

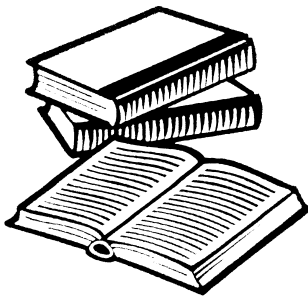
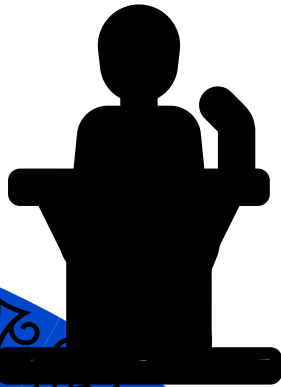


# Lead Louisiana

## INAUGURAL CLASS GRADUATION



**APRIL 15, 2023 | BATON ROUGE, LA**



# **MISSION**

**To provide a safe space for Black and Brown people to explore the issues and public policy facing our people in the state of Louisiana, and to develop solutions together.**

# **CURRICULUM**

**SEPTEMBER: The State of Black and Brown Louisiana-  
LAFAYETTE**

**OCTOBER: Arts and Culture and Music / History of the  
City of New Orleans- NEW ORLEANS**

**NOVEMBER: Education/ Civic Participation/ Public  
Policy- BATON ROUGE**

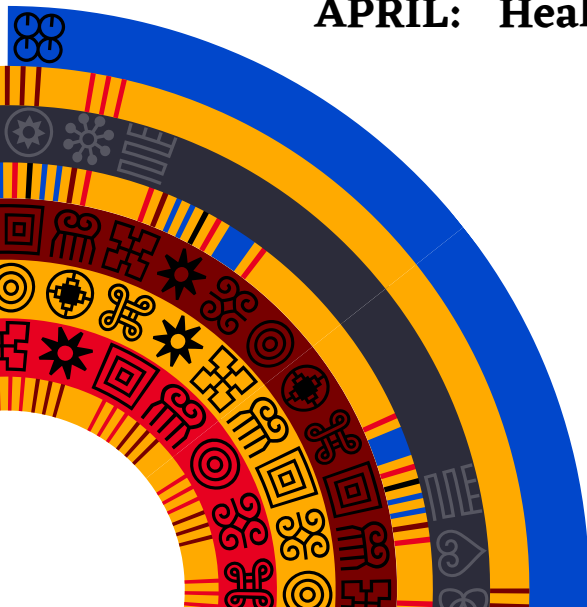
**DECEMBER: Economics/ Finance/ Business/  
Employment – SHREVEPORT**

**JANUARY: Housing – ALEXANDRIA**

**FEBRUARY: Historic/ Civil Participation/ Public Policy  
– HOUMA, THIBODEAUX**

**MARCH: Criminal Justice Reform – MONROE**

**APRIL: Health Care/ Underlying Health Issues –  
BATON ROUGE**



# SESSION MODERATORS & FACULTY

Dr. Toya Barnes – Teamer; Teamer Strategy Group, LLC  
Secretary James Le Blanc; Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections  
Senator Gerald Boudreaux; Finance Committee – Louisiana Senate  
Kenneth Boudreaux\*; Keep ‘Em Talking Media  
Rodney Braxton; Southern Strategy Group  
Barry Brooks; Louisiana Housing Corporation  
Davondra Brown; Director, Bureau of Community Partnerships & Health Equity  
Tony Brown; Eyes Open, Managing Partner of KTTP Radio  
Keturah Butler-Reed; Black Voters Matter  
Brandon Caples; Housing Louisiana  
Ronald Coleman; NAACP of New Orleans  
Connie R. Cooper, M.Ed.; Chief Diversity Officer and Director for Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion  
Dr. Theodore Foster; University of Louisiana  
Hon. Senator Cleo Fields, Esq.  
Consuela Gaines\*; V.O.T.E, Formerly Incarcerated  
Russell L. Honore’; Retired Lieutenant General of The U.S First Army  
Omari Ho-Sang; Black Voters Matter  
Al Jackson; Community Cultural Preservationist  
Dr. Pastor Theron Jackson; Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
Dr. Ernest Johnson, Esq.; President Emeritus  
Paula Jordan; Supervisor of Community Health Services, Louisiana Healthcare Connections  
Rep. Ed Larvadain III; House of Representatives, Louisiana  
Craig Lee; Community Activist  
Telle Madina; The Madina Group Consulting, LLC  
Dr. Fatemeh Makekian; Director of Southern University Institute for Food, Nutrition and Wellness  
Ravis Martinez\*; Sivarco  
Michael McClanahan; NAACP State President  
Dr. Tia Mills; President of LAE  
Archbishop John Milton, Esq.; Imani Temple Cathedral  
Andreanecia Morris; Executive Director of Housing Louisiana  
Dianne Mouton-Allen\*; Director of National Coalition Institute  
Alanah Odoms; ACLU  
Breka Peoples; People’s Promise  
Chancellor John Pierre, Esq.; Dean of Southern Law Center  
Markey Pierre; Vice Chancellor of External Affairs and Chief of Staff at LSU Health Shreveport  
Jonathan Reynolds; Chief Commercial Officer of Carter Credit Union  
Marjorie Scoby; Finding Our Roots African American Museum  
Dennis J Shields; President of Southern University A&M System  
Stanley Taylor; Historical Cultural Barrier  
Allison Washington\*; Creative Consultant, Marketing Professional, and Community Organizer  
Adarian Williams; Grambling State University  
Vera Williams; Community Bookstore  
Checo Yancy; V.O.T.E, Formerly Incarcerated

