

Metropolitan Black Bar Association's 40th Anniversary Gala Honors Judicial Pioneers & Legal Excellence

MBBA Gala marks 40 years, celebrating judicial pioneers and advancing a legacy of legal excellence and distinction.

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Following a night of celebration, the [Metropolitan Black Bar Association \(MBBA\)](#) proudly reflects on the tremendous success of its 40th Anniversary Awards Gala, held on May 17, 2024, at Pier Sixty—Chelsea Piers. The gala celebrated a milestone anniversary and served as a pivotal platform for uniting individuals, allies, and supporters with the MBBA. Together, they are poised to set new benchmarks in advancing the organization's mission and impact within the legal community.

Honoring Legal Excellence and Community Impact

The gala honored several luminaries of the legal field for their significant contributions. Awards were presented to leaders who have made a profound impact, including Jurist of the Year, Hon. Rowan D. Wilson, New York State's first Black Chief Judge, and Public Servant of the Year, Hon. Sylvia Hinds-Radix, who is recognized as New York City's first female Caribbean-born Corporation Counsel. MBBA also presented the 40th Anniversary Impact Award to Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP for their enduring support and advocacy for justice.



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Metropolitan Black Bar Association



A Fundraising Milestone

This year's gala was a celebratory event and a landmark fundraising endeavor. Thanks to the generosity of attendees and sponsors, the MBBA raised substantial funds. These funds will directly support the MBBA's initiatives to foster diversity, education, and mentorship within the legal profession.

Looking Forward: Continuing the Legacy

As we celebrate the successes of this landmark event, we also mark an important transition within our leadership. Outgoing President Carl Forbes Jr. has passed the baton to Nicole Lester Arrindell, who will continue to guide the MBBA with her exceptional insight and visionary leadership to further our mission. We are deeply grateful for the ongoing support from our community and are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

For more about the MBBA and updates, please visit our website at mbbanyc.org. Follow us on our social media platforms: Facebook: @MBBAofNYC, Instagram: @MBBANYC, and LinkedIn: MBBANYC.

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