

NUF



JANUARY 2021

THE NEW YEAR EDITION

THE ROAD AHEAD


NATIONAL
URBAN
FELLOWS



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

In one month, this year has already offered us much to celebrate! In addition to a historic Presidential inauguration, NUF continues to shine. These wins are due to the tireless efforts of our NUF staff, Board Members, and Alumni and deep investments from our stakeholders. In this edition, we celebrate many highlights from this month:

- **MLK Remembrance**
- **Celebrating the Biden-Harris Administration**
- **Announcing New Board Officers**
- **Introducing our Newest Board Member**
- **Ballmer Award**
- **Georgetown Scholarships**
- **Class of 2022 Update**
- **NUF Alumni Spotlight**
- **Mentoring Month**
- **and...the Best NUF Class**

While we have much to celebrate, 2021 has also reminded us of many painful realities, especially the perils of leadership failures. As we juxtapose these failures with the legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., NUF has redoubled our commitments to excellence, integrity, and equity in leadership for social impact. We are sharpening our focus and enhancing our ability to prepare the next generation of leaders. I look forward to sharing our progress with you in the coming months!



President & CEO
LISA RAWLINGS

On Integrity



“There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right.”

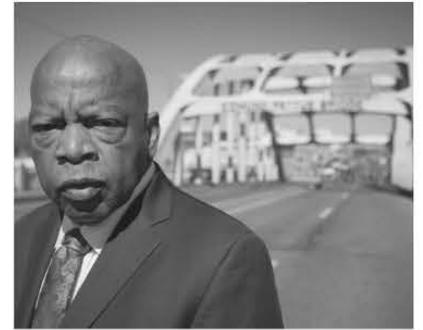
Martin Luther King, Jr.
(March 25, 1965)

The legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is a masterclass on integrity in leadership -- why it matters and the perils of its absence. Integrity is perhaps the most valuable leadership quality, especially in public service. Its presence engenders trust, cooperation, and progress; the lack of it wreaks chaos, divisiveness, and unfathomable violations. Dr. King led a movement rooted in collective integrity that fought to realize an America that lived up to its ideals.

As we turn the page on the current American chapter, integrity requires us to hold to account those who broke their sacred trust. It also nudges us to lift up the many examples of honor and courage -- those who spoke truth to power, challenged the lies, withstood the attacks, defied the pressure, and took a stand because they knew it was the right thing to do. They are exemplars.

The [National Urban Fellows](#) honors this legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through our work of developing courageous leaders who are committed to social justice and equity. We select and cultivate diverse professionals who demonstrate high integrity and prepare and position them for public service leadership. We salute our Alumni who carry on this proud tradition and honor the many giants who continue to remind us of what really matters.

LISA RAWLINGS, PHD
President & CEO



Profiles in Integrity: The late **Honorable John Lewis** embodied consistency and courage in his long battle for civil rights; US **Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch** testified about the misconduct by administration officials; **Dr. Anthony Fauci** stood for science in the face of political pressure; **Justice Sonya Sotomayor** issued clear and powerful dissents to her Supreme Court colleagues.



★ ★ ★
**BIDEN
HARRIS**
INAUGURATION





THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GROUNDBREAKING BIDEN-HARRIS ADMINISTRATION!

National Urban Fellows celebrates the historic inauguration of President Joseph Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris! We salute NUF Alum Tony Allen, '97 for flawlessly leading this unprecedented and inclusive inauguration celebration.

With this historic inauguration, Vice President Harris becomes the first woman and person of color to occupy this role. This accomplishment is a tribute to not only her exceptional talent but also speaks to the institutional barriers of racism and sexism that this country continues to overcome.

The history and mission of the National Urban Fellows are grounded in dismantling these barriers. While much progress has been made in this country, recent events continue to illustrate how far we have to go.

We are encouraged to see that after the inauguration, the Biden-Harris team has hit the ground running and following through on its commitments to confront systemic racism, advance racial equity, and appoint a Cabinet that looks like America!

**There is
always light if
only we are
brave enough
to see it. If
only we are
brave enough
to be it"**

Amanda Gorman



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2021 OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Miguel
Centeno**

CHAIR

Miguel is the VP of Community Engagement & Healthfirst Foundation at Healthfirst and a long-time supporter of NUF.



