



11th Annual

OHIO

Civil Rights

HALL OF FAME

Columbus, Ohio
October 10, 2019



Program

Ohio Statehouse Atrium
10:00 am

Mistress of Ceremonies - Angela Pace, WBNS-10TV

Welcome Remarks - Mary Auch, PNC

Ohio State Highway Patrol Honor Guard

Star Spangled Banner - DeMeeshia Marshall and James Blackmon,
Opera Columbus

Pledge of Allegiance - led by Kathryn Moore, Eli Dedels, and Alexcia
Grove of Arts and College Preparatory Academy Middle School

Remarks - O'Neal Saunders, Honda of America

Keynote Speaker - Shannon Hardin, Columbus City Council President

"A Change is Gonna Come" - DeMeeshia Marshall and James Blackmon,
Opera Columbus

Induction Ceremony

Remarks - Lindsay Miller, Wright State University

Viewing - *Beneath the Ink* and Remarks by Billy Joe White

Closing Remarks - Lori Barreras, Ohio Civil Rights Commission Chair

Mike DeWine
Governor

G. Michael Payton
Executive Director



Civil Rights

Commissioners: Lori Barreras, Chair Juan P. Cespedes William Patmon, III Dr. Carolyn Peters Madhu K. Singh

ELEVENTH ANNUAL HALL OF FAME 2019

The Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame seeks to acknowledge the citizens who have left their mark in the State of Ohio through their tireless efforts in furthering civil and human rights in their communities. These distinguished individuals have served as beacons, making significant strides in support of civil and human rights. Through their exemplary leadership they have helped eliminate barriers to equal opportunity in this great state as well as foster cultural awareness and understanding for a more just society.

HONDA

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WRIGHT STATE
UNIVERSITY



PNC

All we can add to
your list of
accomplishments
is our sincere
thanks.



Congratulations, to the 2019 Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame inductees. You're living proof that the steps we take each day leave a lasting impression.

pnc.com



From the Commission



Lori Barreras, Chair



G. Michael Payton,
Executive Director



Juan P. Cespedes

October 10, 2019

Welcome to Ohio's 11th Annual Civil Rights Hall of Fame ceremony. The Ohio Civil Rights Commission (OCRC), PNC, Honda of America Manufacturing, and Wright State University are very proud and honored to host this extraordinary event. We are committed to preserving the rich civil rights heritage in our state while also promoting equal opportunity and goodwill by holding an event that commemorates outstanding accomplishments of citizens.

This year's ceremony marks our 11th Hall of Fame. We are privileged for having the opportunity to recognize and celebrate the productive lives of so many great persons, some of whom are no longer with us. The Hall of Fame ceremony has become one of the OCRC's premier annual events, but the events would not be possible without the strong and sustained support of our sponsors, Honda, Wright State University, and PNC.

This year's ceremony includes a compelling video about the work of a tattoo artist from Zanesville named Billy White. Mr. White's work is an extraordinary example of how each of us can do something positive to make the world a better place. We are honored to celebrate his impact on his fellow Ohioans.

On behalf of Ohio's citizens, we extend our appreciation and admiration to the nominees who have been selected for induction into the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame. Each inductee has an exceptional story of outstanding service to our state. Today's celebration of their service and accomplishments will hopefully inspire future generations to follow in their footsteps.

Thank you for supporting this special event and Ohio's strong public policy against discrimination.

Sincerely,



William Patmon, III



Dr. Carolyn Peters



Madhu K. Singh

Lori Barreras
Chair

Juan P. Cespedes
Commissioner

William Patmon, III
Commissioner

G. Michael Payton
Executive Director

Dr. Carolyn Peters
Commissioner

Madhu K. Singh
Commissioner



Congratulations to the **Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame 2019 Inductees**

Wright State University is a founding sponsor of the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame. We are proud to support the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and honor those who seek to create a more just society for everyone.



From the Governor



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

Dear attendees,

Ohio has a rich tradition of civil rights activism, with many brave men and women leading the charge for equality and justice. Today's ceremony not only celebrates those who broke barriers and fought for fairness in education, housing and employment, but also raises awareness about ongoing challenges.

As the 2019 class of the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame is inducted, please take a moment to reflect on the significant contributions each of the inductees has made toward the goals of civil rights, cultural awareness, and a more just and inclusive society.

Thank you to the Ohio Civil Rights Commission for organizing the 11th annual hall of fame ceremony. I commend all of those involved with this year's program.

Very respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike DeWine".

