

HIAITIAN NETWORK GROUP OF DETROIT: A COUPLE REFLECTS AND REMEMBERS

Haitian Network Group of Detroit will be 20 years old this year. As a former officer of the group, I realize we need to remain true to our core values, vision, and mission. Networking is the big key to success for any group because it helps generate growth and opportunities for its members. We can help enhance our Haitian community by bringing people together whether you are new to the group, Haitian or not. It raises our awareness of our Haitian culture by helping to educate our young crowd through different projects that inspire us to advocate for cultural diversity in Detroit.



Reynold F. Charles

When I moved from Boston, MA to Detroit, MI over 19 years ago with my husband and family, I didn't know too many people. The Haitian Network Group of Detroit made me feel welcome from the first time I met them. Over the years, I have gotten to know many new people and consider some like family. Through this group and my husband I got to learn more about the culture, entertainment, music, art and its history. This will be forever apart of my home.



Pamela F. Charles ■

A GROWTH EXPERIENCE



During my time serving on the HNGD board as Vice President, I was able to deepen my relationships with the Haitian and greater Detroit community through all the various events. I really enjoyed the event planning aspect and working closely with so many intelligent people who shared the same passion for Haitian culture.

Some of my all-time favorite events were: L'ajoupa, the bicentennial conference, and the Lea Kokoye play. Reflecting, I may have been the youngest member at that time, but I am very grateful to have been amongst a great group of people. I have so many great memories of our time together and all the hard work we put into preserving our culture.

Happy 20th anniversary to HNGD, and a special thank you to the founding members.

With Love,

Catherine (Auguste) Dauphin ■

REFLECTIONS OF A FOUNDING MEMBER

Dr. Marie Soledad Nelson

As a co-founder and past president of the Haitian Network Group of Detroit, it is astonishing that it has been 20 years since the organization's inception. When I reflect on the emotions that fueled the march on the journey to its establishment, a few words come to mind: Love, Passion and Pride for Haitian culture. Being young and energetic, there was the confidence and courage to explore new ideas for a prosperous cohesive community. These same adjectives are the reason the organization is still successful today. The aim was to create a home away from home, a support system that facilitated growth, edification and philanthropy. The Haitian Network Group of Detroit, synonymous with family, has adhered to its mission and has been successful beyond belief and imagination. Bravo! ■



20 YEARS: KEEP GOING!



Wow! Congratulations HNGD on your 20-year anniversary. It feels like yesterday when I was nominated as treasurer of the organization.

It was a pleasure to have served in this capacity.

Keep up the good work!

Mylla Danjou Aslsobrooks ■

NOTES ABOUT HNGD

Being part of HNGD, this great association, has been a tremendous pleasure for me.

I had the privilege to serve as treasurer some years ago for a short period of time. While my time of service was brief, I can still recall the high level of professionalism and friendship among the staff.

I want to seize this opportunity to wish HNGD Happy 20th Anniversary. I am so proud of all its accomplishments.

May it continue to positively represent the colorful beauty of Haiti in the Detroit Metro area.



Becel Dubreuze Jr. ■