

Hello All! For Black History Month, Student Leaders Karla Peralta Santos and Alex Gonzalez had several ideas on how to acknowledge Black History Month at Preble. One of their ideas is to have staff highlight an African American adult whom they look up to and has a Wisconsin connection (The more local the better).



Justin Tomashek



Justin grew up in Southeastern Wisconsin, where he excelled in school and sports. He went to UW Whitewater, where he received his BSA in Marketing and was an NCAA Track and Field Athlete. Justin is a person who has demonstrated resilience multiple times in his life. His most prominent act of resiliency was while pursuing his dream of being an NCAA Athlete and running Track and Field at UW-Whitewater he had a seizure and collapsed at practice. When he came to, he was at the hospital where he was informed he had a large tumor in his Brain. On February 15th, 2012, Justin had Brain Surgery to remove the tumor. Despite his NCAA dreams being stripped from him, he still recovered, received his degree, and now is a Track and Field coach at the high school he attended. Justin is a role model for all.





Harry Sydney III



My Brother's Keeper Inc. was founded in 2003 by Harry F. Sydney. It is a non-profit organization with a mission to provide Straight Talk and Sound Direction to individuals who lack necessary life coping skills. All persons are welcome, regardless of race, creed, and ethical background. Participants range from troubled young boys, to men who are struggling with relationships, jobs, finances, and their life goals. My Brother's Keeper has helped thousands of boys and men change their lives. Remember, it's not where you come from, it's where you are going that counts.



Dr. Brenda Mouzon

Dr. Brenda Mouzon is the GED teacher here at Preble High School. However, she did not even start school herself until she was 10 years old. Her grandmother believed **girls should not be educated**, but she didn't let that stop her from eventually becoming literate all the way to gaining a mastery of the English language. She was born in Nassau, Bahamas, but **grew up in a shanty town** called Abaco and her first language is Creole. She continued to **never take no for an answer**, and moved to the USA her 3rd year of college. She eventually achieved her **PhD** in Education from Capella University.

She is working to develop an African American Club at Preble for next year, where her desire is to create awareness and show Students of Color the value of who they are through exploration and education of their roots.

"If you do not know your history, you cannot appreciate who you are," stated Mouzon.

After 21 years of teaching thousands of students, she chooses to remain in the classroom because she believes it is **the best place to impact change** through interacting with students to truly know them.





Eddie Boyce, CEO/Founder of Better Days Mentoring

Eddie Boyce has built a team at Better Days Mentoring that has proven to be a force for positive change with the youth of the community and a beacon of hope for those in need. We offer 1 on 1 intensive mentoring & appropriate peer relationship skills through group interactions that work to help clients find the best of themselves. By offering support, guidance and advice we work with individuals to address troubled decision-making and problem behaviors. By providing this service, we hope to enable each individual we encounter to find the best of themselves and reach their fullest possible potential

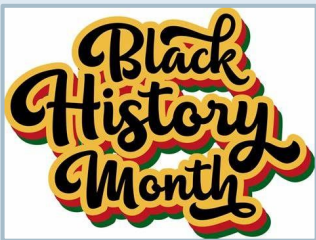


Richard Sims

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Richard Sims is a leader in the Green Bay community. He is from Ohio and was recruited to play basketball by UWGB in the 1980's He still holds the record for one of the top 10 all time leading scorers. Mr Sims is also employed by the Green Bay Area Public School district and has worked at East High School for almost 20 years. He has positively impacted hundreds if not thousands of students with his daily interactions. On and off the court, Richard is extremely faith filled and has been a role model for students and families in the Green Bay area, including my own family. He is a huge asset to the Green Bay area and is an excellent son, brother, husband, father, grandfather and friend. My husband and I are fortunate to call Rich and his wife Sandee not only dear friends but also family.





