



THE THREE DEGREES: L-R HELEN SCOTT, FREDDIE POOLE AND VALERIE HOLIDAY

Celebrating 50 Years In The Arts...

The Three Degrees



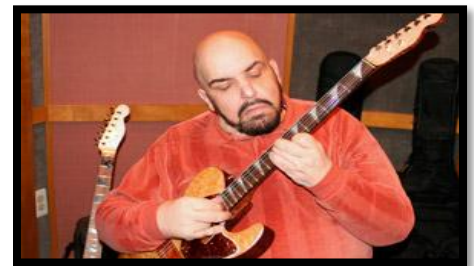
G.E.M.A. NEWS & MUSIC BIZ NEWSLETTER

The Three Degrees Now!

by Dolores Dauphine

The Three Degrees, are known internationally and have earned numerous accolades throughout the years. These ladies have performed for Kings and Queens, Government and Religious dignitaries. They are celebrating more than 50 years in the entertainment arts. When the Three Degrees come to mind, you immediately think of their most famous song, **"When Will I See You Again"**, and the vision of three beautiful women of color, perfectly coordinated in both their dance routines and their vocal harmonies. The Three Degrees current manager, John Abbey knows these ladies are still a viable brand and capable of providing an electric, moving, and entertaining stage performance. **"When Will I See You Again"** was a major hit record throughout the world, topping the chart in the U.S.A., the U.K., Japan and most European countries, earning the trio every conceivable accolade at the time -- not to mention enough Gold records to make Fort Knox a little envious! More than four decades on, the threesome have retained all three of their major qualities -- their beauty, their sparkling choreography and their precise vocal qualities. And, in between, they have amassed an impressive list of hit records. Today, the line-up consists of **Helen Scott, Valerie Holiday, and Freddie Pool**. The actual beginning of the group dates back more than 4 decades, when they

started in Philadelphia. Their then-manager, the enigmatic Richard Barrett brought three young teenagers together with a vision for a new sound and style for this female vocal group. The group made its first mark on the recording scene by way of the Philly-based Swan Records. During the Swan years, the group's line up was Helen Scott, Fayette Pinkney and Janet Harmon. Their biggest success on Swan was probably **"Gee Baby"**, which featured Fayette on lead vocals. Soon thereafter Helen Scott got married and left the group. By this time, they had signed with New York-based Roulette Records and the line-up was Fayette Pinkney, Valerie Holiday and Sheila Ferguson and this line-up was to remain intact for their glory years with Roulette and Philadelphia International. The hits began with a remake of the Chantels 1958 hit, "Maybe" and continued through "I Do Take You", "You're The One", "There's So Much Love All Around Me" (all produced by Barrett) and closed out with "Trade Winds" for Roulette. It was during this two-year span that they made a cameo appearance in the movie, "The French Connection", singing "Everybody Gets To Go To the Moon", portraying themselves in a cabaret scene. In 1972, they aligned their recording destiny with Gamble & Huff with super hits from Philadelphia International and the rest is history.



Bobby Eli -2014 Music Director

Grammy award winning musician, composer, arranger, and music producer Bobby Eli is the 2014 Music Director for the G.E.M.A. Golden Mic Honors Tribute Ceremony. Bobby has received numerous awards and is a multi-platinum composer with hits like "Love Won't Let Me Wait", "Just Don't Want To Be Lonely", "Side Show", "Three Ring Circus", "This Time Baby", "Zoom" and many more. He produced and arranged Deniece Williams' Grammy nominated album "Love Niecy Style". The G.E.M.A. Foundation congratulates him on being a 2014 G.E.M.A. GMH Honoree.

G.E.M.A. Human Resource Director



Celestine Ray, formerly Chief Operations Officer at Imhotep Institute Charter High School from 1999 to 2009 where she handled the schools fiduciary responsibilities and personnel needs. She

has joined the G.E.M.A. Foundation and we're pleased that she is a part of our team.



