

**BLACK
HISTORY
& REGGAE
MONTH
HONOREES**



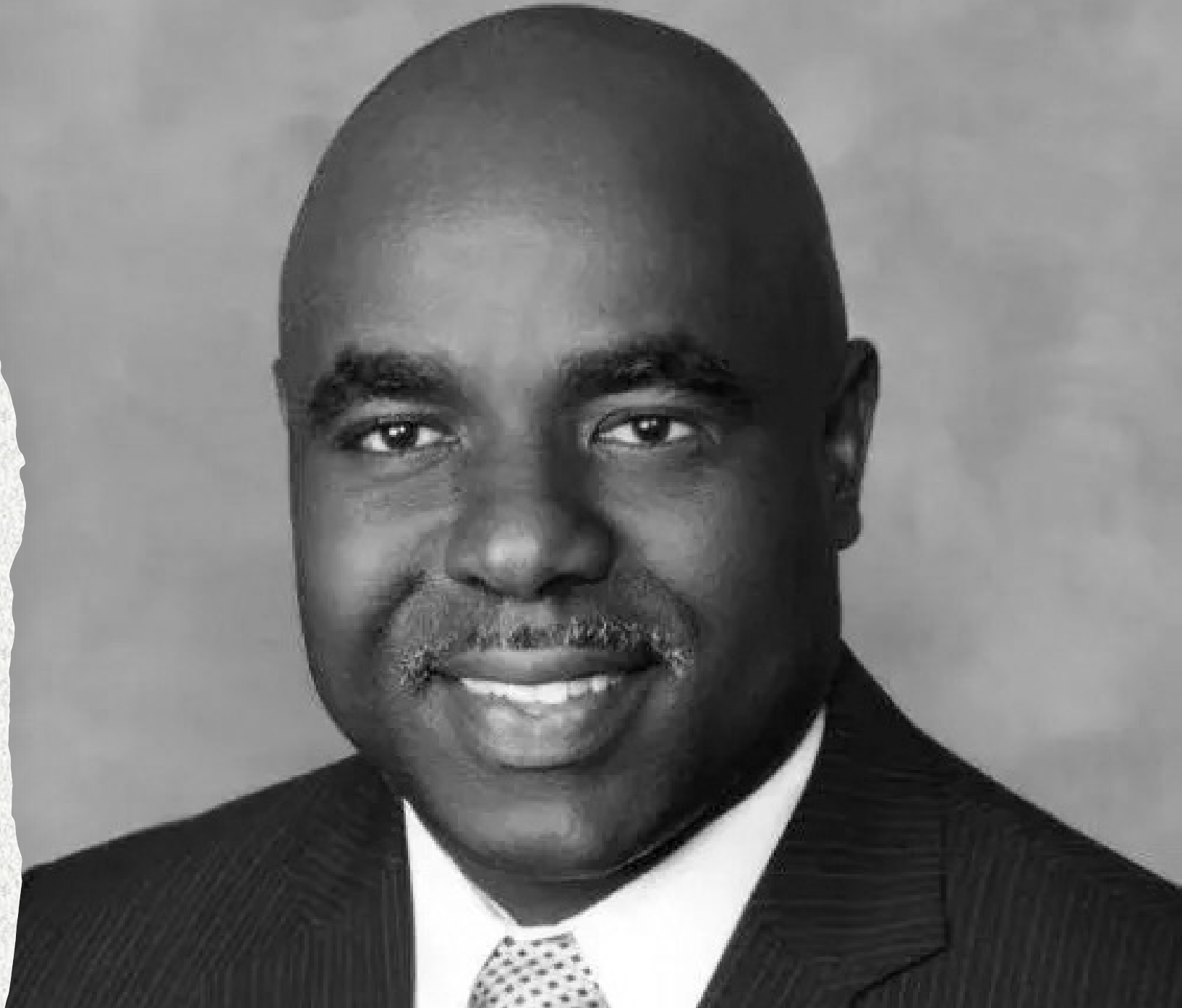
Dr. Kitty Oliver is a distinguished journalist, academic, and author who specializes in race and ethnic communication; she founded the Race and Change Oral History Archive at the African American Research Library and Cultural Center. Her impactful work includes television documentaries, educational books, online programs, and the "Agents of Race and Change Award," highlighting her dedication to fostering racial and ethnic unity.



