Black Achievers Awards

# THE BLACK ACHIEVERS AWARDS

**Celebrating Black Excellence Across Nottingham & The East Midlands**

## 2026

**DATE :**
24 October

**PRESENTED BY :**
Merleta Bryan MBE

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# ABOUT THE AWARDS

Black Achievers Awards

**Bringing Communities Together since 2011**

The Black Achievers Awards celebrates and promotes excellence across the black and minority ethnic community, challenging stereotypes and highlighting inspirational role models throughout Nottingham and the East Midlands.

The awards have grown into one of the region's most prestigious community celebrations, uniting leaders, professionals, entrepreneurs, creatives, and community champions.

Each year, the awards create a powerful platform for recognition, inspiration, and unity.

The awards are a formal black-tie event for those aged 18 and over, featuring a three-course meal, entertainment from global performers, and a two-part awards ceremony recognising outstanding individuals in the community.

# EVENT EXPERIENCE

## A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION & EXCELLENCE

The Black Achievers Awards is a formal black-tie gala event featuring:

- Three-course fine dining
- Live entertainment
- Inspirational speakers
- Two-part awards ceremony
- Premium networking

An unforgettable evening celebrating leadership, success, and resilience.

# FOUNDERS SPOTLIGHT

**Founder and Visionary Leader**
**Merleta Bryan MBE**

Born in St Thomas, Jamaica, in 1951, she then moved to Nottingham in 1962. She began in manufacturing, studied hairdressing and fashion, and joined British Bakeries in 1986. Active in the Baker's Food & Allied Workers Union, She advanced from shop steward to district secretary, serving on management boards and Labour Party committees.

Elected Arboretum city councillor in 2007, Merleta chaired committees, contributed to multiple boards, and became portfolio assistant for education in 2020. Merleta served as Sheriff of Nottingham (2012/13, 2021/22) and Lord Mayor (2013/14), was awarded an MBE in 2026, and will be installed as High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire in April 2026, continuing a lifelong commitment to public service and community leadership.

# OUR IMPACT

## OUR IMPACT SINCE 2011

Over a decade of celebrating excellence, leadership, and community empowerment

**3,100+ Attendees**

**130+ Awards Presented over 13 years**

**120,000+ Social Media Reach since 2016**

# DISTINGUISHED SUPPORTERS

Sir John Peace

Ld. Lt. Veronica Pickering

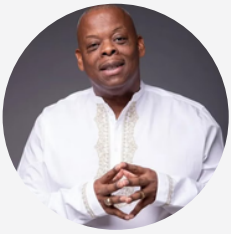
High Sheriff
Ed Attenborough

Lenny James

Notts PCC
Gary Godden

Paddy Tipping

Derby PCC Ndweni and
Notts Deputy PCC Kandola



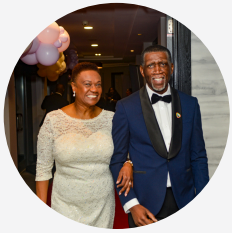
Tippa Irie

Mayor of Derby Cllr Graves, Cllr Carole McCulloch and Minister Councillor Desreine Taylor - Jamaica High

Philip Brooks-Stephenson
KCL, KStJA, FRSA, FCMI

Damien West and Cllr Audra Wynter

Anton Leon



Clive Foster MBE

# WHY SPONSOR ?

## Partner With Excellence
## Sponsoring the Black Achievers Awards offers:

***High-profile brand exposure***
Showcase your brand through prominent event, media, and digital visibility to diverse and influential audiences.

***Meaningful community engagement***
Build authentic community connections by supporting and celebrating local excellence, achievement, and leadership.

***Strong Corporate Social Responsibility Impact***
Demonstrate commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion through meaningful social investment and community empowerment.

***Association with excellence, leadership, and inclusion***
Align your brand with outstanding achievement, inclusive leadership, and positive social change.