Mike DeWine
Governor

**Honda Congratulates the 2019
Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame Inductees:**

Thomas Jefferson Ferguson

Mary Hackney

Dr. John "Jack" E. Hansan

Geraldine "Jerrie" Mock

Burt Silverman

Stanley Eugene Tolliver, Sr.

HONDA
The Power of Dreams

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Consider a career with us at ohio.honda.com

From the Sponsors



Dear Friends:

On behalf of The PNC Financial Services Group, I would like to congratulate the 2019 Ohio Civil Rights Commission Hall of Fame inductees and their families. Today's ceremony reminds us that when people with diverse points of view, backgrounds and experiences come together and work hard, great things happen. The inductees' commitment to advancing positive change throughout Ohio is to be commended.

Like the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, at PNC, we recognize that our people represent our strongest competitive advantage and our greatest sustainable resource. The more successful we are at fully engaging and educating our people, the more successful we will be in meeting the needs of our customers and communities.

As we pause to honor the 2019 inductees, it is important to reflect on the significance of fostering diversity in this region. Today's inductees have worked hard to not only promote this significance, but to positively impact Ohio, making it a better place to live and work as a result.

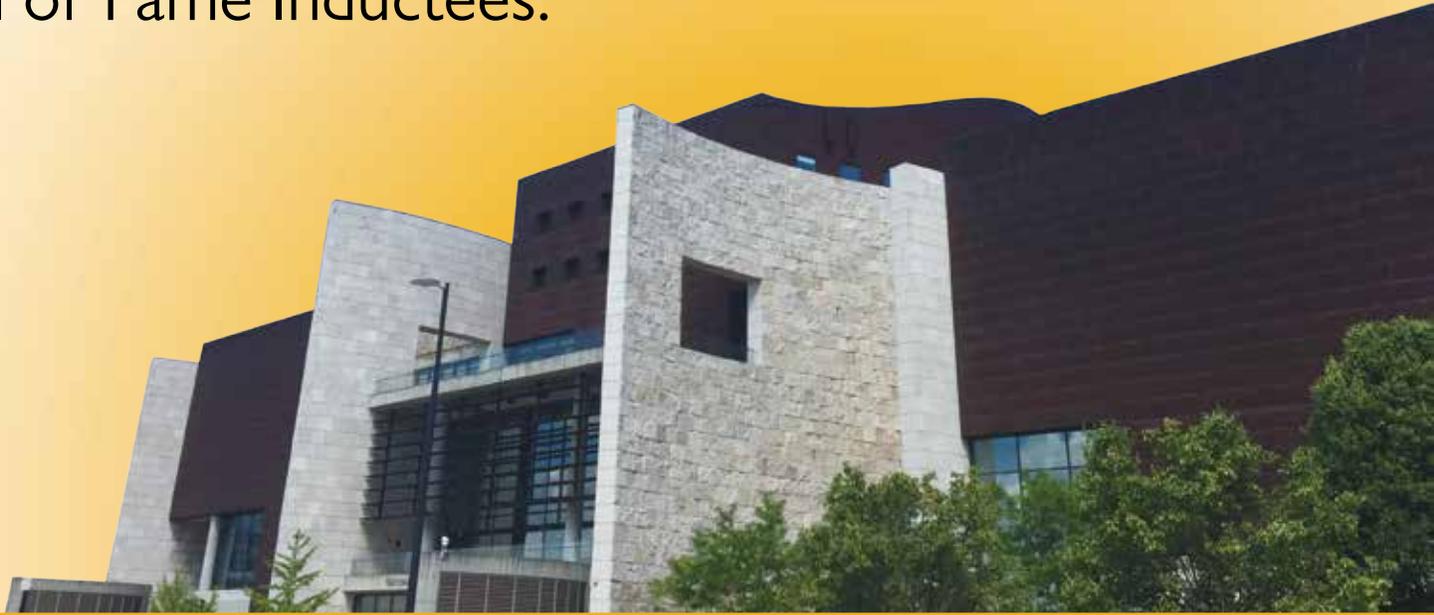
Once again, we applaud these efforts and look forward to the continued partnership and dedication to advancing equality in the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Marsha J'.

Marsha Jones
Executive Vice President
Chief Diversity Officer
The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.

The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center Congratulates the 2019 Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame Inductees.



MEN OF CHANGE

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A Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition
August 17, 2019 — December 1, 2019
National Underground Railroad Freedom Center



Smithsonian



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National Underground Railroad
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Muhammad Ali: Collection of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. | Duke Ellington: Duke Ellington Collection, Archives Center, National Museum of American History



freedomcenter.org

From the Sponsors

HONDA

Honda of America Mfg., Inc.
24000 Honda Parkway
Marysville, OH 43040-9251

October 10, 2019

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

At Honda, we believe in The Power of Dreams and the power that each unique individual brings to a team, to a cause, and to a community. The individual dreams and unique approach that today's honorees brought to their respective efforts are truly inspiring.

