

# QUES ON THE HILL

APRIL 9 – 11, 2025 ~ TALLAHASSEE, FL

***SILENCE IS NOT AN OPTION,  
OUR WORK CONTINUES***

## HONORARY HOSTS

Senator  
Darryl  
Rouson



Vice Chairman  
Kionne  
McGhee



School Board Member  
Edwin Ferguson



Commissioner  
Nick Maddox



Property Appraiser  
Reggie Cunningham

### Organizers:

Russell Drake  
Terrell Jenkins  
J. Randy Johnson  
Sam Oliver  
Frank Peterman III



[www.QuesOnTheHill.com](http://www.QuesOnTheHill.com)

#QuesOnTheHill2025 @FloridaQues

## History of Florida's Ques on the Hill

**Ques on the Hill was first hosted by Omega's Florida Statewide Organization in 2003.** The Vision of Senators Tony Hill & Gary Siplin, Representatives Tee Holloway & Frank Peterman, Jr. and Congressman Kendrick Meek, combined with the charge of 37<sup>th</sup> Grand Basileus, the Honorable George H. Grace and 18<sup>th</sup> Seventh District Representative Edgar L. Mathis, led to the creation of the first Omega Day at Capitol Hill. They wanted a day for Brothers to visit the State Capitol, learn about the legislative process and return home with civic knowledge to share.

Experienced with State & Federal Policy, Brother Sam Oliver became the Chairman for the occasion, with capable Co-Chair Brother Terrell Jenkins. Connecting the dots between the Brothers in the State House & Senate at the time, and leveraging their influence and resources, **they architected an impactful and educational Day on the Hill that broke ground for Omega**, immediately dawning the nickname "Ques on the Hill."

**Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was the FIRST NPHC Fraternity in the state to host a Day at the Capitol**, paving the way for all Divine Nine frats to follow suit. It ran like a smooth train for a decade, masterfully oiled by Conductor Brother Oliver, with rising fraternity leaders like Brother Benjamin Crump, E. Newton Jackosn, Jr., and Darron Toston working alongside. Crafting themes annually and inviting Brothers from across the state & nation to participate, Ques on the Hill became a signature event for the Florida Statewide Organization (FSO)

After 2012, Omega was down to one (1) Brother left in the State Legislature: Brother Darryl Rouson of St. Petersburg serving in the State House. Soon after, Chairman Oliver ascended to other professional roles, taking his hands off the Ques on the Hill steering wheel for the first time since its inception. There was not another Omega to join Rep Rouson in the State House until 2015; by then resources dwindled and our day at the capitol came to a slow halt.

In 2019, 23<sup>rd</sup> FSO State Representative M. Kevin Woodall gave the charge to reestablish a Ques on the Hill, only to be thwarted by the pandemic. In 2022, 24<sup>th</sup> State Representative Darron Toston gave a similar charge, leading to a Virtual Ques on the Hill. **In 2023 Omega returned to an in-person Ques on the Hill for the first time in a decade:** led by Chair Russell Drake and VREM Committee Chairs J. Randy Johnson and Manuel Jones and anchored by Ques on the Hill Chair Emeritus Sam Oliver. Subsequently a **bountiful Ques on the Hill occurred in 2024**. Persevering through years of pain to days of joy, **Senator Darryl Rouson is again our fraternity's lone representation in the State Legislature.**

**Omega is Back in Tallahassee for Ques on the Hill 2025** – Chaired by Russell Drake with Co-Chairs Terrell Jenkins, Randy Johnson, Sam Oliver and Frank Peterman, III. Organized by a 25-man committee, **Omega has Cemented our Return to the Hill**, with a timely theme of **"Silence is Not an Option, Our Work Continues"**.

# Omega Men who Served in the Florida State Legislature

## Senator James T. "Jim" Hargrett Jr. – Tampa, FL

- Florida Senate, District 21 (1993 to 2000)
- Florida House of Representatives, District 63 (1982 -1992)



## Senator Anthony C. "Tony" Hill – Jacksonville, FL

- Florida Senate, District 1 (2002 to 2011)
- Florida House of Representatives, District 14 (1992 to 2000)



## Congressman Kendrick B. Meek – Miami, FL

- United States House of Representatives, FL District 17 (2003 to 2011)
- Florida Senate, District 70 (1998-2002)
- Florida House of Representatives, District 104 (1994-1998)



