

BRANDON V. RAY, TRUSTEE

Mr. Brandon V. Ray a proud product of the Hempstead Public School System is presently an Outreach Manager for the Urban League of Long Island. In 2007 Mr. Ray completed course work requirements of the National Urban Fellows Inc. fellowship program. He earned a Masters Degree in Public Administration from CUNY- Baruch College School of Public Affairs. During his Fellowship he served as an executive fellow in the Office of the City Manager of Norfolk, Virginia. In this role, he worked with budgeting, policies, intergovernmental affairs, community relations and various city departments. Mr. Ray used this opportunity to increase his learning about environmental policies, sustainable building, homelessness, and community policing. He also experienced living in a new city and became more integrated in the surrounding community by volunteering with educators, working with youth and volunteering with the local Urban League affiliate. He used this fellowship program to serve his mentor and the citizens of Norfolk, Virginia.

In 2003 he was the Assistant Coordinator for the N.A.A.C.P. Reginald F. Lewis Youth Entrepreneurial Institute. In this capacity, he was responsible for twenty-five young men and women to complete a program focused on business and entrepreneurship. This program served as a vehicle for promoting better academic and financial success of students, by developing their skills, setting goals and solving problems. Mr. Ray was also responsible for recruiting entrepreneurs as speakers to share their experiences with the youth who were enrolled in the program.

Brandon also had the privilege of interning in the office of the President of the National Urban League, the Hon. Marc H. Morial, in New York. This opportunity served as the catalyst for Brandon's growing interest in urban planning and laid the foundation for what would become a strong relationship with NUL. During this internship Brandon learned about NUL's agenda of empowerment and the strategies it has developed for address obstacles to personal and economic stability for disadvantaged individuals and communities. Later, he served as a Diversity Solutions Consultant for the National Urban League.

Brandon received his Bachelor in Business Administration from Howard University in May of 2004. He is the recipient of numerous awards from organizations, including the 100 Black Men of Long Island, Circle K of Hempstead, the Trey Whitfield Foundation and most recently the 2009 Urban League of Long Island Legacy Award.

Brandon's volunteer services include Howard University's Brother 2 Brother Youth Conference, the Inner voice Connection Mentoring Program, the Junior Achievement Service Learning Project, and the Howard University Alumni Association of New York City, Committee Member on the 2005 New York Urban League Whitney M. Young Scholarship selection committee, Member of the Urban League of Long Island Young Achievers planning committee, and NYC Co-chair of the Young and Powerful for Obama, a coalition of young professionals throughout the nation who raised approximately over \$250,000 for the Presidential campaign of Barack Obama.

Mr. Ray is also a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated Kappa Xi Lambda Chapter, The New Hempstead Democratic Club, The National Forum for Black Public Administrators, Urban League of Long Island Young Professionals, National Association of African Americans in Human Resources-Greater New York Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated's MLK Memorial Internal Fundraising Committee, Chair of the NY Selection Committee Usher New Look Program and Chair of the Wall Street Alphas Charitable Foundation Inc. Sponsorship and Fund raising Committee.

Brandon is a resident of Hempstead, NY for 26 years and is a member of Union Baptist Church in Hempstead, NY. He hopes to develop leadership's skills that will help him succeed in the public policy arena. Mr. Ray believes in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. philosophy that ***"everyone can be great because everyone can serve."***