

The Seventh Annual



Tribute

to African-American Achievement



The
Friends of
Mankind
Awards,
Feb. 18,
2006



The 2006 awardees clockwise from top left: Rev. Charles L. Kennedy, Minister Tony Mohammed (accepting on behalf of Minister Louis Farrakhan), Rev. Johnny Ray Youngblood, Rev. James and Mrs. Cleo McLaughlin.

People of all different religious backgrounds and beliefs converged on the Fort Harrison Hotel to attend the annual *Tribute to African-American Achievement* hosted by Ebony Awakening and the Church of Scientology. Muslims, SCIENTOLOGISTS, Buddhists, and Christians of various denominations were among the more than 600 in attendance.

The clear message attendees took from the event was that the social betterment programs of L. Ron Hubbard can be used by *anyone* and can empower *anyone* in the African American community to change conditions for the better—regardless of their religious beliefs.

Tribute



Ebony Awakening first began honoring those in our community who are “fighting the good fight” in 1999. Since that time, this annual celebration during Black History Month has grown each year. This year’s tribute acknowledged in full measure that the right and willingness to help others has no limitations of faith, background or belief.

Patricia Harney of the Church of Scientology’s Office of Special Affairs delivered the opening remarks, followed by a powerful keynote address by the Reverend Alfreddie Johnson.

Entertainment by The Men of Note, The High Praise Dancers, and David Pomeranz with the Glorious Gospel Singers lifted the roof, raising an already electric mood to new heights, and the night was capped off by a brilliant performance by 2005 awardee Chaka Khan, singing with the Without Walls International Church Choir, Tampa, Florida.



Above left: Rev. Alfreddie Johnson. Above Right, Top to Bottom: the High Praise Dancers; Chaka Khan; Men of Note

Tribute

The individuals honored for their significant contributions to the Black community, and for using the social betterment programs to help improve conditions in their communities were:

Dr. Charles L. Kennedy – C.L. Kennedy Community Center, Tampa, FL

Reverend Johnny Ray Youngblood – St. Paul Community Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY

Reverend James and Mrs. Cleo McLaughlin – NARCONON Gift Of Life Drug Rehabilitation Program (GOLD), Houston, TX

The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan – The Nation of Islam, Chicago, IL

On accepting their awards, each honoree praised the social betterment programs and spoke about the miracles that were occurring in their ministries and in their communities at large due to their application of these programs.

Minister Tony Mohammed, the Western Regional Director for the Nation of Islam, accepted the award on behalf of Minister Louis Farrakhan, who was ill and was convalescing at home. Nonetheless, Minister Farrakhan graciously called in to give his thanks and blessings. He had this to say about L. Ron Hubbard:

“I was taught by The Honorable Elijah Mohammed to respect and honor truth wherever you find it, and to bow in submission to truth wherever you find it, and to stand up and bear witness to the truth-teller wherever you hear it. As a student of The Honorable Elijah Mohammed, when I learned of brother L. Ron Hubbard and learned of his mastery of physics and his relationship of physical law to spiritual law and by the use of spiritual law, help people to see how scientifically they can gain control and mastery of self, the forces in self and the forces around self. So L. Ron Hubbard to me is a very, very great teacher...”