On behalf of Honda and our 15,000 associates throughout Ohio, I am pleased to acknowledge and celebrate the inspiring achievements of the 2019 inductees to the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame. Each honoree, through their passion and commitment, has made a lasting, positive impact upon communities in Ohio and beyond.

Honda is proud to be a founding corporate partner of this statewide event to recognize those who make significant contributions in support of civil rights. The tireless efforts and sacrifices of today's inductees have made a lasting difference for our society.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Sincerely,



Tom Shoupe
Executive Vice President
Honda of America Mfg., Inc.



In Memoriam

Dr. Marian Spencer

June 28, 1920 - July 9, 2019
2010 Hall of Fame Inductee

"I believe in equality. I believe in justice. ... It's important to come up with the thought that you can make a difference. *Women* can make a difference."

In Memoriam

Toni Morrison

Feb. 18, 1931 - Aug. 5, 2019
2009 Hall of Fame Inductee

"I always looked upon the acts of racist exclusion, or insult, as pitiable, for the other person. ... I always thought that there was something deficient about such people"



From the Sponsors



Cheryl B. Schrader, Ph.D.
President
280 University Hall
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.
Dayton, Ohio 45435-0001

(937) 775-2312
cheryl.b.schrader@wright.edu

The Wright Brothers changed the world in just 59 seconds. During that minute in December 1903, the world's first powered airplane flew a little more than half a mile.

Orville and Wilbur Wright showed us what great things people can accomplish, given a fair opportunity. That is why Wright State University is named after them, and that is why we strive to build on their legacy, one student at a time.

The members of this year's Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame class have forged a legacy of advocacy for equality, offering inspiration for us today as well as for the generations that will follow.

Wright State is proud to join PNC and Honda Manufacturing of America to co-sponsor for the 11th Civil Rights Hall of Fame class, recognizing Ohio men and women who have made significant contributions to the civil rights movement.

Helping promote a more just society is an incredible legacy. We are honored to be associated with those who have forged that legacy and with those who recognize them.

Congratulations to the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame inductees and their families and friends.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Cheryl B. Schrader".

Cheryl B. Schrader, Ph.D.

From the Exhibit Partners



October 10, 2019

Dear friends,

Today we gather to uplift and celebrate champions of civil rights from the great state of Ohio. On behalf of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center board of directors, staff, ambassadors, and volunteers, we would like to congratulate the 2019 Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame inductees and their families.

The 2019 Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame inductees are heroes – heroes who used their voices to affect real change – each in their own unique way. Their courage, cooperation, and perseverance have made this state we call home a better place. While there is more work to be done, the heroes we honor today have paved the way for a new generation of change agents in Ohio.

The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center is proud to partner with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission. Ohio has one of the longest histories of civil rights enforcement in the country, from the Ohio Public Accommodations Law of 1884 to the establishment of the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame in 2009.

We are thankful today and honor the struggle, determination, and heroism of Thomas Jefferson Ferguson, Mary Hackney, Dr. John Hansan, Geraldine Mock, Burt Silverman, and Stanley Eugene Tolliver, Sr. Thank you for standing up, speaking out, and making change possible.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dion Brown'.

Dion Brown
President & COO, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Beverley Grant'.

Beverley Grant
Chair, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center Board of Directors

Mistress of Ceremonies

Angela Pace



Angela Pace cares about the community. As a TV journalist, she used her visibility for the benefit of many important causes. As a resident, she has an extensive record of volunteerism and community involvement.

Angela is the Director of Community Affairs for WBNS-10TV, serving as a liaison between WBNS and the Central Ohio community. She was raised and schooled in Columbus (Capital University and Columbus Public Schools). She has worked in central Ohio all her life. These kinds of roots give rise to her unflagging devotion to the area in which she grew up.

She previously worked at WCMH-TV for 13 years. For five of those years she anchored the weekday 6PM, 7PM and 11PM newscasts. During her career at WCMH-TV, she worked first as a floor director (while still in college), and later as a reporter. Angela also worked at WCLT Radio in Newark, where she

was a news director as well as a reporter.

Her list of accomplishments and honors reflect her tireless commitment to the community. She currently serves on the board of directors for the Lincoln Theater Association, the Columbus Association for the Performing Arts, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council. Her past board involvement includes: Capital University trustees; Capital University Alumni Association; Mid-Ohio Food Bank and more. Her work with the United Negro College Fund included hosting their annual telethon from 1987 to 1991 and serving as grand marshal for their walk-a-thon for four years.