Maria Torres

by M.L. Cedeno



Maria Torres, is an acclaimed Performer, Choreographer and Director with extensive experience in the Theater, Film, Television, Video and Commercial industries. Maria has worked, her resume touts diversity from all angles. As a performer, Maria has graced both the Broadway stage, starring in "Swing"! On the big screen she appeared in "Dance With Me", starring Chayanne and Vanessa Williams.

Maria worked on projects in the music industry ranging from choreographing the video for Enrique Iglesias hit single Bailamos to hailed Reggaeton artist Don Omar's tour King of Kings and the International Dance TV show "Quiero Bailar" where Maria was on camera as Guest Choreographer and on the hit show "So You Think You Can Dance", "Dance for Dreams" that aired on Univision. Fox Upfronts, Microsoft launch of Windows Phone, "Salt" Event in Las Vegas and Entertainer's Ball Arena NYC. In the world of Film, Maria has worked with world renowned production houses and directors such as MTV, NBC, HBO, BBC, Walt Disney, and John Leguizamo.

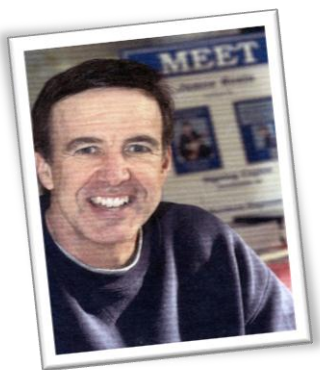


MUSIC PLUS DANCE = MARIA TORRES

In 1994, Maria Torres created Hustle USA Dance Championships along with Co-founders Debra Hampton and David Sarul.

Maria has worked with John O'Connell and trained with renowned actors such as Patrick Dempsey and Amy Adams in Disney's "Enchanted" to Raven Simone in "College Road Trip".

Maria has also choreograph the dancing routines for Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony in "El Cantante" which she also appeared in. As a teacher, Maria has taught all over the world at an array of prestigious institutions with the goal of sharing her Latin culture with people of all backgrounds. Maria's choreography can be seen in the upcoming movie "Fugly", is a feature film starring John Leguizamo, Radha Mitchell and Rosie Perez and "The Six Wives of Henry Le Fay" starring Tim Allen, Andie McDowell, Jenna Elfema and Paz Vega. Maria is known as the "Mother" of the Hustle. This year Maria Torres will be launching several projects including the "The Maria Torres Dance Theater Company". Maria Torres is the G.E.M.A. Foundation's 2014 GMH Honoree in Dance. She will also be honored with an award in her name, "The Maria Torres Award In Dance". We salute you, Maria Torres!



James Rosin

by Gigi Horne

James Rosin, a native Philadelphian and a Temple graduate with a degree in Broadcasting. In New York, he studied acting with Bobby Lewis, and appeared in plays on off Broadway. He also appeared on the ABC soap opera "Edge of Night", and then on "General Hospital", and also appeared on night time dramas' such as "Mike Hammer", "T.J. Hooker", "Quincy, M.E." and many others. James has written several tele-plays, His full-length play, *Michael in Beverly Hills*, a comedy-drama, premiered at American Theater Arts in Los Angeles and was later presented off-off Broadway, at the American Musical Dramatic Academy's Studio One Theater.

James has written and produced two one-hour sports documentaries, which have aired on public television: *Philly Hoops: The SPHAS and Warriors* (about the first two professional basketball teams in Philadelphia) and *The Philadelphia Athletics 1901 - 1954* (about the former American League franchise).

James wrote *Rock, Rhythm & Blues* in 2004. In 2006, he wrote *Philadelphia: City of Music* and he has authored several books on classic TV series.



MIMI BROWN – WDAS-FM RADIO



CELEBRATES 35 YEARS IN RADIO



The Lady with the Golden Voice...

Mimi Brown, the radio personality, actress, author and skin stylist is definitely a multi-talented woman. She has captured her listening audience with her voice.

