

Maryland Women's Hall of Fame *and* Maryland Women of Tomorrow

2018 Induction and Awards Ceremony

*Changing Our World:
A Legacy of Leadership,
Service and Excellence*



Thursday, March 15, 2018

5:30 p.m. Ceremony
Conference Room East

7:30 p.m. Reception
Conference Room West

Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland

Presented by

Maryland Commission for Women

Women Legislators of Maryland

Maryland Department of Human Services

The Maryland WAG Foundation: The Fund for Maryland's Women & Girls, Inc.

Maryland Commission for Women

51 Monroe Street, Suite 1034 • Rockville, MD 20850

301-610-4523

www.marylandwomen.org

The Maryland Commission for Women was first established in 1965 and was set in state law in 1971. An office in the Department of Human Resources, the Commission is a 25-member advisory board whose duties outlined in its enabling legislation include: study the status of women in our state, recommend methods of overcoming discrimination, recognize women's accomplishments and contributions, and provide informed advice to the executive and legislative branches of government on the issues concerning the women of our state. Commissioners are appointed to four-year terms by the Governor, with confirmation by the Maryland State Senate, and serve without compensation.



Lee Bachu, Chair

Officers

Mythili (Lee) Bachu, Chair, Montgomery County
A. Diane Williams, Vice Chair, Prince George's County
Wandra Ashley-Williams, Secretary, Howard County

Commissioners:

Homayara Haque Aziz, M.D., Howard County	Marion C. Manski, Baltimore County
Tawanda A. Bailey, Frederick County	April Nyman, Anne Arundel County
Marianne Hyang Nam Brackney, Howard County	Anita L. Riley, Carroll County
Tammy Bresnahan, Anne Arundel County	Carole Jaar Sepe, Frederick County
Deborah L. Cartee, Anne Arundel County	Corinna Yi-Yuan Kuo Shen, Montgomery County
Gloria Chang, Montgomery County	Ummu Bradley Thomas, Caroline County
Lorna P. Forde, Montgomery County	Rev. Tamara England Wilson, D. Min., Baltimore City
Nicole S. Ingram, Washington County	Marylou N. Yam, Ph.D. Baltimore City
Velvet Johnson, Esq., Prince George's County	Yun Jung Yang, Esq., Montgomery County
Bonnie Nelson Luna, Wicomico County	

Staff:

Judith Vaughan-Prather, Executive Director
Tammy Wise, Management Associate

Mistress of Ceremonies



The Honorable Kriselda Valderrama

Maryland House of Delegates Prince George’s County

Kris is a proud product of the Prince George’s County public school system, where she graduated from Oxon Hill Senior High School. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Respiratory Therapy from Salisbury State University, on Maryland’s eastern shore.

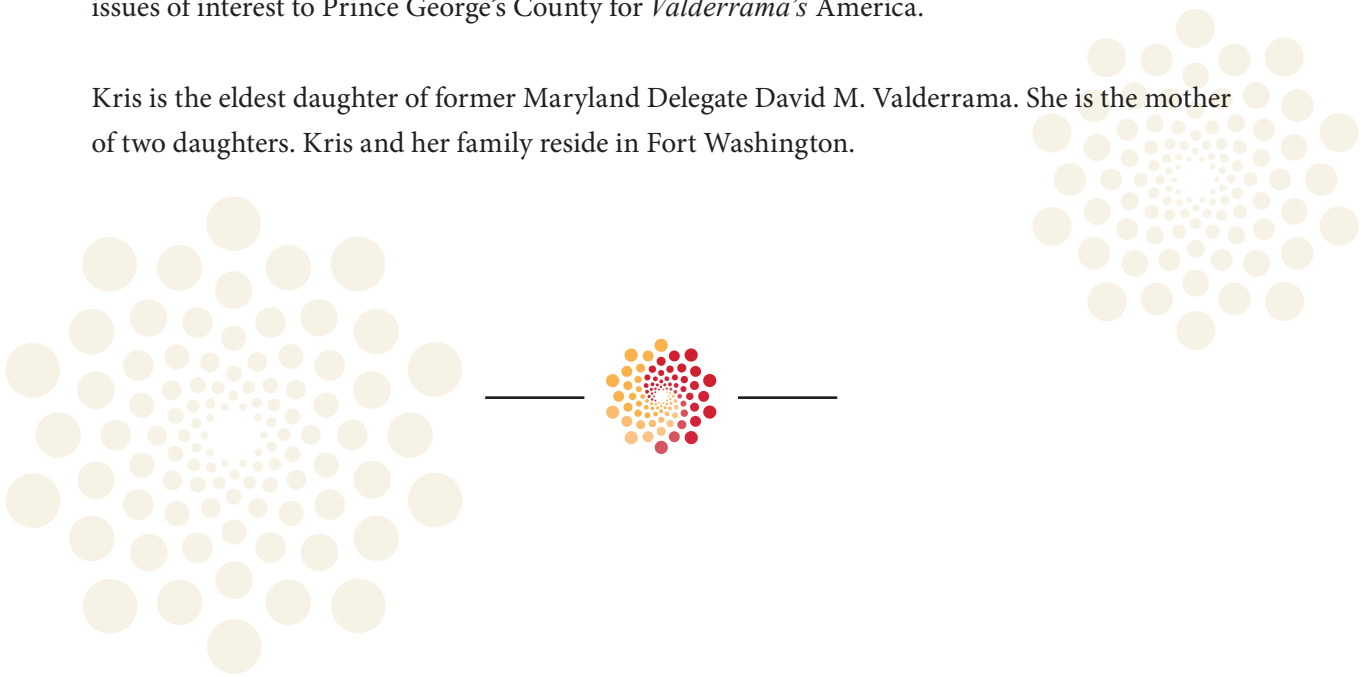
Following her career in the health care field, Kris pursued another interest – communications. Kris worked with the 1.4-million-member American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), AFL-CIO in its Public Affairs

Department – Strategic Communications Unit, working on such issues as child care, home care and health care organizing.

Elected in 2006, she took office as a member of the Maryland House of Delegates on January 10, 2007, where she is now the Deputy Majority Whip and a member of the House Economic Matters Committee.

