



# MILWAUKEE COURIER

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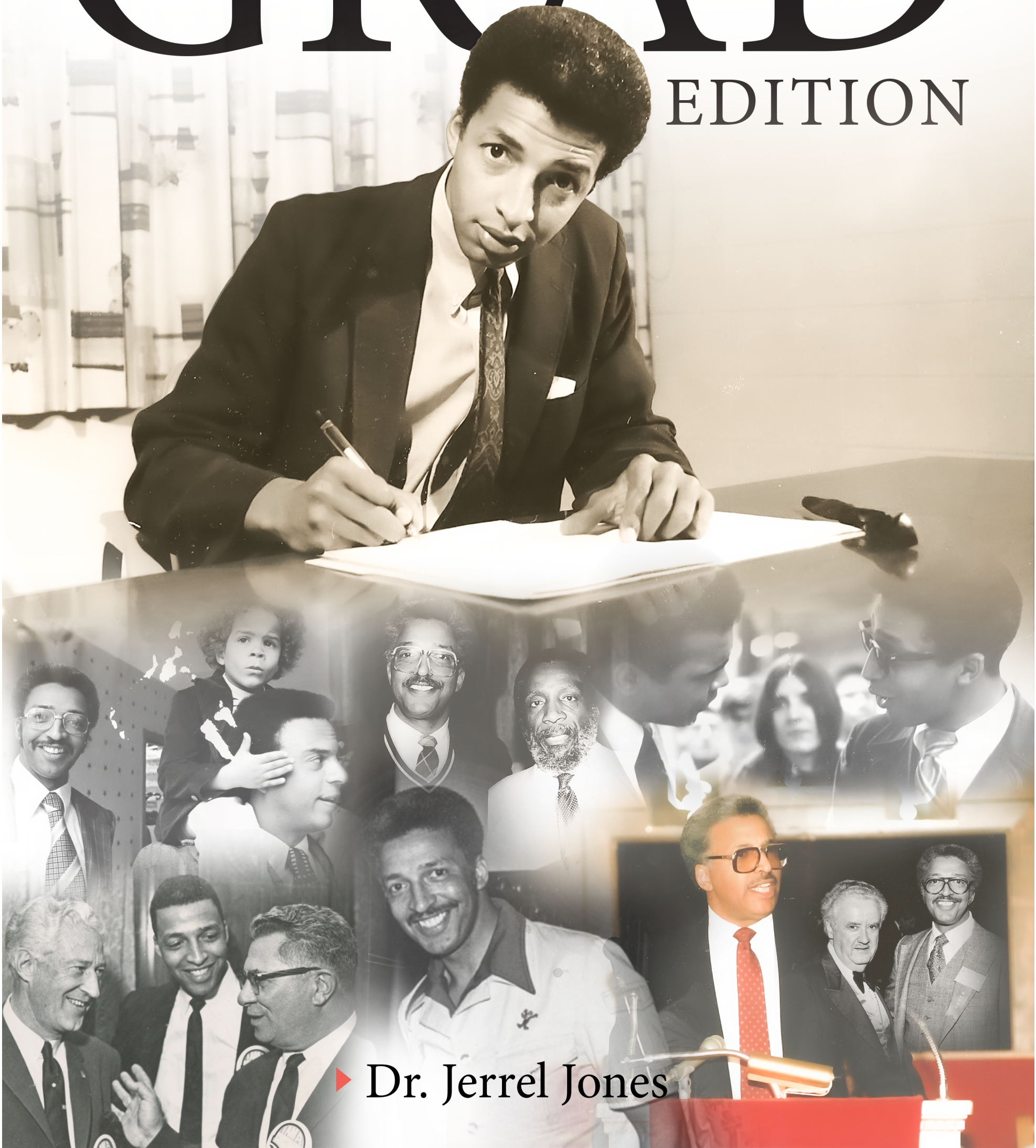
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"THE NEWSPAPER YOU CAN TRUST SINCE 1964"

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2022

# GRAD

## EDITION



Check out more on 2022 Graduates Inside!



### Seniority

"...MESF is investing in the next generation of Black mental health therapists."

● More on page 2



### Investment

He credits much of his success to his mentor S.B. Fuller (one of the first Black millionaires) and his mother Dr. Mary Ellen Strong.