Angela has myriad awards and honors, including the 1994 Women of Achievement Award from the YWCA of Central Ohio, the 1992 Governor's Award for Journalism and Community Service, the Columbus Education Association's Martin Luther King Junior Humanitarian Award, and numerous others. In 2011, Angela was inducted into the NATAS Ohio Valley Silver Circle for broadcasters with more than 25 years in the industry. Angela has won five Emmys and a regional Telly award. In January 2012, she was named one of the Top 50 Icons in Columbus by the Columbus Bicentennial Guide.

Keynote Speaker Shannon Hardin



Born and raised on the south side of Columbus, Council President Shannon Hardin is committed to building an equitable future that works for every resident in Columbus. As Columbus grows, Council President Hardin is focused on fostering an inclusive economy by partnering to build mass transit and affordable housing, empowering small and minority businesses, and bridging opportunity gaps for boys and young men of color. Regardless of the issue, Council President Hardin views public policy through the saying, "If it's not for all, then it's not for us."

As Co-Chair of the Insight2050 Corridor Concepts Initiative, Council President Hardin led a collaborative effort to analyze what focusing new housing and business growth along high-capacity transit corridors could mean for our region's economy, health, and environment. This study has gained traction as a vision for Columbus' future; work is ongoing to begin

implementing this transit-forward model for inclusive growth.

Understanding the racial inequities that impact communities of color every day, Council President Hardin worked with former Mayor Coleman to create Columbus's My Brother's Keeper initiative. My Brother's Keeper, housed in the Department of Neighborhoods, aims to reduce the opportunity gaps for young men of color through city-wide goals, service provider coordination, and collective action.

Outside his committees, Council President Hardin has stepped up to lead big projects for the Columbus community. President Hardin led the charge to restructure Council. Council placed a bundle of reforms recommended by a citizen-led commission to improve accountability and neighborhood representation on the ballot. Council President Hardin is a member of the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials and the Columbus Chapter of the NAACP. He was appointed to Council on October 7th, 2014, won election on November 3rd, 2015, and was reelected on November 7th, 2017.

Presenter

Billy Joe White



Billy White is a 34 year old tattoo artist from Zanesville, Ohio. The father of three and owner of Red Rose Tattoo Shop, is the subject of short film, *Beneath the Ink*, in which his determination to help his community fight racism and discrimination is illustrated. Billy White has sparked a nation-wide effort to combat racism in the U.S. through offering free tattoo art to cover tattoos of hate speech and imagery.

Billy White understands how severely his Appalachian community suffers from the epidemic of hate-driven racism and prejudice. He also understands that redemption can be transformative and, while tattoos are permanent, racism and hate does not have to be. In his tattoo shop, White offers free tattoo cover art to remorseful individuals who have hate-driven tattoos but want to move forward with a clean slate. White's invitation, "bring me your mistakes" not only

helps these individuals heal from their past, but has sparked conversation in a community that might otherwise be slow to learn from these individuals' dark pasts. Billy White is calling on his community to understand their faults and let him help "erase the hate" and move into a more understanding, loving future.

Released on April 12, 2018 by Director Cy Dodson, ***Beneath the Ink*** reminds us that anyone can use their passions and talents to speak out against hate and infuse our communities with belief that everyone is equal and hate is something we must leave in the past. This 13 minute short film, first released at the 2018 Cleveland International Film Festival, has received many awards including more than 10 best documentary awards at film festivals. *Beneath the Ink* was a 2019 Academy Award Qualifier for Short Documentary and a 2019 Emmy Nominee for Outstanding Short Documentary.

Billy White's work has not stopped with his tattoo studio. White is now using *Beneath the Ink* to reach out to communities all across the United States and urge other tattoo studios to join him in his movement against hate.

Opera Columbus Performers



DeMeeshia Marshall (Soprano) is from Columbus Ohio. She has been singing and performing since age five. DeMeeshia graduated with a BM in Vocal Music performance at The Ohio State University, where she studied classical music and opera. DeMeeshia has traveled with Opera Columbus's education outreach program, where she played the lead role of Cinderella. DeMeeshia is also skilled in other genres, such as jazz, gospel, musical theatre, etc. DeMeeshia has performed live on TV stations such as The Word Network multiple times. In 2016 she was crowned the Voice of Columbus and aired on NBC 4 news. DeMeeshia plans to one day open her own performing arts center for all ages and spread the love and passion of music.

