

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT FITNESS NETWORK



Rev. Sharon McClain, CEFN Board President is seen accepting an Outstanding Leadership Award from CEFN's board members



Alisha Willis, CEFN's board member is seen crowning Joseph Craddock (Lord of the Harvest) and Hattie Williams (Belle of the Ball) at the 2019 Senior Harvest Ball



Top Sellers for the Motown Senior Gala are seen accepting awards and prizes from CEFN platinum sponsor Dedicated Senior Medical Center and our most valuable community partner Caregivers America

CEFN'S Motown Revue Senior Gala - A Smashing Success!

Greetings CEFN's wonderful and precious friends and supporters! I trust that you are finally enjoying this beautiful spring weather! Despite the ongoing pandemic, I am happy to report CEFN's first fundraiser of the year, the 7th annual Motown Revue senior spring gala extravaganza, was a smashing success! We are pleased to announce that for the first time in seven years, we had a sold-out event with over 500 older adults in attendance. Due to the smashing success of the April event, I am pleased to announce we have sold close to 470 tickets for our October event. With the large turnout for this event and the calls for our next event constantly rolling in, we have talked with the Hilton to expand the space to be able to host our event.

Unlike our annual spring senior gala, CEFN's fall senior gala is slightly different. It is more of a formal event. The Senior Harvest Ball will be a black and white formal event. As always we will have a delicious catered meal, live entertainment, dancing, a DJ, an MC, health and wellness vendors, raffle prizes, giveaways, and a special feature will be the crowning of the Belle of the Ball and the Lord of the Harvest. Some of you may recall that Hattie Williams and Joseph Craddock were chosen during the 2019 Senior Harvest Ball (see photo above). The major criteria for selecting the Belle of the Ball and Lord of the Harvest are the contestants should be leaders in their community, have charisma, have a positive outlook on life despite overcoming major adversities in their life, and are inspirations to others. Both Ms. Hattie and Mr. Joseph possessed all of the above qualities and characteristics. They are now ready to pass their crowns to the contestants for 2022.

"Wow, what an awesome event!" was the typical response from the Motown Senior Gala attendees. **For more details and photos from the event, please see pages 2 and 3.**

Finally, CEFN thanks **Platinum Sponsor, Dedicated Senior Medical Center, and our most valuable community partner, Caregivers America,** and our precious sponsors/vendors and volunteers for helping to make the Motown Senior Gala a smashing success!

We especially want to thank CEFN's outstanding performers: MC and comedian Malcolm Hill, DJ Gary Cowlay, Motown dance instructor Marilynne Cornell, duet performers Minister James Wilson and Michelle Ray, and the Smooth Edge Band. Special thanks to our photographer, Theresa Rivers, and videographer, Andrew Hoffman, for their outstanding photos and video clips. Please view the full photos and video clips by visiting the CEFN website, www.cefn.org.

CEFN looks forward to hosting our **2nd Annual Senior Harvest Ball on Friday, October 14.** For ticket information, please contact Sherry Hill at **(215)858-4957** or email us at cefnphila@gmail.com or visit www.cefn.org.

**Peace and Blessings,
Sherry Hill**



Attendee is seen getting down during the Soul Train line dance



Jeannie Bryant is seen winning the money tree from Lincoln Financial



Marilynne Cornell is seen demonstrating Motown dance movements

CEFN's Motown Revue Senior Gala - A Day to Remember!

Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, CEFN, in partnership with our platinum sponsor, **Dedicated Senior Medical Center**, and **Caregivers America**, hosted an amazing and spectacular **7th Annual Senior Gala Extravaganza Motown Revue** on **Friday, April 1st, 2022**. **Dedicated Senior Medical Center** staff did an outstanding job making sure that the event was COVID-19 safe by taking temperature checks, especially because the event was held indoors in the midst of a pandemic. Over 500 older adults were in attendance at the Hilton Hotel located on City Avenue in Philadelphia, PA. According to the attendees' evaluations, the majority rated the overall event between excellent and good. The highlights of the event featured: DJ Gary Colway, Jr., MC and comedian Malcolm Hill, the live entertainment provided by Smooth Edge Band, Motown musical selections performed by Minister James Wilson and Michelle Ray, and Motown karaoke.