In addition, Kris has been active in the labor movement for over a decade campaigning and rallying in support for working family issues. Beyond the scope of her job but along the communications path, Kris co-hosts, reports and interviews politicians and community leaders on issues of interest to Prince George’s County for *Valderrama’s America*.

Kris is the eldest daughter of former Maryland Delegate David M. Valderrama. She is the mother of two daughters. Kris and her family reside in Fort Washington.



2018 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame & Maryland Women of Tomorrow Induction & Awards Ceremony

March 15, 2018

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Lee Bachu, Chair
Maryland Commission for Women

Opening

Mistress of Ceremonies: **The Honorable Kriselda Valderrama**
Maryland House of Delegates and Women Legislators of Maryland

Greetings

Yumi Hogan, First Lady of Maryland
The Honorable Ariana Kelly, President, Women Legislators of Maryland
Secretary Lourdes Padilla, Maryland Department of Human Services
The Honorable Roger Manno, Maryland State Senate
Joyce Leviton for U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin
Nina Ganti for U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen
Sana Mirza for U.S. Congressman Steny Hoyer

Appreciation to Our Sponsors

A. Diane Williams, Vice Chair, Maryland Commission for Women
Christine E. Buckley, Fiduciary Advisor and Vice President, PNC Wealth Management
Patricia E. Cornish, Founding Member, Maryland WAG Foundation

2018 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame Induction

Marianne Brackney, Chair
Sandra I. Barnes, Esq., Assistant Maryland Attorney General
Sandra Williams Ortega, Ph.D., Maryland's First African American Woman Commissioned U.S. Air Force Officer
Emily Saunders Plummer (*posthumous*), Courageous Enslaved Woman, Inspiring Mother
Rita L. Robinson, Ph.D., Educator, Community Leader
Hattie N. Washington, Ph.D., Educator, Founder of Aunt Hattie's Place

Presentation of Plaque to Maryland Women's Heritage Center

The Honorable Ariana Kelly
Diana Bailey, Managing Director, **Frances Anne Glendenning**, President, MWHC

2018 Maryland Women of Tomorrow Awards

Lorna P. Forde and *Carole Jaar Sepe*, Co-Chairs
Vivian Flanagan, 11th Grade, Severna Park High School, Anne Arundel County
Faith Kean, 12th Grade, Winston Churchill High School, Montgomery County
Chelsea Mikal, 11th Grade, Mt. Hebron High School, Howard County
Sarah Ronayne, 12th Grade, Kent Island High School, Queen Anne's County
Amelia Claire Smith, 8th Grade, Walkersville Middle School, Frederick County

Closing Remarks

Lee Bachu, MCW Chair

Reception 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Conference Room West -
Miller Senate Office Building

Maryland Women's Hall of Fame Honorees

1985 – 2017

1985

Margaret Brent *
Rachel Carson*
Hon. Rita C. Davidson *
Hon. Gladys Noon Spellman
Harriet Ross Tubman*

1986

Lillie Carroll Jackson *
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*
Henrietta Szold*
Jeannette Rosner Wolman
H. Margret Zassenhaus, M.D.

1987

Clara Barton*
Frances Ellen Watkins Harper*
Juanita Jackson Mitchell
Mary Shaw Shorb, Ph.D.
Helen Brooke Taussig, M.D.*

1988

Hon. Barbara Ann Mikulski
Sadie Kneller Miller *
Mary Eliza Risteau *
Martha Carey Thomas *
Verda Freeman Welcome

1989

Bertha Sheppard Adkins *
Eugenie Clark, Ph.D.
Hon. Lavinia Margaret Engle*
Lena King Lee
Estelle R. Ramey, Ph.D.

1990

Hon. Lucille Maurer
Enolia Pettigen McMillan
Pauli Murray*
Adele Hagner Stamp *
Mary Lemist Titcomb*

1991

Rita R. Colwell, Ph.D.
Mary Elizabeth Lange*
Claire McCardell*
Bessie Moses, M.D.*
Alta Schrock, Ph.D.

1992

Annie Armstrong*
Anna Ella Carroll*
Rose Kushner
Hon. Margaret Collins Schweinhaut
Carmen Delgado Votaw

1993

Hon. Rosalyn Blake Bell
Lucille Clifton
Elizabeth King Ellicott*
Jean Spencer*
Martha Ellicott Tyson*

1994

Hon. Rosalie Silber Abrams
Mary Elizabeth Banning*
Harriet Elizabeth Brown
Hon. Constance A. Morella
Mary Adelaide Nutting*

1995

Jill Moss Greenberg
Mary L. Nock*
Amanda Taylor Norris, M.D.*
Nettie Barcroft Taylor
Euphemia M Goldsborough
Wilson*

1996

Madeleine L. Ellicott*
Ethel Llewellyn Ennis
Mary Digges Lee*
Brigid G. Leventhal, M.D.*
Barbara Robinson

1997

Diane L. Adams, M.D.
Sol del Ande Mendez Eaton
Catherine R. Gira, Ph.D.
Hon. Helen L. Koss
Rosa Ponselle*

1998

Constance Ross Beims
Mary Katherine Goddard*
Elaine Ryan Hedges*
Mary Carter Smith

1999

Florence Riefler Bahr*
Lillian C. Compton*
Edith Houghton Hooker*
Elizabeth Fran Johnson
Bernice Smith White

2000

Constance Uriolo Battle, M.D.
Lois Green Carr
Sonia Pressman Fuentes
Josephine Jacobsen
Rosetta Stith, Ph.D.

2001

Kathleen Feeley, S.S.N.D.
Misbah Khan, M.D.
Charmaine Krohe, S.S.N.D.
Eunice Kennedy Shriver
Sandra W. Tomlinson, Ph.D.

2002

Mabel Houze Hubbard
Florence P. Kendall
Mary Young Pickersgill*
Hon. Lorraine Sheehan

2003

Viriginia Walcott Beauchamp
Edith Clarke*
Hon. Kathryn J. DuFour
Ruth L. Kirschstein, M.D.
Etta H. Maddox*
Deborah A. Yow

2004

Emily Edmonson*
Nancy Grasmick, Ph.D.
Esther McCready
Margaret Byrd Rawson
Vivian V. Simpson*

2005

Shoshana S. Cardin
B. Olive Cole*
Susan R. Panny, M.D.
Edyth H. Schoenrich, M.D.,
M.P.H.