James Blackmon (Pianist) is an accomplished musician and has been a working musician practically his entire life, having booked his first gig at 8 years old as the pianist of his church's youth choir. Since then, James has played all across the country and the world both as the front man of several vocal groups in Alabama, New Orleans, Ohio and Hamburg, Germany, and as a solo artist for three years as a piano bar entertainer for Holland America Cruise Line. From 2007-2009 James was the co-owner and featured weekend performer at his Columbus piano bar, James Club 88. In addition, James has recorded three CDs, and performs regularly in piano bars and jazz clubs in Columbus. James is also the immediate past president of the Central Ohio Theatre Roundtable.



**MEET THE 2019
OHIO CIVIL RIGHTS
HALL OF FAME
INDUCTEES**

THOMAS JEFFERSON FERGUSON

MARY HACKNEY

DR. JOHN (JACK) HANSAN

GERALDINE (JERRIE) MOCK

BURT SILVERMAN

STANLEY E. TOLLIVER, SR.

THOMAS JEFFERSON FERGUSON



Thomas Jefferson Ferguson was born in 1830 in Essex County, Virginia and by age 10 he had moved with his family to Cincinnati. As one of the first in his family to be able to read and write, he learned the value of literacy early on and committed his life to helping and teaching others. By his early twenties, Ferguson was traveling across Southeastern Ohio and West Virginia teaching African American students how to read. In his late twenties, he joined and served the first lodge for African American Freemasons west of the Alleghenies and was later honored by the Grand Lodge of Freemasons for his professional acumen.

In 1857, Ferguson enrolled in the Albany Manual Labor Academy (AMLU) in order to pursue the equivalent of a college education. He stayed at AMLU

until it was purchased by a private organization that did not allow people of color or women. After being denied his own higher education because of his race, he helped to create the Albany Enterprise Academy in 1863. Albany Enterprise Academy is recognized as the first institution of higher education created, owned, and operated by and for African Americans. Ferguson's teaching and leadership at Albany Enterprise Academy inspired many educators and civil rights leaders.

In addition to his work as an educator, Ferguson spearheaded the formulation of the Ohio Colored Teacher's Association. He also served as a politician and policy leader in Ohio. He was the first African American to hold political office and to serve on a jury in Athens county and was named to the state Republican executive committee's speakers bureau. Ferguson used his influence to be an advocate of advancing educational opportunities for African Americans, lecturing and writing on the ability of education to break through the societal barriers initiated by slavery. His role as a trailblazer and steadfast education advocate lives on in a legacy of those he taught and inspired.

MARY HACKNEY



Mary Hackney was born in November 1915 on a family farm on Carlton Mill Road near Wilberforce, Ohio. She graduated from Silvercreek High School in Jamestown, Ohio and attended Cedarville College to become a teacher. Hackney's first teaching position was at the Old Town Run School in Greene County and she later went on to teach at Mt. Pleasant School in Clinton County as well as Trotwood Elementary. She was one of the first white Americans to be an administrator and teacher at an all-African American school. Hackney's life was dedicated to ensuring equal education was provided to all, no matter their race or ethnicity.

In 1954 the African American families of Hillsboro, Ohio's Lincoln School began protesting about the continued segregation occurring in violation of the Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. Upon

hearing of the protests, Hackney led a group of Quaker teachers in providing the protesting children with daily lessons when they were denied access to the all-white school. Despite intimidation and threats to her family, she continued to educate the protesting students until the district was finally desegregated. During integration, the district tested the African American students who had been taught by the Quaker teachers, and all the children except one passed the test and were able to resume their formal education. Hackney later investigated and discovered that all the children had passed the exam – with scores ranging from 80-90% – but the school board held back one student unfairly. After the desegregation of the schools, the parents of the students purchased Mary a ticket to see Martin Luther King, Jr. speak in Columbus, Ohio.

Because of her role in the Hillsboro school protest, Hackney was featured in the film *The Lincoln School Story* by Andrea Torrice. In 2007, she was recognized as one of the Outstanding Women of Clinton County for her leading role in Hillsboro. In 2017, a plaque was presented to Mary Hackney's family from the New Hope Baptist Church.

DR. JOHN (JACK) HANSAN



John (Jack) Hansan was born in Kansas City, Missouri in 1930. He attended the University of Pennsylvania for his master's degree and received a doctorate degree in social welfare policy from Brandeis University. In 1959, he and his young family arrived in Cincinnati where he would pursue his career in social work. His work in local settlement houses required him to think about ways to help individuals, families, and communities cope with social barriers, including racial discrimination in employment and housing.

While working in Cincinnati, Hansan volunteered to help organize the Cincinnati delegation of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s 1963 March on Washington. Hansan kept a journal of Cincinnati's operations in the march and published it so that researchers and historians would know Ohio's role in this monumental event in our nation's civil rights history.

