

2022 Rising Stars Celebration of Hope



RISING STARS

CELEBRATION OF HOPE



Celebrate justice-involved survivors
at the **RISING STARS**
CELEBRATION of HOPE!





Rising Stars 2022

Preshow - Reception, photos, photobooth & BHS jazz combo plays

12:00 Welcome & housekeeping by Arion Chapman

12:10 Lunch service begins...Video sizzle reel

12:20 Invocation - Pastor Tanisha Walton, The Way

12:25 Performance by Saxophonist KJ Focus

12:35 Alumni Keynote Speaker, Thomas Jones (+ prize drawing)

12:45 Keynote Speaker, Kayla Bushey, US Olympic Track & Field Hopeful

12:55 Omid Khalilnaji, Deputy Public Defender - Alameda County (+ prize drawing)

1:05 Performance by Poetess Nicia De'Lovely

1:15 Presentation of 2022 RISING STARS by Arion Chapman

1:30 Silent Auction Announcements

1:45 Thank you's and Closing





Welcome to Rising Stars,

Congratulations to our 2022 Rising Stars Awardees!!

It is with heartfelt respect, admiration, and love that I say YOU DESERVE THIS -- and not just this, but so much more. You deserve love, safety, respect, and a sense of belonging -- something I hope BOSS has provided you with. You deserve safe affordable housing, living wage jobs, healthy relationships, and opportunities -- which we see you striving towards each day.

I have been at BOSS now for over 9 years, and every year I see obstacles and challenges steeped in a history of racial oppression, policy violence, inequity, and injustice -- but at the same time, I have seen inspiring strength, creativity, determination, grace, courage, and success. I see lives change and heal, I see communities come together -- always thanks to individuals like you, who are committed to positive change for your own lives, your families, and your communities.

We wish you health, happiness, and continued progress -- congratulations on all you have achieved, and will continue to achieve!

*Sincerely,
Donald Frazier, Chief Executive Officer*



Our Mission

Our mission is to help homeless, poor, and disabled people achieve health and self-sufficiency, and to fight against the root causes of poverty and homelessness.

BOSS was created in 1971 to help individuals with severe and persistent mental illness who had become displaced because of public hospital closures. Programs and services expanded over the past five decades to include services for unhoused, disabled, and low-income individuals, families, and neighborhoods in Alameda County. In 2013, executive leadership expanded the mission and began developing solutions for mass incarceration and violence in the community as unaddressed crises stemming from racially biased policies and systemic inequities.

Today, BOSS is recognized as a social justice leader with housing, reentry, violence prevention, along with innovative service delivery methodologies.

About Rising Stars

FROM JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT TO POSITIVE NEW FUTURES

Despite the rising crime, justice-involved men and women exemplify grace and determination as they overcome trauma and carve new paths. RISING STARS CELEBRATION OF HOPE honors justice-involved young people in our community who are working hard on a fresh start.

The men and women being honored have overcome traumatic experiences with domestic or community violence, family separation, homelessness, extreme poverty, incarceration, and justice system involvement – Despite it all, they are determined to rebuild their lives, attain gainful employment, and do whatever it takes to take care of themselves and their families. With distressed communities being hit hardest by two years of COVID impacts and crime rising nationwide, these honorees are incredible and important SUCCESS STORIES that need to be shared and celebrated!!

Welcome to the 2022 Rising Stars Celebration of Hope



Orion Chapman



Saxophonist KJ Focus



Poetess Nia DeLovely



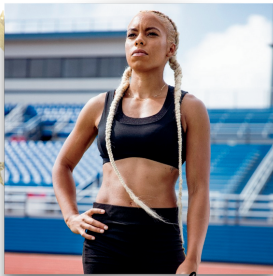
Rising Stars Speakers



Pastor Javisha Walton

Born and raised in Oakland California, Tanisha attended Biola University in Southern California - she found her love and passion for working with young people and discovered her love for ministry.

Currently, she serves as the Campus Pastor at The Way Christian Center in Berkeley and is enrolled in an M.Div program at Payne Theological University. She is excited to have launched her new LLC called CollabHERation which works to provide safe spaces and solidarity among black girls in the Berkeley Unified School District and beyond.



Kayla Bushey

Kayla Bushey is an elite US Olympic Track & Field Hopeful. Kayla educates athletes on triple jump training and creates digital content to share her journey through professional athletics post collegiately. She teams up with companies that share her go-getter mentality.

Kayla has coached as an NCAA USATF - serving for 3 years and continues to share the sport through camps, clinics, and online education.



Thomas Jones

Thomas Jones, a Berkeley native and a Rising Stars alumni, graduated from San Francisco State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. His passion is his work in his community. He has volunteered with Alameda County Juvenile Probation, Berkeley Youth Alternatives, and previous Berkeley Council member, Max Anderson. This led him to work at BOSS for a year before taking a position to continue his work in housing.



