



African American Golfers Hall of Fame

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Informational Press Release

For Immediate Use

“The 2012 African American Golfers Hall of Fame & The African American Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame Celebrations Were Outstanding”

West Palm Beach, Fla. (June 3, 2012) - The “8th Annual African American Golfer’s Hall of Fame (AAGHOF) Conference, Tournaments, Reception, Dinner, Auction & Awards Celebration” & “2nd Annual African American Collegiate & Youth Golfer Hall of Fame (AAC&YGHOF) was held at The President Country Club, West Palm Beach, FL during the period May 24-28, 2012. The Annual AAGHOF Black Tie Optional Reception & Awards Dinner Celebration” was held on May 27, 2012. “We are excited and very pleased to partner with and have the support of the Palm Beach County Sports Commission & Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame this year”, said Malachi Knowles, Founder. “This is a great opportunity to support our premier international organization dedicated to the history of African Americans in the sport of golf” said George Linley, Executive Director, Palm Beach County Sports Commission. **Congratulations to the “Classes of 2012”**

“2012 African American Golfers Hall of Fame, Inc.”

AAGHOF 2012 Members: Erellon Benjamin Davis, Detroit, Mich. (100 years old); Richard “Jelly” Hansberry, Washington, D.C.

2012 Pioneer of the Year: Jesse James Parker, Bethesda, MD

2012 Inaugural Corporate Award: Paul G. Alexander, Boston, Mass. (Liberty Mutual) & Don Butler, Detroit, Mich. (Cadillac)

2012 Leadership Award: Mitchell J. Landrieu, Mayor, New Orleans, LA

2012 Legacy Awardee: Herbert Dixon, Bartow, FL & Albert “A. B.” Hill, New Orleans, LA

2012 College Golf Coach of the Year: Marvin E. Green, Jr., FAMU, Tallahassee, FL

2012 Founders Awardees: Dorothy Johnson, Cantonment, FL; Rushern L. Baker, III, Upper Marlboro, MD; Frank Reese, West Palm Beach, FL; Arthur “Art” Shell, Monroe, GA

2012 Inaugural Path Finders: Stanley Alexander Wilson, Lake Worth, FL; Horace Brown, San Diego, CA

“2012 AAGHOF Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame, Inc.”

Marcus Byrd, Waldorf, MD; Pearlissa Harris, Harvey, LA; Norman Fidel Blanco, New Orleans, LA; Anthony Long, University of Maryland Eastern Shore; Matthew McKnight & Kimberly Wong, Bethune Cookman University, Daytona Beach, FL



L:R Kimberly Wong, Jimmy Garvin, Pearlissa Harris, Anthony Long, Marcus Byrd, Norman Blanco & Dr. Ernest Boger.

This celebratory event has institutionalized the historic involvement of African Americans 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 “Black Golfers.” It feels strongly that golf’s future cannot be passed from its “Legends” to our “Youth” unless they are included and honored annually during this event. Inner City Youth Golfers’, Inc. 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.” The ultimate

purpose of the AAGHOF is to honor the legacy and achievements of African Americans in the game of golf and build a permanent place for the world to see their collective contributions.

The AAGHOF believes in its youth! It feels strongly that golf’s future cannot be passed from its “Legends” to the “Youth” unless they are included and honored annually during this event. ICYG therefore established the African American Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame.

The “2012 Highlights” follow: May 25, 2012, 12:15PM, AAGHOF/ICYG & Palm Beach County Sports Commission (PalmBeachSports.Com) Scholarship Golf Tournament, Auction & “Skins Game”, The President Country Club followed by an awards dinner w/music by “DJ Lady D”. The two person team winners were: Charles Anderson & Frank Reese (1st); Nathaniel Clark & Charles Johnson (2nd) and Kena Wright & Clewis Wright, Jr. (3rd).

The conference/educational portion at the Holiday Inn on May 26, 2012 included an 8:30AM, Roundtable - 1: “Golf Then, Now & In The Future” led by James Garvin, Chair, AAC&YGHOF, Washington, DC and 10:30AM, Roundtable - 2: “How To Prepare For College; College Golf Scholarships; Careers” led by Dr. Ernest P. Boger, University of Maryland Eastern Shore & AAC&YGHOF Vice Chair and 1:30PM, Legends “Say NO To Drugs – Say YES To Education, Culture & Golf” Youth/Parent Golf Orientation, Fun Festival & Clinic featuring Clewis Wright, Jr., ICYG Golf Director & all of our youth golf awardees - hosted by

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