

# Whitney M. Young Leadership Awards

Thursday, May 23, 2024

The Caribbean Chic Canopy at  
Pinellas County Urban League



**Pinellas County  
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.*

Presenting Paradise Sponsors:





**Pinellas County  
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities  
Changing Lives.*

# VISION 2030

The mission of the Pinellas County Urban League is to enable and empower African-Americans and others who are underserved in our communities to achieve their highest human potential and secure economic self-reliance, parity, power, and civil rights.



**Strategic Community  
Empowerment**



**Enhanced Program &  
Service Footprint**



**Sustainable Social  
Enterprise**



**Fiscal & Operational  
Responsibility**

## PCUL PILLARS



**Champion for  
Education &  
Community  
Leadership**

Enhancing educational needs and community succession planning



**Anchor in  
Job Training,  
Placement &  
Entrepreneurship**

Generating increased income in families and building generational wealth



**Hub of  
Housing &  
Community  
Development**

Having safe, reliable, affordable places to live, work and play



**Leader in  
Health Impact &  
Quality of Life**

Improving all aspects of health; financial, physical, and mental

**PCUL.org**



# **THE EXPERIENCE**

**Caribbean Chic Couture**

**HQ Site Blessing**

**Developing the Dream**

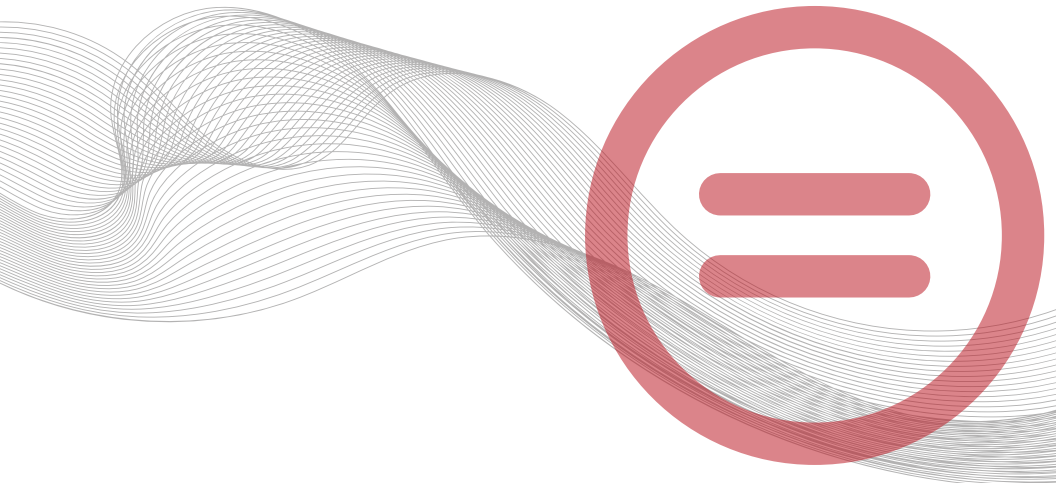
**Vision 2030**

**Rev. Watson L. Haynes, II Scholarships**

**Funding the Dream**

**Unsung Advocate Awards Presentation**

**Soca | Network | Nosh**





## About Whitney M. Young Jr.

Whitney Moore Young Jr. was born in 1921 just west of Louisville, Kentucky on the campus of Lincoln Institute—an African American high school where his father was head principal and president. Young graduated from the school as class valedictorian, before earning an undergraduate degree in social work from Kentucky State University in 1941.



During World War II, he was trained as an electrical engineer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and later assigned to a road construction crew of African American soldiers supervised by Southern white officers. Promoted from private to first sergeant in just three weeks, Young faced hostility from both groups. Despite the tension, he would serve as a bridge between the white supervisors and black soldiers angry at their poor treatment. Young credited the situation as sparking his lifelong interest in fighting for civil rights.

