



BROOKLYN BY FAITH

THE ONLY WAY TO MOVE

2018 Reception

AT TILLY'S BKLYN

*elevating the work of women and men
who move by faith and inspire
positive community change*

ABOUT BROOKLYN BY FAITH AWARD RECIPIENTS

↑ EDUCATOR AWARD



Tai Abrams is an author, speaker and entrepreneur. Her first book called “Who Am I? An A-Z Career Guide for Teens,” helps teens to identify exceptional career paths much earlier on and positions them to be more competitive in the marketplace. She is also the Founder and CEO of AdmissionSquad, Inc., a 501(c)(3) education organization on a mission to create a pipeline of students of color into top educational institutions, and ultimately industry leading careers. She founded the organization in

2016 and brings over ten years of experience as a business strategist, math educator, financial literacy expert and child advocate. Despite the odds of being raised in a single parent, immigrant household, with limited access to information and resources, she is a proud graduate of The Bronx High School of Science and Duke University with a BA in mathematics. Tai has since been a champion for the youth, helping them to reach their highest potential by bridging the knowledge/skill gap that oftentimes prevents students from getting to and through a top college and securing a rewarding and meaningful career.

To date, her transformative leadership has directly impacted over 1,500 students and adults, she has spoken both nationally and internationally to over 20,000 scholars and her thought leadership has had a significant impact on the NYC education ecosystem. Tai is a recipient of the Caribbean Life Impact Award, the Cultural Icon Award by Harlem Fashion Week, Youth Impact Award by the Malik Foundation and the Education Advocate Award by the National Council for Negro Women. She has also been featured on News 12, News 4 San Antonio, iHeart Radio, and Good Morning Barbados. She is a leader, educator, success coach and most importantly a child of God.

Find out more about her work at www.admissionsquad.org.

↑ ENTREPRENEUR AWARD



Jean Alerte is an award-winning entrepreneur, author, brand consultant and owner of ACA Branding Agency. He has a variety of work experience in the areas of marketing, management, and sales. Along with founding his company Alerte, Carter and Associates, he has produced comedy concerts and tours for acts such as Chris Tucker and Kevin Hart. He also serves as the Executive Director of the Unity in the Community Foundation of Brooklyn, New York where he has given out \$23,000 to high school students to attend

college. Originally from Port au Prince, Haiti, Jean currently resides in Brooklyn with his wife with whom he opened the Brooklyn Swirl frozen yogurt shop in 2012. In his book, Do Right, Do Good, Jean highlights his personal and business development principles to inspire others. His early work career coupled with family

role models and corporate mentors have molded Jean into a management and marketing guru. marketing guru.

Additionally, Jean serves as a youth mentor and has developed a Faith Grind Inspire Entrepreneurship Program to introduce students to key business development principles and opportunities. Among a list of other accolades that span a range of fields and roles, Jean has been recognized as a 2018 Black Enterprise Man of Distinction. Find out more about Jean at www.acabranding.com.

↑ COMMUNITY AWARD



PK Kersey has been married for over 24 years and has twin sons. He has over 20 years in government. He has used these experiences to propel him into the next phase of his life as an entrepreneur. He is the founder of That Suits You, and PKs Pitch. PK also is an author, motivational speaker, and connector of like-minded individuals. He also has written blogs for the Huffington Post and Good Men Project. His passion to help people succeed propels him forward. That passion has brought him recognition from and been

featured on TV outlets including ABC's Here and Now, NY1's New Yorker of the Week, and News 12 Brooklyn. PK and his work have been featured in print publications such as Black Enterprise, Essence, Bronze Magazine, Industry Rules, Amsterdam News, and BlackPreneur magazine among others. Through all of the lessons PK has learned he considers it a privilege to share them to equip others for greater success. Find out more about PK at www.thatuitsyou.org.

↑ VETERAN AWARD



DaNeilia Francis is a United States Army Veteran, social entrepreneur, music artist and minister of the Gospel. DaNeilia's mission is to empower and liberate men and women through a holistic approach to the Gospel. DaNeilia was born in Newark, New Jersey and currently resides in Brooklyn, NY. She is the CEO of Greater Estate Investments a real estate company that teaches, invests and provides housing in under-resourced communities as well as empowers wealth management through workshops,

seminars and financial consulting. Her work and efforts to provide housing to low-income families was featured in The New York Times article, "An Army Veteran with a Housing Mission."

