## Chicago Pilot Program: National Day of Multicultural Inclusion

October 19, 2017



# ASSOCIATION OF YALE ALUMNI

**Presented by:** 

the Yale Alumni Association Diversity & Inclusion Task Force, Yale Chicago, the Yale Black Alumni Association, and the Association of Asian American Yale Alumni

## **Presentation Format**

October 19 6:30 p.m. CDT



## **Roundtable Discussants**



Akosua Barthwell Evans, J.D., Ph.D. CEO, The Barthwell Group, Member, Yale Alumni Association Diversity & Inclusion Task Force



Cornell Brooks, J.D. Former President & CEO, NAACP, Visiting Professor of Social Ethics, Law, and Justice Movements, Boston University School of Law, Visiting Fellow and Director of Campaigns and Advocacy Program, Institute of Politics at Harvard University



Rabbi Seth M. Limmer Chicago Sinai Congregation



Lisa Morrison Butler Commissioner Department of Family & Support Services



Frank Giardina Senior Advisor Sinatra & Company



Bevon Joseph Founder and President The Greenwood Project

## Akosua Barthwell Evans, Ph.D., J.D.



#### Dr. Akosua Barthwell Evans, Ph.D., J.D Chief Executive Officer The Barthwell Group

- Dr. Evans is the CEO and Founder of The Barthwell Group, a Certified Woman-Owned, MBE boutique strategic management consulting firm based in Detroit with consultants in eight states
- The firm has advised not-for-profits, *Fortune 500* corporations, and the military throughout the U.S. regarding addressing multicultural challenges
- Dr. Evans is a former Wall Street attorney and Managing Director at JPMorgan Chase in New York where she ran two national businesses. She was the first woman manager at Coopers & Lybrand's management consulting practice in Detroit.
- Dr. Evans, Yale Law School Class of 1990, has served on 16 not-for-profit boards throughout the U.S. She currently serves on the Yale Alumni Association Board of Governors, the Yale Alumni Association Diversity & Inclusion Task Force, YaleWomen Council, and the Yale Black Alumni Association Board
- She was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve on the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African-Americans
- Dr. Evans has won many awards including One of the 25 Most Influential African-American Women in Business (2002), and the "Entrepreneur Leadership Award" (2011). and has been featured in many publications including Savoy magazine

## **Overview**

#### Overview

- The Yale Alumni Diversity & Inclusion Task Force was formed as part of Yale University's commitment to the value of diversity and inclusion in response to the increasing national conversations as a result of profound societal changes
- The purpose of this evening is to bring together a cross-section of leaders representing civil rights, faith-based organizations, policy-makers, and the private sector, to exchange ideas on the causes of the many multicultural tensions and socioeconomic divisiveness, both nationally and locally, and to collaborate on increasing summer jobs for underrepresented youth in order to ease these tensions
- The discussion will serve as a pilot demonstration of the types of discussion which will be launched nationally by the Yale Alumni Association in 2018

## **Critical Questions**

- What are the causes of tensions in our country?
- What are the causes of tensions in Chicago?
- How can we collaborate to create summer job opportunities for underrepresented youth in Chicago and work to reduce these tensions?

## **Cornell Brooks**, J.D.



#### Cornell Brooks, J.D. Former President & CEO, NAACP Visiting Professor of Social Ethics, Law, and Justice Movements, Boston University School of Law Visiting Fellow and Director of Campaigns and Advocacy Program, Institute of Politics at Harvard University

- Cornell Brooks, is a nationally recognized leader for social justice and equity, and is a Yale Law School Class of 1990 alum
- Mr. Brooks currently is a Visiting Professor of Social Ethics, Law, and Justice Movements at Boston University School of Law, and a Visiting Fellow and Director of Campaigns and Advocacy Programs at the Institute of Politics at Harvard University
- Mr. Brooks is the former President and CEO of the NAACP where he led the organization's successful efforts to repeal voter suppression laws, and to enhance voter registration and turnout, particularly in underrepresented communities. In addition, under his leadership, the NAACP advanced programs to enhance the economic capacity of underrepresented persons and their communities, fought for environmental and climate justice, the opportunity for every student to succeed, healthier communities, criminal justice enabling greater police accountability, enabling better transition for those formerly incarcerated, and ending racial profiling.
- Previously, as the President and CEO, of the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, he led the Institute in its successful passage of three nationally recognized laws (hailed by the NY *Times* as national models) resulting in enabling successful prisoner re- entry as productive citizens. In addition, under Mr. Brooks' leadership, the Institute led efforts resulting in the "ban the box" legislation (which eliminated the need for felons to self-identify when seeking employment). His successful justice reform work through the Institute resulted in a significant reduction in juvenile detention rates throughout the State of New Jersey and the founding of the first community court.