2006

Susan P. Baker
Liebe Sokol Diamond, M.D.
Bea Gaddy*
Marilyn Hughes Gaston, M.D.
Rebecca Alban Hoffberger
Grace Snively*

2007

Colonel Annette M. Deener
Sally T. Grant
Prasanna Nair, M.D., M.P.H.
Karen H. Rothenberg, J.D.,
M.P.A.
Hon. Audrey E. Scott

2008

Eleanora Fagan, "Billie
Holiday" *
Ramona McCarthy Hawkins,
R.Ph.
Ellen Moses Heller
Hon. Pauline Menes
Toby Barbara Orenstein
Emily Wilson Walker, M.D.*

2009

Ilia Feher*
Diane Griffin, M.D., Ph.D.
Harriet Legum
Allyson Solomon
Anne St. Clair Wright*

2010

Claire M. Fraser-Leggett, Ph.D.
Anne Catherine Hoof Green*
Irene Morgan Kirkaldy*
Almira Hart Lincoln Phelps
Bernice R. Sandler, Ph.D.
Lillie D. Shockley

2011

Lucy Diggs Slowe*
Carol Greider, Ph.D.
Barbara Holdridge
Ligia Peralta, M.D.F.A.A.P.,
F.S.A.H.M.
Gertrude Poe
June Willenz

2012

Maureen Black, Ph.D.
Margaret Dunkle
Hon. Diana Gribbon Motz
Hon. Nancy Kopp
Alice Manicur, Ed.D.
Gwendolyn Rooks

2013

Hon. Helen Delich Bentley
Hon. Jean B. Cryor*
Charlene Mickens Dukes, Ed.D.
Hon. Ellen Sauerbrey
Linda Shevitz
Beatrice Tignor, Ed.D.

2014

Dorothy Bailey
Agnes Kane Callum
Renee Fox, M.D.
Susan Goering
Henrietta Lacks*
Ann Cipriano Rees

2015

Hon. Beverly B. Byron
Gail de Planque, Ph.D.*
Mary S. Feik
Katherine L. O'Brien, M.D.
Linda Singh
Sue Fryer Ward*

2016

Sophia Arabatzis Balis, D.D.S.
Oretha Bridgwaters-Simms
Mary C. Goodwillie*
Elaine Danforth Harmon*
Joanne Katz, Sc.D.
Lizette Woodworth Reese*

2017

Marsha Coleman-Adebayo, Ph.D.
Carolyn W. Colvin
Hon. Donna Edwards
Mary Elizabeth Garrett*
Katharine Blodgett Gebbie, Ph.D.*
Kathleen Genevieve "Katie" Ledecy
Helen Maroulis
Lilian Welsh, M.D. *

* Posthumously inducted

2018 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame

Marianne Hyang Nam Brackney, Chair

Committee Members:

**Lee Bachu, Deborah Cartee, Bonnie Luna, April Nyman,
Corinna Shen, A. Diane Williams, Yun Jung Yang**



The Maryland Women's Hall of Fame is a rich source of biographies of women who made significant and lasting contributions to the history and culture of our state and our nation. Established in 1985 as a partnership between the Maryland Commission for Women and the Women Legislators of Maryland, the Hall of Fame honors Maryland women whose lives and work are of historic significance to the economic, political, cultural and social life of the state.

Each year the Maryland Commission for Women and the Women Legislators of Maryland call for nominations of women who have made history in fields such as the arts, athletics, business, community advocacy, education, government, the humanities, human rights, law, medicine, the military, philanthropy, and science. An independent, all-volunteer committee reviews the nominations and selects those to be inducted into the Hall of Fame each year. The biographies are displayed at the Maryland Women's Heritage Center (www.mdwomensheritagecenter.org) and are posted on line at the website of the Maryland State Archives at: <http://msa.maryland.gov/msa/educ/exhibits/womenshall/html/whflist.html>.



2018 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame Selection Committee

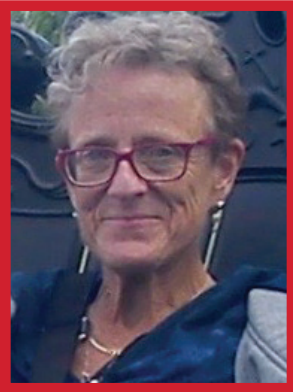
Theresa Foster, President, Business & Professional Women of Maryland (MPW/MD)

Linda Mahoney, Maryland Women's Heritage Center

Eileen Menton, President, American Association of University Women (AAUW Maryland)

The Honorable Jheanelle Wilkins, Maryland House of Delegates

Sheila Woodard, Board of Directors, Maryland Women's Business Center



**Sandra I. Barnes, Esq., Assistant Attorney General
Maryland Department of Human Services**

Nominated by Kathy F. Crosby, Assistant Attorney General

Sandra Barnes was born in New Hampshire but has made Maryland her home since 1978. In 1984, she matriculated at the University of Maryland School of Law. Sandra graduated first in her class, earned the Sobeloff Constitutional Law Prize, American Jurisprudence Awards in Constitutional Law, Contracts, and Property, and was inducted into the law school's honor society – Order of the Coif.

Sandra has had an equally brilliant career as an Assistant Attorney General in the Maryland Office of the Attorney General. For the past 27 years, she has worked tirelessly in a variety of ways to protect Maryland's children. She has handled thousands of child abuse and neglect administrative appeals in the Maryland circuit and appellate courts. Despite a crushing caseload and the many demands on her time for advice, she has voluntarily assumed sole responsibility for conducting annual and periodic training for local department of social services lawyers and staff on child abuse and neglect issues and writing, editing, and publishing the *CC:News*, a very informal, yet very informative and creative newsletter for attorneys and staff handling child abuse and neglect cases for the State. She has presented on child welfare issues at the American Association of Public Welfare Attorneys, an organization for which she now serves as President.

Sandra's persuasive arguments in Maryland's appellate courts have created ground breaking law related to abuse and neglect. Her most significant cases include: *Montgomery County Dept. of Social Services v. L.D.*, 349 Md. 239 (1998); *Charles County Dept. of Soc. Servs. v. Vann*, 382 Md. 286 (2004); *Cosby v. Department of Human Resources*, 425 Md. 629 (2012); *McClanahan v. Washington County Dept. of Social Services*, 445 Md. 691 (2015); and *Wicomico County Dept. of Social Services v. B.A.*, 449 Md. 122 (2016).