● More on page 4



# Seniority

## Mary Ellen Strong Foundation Supports Black Graduate Students



Mayor Cavalier Johnson with members of the Mary Ellen Strong Foundation (MESF). Pictured (left to right) MESF Scholar Shyterria Sparkman, MSW; MESF Board member Dr. Khyana Pumphrey; MESF Scholar Jasmine Seymore, MSW; MESF Board Chair Carolyn Wright; Mayor Cavalier Johnson; MESF Scholar Carrie Robinson, MSW; MESF Advisory Board Member Dr. Yvonne Bell-Gooden and MESF Executive Director Dr. Stacey Jones. Photo by Sims Strong Studios

The Professional Development Program provides wraparound support for Black students pursuing their Master's of Social Work at UW-Milwaukee. This wraparound support includes providing substantial tuition scholarships, matching students with mentors who are all Black licensed mental health professionals with years of experience and providing professional growth opportunities such as networking, workshops, and participating in community activities. MESF takes a hands on and individualized approach to the professional development

*“...it takes years to educate and train people to do this work. MESF is investing in the next generation of Black mental health therapists.”*

– Dr. Stacey Jones

of its scholars which sets it apart from other programs supporting students. MESF Executive Director Dr. Stacey Jones describes the programming. “We have been blessed with an amazing group of advisors, mentors and scholars who are all committed to one common goal-healing the Black community in Milwaukee through providing mental health services.” “I think that everyone agrees that we need more Black therapists and there is no quick fix to this problem as it takes years to educate and train people to do this work. MESF is investing in the next generation of Black mental health therapists.” To date, all MESF’s scholars have received their MSW on time and are now working in the mental health field.

For more information about the Mary Ellen Strong Foundation go to [maryellenstrong.org](http://maryellenstrong.org).

Office of the Mayor  
CITY OF MILWAUKEE



Proclamation

hereas:

The City of Milwaukee proudly joins family, friends and colleagues in acknowledging Dr. Jerrel Jones on Sunday, May 15 and,

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Jerrel Jones has been a civil rights pioneer and unparalleled media pioneer throughout his career, and was most recently awarded a 2022 honorary doctor of humane letters degree from Cardinal Stritch University; and,

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Jerrel Jones is known for his business accomplishments including the Milwaukee courier (1964-present) and WNOV (1972-present), and he was the first black owner of a newspaper and radio station in the United States; and,

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Jerrel Jones helped develop multimedia communications industry professionals in Milwaukee, and his strong presence in the Black community has played a major role in shaping politics and culture, and he was active in the civil rights movement from the onset and has been instrumental in political campaigns from local offices to the presidency; and,

**WHEREAS,** The City of Milwaukee commends Dr. Jerrel Jones for his many years of activism for the Black community, his loyalty to business and politics and recognizes his outstanding contributions to the Milwaukee community;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CAVALIER JOHNSON,** Mayor of the City of Milwaukee, do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 15, 2022, to be

**DR. JERREL JONES DAY**

throughout the City of Milwaukee.

  
CAVALIER JOHNSON  
Mayor





# VictoryBound



## MPS Senior Send-Off Helps Students Take Next Steps

Milwaukee Public Schools hosted its annual Senior Send-off on Friday, June 17, at Rufus King International High School. The event helps students celebrate the end of high school and the start of new adventures in college and career. Class of 2022 graduates attended to enjoy food, music, games, and great prizes for a dorm room or apartment. A number of graduates were nominated for “Senior of the Year” honors, recognizing their persistence in overcoming obstacles to exhibit exceptional achievement. Many MPS students have faced significant challenges in their lives and are now on their way to college with multiple scholarships. Congratulations to Jaden Bandy on being named Senior of the Year! Bandy was valedictorian at Milwaukee Marshall High School and will attend Milwaukee School of Engineering in fall.

During the event, students also received information about supports available in MPS College and Career Centers this summer. For hours and more information, visit the MPS College and Career Center page. Check out our Summer Workshop Series, find summer work on your future college campus, and to see what else the College and Career Centers have to offer this summer!