## **Cornell Brooks: Keynote Remarks**

- Sets the stage by presenting an analytical summary of key national tensions and their causes
- Provides examples of work which is impacting the challenges
- Includes examples of effective job creation programs and their impact

Can you tell us the impact which you believe starting and enhancing summer job programs might have nationally in both easing multicultural tensions, and reducing juvenile detention rates?

How would you envision scaling the results of tonight's discussion into a national platform in 2018?

## Rabbi Seth M. Limmer



#### Rabbi Seth M. Limmer Chicago Sinai Congregation

- Rabbi Seth Limmer leads the Chicago Sinai Congregation which describes itself as dedicated to inclusiveness, social justice, spiritual development, and life-long learning
- Rabbi Limmer has devoted his career and equity for all. Selected examples of his work include: working with Habitat for Humanity to build houses on Chicago's west side, and founding Westchester United, an interfaith organization focusing on addressing Weschester county's challenges.
- Rabbi Seth Limmer is the former Chair of the Justice, Peace, and Civil Liberties Committee of the Central Conference of the American Rabbis, and is the Vice-Chair of the Commission on Social Action and the Union for Reform Judaism. During his tenure, he helped organize national campaigns for Comprehensive Immigration Reform and racial justice.

## Rabbi Seth M. Limmer: Keynote Remarks

- Compares and contrasts tensions in Chicago with those mentioned nationally by Mr. Brooks
- Provides a summary analysis of his perspective on the cause of these tensions
- Provides examples of good work and best practices which address these challenges, including that of Chicago Sinai (which may include job creation programs)

Tonight's discussion is a beginning, but takes place in an environment where there is already a lot of good work being done, including to create work for youth in Chicago. Is there a particular focus which you think those participating in our discussion might emphasize as we go forward?

What might be important next steps to ensure that our conversation is impactful, enables others to participate, and transitions into impactful action?

## **Lisa Morrison Butler**



#### Lisa Morrison Butler Commissioner Department of Family & Support Services

- Lisa Morrison Butler is Commissioner of the Department of Family and Support Services.
- The department, with an annual budget of roughly \$400M, is the largest funder of human and social service programs in Chicago.
- One of the programs the department oversees is the One Summer Chicago program which in 2017 provided summer jobs and learning experiences to over 31,000 Chicago youth and young adults ages 14-24

## Lisa Morrison Butler: Opening Remarks and Key Questions

Opening remarks (three to five minutes) will provide a brief analysis of her perspective on the key tensions in Chicago, and their causes, and describe her work, particularly regarding the impact of One Summer Chicago

Is there a way that we can link the results of tonight's discussion to One Summer Chicago in a way that will be mutually beneficial?

If so, what might be the specific next steps to do so?

## **Frank Giardina**



#### Frank Giardina Senior Advisor Sinatra & Company

- Frank Giardina is a Yale Alum and Senior Adviser at the Sinatra and Company Real Estate, a real estate development company headquartered in Buffalo, New York, with a regional office in Chicago. The Company develops housing and mixed use developments.
- Before joining Sinatra, Mr. Giardina focused his career mainly on finance in both the private and public sectors. While at the Illinois Office of Management and Budget he was part of a management team responsible for a modernization change, that enhanced health care technology in seven state agencies.
- Mr. Giardina has worked as well at Calamos Investments and at the Chicago Public Schools where he developed several innovative after school programs, and was responsible for developing a healthcare clinic.

## Frank Giardina: Opening Remarks and Key Questions

Opening remarks (three to five minutes) will provide a brief analysis of his perspective on the key tensions in Chicago, and their causes, and describe the potential for the construction and real estate industries to have a positive impact

What might be a way that you envision creating summer jobs for underrepresented youth, particularly in construction real estate?

What might be some practical next steps that could be undertaken to make certain that this conversation results in job opportunities for underrepresented youth?

## **Bevon Joseph**



#### Bevon Joseph Founder and President The Greenwood Project

- Bevon Joseph is the Founder and President of the Greenwood Project. The goal of the Project is to expose young people from diverse backgrounds to a world they otherwise would not know by giving them an opportunity to shadow traders, data scientists, technical and financial engineers, and financial compliance personnel via summer internships.
- Previously, Mr. Joseph worked at financial institutions such as JPMorgan, Morgan Stanley, UBS, Chicago Trading Company, Peak6 Investments, Achievement Asset Management and many others. Mr. Joseph has also worked on the trading floors of the NYSE, NYMEX, and AMEX.

## **Bevon Joseph: Opening Remarks and Key Questions**

Opening remarks (three to five minutes) will provide a brief analysis of his perspective on the key tensions in Chicago, and their causes, and describe the work of the Greenwood Project, and its positive impact

How might the success of the Greenwood Project be replicated in other industries?

What might be some practical first steps which individuals could take to implement the Greenwood model into other industries?