In 1964, Hansan was selected to be a director of the Community Action Commission of the Cincinnati Area. In that role he designed and implemented programs to combat poverty, including the original educational program to give inner-city, pre-school children in Cincinnati a head start before entering kindergarten. This "Tot-Lots" program later became the framework for what is known today as the Head Start Program.

In 1971, Ohio Governor John J. Gilligan appointed Hansan as the Director of the Ohio Department of Public Welfare. While working for the Governor, Hansan helped strengthen the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and its efforts to eradicate racial and religious discrimination, and helped deinstitutionalize individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Hansan would later go on to continue some of this work at the national level.

After Hansan's retirement in 2010, he created the Social Welfare History Project, a website chronicling the history of social reform. This website includes not only the positive development in social welfare, but also the acts of omission and discrimination. The website has over 7,000 unique visitors daily and has become an important resource for students, community researchers, journalists, scholars, and human rights activists.

Dr. Hansan died on August 9, 2019 but his lifetime of service in pursuit of social welfare and equality has been recognized nationally by organizations like the National Association of Social Work, who named him a "Social Work Pioneer" in 1997.

GERALDINE (JERRIE) MOCK



Geraldine (Jerrie) Mock was born November 22, 1925 in Newark, Ohio. Mock graduated from The Ohio State University where she was one of the first women enrolled in the Aeronautical Engineering Program. She earned her pilot license at age 32 and started flying around the Midwest, but she longed to visit countries she had dreamed of as a child. That desire is what started her journey to be the first woman to fly solo around the entire world.

On March 19, 1964, Mock took off from the Port Columbus airport and started her journey to fly 23,000 miles around the globe. Before this flight Mock had never flown over water, but she did not let that fear blind her and persisted until she arrived back in

Columbus 29 days later, on April 17, 1964.

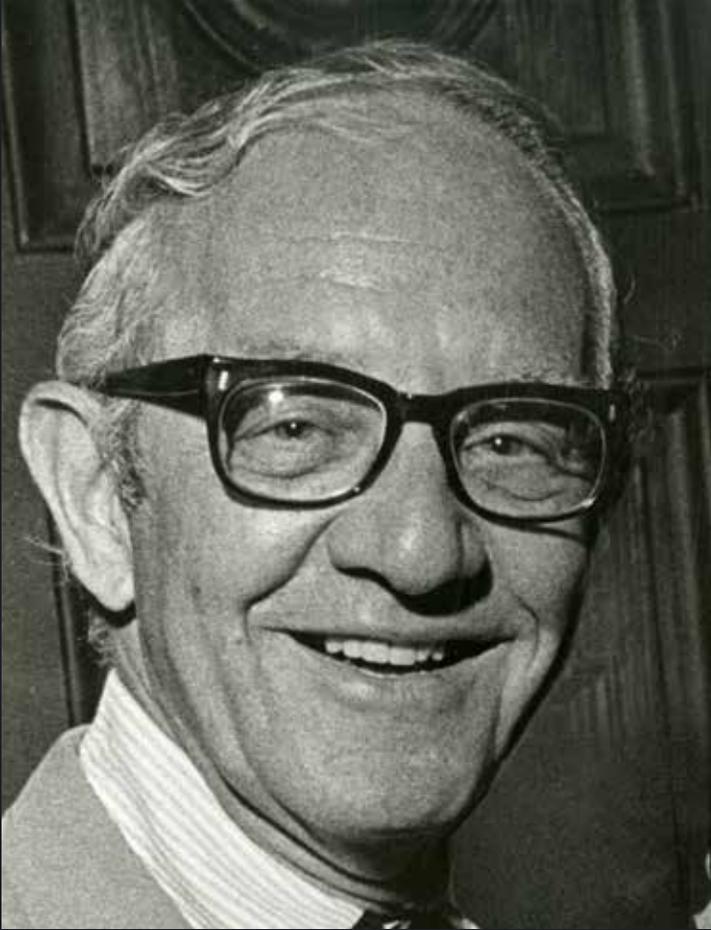
Throughout this trip she made 21 landings, one of them being in Saudi Arabia where Mock accidentally landed at a military airfield. Her plane was searched to find the pilot, who they all assumed to be male, but once they found a woman she was applauded because she was the lone aviator.

Mock was one of the 12,472 women in the United States licensed to fly, but by the end of the decade, and the end of her flight, there were about 30,000 women who had their pilot license, due to the inspiring journey she had taken. She told Jim Massie of the Columbus Dispatch in 1994, "I was never going to abide by man-made laws that said women couldn't do something...I knew one thing: I wanted to see the world."

