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## Paterson —News

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Dr. Fulmore with family membersCredits: Carol Dobbins

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Dr. Fulmore with family membersCredits: Carol Dobbins



PTO Hall of FameCredits: Carol Dobbins



Kelvin Quince with School 6 parents Kember Mcdowell and T.J. Best Credits: Carol Dobbins



Dr. Joseph Fulmore and his wife, VirginiaCredits: Carol Dobbins



Sigma Chi Iota Sorority for Young Ladies performsCredits: Carol Dobbins



Mike "Pop" Adams chats with Passaic Sheiff BerdnikCredits: Carol Dobbins



Taya Snell-Yancey with daughters Taylor Jewel and Morgan Valerie. Credits: Carol Dobbins



Entertainment Fine Arts Honoree Honoree Kelvin C. Quince holds photo of his late son CoreyCredits: Carol Dobbins



Taya Snell-Yancey accepts the award in memory of her mother, Valerie Dade. Credits: Carol Dobbins



School 6 PTO President Jamal DawsonCredits: Carol Dobbins



School 6 alumniCredits: Carol Dobbins



Benjie Wimberly and Kemper McDowellCredits: Carol Dobbins



Mike "Pop" Adams and friendsCredits: Carol Dobbins



Mark Fisher and friends Credits: Carol Dobbins

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## School 6 Icons Honored at Hall of Fame Banquet

Carol Dobbins

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PATERSON, NJ - Monday night at School 6 first Hall of Fame Banquet Fundraiser, guests at the Brownstone received a history lesson. Recognizing honorees a third generation of School 6 parents, Mark Fischer and Kemper Mc Dowell organized what turned out to be a reunion and sharing of treasured school-days stories.

For decades, without state supervision or DYFS intervention, School 6 ranked 5 on Paterson's schools standardized testing list. A dedicated village of educators at the modest Fair Street School helped shape thousands of students' lives and careers. Among them, a Harvard professor, Harvard student, Passaic County Freeholder T.J. Best, and numerous alums whose success stories read like a history of who's who in Paterson.

Born in Paterson and living nearby, Senator Frank Lautenberg attended School 6. Serving numerous terms, Sen. Lautenberg, now 89, is the nation's oldest senator, and he has never forgotten his roots. Thanks to Lautenberg, School 6 was wired for global technology.

Paterson Municipal Camera Operator Nancy Grier attended School 6 in 1972. Community activist, and NY Broadcasting graduate, Grier attributes her success to School 6 and growing up among a religious outreach presence in the 10th Avenue community.

During his 10 year NFL football career, Mike "Pop" Adams has returned to his roots and gives back to Paterson.

"I want to see your young youth excel and go forward," the University of Delaware grad stated. With 130 career games, Adams has played with Denver [2012], Cleveland [2007], and San Francisco [2007] in cornerback and safety positions. "I'm living proof of what has happened in the neighborhood and what is going on," he said.

A Tribute to Valerie Dade, whose teaching contributions are legendary in the school 6 family. Dade's teaching career spanned 38 years, 34 of them at School 6. "It feels good when I see someone and they say how my mother helped them by either getting a job or along the way," her daughter, Taya Snell-Yancey, said as she emotionally accepted the Memorial Award.

Accomplished musician educator, composer, vocalist and band director Kelvin C. Quince taught and initiated cultural arts programs to School 6 students.

"I want parents to know the hard times that you go through, people will never understand," he commented. "They won't have a chance to sit down and talk with you about what your life has been like. You won't get accolades in newspapers or receive awards at banquets, but you showed up on Saturday mornings for your children. I remember those days."

Teaching kindergarten since 1950, Dr. Thompson, a National Model for Education, WPU and Seton Hall, in 1972 became Paterson's first black administrator.

"Those years I spent in education in Paterson were all filled with love and respect for the wonderful parents and the wonderful children," the 92-year-old U.S. Congressional Award recipient said via Skype. "School 6 laid the groundwork for my future in education."

A mentor to many who went on to find success, Dr. Joseph S. Fulmore, Sr. was hailed by Assemblyman Benjie Wimberly as the "community father."

"I just want to be that little person that helped drive the wagon," commented Fulmore, who has been assistant superintendent, vice principal and principal.

Possessing a wealth of experience and education, Fulmore came to School 6 with a goal in mind. Noticing the absence of African Americans and Latinos on the top 10 list, he identified and corrected the problem.

"It was about helping, motivating, teaching and inspiring young men that our sisters would want to live with," Fullmore said, adding that his most rewarding experience was in 1996, when he chaperoned the Project 2000 Class from School 6 to West Africa for 11 days.

"You can do anything young people, put your mind to it, be disciplined and stick to it," Dr. Fulmore said.

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