

at Wingate High School. Ms. Aremu partnered with Ana Goldson-Walker who introduced the business community and bi-lingual educators and artists.

During the 27 year period as an educator and administrator she created and organized numerous children projects, productions and workshops to include innovative practices in education and progressive arts and reading programs.

For 20 years she created and administered the world renowned Harlem Children's Theatre, a not-for-profit education and arts organization that performed in Nigeria, Jamaica, Barbados, France, Spain, England, Bermuda and Germany.

This Education Theatre company was also a special guest of the Nigerian Government at Festac (an International Festival of the Arts) and the Jamaican and Barbados Consul General. In Jamaica and Barbados she organized education missions. In 1985 she formed two additional new education nonprofits for the children of Brooklyn: New Dove and the New York Youth Consortium, Inc.

Aduke Aremu is also a published writer whose children books were published by Gumbs and Thomas of New York, a book of poetry published in Germany and in Atlanta, Georgia and ten plays that have been produced at The Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, the Public Theatre by the late Joseph Papp, the Negro Ensemble Company by renowned Director Douglas Turner Ward, The Billie Holiday Theatre, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Carnegie Hall, The Brooklyn Academy of Music, Town Hall, and 42nd Street Theatre Row.

Aduke also received an Award from the Nigerian Government for her writings.

Aduke has studied education abroad and worked with educators, artists and writers in Ghana, Germany, Nigeria, Benin, Tanzania Kenya, Jamaica and Barbados.

Aduke Aremu has serviced as a consultant for NEA in Washington, DC, the New York State Council for the Arts, the Governor's Office of New York and the United Nations with the late Mrs. Andrew Young. Presently Aduke is the CEO of the International Public Relations and Fund Raising Company—Dove LLC of Atlanta, Georgia and New York City.

Aduke Aremu is married to Calvin Anderson of New Rochelle, New York and has an extended family of four young adults (Hakim, CJ, Mimi and Tricia).

Aduke Aremu owes her success to Jehovah-God and great mentors, family and friends especially Vivian Y. Bright, Ana Goldson-Walker of Brooklyn, New York and Dawn Alli of New Jersey. These ladies have served as mentors and positive role models for Aduke's life goals and accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements and contributions of Aduke Aremu.

#### A TRIBUTE TO ELLEN CARLISLE-SMITH

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ellen Carlisle-Smith, a leader in education in New York City.

Since the beginning, it has been instilled in Ellen Carlisle-Smith, that the correct way to live your life is to do what is right. What was right for Ellen Carlisle-Smith was to achieve a valuable education; She attended public schools in Queens, New York. After high school graduation, Ellen registered for classes at the City College of New York for her Bachelor's in Elementary Education. Setting a new standard for educated women during this era, Ms. Carlisle-Smith received a Master's Degree in reading from Columbia University, followed by a Master's in early childhood education from City College of N.Y. Ellen was selected to participate in a special program in NY for aspiring supervisors. She accomplished her certification in administration and completed this advanced degree in Supervision and Administration from City College of N.Y.

Ellen values the teaching and learning process, and believes that education gives all a solid foundation that will promote high standards, knowledge and leadership for a better life. Growing up with the encouragement from her educated mother, Ellen remembers vividly how her mother instilled within her the everlasting value of a good education.

In Harlem in 1978, she began teaching third grade, then grades kindergarten, second and fourth for the next nine years. Her principal recognized her effectiveness as a classroom teacher and assigned her to a reading specialist to remediate struggling students in reading and writing. Ellen taught a total of sixteen years in her first Harlem school. In 1994, she was promoted to a Reading Coordinator's position in Brooklyn, NY.

Ellen briefly relocated to Texas in 1996 for six years where she had a valuable learning experience as a principal intern/assistant principal. She returned to NY in 2002 and was offered the Assistant Principal's position at P.S. 399 in Brooklyn, NY. This journey taken by Ellen Carlisle-Smith brings her to where she is today as Principal of Public School 6, Brooklyn, NY.

Ms. Carlisle-Smith's philosophy of education begins and ends with the belief that educators must value all children. From that, she feels responsible to ensure that students will be provided with a quality education that will develop their academic, social, and creative abilities. As Principal of P.S. 6, Ms. Carlisle-Smith is most proud of all students and staff. She greatly values how everyone works together and protects each other, all in the sake of unity and strength.

Throughout her career, Ellen has been recognized by her colleagues for her hard work and many achievements. In June of 1998 she was awarded a "Certificate of Achievement" from Plano, TX. When Ms. Carlisle was an Assistant Principal at P.S. 399, she was presented the "Performing Arts Award," in June 2004, April 2005 and April 2007. The NYS Education Department awarded her the Rapidly Improving Gap Closing Schools Award. Ellen was presented the City Council Citation Award in March 2009 for outstanding citizen for both community and the great City of New York.