Vaushawn Johnson

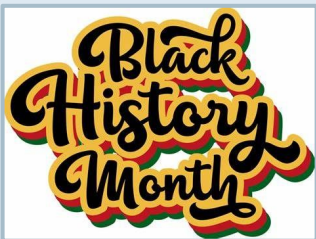
Vaushawn Johnson is the Executive Director for Adult and Teen Challenge of Northeast Wisconsin.

Adult and Teen Challenge is a faith-based non-profit organization that helps teen boys and adult men overcome addiction to drugs and alcohol.

For the last 10 years, Vaushawn has taught hundreds of men how to live their lives free from substance abuse allowing them to be present and active fathers, loving husbands, and successful members of their community. These men have been able to find their life's purpose and start pursuing their dreams. Families once destroyed by addiction have been reunited and able to move forward with hope for a better tomorrow. At ATC-NEW, we believe anyone can experience freedom from addiction when given the right tools.

Vaushawn is also a licensed pastor who resides in Pulaski, Wisconsin with his wife and children.

To learn more about this program, please visit www.atcnew.com





Bola Delano-Oriaran



Bola Delano-Oriaran, Ph.D., is an advocate for equity and multiculturalism in education and society. She earned her undergraduate and master's degrees at Savannah State University, Georgia, and her Ph.D. at Pennsylvania State University before assuming her current position as associate professor of education and director of the Student-Teaching Abroad program at St. Norbert College.

Delano-Oriaran continues to apply her teaching and scholarship focus, especially in the areas of positioning people of color for academic and professional success and engaging predominantly white communities and school districts in critical conversations on issues of race and social injustice.

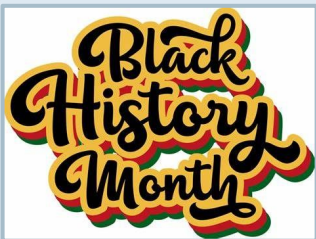
You might recognize Delano-Oriaran as the founder and co-founder of numerous initiatives, including African Heritage, Inc., Umoja, a Black Heritage program for transracial families with Black/African-American children and the African Heritage Emerging Student Leaders Institute. She is the recipient of numerous awards on diversity issues and community change. She was also recognized as one of the 28 most influential African-Americans in Wisconsin.



Juliet Ebiere Egbuson Cole



As the daughter of a chief, Juliet Ebiere Egbuson Cole was born a princess, in Benin City, Nigeria. Juliet has lived in several countries throughout her life. She finished her Bachelor's Degree in Social Change and Development and her Master's Degree in Cross-Cultural Counseling at UWGB, while working on campus in Student Services and raising her family. Passionate about multiculturalism and increasing understanding of the importance of respecting all cultures, she has been eager to give educators tools for including diverse students and providing support for students of color. As an ambassador for her culture, she started the Nia African and African-American Dance and Drumming Group in 2001. She teaches African dance workshops, does storytelling, and gives numerous presentations on Africa to students and adults. Juliet provided special expertise to the Minority Student Achievement Committee for the Green Bay School District. She has never lost faith in progress or in the potential of people of color to enrich the community. She sees it as her mission to bring people together, to serve the community by connecting cultures and thus improving relationships among and between people. In Juliet's words: "I want to bring people together, to serve my community by connecting people – showing true love. I believe we all have talents and skills, that nothing is too small to share, that it's important to make our voices heard."





Reginald Baylor



Reginald Baylor was only in kindergarten when his parents and teachers noticed his talent for art. Baylor attended UW-Oshkosh for sculpture, but it was through a philosophy course that Baylor developed a deep appreciation for line, a prevalent component in his work. The first artist-in-residence at the Pfister Hotel, Baylor is now one of Milwaukee's most successful artists and an important member of its creative community. He welcomes the public to his studio in the Historic Third Ward, and through his business Plaid Tuba Holdings, LLC, he works to mentor and develop young artists.





