

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Investing in L.A.'s Black Male Youth Advisory Committee Member Biographies



Carl A. Ballton is Senior Vice President & Deputy Group Head of the Corporate Social Responsibility Group of Union Bank. He also serves as President and Chief Operating Officer of the Union Bank Foundation. In this position, Ballton is responsible for implementing the charitable contribution policies and initiatives of both the Bank and the Foundation. Receiving his B.A. from Occidental College, and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business, Ballton is active with numerous civic and community organizations. Ballton is a Trustee of Occidental College and serves on the Board of Directors of Goodwill Industries of Southern California, Southern California Grantmakers, and the Los Angeles Urban League where he serves as Chairman of the Board. He is a member of the 100 Black Men of Los Angeles and also serves as Chairman of the Deacon Board and Brotherhood Organization for the West Angeles Church of God in Christ. He has been married for 40 years to Lula Bailey Ballton, who is President and CEO of the West Angeles Community Development Corporation.



For more than 30 years, Carol Oughton Biondi has worked on behalf of children in foster care and in the juvenile justice system. After a career in communications as a television producer/journalist in documentary films for Public Television and the ABC Network, Biondi joined the board of New York City's largest child care agency, Leake and Watts. Since 1999, she has served on and chaired several Commission committees that focus on the issues of "crossover" youth, or youngsters that move from dependency to delinquency. She is currently serving on the boards of the Children's Defense Fund, United Friends of the Children and Homeboy Industries, where she currently serves as president of the Board.



As Executive Director, Zaid Gayle oversees an ambitious organizational growth plan, with the intended impact of helping foster and at-risk youth transition successfully into adulthood. Having been involved in community leadership and program development for over 15 years, Zaid co-founded Peace4Kids to promote peaceful conflict resolution among youth in South Los Angeles. During his nine years with Peace4Kids, he has served as a volunteer, board member and teacher.



Alan-Michael Graves is the Director of Training & Resources of the Leadership Center at Children's Institute, Inc. (CII), where they focus on a broad range of multidisciplinary activities, from research and program development to training and advocacy. He is an advocate of public education and works to promote fiscal transparency, a public process, and a parent voice in budget decisions, along with setting priorities that place children and classrooms first, and continues his ongoing passion of offering an in-depth look at how experienced family law attorneys work with skilled mental health professionals to meet the needs of children in foster care and families throughout the custody evaluation process.



As President and CEO of Community Coalition, Marqueece Harris-Dawson has been deeply involved and committed to the organization's mission, working arduously to improve the social and economic conditions in South Los Angeles. Harris-Dawson came to the helm of Community Coalition following years of dedicated hard work as a community organizer, leader and director. In addition to his work at the Community Coalition, Harris-Dawson has extensive experience in electoral politics, and is a key participant in the progressive movement in Los Angeles. During his time completing a Bachelor's degree at Morehouse College, Harris-Dawson cut his activist teeth on several important social justice issues including ending South African Apartheid, police brutality and fighting for more youth and family services.



Vincent Jones is currently Senior Program Officer at the Liberty Hill Foundation where he leads an initiative to inspire more social justice philanthropy in the Black community, directs LGBTQ grantmaking and training, manages a Special Opportunity Fund, and coordinates community outreach for all grantmaking programs. Vincent staffed several Federal, state, and local political campaigns and was an aide to U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer and New York City Councilmember David Yassky. He was executive director of Center for Health Justice, currently serves as Board President of the National Teen Leadership Program and sits on the national Board of Lambda Legal. He has a B.A. in History from Swarthmore College where he was a Eugene M. Lang Scholar for Social Action and a Public Policy & International Affairs Fellow.



Mark Loranger is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Chrysalis, a workforce development agency that helps the homeless and those living in poverty find and retain employment. Prior to being named CEO in early 2009, Mark was responsible for Chrysalis Enterprises, a group of social enterprises that provide transitional jobs for Chrysalis clients, for nearly two years. As CEO, Mark sets Chrysalis' strategy in partnership with the Board of Directors and oversees its operations. He is a frequent speaker on the topics of Social Enterprise, homelessness and employment. Mark has a diverse skill set developed over twenty years as both an entrepreneur and a corporate leader. He holds a B.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of California – Davis and a Masters in International Business from George Washington University.



Olivia E. Mitchell is the Deputy Chief Grants Administrator for the City's Community Development Department. In this position she oversees nine (9) Youth and Family Centers and several special projects including the city's efforts to inform and support city residents of the Earned Income Tax Credit/EITC, Cash for College and other programs aimed at low to moderate income residents. Prior to the creation of the Commission, Olivia served for 22 years as the Director of the Mayor's Office of Youth Development, a program created by Mayor Bradley and continued under Mayor Riordan until its transition into the Commission. Olivia has served, and still serves, as an advocate of public education on the boards, committees and task forces of the public schools attended by her children and grandchildren.



Yusef Omowale is "Generations" Project Director at The Southern California Library. The Library is a vital community resource in the heart of Los Angeles dedicated to education for social change. It offers unique and accessible collections and programs on Southern California's social and progressive history. The library engages people across generations in using history to advance social justice. The "Generations" project expands on some of the themes explored in the Library's *Working South Central* project, a series of panel discussions in 2000 that examined employment, economic development and other work-related issues in this community, and the 1998 *South Central Documentation* project, a Library initiative that gathered oral

history, yearbooks, church bulletins, photographs, clippings and organizational literature documenting churches, groups, schools, individuals and neighborhoods in South Central Los Angeles.