## MPS Celebrates Valedictorians & Salutatorians

*Congratulations to all MPS valedictorians and salutatorians! As we celebrate graduation, MPS wants to recognize its highest-achieving students. We are especially proud of the young women and men who have excelled and attained the highest grades in their class.*

### MPS Class of 2022 Valedictorians



- |                           |                        |                      |
|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Cari Ann Thompson         | Jonathan Edwards       | Maegan Wozniak       |
| Elizabeth Nieves          | Samuel Elko            | Kennedy Young        |
| Dulce Medina              | Alexander Gramajo      | Lillian Zippel       |
| Wahida Osman              | Renee Harris           | Sincere Whalesmith   |
| Andy Vue                  | Cassidy Kahn-Pettigrew | Tee Moo Hser         |
| Jose’ Ramirez             | Meg Kilander           | Jaden Bandy          |
| Jada Williams             | Felix Koch             | Soren Ditzenberger   |
| Pawlak, Devon A           | Peyton Koch            | Katherine Villanueva |
| Angel Mandujano Rodriguez | Daisha Lafford         | Nou Vang             |
| Shaqyana Arnold           | Alicia Lezama          | Aajanae Bowie        |
| Lily Sedlar               | Benjamin Liebl         | Jasmine Morris       |
| Gabrielle Acevedo         | Elizabeth Leterski     | Angel Bernabe        |
| Ellie Rae Balotovsky      | Costello Mylott        | Malik Abu-Shawish    |
| Ruby Carman-Frank         | Mariana Reed           | Elliot Barta         |
| Lola Crowley              | Stella Richards        | Nolan Burger         |
| Findlay Drabant           | Milo Tasman            | Diego De Haan        |
|                           | Christina Vargas       | Dylan Duffy          |

*Continued on page 7*



Special congratulations to Milwaukee Courier owner and CEO **Dr. Jerrel W. Jones**, who received an honorary doctoral degree in recognition of his contributions to society and to the well-being of our fellow citizens that reflect the Franciscan values to which Strich is dedicated.

CONGRATULATIONS  
**STRITCH**  
CLASS OF 2022  
GRADUATES!

Your Stritch education has prepared you to transform the communities where you live, work, serve and lead. We are proud of your accomplishments and look forward to your continued success.



CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY  
[www.stritch.edu](http://www.stritch.edu)





# Investment



## Jerrel Jones Receives Honorary Doctorate

**O**n Sunday, May 15 2022, Jerrel Jones received his Honorary Doctorate in Humanities from Cardinal Stritch University. This honor was bestowed due to his work as a media pioneer and lifelong service to the Black community. Jerrel Jones was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His business accomplishments include (but are not limited to) The Milwaukee Courier (1964-present) and WNOV (1972-present). Given his strong presence in the Black community over the last six decades, he has played a major role in shaping politics and culture. WNOV was one of the first radio stations in the world to give airplay to Marvin Gaye's album "What's Going On" as well as thousands of other Black artists (especially during the rise of Rap/Hip-Hop) who were not able to break into mainstream markets. He was active in the

