ST. LOUIS CITY NAACP
111th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION and ANNUAL FREEDOM FUND DINNER

“INCREASING YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT ENGAGEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT”

You Are Invited!
Join us on February 24 for the annual St. Louis City NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner. Take time to celebrate the remarkable NAACP leaders pictured above who broke barriers and paved the way for others. Left to right:

• **Ina M. Boon** was the first NAACP Region IV Director. She served as President of the St. Louis City NAACP, President of the St. Louis County NAACP, NAACP Field Secretary for Missouri and national NAACP Life Membership Director.

• **Medgar Wiley Evers** was assassinated in the driveway of his home in Jackson, Mississippi just hours after U.S. President John F. Kennedy delivered his first civil rights address in 1953. At the time, Evers was the NAACP’s first Field Secretary in Mississippi. He gave his life for voter empowerment, equality and justice.

• **Civil Rights Attorney Frankie Muse Freeman** served as lead attorney in 1954 for the landmark NAACP case *Davis et al. v the St. Louis Housing Authority* which ended segregation in public housing in St. Louis. In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Freeman as the first woman to serve on the United States Commission on Civil Rights.

• **Norman R. Seay** was one of the organizers of the historic Jefferson Bank protest in 1963. He was a former national president of Blacks in Government and a co-founder of CORE.

• **Civil Rights Attorney Margaret Bush Wilson** was the first African American woman to be elected as Chair of the national NAACP Board in 1975, serving nine years. Wilson served as counsel in the landmark Supreme Court case *Shelley v. Kraemer* which held housing covenants unenforceable in the courts. Trustee emerita of Washington University in St. Louis and Webster University.
Suzanne Sitherwood  
*President, Spire*  
*Freedom Fund Dinner Chair*

Adolphus M. Pruitt, II  
*President*  
St. Louis City NAACP

and the  

**Freedom Fund Dinner Host Committee**

*invite you to attend the*  
111th Anniversary Celebration and Annual  
St. Louis City NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner

**Friday, February 24, 2023**  
Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel  
800 Washington Avenue • Downtown St. Louis

Reception - 6:00 p.m.  
Dinner/Program at 6:45 p.m.  
Business Attire

Complimentary Self-Parking  
Valet Parking (Washington Avenue Ballroom Entrance) - $13

Response Card Enclosed
The St. Louis City NAACP is 111th years old. Once a year, the St. Louis City NAACP hosts an Anniversary Celebration and Freedom Fund Dinner to recognize exemplary service, distinguished leadership, and commitment to improve the cultural, social, and economic growth and development of the St. Louis community.

We invite you to make a commitment to support the St. Louis City NAACP. Financial support from corporations, foundations, individuals, organizations and small businesses is needed to continue and strengthen the St. Louis City NAACP’s programs and initiatives aimed at civic engagement, youth empowerment and eliminating disparities in economic development, healthcare, education, public safety, technology, criminal justice and human rights issues in the St. Louis region.

This year’s event will recognize and honor individuals, organizations and businesses that develop and coordinate projects and programs to increase youth and young adult engagement and empowerment in the St. Louis region.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the nation’s oldest civil rights organization. Founded by a coalition of black political activists and white progressives in 1909, the NAACP is responsible for a number of victories from the ballot box to the boardroom, in the struggle for justice and equality in America. The NAACP has more than 2200 Branches in 50 states.

Since the founding of the St. Louis City NAACP, it has been the talent and tenacity of local NAACP members that have helped change negative aspects of life in St. Louis. Join us on February 24 for the Annual Freedom Fund Dinner.
FREEDOM FUND DINNER HONOREES

MARGARET BUSH WILSON
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

• KATHY OSBORN
  President and CEO, Regional Business Council

NAACP LEGACY LEADERSHIP AWARD

• KELVIN R. ADAMS, Ph.D.
  Former Superintendent, St. Louis Public Schools (retired 12/31/22)

• DENNIS LOWER
  Former President and CEO, Cortex Innovation Community

MEDGAR WILEY EVERS
MEDAL OF FREEDOM AWARD

• TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE EVENT

INA M. BOON SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD

• LOIS CONLEY
  Founder, President and CEO, The Griot Museum of Black History.

• NANCY CROSS
  Executive Director of Operations for the City of St. Louis
FREEDOM FUND DINNER HONOREES

FRANKIE MUSE FREEMAN / NORMAN R. SEAY
COMMITMENT TO ST. LOUIS AWARD

• BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF EASTERN MISSOURI
  Kristen Slaughter, Chief Operating Officer.

• BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER ST. LOUIS
  Flint Fowler, Ph.D., President.

• GIRLS, INC.
  Cheryl Jones, President and CEO.

• THELMA V. COOK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE - HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY
  Gateway Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. Stacy Edwards, President.

• STUDENT TO STUDENT- NEWMARK INSTITUTE, JCRC
  Deborah Price, Esq., Board Chair, Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis; Rori Picker Neiss, Executive Director.

• YOUTH LEADERSHIP – FOCUS ST. LOUIS
  Yemi Akande-Bartsch, Ph.D., President and CEO; Shalia Ford, Program Director.

• YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK
  Faith Laster - Coordinator of Talent Development, Regional Business Council.