

The Maryland Multicultural Coalition



May/June 2019

President's Message

With the arrival of more sunshine, beautiful flowers, and longer days, this feels like the right time to welcome in a season of renewal, reflection, and recommitment. As the school year closes, I want to invite you to join me and the executive board as we take some time over the summer to reimagine what is necessary for us to be relevant and a resource.

This year we said farewell to one of our champions, Dr. Rita Robinson. With her transition, it has caused us to truly consider what the work of our organization has been and will need to be in order to add value to the field and support those who do the work each and every day.

This year's conference was phenomenal! Judith Jones and the Carroll County Public Schools' team rolled out the red carpet for the attendees. The sessions were meaningful and thought-provoking. It was apparent that the team worked hard to provide a high-quality experience to include the entertainment, food, and gifts. It's going to be a tough act to follow but we will try our best as Baltimore City Public Schools is pleased to be the April 2020 host. More details to come so stay tuned!

As I close, I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to our membership and executive board for all of your great work and support. Enjoy the summer!

Follow us on Twitter @MarylandMC2019

With hope,

Dr. Tracey L. Durant

President

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about" ~ Margaret J. Wheatley

In this issue....

The Legacy Award	page 2
Tribute to Dr. Rita Robinson	page 3
The 19 th Amendment	page 4
Jack Epstein Award	page 5-6
New Board Members	page 7
Jamestown Exhibit	page 7
Harriet Tubman	pages 7-8
Election Results	page 8

The Maryland Cultural Proficiency Conference at Morgan State University
October 29-30 2019

The National Association for Multicultural Education Conference
November 6-10 2019 in Tucson, AZ

#2019NAME

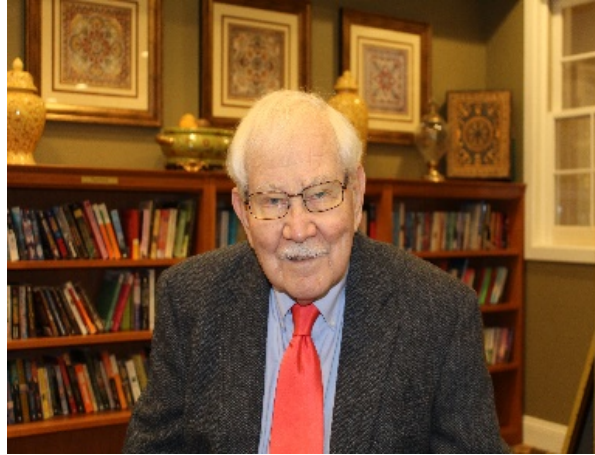
29th Annual Conference
of the
National Association for
Multicultural Education

Decolonizing Minds:
Forging a New Future
through





Maryland Multicultural Coalition Legacy Award 2019



Tom Owen

Tom is originally from Louisville, Kentucky where he lived and attended school. After high school, he attended the University of Kentucky where he tried out several majors, including journalism (following in his father's footsteps) and accounting. After his father's death, he returned home to Louisville and enrolled at Bellarmine College. However, after a year there, he entered the army. After three exciting years, spent mostly at the Fort Benning Army Hospital, he returned to Louisville. After returning to Louisville, Tom completed his degree in history. He tried teaching sixth grade at a parochial school across the river from Louisville. Although that experience caused him to think of teaching as a career, he went back to college to earn the requisite teaching credits.

In 1960 he packed up the car with then wife Linda and two kids, and headed for Sparrows Point, Maryland, where he spent five great years teaching CORE to seventh graders. Tom meanwhile had earned a Master's Degree in counseling and transferred to the senior high school. There he served as counselor to senior high students. The total ten years at "The Point" Tom considered the best of his career in education.

After serving four years as an assistant principal at Perry Hall Junior and Senior High Schools, Tom embarked on an exciting eighteen years as Supervisor of Human Relations in the Harford County school system. There he reached out to teachers through two courses he developed: Human Relations in Schools and Dynamics of Classroom Behavior. He is proud of the fact these courses continued to attract many teachers over the sixteen or so years they were offered.

Having participated in a six-week summer workshop in human relations at the University of Maryland with Dr. Clarence "Jince" Newell, prior to coming to Harford County, Tom contacted "Jince" to tell him of his new position, whereupon "Jince" invited him to become a member of the Human Relations Consortium, an organization which encouraged individuals and school systems as they sought to improve human relations in schools. The Consortium faded away as the Maryland Multicultural Coalition came into being and Tom became a participating member.