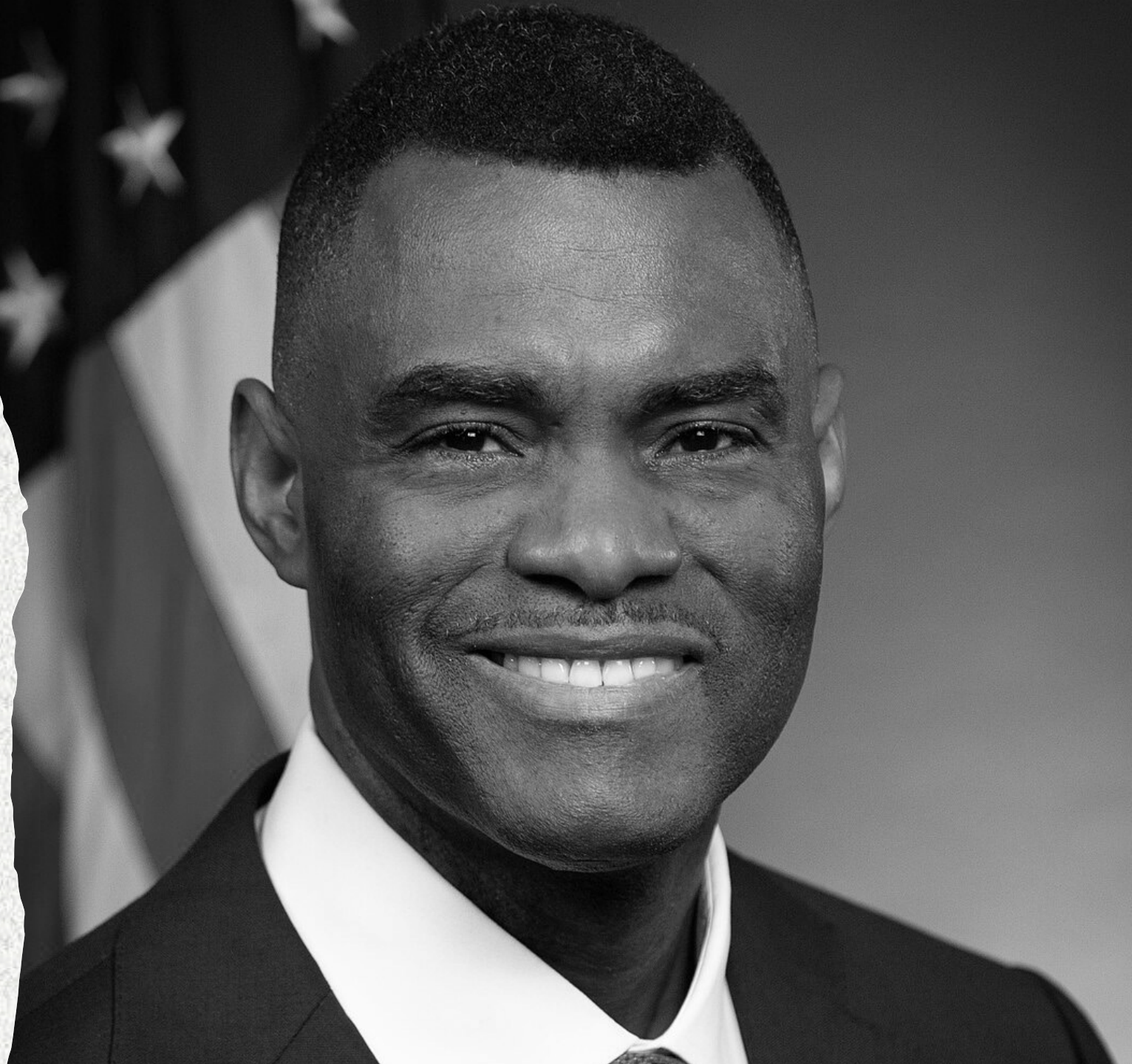
Bobby Henry, publisher of the Westside Gazette in Fort Lauderdale, is a distinguished journalist and community activist recognized with the 2017 Angelo B. Henderson Community Service Award by the NABJ for his profound impact on the black community. A Florida A&M University and Florida Memorial College graduate, he actively engages in outreach and serves on various boards, embodying the values of leadership and service.



