WELCOME TO HEROES & TRAILBLAZERS

BLAC Detroit’s 2018 annual calendar

“A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself.”

– Joseph Campbell, writer

What does it mean to be a hero? A parent is a hero to their child. A teacher can be a hero to her students. A minister can be a hero to his flock. But to be a hero in the eyes of the public at large? That’s a tougher threshold to achieve, but one still represented in the quote above.

At its essence, a hero is someone whose efforts leave a positive impact on his or her community. Someone who acts not just for himself, but for the greater good. At times, a hero must demonstrate bravery and determination in the face of resistance.

Those are certainly traits shared by the 12 heroes and trailblazers featured in this 2018 annual calendar, produced with our friends at BLAC Detroit magazine. Detroit would not be Detroit without some unsung heroes who blazed a trail that we all enjoy today – from the well-known trailblazers like music mogul Berry Gordy to lesser-known heroes like Beulah Cain Brewer, Detroit’s first black school principal. We owe the people before us our gratitude and respect – and remembrance.

I hope you are inspired each month as you learn a bit more about some of these amazing people. Perhaps it will inspire you to blaze a trail of your own and be heroic in big and small ways this coming year.

Chancellor and CEO of Wayne County Community College District

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