## Representative Wilbert T. "Tee" Holloway – Miami, FL

- Florida House of Representatives, District 103 (2000-2007)



## Senator Gary A. Siplin – Orlando, FL

- Florida Senate, District 19 (2002 to 2012)
- Florida House of Representatives, District 39 (2000-2002)



## Representative Frank W. Peterman, Jr. – St. Petersburg, FL

- Florida House of Representatives, District 55 (2000-2008)



## Senator Darryl E. Rouson\* – St. Petersburg, FL

- **Florida Senate, District 19 & 16 (2016 to 2026)**
- Florida House of Representatives, District 55 & 70 (2008-2016)



## Representative Kionne L. McGhee – Miami, FL

- Florida House of Representatives, District 117 (2012-2020)



## Representative Sean M. Shaw – Tampa, FL

- Florida House of Representatives, District 61 (2016-2018)



## Representative Christopher E. Benjamin – Miami, FL

- Florida House of Representatives, District 107 (2020-2024)



*\* Currently serving in State Legislature*

## Omegas in Elected Office in Florida 2025

<b>County</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Alachua	<b>Charles Chestnut IV</b>	<b>Alachua County Commissioner &amp; Chairman</b>	Beta Pi
Brevard	<b>Michael Blake</b>	<b>City of Cocoa Mayor</b>	Gamma Nu
	<b>Kenny Johnson</b>	<b>Palm Bay City Councilman</b>	Gamma Nu
Broward	<b>Woody Clermont</b>	<b>Broward County Court Judge</b>	Sigma Alpha
	<b>Sarai Martin</b>	<b>Lauder Hill City Commissioner</b>	Zeta Chi
	<b>Robert McKinzie</b>	<b>Broward County Commissioner</b>	Zeta Chi
	<b>Harold Pryor</b>	<b>Broward County State Attorney</b>	Eta Nu
	<b>Joshua Simmons</b>	<b>Coral Springs City Commissioner</b>	Lambda Alpha Alpha
	<b>Gordon Weekes</b>	<b>Broward County Public Defender</b>	Zeta Chi
Duval	<b>Lester Bass</b>	<b>Nassau County Circuit Court Judge</b>	Theta Phi
	<b>Reginald Blount</b>	<b>Duval County School Board Member</b>	Theta Phi
	<b>Brian Davis</b>	<b>Middle FL US District Court Judge</b>	Theta Phi
Gadsden	<b>Reginald Cunningham</b>	<b>Gaston County Property Appraiser</b>	Chi Omega
Leon	<b>Nicholas Maddox</b>	<b>Leon County Commissioner</b>	Chi Omega
Marion	<b>Eric Cummings</b>	<b>Marion County School Board Member</b>	Psi Chi
Miami-Dade	<b>Christopher Benjamin</b>	<b>Miami-Dade County Court Judge</b>	Sigma Alpha
	<b>Oliver Gilbert, III</b>	<b>Miami-Dade County Commissioner</b>	Sigma Alpha
	<b>Reggie Leon</b>	<b>Miami Gardens City Councilman</b>	Sigma Alpha
	<b>Kionne McGhee</b>	<b>Miami-Dade County Commissioner &amp; Vice Chairman</b>	Pi Nu
	<b>Otis Wallace</b>	<b>City of Florida City Mayor</b>	Pi Nu
Orange	<b>Bakari Burns</b>	<b>Orlando City Commissioner</b>	Chi Tau
	<b>Jerry Demings</b>	<b>Orange County Mayor</b>	Chi Tau
	<b>Alexander Smith</b>	<b>Apopka City Commissioner</b>	Chi Tau
	<b>Reginald Whitehead</b>	<b>Orange County Court Judge</b>	Chi Tau
Palm Beach	<b>Edwin Ferguson</b>	<b>Palm Beach County School Board Member</b>	Kappa Upsilon
Pinellas	<b>Darryl Rouson</b>	<b>FL State Senator District 16</b>	Eta Rho
	<b>Kenneth Welch</b>	<b>City of St Petersburg Mayor</b>	Eta Rho
Polk	<b>Nathaniel Birdsong, Jr.</b>	<b>Winter Haven City Commissioner &amp; Mayor Pro-Tem</b>	Upsilon Xi
	<b>Leo Longworth</b>	<b>Bartow City Commissioner &amp; Mayor</b>	Upsilon Xi
Putnam	<b>Will Jones</b>	<b>Palatka City Commissioner</b>	Iota Mu Nu
St. Lucie	<b>Arnold Gaines</b>	<b>Fort Pierce City Commissioner</b>	Omicron Tau