Robert McKinzie, a native of Fort Lauderdale and graduate of Bethune-Cookman University, has over twenty years of experience as a licensed General Contractor. He actively contributes to his community through various leadership roles, including President of the Associate Board of Trustees at Bethune-Cookman University and member of the Broward County Minority Builders.



Markenzy Lapointe, born in 1968 in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, immigrated to Miami's Liberty City at age 16 and graduated from Miami Edison Senior High School. After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and earning a finance degree from Florida State University, he pursued a law degree and became a U.S. citizen in 1995. Lapointe has since built a successful career in banking and law.



Judge Rodney Smith, a Miami-Dade native and second-generation Bahamian American, is a groundbreaking figure in the judiciary and his community, being the first in his family to graduate from high school, college, and law school. Inspired by an African American prosecutor, he has dedicated his career to fairness and justice, transitioning from the State Attorney's Office to becoming a respected judge known for his meticulous preparation and reliability.



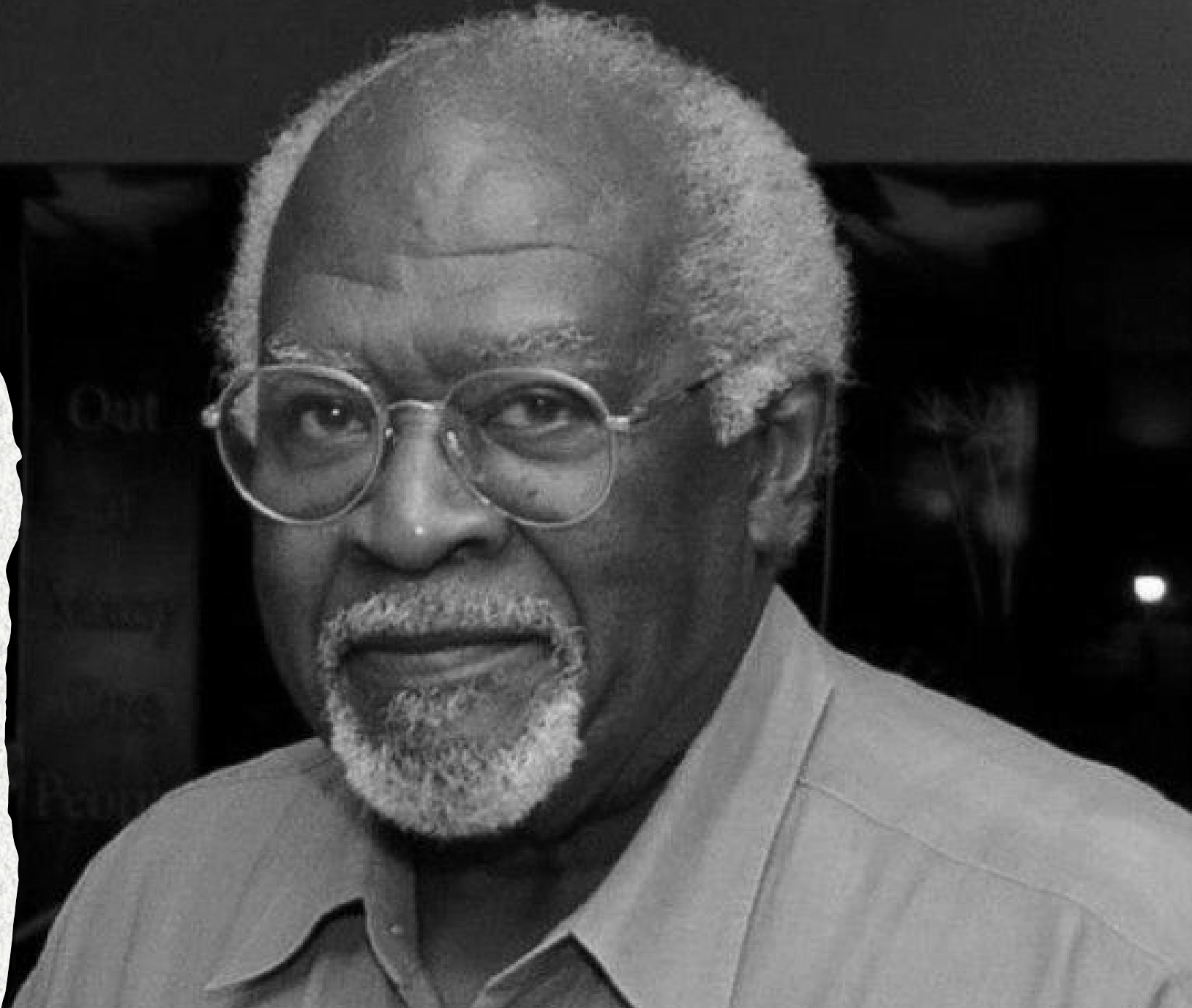
Ernie Smith began his musical journey with The Vandals in Claremont, St. Ann, initially aiming to be a radio announcer. He later became a songwriter at Federal Studios, recording his own music. A celebrated reggae artist, Smith has received multiple accolades, including lifetime achievement awards. His iconic song, "Life Is Just for Living," is renowned for its uplifting message and vibrant reggae melody.



