



African American Golfers Hall of Fame
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Press Release

For Immediate Release

“Metropolitan Kappa Youth Foundation – Urban Golf Initiative” to be Honored during its 3rd Annual AAGHOF Celebration

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity’s, Senior Grand Vice Polemarch, Dwayne M. Murray, Esq., will receive the *“African American Golfers Hall of Fame Founders Award”* for the work of its Metropolitan Kappa Youth Foundation (MKYF) during the “3rd Annual AAGHOF Black Tie Reception & Awards Dinner” at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriott, Palm Beach Gardens, FL, 6:00PM, May 28, 2007.

The M KYF has demonstrated that it is committed to improving the future of minority youth with continuous measurable success since 1999. The Foundation supports and conducts activities with the implicit purpose of helping youth “Achieve.” The Foundation focuses on providing services and experiences to disadvantaged. It has partnered with Langston Legacy Golf Course, Washington, DC to include on and off the course golf instructional education activities and positive life skills to help them cope with all of life’s challenges. Their motto is: “golf is the carat and education is the key.” The Board of Governors congratulates MKYF President Christopher S. Hill, Jimmy Garvin, Dr. Marshall Banks, all of the volunteers and members of the Kappa Alumni Chapter, Silver Springs, MD. ICYG has also partnered with MKYF.

Legendary Golfer Gary Player is the keynote speaker for the awards dinner. At a time when most countries were shunning South Africa, Player brought African American athletes like Lee Elder (who will be inducted in this class), first African American to play in the Masters Tournament, to his country to try to make people understand that there should be equality on and off the playing field.

Inner City Youth Golfers’, Inc. (ICYG), a tax-exempt charitable organization (Tax ID # 65-0978868) established the AAGHOF annual event in order to give the “African-American Legends of Golf an opportunity to be recognized for their contributions to the sport, to continue being role models to our youth, to network with their peers, to interact and share their own stories about golf “then and now.” This celebratory event has institutionalized the true recognition of our historic involvement in “the growth of the game of golf” since the 1800’s. The African-American golfing community is at no loss for stories documenting its struggles, tragedies and ultimate triumphs. Little has been done however to recognize the accomplishments of those who really paved the way for today’s minority golfers.

The specific purpose of the AAGHOF is to honor the legacy and achievements of African Americans in the game of golf. The specific goals are to establish a place where the rich, colorful and proud history of African Americans in golf is specifically showcased and displayed for the world to see; to work diligently to find, review, and honor those African Americans who have made a lasting and positive contribution to golf and to their communities; to provide an interactive educational learning experience for all young and senior golfers; to acquire and assemble the most comprehensive collection of African American golf memorabilia in the world and to purchase land and build a permanent museum for all to enjoy for generations to come.

AAGHOF 2007 Class members are: Joseph M. Bartholemew*, New Orleans, LA; Agatha M. Delancy, Nassau, Bahamas; Lee Elder, Pompano, FL; Charlie Owens, Tampa, FL; Renee Powell, East Canton, Ohio and John Roux*, New Orleans, LA. Jack W. & Barbara B. Nicklaus, North Palm Beach, FL., William “Bill” Shack, Yucca Valley, CA and Helen Wilkes, Palm Beach, FL will receive Humanitarian Awards.

The Board of Governors also established a prestigious plaque to honor those legendary African Americans who are ninety (90) years or older who have “lived a life of golf.” The inaugural Legacy Award recipients are Lavelle “Reds” Anderson, Tim Irving and Dave Stroman. These stately gentlemen represent more than “two hundred and seventy eight years of knowledge about golf.” Other 2007 awardees are: Publisher of the Year, Calvin H. Sinnette, M.D.; Golf Administrator of the Year, Dennis C. Morgan, President, Midwest Golf Association; Pioneer Award, F. Malcolm Cunningham, Sr. and Founders Awards to Robert Brock, George H. Grace and the Metropolitan Kappa Youth Foundation.

The 2007 class will join “Inaugural Inductees” Gordon Brown, Sr., San Diego, CA; Pete Brown, Dayton, OH; Arthur L. Davis, Sr., West Palm Beach, FL; Renee Fluker, Detroit, Mich.; Selina Johnson, Detroit, Mich.; Malachi Knowles, Riviera Beach, FL and William Powell, East Canton, OH. Posthumously inducted were Althea Gibson; Dr. George F. Grant, Herman Mitchell, Ted Rhodes and John Shippen. The 2006 class included: Jim Dent, Tampa, FL; William “Bill” Dickey, Phoenix, AZ; Alton Duhon, Los Angeles, CA; James Garvin, Jr., Washington, DC; LaJean W. Gould, Atlanta, GA; Calvin Peete, Ponte Vedra, FL; Julius Richardson, Chicago, Ill; Peggy Rhodes-White, Chicago, Ill and William “Bill” Wright, Los Angeles, CA. Ann Gregory, Las Vegas, Nevada was posthumously inducted.

The 2005 “Humanitarian Award” recipients were Gary Player, South Africa; Richard F. Sebastian, CT and Dr. Julius Taylor, Baltimore, MD and 2006 recipients were: Thomas A. Hart, Sr., Washington, DC; Reese A. Jarrett, San Diego, California and Calvin Goode, Phoenix, Arizona.

Other AAGHOF celebration activities scheduled during the period May 25-28, 2007 are: The Essie Knowles Invitational Golf Open, May 25, 2007 at the Links at Madison Green, Royal Palm Beach, FL (the proceeds will be used to start an “inner city teen girls cancer education and prevention initiative”); Youth Golf Day & Garvin’s Skin Game, May 26, 2007; AAGHOF Legends Golf Tournament and Auction at West Palm Beach Golf Course, May 28, 2007.

Founder Malachi Knowles also announced that The Honorable Priscilla Taylor, FL District 84 State Representative; Professional Golfer Calvin Peete, Class of 2006 and Sidney Dinerstein, Chairman, Palm Beach County Republican Party will serve as Honorary Chairpersons. Registration is currently available online at www.africanamericangolfershalloffame.com. For any other information, please email icyginc@aol.com or call (561) 844-8774. *Deceased.

“Celebrating the Accomplishments of Yesterday While Paving the Way for Tomorrow!”