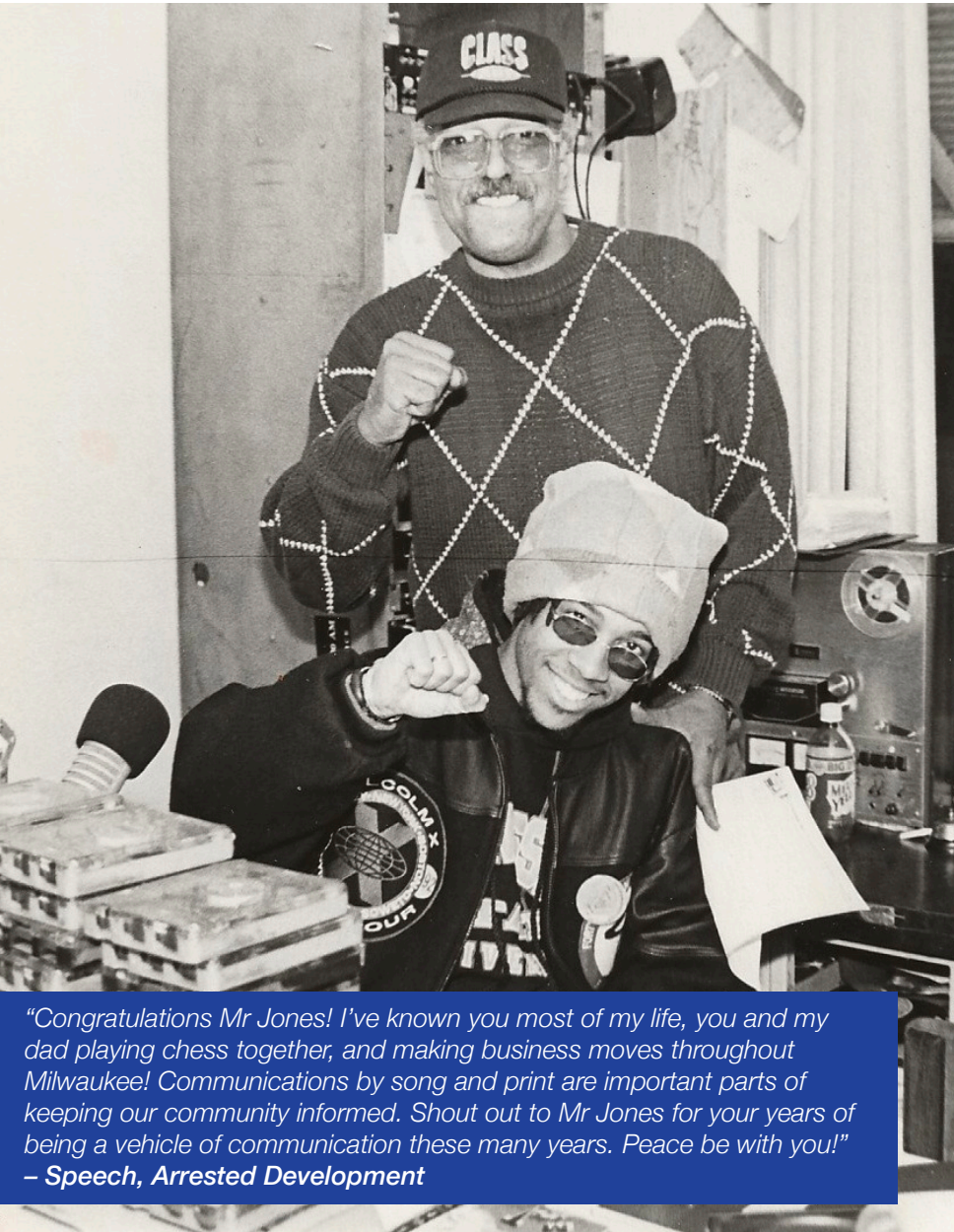
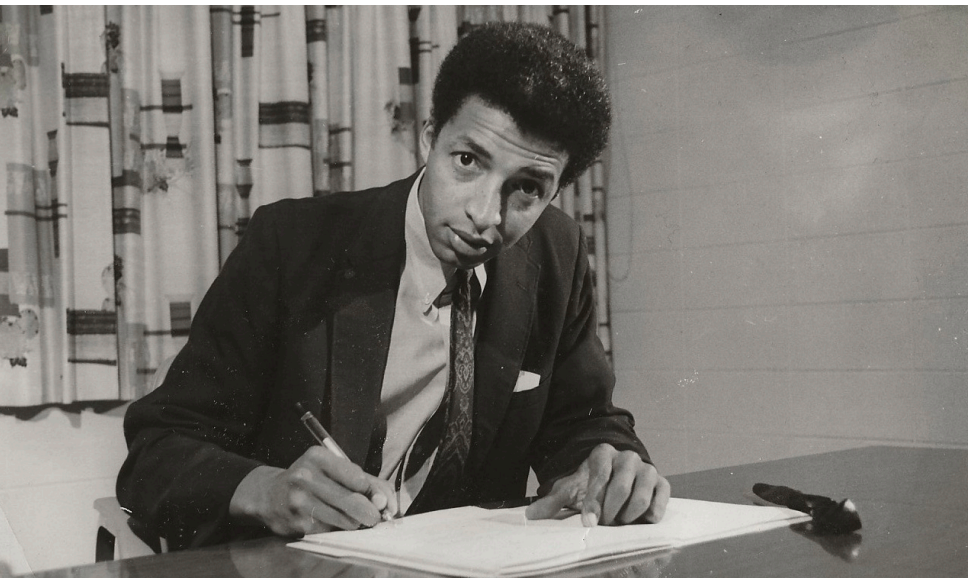
civil rights movement from the onset and has been instrumental in political campaigns from local offices to the presidency for decades. He credits much of his success to his mentor S.B. Fuller (one of the first Black millionaires) and his mother Dr. Mary Ellen Strong. Although he had to abandon his goal of completing college due to the demands of running multiple businesses and raising a family, education has always been of the utmost importance to him. He and his wife of 63 years Earnestine have five children all of whom graduated from prestigious schools. In addition to his business and personal accomplishments he has also held international titles for Chess and a Black belt in Tae Kwon Do. At 82, he continues to consult and remains an important figure in the community.



