

Continuing The Legacy

Edward Davis Education Foundation Luncheon 2001

The Edward Davis Education Foundation (EDEF) held its third annual tribute fundraiser in Detroit earlier this year. The non-profit organization is named after the only African American and only auto dealer inducted in the Automotive Hall of Fame in Dearborn, Mich. Edward Davis was a pioneering auto dealer in Detroit who, through perseverance and hard work, achieved great success in the industry. His wife, Mary-Agnes Miller Davis, still resides in Detroit. A pioneer herself, Mrs. Davis established and worked with various organizations that furthered the social and economic well being of African-Americans and other urban dwellers. Some 500 industry and community leaders came together to pay tribute to Mrs. Davis.

1. Nate Conyers, owner of Conyers Riverside Ford in Detroit, (left) with Mel Farr, Sr., founder of the Mel Farr Automotive Group based in Detroit, and Randi Payton, founder and president of EDEF. Farr was recognized for his efforts as a auto dealer in "Continuing the Legacy."

2. EDEF luncheon guests from (left) Jaime Foster-Brown, publisher Sister2Sister magazine, Mel Farr, president and CEO of Mel Farr Automotive Group, Carl Barnett Sr., EDEF board member and auto dealer; Maureen and Roy Roberts, retired General Motors senior executive; and Eric Peterson, EDEF board member and GM's general director of minority dealer development.

3. (From left) Dora Reid, of Detroit, and Bernice Simmons, of Washington, D.C., both sisters of Mary-Agnes Miller Davis; and distinguished guests Inez Phillips, Vivian Cooper, Allene McCampbell and Doris Pelham.

4. Immediate past president of the EDEF board Pamela Rodgers, a metro-Detroit Chevrolet dealer, with Mary-Agnes Miller Davis and the Hon. Judge Trudy Duncombe Archer, a district judge and First Lady of Detroit.

5. Roderick Rickman, CEO of MPS Group, who was recognized as an automotive supplier who is "Continuing the Legacy", with the Hon. Judge Trudy Duncombe Archer.

6. EDEF scholarship recipients or family representatives for 2001 (seated from left) Ferillia Roberson of Detroit, Brandelyn Heath of Southfield, Mich.; Arthur Brown of Detroit, Coriel Green of Detroit, Kenya Agee of Detroit. (standing) Kimatni Rawlins, EDEF student representative; Thedosh Nash, mother of winner Tonia Nash-Craig of East Lansing, Mich.; Glen and Lisa Miller, parents of Jonathan Miller of Flint, Mich.; Arthur Pisani, father of Chris Pisani of Detroit; James Sadler, father of Jermil Sadler of East Lansing, Mich.; Tarik Scott of Lansing, Mich. and Eric Peterson, EDEF scholarship committee chairperson and recently-elected EDEF chairperson. Ten recipients each received \$2,500 each.

7. (Center standing) Mary-Agnes Miller Davis, founder of the Co-Ette Club, was recognized for her commitment to young women and the community during the annual luncheon. She is with past and current members of the Co-Ette Club.

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