Robin Scott



Robin Nicole Scott, born in the south-side of Chicago, is an activist, public intellectual, and writer who advocates for the oppressed. Currently an Executive Director for We All Rise: African American Resource Center, she strives to help black youth and their families be positive participants of healthy relationships and be intentional about their investments in black history and culture. As a community activist, Founder, Feminist & Mom Boss—she is impressed with our community members and their intentionality around healing together. Robin works endlessly to ensure that her teachings are derived from the historical foundation of true mentorship which includes creating safe places, belonging and togetherness as we all move forward in progress.

Currently, writing the book *Let Me Be Here for YOU While YOU Stand Up For YOURSELF*, she asserts that there are no current writings that give a realistic view of her coined term 'African Americanism.' This book discusses race, culture, and spirituality as it all comes together to form the black experience. As a passionate community member, she intends for her work to touch the lives of many and bring homage to those living with the margins of race, class, and gender and managing every day to find ways to live their best lives.





Nerf Udoekong

Nerf lives by which is “You don’t need a reason to help people.” While growing up in a rougher part of the city and witnessing and experiencing different hardships as a result, Nerf continued to grow a passion for helping people overcome the difficult situations that life throws at them. Nerf attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI where he received his degree in Psychology with a focus on Counseling. During college, Nerf became a student leader for many different dance events and clubs for students, helping his peers find confidence and joy in movement through hip-hop and breakdance. Nerf also worked closely with the Multicultural Student Development Office and Pre-college programs providing leadership and support for incoming multicultural students and mentoring students of color.

After graduation, Nerf began working at Rawhide Youth Services where he worked with youth

that needed help, support, and guidance in their lives. Many of these young men came from very difficult backgrounds and home lives and Nerf along with other encouraging and supported staff helped them to find inner-strength and strong outward support to turn their lives around and have much brighter futures. After working at Rawhide for many years, Nerf continued to work with students and began working at Samaritan Counseling Center, where he worked in the Oshkosh Area School District and helped students struggling with depression and suicidal thoughts to get connected to counseling and community support services. Nerf has brought his passion for helping and encouraging students to his current job here at Preble. Nerf lives in Appleton with his son.





Celestine Jeffreys

Since moving to Green Bay in 2000, Celestine has become a part of the fabric of the Green Bay Community.

In April of 2006, Celestine became Green Bay's first African-American Alder. She served on many committees and in 2008, was re-elected by a 2-to-1 margin. She continued her political career on the Green Bay Area Public School board and was elected to two terms.

Celestine has served as Chief of Staff for Mayor Jim Schmitt, and is currently serving for Mayor Eric Genrich. She successfully partnered with Green Bay Area Public Schools to create program for free rides for students. Celestine plays a central role in improving relationships with the Oneida Nation, which will culminate in an improved Intergovernmental Agreement.

Celestine is a graduate of the University of Chicago. She is married to Professor Derek Jeffreys, and they have two sons.





Rhonda Chandler

A wife, mother and Social Worker of twenty years. Rhonda obtained her undergraduate degree in Sociology from Southern Connecticut State University and her Masters of Social Work from Clark Atlanta University. Early on Rhonda knew she wanted to work with children in some capacity. During her career she has worked in various employment settings advocating for the voiceless and working with individuals birth to 90+ years of age. She has experience in crisis intervention, psychosocial assessments, individual/family therapy, problem solving, serving on multidisciplinary teams, collaborating and connecting with families and organizations. She has been a member of the Service League of Green Bay and has volunteered in the local community. Rhonda is also the founder and CEO of Lovin' The Skin I'm In. Lovin' The Skin I'm In is a faith-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower and uplift girls (ages 7-18+) in N.E. Wisconsin who identify as African American, black or biracial by providing access and exposure to opportunities that develop their talents, gifts and leadership skills.

A logo for Black History Month featuring the words "Black History Month" in a stylized, colorful, bubbly font. The text is set against a white background with a thin black border.

Black
History
Month



Person's Name

Bio