Tom's work in the Harford County Schools led to participation in several other organizations, including the Harford County Human Relations Commission (20 years), serving a term as chairman and liaison with the school system. He served on the Maryland Commission on Human Relations for ten years, serving four years as president. Tom was responsible for introducing Title IX, the Federal law which granted equal rights to women. The assignment was aimed at getting our schools and employees to become familiar with Title IX and taking responsibility for providing those rights. Another organization with which Tom has been affiliated is the Hosanna School Museum Executive Board, since 1999. The school, a Freedmen's Bureau School, was built in the post-Civil War era. An organization which Tom continues to be active with, since retiring in 1992, is the Harford County Retired School Personnel Association. He has served as president for a total of five years and edited the newsletter for about ten years. In between these tasks, Tom and his wife, Lynne, find time to travel to their cabin in Maine at least once a year. They have also traveled throughout the country by car, and taken numerous tours by bus and river boat to more than twenty European countries, as well as Canada and Mexico.

During Tom's presidency, MMC began the practice of holding an all-day conference which has been held at various counties throughout the state, but chiefly in the Baltimore-Washington.

The Legacy Award is only given by the Executive Board of MMC to a recipient who has given outstanding service and longevity of commitment to social justice and multicultural education in the State of Maryland. The award is a Sankofa Bird.



Tribute to
DR. RITA L. ROBINSON
A Legacy for the Ages

Her **CALL**

It has been my distinct privilege to share these gifts with others throughout my life's journey."

Our RESPONSE to her call...

"A gentle giant in our souls ... your essence endures, through time untold.

A caring nurturer and consummate educator before your time, it was during your early adolescent years when you helped to raise your younger siblings and took the responsibility of teaching two of them how to read and write, long before they entered first grade. You went on to succeed as a first-generation college graduate in your family, then admirably attained your Master's in Education and Ph.D. in Counseling from University of Maryland College Park. Always one to uphold the conviction' to do the thing (of value) that you think you cannot do', you are one, who blazed valiant, pioneering trails of educational excellence for all to follow and, in turn, to build.

You are absolutely "A gentle giant in our souls...your essence endures, through time untold."

Throughout your extensive professional years (1974-2004), you served as an elementary school teacher and counselor, pupil personnel worker, vice principal, award winning principal (Berkshire Elementary School, Blue Ribbon School 1986-1989), Director of Pupil Services, Director of the award-winning Equity Assurance Office (NAME, Multicultural Institution Award, 1999) and Director of Staff Development in Prince George's County Public Schools. You built steadfast capacity, while serving in each of your roles, to render your extensive knowledge, giftedness, intelligence and expertise as a master teachers' teacher, educators' educator and leaders' leader.

You are admirably, "A gentle giant in our souls...your essence endures through time untold."

Well into your 'senior' years, you continued to persevere at superior levels, by forging the soul of community activism in educational, multicultural, sociocultural and sociopolitical realms throughout the State of Maryland, and beyond. Your range of professional commitment and service includes Co-founder Creative Learning Enterprises; adjunct professor at Bowie State University and Mc Daniel College; Parliamentarian and Member-at-Large, Maryland Multicultural Coalition; Advisory Board, Mid- Atlantic Equity Consortium; President Maryland Association for Counseling and Development; Member of Board of Trustees, Prince George's Community College.

You are surely, "A gentle giant in our souls...your essence endures through time untold."

You collaborated with and guided your colleagues and peers along the way, to evolve as impactful leaders for diversity, inclusion and social justice. At every turn along your brilliant paths, you modeled the full meaning of being a true, relentless warrior for education equity; and so, it is in these ways and so many more that yes, you upheld your awareness of having been blessed with many gifts; yet, you demonstrated diligence and an incomparable work ethic; never resting on your laurels; always lifting others as you rose. All of those you touched are fortunate recipients of your generosity of spirit; as, true to your word, you shared and gave of your gifts throughout your life's journey. And so, in answer to your call, with resounding voices we say, indeed,

You will always be, "A gentle giant in our souls...your essence endures through time untold."

Tribute written on behalf of all who have and will celebrate Dr. Rita L. Robinson's Legacy through the Ages, by Pamela Higgins Harris

Celebrating of the 19th Amendment by Congress and
Women's Right to Vote
June 4, 1919

Our grandmothers and great grandmothers may remember this day. It became law in August of 1920 and the first Presidential election that women would vote in was held in November of 1920, Republican Senator Harding defeated Democratic candidate Governor James Cox of Ohio. There were 48 states at this time. The number of voters increased from 18.5 million in 1916 to 26.8 million in 1920, with the eligibility of women. Oddly enough, very few of the women that fought for over a half a century would be alive to see women be able to vote.

