



CAPITAL NIGHTS

40TH ANNIVERSARY INSTALLATION & AWARDS GALA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

6 P M - 9 P M

SAFE CREDIT UNION CONVENTION CENTER

www.capitalblackchamber.org/events

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CAPITAL BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Capital Black Chamber of Commerce is devoted to the global success of businesses in the region. As a leader in economic development, the Chamber strives to empower and educate today's leaders while paving the way for future leaders to come. The work of the Chamber is executed with a heart for success as a driving force of partnerships cultivated and initiatives embarked upon locally and statewide that promote leadership and entrepreneurship.

Today we gather to celebrate 40 years of doing great work that is fortified by a mission of helping to build brighter futures for our children and youth, while strengthening industry practices that support economic growth and sustainability. Together we have risen to the challenge, to not only shape a horizon of success but to plant the seeds of opportunity within businesses to optimize outcomes and achievement.

We thank everyone who has joined the Chamber in this great work. We are further determined to expand and realize the many achievements we have set out to accomplish to leave our continued indelible mark on the State of California. Your commitment, time, energy and effort is a testament to the realization of a future enriched by our collective work together.

To another 40 years of reflecting on our community, meeting its needs, and manifesting a distinct presence in the state to excel and grow in the wonderful work of leadership, entrepreneurship and economic empowerment.

"If you want to go fast go alone, if you want to go far, go together." African Proverb
In Unity,

Azizza Davis-Goines, President and CEO, Capital Black Chamber of Commerce



WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD, DR. MARCELLENE WATSON-DERBIGNY

Dear Community of Supporters:

Thank you for your support as we celebrate 40 years of excellence of the Capital Black Chamber of Commerce. Your presence here is a testament to your commitment to our community and the great work done to transform the region through economic empowerment. The Chamber has a mission to promote vitality through its work in business and cultural spaces to leverage environments of success. Today's celebration marks an important milestone in the Chamber's history as a leader in supporting local businesses to galvanize the strength of the African American community and beyond.

In advance we thank you for your rich contributions and unwavering dedication to the goals and mission of the Chamber. Through key partnerships, businesses have been anchored, training sessions leveraged, and networking opportunities have cultivated life-long relationships pivotal in this wave of change and excellence.

As we embark on the next 40 years, let us forever be determined to make a renewed difference in the lives of others through critical programs promoting entrepreneurial ambitions and leadership development. We confidently march forward to create the road map for networked expansion in our city and across the state fortifying business and wealth creation all while meeting the goals of business development, collaboration, and innovation. Thank you for being a part of the journey and for sharing your time and talents to band together to create systems of sustainability, economic mobility, and civic leadership and well-being that transform our city and our world.

In Community,

Dr. Marcellene Watson-Derbigny



PROGRAM OVERVIEW: “40 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE”

Event Agenda

Registration & Welcome Reception
6:00 PM - 6:45 PM

Ballroom Doors Open
7:00 PM – 7:15 PM

Opening Program
Invocation
Black National Anthem
Welcome Remarks
Chris Thomas, ABC 10 & Master of Ceremonies
Azizza Davis-Goines, President and CEO of the
Capital Black Chamber of Commerce
Sponsor Acknowledgement

Dinner Served

Recognition Video

Motivational Keynote Address- Kevin Bracy, Motivational Speaker and Author

YLC Reflection

Live Auction

Board Installation Ceremony- Chief of the Sacramento Police Department, Kathy Lester

Awards Presentation

Dance Party & Celebration



BLACK NATIONAL ANTHEM

*Lift every voice and sing,
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on 'til victory is won.*

*Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
'Til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Black National Anthem (continued)*

*Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.*



BOARD MEMBER LISTING 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cesar Dennis

Senior Director of Institutional Culture, Climate and Community Engagement

Chris Flores

Chief of Staff, Sacramento Regional Transit

Christopher “Chris” Thomas

News Anchor, KXTV, ABC 10

Lydia Ramirez

SVP/Chief Operations Officer, Five Star Bank

Scott Robertson

Senior Vice President, Chief Community Banking Officer, Tri Counties Bank

Denise Malvetti

City of Sacramento Office of Innovation and Economic Development

Gayle Guest Brown

CEO, Executive Leadership Coach

Dr. Marcellene Watson-Derbigny

Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Sacramento State

Dr. Markisha Webster

Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/SMUD

Myisha Robertson, BA, MBA, MPA

President and CEO/San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, National Black MBA Association, Inc

Senior Staff:

**Azizza Davis Goines, President and CEO of the Capital Black Chamber of Commerce
Board Member Listing (The Foundation)**

Foundation Board

Derrick Booth, PH. D

Associate Vice President of Instruction and Workforce Development at American River College

Jennifer Simek

Vice President of Compliance
Pride Industries

Fran Jemmott

Owner, Jemmott Rollins Group, Inc.