DaNeilia is a graduate of the Institute of Audio Research where she studied Music Production/Audio Engineer. In 2016 she received her Masters of Professional Studies in Urban Ministries from Alliance Theological Seminary (ATS). Currently she is pursuing her Masters of Divinity in Church Development & Organizational Leadership at ATS, while also completing her MBA in Finance at Columbia Southern University.

Read more →

Additionally, DaNeilia is a recipient of an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Global Oved Dei Seminary & University. DaNeilia continues to strive for excellence in all that she does. She embraces and walks in her calling authentically and faithfully. She lives a life worthy of the calling she has received; so that God will be glorified. Find out more about DaNeilia's work at www.greaterestateinvestments.com.

↑ POINT OF LIGHT AWARD



Graham Weatherspoon is a retired N.Y.P.D. Officer and also served with the N.Y.C. Transit Police Department Detective Bureau's Major Case Unit. Graham is a certified investigator with the N.Y.P.D., the State of New York and the F.B.I in the areas of homicide, sex crimes, robberies, forgery, fingerprint classification, and latent prints. He also was summoned immediately after 9/11 to assist in securing billions of dollars in bearer bonds at 1 World Trade Center. Graham is a founding member of 100 Blacks in Law

Enforcement Who Care, has been involved in the Amadou Diallo, Sean Bell and Ramarley Graham murder cases, among many others, in defense of individuals victimized by police brutality. He has advised the New York City Council and the Conference of New York State Supreme Court Judges on police procedures and conduct.

Currently he is serving on the board of the Amadou Diallo Foundation, providing scholarships to students and seeking better relations between the community and the police department and aiding in an investigation of a police officer who shot and killed an innocent young man fifteen years ago.

He regularly appears on Manhattan Neighborhood Network Cable's "The Gilchrist Experience". He has appeared on Brooklyn BCAT TV's Black Men Screaming, Hannity and Combs, Geraldo, Montel Williams, Court T.V., WYNC Radio, Al Jazeera TV, National Public Radio, Pacifica, WBAI, Democracy Now, KISS FM, WWRL, and WLIB. The BBC and independent producers of, "Giuliani Time", "365 Days of Protest", BET'S "50 Shots", and "If I Die Tonight" have interviewed Graham for documentaries. He has lectured at numerous CUNY and SUNY Colleges, Quinnipiac and Hofstra Schools of Law, as well as various public schools throughout the City of New York.

Along with other members of the International Christian Brotherhood of Christian Cultural Center, he serves as a mentor at Eagle Academy, Queens. Graham is a Born Again Christian and member of Christian Cultural Center (CCC), the CCC Choir and the International Christian Brotherhood, under the pastorate of Rev. Dr. A.R. Bernard. Graham is dedicated to the ministry of, "Christ in Culture".



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Supporting an Organization

Code for Life exists to equip youth living in under-resourced communities to thrive and help shape the technology-centered world of which they are a part. Code for Life is a partnership between Praxis Connections and Nyack College and provides youth with mobile, web, and hardware development skills. Within the model, churches provide a safe and central location for youth to receive training in coding and other technology skills. In addition, churches in the youth's home community will provide the context for youth spiritual, emotional, and academic development.

Find out more about Code for Life at codeforlife.us.

Support Code for Life:

Considering a new laptop? Donate an older laptop to Code for Life students who will use them to develop coding skills.

Working in tech? Host a vision casting day in which students tour a tech company and/or host an intern to help students envision their future professional environments.

Want to invest in the future? Sponsor a student to participate in Code for Life as she/he develops the skills that will lead to success.

To find out more contact:

Chris Troy | ctroy@codeforlife.us | 917.405.3612.



C<>DE FOR LIFE

What's Your Code?

Brooklyn Prayer By Faith

Father, we pray for the courage, grace and wisdom to trust you above all. We pray for the grace to do great exploits for your name alone remembering that we who plant and we who water are nothing but you alone are good and cause things to grow. May those great exploits begin in our own hearts, take root in our minds and evidence themselves in our lives and our communities day after day.

We pray for the grace to help others become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear wherever you place us. We pray for the grace to remember that those who serve are great in your kingdom. May your glory fill the bodega, barbershop, hair salon, local yogurt spot, nail salon, restaurant, hospital, schoolhouse, courthouse, Whitehouse, and my house. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven, in Jesus' matchless name, Amen.

**Those who are wise will shine as
bright as the sky, and those who
lead many to righteousness will
shine like the stars forever.
– Daniel 12:3 NLT**

Move By Faith (the only way to move) & Go Shine.