



2021 BAA Trailblazer Award Virtual Reception

12:30 p.m., May 4, 2021

Welcome and Purpose

Rev. Dr. W. Clay Macaulay (D.Min.'85)
Director of Alumni Development

Opening Prayer

Rev. William R. Freeman (M.Div.'01)
Moderator, UPSem Black Alumni Association
Retired Elder in Full Connection, The United Methodist Church

Trailblazer Award Description and Purpose

Rev. Dr. W. Clay Macaulay (D.Min.'85)

2021 Trailblazer Award Recipient Introduction

Rev. Dr. Rebecca L. Davis (M.A.'90, M.Div.'91, Ph.D.'07)
Associate Professor of Christian Education

2021 Trailblazer Award Recipient Remarks

Rev. Dr. Richelle B. White (M.A.C.E.'03, Ph.D.'11)
Professor of Youth Ministry, Director of Ministry Leadership Internships
Kuyper College, Grand Rapids, Michigan

2021 Trailblazer Award Presentation

Rev. Dr. Brian K. Blount
President and Professor of New Testament
in the Walter W. Moore and Charles E.S. Kraemer Presidential Chairs

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Dr. Larry Enis, Jr. (Th.M.'04, Ph.D.'13)
Founding Pastor, New Beginnings Church, Henrico, VA

Black Alumni Association Statement of Purpose and Invitation

Rev. Dr. Larry Enis, Jr. (Th.M.'04, Ph.D.'13)

Closing

Rev. Dr. W. Clay Macaulay (D.Min.'85)

You're invited! The Black Alumni Association is pleased to invite ALL Union Presbyterian Seminary Alumni to attend the annual meeting on Wednesday, May 5 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.



2021 Trailblazer Award Recipient

Rev. Dr. Richelle B. White
(M.A.C.E.'03, Ph.D.'11)

Professor of Youth Ministry,
Director of Ministry Leadership Internships
Kuyper College, Grand Rapids, Michigan

A lifelong learner and educator, Rev. Dr. Richelle White has more than 25 years of experience working with children and youth as a public school teacher, afterschool program coordinator, Sunday school teacher, advocate, youth pastor, mentor, teen counselor, program director, workshop leader, curriculum writer, life coach, and ministry consultant.

Rev. Dr. White currently serves as Professor of Youth Ministry and Director of Ministry Leadership Internships at Kuyper College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She is also a part-time instructor of church education at Calvin Theological Seminary.

As creator and director, Rev. Dr. White oversees "In Pursuit of Identity" an afterschool program for upper elementary school girls of color at the Gerald R. Ford Academic Center in Grand Rapids. The program emphases include self-esteem building, identity formation, character education, and leadership development.

A successful author, Rev. Dr. White published the nationally recognized curriculum, *Daughters of Imani: Christian Rites of Passage for African American Young Women* and *Daughters of Imani Young Women's Bible Study*. She is a regular contributor to Abingdon Press' intergenerational Vacation Bible School curriculum that utilizes African American culture to teach biblical truths. Rev. Dr. White's latest book, *Repertory with Roots: Black Youth, Black History, Black Culture, Black Music and the Bible*, is a teaching/learning resource that engages Black youth.

As an ordained itinerant elder in Michigan Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. Dr. White also serves as associate minister at First Community A.M.E. Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The words of historically renowned educator Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune are foundational in Rev. Dr. White's approach to ministry for, with and by youth: "We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power toward good ends."