

# Urban League of Central Carolinas set to honor community champions at upcoming Whitney M. Young Awards Gala on August 2



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Urban League of Central Carolinas set to honor community champions at upcoming Whitney M. Young Awards Gala on August 2

CHARLOTTE, N.C., July 1, 2024—[Urban League of Central Carolinas](#) (ULCC) will honor three local champions at its award gala on Friday, August 2. The Harlem Renaissance-themed event will occur during Black Philanthropy Month on Friday, August 2 at 6 p.m. at the Westin Charlotte on 601 S. College Street, in uptown Charlotte. This annual event aims to raise crucial funds and increase awareness for the Urban League's mission of equipping communities with the tools to achieve social and economic equality.

Urban League of Central Carolinas will present three awards – the Vernon A. Jordan Award, the Community Catalyst Award, and the Community Leadership Award. These awards recognize individuals and organizations making an impact and helping advance and empower underserved communities and communities of color. Award honorees are:

- **Vernon A. Jordan Award Honoree- Raki McGregor**, Chief Engagement Officer for SYDKIMYL Educational Consulting and CELC CMS Lead Executive in Residence. McGregor is the board chair of Charlotte Works, serves on the board of My Brother's Keeper, is co-chair of Charlotte Executive Leadership Council's Healthy Communities Working Team, and is a proud member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.
- **Community Catalyst Award Honoree-** With a focus on organizations that have helped convene and catalyze others for the greater good, this award will be presented to the **Mecklenburg Council of Elders**. MCOE is a collaboration of nonprofit organizations that provide wraparound services for their criminal record expungement efforts. This helps to provide restoration, prevention, and post-incarceration services for individuals in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.
- **Community Leadership Award Honoree- CELC CMS Executives in Residence (EnR)**. This award will be presented to 15 executives from eight organizations including Ally Financial, Atrium Health, Bank of America, Central Piedmont Community College, Duke Energy, Novant Health, Rodgers Builders, and Wells Fargo, to recognize their efforts to help drive and support transformative work in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

"We're so pleased to be able to honor these individuals and organizations who have greatly impacted our community," said Robyn Lake Hamilton, President and CEO of ULCC. "Each has demonstrated leadership and a commitment to improving the lives of others through extraordinary community service and investment."

The Whitney M. Young, Jr. Awards Gala is presented by *Zora Neale Hurston* Sponsor, **Atrium Health**, and supported by **Wells Fargo**, *Duke Ellington* sponsor, and **Truist**, *Josephine Baker* sponsor, along with other corporate and community sponsors. Sponsorship opportunities are still available.

For more information about the event, please visit [urbanleaguecc.org](http://urbanleaguecc.org) or contact [Carolyn.Coles@urbanleaguecc.org](mailto:Carolyn.Coles@urbanleaguecc.org).

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*The Urban League of Central Carolinas is a multi-service, non-profit agency that was established in 1978. Its mission is to advocate for and equip African Americans and all underserved communities with the tools to achieve social and economic equality.*

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