

# Dr. Sonia White and S.M.I.L.E. Foundation Host Inaugural Black History 365 Awards and Recognition Event

HOUSTON, TEXAS, UNITED STATES, February 27, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- On February 24, 2024, [Dr. Sonia White](#) and the [S.M.I.L.E. Foundation](#), Smart Men In Leadership Excellence, hosted their inaugural Black History 365 Awards and Recognition event, celebrating high achievers from across the nation. The spectacular event brought together notable honorees, distinguished guests, and esteemed members of the community for an unforgettable evening of celebration and inspiration.

Among the distinguished honorees were Philonise and Keeta Floyd, the family of George Floyd, whose tireless advocacy for justice and equality has made a profound impact on communities worldwide. State Representative Ron Reynolds, Bishop James Dixon II, NAACP Houston President Rawle Andrews, Jr. Esq., Thomas Meloncon, and Dr. Cleveland Black were also recognized for their exceptional contributions to their respective fields and communities. Presidential Lifetime Achievement honorees were Dr. Rhonda C. Arnold J.D., Dr. Yuroba Harris, Dr. Lurlean Dixon, Grammy nominated guitarist Corey Stoot.



Additionally, State Representative Dr. Alma Allen was presented with an honor alongside her lovely granddaughter Dr. Patrice Lanette Allen, as well as Leo LeMarcus Newman and his lovely wife Amber Alfred Newman, who have made significant contributions to youth. According to those who attended, the evening was filled with amazing entertainment featuring performances by talented young men, including Liz Vaughn, Rickey Davis, and William Campbell. The event was expertly hosted by emcees Holly Cotton and Chris Tucker, who kept the energy high and the audience engaged throughout the night.



Dr. Sonia White and the S.M.I.L.E. Foundation were honored to receive certificates of recognition from Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Congressman Al Green, Senator Boris Miles, State Representative Ron Reynolds, and State Representative Jarvis Johnson for their commitment to uplifting and empowering the community.

In addition to honoring outstanding individuals, the event also recognized Presidential Lifetime Achievement Honorees for their significant contributions to society and their enduring legacy of excellence.

Dr. Sonia White expressed her gratitude to all who attended and supported the event, stating, "The Black History 365 Awards and Recognition event was a celebration of excellence, resilience, and the power of community. We are incredibly grateful to all our honorees, guests, sponsors, and supporters who made this event possible. Together, we are building a brighter future for generations to come."

For more information about Dr. Sonia White and the S.M.I.L.E Foundation, please visit <https://smilementor.org/>.

About S.M.I.L.E. Foundation and Dr. Sonia White

The Smart Men In Leadership Excellence (S.M.I.L.E.) Foundation, established in 2019 by Dr. Sonia White, is a revered non-profit organization dedicated to the education, empowerment, encouragement, inspiration, and mentorship of young minority men aged 8 to 18. Inspired by personal tragedy and triumph - having lost her beloved brother to gun violence at the age of 19 and seeing the positive impact of mentorship on her twin sons - Dr. White is committed to

guiding these young individuals to achieve their highest potential and to creating a safer, more supportive environment for them. The foundation's innovative 'Cop to Mentoring' program aims to foster positive relationships and understanding between young men and law enforcement officials, thereby addressing and reducing fears and threats.

Since its inception, the foundation has not only focused on the personal growth of these young men but also on making a significant impact on the broader societal landscape, testament to the unwavering support and engagement of the community.

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