that the Turner family's mission of community empowerment and financial literacy remains strong.

With a keen eye for property management and real estate investment, Jazmine works closely with clients to navigate the complexities of homeownership, ensuring they have access to the resources and knowledge needed to build generational wealth. Her expertise extends beyond real estate—her background in accounting allows her to provide strategic financial guidance, helping families make sound investments for their futures.

Jazmine is not only a businesswoman but also a mentor and advocate, bridging the gap between tradition and innovation. She is passionate about ensuring that younger generations—particularly within the Black community—understand the power of ownership, financial stability, and long-term wealth building.

Through her work, Jazmine continues to honor the Turner family legacy, ensuring that integrity, service, and empowerment remain at the heart of everything she does. She is committed to breaking down barriers to homeownership, advocating for more opportunities, and making sure that the foundation laid by her grandfather and mother endures for generations to come.

2025 *Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon Honorees*



Legacy Builder

CAMILLE HASTICK

PRESIDENT, HASTICK FAMILY FOUNDATION

Lifelong Learning Champion

DR. EDA F. HARRIS-HASTICK

SCHOLAR & COMMUNITY ADVOCATE

The Ruth & Naomi “Reflective” Award: A Legacy of Community Development and Advocacy

Much like the biblical Ruth and Naomi, Camille Hastick and Dr. Eda F. Harris-Hastick exemplify intergenerational wisdom, mentorship, and unwavering commitment to service.

Dr. Harris-Hastick’s lifelong dedication to education and social work has shaped policies and empowered countless individuals. Camille leads economic development initiatives that strengthen businesses and create sustainable opportunities for communities.

Together, they embody the power of mentorship, leadership, and purpose, demonstrating that true success is measured not just by individual achievements, but by the collective progress they inspire.

Dr. Eda F. Harris-Hastick: Scholar, Educator & Community Advocate Emerita

Dr. Eda F. Harris-Hastick is a tenured Emerita Professor of Social Work at Medgar Evers College (MEC), City University of New York, and a licensed clinical social worker with over 40 years of experience in education, mental health, and community advocacy.

Throughout her career, she has held key leadership roles, including Director of College Counseling Services and Chairperson of Special Programs at MEC, Assistant Chief of Alcoholism Services at Harlem Hospital Center, and Administrator at the NYC Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Alcoholism Services.

A founding member of the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACCI) and founder of CACCI's Educational Foundation, Dr. Harris-Hastick has been instrumental in advancing education, research, and economic development within Caribbean and immigrant communities. She has also served on the Caribbean Research Center's Editorial Board, as former Chair of the SUNY Downstate Medical Center Community Board, and as a board member for the Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions and the Journal of HIV/AIDS Prevention in Children & Youth. Additionally, she has contributed her expertise as a member of the New York State OASAS (Substance Abuse) Workforce Department.

Dr. Harris-Hastick holds a B.A. in Sociology/Anthropology from Queens College, an M.S.W. from Smith College School of Social Work, and a Doctorate in Education from Columbia University. She is widely recognized for her academic scholarship, leadership, and extensive community service, leaving an indelible mark on education, social work, and public health advocacy.

Camille Hastick: Champion of Business Growth & Economic Development

As Vice President of External Affairs and Government Relations at the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, Camille Hastick is a driving force behind economic development, business advocacy, and community empowerment. She plays a pivotal role in policy development, business initiatives, and strategic programs, ensuring businesses—especially in underserved communities—have the resources and advocacy needed to thrive.

Born, raised, and formatively educated in Flatbush, Brooklyn, N.Y., Camille has cultivated a wealth of experience across the private and nonprofit sectors, holding key roles at The Bank of New York Mellon, NYC Department of Small Business Services, and the NYS Comptroller's Office as Brooklyn Regional Director. She currently sits on the Brooklyn Navy Yard Board and serves as Founder of the Drs. Roy and Eda Hastick Family Foundation, named in honor of her trailblazing parents and their commitment to entrepreneurship, education, and community upliftment.

Camille is also a Minority Woman Business Owner and Entrepreneur (MWBE), having launched a management consulting firm dedicated to helping small businesses build capacity and scale for long-term success. She values trust, inclusion, and strategic collaboration, making her a sought-after leader in economic development. A graduate of New York University with a degree in Economics, she was also a CORO Leadership of New York Fellow, gaining expertise in public policy, stakeholder engagement, and leadership strategy.

With a quiet yet strategic approach, Camille is widely respected for her ability to create solutions, build strong relationships, and empower others. Through her work at the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, she continues to elevate businesses and entrepreneurs, reinforcing the Chamber's mission to create a more inclusive and prosperous economy for all.

2025 *Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon Honorees*



Global Impact Thought Leader

MALIKKA D. KARTERON

GLOBAL25, PRESIDENT & CEO

Fine Art Czar & Aviation Dossier

PHILIPPA L. KARTERON

GALLERIA NOIRE, PRESIDENT & CEO

The Ruth & Naomi “Reset” Award: A Legacy of Intergenerational Leadership and Purpose

Philippa Lee Karteron and Malikka D. Karteron exemplify the bond of mentorship, resilience, and shared purpose—a modern reflection of the biblical story of Ruth and Naomi.