**Donna
Frisby-Greenwood**

VICE-CHAIR

Donna is the President & CEO, The Fund for the School District of Philadelphia. She is also a NUF Alum and former mentor.



**Gary
Bagley**

SECRETARY

Gary is the ED of New York Cares, New York City's largest provider of volunteer led social services programs and a former NUF professor.



**Lydia
Butterfield**

TREASURER

Lydia is the Finance Director, Global Renewals at Autodesk and a highly accomplished finance leader,



**Natoya
Walker-Minor**

EXEC AT-LARGE

Natoya is the Chief of the Public Affairs Cluster for the City of Cleveland since 2006. She is a NUF Alum.

COURTENAY BARTON is the Program Director, Arts & Culture and Racial Equity Initiatives at The Cleveland Foundation, a NUF Alum ('18) and the newest member of the Board of Directors of National Urban Fellows.

NUF BOARD MEMBER: COURTENAY BARTON, '18

NUF: What interests you about National Urban Fellows?

CB: When I was ready to go back to school in specific search of an experience to build my organizational leadership capacity and hopefully get into the world of philanthropy as a grantmaker, NUF was the only graduate MPA program I applied to. So, I suppose I find everything about NUF compelling, and always have. NUF changed my career trajectory and my life. Now that I have graduated from it, I want to do what I can to see it thrive.

NUF: What do you hope to contribute?

CB: My entire career has been spent in nonprofit organizations, with the bulk of it in fundraising prior to going into grantmaking. And NUF facilitated that transition. I can contribute to organizational strategy development, grantseeking assistance, and recruitment.



NATIONAL
U R B A N
F E L L O W S

NUF changed my career trajectory and my life. Now that I have graduated from it, I want to do what I can to see it thrive.

CALL FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

National Urban Fellows is looking to expand its Board of Directors. Diverse candidates across an array of skills and backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. We hope to prioritize the following dimensions:

- **Sectors:** Corporate, Foundation, and Government
- **Regions:** West Coast, South, and Midwest
- **Expertise:** Communications, Technology, Leadership Development, Racial Equity
- **Racial and Ethnic Diversity:** Asian and Pacific Islander, Latino/Hispanic, and Indigenous/Native Community Members

To apply, please

1. Complete the **[NUF Board of Directors Candidate Application](#)**.
2. Send an email to info@nuf.org with the subject: "NUF Board Statement of Interest".
3. Attach a resume or CV and a brief bio.



MCCOURT SCHOOL TO FUND THE UPCOMING COHORT OF NATIONAL URBAN FELLOWS

The McCourt School of Public Policy has deepened its partnership with the National Urban Fellows program by committing to fund full tuition for the Class of 2022 Fellowship cohort. The funding commitment will cover the cost of completing the Master of Public Management program for all National Urban Fellows entering in May 2021.

We are proud to expand our partnership with the National Urban Fellows under their visionary new leader, Dr. Lisa Rawlings,” said Maria Cancian, Dean of McCourt. “

“If we are committed to building a just and equitable society, it is essential that policymakers, civic leaders, and public servants are representative of the communities disproportionately impacted by public policy,” said Lisa Rawlings, President, and CEO of the National Urban Fellows. “The National Urban Fellows and the McCourt School share the goal of creating a consistent pipeline of diverse talent into the public and social sectors at a time when our nation needs it most.” Read the whole story [here](#).

"We are proud to expand our partnership with the National Urban Fellows under their visionary new leader."

Dean Maria Canian



NATIONAL
URBAN
FELLOWS

RECEIVES
\$750,000

AWARD
FROM

ballmer
GROUP®

The National Urban Fellows is thrilled to partner with the Ballmer Group! This two-year award allows NUF to continue to grow its organizational capacity and transform our digital infrastructure. It also includes a \$200,000 challenge grant to support NUF in enhancing our capacity for sustained long-term fundraising. We deeply value this partnership and investment in our mission.

