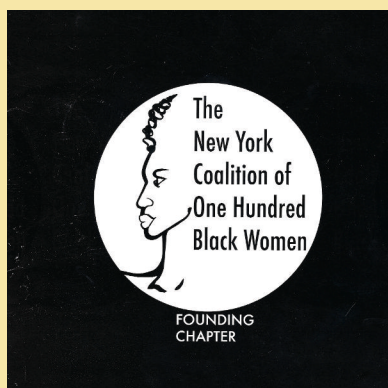


June 2020



The Beacon

A Newsletter of the New York Coalition of One Hundred Black Women, Inc.

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From the President...

It is hard to believe that the year 2020 is half over. At times it seemed that time was racing by and at other times it seemed like time wasn't moving at all. Although we began this year with high expectations, no one could have imagined the unprecedented events we would experience. The Coronavirus pandemic, stay-at-home orders, staggering hospitalizations and the overwhelming loss of lives, business closures and skyrocketing unemployment figures created fear and anxiety and made us hope that we had lived through the worst the year had to offer but that was not true. Ahmaud Aubrey, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and Rayshard Brooks ... names we will long remember, made the city, state, country, and the world stop and take notice. Suddenly people of all ages and races, led by our amazing youth, took to the streets to protest injustice, brutality and racism and they marched to demand change. Day after day and night after night, chants of *I Can't Breathe*, *Black Lives Matter* and *No Justice, No Peace* were heard around the world. Suddenly calls for an end to police brutality appeared to be heard by elected officials and changes began to be made. Even the significance of Juneteenth was acknowledged by many who just a year ago had never heard of that important date. Change is taking place all around us. However, if we are to insure that progress continues, we must all do our part. I hope every Coalition sister, your family, and friends cast ballots at the polls or by absentee ballot in the June 23rd Presidential Primary. However, we can't stop there. We must continue to hold our elected officials accountable and demand that the changes that have begun go even further. We must **VOTE** in November and make sure that our family and friends are registered and do the same. As Coalition sisters, I will be calling upon you to help Get-Out-The-Vote and to make our voices heard. So far, this has been an uncertain year but I believe that better days are coming. Please stay safe and be well until we are together again.

Barbara Kairson, Ph.D.
President

A Call to Prayer

Thank you to Coalition sister, Rev. Wendy Kelly Carter, for leading us in prayer on Thursday, June 11, 2020. The inspirational message was definitely needed at this time and those who joined the conference call were uplifted by Rev. Wendy's powerful words. Many Coalition sisters have asked that we continue to have regular prayer calls and we will be scheduling more calls in the future. Please be sure to check your email and your telephone for messages from The Coalition with the date and time of future calls.

Happy Birthday

To all Coalition sisters who are celebrating birthdays in the month of June ...



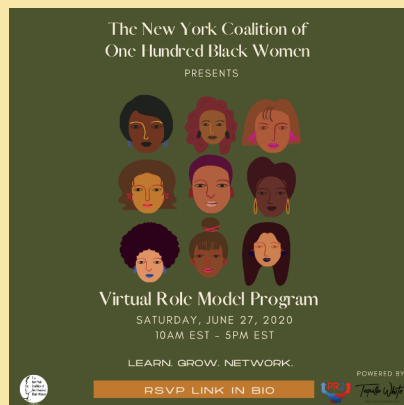
A Virtual Role Model Program

In response to this year's program being cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, The Coalition partnered with program alumnae Raven Robinson and Tequilla White, both founders of PR2Politics and TWPR respectively, to bring a virtual version of the Role Model program to students and alumni.

On Saturday, June 27, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Coalition entered a new era with workshops that were live-streamed and included sessions on Higher Learning, Dressed to Achieve, Pivot, Plan and Persist - Be Fearless in Pursuit of Your Dreams and many others. The sessions were designed to provide an overview of various professions while providing practical self-development skills.

This year, because of the virtual platform, participation was not limited only to students in New York City. Presenters from as far away as Texas and Louisiana were also able to contribute their expertise to the day-long program.

The Coalition extends a special "thank you" to Coalition sister, Judge Debra James, and Role Model program presenter, Keara Richardson, for their contributions that helped make the day a success. Although this was the first time The Coalition had offered virtual workshops to Role Model students, it will definitely not be the last.



The Class of 2020

On June 11, 2020 Delores "Dee" Dixon received the City College of New York Alumni Service Award. The New York Coalition of One Hundred Black Women extends congratulations to our Coalition sister!

Our Vote Is Our Voice

Our vote is our voice! Whether voting in person at a polling place or by absentee ballot, Coalition sisters made sure that their voices were heard.



However, we can't get complacent. Now is the time to be sure that our votes will count in November. Please check on your registration status NOW. If you have moved since you last voted, please make sure that you are registered. If you will need to vote by absentee ballot, please make sure you know how to obtain a ballot. If you have questions or you need any assistance go to: <https://vote.nyc> or call the **New York Board of Elections at: 1-866-868-3692.**

Make Sure You Are Counted

So far fewer than 60% of New York City residents have completed the 2020 Census. If you have not completed your Census questionnaire yet, there is still time. Please go to: www.my2020census.gov for information on how you can complete your census questionnaire.

Speak Up on Covid-19

The New York Coalition of One Hundred Black Women has partnered with Mount Sinai Health Systems and community organizations across the city to better understand the impacts of COVID-19 on local NYC communities. Mount Sinai needs your help so that they can provide better care and respond to communities during and after the pandemic. Speak up on COVID-19: Help Mount Sinai help all New Yorkers. **Text COVID to 77948** to participate in the survey. Then, ask 5 people you know to complete the survey as well.