# Ques on the Hill 2025 Agenda and Mission

## Mission

*To have an impactful Omega Day at the Capitol that educates and mobilizes the collective of Omega Men across the State of Florida to take purposeful civic action. In doing so, build alliances and develop synergistic near- and long-term plans & solutions that elevate the communities we seek to serve.*

## DAY 1 – Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup> Ques on the Hill Kickoff

### **Virtual Kickoff – *Silence in Not an Option Panel* ~ 6 pm – 7:30 pm**

- Darryl Rouson, State Senator District 16
- Harold Pryor, Broward County State Attorney
- Kionne McGhee, Miami Dade County Commission Vice Chairman
- Nick Maddox, Leon County Commissioner At-Large
- Arnold Gaines, Fort Pierce City Commissioner District 1
- Alexander Smith, Apopka City Commissioner Seat 1
- Moderator: Matthew Tisdol, Zeta Nu Nu Chapter Basileus

### **Banned Book Kickoff Reception ~ 7 pm – 9 pm at JoEllen’s (Tallahassee)**

- Reception to kick off the weekend and collect Banned Books

## DAY 2 – Thursday April 10<sup>th</sup> in Tallahassee at State Capitol Bldg.

### **Lobby Day – Our Work Continues**

8:30 am – 9:00 am	Meet Up & Breakfast
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Lobbying Our Stances
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Tours of the Capitol (Hour Long – 9 am, 10 am, 11 am)
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Visit the House Gallery (Groups of 20)
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Education Session
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Our Work Continues – Lunch & Dialogue
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Press Conference at Civil Rights Hall of Fame
2:30 pm	Ques on the Hill Photo on Old Capitol Building Steps
7:00 PM – 11:00 pm	Legislative Black Caucus Gala

## DAY 3 – Friday April 11<sup>th</sup> in Tallahassee at State Capitol Bldg.

### **Unified Hour of Action – Unity Panel**

9:00 am – 11:00 am	Unity Across the Generations Panel
	• <i>Panel with Leaders or Representatives from Partner Organizations</i>
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Tour of House Chambers
11:00 am	Unity Photo
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Tour of Senate Chambers
11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Legislative Black Caucus Brunch at The Edison
2:00 pm	Most Brothers Will Depart Tallahassee



***DAY 1 ~ Silence is Not an Option Panel***

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc, Seventh District Florida Statewide Organization presents

# **QUES ON THE HILL**

***SILENCE IS NOT AN OPTION, OUR WORK CONTINUES***

## ***DAY 1 – VIRTUAL KICKOFF***

**WEDNESDAY – APRIL 9, 2025**

**6:00 PM EST VIA FACEBOOK LIVE**

**FACEBOOK.COM/FLORIDA.QUES**

### **FEATURED PANELISTS**



**State Senator  
Darryl Rouson**



**Broward County  
State Attorney  
Harold Pryor**



**Miami Dade County  
Vice Chairman  
Kionne McGhee**



**Fort Pierce City  
Commissioner  
Arnold Gaines**



**Leon County  
Commissioner  
Nick Maddox**



**Apopka City  
Commissioner  
Alexander Smith**

**MODERATOR:  
ZNN Chapter Basileus  
Matthew Tisdol**



**COMPLETE WEEK AGENDA AT:  
[QUESONTHEHILL.COM](http://QUESONTHEHILL.COM)**

## DAY 1 ~ Banned Book Reception

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Seventh District Florida  
Statewide Organization and Chi Omega Chapter presents

### QUES ON THE HILL Banned Book Reception

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH, 2025

7 PM - 9 PM

JOELLEN'S RESTAURANT

215 W. College Ave; Tallahassee, FL 32301



**STOP  
BOOK  
BANNING**



Hosted by

Past State Senator  
Tony Hill



Build Black Daily CEO & Founder  
Russell Drake

**Bring a Banned Book for Entry**

RSVP at [www.bannedbookreception.com](http://www.bannedbookreception.com)

Books Benefiting:  
The Black History Project  
Underground Railroad Teach-In  
Omega FSO Community Library

[www.floridaque.com](http://www.floridaque.com)

