



**"African American Golfers Hall of Fame"**  
**"African American Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame"**  
 P.O. Box 10572, Riviera Beach, FL 33419  
 T- 561-844-8774 F- 561-284-6492  
 www.africanamericangolfershalloffame.com



**"2024 AAGHOF/AAC&YGHOF Celebration News"**

Riviera Beach, Fl. (June 20, 2024) – The "20th Annual African American Golfers Hall of Fame Leadership Conference, Youth Golf Clinic & Scholarship Golf Tournament, Reception, Awards Dinner Celebration, Auction" & "15th Annual African American Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame" hosted by Inner City Youth Golfers', Inc. was held in Palm Beach County, FL during the period May 23-27, 2024. The mission is "to celebrate and honor the history and achievements of African Americans and other significant supporters who have contributed to growing the game of golf since the early 1800's." We challenged the excellence of those who desired to be in the African American Golfers Hall of Fame and provide a forum for our youth through golf – now, and in the future! In brief, these were the significant activities:

The "meet and greet" on Thursday, May 23 was like a family reunion with returning "Hall of Famers" reminiscing and glad to meet the 2024 class. As attendees arrived at the host hotel, Holiday Inn Express at 2485 Metrocentre Blvd. in West Palm Beach, they joined the festivities and are greeted like family.



The Opening Session @ Host Hotel on Friday, May 24 was well attended. We had the welcome from Malachi Knowles, Founder & President, ICYG, AAC&YGHOF, AAGHOF, George W. Linley, Executive Director, Palm Beach County Sports Commission and Emanuel Perry, Executive Director, Tourist Development Council of Palm Beach County. The Overview was by James R. Beatty, CEO, Jim Beatty Golf Ventures & African American GOLF Expo & Forum .



The educational Roundtable 1: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – "Business of Golf" was Moderated by Michael W. Cooper, Ph.D., USGA Senior Advisor HBCU Initiative. On the panel: Marsha G. Oliver, MBA, Senior Vice President, Community & Public Engagement, PGA TOUR; Adrian Stills, Cofounder, APGA Tour & Former PGA TOUR Member and Mark N. Lowry, Founder & President, National Golf Player Development Foundation. The roundtable was a wealth of education from the panel as well as the audience.



**"Celebrating the Accomplishments of Yesterday While Paving the Way for Tomorrow!"**





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The ICYG Scholarship Golf Tournament and Winners Circle reception following the Friday educational roundtable was held @ the Links at Boynton Beach. A good time was had by all. The winning groups are pictured below. Special thanks to the LPGA for sponsoring the closest to the pin female prize and Palm Beach County Sports Commission sponsoring closest to the pin male prize.



The Saturday education roundtable II: "Women Changing the Game of Golf through Leadership" was moderated by Ashuanta A. Epps, CEO/Founder, A Perfect Swing, Inc. & President, Southeast Section, Ladies Professional Golf Association. On her panel was Palm Beach County Vice Mayor, Maria G. Marino, LPGA & Kamile Ramos, Director, DEI, Culture & Community, USGA. The youth in attendance took away some important information on how to obtain scholarships, internships, etc. The panel also dispelled some myth as it relates to women in the business of golf.



Special thanks to Bear Lakes Country Club, West Palm Beach for once again hosting the "Legend's Greenside Chit Chat & ICYG Clinic Honoring Victoria Kingdom (95 years young) & Herbert L. Dixon (104 years young)" and Christine's Hope for Kids for sponsoring the youth goody bags. Mr. Dixon was interviewed by the local media and Inner City Youth Golfers received a donation from Christine's Hope for Kids.



The evening ended with the Founder's Annual Fish Fry, poolside at the Holiday Inn.



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The annual awards reception, dinner and induction was Sunday evening, May 26. Sania Washington, Cincinnati, OH is the "2024 African American Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame Class" "Youth Golf Ambassador"



The "2024 African American Golfers Hall of Fame Class"

AAGHOF 2024 Members - Alvin Craig Harper, PGA, Long Beach, CA & Glenville Pratt, Nassau, Bahamas

2024 Leadership Award - Madeline A. Quintyne-McConney, North Babylon, NY

2024 Golf Historian - Jeffrey T. Sammons, Ph.D., Monmouth Beach, New Jersey

2024 Golf Administrator of the Year - Craig Kirby, Washington, DC

2024 Pioneer Award - Vernell E. Williams, Madison, Fla

2024 Pathfinder Award - Marsha G. Oliver, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla

2024 Trailblazer Award - Brandon Johnson, ASGCA, Sanford, Fla

2024 AAGHOF Wife & Husband Golfers Award - Tracy & Philip Raoul, Chicago, Illinois

2024 Founder's Awardees - Arthur L. Johnson, Jacksonville, Fla; Major Robert McNeil; Cincinnati, Ohio;  
Par Four Golf Club, Inc, Pensacola, Fla; Sisters Across America, Inc., Orlando, Fla;  
Southern Association of Amateur Golfers, Jackson, Miss



*Congratulations to ALL 2024 honorees!*

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We welcomed the Palm Beach County Sports Commission which gave out their Special Awards during the African American Golfers Hall of Fame Awards ceremony. Mr. Charles Johnson, Ft. Pierce, FL received it's **"Champion of Equity & Diversity in Sports"**, and Yvonne and Eddie Odom, Delray, FL received it's **"Community Sports Award."**



The celebration continued May 27 @ the "Friends of ICYG Picnic" Co-Sponsored by the Palm Beach County Sports Commission, Ocean Reef Park Pavilion, 3860 N. Ocean Blvd., Riviera Beach, FL



As always, special thanks to Esmeralda H. Knowles, Executive Director, Inner City Youth Golfers', Inc.; James Garvin, Jr., AAC&YGHOF National Advisory Board Chair; Palm Beach County Sports Commission; ICYG, AAGHOF and AAC&YGHOF Boards of Directors; Roundtable Moderators: Michael W. Cooper, Ph.D. & Ashaunta A. Epps, LPGA and Panelist; Bear Lakes Country Club; Eastpointe Country Club; Volunteer Faculty; friends; family and the Holiday Inn Express & Suites staff for making this a very successful celebration! **To donate and be part of history visit [www.icyg.org](http://www.icyg.org)!**



"African American Golfers Hall of Fame & African American Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame are UNAFFILIATED with the National Black Golf Hall of Fame."

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