Mock had set several records by the end of her flight: she was the first woman to fly solo around the world, first woman to fly across the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, the first woman to do so in a single engine-plane, the first woman to fly the Atlantic from US to Africa, and the first woman to fly the Pacific west to east.

On May 4, 1964 President Lyndon Johnson presented Mock with the Federal Aviation Administration's Exceptional Service Decoration. Along with that she was the first American and woman to be awarded the Louis Blériot silver medal by the *Fédération Aéronautique Internationale*. Through Mock's achievements and persistence, she has paved a way for gender equality and has served as an inspiration to generations of female aviators to follow.

BURT SILVERMAN



Burt Silverman was born in Toledo in 1919. He graduated Toledo Scott High School in 1937 and earned a bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University in 1942. Silverman was regarded as the Toledo community's ambassador to every ethnic, racial, and religious group. He was a mentor to many community members and guided those who sought to learn how they could make a difference. Through his assistance, his mentees gained educational and inspiring experiences and many later went on to pursue jobs in the government. Silverman dedicated his life to the fight against discrimination in the Toledo area as well as the entire state of Ohio. Early in his career, Silverman worked as an editor for the Toledo Jewish News and later served as the Executive Director of Downtown Toledo Associates.

Silverman's greatest impact was through his position as Chairman of the Toledo Board of Community Relations. He held this position as a volunteer for 26 years and through the racially divided times of the 1950's, 60's and 70's.

In 1972, Silverman was appointed to the Ohio Civil Rights Commission by Governor John Gilligan. He served as a Chairman of the Commission from 1974-1977. Silverman's work as Chairman of the Toledo Board of Community Relations as well as his role as Chairman of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission allowed him to fight against injustice and discrimination daily. Burt Silverman's legacy as a community-builder continues today. In the late sixties, Silverman brought together 22 African American leaders and 22 white leaders to discuss what could be done to help move black-white relations forward. Still today, staff of *The Toledo Blade* and members of minority and majority communities meet quarterly to advance civil rights initiatives and equal rights opportunities in Northwest Ohio.

STANLEY E. TOLLIVER, SR.



Stanley Eugene Tolliver was born in October 1925 in Cleveland, Ohio. Tolliver graduated from East Technical High School in Cleveland and earned his bachelor's degree from Baldwin Wallace University. He then pursued an LLD and JD degree from the Cleveland State Marshall School of Law. Tolliver advocated the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion through his practice of law.

As a criminal defense attorney, he took on numerous controversial cases of police brutality and racially charged situations, such as the Hough and Glenville Riots in the 60's. He served as legal counsel for numerous civil rights organizations in Cleveland, Ohio such as the Congress for

Racial Equality (CORE), the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) under Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the NAACP, and the National Conference of Black Lawyers.

Throughout his career, Tolliver advocated for women and people of color in the legal profession, giving them support for their bids to run for office and defending them when they faced discrimination. In 1965, Tolliver traveled to Jacksonville, Mississippi for the signing of the Voting Rights Act and was featured in live television coverage of the event. Tolliver was the only African American attorney involved in the defense of the students charged in the Kent State anti-Vietnam War protest.

Tolliver was an outspoken advocate for the desegregation of Cleveland Public Schools and after the school systems' boards of education were determined to be segregating illegally, he was appointed by a Federal judge to sit on committees to monitor desegregation. In 1981, Tolliver was elected to membership on the Cleveland Board of Education and was elected as president of the Board twice during his twelve years of service. He advocated more parent involvement in the lives of Cleveland school children and pushed for the hiring of more people of color and females as building contractors and professional staff.

At the end of his long career as a civil rights advocate, Tolliver was awarded the NAACP Medal of Freedom.



Thank You

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission wishes to extend our sincere appreciation for the tremendous support from each of our sponsors and presenters. This program would not be possible without the generosity and creativity provided through these partnerships.

A special thank you to:

Columbus City Council President Shannon Hardin

DeMeeshia Marshall and James Blackmon, Opera Columbus

Billy Joe White, Cy Dodson and Triumph Pictures

Mary Auch and Shannon Morgan, PNC Bank

Bobbie Trittschuh and O'Neal Saunders, Honda of America Mfg., Inc.