Etana, is a groundbreaking Jamaican reggae singer whose debut album "The Strong One" established her as a leading voice in the genre. Notably, her 2014 album "I Rise" topped the Billboard Reggae Albums Chart, making her the first woman in over fifteen years to achieve this, and her 2018 album "Reggae Forever" earned her a Grammy nomination, reflecting her significant impact on reggae music.



Dr. Julius W. Garvey, a prominent surgeon and medical professor born on August 16, 1933, in Kingston, Jamaica, is the son of Marcus Garvey. He has held significant roles in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery, taught at esteemed institutions, and has made lasting contributions to the medical field while being an advocate for African American healthcare equity.



Honorable Olivia

Latvia 'Babsy' Grange, born on April 27, 1946, in Jamaica, is a prominent politician and advocate for culture and gender equality, serving as the Member of Parliament for Saint Catherine Central since 1997. A trailblazer in the realm of Jamaican culture, she has held multiple ministerial roles and received numerous accolades for her contributions, including the DUSUSU Award in 2019 for her efforts to address teenage pregnancy.



Rohan Marley, son of reggae legend Bob Marley, is a businessman and former football player who co-founded Marley Coffee and launched the eco-friendly audio product line 'House of Marley.' A standout linebacker at the University of Miami, he also actively supports his family's charitable organization, 1Love, and the Tuff Gong clothing company.



Oral “Edge Michael” M. Durloo, nephew of reggae legend Peter Tosh, is known as the "Rebel With a Cause" for his impactful roots sound and lyrics. Rising to prominence since 1990, he has released acclaimed albums like "Rebel With a Cause" and "Cornucopia," and has shared stages with reggae icons while promoting messages of love and righteousness.



George "Coach" King, a Lauderhill resident for over 45 years and retired after 37 years as a Physical Education Teacher in Broward County, mentored countless students at Boyd Anderson High School, inspiring them to pursue education and give back to their community. He is an active member of Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church and the Eta Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi, Incorporated.