Philippa is a pioneer in economic and workforce development, shaping industries and communities through strategic partnerships. Malikka continues this impact globally, integrating sustainability and justice into transformative initiatives.

As mother and daughter, mentor and protégé, visionary and innovator, they embody the power of intergenerational collaboration—proving that true success is not only about what we achieve individually but what we build collectively. Their shared mission of equity, empowerment, and transformation continues to shape communities, creating lasting change for generations to come.

Philippa Lee Karteron: Visionary Partner in Economic Development & Aviation

With a pioneering spirit and decades of experience, Philippa Lee Karteron is a powerhouse in economic development, workforce empowerment, and public-private partnerships. As President and CEO of Galleria Noire, she leads a full-service art, marketing, and planning company specializing in exhibits, events, and strategic initiatives that drive impact.

Deeply embedded in the aviation and business sectors, Philippa serves as a Board Member of the JFK International Airport Chamber of Commerce, the only airport-based chamber in the U.S. She also contributes to The Gateway JFK International Airport Industrial BID and the New York Community Aviation Round Table (NYCAR), advancing community engagement and airport operations planning.

Her leadership has fueled transformative projects, including launching and managing the AirTrain Recruitment and Training Center, a workforce development initiative in partnership with NYC Workforce1, the NYC Department of Employment, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Recognized for her impact, Philippa received a citation from the Port Authority and was appointed by Governor Andrew Cuomo to the \$13 billion JFK International Airport Redevelopment Project Advisory Council.

Beyond aviation, Philippa's legacy includes founding the CUNY Aviation Institute at York College, co-founding JFK International Airport KidsPort, and coordinating the 50th Anniversary of JFK Airport, bringing Jack Schlossberg to commemorate the milestone.

A dynamic force in business, government, and aviation, Philippa continues shaping the future, ensuring economic growth, workforce empowerment, and community development remain central to her mission.

Malikka D. Karteron: Global Transformation Through Equity & Innovation

A visionary changemaker, Malikka D. Karteron is committed to driving global transformation through economic, social, environmental, and educational justice. As President and CEO of Global25, she leads high-impact initiatives focused on Environmental and Social Governance (ESG), economic development, S.T.E.A.M. education, and women's empowerment—ensuring communities of color are positioned for long-term success.

Malikka's influence extends beyond the U.S. As Co-Founder of Brazil Global English (BGE), she has championed dual-language programs with a S.T.E.A.M.-focused curriculum, bridging educational gaps and fostering international collaboration.

A respected speaker and advocate, Malikka has presented at the United Nations Association's (UNA-USA) Earth Day Celebration, discussing sustainable societies. As a J'Reve Fellow in Paris, she worked with UNESCO and Fulbright to advance S.T.E.A.M. education globally.

Her commitment to community engagement is evident in her work with the YMCA, NAACP, and NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens, where she was honored as a "2020 Healthcare Hero." She is also a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the Greater Queens Chapter of The Links, Inc., organizations dedicated to service and empowerment.

Malikka holds degrees from Hampton University, Brooklyn College, and Cal State LA, along with an Executive Global MBA from the University of Miami. With her expertise and leadership, she continues to shape policies, lead transformative initiatives, and uplift communities worldwide.

2025 *Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon Honorees*



Reproductive Justice Advocate

KENNEDY AUSTIN

ANCIENT SONG, POLICY ANALYST

Social Justice Champion & Trailblazer

JENNIFER JONES-AUSTIN, ESQ.

CEO, FPWA

The Ruth & Naomi “Renewal” Award: A Legacy of Leadership & Justice

Jennifer’s leadership in civil rights and racial justice has led to policy shifts that dismantle systemic inequities. Kennedy amplifies these efforts through research and advocacy, ensuring a new generation carries forward the fight for justice.

Together, they represent the past, present, and future of social justice leadership, proving that true transformation happens when wisdom, passion, and purpose are shared across generations. Their commitment to freedom, advocacy, and community empowerment ensures that the fight for justice remains strong—today and for generations to come.

Kennedy Austin: Racial & Reproductive Justice Advocate

A fifth-generation advocate, Kennedy Austin, BA, MS, is a rising leader in racial and reproductive justice, dedicated to policy reform, research, and community organizing. She began her career at the Legal Defense Fund, laying the foundation for her mission to dismantle systemic inequities. Today, she serves as a Policy Analyst at Ancient Song, a national birth justice organization committed to advancing maternal health and equity for Black and Brown communities.

With a passion for political education and grassroots mobilization, Kennedy is shaping policies that impact historically marginalized communities, ensuring that justice and equity remain at the forefront of social change. Carrying forward her family's legacy of activism, she is a dynamic force for change, bridging generations in the fight for freedom, dignity, and empowerment.

Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq.: A Trailblazer in Social Justice & Equity

A fourth-generation social justice leader, Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq. has dedicated over three decades to advancing freedom, equity, and systemic change for marginalized communities. As CEO of the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA), she leads efforts to dismantle poverty and promote racial and economic justice. Her impact extends across policy, advocacy, and public service, having held influential roles as Commissioner, Board Chair, and Senior Executive in organizations shaping local, state, and national reforms.

Jennifer's unwavering commitment to justice is deeply rooted in her family's legacy of activism, as the daughter of the late Reverend Dr. William Augustus Jones Jr., a prominent civil rights leader and confidant of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.. She made history as Chair of the NYC Racial Justice Commission, the first in the nation to propose constitutional amendments addressing structural racism. She also led the NYC Board of Correction, presiding over the historic vote to end solitary confinement in city jails.

A Brooklyn native, Jennifer remains deeply committed to uplifting her community, ensuring that justice, opportunity, and systemic change stay at the forefront of her work. Her story, leadership, and legacy embody the spirit of Ruth & Naomi, standing as a beacon of resilience, mentorship, and intergenerational impact.



Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon

“EACH TIME
A WOMAN STANDS UP
FOR HERSELF,
WITHOUT KNOWING IT POSSIBLY,
WITHOUT CLAIMING IT,
SHE STANDS UP FOR ALL
WOMEN.”

– MAYA ANGELOU

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



We're excited to announce that Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic (NTAC) has received a grant from Brooklyn Communities Collaborative (BCC) to support maternal health in Brooklyn!

NTAC's Project Imhotep is a holistic, community-driven initiative supporting Black mothers in Brooklyn by raising awareness of maternal healthcare disparities, building support networks throughout pregnancy, and integrating health initiatives within Black church communities. Through education, advocacy, and faith-based engagement, it empowers Black mothers with the meaningful care, life-changing resources, and support essential for thriving.

Through this funding we'll reach more future and expecting individuals and make a lasting impact on maternal health in Brooklyn. [Read all about it!](#)

We are grateful to Brooklyn Communities Collaborative for this incredible honor and for their participatory approach to grantmaking. Together with our cohort grantees, we are better equipped and committed to advancing health equity across Brooklyn, aligning with BCC's mission and the goals of the Strong Communities Fund.

Brooklyn's First Black Maternal Health Awareness Walk

 Friday, April 11, 2025 (11A- 1PM) |  Steps of Borough Hall

Join us for a powerful program and walk advocating for Black maternal health equity in partnership with Brooklyn Borough President's Office, Downtown Brooklyn Partnership, and Brooklyn Communities Collaborative.

Route: From Brooklyn Borough Hall to Abolitionist Place, symbolizing the journey toward justice, equity, and empowerment in Black maternal healthcare.

Invited Key Speakers & Special Guests

- **Rev. Kimberly Council** – Deputy Borough President, Brooklyn Borough Hall
- **Dr. Thomasena L. Ellison** – Associate Director, Gynecology, Maimonides Medical Center
- **Dr. Leslie Hayes** – Deputy Commissioner, Division of Family & Child Health, NYC DOHMH
- **Dr. Denise Howard** – Chief of Obstetrics & Gynecology, NYP Brooklyn Methodist

Walk with us—because every mother deserves justice, equity, and quality care!

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Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon



A note to Ruths:

To the Women Who Will Carry This Legacy Forward,

When my mother first envisioned this event, it was just an idea—a dream rooted in the story of Ruth and Naomi, a testament to the unbreakable bonds of mentorship, resilience, and love. But ideas alone don't create change. It takes women—visionary, determined, and united—to turn a vision into reality.

With a team of incredible women, our own modern-day Ruths, we have brought this day to life. Today is more than a celebration; it is a call to action—a reminder that we are each responsible for lifting as we climb, guiding as we grow, and paving the way for those who will follow in our footsteps.

The legacy of Ruth and Naomi is not just a story of the past; it is alive in each of us. Let's continue to mentor, uplift, for future generations.

Take the Next Step:

- **Get Involved:** www.neighborhoodclinic.org
- **Join Us in Our Mission** to support women and girl leaders
- **Register for Future NTAC Events**
- **Share Your Experience:** #RuthNaomiLegacy

Let's continue this journey—stronger, wiser, and united.

With gratitude and purpose,

Brooke Durrah (a proud Ruth)

Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon

CREDITS

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Ruth & NAOMI AWARDS LUNCHEON

Thank you for your support!

The Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic (NTAC) extends our deepest appreciation to all who have joined us for this inspiring Ruth & Naomi Awards Luncheon.

Today, we celebrate the power of mentorship, resilience, and intergenerational bonds that uplift our communities and pave the way for future generations.

To our honorees, guests, partners, and supporters—thank you for your unwavering commitment to equity, empowerment, and sisterhood. Your presence and participation make this event not just a gathering, but a testament to the enduring strength and legacy of women supporting women.

May we continue to build, uplift, and inspire—together.