

# The Voice

Rhonda Johnson, President

cea

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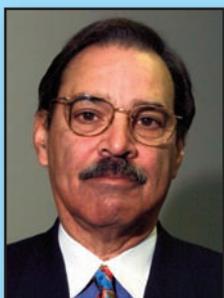
December 18, 2006

## 2007 King and Davis award winners announced

CEA is pleased to announce the honorees for the 2007 Martin Luther King, Jr. Award Dinner—Jerry Hammond and Dorothy G. Wilson.

Hammond will receive the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award.

Hammond was a member of Columbus City Council for 17 years, including six years as president. He chaired or consulted on community levy campaigns, including the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) and Columbus Public Schools.



**Jerry Hammond**  
*Courtesy of The Columbus Dispatch*

Hammond has been the key figure on many commissions and a pivotal figure in most city development plans, including Harrison West and the Mt. Vernon neighborhood. He has been involved in many issues involving the minority community. For instance, in 1973, he helped run a citizen-led school desegregation committee. In 1975, he helped head up a task force to re-examine the use of excessive police force, particularly against black community members.

Hammond has received several awards for community service and leadership.

“The organizations and activities that he has been involved in are too numerous to mention, but he has helped transform our city into a welcoming place for all people, no matter their race, ethnicity, religion or orientation,” said CEA Past President John Grossman. “It is surprising that we have not honored him earlier.”

Hammond founded a consulting business, Hammond & Associates. He ran it from 1990 until his retirement in October.

In retirement, Hammond says he hopes to continue with volunteer work in the community for agencies that benefit children and for the Martin Luther King Center.

Hammond said he was inspired by a mentor who told him, “Find good people and help them. Never ask for yourself; ask for others.”

Dorothy G. Wilson will receive the Helen Jenkins Davis Award, named in honor of the first black teacher hired by the Columbus Public Schools.

Wilson is a staff development specialist at Northgate Center.

Throughout her career, she has been a mentor and leader, especially when it comes to matters of diversity within association leadership.

Wilson has served as an OEA Board of Director, CEA Board of Governor, an NEA director and leader of the



**Dorothy G. Wilson**

Capital District. She has chaired many committees, including, for the last 20 years, the Minority Involvement Program.

Her work has included training minority members in the leadership training program, encouraging them to be vocal and involved and sharing their skills and talents with the organization.

She has served at the national level encouraging associations to work toward collective-bargaining rights and to make their voices heard.

CEA President Rhonda Johnson said, “Dorothy is known for balance, equality and professionalism.”

Wilson makes it a point never to attend an event without bringing along a new potential leader. She said nurturing others is her priority. “I always bring someone along with me so they can see the operation and entice them to join and be part of it,” she said. “I just feel I’ve been blessed to have the opportunity. As an African American, I know how it is to break into what we call the mainstream. I’ve always had people to nourish me to grow, and I want to leave the legacy of helping others.”

The King dinner will be held at the Hyatt Regency Columbus on Thursday, Jan. 11. The social hour will begin at 6 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Reservations for the King dinner can be made through Minority Involvement Program (MIP) Committee members, faculty representatives and the CEA office.

## Check your teaching license

In the bustle of the school routine, it’s easy to overlook details. And some of them are very important, including the information on your teaching credentials.

Please check to make sure your teaching certificate/license is in order. Superintendent Gene Harris early this school year announced that the district would have to eliminate about 120 positions. She then reversed this decision, saying district needs had been miscalculated.

But school funding and staffing situations can change. And it’s important that everyone has the proper credentials to remain employed.

Recently, the CPS Human Resources Department sent notices to members who have one or more certificates/licenses expiring on June 30, 2007. If you have received one of these notices, it is your professional responsibility to make sure you complete all requirements to renew your credentials.

Teachers who possess a limited contract must submit a completed application, fee and official transcripts showing the completed coursework or CEUs to the LPDC by Feb. 1, 2007, or face non-renewal in April.

Teachers who possess a continuing contract must submit a completed application, fee and official transcripts showing the completed coursework or CEUs to the

LPDC before June 30, 2007. Failure to do so will result in suspended employment with the district.

There is still time to complete coursework. Members with expiring certificates/licenses have Priority I status for fee waivers.

## Wellness grants

Want to make your building a healthier place? Aetna, along with the Employee Wellness Committee, is offering Columbus Public Schools employees mini-grants they can use to implement wellness programs. Funds can be used to purchase pedometers, hire fitness instructors, buy healthy foods, install fitness equipment, engage speakers, hold wellness contests and offer incentives for everyone to get healthy and to get fit.