Sandra has been an influential voice in the Maryland Department of Human Services in the development of legislation to protect abused and neglected children. During the 2017 legislation session, she helped the Social Services Administration craft legislation to correct loopholes in abuse laws that were discussed by the Court of Appeals in the *McClanahan* and *B.A.* cases. She also helped craft legislation designed to bring Maryland into compliance with the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, ensuring that local departments of social services can take reports of sex trafficking regardless of the identity of the person responsible for the child and expanding the definition of trafficking.

In recognition of her extraordinary and passionate commitment to protecting abused and neglected children, Sandra received the Attorney General's Exceptional Service Award in 1995 and the Lucy Weisz Award in 2008.

“Never be complacent when it comes to advocating for the protection of children. No one considers it reasonable for a boss to strike an employee to compel better performance, or for a spouse to strike another spouse to improve a marriage. Yet, when a parent strikes a child to improve behavior, the law asks whether the parent acted ‘reasonably.’”



Sandra Williams Ortega, Ph.D., Maryland's First African American Woman Commissioned U.S. Air Force Officer

Nominated by Julia Ortega McEachern

Sandra Williams Ortega was born in Baltimore in 1937. As an Air Force officer and civilian, Dr. Ortega has been a pioneer and reformer in areas relating to family, community, and organizational dynamics; mental health and well being; substance abuse and addiction; emergency medical management and disaster relief; and teaching and education. She has been a champion advocate for racial and gender diversity.

Dr. Ortega resided in Baltimore for 21 years before receiving a direct commission into the United States Air Force by President Eisenhower, becoming on July 4, 1958 Morgan State University's first Air Force officer and Maryland's first African-American woman commissioned as a U.S.A.F. Officer. Dr. Ortega's charge when she first entered the military was to serve as a champion for women of color in the Officer Corps of the United States Air Force, established in 1947. She aggressively worked to break down racial and gender stereotypes and biases.

During her career, Dr. Ortega improved the lives of countless military families and communities, altering the perception of the military family as dependent and ancillary to a vital facet of retention and mission accomplishment. At the request of the Commander of the Air Force Space Command, she assessed the socio-environmental impact on a multicultural, multinational workforce at a strategic military site in Antarctica at the beginning of the AIDS epidemic. As Chief of Social Actions, she fostered an environment that empowered enlisted personnel and their families to address drug and alcohol dependency challenges. She created the International Spouse Support Program for the Air Force, creating a pathway for citizenship for foreign-born spouses.

Dr. Ortega has consulted individually and collectively with NGOs to improve education and health infrastructures in Cuba, Africa and the former Soviet Union. She excels in crisis management and disaster relief. In fact, in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Department of Homeland Security sent her to New Orleans to coordinate logistical assistance. Her oversight in filling medical and mental health service gaps was so profound that Mayor C. Ray Nagin proclaimed March 23, 2006 as "Dr. Sandra W. Ortega Day."

For 20 years, she served as the founder and president of Ortega Associates, which provides myriad consulting services to private sector and government clients in the United States and abroad. Dr. Ortega has also made a difference in her own community by being elected three times as the Democratic Committee Woman representing the 9th District of Evesham Township, New Jersey. She has been an Adjunct Professor at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia. She holds a Masters in Counseling Psychology from Ball State University (Germany), an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Morgan State University, and a Ph.D. in Sociology from La Salle University. Julio, Sandy's husband of almost 60 years, is a decorated, retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant.

"As a military and civilian leader for major Air Force installations, I was often the only woman at the table of white commanders where potentially life-altering decisions were made regarding military discharges. These commanders felt powerful not only because of rank, but also because some felt entitled by birth. I have always known that my birthright was no less intrinsically valuable than theirs. So I grew to assert my power as a woman of color in the cause of making a difference - for all. Some of the most rewarding outcomes I have achieved have been in battles I was ordered not to take on. If you are in a position of power and do not resist oppression and unjust behavior, whatever the personal risk, you have abdicated your responsibility to help make a more just world."



Photo Courtesy of: Anacostia Community Museum, Smithsonian Institution

Emily Saunders Plummer (posthumous), Courageous Enslaved Woman, Inspiring Mother

Nominated by Dr. Leigh Ryan, Writing Center Director Emerita, University of Maryland

Born at Three Sisters Plantation in Lanham, Maryland around 1815, Emily Saunders Plummer never knew her father, for he was sold shortly after her birth and never heard from again. She grew up with her mother and the many other children (23) her mother had when she remarried. Later, Emily would see other family members, including her own children, sold at auction. On its own, Emily's story is special for its ordinariness – she was a devoted daughter and sister, then a happily married and loving mother, coping with daily, common struggles. But it is also special for the acute horror because she was a slave who not only suffered, but also saw loved ones abused, sold away, and separated from one another.

Emily's story is educational and inspirational, but her illiteracy means that we learn it indirectly. We are fortunate to have a diary kept by her husband, begun on their wedding day, May 31, 1841. Even more detailed is the 1927 spiritual memoir penned by Emily's youngest daughter Nellie Arnold Plummer, *Out of the Depths* or the *Triumph of the Cross*. As Nellie relates stories about her family, *Out of the Depths* allows us to know Emily, her husband Adam, and their children.

A remarkably feisty, resourceful and courageous woman, Emily married Adam Francis Plummer from Riversdale Plantation. Despite limited visits, they enjoyed a soulful relationship. Emily and Adam secretly plotted an escape in 1845, an enormous risk to take, especially with young children. Although Adam warned Emily to tell no one of their plans, she confided in a relative who disclosed the plan to Emily's owner. Emily, who had been the cook in the owner's home, was banished to work in the fields. Later, she and her children were put up for sale, but the birth of her daughter Julia caused the owner to sell Emily's sister instead. After her owner's death, Emily and three of her children were sold, just before Thanksgiving Day, 1851, to Colonel Gilbert Livingston Thompson and his wife, of Meridian Hill, in Washington, D.C. Colonel Thompson was a cruel master, especially to the children. He kicked and swore at them, and Emily "defended her little children from his fierce and brutal attacks."

