

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

PDJ Announces Black Leaders Worth Watching™ for 2021

Recognizing the Achievements of Black Leaders at Work, in the Marketplace, and in Communities across the Globe

[CLEVELAND, OH–October 21, 2021] *Profiles in Diversity Journal*® is pleased to announce the names of the 42 winners of this year’s Black Leaders Worth Watching™ Award. These exceptional leaders demonstrate their talents and skills, their commitment to excellence, their willingness to mentor and support the next generation, and their involvement with the larger community.

“We are delighted to have the opportunity to honor these outstanding leaders and recognize the organizations that support their success,” said *Profiles in Diversity Journal* publisher James Rector. “The leaders we feature in *PDJ*’s 2021 third-quarter issue are indeed an impressive group.”

The Black Leader Worth Watching Award recipients being showcased in the upcoming issue will share their stories with the magazine’s readers—the personal and professional experiences that have shaped their success, the insights they have gained along the way, and some very valuable words of advice.

The organizations that nominate candidates for this Award demonstrate C-suite support of people of color in leadership, and the inclusion of the Award winners in the magazine enhances the reputations of those organizations that employ, support, and empower these high achievers. The 2021 Black Leaders Worth Watching edition of *Profiles in Diversity Journal* will be available online, at www.diversityjournal.com, in late November.

Below are the names and job titles of this year’s award recipients, along with the names of the organizations who nominated them for this honor.

The 2021 Black Leaders Worth Watching Award™ Recipients

Company / Organization	Award Recipient	Title
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.	LaKesha Small	Senior Manager, Operations
Advanced Micro Devices	Terrence (TJ) Lewis	Program Manager
Advanced Micro Devices	Yolanda Williams	Senior Manager, Inport/Export
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP	Amanda Butler-Jones	Counsel
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP	Jaelyn Judelson	Partner
Attune Insurance	Lael Chappell	Director, Insurance Distribution
Best Best & Krieger LLP	Christine N. Wood	Director, PRA Service & E-Discovery Counsel
Community Action Partnership of Orange County	Gregory C. Scott	President & CEO
Curaleaf	Khadijah Tribble	Vice President, Corporate Social Responsibility
Dechert LLP	Sozi Pedro Tulante	Partner
Dickinson Wright PLLC	Venroy July	Member
The Estee Lauder Companies, Inc.	Idris McKelvey	Vice President, Patent Group
Fannie Mae	Maritza Okata	Multifamily Deputy General Counsel; Senior Vice President
FordHarrison LLP	Tim L. Reed	Office Managing Partner
Freddie Mac	Fritz E.R. Jeffries III	Investments & Capital Markets Operations Director
Freddie Mac	Stacey Walker	Director of Housing Outreach
HARMAN International	Michael Craig	Senior Marketing Director, Global Lifestyle/Gaming/IoT Brands
Heartbeat	Camelia Walker	Vice President; Director of Performance Management and Coaching
Heartbeat	Michelle Edwards	Vice President, Human Resources
Honeywell	Cheya Dunlap	Chief Inclusion & Diversity Officer
IBM Corporation	Nicole Spence	Senior Attorney, IP Law, Cloud & Cognitive Applications Brand Team
Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP	Marcus A. Barber	PartnerNi
Kindred Healthcare	James Poullard	Senior Vice President for Support Services, Health Equity and Experience

Latham & Watkins, LLP	Jennifer Kent	Senior Associate
Mosaic Group	Natalie Sheils	Vice President, People and Culture
Moss Adams	Tiffany Coln Smith	Regional Human Resources Senior Manager
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP	Marquetta J. Bryan	Partner
New American Funding	Kim Arrington	Diversity & Community Engagement Director; Branch Manager
New American Funding	John Drumgoole Jr.	Vice President, Community Lending
New American Funding	Nisaa El-Hasan	Senior Loan Consultant
New American Funding	Charles R. Lowery, Jr.	Director, Legislative Policy & External Affairs
New American Funding	Michael Moseby	Sales Director
New York Life	Whytne Brooks	Vice President, Office of Governmental Affairs
Oyate Group's Bronx Rising Initiative	Jason Autar	Chief Operating Officer
Pashman Stein Walder Hayden	Valerie Jules McCarthy	Counsel
PGA of America	Charles Dillahunt	Strategic Adjunct to the Chief Executive & Chief People Officers
Pratt & Whitney, a business Unit of Raytheon Technologies	Rubin Harris	Vice President, Global Supply Chain
Sonepar USA	Joe Kidd	Vice President, Infrastructure, Support & Cyber Security
Sullivan & Cromwell	Tracy Richelle High	Partner
Ulmer & Berne LLP	Alvin E. Mathews, Jr.	Counsel
Valley Bank	Thais R. Sullivan	Senior Vice President; National Director of Community Lending
WilmerHale	April Williams	Partner

Profiles in Diversity Journal is a quarterly publication dedicated to promoting and advancing diversity, inclusion, and equity in the corporate, government, nonprofit, STEM, and higher education sectors. Since 1999, Diversity Journal has helped stimulate organizational change by profiling the visionary leadership, innovative programs, and individual commitments that make it happen.

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