



UNCF MAYOR'S
MASKED
BALL

COLUMBUS 2026



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~ Emma Lois Bullock ~

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Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Gamma Tau Omega / Sister's Inc.
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Rho Rho Omega
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David Britt, Muscogee County Tax Commissioner
Bruce Huff for City Council
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UNCF MAYOR'S
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COLUMBUS 2026

PROGRAM

OPENING REMARKS

Cheryl Renee

Anchor, WTVM ABC 9
Mistress of Ceremonies

MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Honorable B.H. "Skip" Henderson

Mayor, Columbus Consolidated Government

GREETINGS

The Honorable Calvin Smyre

Former Dean of the Georgia House
of Representatives

Justine Norman Boyd

Assistant Vice President
UNCF

INVOCATION

Dr. Walter E. Taylor

Pastor, The Life Church of Columbus

🌀 DINNER IS SERVED 🌀

Music provided by

Rev. Roderick & Ronita Baptiste

DJ Chris Kelley

MASKED AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Justine Norman Boyd

Assistant Vice President
UNCF

Patricia Eldridge

Columbus Campaign Coordinator

CHRISTINE BARKSDALE DAWSON VOLUNTEER AWARD

Yvette Gregory

MAYOR'S MASKED AWARDS

Pastor Eric B. and Nina Seldon

Emma Lois Bullock

UNCF STUDENT TESTIMONY AND FUND THE MISSION

Mikayla Ruffin

UNCF AFLAC Scholar
Junior, Spelman College

FUND THE MISSION

The Honorable Teddy Reese

Georgia House of Representatives

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Patricia Eldridge

Columbus Campaign Coordinator

MASKED BALL ENTERTAINMENT

Larry Dodson

(The legendary voice of the Bar-Kays)



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**“A MIND IS A
TERRIBLE
THING TO
WASTE.”[®]**



2026 MASKED AWARD HONOREES

Pastor Eric B. Seldon Sr. and Nina Seldon

Pastor Eric B. Seldon Sr. is the Senior Pastor at Christian Valley Church in Cataula, GA. He is married to Nina Seldon. They are a well-respected couple whose steadfast leadership and unwavering commitment to faith and community have made a lasting and meaningful impact. They have one daughter Ashley LaCour, and one son, Eric Seldon, Jr. He also has one grandson, Yashaya LaCour. Seldon recently celebrated his 22nd Pastoral Anniversary at Christian Valley. Pastor Seldon loves the Lord and believes that ALL things are possible with God being the #1 priority in his life.

Pastor Eric Seldon is a retired senior vice president at Aflac Inc. where he also served as president and CEO of Communicorp Incorporated. Prior to joining Aflac, Seldon was vice president of Card Services at Total System Services Inc. He has more than 37 years of leadership experience, including more than 26 years with Aflac.

Seldon is a member of the Georgia Minority Supplier Development Council (GMSDC). In March 2008, the organization honored Seldon with the "Executive of the Year" award. The award recognizes the executive who has consistently demonstrated support for minority-business development. Additionally, the award honors the executive who operates as an integral force in their organization's Supplier Diversity efforts. In 2012, Seldon was selected as one of Atlanta Tribune's 2012 Men of the Year. With this award, he was recognized as an executive advocate for supplier diversity. This award also honors executives with strong business acumen, community involvement and being a positive role model.

Seldon is currently on the following boards. Columbus Technical College, PIAG (Printing Industries of America in Georgia), The Chattahoochee River Club, Harris County Chamber of Commerce, Communicorp, Inc., and the Harris County Combine Church Leadership Group.

Seldon earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Madison University. He is also certified in several other business leadership disciplines.

2026 MASKED AWARD HONOREE

Emma Lois Bullock



Emma Lois Bullock is a visionary educational architect, accomplished businesswoman and transformational leader whose work has reshaped access to quality education for tens of thousands of students.

Her professional journey began at Texas Instruments in Houston, Texas, before transitioning into higher education at Texas Southern University, where she served as assistant dean of development and assistant professor in the Jesse H. Jones School of Business. Blending her business acumen with a deep commitment to community advancement, she founded Educational Learning and Enrichment Center, Inc. in 1984, providing academic and enrichment services to youth and adults.

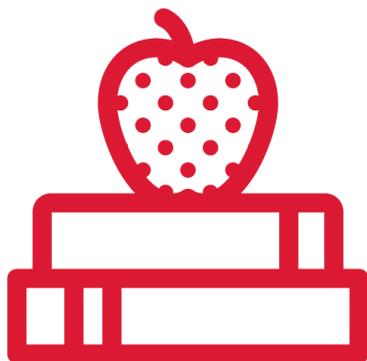
In 1998, in partnership with the Houston Independent School District, Mrs. Bullock founded Energized for Excellence Academy, Inc., an open-enrollment charter school that would grow into a dynamic network of campuses serving pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students. Over the past 27 years, her schools have educated more than 76,000 scholars.

Recognizing evolving educational needs, she established Inspired for Excellence Academy campuses to serve overage middle-school students and later launched Energized for STEM Academy high schools focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Her institutions have earned statewide distinction, including recognition as one of the two most distinguished Title I middle schools in Texas among nearly 5,900 eligible campuses.

Mrs. Bullock's leadership has been widely recognized, including honors as Houston ISD "Charter School Principal of the Year" and recipient of the Region IV ESC "Outstanding Leadership" Award.

Beyond institutional leadership, she is a steadfast advocate for educational equity and opportunity, believing that access to excellence transforms not only individual lives but generations.

Mrs. Bullock was married to the late Attorney James Bullock, retired professor of law at Texas Southern University. She is the proud mother of two sons, Joseph (deceased) and Brandon; grandmother to Taylor Moore; and godmother to Christopher Robinson, Terry Robinson, Kendahl Gardner Lucas, Bridnee King, Madison Belcher and Sydney Yorke.



**Access to education
is the key that unlocks
a brighter future**

...

**It is our pleasure to provide
educational opportunities today
to help students become the leaders of tomorrow**



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PAMELA & MILTON FERGUSON AND FAMILY

GRAPHICS BY: BUSINESS WITH PURPOSE CONSULTING AND MARKETING | CHELSEA ARRINGTON BROWN



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HOSTS

The Honorable B.H. "Skip" Henderson
Mayor, Columbus Consolidated Government

The Honorable Calvin Smyre
Former Dean of the Georgia House of Representatives
Corporate Chairman Emeritus

Justine Boyd
Assistant Vice President, UNCF

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patricia Eldridge
Campaign Coordinator

Christine Barksdale Dawson
Campaign Advisor

Ann Davis
Campaign Advisor

Shameika Averett
Jack Collins
Shirley Davis
Myleata Eldridge
Jed Harris
Charonda Huff

Charles Huff, Jr
Ralph Huling
Kathy Jones
Lucas Milton
Dominic Overton
Lativia Rivers

Darlene Robinson
Winifred Torian
Gloria Turnage
Taylor Turnage
Miriam Williams
Tameca Williams

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND THANKS

Absolute Audio Systems
Rev. Roderick and Ronita Baptiste
Columbus Convention and Trade Center
DJ Chris Kelley
Eldridge MBS Wellness Center for Women
Huff International Funeral Home
Markeith Horace Photography
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Thank You.

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