Mimi Brown

by Dolores Dauphine

Mimi's radio career started in Philadelphia at a recording studio where she was discovered by the legendary East Coast radio personality, Dr. Perri Johnson. Under his guidance, Mimi started out at a Philly hard rock station playing music from Led Zeppelin to Jimi Hendrix. Very quickly her musical talent attracted the attention of Bob Klein, the General Manager and Vice President of the pioneering top-rated radio station, WDAS-FM. It was at WDAS-FM where Mimi began to shine. There the R & B and highly funkified format combined with Mimi's musicality capturing the seventh largest market in the nation for over 20 years. Her smooth and sultry delivery, musical knowledge and interviews brought her the attention of listeners not only nationwide but around the world. Mimi was also the first female Assistant Program Director in the history of WDAS-FM. Grammy award winning producers Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff selected her to narrate the Teddy Pendergrass album *Live Coast to Coast* which sold millions of albums worldwide.

This Temple University grad has spent 20 years at one station, WDAS-FM (105.3), despite numerous management, programming and ownership changes. Her Friday night rap show was the launching pad for the careers of famed movie and recording star Will Smith who served as her guest co-host, along with his musical colleague, DJ Jazzy Jeff. The phenomenally gifted writer/performer, Prince, gave one of his first East Coast performances at a party Mimi threw at the Emerald City in New Jersey

Queen Latifah hit the stage for the first time when Mimi brought her in to perform live at Club After Midnight in Philadelphia. When it comes to interviews, nobody does it better. Such was the case during her interview with Vanessa Williams just after losing her Miss America crown while building a singing and film career. Here is just a partial list of the other superstars whom Mimi has interviewed: Michael Jackson, Whitney Houston, Patti Labelle, LL Cool J, Stevie Wonder, Barry White, Boys II Men, Babyface, Isaac Hayes, Gerald Levert, The O'Jays, Kool & The Gang, Sister Sledge, Jody Watley, Public Enemy, Run DMC, Big Daddy Kane, MC Lyte, Ice T, Biz Markey, KRS 1, Heatwave, Smokey Robinson, Dionne Warrick, Parliament Funkadelic, George Clinton, Bootsy Collins, Chaka Khan, Natalie Cole and Mary J. Blige. There are very few radio personalities whose extraordinary style is matched by their great musical ear and an amazing list of celebrity interviews.

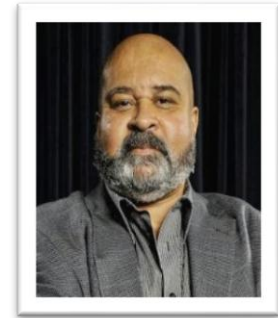


Denise Montana - Double Platinum Artist.....

by M.L. Cedeno

Denise is a vocal stylist who traces her roots from jazz to blues, to the great American Songbook/Standards to Disco. Selling in the millions and going double platinum is the song "*Merry Christmas All*" on Salsoul Records. This tune is one of the classic perennial favorites. It has become one of the top 100 Christmas songs of all time along with Bing Crosby's "*White Christmas*" and Mel Torme's "*The Christmas Song*". Denise Montana's most famous recording, the Disco hit "*#1 DJ*", on Atlantic Records, has sold over a million

copies. She now performs at Disco Show events worldwide and has performed with "*The Trammys*", "*Chic*", "*France Joli*", "*Musique*" and "*Tavares*". Denise is always spreading her wings creatively and she currently has completed a Jazz CD entitled "*In My Life*" available on iTunes, Amazon, CD Baby, including www.denisemontana.com. This CD project includes standards like "*For All We Know*", "*God Bless The Child*", "*Our Love Is Here To Stay*" and so much more. Denise's vocals are smooth and rich with flavor and feeling. It's definitely a keeper and going to be added to my music collection. Thanks, Denise.



Craig White

The Sound Doctor who works his magic as a recording engineer...

