

LAS VEGAS

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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

## Fabulous Females

# 1998 Rose Awards recipients come from diverse fields

By Deborah Kohen  
Sentinel-Voice

The Professional Black Women's Alliance will hold its 13th annual Rose Awards ceremony honoring outstanding women of color on Thursday, July 18, at the West Las Vegas Library Theater, 951 W. Lake Mead Blvd.

A reception will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the awards program and refreshments. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children under age 16.

Founded and chartered in 1987, the alliance honors the achievements of Nevada women of color. It has conducted over 200 leadership development



LINDA HINSON

programs and honored more than 200 women.

Each year Rose Awards are given in two categories: role models and special award recipients.

Role Models set positive examples for today's children, who "must understand honor and have a passion for excellence, self respect, dignity and self regard," according to the alliance's literature.

It continues, "We are the 'image' of every social problem in this country! In order to preserve our collective sanity, we must publically combat this image in the spirit of honesty, dignity and self-respect."

This year's honorees include Lynette Boggs McDonald, the first African-American woman to serve as assistant city manager for the city of Las Vegas; Linda Hinson, special award recipient for business/economic achievement and the state's first woman of color to become city manager; and Dee Hicks, special recipient for community achievements and the first African-American vice president for patient care services at a Southern Nevada hospital.

Three of this year's role models are distinguished educators: Diana Lynn Byrd teaches physical education and coaches basketball at Cimarron Memorial High



Recipients for this year's Rose Awards include Linda Hinson, Dee Hicks and Gladys Luckie, (above).  
Photos special to Sentinel-Voice

School; Linda Gipson is principal of Kit Carson Elementary School; and Janis Adrienne Carter, development director for KUNV radio, once taught elementary school and worked in the juvenile court system with neglected and abused youth.

France Holland and special award recipient Joyce Eatman Jones have carved niches as dedicated humanitarians. Founder and minister of the interfaith, interracial Cathedral of Divine Guidance, Holland helps feed, clothe and house the poor and counsels alcohol and drug users.

Jones is president of Ladies  
(See Rose Awards, Page 9)



DEE HICKS

## Rally set as primer for Atlanta

By Deborah Kohen  
Sentinel-Voice

Building steam for September's Million Youth March in Atlanta, local African-American leaders plan a rally July 20 in West Las Vegas.

Participants will gather on the corner of Washington Avenue and Martin Luther King Boulevard at 5:45 p.m. and march to the West Las Vegas Library where they will convene a 6 p.m. town hall meeting. Marchers will wear white ribbons on their fingers as part of the "White Ribbon Campaign" for peace. The ribbons "show respect for all those we've lost," said Anthony Turner, a youth who will be marching.

Sponsors of the rally — the Kappa League, Nation of Islam and a new youth empowerment group called the "We Rise Youth Council" — have several objectives: to recruit unaffiliated youth into the Million Youth movement, jump start fund-raising efforts to help send local youth to Atlanta, foster better dialogue between young and older people, send a message to local politicians, and debunk negative myths about black teenagers.

"The stereotypes of our youth as gang-bangers and rap-slappers apply to one out of 20 in our community," said Vanessa Williams, founder and head of We Rise Youth Council and chairwoman of the state's Million Youth Movement coordinating committee.

Chief Executive Officer of the West Las Vegas Pride Community Development Center, Williams volunteers her time to We Rise because she said local youth need to learn the importance of community action.

"Many African-American students have no sense of self as far as history is concerned," said Williams, 24. "African-Americans used to have a voice (in national politics), but don't now because they're apathetic."

By educating teens about history, government and political issues, she encourages them to get more involved in the political process. "If people were taught the truth about American history, racism wouldn't exist. We built this country,"

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## Jury finds 19-year-old man guilty of killing Ennis Cosby

Special to Sentinel-Voice

The jury in the trial of a 19-year-old Ukrainian immigrant charged with killing the son of an American icon ended any speculation of another "trial of the century."

On Tuesday, jurors deliberated six hours in the two-week-old trial before finding Mikail Markhasev guilty of murdering 27-year-old Ennis Cosby. Markhasev, who reputedly has gang affiliations smirked as the verdict was read in a Santa Monica, Calif. courtroom.

Neither entertainer Bill nor

Camille Cosby, Ennis' parents were in the courtroom, but their daughters Erika and Erin wept and hugged as the verdict was read.

Markhasev was convicted of first-degree murder, attempted robbery and using a firearm in the commission of an attempted robbery and faces an automatic sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. Prosecutors will not seek the death penalty.

Markhasev's mother, grandmother and cousin, who'd sat next to the Cosbys during closing arguments,

spoke with Markhasev briefly in Russian after the trial, then draped their scarves over their faces and left without comment.

Defense attorneys questioned the jury's decision given what they say was a mountain of evidence pointing the finger elsewhere: No one, including the eyewitness to the murder, Cosby acquaintance Stephanie Crane, picked Markhasev out of a police line-up and his fingerprints were not found at the scene. The only evidence against him: a one-half-inch long strand of hair

found in a knit cap wrapped around the gun.

But, according to juror Joseph Burnett Vagner, 78, the verdict was based on copies of letters Markhasev wrote while in jail. "In those letters he convicted himself," Vagner said. In one of the letters, Markhasev wrote, "It was a robbery gone bad."

Convicted felon Christopher So led police to the murder weapon and quoted Markhasev as saying, "I shot a nigger. It's all over the news. It's big."

(See Cosby, Page 7)



MIKAIL MARKHASEV