Ellen's hobbies are reading, knitting, baking and gardening. She loves spending time with her two adult children, Tracey and Craig. Ellen has an identical twin sister, Emily. She is also a member of the Presbyterian Church of Saint Albans, Queens, N.Y.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of Ellen Carlisle-Smith.

#### A TRIBUTE TO MARIE LILY CERAT

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Marie Lily Cerat, for her service to the Brooklyn community, commitment to education and promotion of Haitian language and culture.

Marie Lily Cerat came to the United States in 1981, and made Brooklyn, New York her adopted home away from her native Haiti. She has been an educator with the New York Public education system for over eighteen years. At present, she works as a Resource Specialist with the Haitian Bilingual/ESL Technical Assistance Center (HABETAC) at Brooklyn College where she is responsible for planning and conducting professional development sessions for teachers working with Haitian English language learners in the public schools and Haitian parents. She is co-founder and Advisory Board member of Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees (HWHR), a thriving and respected community-based organization in Brooklyn. The organization was created by Ms. Cerat and Ninaj Raoul, in 1992, after the two returned from working with the U.S. Department of Justice as a Haitian Creole language specialist in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. They assisted in translation and other human services with the Haitians housed on the U.S. base after the 1991 coup d'état against President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in Haiti. At its beginning, HWHR provided English as a Second Language (ESL) and adult Literacy programs, but its services have since extended to advocating on behalf of Haitian refugees and immigrants, defending worker exploitation, and lobbying against anti-immigrant policy.

Cerat has huge interest in literature, writing and the arts, and is a doctoral student in the French Doctoral program at the CUNY Graduate Center where she will pursue a specialization in francophone literature and international human rights. She holds a master's degree in English/Creative Writing from the City College of New York and a bachelor's degree from the College for Human Services. The respect and promotion of Haitian language and culture, human and girls/women rights are among some of the issues she is most passionate about.

In 1997, she published a West African folktale, *Do Tóti*, *The Turtle's Back*, in Haitian Creole for children. She has written a commentary for National Public Radio, which was aired in 2001 as part of the Racism Conference in South Africa. Over the years, she has contributed writing to a publication on Haiti by the Network of Educators on the Americas (NECA), two biographical essays on Vodou are part of the 1998/2005 Ten Speed Press book, *Vodou: Visions and Voices* by the photographer Phyllis Galembo. She is a regular contributor to *Haiti Liberté*, a weekly Haitian newspaper in New York. Most recently, one of her short stories was selected to appear in an upcoming (2010) anthology by the Haitian-American writer/editor Edwidge

Danticat. Marie Lily Cerat is currently at work on a novel, *In the Light of Shooting Stars*.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Marie Lily Cerat.

#### A TRIBUTE TO BEVERLY COLLIER

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Beverly Collier, for her commitment to human services and her many contributions to her community.

Beverly Collier is the Director of the "My Turn Program" at Kingsborough Community College, in Brooklyn, NY. She is a native New Yorker and was raised in Queens, NY. She attended Baruch College, CUNY where she received a Masters in Business Administration and Management. Ms. Collier has a graduate certificate in Aging from Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging & Longevity of Hunter College (formerly Brookdale Center on Aging).

As the Director of the My Turn Program, Ms. Collier oversees the registration and advisement of the program's students, all of whom are over 60 years of age. The program allows senior citizens to take courses on a matriculating or non-matriculating basis, and currently has over 500 students enrolled in day and evening classes.

The majority of Ms. Collier's professional experience has been in human services, specifically providing services to elders and their families. Prior to joining Kingsborough Community College, she worked for Services for the Underserved as the Senior Vice President for Home Care Services for 23 years and played a critical role in the expansion of the Home Care division. In this position, Ms. Collier managed two home care agencies and a home modifications program for disabled individuals.

In addition to her administrative positions, Ms. Collier is an adjunct instructor in the Human Services Department at New York College of Technology in Brooklyn, NY where she has taught courses in the management of human service organizations and gerontology. She is also a workshop facilitator and has conducted a series of trainings in effective communication and management skills for the Research Foundation of CUNY in New York City and upstate New York.

Recently, Ms. Collier has combined her professional background in elder care with her personal experience as a care giver for her late mother, Ethel Collier, by developing and presenting trainings to professional and family care givers. She is passionate about the opportunity to share her caregiver story through helping others care for their loved ones.

In 2009, Ms. Collier was elected Chair of the Board of Directors for Unique People Services a non-profit organization providing services to individuals and families affected by developmental disabilities, mental illness and AIDS. She has also volunteered with the Speakers Bureau of the Medicare Rights Center and the Home Care Council of NYC.