Later, the Thompsons moved to Ellicott Mills with their slaves. Emily's defiance in defense of herself and her children brought threats of beatings and sale, but her skills as a cook and "a most reliable and trusted servant" kept the family together. The 1862 Emancipation Act in the District of Columbia inspired Emily's oldest son, Henry, to escape. The following year, Emily, too, escaped with her children. Captured in Baltimore, she charmed the jailor's family with her cooking, and he protected her. Eventually her husband Adam collected the family and brought them to Riversdale.

The end of the Civil War and emancipation permitted the family to reunite at last. Their daughter Miranda was retrieved from Louisiana and went on to found a church where Emily watched her son Henry preach his first sermon. After tending to Henry's sick wife while sleeping on a pallet on the floor, Emily developed pneumonia and died on January 17, 1876.

"The stories - both sad and triumphant - of most enslaved women remain untold. But we can access much of Emily's story through her daughter Nellie, who wrote it down so "that others, though discouraged from a different cause, might prove faithful by doing right, and thus overcome." Emily's tale of courage, faith, and love represents those of all enslaved Maryland African-American women, honoring her and the memory of those whose stories remain lost." – Dr. Leigh Ryan



Rita L. Robinson, Ph.D., Educator, Community Leader

Nominated by Delegate Elizabeth (Susie) Proctor, Maryland General Assembly

Dr. Rita LaVerne (Stevenson) Robinson was born on October 11, 1936 and raised in Washington D.C. She is the second eldest in a family of seven born to Samuel and Rita Stevenson. In her early teens, Dr. Robinson assumed part of the nurturing and rearing responsibilities for her siblings, as her mother was the sole provider for the family and had to work outside the home. Even then, Dr. Robinson exhibited a propensity for the field of education, teaching her younger siblings to read well before they started school. As a teenager, Dr. Robinson worked part-time jobs and contributed all her pay to her mother to help care for the younger children and to pay bills. She was a first-generation college graduate in her family, and went on to earn a Masters Degree in Education in 1971, and a Ph.D. degree in 1985, both from the University of Maryland. Her perseverance and achievements encouraged other family members to follow the path to higher education.

Dr. Robinson spent her early years in D.C. attending school and college, and teaching in the public schools from 1958 to 1974. In 1960, she married her childhood friend, John N. Robinson, Jr. She and John have been married for 57 years and are proud parents of four grown children and grandparents of four. The family moved to Prince George's County in 1970 where Dr. Robinson continued her career as an educator. Here, she was actively involved in the educational, political, social and cultural aspects of the county and the state.

Her broad professional career and experience include work as a counselor, pupil personnel worker, vice-principal, principal, Director of Pupil Services, Director of the Office of Equity Assurance and Director of Staff Development for the Prince George's County Public Schools (1974 – 2004). Under her leadership, the school system developed and implemented the administrative procedure for harassment and discrimination, and added sexual orientation in its provisions for the safe school component of multicultural education.

A licensed professional counselor, educator and consultant, Dr. Robinson is the founder and owner of Creative Learning Enterprises specializing in developing solutions for enhancing positive human communication, fostering positive growth and interaction, and developing educational products for improving the lives of constituents. She is also a counselor/therapist in her own private practice, established in 2005.

Currently, Dr. Robinson is an adjunct professor of graduate courses at Bowie State University and is an independent contractor for the Anti-Defamation League. She has also taught graduate courses at McDaniel College (formerly Western Maryland College) and the University of the District of Columbia. Dr. Robinson is a member of the Board of Trustees of Prince George's Community College as well.

She is a former president of the Maryland Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development and the former president of the Maryland Association for Counseling and Development. She has served on the Executive Board of a number of organizations, including the Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium, the Women's Heritage Center, the Archdiocese of Washington Ladies of Charity, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. She regularly provides pro bono counseling services and conducts workshops and symposiums on topics such as domestic violence and human trafficking. She is the recipient of numerous awards from professional and community organizations at the local, state, and national levels for her outstanding leadership and service, and is the author of *"Daughters and Dads - the Ties That Bind."*

"I came to the realization some time ago that I have been blessed with many gifts. It has been my distinct privilege to share these gifts with others throughout my life's journey."



Hattie N. Washington, Ph.D., Educator, Founder of Aunt Hattie's Place

Nominated by Dr. Valencia Campbell, President, Prince George's County Drug Policy Coalition, Inc.

Dr. Hattie N. Washington served as a tenured Professor of Education at Coppin State University (CSU) in Baltimore for over 20 years. Dr. Washington made history as the first female Vice President in the University's 100-year history. At the same time, she served as Executive Director of the Coppin State University Development Foundation. Her responsibility was to implement a capital campaign to raise \$3 million in five years. Yet she exceeded the goal and presented \$8 million to the Coppin State Foundation Board, the Coppin Family and the Board of Regents - \$5 million over goal!

During the same time in 1997, she also founded Aunt Hattie's Place, Inc. (AHP), a non-profit residential facility in Baltimore, to care for male foster youth with special educational needs. Her dedication to underprivileged youth prompted her to cash in her own retirement funds to support the opening of this boys' home. She later acquired grants, bonds, and donations to establish other group homes in Randallstown and Sandy Spring. With a loving staff, a team of professional practitioners and volunteers, she provided nurturing for boys and young men ages eight to 21 who had been abused, abandoned and neglected. Some were in special education or were several grade levels below their peers. "Aunt Hattie" believes that "all children are talented, intelligent, loveable and full of hope, but just need love, guidance, structure and high expectations to achieve their full potential." Aunt Hattie has impacted more than 100 young men who have gone on to become productive citizens in their chosen careers. They needed a "helping hand," not a "hand out."

Dr. Washington is the author of *Driven to Succeed: Lessons Learned Through Faith, Family and Favor*. Proceeds from this book and two more books scheduled for release in 2018 will benefit her scholarship fund at Coppin State University for foster youth who have aged out of the system and want to continue their education.