\*denotes Moderator

# **PROGRAM**



*Moderator Kenneth Boudreaux*

**Opening Prayer**

**Lift Every Voice & Sing**

**Greetings**

**Presentation of Cohorts**

**Presentation of cohorts' project**

**Lunch**

**Introduction of Guest Speaker**

**Guest Speaker Russell L. Honoré;  
Retired Lieutenant General of The U.S First Army**

**Closing Prayer**



# **LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING**



Lift every voice and sing,  
'Til earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the list'ning skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on 'til victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,  
Bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet

Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past,  
'Til now we stand at last

Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by Thy might  
Led us into the light,

Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,  
our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;

Shadowed beneath Thy hand,

May we forever stand,

True to our God,


True to our native land.



# LEAD LA INAUGURAL CLASS


## 2022-2023

### **Ariel Berry-Lemelle**




Ariel Berry-Lemelle is from Lafayette, LA, but resides in Carencro, LA. Ariel is married of 14 years and has a 3 year old son. She is the Office Administrator and Grant Manager for SUNVESTKA. Ariel has a passion for helping her community, with heavy concentration in breastfeeding and birth support for black and brown moms as a doula and breastfeeding peer support specialist. She is the founder of non-profit organization, Birthright Perinatal Support, where she supports moms with trying to conceive, prenatal education, birth education and support, breastfeeding education and support, and all things perinatal.

### **Marja Lyn Broussard**



Marja, of Lafayette, LA, is the mother of 8 daughters. Although she retired as an LPN and RT, she is most known for her role as a community activist. She served 4 terms as the NAACP President; she is currently serving her 2nd term as the NAACP LA State Conference Vice President for District D & NAACP LA State Conference Political Action Chair. She is currently the GOM of SUNVESTKA. She is an active member of Imani Temple #49 AACC, where she is the outreach minister. In 2005, she was the first African American to receive the Acadiana Women of the Year Award, she received it because of her work with women and children as it relates to domestic violence. Most recently, she was a Remarkable Women 2022 finalist. Her story was captured as part of Voice of Race in Portrait, an exhibition by Conversation Starters.

### **Lindsey Duplechain-Halley**



Lindsey Duplechain Halley is a retired Army First Sergeant, Disabled Combat Veteran, published author, and Community Servant Leader. Lindsey is the Founder of Lanora's Helping Hands, a volunteer community service program designed to enrich the lives of her (hometown) community, and Honoring Our Ancestors, a voter registration and education initiative designed to increase the voting power of the Black Community through education, registration and awareness.



## Josh Edmond



Josh Edmond is from Lafayette, Louisiana. He is married to Linda Edmond, together they have 9 kids & 13 grandkids. Josh is a community driven person with an abundance of family support. He is currently running for the District 3 School Board seat. Josh have received many accolades in the last 9 years, (Dr. Branco Leadership Awards 2022, ZBT Louisiana Humanitarian 2022, (first ever) NAACP Jenelle Chargois Award, Key to the City, Southern Tea Awards Community Impact Nominee) just to name a few. Josh is a Minister, Life Coach, Community Activist, President of Oasis Coterie, Nonprofit Owner & a 3 time publish author.