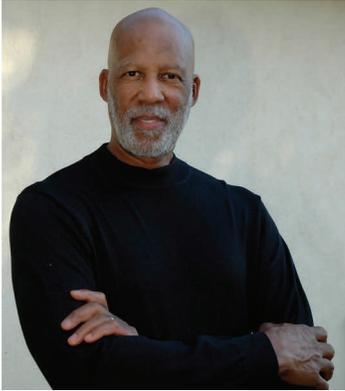


Dr. Manuel Pastor is Professor of American Studies & Ethnicity at the University of Southern California. Founding director of the Center for Justice, Tolerance, and Community at the University of California, Santa Cruz, Pastor currently directs the Program for Environmental and Regional Equity at USC and is co-director, with Dowell Myers, of USC's Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration. He holds an economics Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and has received fellowships from the Danforth, Guggenheim, and Kellogg foundations and grants from the Irvine Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the Hewlett Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the W.T. Grant Foundation, The California Endowment, the California Air Resources Board, and many others.



Dr. Renford Reese is currently a professor in the political science department at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He is the faculty coordinator for the Ghana Study Abroad program and the International Fieldwork in Amsterdam program. He is the author of four provocative nonfiction books: *American Bravado* (2007), *Prison Race* (2006), *Leadership in the LAPD: Walking the Tightrope* (2005), and *American Paradox: Young Black Men* (2004). He is also the author of the Starbucks "The Way I See It" [Quote #294](#): "Insensitivity makes arrogance ugly; empathy is what makes humility beautiful." Reese has traveled to 60 countries and has given lectures in many of them. In 2009, he was awarded the prestigious Fulbright Scholars Award to lecture in the American Studies program at the University of Hong Kong. While in Hong Kong, Reese was inspired to write his first novel, *Hong Kong Nights*. He was recently featured on ESPN's "Realizing the Dream" Black History Month series. He is the recipient of the 2011 George P. Hart Award for faculty leadership at Cal Poly Pomona. As the founder

of the Reintegration Academy for parolees, Reese produced a provocative new documentary highlighting the challenges of societal barriers faced by ex-offenders.



Terrence J. Roberts, Ph.D. is one of the “Little Rock Nine” who desegregated Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1957. As a 15 year old eleventh grader, he joined eight other students and became one of the first nine black students to go to a formerly segregated public high school in Little Rock. As a consequence of the public high school closure by Arkansas’ governor in 1958, Roberts moved to Los Angeles, where; he graduated from Los Angeles High School in June, 1959. He obtained a bachelor’s degree in sociology from California State University at Los Angeles, a master’s degree from UCLA and a doctorate from Southern Illinois University. For the past 30-plus years Roberts has held academic and administrative positions at two universities and has maintained a practice in clinical psychology. He has been director of a hospital based

acute care mental health unit and the CEO of a management consultant firm, Terrence J. Roberts and Associates. Active in his Pasadena, CA community, Roberts and his wife are members of Friends of Cleveland, a volunteer group of seven couples committed to support the educational activities of a local elementary school. He serves as a board member for Facing History and Ourselves, the Economic Resource Center of Southern California, and the Western Justice Center Foundation. Along with the other eight members of the Little Rock Nine, he serves as board member for the Little Rock Nine Foundation.



Virgil Roberts is Managing Partner of the firm, Bobbitt & Roberts, which specializes in representing entertainment industry clients, concentrating on television, film, music, theater licensing and merchandising. A past Chairman of the Board of the California Community Foundation, Roberts also was Board Chair of the Los Angeles Annenberg Metropolitan Project (LAAMP). Roberts currently serves on the boards of the James Irvine Foundation; Community Build, Claremont Graduate School; Families in Schools; the Alliance for College Ready Public Schools; Southern California Public Radio (SCPR); the Alliance of Artists and Record Companies (AARC); and the California Community Foundation Land Trust. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of Broadway Federal Bank, the oldest minority-owned banking institution in Los Angeles. A frequent lecturer

at law schools such as Harvard and UCLA, Roberts has participated in panel discussions for the National Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the National Association of Black-Owned Broadcasters, BESLA, the National Association of Securities Professionals, and the American Law Institute. Roberts is married to writer/editor Brenda (Banks) Roberts, former news deputy for Mayor Tom Bradley and author of “Jazzy Miz Mozetta,” a children’s book that won the Coretta Scott King/ John Steptoe New Talent Award for its illustrations.



Reggie Webb is a McDonald’s Franchisee in the Southern California region as the owner of 11 restaurants. Reggie has been in the McDonald’s system for more than 30 years. He currently serves as Chairman of the McDonald’s International Leadership Council. Prior to that he served in the capacity as Chairman of the National Leadership Council (US). Reggie also served as the Chairman and CEO of the National Black McDonald’s Operators Association (NBMOA). Reggie is extremely active in his community. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Pomona Valley Hospital and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County Fair Association.



Amelia Williamson, as Interim President of the Magic Johnson Foundation (MJF), focuses on expanding the foundation's impact in the communities it serves by providing strategic leadership, direction and oversight to foundation staff. Amelia works collaboratively with the Board of Directors in leading MJF from its current stage to a more mature organization capable of delivering on its long term vision to cyclically cultivate, inspire and help to achieve self sufficiency in underserved communities. Amelia is responsible for ensuring that the organizations fiscal, operations, fundraising, marketing, human resource, technology, and programmatic strategies are effectively implemented across all segments of the organization.

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