Dr. Washington holds a B.S. in Elementary Education from Norfolk State University with a minor in Special Education, a Masters Degree from Ball State University in Counseling Psychology, and a Doctorate from the University of Maryland College Park in Curriculum and Instruction. She has engaged in further post-graduate study in Multicultural Education and Special Education at Glasgow University in Scotland, UK (on a Rotary International Scholarship), in Executive Management (IEM) at Harvard University in Boston, and in Institutional Accountability in Higher Education at Oxford University in London, England.

She has received numerous awards, plaques, citations and recognitions for her work with Aunt Hattie's Place, Coppin State University, foster children and community organizations. Just a few, include: the 2013 Outstanding Service to Youth by the Montgomery County Commission on Youth and Families, Top 100 Minority Business Entrepreneurial of the Year (2009 and 2012), the Community Service Award for Excellence in Leadership, and the Outstanding 2013 Graduate Faculty Award from Coppin State University.

"My work with Aunt Hattie's Place, Baltimore City Schools, Maryland State Dept. of Education and at Coppin State were my ministries and stems from my childhood and a need to "give back" and "pay it forward." Throughout my career, I have sought to uplift the lives of our youth while focusing on the unmet needs of foster boys, who are among the most disenfranchised and whose circumstances threatened to rob them of their dreams for a bright future. As the mother of two daughters who have grown into accomplished young women (a physician & an attorney), my teachings, child-rearing strategies, and foundation prepared me to lead Aunt Hattie's Place in providing numerous foster boys with love, guidance, structure, and high expectation. As a result, many became productive young men whose dreams of hope and success became reality. I taught my daughters and my foster young men, "Yes, We Can; We MUST."

2018 Maryland Women of Tomorrow

Carole Jaar Sepe and Lorna P. Forde, Co-Chairs

Committee Members:

**Lee Bachu, Marianne Brackney, Ummu Thomas
A. Diane Williams, Yun Jung Yang**



Carole Jaar Sepe

The Women of Tomorrow Awards was established in 1997 to recognize and to honor extraordinary young women who have demonstrated a commitment to leadership, community service and academic excellence. Nominations are received from educators, civic, community and religious leaders across the state. An independent committee reviews all the nominations and makes the very difficult decision of selecting the honorees. This year, five honorees were selected from among the 79 nominees from middle schools and high schools all across Maryland.



Lorna P. Forde



2018 Maryland Women of Tomorrow Selection Committee

Violet M. Apple, CEO, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland

Dr. Debra M. Franklin, Dean, School of Arts, Sciences and
Business, Notre Dame of Maryland University

Shelly M. Gross-Wade, Maryland Women's Business Center Advisory Board

The Honorable Marice Morales, Maryland House of Delegates

Michele Siri, Executive Director, Women's Law Center of Maryland



Amelia Claire Smith, 8th Grade, Walkersville Middle School, Frederick County

Nominated by Kevin Smith, Glade Valley Lions Club

Claire has been President of the Walkersville Leo Club for two years. She was elected President by her classmates when she was in the 7th grade, occupying a position normally held by an 8th grader. Claire started participating in activities with the Walkersville Leo Club when her older brother joined, taking an active interest in painting park picnic tables and curbs, caroling at nursing homes, and in the Leader Dog for the Blind project that the Leo and Lions Clubs support. After attending several Leader Dog banquets where a blind person shares their story of how Leader Dog has impacted their life, Claire decided that she wanted to help. During her first year of being President, Claire became a Leader Dog for the Blind puppy raiser. She gave many talks and made appearances to share the training process and to educate groups and clubs about the program. During one of her first meetings she learned of a Dinner in the Dark fundraiser for Leader Dog for the Blind to bring awareness to the difficulties of those who are blind or sight-impaired. Claire was interested in doing this locally so she presented the idea for a vote to the Leo Club, and it passed. The idea was then presented to their sponsoring Lions Club who denied it, saying more time was needed to plan an event of that magnitude. Claire rallied her fellow Leo Club members, gaining support of over 20 middle school students and raising donations for printing of posters, flyers, and programs and the postage for this event. Signs appeared everywhere, and the enthusiasm grew. Claire, with her Leader Dog puppy in tow, along with groups of Leo members, spoke to Lions Clubs, City Councils, town governments, etc. to promote Dinner in the Dark ticket sales and sponsorships. By the time the dinner was held, registration was filled to capacity, radio and television stations arrived to cover the event, and \$10,000.00 was raised for Leader Dog for the Blind. After waiting tables, Claire spoke at the dinner to a standing ovation. She motivated young, old, parents, grandparents, teachers, administrators, local businesses, community members, Leos, and Lions. Under Claire's leadership, a new event was held, young people gained confidence, a worthwhile charity benefitted, and the community is better for it. Claire won the regional award for Leo of the Year and was also named International Leo of the Year for 2017.

Claire is a member of the Bush Creek Church of the Brethren, the Bush Creek Wheat Gatherers youth ministry, and New Market Grange. Claire is taking all honors and accelerated courses, including 9th grade credit math and Spanish. Claire broke her middle school record for cross country and enjoys playing soccer. She plays the tuba and saxophone in her home church's Faith Ensemble, made up of middle and high school students. The ensemble has been asked to play at numerous churches, special services, and at nursing homes. As a member of the Frederick Children's Chorus for several years, she has volunteered for an hour every week to help work with the youngest group of singers and is now a volunteer teaching intern with the chorus. She rehearses with her chorus for another three hours per week and performs in 15 - 20 concerts and appearances per year.

She loves overcoming obstacles, helping people, music, children, and animals. Claire looks forward to finding a way to work all of her interests into her future.

“Our world has become a system filled with electronic devices that can be used to send heart emojis from our fingertips. Though, for most of us, a true symbol of love is seeing it in action, and that is exactly what community service portrays.”



**Vivian Flanagan, 11th Grade, Severna Park High School,
Anne Arundel County**

Nominated by Angela Rodriguez, Anne Arundel County Commission for Women

Vivian has been awarded the Superintendent's Honor Roll, the most prestigious Honor Roll title in Anne Arundel County, each year in high school. During her freshman, sophomore, and current year she has enrolled in a mix of Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses and standard level art electives, like theatre arts, to enhance her academic experience. She is enrolled in five AP courses, including French, the highest level for high school foreign language courses. During her sophomore year she took AP United States Government and Politics, sparking a love for government and prompting her to run for Vice President of her school's High

School Democrats of America chapter.