Jones accredits his success to having strong role models such as serial entrepreneurs S.B. Fuller and Jones' mother Dr. Mary Ellen Strong (pictured above). He was also mentored by Dr. Carlton Goodlet early into his publishing career.



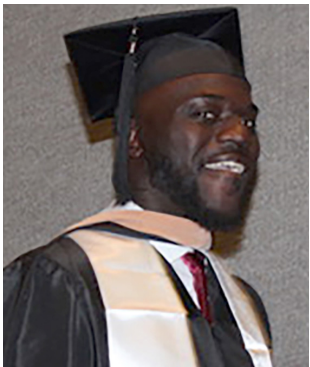
# Investment



"Congratulations Mr Jones! I've known you most of my life, you and my dad playing chess together, and making business moves throughout Milwaukee! Communications by song and print are important parts of keeping our community informed. Shout out to Mr Jones for your years of being a vehicle of communication these many years. Peace be with you!"  
- Speech, Arrested Development



# MindMatters





# Congratulations

## 2022 Graduates and Special Recognition To Dr. Jerrel W. Jones

Mayor Cavalier Johnson	Ben Barnes	Kathleen Hoh
Gerard Randall	Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs	Mark Wade
Congresswoman Gwen Moore	Senator Lena Taylor	Anna Hodges
Carole Geary	Spencer Coggs City of Milwaukee	David Bowen
Dorothy Leavell	Treasurer	Brian McKaig
John Smith	Joy Bramble	Ann McCullough
Dr. Amelia Ashley-Ward	Kerri Watkins	Dr. Yvonne Bell-Gooden
Marcus Mays	Sandra Stewart	Cassandra Lanier
Mr. & Mrs. Roemel Brown	Bernie Foster	Dr. Khyana Pumphrey
Sandra Robinson	Marcia Wayer	The Jones Families
Faithe Colas	Brenda Andrews	The McGinnis Family
Tiffany Maclin	Will Martin	The Solakian Family
Mr. & Mrs. Robby Robinson	Cynthia Luckett	Ashanti Hamilton
Mr. & Mrs Marvin Pratt	Martha Love	County Executive David Crowley
Dr. Sharon Barnes	Mae Bolden	

### MPS Celebrates Valedictorians and Salutatorians

Continued from page 3  
Angela Gorton  
Marlen Mora-Gomez  
Gus Pointer Mace  
Alexandria Rapp  
Emily Roemer  
Ariah Ross  
Magdalyn Rowley Lange  
Alexander Valenzuela  
Casiquez  
Cassandra Viveros  
Zeno Wilson  
Richard Zarling  
Giselle Zuniga  
Orion J. King  
Saul Vences Puebla  
Damarrion Scott  
Supranee Yang  
Samantha Russ-Allen  
Laniya Sims