Ms. Collier loves to travel and has been fortunate to visit Ghana, Nigeria, Jamaica, Argentina, Guyana, England and more. Her travel has mostly been for pleasure. In 1996, how-

ever she traveled to Argentina to deliver a presentation on hiring and training home care workers to health care professionals who were working to expand a similar program in their country. The trip was organized by the CUNY Consortium for the Study of Disabilities.

Ms. Collier lives in St. Albans and is the mother of two adult children; her daughter, Maia Rosser, is a social worker, and her son, Akunna Rosser, is a guidance counselor.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Beverly Collier.

#### A TRIBUTE TO AYLAN DAWKINS

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Aylan Dawkins for her continued dedication to the service of others.

Mrs. Aylan Dawkins was born and raised in the beautiful island of Trinidad. After several visits to the United States, she decided to relocate to New York in 1987. She is married to Paul Dawkins, who is a corrections officer. They have three loving children; Aisha, Darwin, and Devon. Aylan is also a proud grandmother to one grandchild named Ethan.

Mrs. Dawkins joined Interfaith Medical Center in 1996 and worked in the Home Care Department for 1 year. She was then transferred to the Finance Department and eventually moved on to the Chief Financial Officer's Department. At present, she is the Executive Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer.

In her capacity as Executive Assistant, Aylan represents the Finance Department on a number of committees set up by the institution including the annual ball which raises money for the hospital and honors outstanding members of the community. She also organizes the summer golf outing which has given the hospital visibility in the health industry.

Aylan became a Certified Nursing Assistant in 1997. She devotes her weekends to service at the Isabella Geriatric Center where she extends her recognizable compassion, patience, and understanding to the elderly.

She excels in customer satisfaction, team effort, and providing professionalism and courteous service with a smile at all times.

She is extremely hardworking and dedicated at work and at home. Mrs. Dawkins is a devoted religious woman and the rock of her family. She organizes yearly family picnics, summer events, and also enjoys cooking all her favorite dishes for her friends and family. Aylan Dawkins is certainly a dynamic woman.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Aylan Dawkins.

#### A TRIBUTE TO HONORABLE THERESA FREEMAN

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Honorable Theresa Freeman for her commitment and years of service to New York.

The Honorable Theresa Freeman, State Committee Woman and District Leader of the 70th Assembly District, was born in Augusta, Georgia and has been a community activist in New York for over 30 years. For over 20 years, Theresa has advocated for the community of Harlem. From her days as a writer for the *Amsterdam News* to her current elected office of State Committee Woman District Leader, Theresa has fought for important issues in the community of Harlem such as job development, affordable housing, drug treatment programs and ex-offenders.

Theresa Freeman also worked at Reality House Inc. for thirty years as a Legal Specialist. After moving from Harlem to Long Island City, Queens; she became the Community Liaison because of her political connections. Reality House, Inc. is a program that services our Veterans and Community with dependency issues. Ms. Freeman is the President of New York City Chapter of the National Action Network founded by Dr. Reverend Sharpton. She also is a member of the Women's Auxiliary and Scholarship Fund under the leadership of Mrs. Kathy Jordan Sharpton. Ms. Freeman is a member of the Association of Black Social Workers, Advisory Board of the New York Coalition of 100 Black Women, Vice-President of the Uptown Dance Academy, The Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Memorial Committee and the New York Lawyers Association and many other prominent organizations. Ms. Freeman has been selfless in giving to the community, and has received numerous awards for her humanitarian achievements. She has earned recognition for her community devotion including the Sojourner Truth, Ms. Black Moses Award from the Mother AME Zion Church, and the Dazivedo Watson Community Service Award from Assembly Keith I.T. Wright of the Fred Samuel Democratic Club.

Theresa is a member of the St. James AME Church. She is a Silver Lifetime member of the NAACP, the Fred Samuel, and 504 Disability Democratic Clubs. Theresa is an active member of the Martin Luther King Club, West Harlem Democratic Club, and The African American Day Parade Committee. She is a spokesperson for the Renal Support Network.

Her motto is "with patience and hard work you can achieve your goals."

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Honorable Theresa Freeman.

#### A TRIBUTE TO CARON MARIE MARTIN CLOVIE

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Caron Marie Martin Clovie for her commitment to serve communities in need in Brooklyn.

Caron Marie Martin Clovie is the President and Founder of Sister, Sister In-Law. Sister, Sister In-Law began as a group which provided affirmation and bonding and has grown to a women's group whose mission is to mentor and lead the young women in our communities toward a positive and productive future. The organization encourages women to love