

HONORING THREE EDUCATORS FOR LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate three innovative educators who tonight will receive the Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in Education. One of these highly motivated educators, Dr. Mark Edwards, just happened to serve as the first principal of Northfield Elementary School in my hometown of Murfreesboro, TN.

Along with Dr. Edwards, Kati Haycock and Dr. Carol Twigg are being honored during an awards ceremony at the New York Public Library. The three have been chosen to receive the prestigious 16th annual award for introducing students to technology at an early age, developing affordable post-secondary distance-learning programs and influencing education policy to embrace high standards for all students.

Dr. Edwards now serves as the superintendent of Henrico County Public Schools in Richmond, Virginia. He has spearheaded the innovative use of technology to raise achievement in Henrico County through the Technology and Learning Initiative, one of the largest educational laptop programs in the country.

Ms. Haycock serves as one of the nation's leading advocates for children and high achievement in education. In 1990 she founded the Education Trust, an organization known nationwide for its authority on education reform.

And Dr. Twigg is an internationally recognized expert in using information technology to transform teaching and learning in higher education. She currently serves as the executive director of the Center for Academic Transformation at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

I salute these three for their remarkable and untiring contributions to education. Our children, after all, reap the rewards of the hard work and determination that people like Dr. Edwards, Ms. Haycock and Dr. Twigg possess. They are truly gifted educators who have made a tremendous difference in the lives of so many.

TRIBUTE TO ISHMAEL-LATEEF AHMAD

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ishmael-Lateef Ahmad for being awarded the 2003 Excellence in Communications Award by the Greater St. Louis Association of Black Journalists. Winning the News Analysis category, Ahmad was essentially recognized for his outstanding ability to provide fair and effective coverage of local events. Ahmad has an exceptional skill of covering issues of importance to the African-American community in metropolitan St. Louis.

In addition to his unwavering commitment to expanding the positive image of African-Americans in the media, Ahmad has selflessly dedicated time for community service. He has volunteered 20 years with the minority journalism workshop. Ahmad has influentially shaped the careers of minority youth interested in journalism. Through this free workshop, he has introduced many high school students and college freshmen to the world of communications.

Mr. Speaker. It is with great privilege that I recognize Ishmael-Lateef Ahmad today before Congress. Receiving this honorable award and his commitment to efficiently educating the next generation of journalists, makes him more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Ishmael-Lateef Ahmad.

A TRIBUTE TO ELVIN JONES

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, as the Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus, and chairman of its annual Jazz Issue Forum and Concert, I rise to call to this body's attention the achievements of a distinguished American musical artist, Elvin Jones.

Born on September 9, 1927, in Pontiac, Michigan, Elvin Jones is the youngest brother of a remarkable musical family, which also includes Hank Jones (a pianist) and the late Thad Jones (a coronetist and big band leader). Elvin Jones began his career playing drums with local bands active in Detroit's fertile jazz scene. After serving in the Army from 1946–1949, he returned to the Detroit area, establishing himself as the house drummer at the renowned Bluebird Club.

In the mid-50s, Elvin Jones relocated to New York City, where he rapidly established himself as a leading exponent of bop drumming. During this period, he worked with several notable musicians including J.J. Johnson, Donald Byrd, Harry "Sweets" Edison, Bud Powell and Sonny Rollins. In 1960, Elvin Jones became a member of John Coltrane's most celebrated quartet, working alongside pianist McCoy Tyner and bassist Jimmy Garrison. Jones played with "Trane" for five years, gaining the renown that has led him to be regarded as one of the outstanding drummers in jazz history.

After leaving Coltrane, Elvin Jones worked mainly as a leader of his own small groups, where he was able to exercise full control over the musical policy. In 1966, however, Jones toured Europe with Duke Ellington's Orchestra. Back on his own in the late 60s, and on through the 70s and 80s, Jones toured ceaselessly, playing clubs, concerts and festivals around the world. With the 90s came the emergence of the very popular "Elvin Jones' Jazz Machine." During his many years as a leader, Jones' sidemen have included Joe Farrell, George Coleman, Frank Foster, Andrew White, and members of jazz's younger vanguard like Delfeayo Marsalis and Nicholas Payton. Among the labels that Elvin Jones has recorded on are Atlantic, Riverside, Impulse, Blue Note, Enja, PM, Vanguard, Honey Dew, Denon, Storyville, Evidence and Landmark.

In 1998, Elvin Jones was elected by the critics into the "Down Beat Hall of Fame." By his colleagues and fans around the world, Jones is recognized as one of the master drummers of jazz.

90TH ANNIVERSARY—ST. JOSEPH'S CARMELITE HOME FOR GIRLS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with the greatest honor and pride that I congratulate the St. Joseph's Carmelite Home for Girls in East Chicago, Indiana as they celebrate their 90th anniversary. On September 27, 2003, the women of St. Joseph's and other community members will gather together for a reunion of gratitude and friendship during their 90th Jubilee Celebration.

In 1913, the vision of St. Joseph's Carmelite Home for Girls became a reality when Mother Mary Theresa of St. Joseph was granted permission from Bishop Herman Alerding to actively work with the poor children of Lake County. It was the generous donation of two small frame houses by Mr. Walter Riley, chairman of the First National Bank in East Chicago that brought the home to life. The two small houses became homes to some seventy children and at the time both boys and girls lived in the homes.

St. Joseph's Carmelite Home for Girls began as an orphanage, grew to a group home, and today provides residential treatment to many Northwest Indiana girls. It was in 2001 that the doors of the Holy Innocents Center and Emergency Shelter opened to newborns, infants, toddlers, as well as young children in need.

Sister Maria Giuseppe, the home's administrator, along with six nuns, four postulants, and 45 lay people, give support, guidance, and comfort to over 50 young girls who are now in residence at the home. Their selfless dedication to the girls in the home, as well as all the citizens of East Chicago, is an outstanding model for all Americans.

With my father Mr. John Visclosky as a former member of the Carmelite Home's board of directors, I know firsthand the importance of St. Joseph's Carmelite Home for Girls to the Northwest Indiana community. The generosity and love that the St. Joseph Carmelite Home provides for its residents is remarkably selfless and giving and deserves the highest recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating St. Joseph's Carmelite Home for Girls as they celebrate their 90th anniversary. Their sincere commitment to the children of East Chicago and all of Northwest Indiana is worthy of the highest gratitude and admiration. I am truly honored to represent such exceptional and giving citizens in Congress.