



*Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service*

## Cincinnati (OH) Chapter

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Kathy Wade, Communications Chair  
513.518.7228 Cell  
dakamusic@yahoo.com

***Cincinnati (OH) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated Presents the Emerald and Diamond Gala Celebrating 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***  
***Four-time Grammy nominee and #1 Billboard Jazz Artist Boney James Performs***

Cincinnati, OH – The Cincinnati (OH) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated welcomes the Greater Cincinnati community to celebrate the kick-off of their 65 years of service during their signature ***Emerald and Diamond Gala***, a black tie dinner and concert affair. The signature fundraiser for the Cincinnati (OH) Chapter is Saturday, November 15, 2014, Cocktails 6:00 p.m., Dinner and Awards, 7:00 p.m. at the Horseshoe Casino. The evening will highlight over 6 decades of transformational service provided by the Cincinnati (OH) Chapter with honor recognitions in each of the five Facet areas of Links service.

The 2014 Emerald and Diamond Gala Honorees are for Services To Youth, Lighthouse Youth Services, Bob Mecum; National Trends and Services, YWCA Battered Women's Shelter, Charlene Venturea; The Arts, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Trey Davey; International Trends and Services, Dr. Chris Lewis, Village Life Outreach Project; and Health and Human Services, Dr. Monica Mitchell, Pediatric Care, Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Guests will walk the 'green carpet' at 6:00 p.m., into cocktails, enjoy a delectable dinner followed by program recognition. A special celebration performance culminates the evening from four-time GRAMMY nominee and #1 Billboard Jazz Artist, Boney James. Tickets are \$125 per person and available on line at [www.cincinnati.links.org](http://www.cincinnati.links.org). Cynthia Booth is the Event Chair with Deborah Spradley and Miriam West are Event Co-chairs.

"The Cincinnati (OH) Chapter looks forward the kick-off celebration of 65 consistent years of service and friendship in the Greater Cincinnati community with our signature fundraiser." said Winona McNeil, Cincinnati (OH) Chapter President. She continued, "The Gala gives us an opportunity to recognize the myriad of partners who have generously supported our programs and events over the last six decades in the Cincinnati community." Proceeds from the Gala benefit the programs and services of the Cincinnati (OH) Chapter including programs at partner school, Bond Hill Academy, the annual Girls Conference and the national award winning Youth Docent Program at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

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The Cincinnati Chapter was chartered on March 30, 1950, making it the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter to be established in Linkdom. Over the course of the past 65 years, the Cincinnati Chapter has produced one National President, Central Area Director, both held by Vivian Beamon; 2 National Arts Chairs Margaret Hough and Yvonne Robertson and several national and area appointees. The Cincinnati (OH) Chapter will co-host, with the Queen City (OH) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, the 2015 Central Area Conference which will convene June 17-20, 2015 at the Westin and Hilton Netherland Hotels when we welcome over 650 attendees to the conference.

Chapter programs, as with all Links chapters, fall within five facets: National Trends and Services, The Arts, Services to Youth, International Trends and Services, and most recently, Health and Wellness. Through their programs, the Cincinnati Chapter of the Links, Inc. has positively impacted thousands of people in our region and contributed over \$1.2 million back into the community. The Cincinnati (OH) Chapter's mission is to give service to humankind and to improve the quality of life for people in the communities where we live and the people we serve. For more information, please visit our website at [www.cincinnati-links.org](http://www.cincinnati-links.org).

### **About The Links, Incorporated**

The Links, Incorporated celebrates more than 65 years as a women's volunteer service organization committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the cultural and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry. A premier international service organization with more than 12,000 members in 280 chapters located in 41 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, its legacy of friends providing service that changes lives, established by the original circle of nine friends in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1946, is alive and well.

The Links Foundation, Incorporated, the philanthropic arm of The Links, Incorporated, has made more than \$25 million in charitable contributions since its founding. With more than 2 million service hours recorded in the past three years, members regularly contribute more than 500,000 documented service hours in their respective communities annually. The Links, Incorporated: ***"Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service."*** For more information, visit [www.linksinc.org](http://www.linksinc.org).

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**For Photos and Interviews, contact Kathy Wade, 513.518.7228, Communications Chair.**