## Rev. Wilfred Johnson



Rev. Wilfred J Johnson Sr. Pastor of The Little Zorah Missionary Baptist Church And Outreach Center in New Iberia Louisiana. Rev. Johnson was ordained with the Union Sixth District Baptist Association Along With The Little Zorah And Star Pilgrim Baptist Churches, Rev. Johnson is A proud member of the Iberia Christian Ministerial Federation, Iberia Community Resource Coalition, and a PROUD partner of (REAL) REENTRY ALLIANCE, And Faiths United. He is also the President of the Jeanerette Chamber Of Commerce. Founder Of A New Chapter Transitional After Care and mentoring program, working with and for incarcerated men and women returning back to our community.

## Jameka McKinley, M. Ed.



Jameka McKinley was born and raised in Houma, La., a resident of Lafayette for 11 years. Ms. McKinley has worked in public school education for 23 years where she has championed for ALL children! Through her dedication, her nonprofit Growing Good Leaders was birthed and her children's book series The Little Cushite Chronicles. Ms. McKinley volunteers with Second Harvest, Parish Proud, and United Way to name a few. She is a member and serves as Secretary of the Lafayette Branch of National Association of University Women, Inc. and the Assistant Grad Advisor in the Lafayette Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., a member of the National Pan-Hellenic Council-Lafayette, Louisiana Association of Child Welfare and Attendance, Louisiana School Counselor Association, American Association of School Counselors, and Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana.

## Micah Nicholas

After several years of nonprofit coaching, management, and board development, Micah is a passionate facilitator dedicated to assisting communities to expand their reach and inspire the next generation. Micah currently serves as the Love Our Schools Community and Family Engagement coordinator.



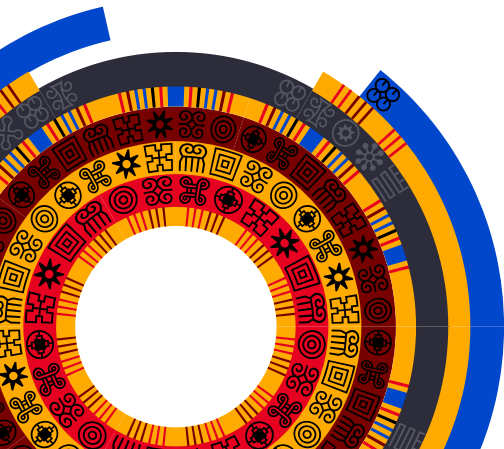
## Annette Porter

A native of Lafayette, Annette Porter is the owner of Core Real Estate Agency and has an MBA in Real Estate Development. She is a consultant for affordable housing and community revitalization. Her passion for seeing a better Northside through home ownership and entrepreneurship is the driving force behind her mission and programs. 2021 Mrs. Porter retired from St. Landry school system with 26 years as a public school teacher. Annette Will continue to combing her love and knowledge for education and real estate to educate and cultivate our community through housing education.



## Linda Trimble

Linda is the founder of “SAVE Our Daughters , Celebrating Women and The United Fellowship of Women,” these are ministries and community outreaches that honors women for their dedication and accomplishments in life, as well as encouragement to lead by example. Linda encourages others daily and travels to communicate a message of power and purpose to others. She is the Author of three books: Tru-An American Princess; A Fairy Tale Every Girl Should Read, Real Women Sharing Testimonies. Linda is a graduate of Northeast Louisiana University with a BS in Business Education, a Master of Ed., a minor in Computer Science and a Master’s Plus 30 in Guidance and Counseling. Married to Warren Trimble, and they are Co-Pastors of Liberty Christian Center, Monroe and Winnsboro, LA.





## Sharon McCall-Walker

Senior Counsel, Trainer and Researcher at Resource & Fund Development, LLC., Raised \$1.2 million as Campaign Director with Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, Member of Alliance of Nonprofit Management, and Member of LANO.