The Ballmer Group supports efforts to improve economic mobility for children and families in the United States who are disproportionately likely to remain in poverty. We look forward to working towards a shared goal of a more equitable future for all.

Reminder

The Class of 2022 application closes on Jan. 30th. Apply now for your chance to accelerate your career and take your impact to the next level at nuf.org.

Let's do it.

I'm on it!

TAKE YOUR IMPACT TO THE NEXT LEVEL

JOIN OUR LEADERSHIP ACCELERATOR

CLASS OF 2022 UPDATE

Applications for the NUF Class of 2022 closed on Sunday, January 31st. Thank you for sharing this unprecedented opportunity with those in your network and for referring and supporting exceptional candidates! We are excited that dozens of alumni have signed up to participate in the review and selection process. Thanks in advance for your ongoing service! We can't wait to announce the new class in April!

Now more than ever, our nation needs well-prepared committed leaders that reflect all of America. NUF stands ready to answer that call."



“One of the greatest values of mentors is the ability to see ahead what others cannot see and to help them navigate a course to their destination.”

John C Maxwell

Dr. Debra Joy Perez, '97
Philanthropy & DEI Executive



#MENTORINGMATTERS

In January, we participated in #ThankYourMentor Day. Since National Urban Fellows is built around the power of mentoring, we took this opportunity to thank Dr. Debra Joy Pérez for mentoring more than 30 NUF Fellows in various organizations, including the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Annie E Casey Foundation.

As a former NUF Fellow, Debra Joy continues to open doors for the next generation! Thank you, for always paying it forward! #NUFLove! This month and every month is always a great time to thank you! If you have a moment, we encourage you to reach out to those who have paved our way, because we know #mentoringmatters!