Ques on the Hill

## Banned Book Reception

April 9, 2025

Russell Drake, Presiding

Mix and Mingle

*Food and Beverages Served*

Elected Official(s) Acknowledgment  
and Remarks

Omega Official(s) Acknowledgment

Intro of Speaker:  
Senator Tony Hill

Curator Chat:  
Bobby Henry, Editor in Chief  
West Side Gazette

Sponsor & Book Recipient Remarks

Closing Remarks

Presented by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc  
Seventh District FL Statewide Organization



## Working Product – Omega Community Library



- **Action item from 2024 Ques on the Hill:**
  - **Develop Omega Community Libraries by 2025**
- **Strategy: Have 4 Prototype units built for Ques on the Hill**
  - **Unveil at 2025 Banned Book Reception**
- **Expansion of Concept and Challenge**
  - Every Chapter in Florida builds a minimum of one community library by State meeting (September 2025)
  - Spread to District and International level for consideration of being an Omega Initiative
- **Placement: Any areas of community in need**
  - Inside centers and churches, or outside in neighborhoods



## DAY 2 ~ Our Work Continues – Lobby Day

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc, Seventh District Florida Statewide Organization presents

# QUES ON THE HILL

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## DAY 2 – LOBBY DAY

THURSDAY - APRIL 10, 2025

STATE CAPITOL BLDG. TALLAHASSEE, FL

### FEATURED PRESENTERS:



Palm Beach County School  
Board Member  
Edwin Ferguson



Florida State Senator  
District 16  
Darryl Rouson



Gadsden County Property  
Appraiser  
Reggie Cunningham



Equal Ground Education



Black Voters Matter



Build Black Daily

8:30 am – 9:00 am

Breakfast & Meet Up

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Lobbying Our Stances

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tours of the Capitol (Each Hour: 9, 10, 11 am)

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Visit the House Gallery (*Groups of 20*)

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Education Session

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Standing for the Cause – Lunch & Dialogue

2:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Press Conference

2:30 pm

Ques on the Hill Photo

COMPLETE AGENDA AT: [QUESONTHEHILL.COM](http://QUESONTHEHILL.COM)

## ***Our Work Continues – 2025 Bills to Support***

**Budget Line Item 94 - Florida Lighthouse At-Risk Youth Mentorship Program (Funding)**

Senator Corey Simon

**SB 1014 - Youth Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation Pilot Program** Senator Darryl Rouson

**HB 45 - Resident Status for Tuition Purposes** Representatives Tae Edmonds and Ashley Gantt

**HB 167 - Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program** Representative LaVon Bracy Davis

**CS/HB 195 - Education in Correctional Facilities for Licensed Professions**

Representatives Kevin Chambliss and Rachel Saunders Plakon

**CS/HB 257 - Exceptional Students and Video Cameras in Public Schools**

Representatives Kevin Chambliss and Chase Tramont

**HB 387 - Prohibited Discrimination Based on Hairstyle**

Representatives LaVon Bracy Davis and Fentrice Driskell

**HB 489 - Restoration of Voting Rights Database** Representative Felicia Robinson

**SB 696 - Grants for Low-income Senior Citizen Condominium Unit Owners**

Senator Rosalind Osgood

**CS/CS/HB 723 - Type 1 Diabetes Early Detection Program** Representative Allison Tant

**SB 936 - Statewide Study on Automation and Workforce Impact** Senator Tracie Davis

**HB 1045 - Education** Representatives Tae Edmonds and Darryl Campbell

**HB 1243 - Florida Museum of Black History** Representatives Ashley Gantt and Michele Rayner

**HB 1413 - Florida Museum of History at the Town of Eatonville**

Representatives Bruce Antone and Leonard Spencer

**HB 1587 - Historical Records Concerning Enslaved Individuals** Representative Fentrice Driskell

**HB 1623 - Early Education Workforce Support** Representatives Angie Nixon and Anna Eskamani

# Florida Civil Rights Hall of Fame Inductees

## 2012

Mary McLeod Bethune – Palatka  
Claude Denson Pepper – Perry  
Charles Kenzie (C.K.) Steele – Tallahassee



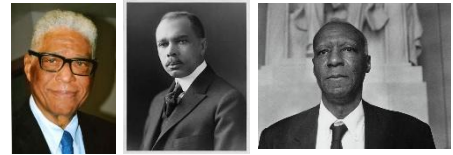
## 2013

Harry T. and Harriette Moore – Mims  
Margarita Romo – Dade City  
James B. Sanderlin – St. Petersburg