Dr. Michael Bernstein and Lindsay Miller, Wright State University

National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

Ohio State Highway Patrol Honor Guard

United Way of Central Ohio

Principal Richard Albeit, teachers and students of Arts & College Preparatory Academy Middle School

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission



Commissioners: Lori Barreras, Chair Juan P. Cespedes William Patmon, III Dr. Carolyn Peters Madhu Singh
Executive Director: G. Michael Payton

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission (OCRC) was established July 29, 1959 by the Ohio Legislature. The powers, duties, jurisdiction, practices and procedures of the Commission are specified in the Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 4112. The primary function of The Ohio Civil Rights Commission is to enforce state laws against discrimination.

OCRC receives and investigates charges of discrimination in employment, places of public accommodation, housing, credit, and disability in higher education on the bases of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, ancestry, military status or familial status.



Director of Regional Operations
Darlene Sweeney-Newbern

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Dayton Regional Office

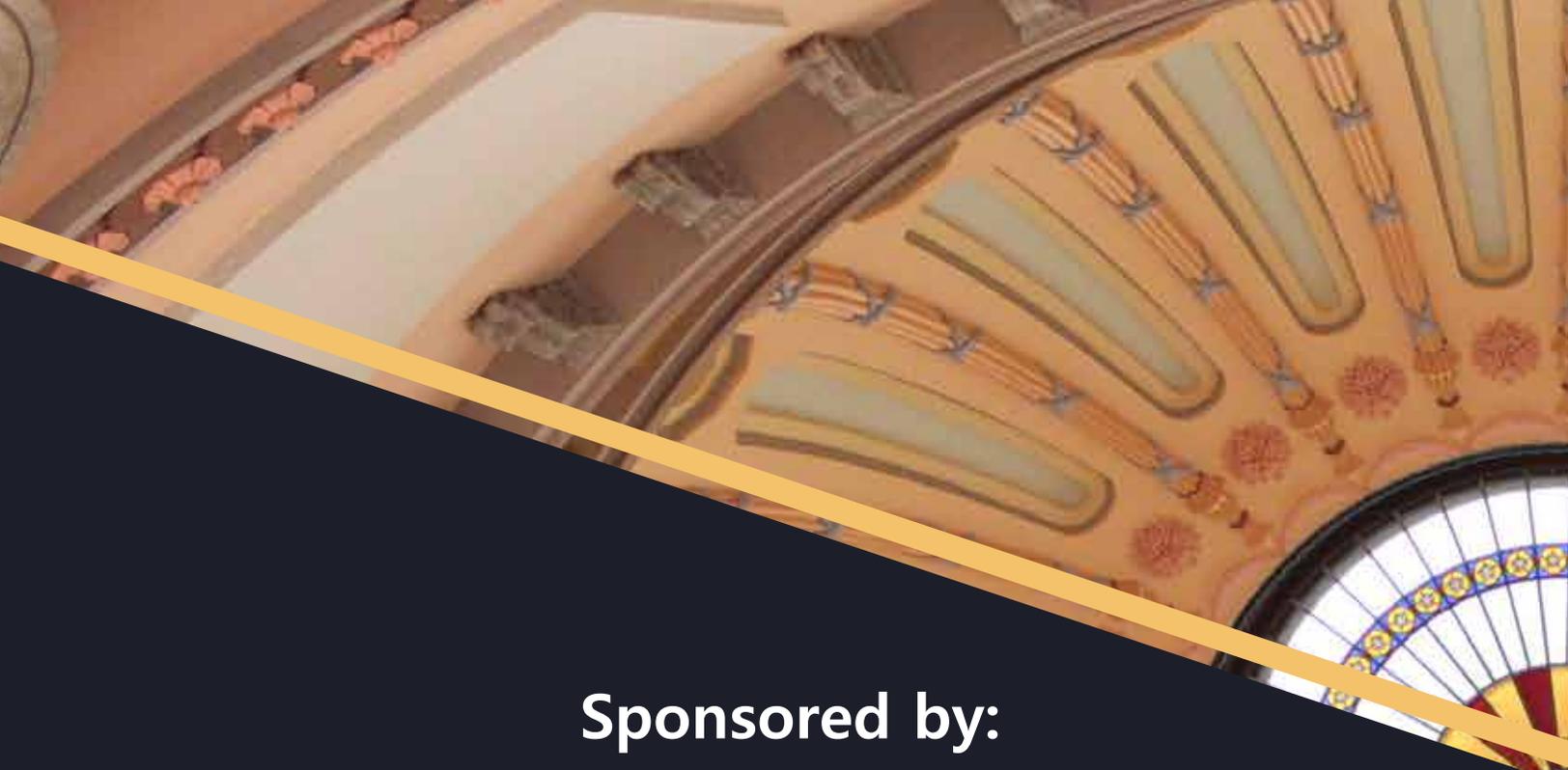
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Cleveland Regional Office

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