

NEWS FROM THE C . R . A . F . T .

FALL/WINTER 2021

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Founder

Rev. Hezekiah Brady, Jr.

Unwrapping Gifts with C.R.A.F.T.

Even though this has been another challenging year, C.R.A.F.T. has continued to serve the youth in the Pembroke/Hopkins Park area. We feel that through our acts of love and support we are unwrapping the untapped potential, talents, and skills of the youth who are our future. We know that these precious gifts include our future President of the United States, the doctor who will discover the cure for cancer and the common cold, the scientist who will find the solution to the world's global warming, the musician who will create the next unforgettable symphony, and the child who will create the vaccine that will cure the next global pandemic.

In October 2001, C.R.A.F.T.'s founder, Rev. Hezekiah Brady, Jr. penned a poem called "Unwrapping Gifts". Two of the lines read "...but gifts to unwrap, Through our acts of love, Let's unwrap gifts...Society will be blessed, And God glorified."

The C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors celebrates 3 recipients (unwrapped gifts) of the Rev. Hezekiah Brady, Jr. Scholarship



*De'Asia Love
Southern University
Baton Rouge
Chemistry.*



*Garriett Pendleton
Maryville University
Marketing/Business Admin.*



*Joi Strickland
Illinois State University
International Business*

C.R.A.F.T's Annual Awards Ceremony—2021

While still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic on Friday evening, July 23, 2021, the C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors still celebrated the 18 scholars who were the recipients of the 2021-2022 Student Assistance Funds for the fall semester. Although the ceremony was again held virtually there was still a celebratory atmosphere among the students and their family members. The Words of Inspiration were given by Mr. Jared A. Rogers, grandson of founder, Rev. Hezekiah Brady, Jr. Jared is a 2019 graduate of Michigan State University where he earned a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. He is currently employed at BP in Whiting, Indiana and also just published his 5th book.

Congratulations to the 2021-2022 Student Assistance Fund Scholars

Seniors

Garriett Pendleton-Maryville University (Marketing/Business Administration)

Maurice Walker-Central Methodist University (Sports Management)

Juniors

Tyshon King -Northern Michigan University (Marketing)

De'Asia Love - Southern University- Baton Rouge (Chemistry)

Joi Strickland -Illinois State University (International Business)

Sophmores

Giannah Boice - Kankakee Community College (Early Childhood Education)

LaNaeja Johnson - Kankakee Community College (Nursing)

Aaliyah Magruder - Grand Canyon University (Psychology)

MaKayla Mondy - Savannah State University (Biology)

Trenten Wills - University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff (Business Agriculture)

Freshmen

Caliece Gaines— Grand Canyon University (Forensic Psychology)

Tia Johnson - University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff (Biology)

Kendall Lake - Northern Illinois University (Engineering)

Jalen Maddox - Governors State University (Physical Therapy/Business)

Aaliyah McKnight - Clark Atlanta University (Pre-Med/Biology)

Anayah McKnight - Clark Atlanta University (Pre-Med/Biology)

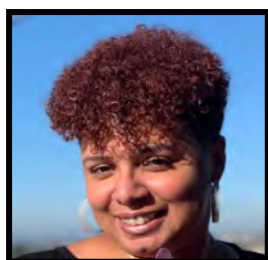
Micha Thomas - Spelman College (Biology)

Paul Williams III— Kankakee Community College (Electrical Engineering Technology)

Honoring C.R.A.F.T.'s Founder

On Thursday, October 14, 2021, the Highway and Buildings Committee of the Kankakee County Board voted to declare 5000 S. Road at the intersection of 12750 E. to 13000 E in Pembroke Township to be named "Honorary Rev. Hezekiah Brady, Jr. Road. We know that he would have never sought the honor and accolades, but they are so deserving for this Servant Leader.

(Pictured below: Rev. Hezekiah Brady, Jr., actual sign, Mrs. Myrna Brady standing next to sign.)



Welcome to the C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors

The C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors welcomes Kolette O'Donoghue to the Board. Kolette has a soft spot for children and is a proud wife and mother of 4 beautiful daughters.



Making Stronger Connections

The C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors/Staff has made even stronger connections with the Student Adoption Program Scholars. Each Board member/staff has one or more scholars to connect with during the 2021-2022 school year.

Pictured: Dr. Darcel Y. Brady and Aaliyah Magruder



In Memoriam

The C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors celebrates the life of a long time contributor to the C.R.A.F.T. organization. While our hearts are saddened, we rejoice for we know he is safely in the arms of our Lord. **Rev. Ricky Guyton**, pastor of Body of Christ MB Church (Chicago, IL) was a faithful supporter of the C.R.A.F.T organization both personally and through his church.

Please keep C.R.A.F.T. on your prayer list:

- Pray for emotional, physical, spiritual, financial needs of our scholars
- Additional funding as C.R.A.F.T. seeks to build a facility in Pembroke

Visit the C.R.A.F.T. website (www.craftinc.org)

- Donate electronically
- Share link with those in your network

**“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name
JESUS: for he shall save
his people from their sins.”** Matthew 1:21

Have a Blessed Christmas

C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors

**I would like to help C.R.A.F.T. continue in its mission to
be a light and blessing to our youth.”**

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

Please select one of the following: (☐) \$25 (☐) \$50 (☐) \$75 (☐) \$100 Other_____

This is a (n): (☐) One-time gift (☐) Annual Gift (☐) Quarterly Gift (☐) Monthly Gift

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