One of the older adults summed up their impression of the event and its highlights by saying that they *"wouldn't change a thing"* and *"made many wonderful memories."* The attendees mentioned how it was *"great to be around friends and family."* The older adults were especially blown away by the dance instructor, **Marilynne Cornell**, who provided the attendees with multiple Motown dance demos, which the older adults, volunteers, interns, and sponsors/vendors really enjoyed participating in. Marilynne commented, "You are to be commended for creating such an **AWESOME** event! It had all the right elements. The vibe among the attendees was something to behold. **EVERYONE** had a good time! Thank you CEFN for asking me to participate in this event."

The event's festivities started off with Minister James Wilson sharing a tribute and history of Motown, singing early Motown hits, and later, Michelle Ray joined him singing, "Dancing in the Street," "Ain't No Mountain High," and "If This World Were Mine." Afterward, the attendees enjoyed the musical selections from the Smooth Edge Band and the Motown karaoke from Carolyn Everett singing Mary Wells' hit "My Guy." She was sensational. Rev. Sharon thrilled the attendees by singing the Martha and the Vandellas hit "Come and Get These Memories." The highlight of the event was Marilynne Cornell's fun and interactive Motown dance demos. She demonstrated the "Stop! In The Name of Love" dance demo for the ladies and Marvin Gaye's hit song "How Sweet It Is" for the male attendees. They were ecstatic and enjoyed it immensely. **Malcolm Hill, MC and comedian**, was hilarious. He kept the event filled with laughter and good humor. 98% of the attendees noted on their evaluation that "we must bring him back."

Jeannie Bryant, who has attended several of CEFN's senior galas, was thrilled when Vaughn Coleman, our money tree vendor, picked her name out of his money tree raffle basket. She stated, "I was thrilled and shocked when my name was called, winning the \$100 money tree." She stated that she had a premonition that she was going to win by just "claiming it." "I had a premonition that I was going to win this time and was still shocked and surprised when my name was called," Jeannie commented. She further stated, "The event was AWESOME! I even enjoyed sitting in the back of the ballroom. I enjoyed the fellowship of meeting new people and connecting with old friends, the Motown theme of the event, the decorations, everyone's outfits, the live entertainment, and the health and wellness vendors." She looks forward to attending the next event on Friday, October 14.

In continuing our tradition of hosting Senior Galas, CEFN will be hosting the **2nd Annual Senior Harvest Ball**, which is being held on **Friday, October 14th, 2022 at the Hilton Hotel on City Avenue**. This event will feature a catered meal, DJ, MC, dancing, live entertainment, health and wellness vendors, giveaways, raffle prizes, the crowning of the Belle of the Ball and the Lord of the Harvest, and much more! **For ticket information, please call (215) 858-4957 or email us at cefnphila@gmail.com**. You can also view the photos and video clips of the event by visiting CEFN's website, www.cefn.org.

In the meantime, we look forward to seeing all of your beautiful faces at our upcoming **Senior Harvest Ball**, which will be held on **Friday, October 14th, 2022 at the Hilton Hotel on City Avenue (see flyer on page 4)**.

Best Regards,
Honor Goldberg
CEFN's Event Coordinator

SENIOR GALA EXTRAVAGANZA

MOTOWN REVUE HIGHLIGHTS



Cefn Presents
The Second Annual



Senior Harvest Ball

Black & White Formal

Featuring:

DJ

Vendors

Dancing

Give Aways

Catered Meal

Raffles & Prizes

Live Entertainment

Crowning of Belle of the

Ball & Lord of the Harvest

and much more...

Donation \$40

Date: October 14th, 2022

11am - 3pm (Doors open @ 10am)

Location: Hilton Hotel, 4200 City Avenue,
Philadelphia, PA 19131

Parking available on City Line Avenue Mall across
from Hotel

Hotel Parking \$7.00 - Free Shuttle Bus (from hotel
parking lot)

For more info Contact Sherry Hill (215) 858-4957
or email cefnphila@gmail.com

Make check payable to CEFN

Mail to: P.O. Box 4122 Philadelphia, PA 19144



Belle of
the Ball

Lord of
the Harvest

For more info contact
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@(215) 858-4957