# Sponsorship Packages

Black Achievers Awards

# PACKAGES

## Category Sponsorship - £650

· Be recognised as an official 2026 BAA sponsor on all our media platforms be able to advertise their organisation on the night (banners)

·Receive two tickets for representatives from your organisation to attend the event on the night

·Decide as an organisation who the winner of your sponsored category will be for 2026 and present the trophy to the winner on the night, which will be engraved with your company name

·Enjoy three-course meal each and various entertainment throughout the night

## Platinum Headline Sponsorship - £4500

· Exclusive headline sponsor status

· Dedicated website feature and be recognised as an official 2026 BAA sponsor on all our media platforms be able to advertise their organisation on the night (banners)

· Double-page brochure advertisement

· Decide as an organisation who the winner of your sponsored category will be for 2026 and present the trophy to the winner on the night, which will be engraved with your company name

· 10 guest tickets

· Exhibition table

· Enjoy three-course meal each and various entertainment throughout the night

· Premium gift hamper

Black Achievers Awards

# PACKAGES

## Gold Sponsorship - £2900

· Be recognised as an official 2026 BAA sponsor on all our media platforms be able to advertise their organisation on the night (banners)

· Full-page brochure advertisement

· Decide as an organisation who the winner of your sponsored category will be for 2026 and present the trophy to the winner on the night, which will be engraved with your company name

· 8 guest tickets

· Enjoy three-course meal each and various entertainment throughout the night

· Premium gift hamper

## AV Sponsorship - £3500

· Be recognised as an official 2026 BAA sponsor on all our media platforms be able to advertise their organisation on the night (banners)

·Receive 10 tickets for representatives from your organisation to attend the event on the night

·Enjoy three-course meal each and various entertainment throughout the night

· Premium gift hamper

## Nominee Sponsorship - £2000

· Be recognised as an official 2026 BAA sponsor on all our media platforms be able to advertise their organisation on the night (banners)

·Receive 5 tickets for representatives from your organisation to attend the event on the night

·Enjoy three-course meal each and various entertainment throughout the night

· Premium gift hamper

# PACKAGES

## Drinks Sponsorship - £1500

· Be recognised as an official 2026 BAA sponsor on all our media platforms and be able to advertise their organisation on the night (banners)

· Receive 5 tickets for representatives from your organisation to attend the event on the night

· Enjoy three-course meal each and various entertainment throughout the night

## Trophy Sponsorship - £700

· Be recognised as an official 2026 BAA sponsor on all our media platforms and be able to advertise their organisation on the night (banners)

· Receive 2 tickets for representatives from your organisation to attend the event on the night

· Enjoy three-course meal each and various entertainment throughout the night

## Bespoke Package?

We offer bespoke sponsorship packages tailored to your organisation's goals, brand objectives, and corporate social responsibility commitments.

Contact us at theblackachieversaward@gmail.com

# Categories

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# CATEGORIES

## Sports Award

***This category is open to an individual who has made a significant impact through sport, either by helping others or achieving excellence in their own sporting journey. The nominee could have been inspired by personal experiences that led to a project or initiative aimed at supporting others within the community.***

Through their dedication, motivation, and mentoring, the individual may be seen as an outstanding figure who positively influences those around them. They are recognised for their commitment to developing others and for being a source of inspiration within the community.

The nominee should have excelled in their sport and be actively working towards further achievements, demonstrating progress and a clear vision for their future success

## Cultural, Music and Arts Award

***This award is aimed at a male or a female individual who has been notably successful in the field of art and culture.***

We are looking for someone who has achieved prominence in their field as an:
Artist
Dancer
Musician
Writer
Cultural leader
Through the work that they do, has enhanced, or inspired the cultural or performance life and experiences of the people of Nottingham

Black Achievers Awards

# CATEGORIES

## Public Service Award

***This category recognises individuals who have made significant contributions in public service. This includes work in government, emergency services, education, social services, and other sectors that serve the public.***

Candidates may include:

· Public officials or government workers who have improved policies or services
· Educators who have led initiatives in schools or public education
· Leaders in health, social services, or charities that improve lives
· Innovators who have introduced new ideas to benefit the public
· Emergency services professionals, such as police, firefighters, or paramedics, who have made a significant impact in protecting and helping communities

This award celebrates the important work of those who serve the public and make a real difference in their communities.

