

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL PROGRAM TO COMMEMORATE

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Thursday, February 23, 2017, 6:00 PM

Rotunda, New York County Courthouse,
60 Centre Street, New York, NY

HONORING

CIVIC LEADERSHIP AWARD

PAULA BROWN EDME'

NAACP Vice President of Field Operations

HON. THEODORE T. JONES, JR. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. FERN FISHER

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

HON. O. PETER SHERWOOD

Justice, Supreme Court Civil Branch, New York County



PRESENTED BY The New York State Unified Court System's Committee to Celebrate Black History Month

The Tribune Society, Inc. of the Courts of the State of New York and The Judicial Friends Association

THE CAMPAIGN FOR FISCAL EQUITY TIMELINE

1993 A group of parents from New York City launched the Campaign for Fiscal Equity (CFE), which sued New York State for failing to provide students with the quality education that is their right under the New York State Constitution.

2003 Parents and advocates walked 150 miles from New York City to Albany for the start of hearings in NYS highest court.

2006 The New York State Court of Appeals ruled that the state was failing to provide students with the classroom resources necessary to receive the "sound basic education."

2007-2009 The state adopted the Foundation Aid formula and committed to adding \$5.5 billion in basic classroom operating aid over 4 years to all state school districts. The state allocated \$2.3 billion to schools in Foundation Aid as the phase-in began, resulting in a much-needed expansion of programs and services at many schools.

2009-2012 During the fiscal crisis, the state froze funding for the Foundation Aid formula, ending the commitment to a four-year phase-in of CFE. During the recession, \$2.7 billion was cut from school aid, including over \$2.1 billion in classroom cuts, in effect reversing CFE.

2012-2015 The state has made incremental increases to education funding, but is still far from fulfilling the promise of CFE.

Today, Foundation Aid levels remain much lower than the CFE recommendation. Schools are still owed \$3.9 billion in Foundation Aid, most of which is owed to districts with high percentages of black and brown students.