Kairis Joy Chiaji

Doula, Owner
Braids, Bits, Beads, Babies, and other B.S. (Beatitude Services)

Senior Staff:

Azizza Davis Goines

President and CEO of the Capital Black Chamber of Commerce
Sacramento Black Chamber of Commerce Foundation



BIOS OF SPEAKERS/PRESENTERS

KEVIN  BRACY



ABOUT KEVIN BRACY:

Born, raised, and educated in Sacramento, Kevin Bracy, AKA Coach Greatness, is a motivational entertainer, the executive producer of Greatness Talk and Greatness in Action- albums of affirmations for young people-, keynote speaker and the author of *'Scared Great: Steer Your Fear Towards Greatness.'* Most importantly, husband to Jessica, and dad to Kendra, Kobe, and Kaleb ("our angel in heaven").

Over his 27-year career, Kevin has been privileged to speak to millions of people. For the past 15 years he has been actively changing the culture and climate of California school campuses with positive energy and a Greatness State of Mind. Through his story, he encourages those who work in education to keep on keeping on and to remember their why. He infuses his audience with magnetic energy, a great playlist, and deep gratitude for the parts they play in the lives of the young people they encounter.

As Sacramento's top educational speaker, character coach, and the voice of KDEE's motivational segment, "Minute to Win It!", he has made it his mission to "dream globally but focus locally."

These days he invests his time with his family, his fitness, drum practice, mentoring youth for the future, and speaking over 260 times a year to audiences of all ages, encouraging them to be the greatest versions of themselves and to intentionally reach one other person in kindness every day.



KAIFA YATES, YLC PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Kaifa Charles Yates is a higher education leader and community advocate with over seven years of experience in Academic and Student Affairs at California State University, Sacramento. He currently serves as Program Coordinator for the Capital Black Chamber of Commerce for the Young Leadership Collaborative and Martin Luther King Jr Center where he leads strategic initiatives that promote student retention, cultural engagement, leadership development, entrepreneurship and academic success for African American students.

Under his leadership, the MLK Center has expanded student programming, secured scholarships and grants through community partnerships, and strengthened campus collaborations to enhance student support services. Kaifa founded the Collegiate 100 Chapter at Sac State along with the A2MEND chapter that focus on the development for African American males.

In addition to his university leadership, Kaifa serves as Vice President of 100 Black Men of Sacramento supporting youth development, mentorship, and economic empowerment across the Sacramento region.

He holds a Master of Arts in Educational Technology and a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies from California State University, Sacramento.

2026 YLC SCHOLARS

ISAIAH LAMAR BLACKMON

SABRINA CHARLESTON

SANIA COMPTON

MATTA FALLAH

SHARLA LONG

KRISTEEN OBEROI

AIDAN OU

KARENA BRENAE PAYDEN

TONI STARKEY

DAEJON YOUNG



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The Ortiz family, owners of Gaspachos restaurants

Our SEED program helps local small businesses participate in our competitive bid process and become SMUD contractors. With partnerships, startup resources and small business incentives, we're actively supporting a thriving, inclusive economy.

Learn more at smud.org/SEED

Powering forward. Together.





Business Assistance Starts *Here*

The Business Solutions Center is here to help Sacramento's small businesses start, grow, and thrive. Tell us what you need, whether it's building a business plan, marketing your services, or securing funding—and we'll connect you to the right assistance.

 cityofsacramento.gov/BusinessSolutions

 smallbusiness@cityofsacramento.org

 (916) 808-7196



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Hispanic Chamber

Rainbow Chamber

Doula in Heels

Los Rios Community College District

Eco Alpha

Golden 1

New York Life

Marilyn Sakai

Gayle Guest Brown

Myisha Robertson

Dr. Snowden





SPECIAL THANKS

Chief of Police, Katherine Lester, Sacramento Police Department

Azizza Davis-Goines

Chris Thomas

David Sobon

Essence Bacon

Events Committee

Kevin Bracy

Just Trind Productions, Marinda Johnson Sessoms

Roy Matthews

Safe Credit Union Convention Center

Song Team (Brandon Kennedy)

Sundance Kid, Blaine Davis

Kaifa Yates and Volunteers

Dr. Marcellene Watson-Derbigny

Dr. Markisha Webster

Myesha Yates

Nathan Marquardt

Myisha Robertson

Jessie Hernandez

Ernest Brown

Zoritha Thompson





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