After the war, Young earned a graduate degree in social work at the University of Minnesota in 1947 and worked with the St. Paul branch of the National Urban League. After a directorship with the Urban League's branch in Omaha, Nebraska, he served as dean of Clark Atlanta University's social work program. He became active in the Atlanta National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). In 1960, he was elected president of the Georgia NAACP and studied at Harvard University under a Rockefeller Foundation grant.

In 1961, the 40-year-old Young was selected as executive director of the National Urban League, taking charge of the organization as civil rights protests began to sweep across the United States. While the Urban League maintained its founding mission—supporting the African American workforce—Young would transform the organization into a major civil rights group. Young used his position with the League to pressure major corporations to hire more African Americans.

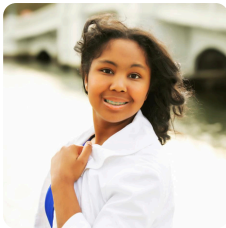
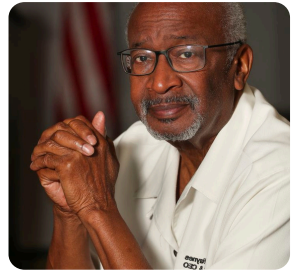
Young, a close ally of Martin Luther King Jr., helped organize the March on Washington and fostered closer relations with the federal government. Uninterested in entering politics, Young advised Presidents Kennedy and Johnson and turned down a potential cabinet post offered by President-elect Richard Nixon. Young led the Urban League until his death at 49 during a 1971 swimming accident in Lagos, Nigeria.



# 2024 Haynes Heroes Scholars

Reverend Haynes was an education advocate who was deeply committed to student achievement.

The Haynes family would like to ensure the continuation of his advocacy for youth through the announcement of **Reverend L. Watson. Haynes, II Scholarship Fund** to assist students in furthering their education.



**Emersen Leigh Jackson**

St. Petersburg Collegiate High School  
Weighted GPA: 3.6

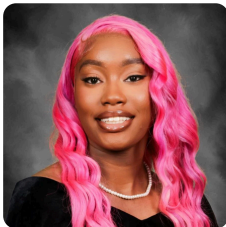
Attending Savannah College of Arts and Design  
Major: Theater Arts



**Audrey Pamela Gardenia-Tucker**

Gibbs High School  
Weighted GPA: 3.3

Attending Alabama State University  
Major: Criminal Justice



**Hannah Chanel Ladson**

Boca Ciega High School  
Weighted GPA: 3.5

Attending North Carolina A & T University  
Major: Biological Science



**Morgan Alexander Kincade**

St. Petersburg Collegiate High School  
Weighted GPA: 3.9

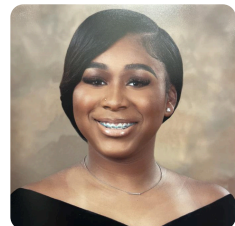
Attending University of South Florida  
Major: Business Administration



**Jaiden Ashwood Harris**

Boca Ciega High School  
Weighted GPA: 4.3

Attending St. Petersburg College  
Major: Computer Information Systems



**Seriya Naveye Hughes**

Canterbury School of Florida  
Weighted GPA: 3.6

Attending Florida A & M University  
Major: Nursing/Pre-Nursing





## Unsung Advocate Awards

The Whitney M. Young, Jr. Leadership Award is designed to recognize those individuals and corporations who have been instrumental in the development of innovative initiatives and programs.



Nancy Dunham



Jerri Evans



Marilyn Turman



Lendel Bright



Carlos Daniels



Rev. Kenny Irby



Carl Lavender



Tony Macon



Brother John  
Muhammad  
Council Member



Eddie Pelham



Maurice Sebastian



Antwaun Wells



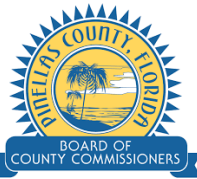
Grant McMillon  
PCUL Board of Directors



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Empowering Communities. Changing Lives.



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Drawing Tickets Here**