The National Archives has an exhibit on the 19th amendment that would make a great field trip or summer day trip.



RIGHTFULLY HERS
AMERICAN WOMEN AND THE VOTE

**Rightfully Hers: American Women
and the Vote**

May 10, 2019 to January 3, 2021
Celebrate the 19th Amendment's centennial and
discover the diverse struggle for women's voting
rights throughout American history. Opening May
10, 2019.

For more information visit the National Archives
<https://www.archives.gov/historical-docs/19th-amendment>
This site has lesson plans and other materials for the
classroom regarding the 19th amendment.



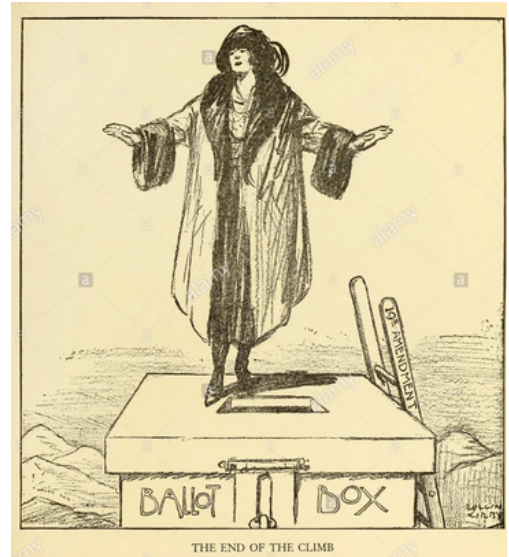
A Brief History of Voting Rights

1776 Only white men, 21 years old or older, who are land owners and protestant can vote
1789 Only 6% of total US population can vote. George Washington becomes President
1856 All white men can vote
1868 14th amendment gives former slaves citizenship and right to vote. Defined as males only
1870 15th amendment passed, No man can be denied the right to vote based on race
1890 Wyoming become a state and state constitution gives women the right to vote
1920 19th amendment gives women the right to vote
1924 Citizenship for Native Americans but does not give them the right to vote
1947 Native Americans are given the right to vote
1952 Asian Americans can become US citizens and may vote
1961 23rd amendment gives citizens in D.C. are given the right to vote for President
1964 24th amendment makes poll tax illegal
1971 26th amendment lowers the voters age to 18

Contact us at: mdmulticultural@gmail.com
Follow us at Twitter @MarylandMC2019
Visit us at: mdmc.edublogs.org

Recipients of the Jack Epstein Award

- 2001 Woodrow Grant, MSDE, and Jill Christianson, NEA
- 2002 Cheryl Pasteur, Baltimore County Public Schools
- 2003 Linda Shevitz, MSDE
- 2004 Joyce Bransford Byrd, Harford County, Hosanna School Museum
- 2005 Dina Shein, Carroll County Public Schools
- 2006 Mary Louise Jones, Allegany County
- 2007 *No conference*
- 2008 Robert Barnes, Coalition Opposed to Violence and Extremism (COVE)
- 2009 Joyce Harris, Frederick County Public Schools; Executive Director, NAME
- 2010 Margaret (Peg) Kulow, Carroll County Public Schools
- 2011 Dr. Michael Martirano, St. Mary's County Public Schools
- 2012 Timothy Johnson, Positive Solutions Unlimited, COVE, Howard County Human Rights Commission
- 2013 Cathy Price, Harford County Public Schools, Retired
- 2014 Debra Nixon, Maryland State Education Association
- 2015 Ava Maria Whittemore, Frederick County Public Schools
- 2016 *No Recipient*
- 2017 Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Howard County Drug Free Program Director
- 2018 *No Conference*
- 2019 Judith Jones, Carroll County Public Schools



Check out the **National Women's History Alliance**. They have wonderful gifts, resources and books about the struggles, contributions and history of women in this country. Become a member or just visit. It is well worth it.

www.nwhp.org

Jack Epstein Award 2019

Judith Jones

Judith Jones, the 2019 recipient of the Jack Epstein Award for Exemplary Commitment to Education That Is Multicultural, has worked in Maryland Public Schools for over 22 years. In 1993 she was hired as a social studies teacher at Lake Clifton-Eastern High School where she taught in the law-related education program for 11 years. After receiving administrative certification, she became an Assistant Principal for Doris Johnson High School in Baltimore City. Later, moving to Carroll County, she became an Assistant Principal for Century High School and served in that capacity for 4 years until joining the staff of Westminster High School serving as an assistant principal for 6 years.

