

# Athena Society



## BRIEFINGS

December 2018

### 2018 -2018 OFFICERS

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| President           | Betty Castor     |
| President Elect     | Lorna Taylor     |
| VP/Membership       | Keri Eisenbeis   |
| VP/Programs         | Diane Egner      |
| VP/Community Action | Kem Toole        |
| Secretary           | Tina Tenret      |
| Treasurer           | Zoe Gustafson    |
| Imm. Past President | Doretha Edgecomb |

### BOARD

Bonnie Carr  
Carlye Morgan  
Fentrice Driskell  
Mary Gamble  
Dianne Jacob  
Mindy McLaughlin

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Lee Essrig  
Chantel Hevia  
Susan Leisner  
Ann Miller  
Tina Tenret  
Becca Tieder

Administrator / Editor

Johanne Castagan

813-928-0795

administrator@Athena-Society.com

## HOLIDAY PARTY

Celebrate the Holiday Season with your  
**Athena Sisters**

**Sunday December 9th**

**5-7pm**

at the

**Home of Jeanne Tate**

106 Martinique  
Tampa, FL 33606

Join us for an evening with a waterfront view complete with an oyster bar and full array of heavy hors d'oeuvres.

Members and one guest are complimentary; additional guests are \$30

**RSVP by December 5th**

via email: [administrator@athena-society.com](mailto:administrator@athena-society.com)  
or Online



We will be collecting books for both the Tampa-based Champions for Children and St. Petersburg's Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American History Museum.

**Recommended reading lists:**

[134 Important Children's Books](#)

[Melinda Gates Recommends](#)

## President's Message

Now that Thanksgiving and the sometimes tumultuous 2018 elections are yesterday's news, Athena is ready to welcome the spirit of the holidays.

Athena sisters will be invited to countless soirees and galas. However, not one will come close to topping our own celebration on **Sunday, Dec. 9** at **Jeanne Tate's** beautiful Davis Island home. That perfect setting will be the stage for another tantalizing Athena spread, assembled by the day's Chef de Cuisine, **Gwynne Young**, and the culinary artists who serve on our Hospitality Committee.

This always festive event will launch something new and wonderful: Athena is extending our tradition of giving to two non-profits, Tampa-based Champions for Children and St. Petersburg's Dr. Carter G. Woodson African-American History Museum. Please bring your favorite children's book(s) to the December 9th get-together so that we may share the joy of reading with children, families and those who work with both outstanding institutions.

Our holiday gathering also provides an opportunity for us to give a high five to members who are being recognized for contributing so much to our Athena reputation for leadership. Founding Athena member, **Dore Beach**, will receive the 2019 Women of Distinction Honor from the Girl Scouts. We're delighted that **Arthenia Joyner** will join her friend Dore as the 2019 Hall of Fame Honoree. Big recognitions keep coming with People Magazine citing Big Brothers/Big Sisters CEO, **Pam Iorio** as one of "25 Women Changing the World."

Hats off to the Tampa Sports Commissions **Claire Lessinger** for her inaugural event to launch the NCAA Women's Final Four in Tampa in April. The rousing event (with an assist from **India Witte**) preceded the USF Women's Basketball game and even yielded a win against Oklahoma for the Bulls. Finally, **Fentrice Driskell** is the latest Athena sister to be elected to public office. You go, Fentrice! Rep. Driskell may be a rookie in the House, but like her Athena sisters who are serving or have served in elected office, Fentrice will surely prove to be a pro.

Although the curtain is falling on 2018, we are ready for the year ahead. Your Community Action Committee will present in January, while Young Women of Promise, Career Assistance Grants and other programs will follow. All our other committees remain hard at work.

As your President, I am grateful for your impressive level of participation, for the guidance given by my predecessor, **Doretha Edgecomb** and for the insight of our energetic President Elect, **Lorna Taylor**.

As we pause to reflect on our many blessings, our cherished and lasting Athena friendships are high on the list. Let's raise a glass together on December 9th and toast our unique Athena camaraderie. See you then.

Happy Holidays,  
Betty Castor



## Member News

**Pam Iorio** has been named one of [25 Women Changing the World](#) by People Magazine.

**Fentrice Driskell** was elected to the Florida House representing District 63.

Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn has appointed former Senate Democratic Leader **Arthenia Joyner** as the first member of the All for Transportation oversight committee.

**Bonnie Carr** has been chosen as a member of the Education Oversight Committee, a group that will oversee the spending on school improvement projects to be funded by the education tax referendum. **Betty Castor** will Chair this Committee.

**Dore Beach** will receive the 2019 Women of Distinction Honor from the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida. **Arthenia Joyner** will join her in March as the 2019 Hall of Fame Honoree.

**Lorna Taylor** was recognized by the Florida Museum of Photographic Arts at their second annual Faces of Philanthropy 2018 at the Oxford Exchange on November 15th.

---

## Athena Bonus

March 17 - Who Wants to Go To The Opera?

Matinee, Bizet's Pearl Fishers at the Straz Center

Tickets \$85. Reservations and payment need to be made now because of predicted sellout.

Please call Carolyn Reed by December 3rd at 813-879-3654 to RSVP.

More details on upcoming Bonus Events to follow soon!

---

## December Birthdays

Trimeka Benjamin  
Susan Dellinger  
Katherine Essrig  
Carlye Morgan  
Donna Peterson

Gayla Russell  
Marsha Rydberg  
Stella Thayer  
Pam Wolf



## 2018-2019 Calendar

December 9 - Holiday Party - Home of Jeanne Tate

January 10 - Luncheon

February 7 - Luncheon

March 7 - Luncheon

April 4 - Luncheon (YWP)

May 2 - Luncheon (Career Asst Grants)

June 6 - Dinner (Annual Meeting)



**Athena Society, Inc.**  
**PO Box 10813**  
**Tampa, FL 33679**  
**[www.Athena-Society.com](http://www.Athena-Society.com)**

---

Do you have some news to share with your Athena Sisters?  
Please send to Johanne at [administrator@Athena-Society.com](mailto:administrator@Athena-Society.com)