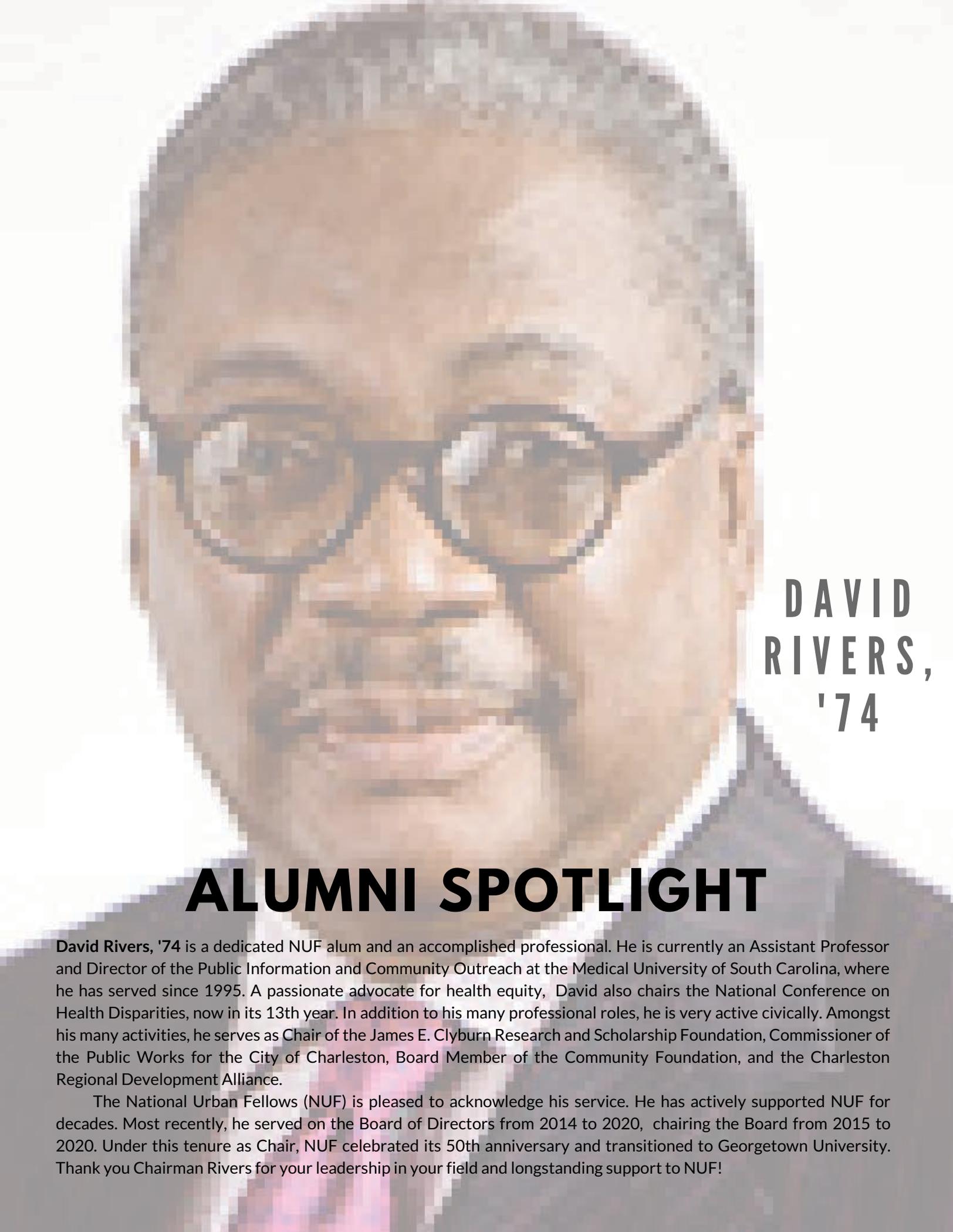
NUF ALUMNI

A COMMUNITY OF COMMITTED CHANGEMAKERS

NUF alumni are the living embodiment of our mission! We are the courageous leaders committed to social justice that NUF's founders' envisioned over five decades ago. Numbering over 1700, we serve in elected office and in government at the local, state, and federal levels. We are leading nonprofits, foundations, and at least one university. We champion marginalized groups' rights, advocate for more humane policies, expand educational access, protect the environment, and promote more inclusive economic policies. We are so proud of this leadership, and we want to tell our stories.

GET RECONNECTED!

If you are an alum looking to reconnect, please join our Alumni Communities ([LinkedIn](#) and [FB](#)) and complete our [NUF Alumni Survey](#).

A pixelated, black and white portrait of David Rivers, a man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie. The portrait is the background of the entire page.

**DAVID
RIVERS,
'74**

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

David Rivers, '74 is a dedicated NUF alum and an accomplished professional. He is currently an Assistant Professor and Director of the Public Information and Community Outreach at the Medical University of South Carolina, where he has served since 1995. A passionate advocate for health equity, David also chairs the National Conference on Health Disparities, now in its 13th year. In addition to his many professional roles, he is very active civically. Amongst his many activities, he serves as Chair of the James E. Clyburn Research and Scholarship Foundation, Commissioner of the Public Works for the City of Charleston, Board Member of the Community Foundation, and the Charleston Regional Development Alliance.

The National Urban Fellows (NUF) is pleased to acknowledge his service. He has actively supported NUF for decades. Most recently, he served on the Board of Directors from 2014 to 2020, chairing the Board from 2015 to 2020. Under this tenure as Chair, NUF celebrated its 50th anniversary and transitioned to Georgetown University. Thank you Chairman Rivers for your leadership in your field and longstanding support to NUF!

Congratulations!



THE BEST CLASS



CLASS OF 2012

NUF celebrates this inspiring group of humans who are committed to success, NUF's mission, and each other. This class had the highest class GPA in NUF history and their motto "41 in, 41 out!" was a testament to their belief in communal support. They boast one Board member: **Orlando Gonzales** and three Alumni Board Members: **Ciara Ginyrad**, **Cynthia Wong**, and **Erica Acevedo**. Other class members have been supportive through their individual giving and volunteer efforts. They continue to lead across the country and around the world. We are so proud of your success and appreciative of your support!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

NOTE TO ALUMNI: If you think that YOUR class is the best class, please submit a class photo and an explanation for why you think your class is the best class to info@nuf.org with the title: "Best Class" and your class may be featured in the next edition.

#NUFLove!



"WE MUST ACCEPT
FINITE
DISAPPOINTMENT
BUT NEVER LOSE
INFINITE HOPE."

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR



January 2021