She has served as a member of the Diversity Leadership team of Carroll County Public Schools and is a founding member of the Carroll County Assn. of Secondary Black Educators. She has worked on many committees throughout the county and is a member of Carroll Citizens for Racial Equality and the Carroll County Local Management Board.

In 2017, she was made the Supervisor of Equity and Community Outreach. In that position, she serves as the chairperson of the ETM Advisory Council and oversees all aspects of program development, grant coordination and compliance, and budget management. She collaborates with school administrators and ETM Coordinators in the schools to develop programs on equity and cultural proficiency and provides leadership in establishing system-wide staff development goals, needs and priorities for equity. She was instrumental in ensuring a theme of equity was woven throughout all parts of the school system's new strategic plan. She has encouraged community involvement by establishing the Carroll County Public Schools Annual Carroll County Culture EXPO that provides an opportunity for the school system, parents, local businesses and government agencies to come together and celebrate diversity while providing a platform for courageous conversations.

She also serves as a support and role model for several student groups who have initiated and implemented minority student unions and advocacy groups at their local high schools. Currently, she is organizing a system-wide "Student Voice" as a goal to provide students of color the opportunity to be legacy builders of equity. She has great plans to ensure that CCPS continues to be a school system where cultural diversity is embraced and celebrated and a place that provides a "place to appear at the table" of courageous conversations.

In the words of one of her nominators, she is "dedicated to creating education environments in which all people are valued equally and where all are inspired to work together in schools and communities."

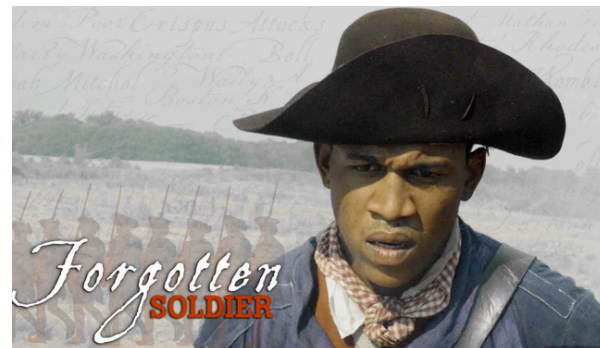


Judith Jones (l) and Dr. Tracey Durant (r)

MMC Welcomes Two New Members to the Board

Dr. Candice Logan-Washington is a native of Baltimore, Maryland and was educated in the Baltimore County Public School System. She's currently a Specialist in the Office of Equity and Cultural Proficiency within the Baltimore County Public Schools and holds a doctorate in Urban Educational Leadership with a dual focus in school administration and social policy from Morgan State University. She is an adjunct professor and researcher at Notre Dame University of Maryland. Her research interests include issues of equity and access for marginalized student populations, teacher preparation, training and development. She believes 21st century teaching, learning and leading requires us to let go of what we currently know about the educational landscape and embrace the dexterity, alternative routes to mastery, global perspective, and simple complexities that today's learners have to offer. She is the wife of Gerry Washington Jr. and mother to Gerry III and Logan Washington.

Dr. Mary Howlett-Brandon assumed the position of Lead Equity and Cultural Proficiency Specialist at the Maryland State Board of Education (MSDE) in November 2013. Her duties include liaising with school districts within Maryland to promote equity and cultural proficiency as required by COMAR. She also works with delegations from around the world who want to visit MDSE to learn about educational practices, professional development, and educational funding from one of the highest ranked school systems in the United States. Dr. Howlett-Brandon is a native of Mississippi. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Mississippi in Social Work. Upon deciding to teach, she earned and second bachelors in History from Park University in Missouri and a master of education from Old Dominion University in Virginia. She has been married to Llewellyn Brandon, a retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, for more than thirty years.