Project budgets may range from \$50 to \$200, and the amounts awarded will vary from building to building. To be eligible, applicants must demonstrate that at least 20 percent of the employees at their location can benefit from the project.

Only one application may be submitted per building/unit. The deadline to apply is the first day of each month beginning in January. Applications will be reviewed by a committee through May or until the grant money has been spent.

Applicants will be notified in writing the results of the reviews by 15th day of the month in which the application was submitted.

For more information, surf to: [http://cpsnet.columbus.k12.oh.us/applications/inetdept.nsf/Department+Pages/C3C73EC85B8DDB1F8525723B006A173E/\\$File/Wellness%20Mini%20Grant.doc?OpenElement](http://cpsnet.columbus.k12.oh.us/applications/inetdept.nsf/Department+Pages/C3C73EC85B8DDB1F8525723B006A173E/$File/Wellness%20Mini%20Grant.doc?OpenElement) or contact Pat Gates at 365-5715.

## New schedules; new problems

The tardy bell rings. Students are still roaming the halls minutes later.

Current scheduling in middle schools allows only two or three minutes for students to change classrooms. In some cases, this isn't enough time, especially when a student must move from one end of the school to the other.

In most schools, teachers are told to accept students who are a few minutes late, making allowances for these travelers. This makes sense. However, some students are 15–20 minutes late, and their teachers are being told to admit them.

This policy does not make sense. Students who enter late create a disruption. Administrators need to find a middle ground that will allow a reasonable amount of class-change time for all students. Twenty minutes is excessive. Time is slipping by. The year is half over. The tardy bell continues to toll. Will the administration hear the bell in time?

## Columbus student to sing at gubernatorial inauguration

Those who attended an Oct. 10 rally for then-gubernatorial candidate Ted Strickland at the King Arts Complex enjoyed a treat.

High school senior Trevor Henderson sang *What a Wonderful World*. His singing style, which echoes that of the late Louis Armstrong, has won this talented young man several statewide singing competitions.

Trevor was invited by Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman to perform at this event, which included an appearance by Sen. Barack Obama from Illinois. And now, because of his fantastic performance at the King Center, Governor-elect Strickland has asked Trevor to sing at his inauguration in January.

Trevor attends Beechcroft HS and at SECC's Life Care Alliance Employability Program. Congratulations to Trevor for a job well done!

## Thank you for your pledges

CEA continues to receive United Way contributions from our schools and units. We want to thank those who have contributed and returned their pledges to CEA for the 2006 United Way campaign.

Thank you, Alum Crest HS; Thank you, Briggs HS; Thank you, Brookhaven HS; Thank you, Buckeye MS; Thank you, Cedarwood ES; Thank you, Columbus Africentric Secondary; Thank you, Columbus Alternative HS; Thank you, Como ES; Thank you, Clearbrook MS; Thank you, Clinton MS; Thank you, East HS @ Arcadia; Thank you, Ft. Hayes MEC; Thank you, Hudson Center; Thank you, Independence HS; Thank you, Indianola ES; Thank you, Ecolé Kenwood; Thank you, Lincoln Park ES; Thank you, Linden-McKinley HS; Thank you, Linden Park ES; Thank you, Linmoor MS; Thank you, Northgate Center; Thank you, Parsons ES; Thank you, Sullivant ES @ Franklinton; Thank you, Shady Lane ES; Thank you, Sherwood MS; Thank you, Weinland Park ES @ Second Ave.; and Thank you, Woodcrest ES;

We will continue to publish additional names of CEA units as envelopes are received. Thank you for helping United Way do what works, do what matters.

## Special notes

- Dr. Dan Burke (Whetstone HS)** will be presenting his research, *The effects of the Ohio Graduation Test on tenth grade teachers' morale and self-efficacy*, in Chicago for the 2007 annual American Educators Research Association (AERA).
- The Association has received a number of calls from buildings where **time clocks** will be installed. **Teachers do not and should not clock in.** The time clocks are being required for classified staff only.
- No will? Do you need one?** Seventy percent of Americans do not have a will? Future issues of *The Voice* will address the importance of having a will and estate planning. If you have a **general legal question**, please submit your question by emailing us at [cealegalquestions@cloppertlaw.com](mailto:cealegalquestions@cloppertlaw.com) or call the law firm of **Cloppert, Latanick, Sauter and Washburn** at (614) 461-4455 for all of your legal needs.
- Support the **Columbus Blue Jackets** by purchasing these remaining tickets for December from CEA. Tickets for home games are **\$50 each** for Sunday, Dec. 31, **Chicago (4)**.