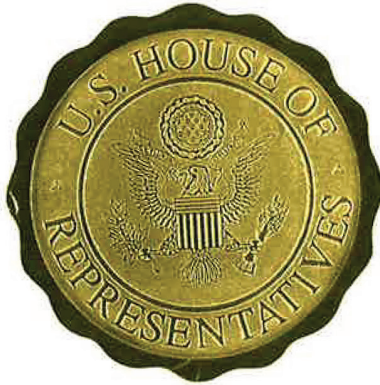
### MPS Class of 2022 Salutatorians

Shakira Dawson  
Leo Burdick  
Spencer Hordyk  
Yalitza Lopez  
Jayna Hogan-White  
Leilanie Rubio  
Reyson Rodriguez-Mendez  
Yedid Bonfil-Moranchel  
Lisset Rojas Martinez  
Shiltz, Gita  
Angie Torres Ayala  
Mousa Qatoum  
Sebastian Robinson  
Eugene Hinton  
Layla Luckett  
Toluwanimi Olatunji  
Amya Camberos  
Jayson Hahn  
Iyonna Wilbourn  
Rokihya Cannedy  
Khadija Rogers  
Eh Kee Lar Soe  
Fnu Tahira  
Nur Yasmin Omar  
Jayln Williams  
Brianah Payton  
Shyann Towns  
Mariah Merriweather

250 E. Wisconsin Ave. STE 950  
Milwaukee, WI 53202-5818  
(414) 297-1140

June 15, 2022

Mr. Jerrel Jones  
In Care of Cardinal Stritch University  
6801 N Yates Rd,  
Milwaukee, WI 53217



2245 Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-4572

Dear Mr. Jerrel Jones,

It is with great honor that I congratulate you on being awarded recipient of a 2022 honorary doctor of humane letters degree from Cardinal Stritch University. I cannot think of a more deserving candidate than you to be acknowledged for such an award. You were an inspiration to the many Cardinal Stritch students in attendance who heard you speak

Mr. Jones you are a trailblazer not only in the Milwaukee African American Community but in African- American culture across the United States. You were the first Black owner of a newspaper and radio station in the United States. You founded the ultra-inspirational and ultra-influential medias: The Milwaukee Courier (1964-present) and WNOV (1972-present). You were one of the first to give airplay to Marvin Gaye’s album “*What’s Going On*,” as well as thousands of other Black artists who were not able to break into mainstream markets. You were essential in giving Rap and Hip-Hop early radio time before America accepted it as popular music. You were active in the civil rights movement from the onset and have been instrumental in political campaigns from local offices to the presidency for decades. Your contributions to media were widely influential for over 60 years across many areas and cultures.

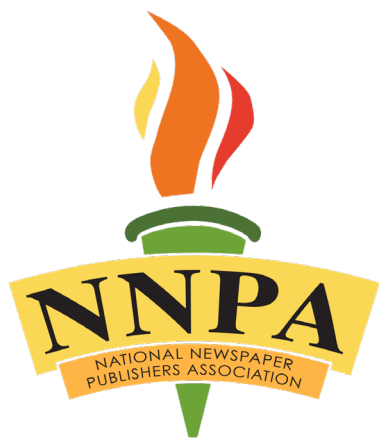
Most importantly you understand the necessity of African Americans having a reliable and consistent news service. Not only did you design your company for sustainability, but you also trained many African American professionals to have a voice in media companies across the country. You understood the importance of having a voice for the people. I understand you had to give up on attending college because of time restraints of running two successful businesses. However, your time and experience in the industry is worth countless degrees and I am happy that you are finally getting the formal recognition of all the knowledge you shared.

On behalf of the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, I would like to again congratulate you on being awarded the 2022 honorary doctor of humane letters degree from Cardinal Stritch University.

Sincerely,  
  
Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress



# With Honors



Newspaper Publishers  
(The Black Press of America)

*Congratulates*

2022 Graduates  
and Our NNPA member

Dr. Jerrel Jones

for Receiving His Honorary Doctorate Degree  
in Humane Letters

THE BALTIMORE TIMES

THE Skanner NEWS

New Journal & Guide  
Norfolk, Virginia  
Publishing Since 1900

"Georgia's Best Weekly"  
The Savannah Tribune

THE CRUSADER  
NEWSPAPER GROUP

THE NEW YORK CARIBNEWS  
THE WEEKLY VOICE OF THE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Sun-Reporter  
NEWS JOURNAL DEDICATED TO THE CAUSE OF THE PEOPLE • 77 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE ENTIRE BAY AREA

MILWAUKEE COURIER

DAILY CHALLENGE  
THE CITY'S ONLY BLACK DAILY

THE TOLEDO JOURNAL

The MadisonTimes  
THE PAPER THAT'S MORE THAN BLACK AND WHITE

The ATLANTA INQUIRER