Jamestown Exhibit

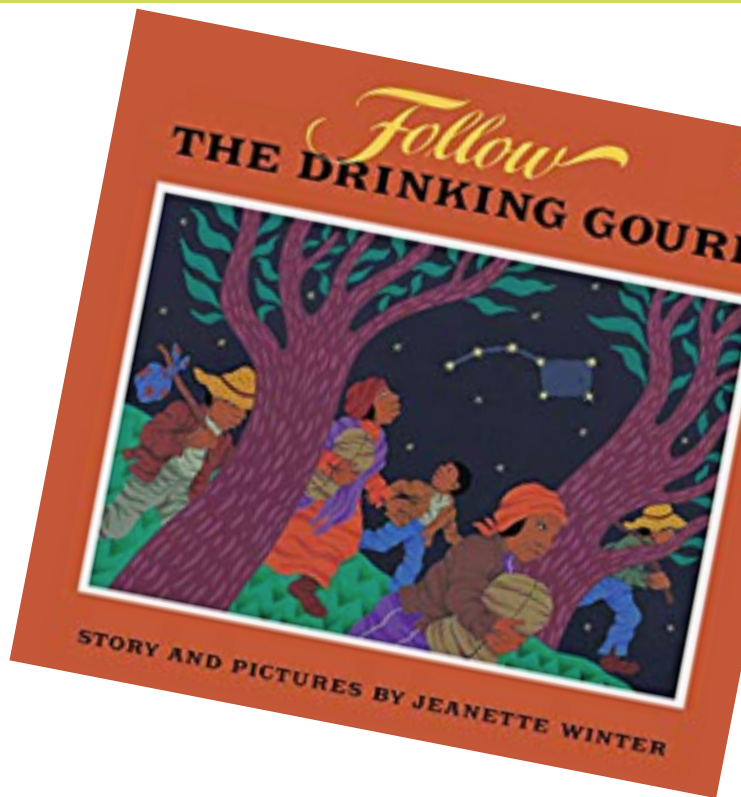
A special exhibit at Jamestown will focus on the enslaved and free African Americans that fought on both sides during the Revolutionary War. This exhibit runs from June 29, 2019 to March 22, 2020. Other exhibits include the special exhibit on the women in Jamestown in 1619. *Tenacity* runs until January 1, 2020.

Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway.

Looking for something to do and learn something. Spend the day getting to know Harriet Tubman. Travel where she traveled. Read a book about her life. Image the conditions she faced as she became the Moses of her people. Read about the Underground Railroad



Delay in \$20.00 bill honoring Harriet Tubman was announced last week due to security measures. The one and ten dollar bills will get upgrades prior to the Harriet Tubman bill being introduced. The Federal Reserve has pushed its release back now until 2028. It was going to coincide with the celebration of the 19th amendment granting women the right to vote.



Harriet Tubman (con't)

Visit the following websites for more information.

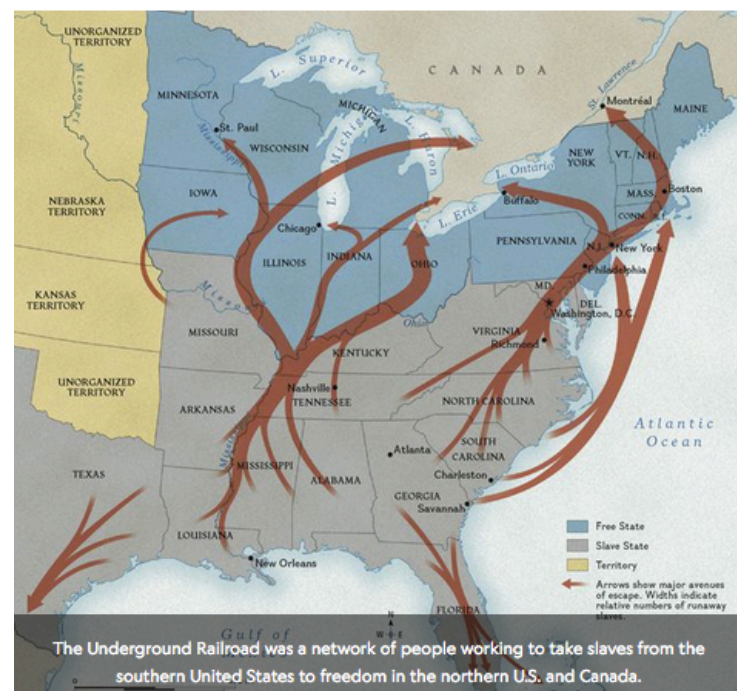
<http://harriettubmanbyway.org/>

<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/underground-railroad>

<https://www.historynet.com/underground-railroad>

<https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-underground-railroad>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/maps/underground-railroad/>



MMC/NAME 2019 Election Results

The MMC/NAME membership elected four members to serve on the Board of Directors for the term of 2019-2021. They are: Linda Shevitz, Parliamentarian; Dr. Mary Howlett-Brandon, Member-At-Large; Dr. Candice Logan-Washington, Member- At-Large; and Debbie Misiag, Member-At-Large. Congratulations to all and many thanks for taking on the responsibility of keeping MMC/NAME an exemplary chapter of NAME.