She is participating in a biological study of the analysis of patterns in the human DNA sequences, conducted by a professor at the University of Virginia. She decided to participate to further her understanding of molecular biology, and gain experience in a field she intends to study in college.

As a freshman, Vivian was selected from a pool of 30 auditioners to be a part of her school's award winning Mock Trial team, a group of 14 skilled students who participate in a county wide law competition. As a junior, Vivian contributes to the team as its opening attorney, leading two team members and delivering a pivotal speech setting the tone and organization for her argument at the beginning of each trial.

Vivian enjoys working with people in need, rather than simply working for them. During her sophomore year she was introduced to Sarah's House, a non-profit shelter in Fort Meade, housing single mothers, recovering addicts, or families looking to get back on their feet. The majority of residents at Sarah's House are children, ranging from infants to middle school students. She partnered with the two school clubs to schedule three drives throughout the year to collect items for children and mothers, and offered tutoring sessions to children needing academic help.

Her interest in politics led her to join the Anne Arundel County Commission for Women as a Student Commissioner. She actively participated in the Maryland Commission for Women's Voices of Maryland Women Listening Tour in Anne Arundel County, speaking on issues impacting young women in school. She is also the Severna Park representative on the AACPS' Teen Advisory Committee, which meets with the Superintendent to improve the quality of student life. Vivian also interns at the National Aquarium in the summer.

As an active member of the community, Vivian hopes to brighten the day of others through simple acts of kindness and through earthshaking change. Vivian will pursue a law degree and hopes to work as a state attorney general or a criminal lawyer.

"If we are defined by our community, it is our duty to establish upkeep of it: to maintain its beauty without relent, and to develop its weaknesses with grace. Students of today may find it difficult to find meaning in serving one's community. While true that one's contribution may be relatively small, the gradual change and growth of a community is stimulated by one's dedication to it."



Faith Kean, 12th Grade, Winston Churchill High School, Montgomery County

Nominated by Cay Miller, Winston Churchill High School

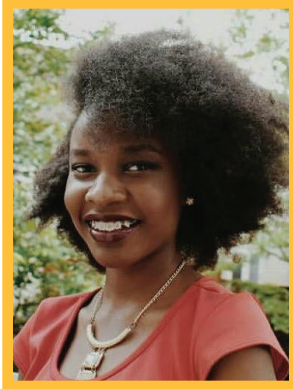
An outstanding student, Faith has taken 11 Advanced Placement (AP) courses in high school. Her weighted grade point average is 4.78. She has achieved a long list of academic awards and honors in a variety of disciplines. She won the Bausch & Lomb honorary science award in 2017 when she published two Duckweed Clone Sequences at the National Center for Biotechnology Information. Faith received a verbal commendation at the North American Invitational Model United Nations. She was a 2017 Maryland State Bar Association Mock Trial State Semifinalist. Faith was a 2017 US Lacrosse Academic All-American and a 2016 and 2017 National Field Hockey Coach's Association Academic Squad Scholar of Distinction. She received high honors from the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth. She is a member of the Math, Technology, and Science Signature Program, and was inducted into the National, Science, Technical, Engineering, Math, Spanish, and English Honor Societies. Faith spent her summer as an intern assistant at the Princeton Neuroscience Institute, assisting an undergraduate student with her thesis work by helping program an online, interactive experiment.

Faith was elected as Student Government Class Vice President and supervises homecoming student activities, including coordinating the float building, mural painting, spirit days, lunchtime competitions, skit performance, and logistics of the homecoming dance. She organizes several fundraisers throughout the year, including kickball and Powderpuff Football games, and community-wide mulch sales. Faith serves as CoPresident of the Model UN, in which she organizes, schedules, and runs club meetings. She planned and organized her school's delegation to Georgetown University's North American Invitational Model UN conference. In previous years, Faith represented Singapore, Malaysia, and Kiribati in an economic conference, the World Health Organization, and Alliance of Small Island States. Faith has served as captain of the varsity field hockey and varsity lacrosse teams for both 2016 and 2017. During the two seasons that Faith was captain of the varsity field hockey team, it has had consecutive years of undefeated regular seasons, division and regional championships, and Maryland State Tournament appearances. This year, Faith was selected to the Washington Post All Met 2nd Team as well as the Maryland All State 2nd team for field hockey.

Faith serves as a Churchill Student Ambassador, volunteering at the new student orientation and back to school night, mentors new students, leads scheduled tours of the school, and supports graduation ceremonies. She participates in the Churchill Red Cross and as its Vice President, Faith organized fundraisers for the American Red Cross to support relief efforts, attending events in Washington, DC, and promoting Red Cross outreach, training, and volunteer opportunities among Churchill students. Faith is a member of SALT, her church's youth group leadership team. She volunteers at local camps and community clinics, teaching young girls from ages 6-14 how to play field hockey and lacrosse. With her field hockey team, Faith has helped to raise thousands of dollars for breast cancer research, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, and JUST TRYAN IT, an organization that helps families who are dealing with pediatric cancer.

Faith is interested in molecular genetics and neuroscience, and hopes to pursue a post-graduate career in research.

“Being a leader is more than having a prestigious title; it is hard work, dedication, responsibility, and doing what is right even if it is not easy.”



Chelsea Mikal, 11th Grade, Mount Hebron High School, Howard County

Nominated by Irene Bademosi, Mount Hebron High School

Chelsea Mikal's family immigrated to the U.S. when she was 12. Now, she carries a 4.54 grade point average and has taken 14 Advanced Placement and Gifted and Talented classes. Chelsea has done research at a chemical and environmental engineering lab at University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC).

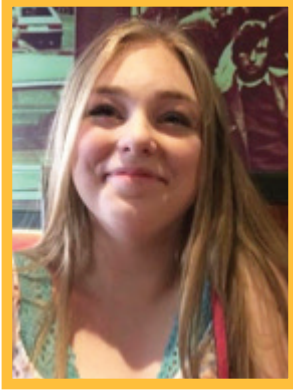
Chelsea is enthusiastic about research and hopes to find solutions and create awareness to societal problems that affect our health and daily lives. She has participated in two significant research projects. She analyzed absorbance of five UV-filters found in sunscreen at the Blaney Lab at UMBC's Chemical and Environmental Engineering Department, presenting the research at the Summer Undergraduate Research Festival, where she was recognized for presenting the research. She has also studied Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in her independent research class, presenting this research at the End of Year Research Conference at Mount Hebron High School.