Technical Director

Craig White, owner of Sound Doctor Productions, LLC is formerly Governor Board Member of the Philadelphia Chapter of The Recording Academy, Chief Engineer at Philadelphia International Records and former Chapter President of The Recording Academy. He is a 30 year veteran with engineering credits that include projects with a variety of different artists and producers such as Celine Dion, Kool and The Gang, Gerald Levert, Wendy O. Williams, and most of Philadelphia International roster including Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff, Phyllis Hyman, Dexter Wansel, The O'Jays and Lou Rawls. As a professional musician, he toured the country and abroad for 12 years before getting in the recording industry in 1980. The G.E.M.A. Foundation is pleased to announce Craig White as Technical Director.

G.E.M.A. TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Craig White – Sound Doctor

2014

The 2014 G.E.M.A. Golden Mic Honors

Purpose:

The **Golden Mic Honors** was designed to illuminate and perpetuate the careers of **"The GMH Honorees"** for their creative works and leadership throughout the world. All of these **GMH Honorees** have made history at one time or another. The **GMH** is here to acknowledge and recognize that history so it can be shared by future generations. The **Golden Mic Honors** goal is to bridge the gap of the old and new so that there can be a greater appreciation and respect for the creative arts and the influence they provide to us all. The **GMH** recognizes these creative **Voices** for their continuous stellar performances and leadership in Broadcasting, Music, Journalism, Sports, Multimedia Education, Publishing and Production as they have demonstrated a significant impact within the creative arts with one powerful tool. their **Voices**....

G.E.M.A. FOUNDATION GOLDEN MIC HONORS TRIBUTE CEREMONY-FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10TH, 2014 Luncheon



1:30 pm until

4:30 pm

Tickets:

\$50 pp

Deep Blue Bar & Grill

111 11th St.

Wilmington, De. 19801

For Tickets: Go To: Events @ G.E.M.A.

www.thegemafoundation.org

The 2014 G.E.M.A. Golden Mic Honorees

Wardell Piper –Chairwoman

Denise Montana- Co Chairwoman

Music Category

The Three Degrees Martha Wash
Cory Daye Linda Clifford
Evelyn Champagne King Alfa Anderson
Carol Douglas Carol Williams

Anita Ward

Broadcasting Category

Tim Marshall Larry Cotton

Mimi Brown

Dance Category

Maria Torres

Music Production Category

Bobby Eli Tom Moulton

Gene Leone

Journalism/Publishing Category

James Arena James Rosin

Music Business Education & Services Category

Bruce Webb

Music Ambassadors

Stephen C. Kelly Norman Connors

New Artist Achievement Category

Dennis Youngblood Taylor

Gone But Not Forgotten

by Gigi Horne

A Tribute To Donna Summer – The Queen of Disco Dance Music

LADONNA ADRIAN GAINES

Known As:

"Donna Summers"



American Singer, Songwriter & Painter

December 31, 1948 – May 17, 2012...

Donna Summer worked as a model part-time and backup singer, it was during a recording session at Munich's Musicland Studios for Three Dog Night, Summer met German-based producers, Giorgio Moroder and Pete Bellotte. The trio forged a working partnership and Donna was signed to "Oasis" label in 1974.

She gained prominence during the disco era of the late 1970s. A five-time Grammy Award winner, she was the first artist to have three consecutive double albums reach No. 1 on the United States *Billboard* album chart and charted four number-one singles in the United States within a 12-month period. Summer has reportedly sold over 130 million records, making her one of the world's best-selling artists of all time. Summer co-wrote the song "Love to Love You Baby" with Pete Bellotte. The song was released in 1975 to mass commercial success. Over the following years Summer followed this success with a string of other hits, such as "I Feel Love", "Last Dance", "MacArthur Park", "Heaven Knows", "Hot Stuff", "Bad Girls", "Dim All the Lights", "No More Tears (Enough Is Enough)", and "On the Radio".



She became known as the "Queen of Disco" and regularly appeared at the **Studio 54** nightclub in New York City, while her music gained a global following. Her music and her legacy lives on. The G.E.M.A. Foundation pays tribute to this music legend by highlighting her contributions and keeping her legacy alive through our Entertainment Industry Career Development & Educational program.