## Chris Wallace

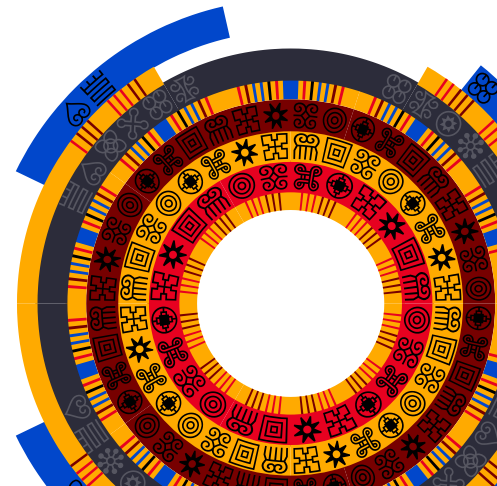
Licensed Mortgage Loan Originator, Teach Home Buyer's Education, Public Speaker, Live Television Appearances, Host Home Buyer Seminars, Graduate of The Grambling State University.



## Dr. Christopher Williams

Chris Williams is the CEO of SUNVESTKA. We are excited to bring programming to the community that will change citizens lives and families.

"LET JUSTICE RUN DOWN LIKE WATERS RIGHTOUSNESS LIKE A MIGHTY STREAM."



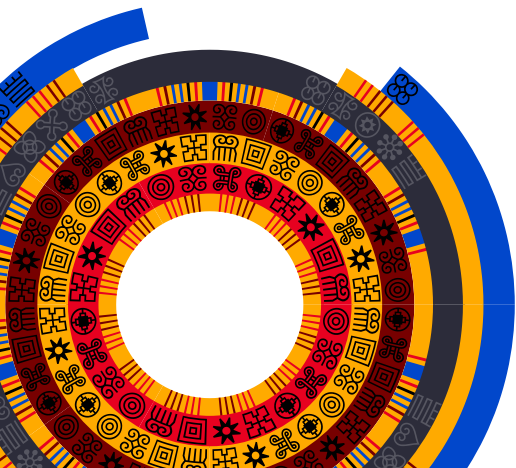
## Christa Williams

Christa Williams is a Project Specialist at SUNVESTKA, helping underserved communities in the Lafayette area. Over the last few months, she has worked specifically with their Resource Center and Housing Department. When she's not at work, Christa enjoys her time alone.



## Ryan Williams

Ryan Williams holds the title of CEO for several multimillion-dollar companies including Seedlinks Behavior Management, Redwood Property Management, Magnolia Transportation, Seeds in Action, The Beyond Beleaf Foundation, and Uptown Bar & Lounge. Ryan takes pride in being an activist in the city of Shreveport & investing in his local community, youth, and those in need. He has served his community by being a part of Mayor Adrian Perkins's Economic development team, Shreveport Leadership Class, member of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. Life Member of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc Shreveport Leadership Class 2020, Kappa League Guide right director, A 15000.00 Endowment to Grambling State University providing scholarships to students of Booker T. Washington & Green Oaks High schools and is currently the Vice- Polemarch for The Bossier City Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. His motto in life is molded by a Quote by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "NOT ALL MEN CAN BE FAMOUS BUT ALL MEN CAN BE GREAT, GREAT MEN ARE MEASURED BY THERE SERVICE".























# Lead Louisiana

## SECOND CLASS

For Emerging and Seasoned Leaders

Applications open

February 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023

Classes are the 2nd weekend  
of each month.

### CURRICULUM

Designed to educate, motivate, and  
encourage participants to serve our  
local communities, the state of  
Louisiana, our country and the world.

Scan QR code

APPLY ONLINE TODAY

[WWW.LEADLA.ORG](http://WWW.LEADLA.ORG)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL

337-501-7617

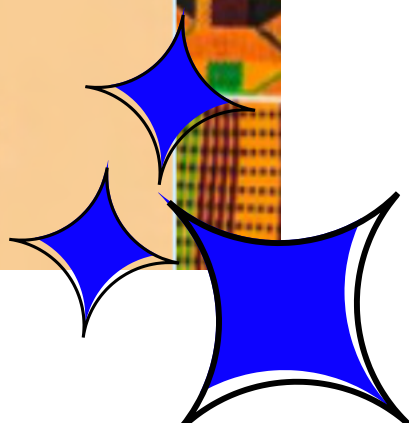
APPLICATION DEADLINE

JUNE 30, 2022



### Our Mission

To provide a safe space for Black and  
Brown people to explore the issues and  
public policy facing our communities in  
the state of Louisiana and to develop  
solutions together.



# SPONSORS

