



# **Brenda Boyd-Bell, Ph.D., WGE**

Brenda Anita Boyd-Bell, Ph.D., earned a Master's Degree in Literature from Brooklyn College and a Ph.D. in Literature from Cornell University. She was ordained and licensed in ministry in 1988 and has an extensive background in individual and family counseling. She serves as a research team member at the Garrison Institute of Garrison, New York. She also has certifications in: Healing Touch, Reiki, Johrei and Conscious Meditation. Brenda has been married to William Bell, III for more than 30 years. They have been blessed with two lovely daughters, N'Zingha Nakèa Bell and Dhanya Anatèa Bell.

Dr. Boyd-Bell began her career as a secondary English teacher with the New York City Department of Education and became a tenured professor at Queens College (CUNY). She has served as chairperson of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Child Welfare Task Force and she has also participated as a Board Member of the Ecumenical Community Development Organization Head Start Program (ECDO) of Harlem, NY and the Decatur-Stuyvesant Senior Citizens Center.

Dr. Boyd-Bell has distinguished herself as a Master Teacher, Motivational Speaker, Community Leader, Activist, Minister, Counselor, and Healer. She is a true catalyst of transformation and change who is known throughout the US for assisting organizations, institutions and individuals in their process of professional development and personal integration through "experiencing the essentials of themselves".

Dr. Boyd-Bell is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Chrysallis Empowerment and Transformation Inc., a professional consulting firm that offers a continuum of professional and educational services. As a motivational and professional development presenter for national organizations, Dr. Boyd-Bell has presented to a variety of corporations, government agencies, health and hospital facilities, labor unions and academic institutions. She has been recognized in many forums with awards and certificates of excellence in education, community service and ministry. Since 1990, her agency has provided counseling, technical assistance services, workshops and seminars for NYC Health & Hospital Corporation, ACS NYC Headstart Program, Caribbean Women's Health Association, City University of New York, Columbia University, NYC Department of Education, NYC Police Department, to name a few.



## **Linda Brady, M.D., WGE**

Dr. Linda Brady is a Physician Executive with extensive clinical and healthcare management experience. Dr. Brady was appointment President & CEO of Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center in 1999, and has been associated with the hospital for 24 years. She previously served as the hospital's Medical Director, as well as the Director of the Department of Neurology & Psychiatry.

A cum laude graduate of Barnard College, Linda Brady received her Medical Degree from the New York University School of Medicine and completed her Psychiatric Residency at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx Municipal Hospital Center. She is Board Certified Psychiatrist with added qualifications in Geriatric Psychiatry and an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at SUNY Health Sciences Center of Brooklyn. Dr. Brady currently serves as the Chair of the Greater New York Hospital Association, is Treasurer of the Hospital Association of New York State and is a member of the Regional Policy Board of the American Hospital Association.

Dr. Brady has received numerous awards for community service from various Elected Officials and Community Based Organizations, including the Bikur Cholim of Crown Heights, the Caribbean Women's Health Association and Brooklyn Democrats' 2004 Woman of the Year Award. She pledges that Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center will continue to forge ties to the culturally diverse community in which it is located to advance the well-being of individuals and families and to remain a vital part of the healthcare delivery system in Brooklyn.



## **ANGELI R. RASBURY Esq., WGE**

Angeli Rasbury is a writer, educator, artist, attorney and founder of Griot Reading Programs, which is dedicated to promoting literacy and the awareness of Black Literature among youth of African descent. For almost ten years she has facilitated poetry and creative writing workshops for children as young as five-years-old and teens through community-based programs such as the Youth Arts Academy at Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation and New York Writers Coalition.

Ms. Rasbury has been an instructor of creative nonfiction and memoir at the Frederick Douglass Creative Arts Center in New York City and has taught creative writing, college composition and African American literature at Molloy College in Long Island. She has worked with girls in a rites of passage program and works with girls involved in the juvenile-justice system. She has organized readings and book programs for children, including programs for the annual Rhymes, Rhythms and Rituals Festival sponsored by African Voices, and literary programs for adults. Ms. Rasbury is a member of the New Renaissance Writers Guild and has been a member of the Richard Wright Project, the Charles Blockson Literary Collective, and PEN American Center Open Book Committee.

She received a PASS Award (the only national recognition of print and broadcast journalists, TV news and feature reporters, producers, and writers, and those in film and literature. Ms. Rasbury's short stories have appeared in *Anansi: Fiction of the African Diaspora*. She has been quoted in the *New York Times*, *Mosaic* and *Brooklyn Rail* and co-edited *Sacred Fire: The QBR 100 Essential Black Books*. She performed in Talkin' Brooklyn: A Story Circle Showcase of Elders Share the Arts and Diary of a Mad Black Feminist.

Angeli Rasbury has been keynote speaker for the Yellow Rose Awards Program for New York University's College of Arts and Science and the Brooklyn Public Library's Friends and Volunteers Luncheon. She holds a B.S. from Syracuse University and a J.D. from Temple University. In 2009 her work promoting literacy among African American youth was recognized by Congressman Edolphus Towns with a tribute that is a part of the Congressional Record. She practiced criminal defense law as a senior attorney with the Legal Aid Society, Criminal Defense Division. She has taught high school students various areas of the law and civil rights issues through the Law Education and Assistance Program and the New York Civil Rights Coalition and was executive director of the Nkiru Center for Education and Culture. In her spare time she designs jewelry and loves to travel. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.



## **Hon. Loreen Bannis-Roberts**

Hon. Loreen Bannis-Roberts was born in the village of Castle Bruce on the Island of The Commonwealth of Dominica on September 19, 1966 to Ruthina and McDonald Bannis. Prior to her political career she was employed with the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica as a school teacher, and also was employed at the National Commercial Bank of Dominica. She began her political career in the year 2000 when she was elected as the Parliamentary Representative of the Castle Bruce Constituency.

Hon. Bannis-Roberts has been considered a political stalwart for her constituency and Dominica. She has made a sterling contribution as a member of the Dominica Labour Party towards the advancement of her constituency and country, Dominica. Hon. Bannis-Roberts has held several positions in government including Parliamentary Secretary/Ministry of Education; Minister of State/Ministry of Tourism; Minister for Community Development, Culture, Gender Affairs & Information. She has also served in the position of "Acting Prime Minister" on two occasions.

Presently, Hon. Bannis-Roberts holds the position of Liaison Officer with the Ministry of Employment, Trade & Diaspora Affairs. In this capacity she provides assistance in the administration of Government's Policy on Diaspora Affairs. Hon. Bannis-Roberts takes pride and pleasure in serving her Country and fellow countrymen.