Omid Khalilnaji

Omid Khalilnaji, an Oakland native is a Deputy Public Defender at the ACPDO. He has represented thousands of individuals accused of criminal offenses and facing state prison sentences. His desire to pursue a legal career was influenced by his parents' dedication to justice and advocacy for marginalized communities. For the past fifteen years, he has dedicated his career to the pursuit of justice in representing Alameda County residents.



Your 2022 Rising Stars



Fatima Harrison

Carl Duncan

Julian Owens

Israel Raya

Alberto Mercado

Mona Johnson

Stephan Richardson

Mezzianna Woolridge

Shameka Adams

David Sears



Elmo Ballard



Nigel Harris

Leonor Gutierrez

Merci Pena

Talitha Winston

Alysia J. Lovett

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Thank You

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To zealously protect and defend the rights of our clients through compassionate and inspired legal representation of the highest quality, in pursuit of a fair and unbiased system of justice for all - offering more than criminal defense services. Our approach to various outreach efforts and programs is designed to help with more than just criminal defense services:

Oakland Community Block Party: The Block Party is a free event, usually held in East Oakland in the summer.

LYRIC: Learn Your Rights in California - LYRIC is a youth know-your-rights program designed to educate students about their Constitutional rights.

VOICE: Voter Outreach Increases Community Empowerment - VOICE empowers eligible incarcerated individuals to vote.

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“

Kindness is giving hope to those who think they are all alone in this world - Kindness is seeing the best in others when they cannot see it in themselves - Kindness is something anyone can give without losing anything themselves - Kindness is not what you do, but who you are.



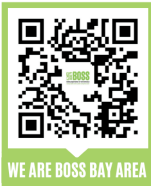
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Rising Stars Silent Auction



Virtual
Bartending
Lesson and
Tasting

An Experience on
Water and on
Land in San Diego,
California

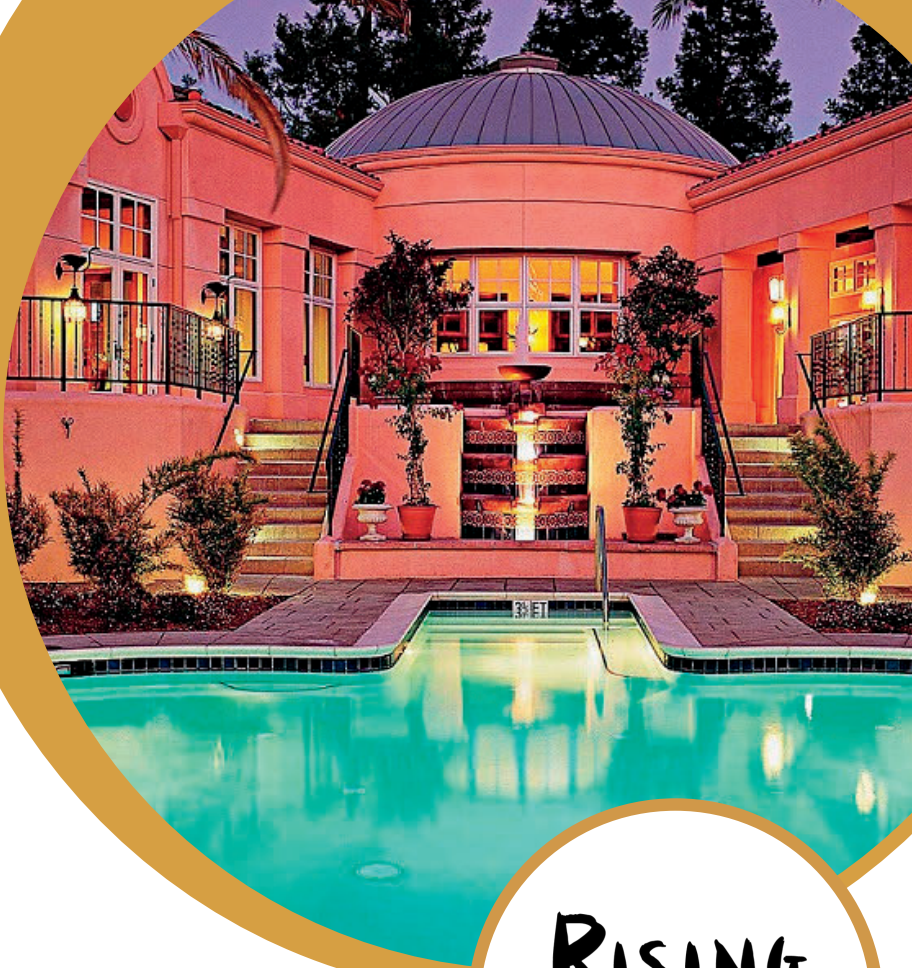


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**RISING
STARS**
CELEBRATION OF HOPE



RISING STARS

CELEBRATION OF HOPE

Our silent auction packages covered a range of unique experiences, from sports experiences to stage magic, VIP wine tasting, excursions and more.

Thank you for your courtesy to our auction donors and congratulations to the winners.

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