

In 1945, Gertrude Hadley Jeannette was cast in the lead role in *Our Town*. In 1950, she performed in her first play, *This Way Forward*. That same year, Gertrude and Fred O'Neil appeared on television in James Weldon Johnson's *God's Trombone* on CBS's *General Electric Hour*. Gertrude replaced Pearl Bailey, who was originally cast in that role. As a result, she continued to work in both the theatre and in film and television. Gertrude has worked as a professional actress in radio, stage, film, and TV for many years.

Performing on Broadway, she originated roles in such plays as *Lost in the Stars*, *No-body Loves an Albatross*, *The Long Dream*, *Amen Corner*, *The Skin of our Teeth*, *The Great White Hope* and *Tennessee Williams' Vieux Carre*. Gertrude's film credits include: *Cry for the City*, *Nothing but a Man*, *Shaft*, *The Legend of Nigger Charlie*, *Cotton Comes to Harlem*, *Black Girl*, and several documentaries and short films.

In 1979, Gertrude founded the H.A.D.L.E.Y. Players (Harlem Artists Development League Especially for You) in answer to the need of professional artists to develop their talents and skills in the theatre, and to enrich the cultural life in the Harlem Community. Gertrude went on to direct, produce, and write her own plays, as well as the works of other playwrights.

Gertrude Hadley Jeannette was presented with several awards for her work and accomplishments. Ms. "J" or Ms. "G" as she is endearingly called received the Outstanding Pioneer Award from AUDELCO in 1984, and the AT&T and Black American Newspaper's 1987 Personality of the Year Award. In 1991, Ms. J was honored as a living legend at the National Black Theatre Festival in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Ms. J is also the recipient of the 1992 Harlem Business Recognition Award from the National Council of Negro Women.

In 1998, Ms. J received the Lionel Hampton Legacy Award, the Standing On Our Shoulders Award from Delta Sigma Theta, Bronx Chapter, and was inducted into the Bushfire Theatre Walk of Fame in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. On October 16, 1999, in her birth state, Gertrude Hadley Jeannette was inducted into the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame. Her portrait hangs in the halls next to previous honorees such as Maya Angelou, John. H. Johnson, Daisy Bates, and Ernest Green to name a few. In 2002, she received the prestigious Paul Robeson Award from the Actors Equity Association. Ms. J was also inducted into the Hatch-Billops Oral History Collection at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

In February 2003, Ms. Jeannette was amongst 30 individuals who were honored in the "Harlem Is . . . Living History of Harlem Exhibit"—which celebrated 30 Harlemites (ages 50–100) whose contributions to the fields of art, music, education, politics, community service, and sports define Harlem's rich and diverse cultural legacy. On December 15, 2003, she was honored with the New Hope SDA (Seventh Day Adventist) Church Women's Ministry Award.

In 2009, Ms. J received the Barbara Ann Teer Artistic Award; and in 2010, she received an AUDELCO Nomination for Best Play Revival for her play "Gladys" Dilemma." On March 28, 2011, she was honored by "The Coalition of Theatres of Color"—a group whose purpose is preserving the history and commitment of Black theatre in New York City

and New York State. Ms. J also received honors from the "GBC-Giving Back Corporation" of Los Angeles on April 30, 2011.

Most recently, she is featured in the film "The Savoy King: Chick Webb and the Music that Changed America" which was screened at The 2012 New York Film Festival. Of all her accomplishments, Ms. Jeannette, however, is most proud of the work she has done in and around the Harlem Community.

Mr. Speaker, great women like our beloved Ms. J are precious gifts we temporarily have in this world, but their contributions and accomplishments are far remembered and everlasting. Though retired and well into her nineties, Ms. J is an active and celebrated member of the New York theater scene. I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 98th Birthday of Ms. Gertrude Hadley Jeannette.

HONORING THE WORK OF MERVYN DYMALLY

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. BASS of California. Mr. Speaker, today I'm honored to stand and recognize the extraordinary life of my dear friend Mr. Mervyn Dymally for his decades of public service to the great people of California. Mr. Dymally's life is a testament to the belief within our great country that no matter who you are or where you come from, America with its boundless opportunities remains a place where we can all thrive together.

Mr. Dymally immigrated to the United States from his native Trinidad at the age of 19 years old. Through hard work he went on to graduate from California State University before later earning master's and doctoral degrees. He dedicated his life to public service early—working as a special education teacher in Los Angeles and organizing the most marginalized citizens of our state so that they could use their voices to build a politics that best reflected their values and aspirations.

Mr. Dymally became California's first foreign-born black state assemblyman when he was elected in 1962, its first black state senator four years later and, in 1974, its first black lieutenant governor. In 1980 he became one of the first foreign-born blacks elected to the House of Representatives, where he served six terms and led the Congressional Black Caucus for a time.

Throughout his decades long career, Mr. Dymally made standing up for human rights and the working poor the hallmarks of his service to California and the nation. He worked to improve health care for the poor and sponsored legislation to expand civil rights protections for women. As lieutenant governor he joined Cesar Chavez in trying to protect jobs for farm workers.

Mr. Dymally was a mentor to several African American leaders who followed him into public service, so much so that he was dubbed the "Godfather of African-American politics." He broke down barriers and through it all remained humble and dedicated to the causes that brought him into public service in the first place.

Mr. Dymally's life is an inspiration to us all who serve in this House and today we honor his service.

TRIBUTE TO MARIA GOODLOE-JOHNSON BY CONGRESSMAN JAMES E. CLYBURN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated educator, who devoted her life to improving educational opportunities for all children and ending historic achievement gaps in our public schools. I had the privilege of knowing Dr. Maria Louis Goodloe-Johnson when she served as the Superintendent of the Charleston County School District from 2003–2007, and she left an indelible mark during her time in South Carolina. Although Dr. Goodloe-Johnson left this world all too soon, her legacy lives on in the countless students she touched throughout her career.

Dr. Maria Louis Goodloe-Johnson was born September 3, 1957 in Omaha, Nebraska, the second of two children of Jewell Eva and Leonard O. Goodloe. She married Bruce Johnson, on September 22, 2004, and the two had one daughter, Maya Jewell.

Maria spent her formative years in Omaha. She graduated from Central High School in 1975. In 1979, she graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, where she earned a Bachelor's of Science in Special Education. While in college, she also played trumpet in the Cornhusker Marching Band.

In 1980, she moved to Colorado to attend the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley, where she completed her master's degree (Educationally Handicapped, K–12) and began her career as a special education teacher and soccer and cross country coach in the Aurora Public Schools.

In 1987, Maria was named assistant principal at Broomfield High School in the Boulder Valley Schools. Three years later, she became the youngest African American female high school principal in the state of Colorado. While principal at Broomfield High School, she completed her doctorate in Educational Administration, Supervision, Curriculum and Instruction. She next served as director of secondary instruction for the St. Vrain Valley School District before moving to Texas.

Maria joined the Corpus Christi Independent School District in 1999, where she served as Assistant Superintendent. During her tenure, she was one of 20 educators selected from across the country to participate in the 2003 Urban Superintendents Academy, a highly specialized training program with the Broad Superintendents Academy.

She continued to serve in the Corpus Christi District until accepting the position as Superintendent of Schools for Charleston County School District, the largest urban district in South Carolina, in October 2003. Maria is not only the first black but also the first woman to hold the position; Maria was noted for improved student achievement faster than other districts in the state.

In September 2007, Maria was selected as the Superintendent of Seattle Public School District where she served until March 2011.

Maria then accepted a position as Deputy Chancellor, Instructional Support and Educational Accountability at Michigan Education Achievement System. Maria assisted in the