

THE ECHO FOUNDATION

Echo Award Against Indifference **Recipients 1998-2023**

Gandhi. King. Mandela. History offers extraordinary examples of individuals who take personal responsibility for the human condition. Since its inception, the *Echo Award Against Indifference* has honored those individuals in the Charlotte region who personify our mission to promote human dignity, justice and moral courage through positive, effective action for humankind. Past recipients of the *Echo Award Against Indifference* are:

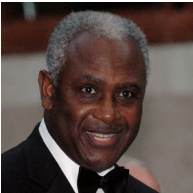


Sally Dalton Robinson

Trustee Emerita, Duke University

Founding Chair, Levine Museum of the New South

...for her unwavering commitment to developing Charlotte as a global city while fostering a sense of community among Charlotte's diverse citizens.



Harvey Gantt

Founder, Gantt Huberman Architects

Charlotte Mayor 1983-1987

...for his dignity as the first African American admitted to Clemson University and his peaceful approach to leadership and racial equality.



Thomas W. Ross, Sr.

Former President, University of North Carolina System

...for his unwavering commitment to social justice, equal access to education, and human dignity for all people.



Dr. Ophelia Garmon-Brown

VP & Chief Community Health & Wellness Officer, Novant Health

...for her vision and leadership on The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Opportunity Task Force Initiative and in the community.



Hugh McColl, Jr.

Former Chairman & CEO, Bank of America

...for championing universal access to economic opportunity and education as essential components of community development.



Ferguson, Stein, Chambers, Gresham & Sumter, P.A.

First integrated law firm in North Carolina

...for their groundbreaking work to further racial equality and to advance federal civil rights law.



Alan Dickson

Former President & Chair, Ruddick Corporation

President, The Dickson Foundation

...for his commitment to environmentalism and the sustainable development of the Charlotte community.



Sandra & Leon Levine

Community Philanthropists

Founder & Chairman Emeritus, Family Dollar Stores, Inc.

Founder, The Leon Levine Foundation

...for driving the development of community medical, educational, religious, and arts infrastructure.



Patricia Rodgers

President & CEO, Rodgers Builders, Inc.

...for her visionary leadership of Charlotte's vital cultural, educational and economic institutions.



Howard "Smoky" Bissell

Founder, The Bissell Companies

...for his personal and lifelong commitment to building community in Charlotte by enhancing the quality of our education and healthcare institutions.



R. Stuart Dickson

Former Chair, Ruddick Corporation

Chair, The Dickson Foundation

...for his vision and dedication to creating world-class arts and healthcare institutions in Charlotte.

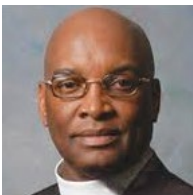


Sister Mary Thomas Burke

Founder & Former Chair, Counseling Department, UNC Charlotte

Founding Member, Planned Parenthood of Greater Charlotte

...for her determination to provide excellent care for women and families in the face of opposition.



Bishop George Battle, Jr.

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

Former President, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education

...for drawing upon faith to unite the community in tackling cycles of poverty, child neglect, racism and unequal educational opportunity.



Joseph B. Martin, III

Former Principal Corporate Affairs Executive & Special Counsel,
Bank of America

*...for promoting tolerance, respect and inclusion at all levels of
community-building.*



Mary Lou Babb

Founder, Women's Impact Fund; Trustee, The Mint Museum

James Babb

Board of Governors, University of North Carolina

*...for their dedication to the vibrancy of regional cultural and
educational institutions.*



Jerry Richardson

Owner, Carolina Panthers

*...for using his substantial power to grow economic opportunity through
sports, and for his countless acts of compassion, anonymously.*



Dr. Dean W. Colvard

Former Chancellor, UNC Charlotte

Former President, Mississippi State University

*...for his courage and leadership in integrating intercollegiate sports at
Mississippi State as its President in 1963.*



Steve Luquire

Founder and CEO, Luquire George Andrews

*...for his passionate commitment to equality, philanthropy, and
economic opportunity.*



Jesse Cureton

EVP & Chief Consumer Officer, Novant Health

*...for his leadership in unifying the system while building a culture of
wellness and consumer engagement.*



William Vandiver

Retired Executive, Bank of America

*...for his commitment to justice in all its forms, his far-reaching and
multi-faceted civic engagement, which made Charlotte a better place.*



Katherine Belk Morris

Former Board Chair, Read Charlotte, & Belk Foundation
...for her leadership in children's literacy.



Thomas M. "Tim" Belk, JR.

Former Chairman & CEO of Belk, Inc.
...for his environmental and civic leadership.



John R. "Johnny" Belk

Former President & COO of Belk, Inc.
...for his commitment to addressing racial and economic disparities to promote equitable education.



Eugene "Gene" A. Woods

CEO, Advocate Health
...for his leadership within the healthcare industry and striving to improve quality of life for those in Charlotte.