

Winners announced at the Black British Business Awards 2022

(London, 30th September 2022) – Kené Umeasiegbu, Campaigns Director at Tesco, has been named this year's Business Person of the Year at the 2022 Black British Business Awards (BBBAwards).

Kené joined Tesco in 2013 and has led critical public and stakeholder engagement on health, climate and diet. His twenty-year career in sustainability spans not-for-profit, consulting and corporations across continents. Last night, at the ninth annual BBBAwards ceremony in central London, Kené, also a trustee of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, said on his advice for young Black professionals wanting to succeed, "it is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration, that true discipline will help".

"We can always find stories of when things did not work and we had negative experiences, but we can also find stories where we had peers, allies and sponsors supporting us. I think we need to tell more of those stories – that encourages the next generation more."

The ninth annual BBBAwards Ceremony recognised the achievements of 36 *Rising Stars* and *Senior Leaders* across six industry sectors: Arts and Media, Consumer and Luxury, Entrepreneurs, Financial Services, Professional Services, and STEM. The recipients comprised of professionals and business owners who are working to drive equitable change and championing Black excellence in business.

Sophie Chandaoka MBE, Chair of the BBBAwards and Head of Americas Risk Management and Intelligence at Meta said: *"This group of BBBAwards finalists is extraordinary because of the pandemic, geo-political and socio-economic circumstances surrounding their accomplishments. We celebrate this breathtaking group of professionals and entrepreneurs who are competing on the global stage, representing the very best Britain has to offer. They remind us of the importance of self-belief despite the odds; the merit of striving for excellence and the requirement of perseverance. We are also thrilled that, for the third year running, J.P. Morgan is Key Partner of the BBBAwards and will retain this role going into the BBBAwards' 10-year anniversary next year."*

Cecil Peters, EMEA Head of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Advancing Black Pathways at J.P. Morgan said: *"J.P. Morgan are proud of our long-standing association with the Black British Business Awards. We are continuously inspired by the stories that emerge during the process and the vision of the entrepreneurs and professionals. The Awards shine a light on a remarkable group of people who are striving to innovate and drive meaningful change. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Kené Umeasiegbu and celebrate the success of all this year's BBBAwards finalists."*

The BBBAwards also celebrated two individual honorary awards. The first award, Influencer of the Year, recognises a person of African or Caribbean heritage who has shaped British public opinion, industry, vocation or culture. The second, Ally of the Year Award, celebrates the work of senior Allies of the Black community who continue to strive for diversity and equality in business.

Influencer of the Year Award recipient

Professor Shirley Thompson OBE, Renowned Classical Composer and Musician

Ally of the Year Award recipient

Brian Corr, Head of Market Intervention, Retail Banking Financial Conduct Authority



J.P. Morgan is the Key Partner for the third year and will retain this role going into the BBB Awards' 10 year anniversary next year. Other sponsors include Baker McKenzie, Barclays, Bloomberg, Credit Suisse, Goldman Sachs, Meta, MSCI, P&G, Tranzfar, Wellington Management and Wells Fargo.

Through their support of the BBB Awards, these organisations are demonstrating that race equity is a key priority as they celebrate the progress made at this year's Awards Ceremony.

For the sixth year, The Daily Telegraph is the BBB Awards' official Media Partner.

The winners of the 2022 BBB Awards are as follows:

Black British Business Person of the Year

Kené Umeasiegbu, Campaigns Director, Tesco

Arts and Media Rising Star

Yinka Ilori, Founder and Creative Director, Yinka Ilori Studio

Arts and Media Senior Leader of the Year

Suzann McLean, CEO and Artistic Director, Theatre Peckham

Consumer and Luxury Rising Star

Prince Chakanyuka, E-commerce Customer Supply Chain Manager, P&G

Consumer and Luxury Senior Leader of the Year

Patrice Gordon, Director, Commercial Strategy Development, Virgin Atlantic

Entrepreneur Rising Star

Troy Johnson, Founder, Juici Jerk Ltd

Entrepreneur Senior Leader of the Year

Connie Barrett, Owner & Director, Kids in Charge

Financial Services Rising Star

Natalie Ojevah MBE, Eagle Labs Diversity & Inclusion Lead, Barclays

Financial Services Senior Leader of the Year

Sean Alleyne, Chief Operating Officer, Credit Suisse International

Professional Services Rising Star

Vincent Egunlae, Strategic Leadership Team, Assistant Manager, Grant Thornton UK LLP

Professional Services Senior Leader of the Year

John McCalla-Leacy, Partner & UK Head of ESG, KPMG UK

STEM Rising Star

Ivan Kayima, CEO, Spiela

STEM Senior Leader of the Year



Ike Olowoye, Senior Director, Late Oncology Global Portfolio and Project Management, AstraZeneca

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About the BBB Awards

The Black British Business Awards (BBBAwards) is the only premium awards programme of its kind in the UK. Established in 2014, it has been endorsed by three Prime Ministers, the Mayor of London and global business leaders. The annual Awards ceremony confirms the strength of the Black talent pipeline by highlighting the commercial excellence of Black professionals and entrepreneurs, who stand as role models and substantial contributors to the UK economy.

The BBBAwards has emerged as a powerful change agent for Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic talent advancement in the UK. From inception, in addition to the world-class awards ceremony, the BBBAwards has focused on strong collaborations with corporate partners and global thought leaders such as the 30% Club, CBI's Change the Race Ratio (CtRR), London First, Diversio, the Executive Leadership Council (ELC), Portfolio Institutional, Delta Alpha Psi (Delta) and The Network of Networks (TNON) to drive perception, culture and systems change to ensure racial equity at work. Through these partnerships, the BBBAwards has established research-led, high-impact initiatives to promote the attraction, retention, and advancement of racial and ethnic minorities in the workplace.

These initiatives deliver value to a growing network of over 130 significant multinational corporations including Bloomberg, Barclays, Cisco, Deloitte, Facebook, Goldman Sachs, J.P. Morgan, Moody's, Morgan Stanley, Ralph Lauren, Shell, Virgin, Visa, Weber Shandwick to name a few.

For more information, visit <https://www.thebbbawards.com/>

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