Nominees for this award will have shown strong leadership, dedication, and a commitment to making a positive impact on society. Their efforts will have helped improve communities, advance equality, and inspire others through their work.

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# CATEGORIES

## Community Award

**This category aims to recognize the outstanding voluntary contributions made by an individual to the local community in the voluntary field touching the lives of so many people.**

Volunteering has many positive benefits for both the volunteer and the community but it is important to remember and acknowledge that volunteering is a freely chosen act of selflessness for the greater good. Volunteering transforms lives as it empowers individuals and strengthens communities and is a powerful force for social change with an immense economic value too.

Criteria:

· Outline of the volunteering activity you are engaged with and the time spent + how long have they been volunteering

· What motivated them to volunteer

· What have they personally gained from the experience

· Describe any achievements both personally and for others

· Any particular challenges they have had to overcome

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# CATEGORIES

## Most Transformed Life Award

***This category is aimed at a male or a female who has gone through adversity and challenging circumstances and confronted the issues he/she faced and in doing so has turned his life and is now fulfilling his/her potential.***

*We do not seek to prescribe what the Challenges are*

Criteria:

· Define what the challenges were without betraying confidence

· How did the nominee overcome challenges

· What organizations / individuals were key to helping nominee turn their life around

· Describe where they are now and what is the transformation

·What difference has it made to them and others around them

·How are they or would they like to use their experiences of the transformation to support others in difficulty

## Lifetime Community Contributor Award

**This category is open to an individual with an outstanding record of achievement who 'has, in their lifetime, made a significant contribution towards enhancing the lives of people in the Nottingham Community'. Nominees may come from any background or sector. A strong candidate is expected to have made an exceptional impact with distinct personal achievements over a prolonged period of involvement.**

Black Achievers Awards

# CATEGORIES

## Business and Entreprenuerial Award

***Candidates for this award can be a black businessman or businesswoman running a small or large company/business in the East Midlands and surrounding areas. They must be seen as a positive role model within the community, demonstrating leadership, innovation, and a strong entrepreneurial spirit.***

To be eligible, the individual must have been running their business for at least two years, which can include online businesses. Through their business, they should have provided employment to the local community or offered a service that is reputable and valuable to the area.

The nominee must have made a positive impact on society, the local community, or the environment. This could involve sustainable business practices, contributions to community development, or initiatives that improve the well being of the community they serve

## Health and Social Care Award

***For this category, we are looking for someone who has made a significant contribution to the health and social care sector. This can include those who work in the medical, nursing or care field.***

# KEY DATES

**22 Jan**

Nominations Live

**31 Aug**

Nomination Close

**1 Sept**

Judging Period Begins

**30 Sept**

Judging Period End

**24 Oct**

Award Ceremony

# MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

"The, Black Achievers Awards committee, gratefully acknowledges the invaluable support of its sponsors, whose dedication has been instrumental, especially in these challenging economic times. Your contributions do more than fund the awards, they inspire individuals and celebrate black excellence throughout Nottinghamshire. You, our sponsors exemplify a shared commitment to community pride and

excellence.

Each year, the nominees shine through by bringing something new to be recognised and celebrate. This demonstrates that the Black Achievers Awards are firmly established within the community, with their true value widely acknowledged. Their ongoing impact is testament to the significance of recognising and uplifting outstanding contributions.
As a committee, we eagerly anticipates strengthening our partnership while inviting new sponsors for future collaboration.
Thank you once again for your unwavering support"

Sincerely,
Honorary Alderwoman
Merleta Bryan MBE

# CONTACT US

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