Chelsea started a volunteer group in middle school with her friends called Knights to the Rescue, and has continued to serve into high school, working with a volunteer coordinator to have access to all available opportunities to give back. Chelsea is the Director of Fundraising for Key Club, a service organization that raises money to help the community. With Key Club, Chelsea coordinated and collected over 50 pairs of socks and donated them to Grassroots 24-hour Crisis Intervention Center in Howard County, an organization she's been serving since beginning Knights to the Rescue. With the Horizon Foundation, Chelsea served soup to the less fortunate during the annual Soup'r Sundae event benefiting the Grassroots 24-hour Crisis Intervention Center. Chelsea dedicates her weekends to seniors at Lighthouse Senior Living, coordinating and serving the residents meals, cleaning, playing card games, and painting the women's nails, giving the seniors a needed generational connection. She has also served crabs at the Rotary Club where seniors and their families enjoy meals. Chelsea collects canned goods and nonperishable foods from classmates during Mount Hebron's Annual Canned Food Drive and delivers the items to families in need during the holidays.

In addition to her studies and community service, she also is a part of a number of organizations and clubs. As the Field Trip Coordinator for the Delta Scholars, a club that supports minority students at Mount Hebron High School, Chelsea planned a college visit to UMBC. Chelsea founded Mount Hebron's first Photography Club, and is the presiding President. She is also a member of the Science National Honor Society and the National Honor Society.

Chelsea plans to pursue an engineering degree and hopes to become an entrepreneur, positively impacting innovation and our society.

"A strong leader is someone who takes accountability for her mistakes. By doing so, the leader becomes mentally, intellectually, emotionally and morally stronger."



**Sarah Ronayne, 12th Grade, Kent Island High School,
Queen Anne’s County**

Nominated by Marcella Marshall, Kent Island High School

Sarah is ranked 2 in a class of 292 students. She has taken rigorous academic courses throughout high school, completing eight honors and nine Advanced Placement (AP) courses in which she has earned college credit for each. As a senior, she has continued this hardworking commitment with six AP courses and hopes to receive college credit for each. She is driven by her desire to learn. She has managed to achieve this stellar academic rank while being involved in numerous extracurricular activities and working at Ledo’s Pizza for the past three years.

Sarah holds multiple leadership positions in a variety of organizations at Kent Island High School. Sarah has been the President of Students Against Destructive Decisions for the past two years and the secretary and an executive board member of both Pro-Girl Collective and National Honor Society. Sarah went to ALA Girls State, a government-in-action learning program that trains young women to become knowledgeable stewards of freedom, democracy and patriotism. She then represented Maryland at ALA Girls Nation as one of two participants per state, a program that provides aspiring young women leaders firsthand experience in the working of the federal government and allows the participants the opportunity to write legislation. She drafted multiple pieces of legislation, including one advocating for the rights of rape survivors, as well as a bill protecting children from underage marriage. Her proposals focused primarily on women’s and human rights, one of which she presented to a Committee at Girls Nation, and later hand-delivered to Senator Cardin’s office. Sarah has been selected for the Maryland General Assembly’s Student Page Program where she will work as a Student Page for members of the State Legislature in Annapolis for two nonconsecutive weeks in the spring semester of 2018.

For Sarah, serving the underserved in her community is a lifelong responsibility, not just a check in the box to fulfill graduation requirements. She has been a top board member of the Backpack Project for the past two years, a program in the county that works to provide food to students who cannot afford daily necessities. She also worked with Alfabetismo Primero, a county program that promotes literacy within the immigrant community. Sarah co-created a project called Life Books at a local nursing home helping create scrap books about the residents’ lives, preserving their memories. Sarah and her friends completed a volunteer project called Baby Buddies. Through fundraising and advertising, they generated about \$3000.00 in donations for ten less fortunate pregnant women, and held a baby shower for these women, giving them car seats, clothing, and other necessities. In addition to these activities, Sarah also regularly works as a teacher’s aide at Sunday school.

A role model to her peers at Kent Island High School, she has held leadership positions in organizations that serve the underserved and support the community. Sarah’s ultimate goal is to have a career in public health and work to promote better public healthcare laws.

*“Everyone thirsts for growth and progress, but leaders
have the courage to put this desire for change into action.”*

Much thanks to our partners:



The Maryland WAG Foundation

The Maryland WAG Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in 2017 for the purpose of supporting the programs, initiatives and activities of the Maryland Commission for Women. WAG funds help sustain services to, advocacy on behalf of, and programs that recognize the achievements and contributions of Maryland's women and girls, and enhance the work of Maryland's all-volunteer Commission for Women. The Maryland Commission for Women especially appreciates the WAG's support for tonight's program.

Maryland Women's Heritage Center



The Maryland Women's Heritage Center (MWHC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established to recognize and preserve the contributions of Maryland women of diverse backgrounds and from all regions of the state. The Center is an outgrowth of the Maryland Women's History Project that began in 1980 as a collaborative venture between the Maryland Commission for Women and the Maryland State Department of Education. The first comprehensive state center of its kind in the nation, the Center honors women who have been inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame, as well as the Unsung Heroines who have shaped their families and communities. The Center also serves as a clearinghouse for information about Maryland women and a gathering place to hold workshops, forums, and other special events. Visit <http://mdwomensheritagecenter.publishpath.com/> for more information.

Women Legislators of the Maryland General Assembly, Inc.

Women Legislators of the Maryland General Assembly, Inc. was established in 1972 to foster cooperation among women holding state legislative office and to increase the participation of women in politics. Key to the organization's success is its framework, wherein issues can be debated and policies refined, without losing sight of the overall mission: **to improve public policy that affects women's lives and increase the number of women elected and appointed to public office in Maryland.**

The mandate of the Women Legislators of the Maryland General Assembly, Inc. is: to research and develop legislation assisting women; *to encourage the greater participation of women in Maryland government; and to communicate and cooperate with other women's organizations.*

We were the **first Women's Caucus in the nation** and we are a 501(c)(3) organization, with 68 members in 2018.

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Catherine Hill, Executive Director

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