## 2014

Dr. Robert B. Hayling – St. Augustine  
James Weldon Johnson – Jacksonville  
Asa Philip Randolph – Crescent City



## 2015

Reubin O'Donovan Askew – Pensacola  
Edward Daniel Davis – Ocala  
Sallye Brooks Mathis – Jacksonville



## 2016

Earl M. Johnson – Jacksonville  
Jesse McCrary Jr. – Miami  
Rutledge Henry Pearson – Jacksonville



## 2017

Patricia Stephens Due – Quincy  
Dr. Arnett Elyus Girardeau Jr. – Jacksonville  
Willie H. Williams\* – Orlando



## 2018

Marvin Davies – Hampton  
John Dorsey Due, Jr. – Quincy  
Reverend Dr. Willie Oliver Wells, Sr. – Cocoa



## 2019

Daniel Webster (D.W.) Perkins\* – Jacksonville  
Charles Ullman Smith – Tallahassee  
Henry “Hank” James Thomas – Jacksonville



\* Omega Men

[www.FICivilRightsHallOfFame.org](http://www.FICivilRightsHallOfFame.org)



## FL Civil Right Hall of Fame Status and Petition

In 2010, The Florida Legislature ([CS/HB 523](#)) established the [Florida Civil Rights Hall of Fame](#) to recognize and honor individuals who have made significant contributions as leaders for equality & justice in human and civil rights. Under the law, the [Florida Commission on Human Relations](#) recommends 10 people to the Governor, who selects up to three inductees. To be considered, nominees must have been born in Florida or have adopted Florida as their home state or base of operation.

FL Civil Rights Hall of Fame is located at the Florida State Capitol Building on the Plaza Level southeast corner of the Rotunda. Each inductee has a permanent plaque with an appended photograph and biography in tribute to their works. The first class was nominated in 2011 and inducted in February 2012. Classes were nominated and inducted annually until 2019.

**The Civil Rights Hall of Fame MUST BE RE-ACTIVATED!!**

**Sign the petition to get the movement started:**

[www.ReactivateFloridaCivilRightsHall.com](http://www.ReactivateFloridaCivilRightsHall.com)



**Sign Petition**



## DAY 3 ~ United Hour of Action – Unit Across Generations

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc, Seventh District Florida Statewide Organization presents

# QUES ON THE HILL

*SILENCE IS NOT AN OPTION, OUR WORK CONTINUES*

***DAY 3 - UNITED HOUR OF ACTION***

**FRIDAY - APRIL 11, 2025**

**STATE CAPITOL BLDG. TALLAHASSEE, FL**

## ***UNITY ACROSS THE GENERATIONS PANEL***

***ENGAGING COMMUNITY PARTNERS FOR UNIFIED SOLUTIONS***



**HOST & MODERATOR:**

**AKHENATON "AK" THOMAS, COMMUNITY ADVOCATE**

9:00 am – 11:00 am	Unity Across the Generations Panel
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Tour of House Chambers
11:00 am	Unity Photo
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Tour of Senate Chambers

**COMPLETE AGENDA AT: [QUESONTHEHILL.COM](http://QUESONTHEHILL.COM)**

# Thank You Sponsors and Contributors



## **Ques on the Hill 2025 Committee Members**

Courtney Arnold	Tierney Bell	Russell Drake
Derrick Dudley	Upton Fisher	Tony Greene
Tony Hill	Terrell Jenkins	Brad Johnson
J. Randy Johnson	Manuel Jones	Kionne McGhee
Kendall Moore	James Moran, Jr.	Alonzo Mitchell
Frank Peterman, III	Samuel Oliver	Darryl Rouson
Curtis Rush	Wesley Sands, Jr.	Sean Shaw
Joshua Simmons	Latif Taylor	Akhenaton Thomas
Matthew Tisdol	Andre Young	Chi Omega Chapter

## **Omega Florida Statewide Organization Officers**

State Representative	Royle King, II
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice State Representative	Sean X. Rush
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice State Representative	Shamar Saint-Cyr
State Keeper of Records & Seal	Kevin Pruitt
State Keeper of Finance	Kamau Leitner
State Counselor	Michael Bostick
State Director of Public Relations	Whitney Rawls
State Marshall	Jason Hardwick
State Chaplain	Tamolis Clark
Immediate Past State Representative	Darron L. Toston

# **THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE**

