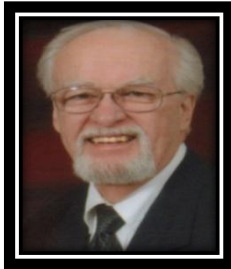


Board of Trustees

MHA is governed by volunteer, unpaid Board of Trustees. The purpose of our Board of Trustees is to ensure execution of MHA's mission and strategic plan. In addition, they provide advice on policy, advocacy, fundraising and public relations. Our board is currently comprised of community representatives and self-advocates from Maryland, Oklahoma, Ghana and Liberia who have accepted their position based on their personal experience, passion and expertise.

My Heart's Appeal Board of Trustees



Dr. Arthur Richardson, *Chairman of the Board.* He received his B.A. degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University, his MBA (High Honors) from Oklahoma City University and doctorate (Old Testament) from the Southern California School of Theology. He has done additional graduate study at Cambridge University (England) Boston University, and at Tianjin University of Finance and Economics (China).

In his early years, Arthur Richardson worked as an announcer in radio broadcasting. Later, he wrote and directed his own weekly television program. He was appointed over time to each of the three largest United Methodist congregations in the South Dakota Annual Conference.

After 6 years in public relations Dr. Richardson accepted a position at Westmar University and became Iowa's youngest of 30 university presidents. He served in that role for 9 years, leading a turn around of the troubled institution that eliminated both short and long-term debt of \$6million, doubled the enrollment and established a multi-million dollar endowment.

Upon leaving Westmar University, Richardson established his own speaking and consulting practice, IBMI, Inc. (International Business Management Institute) and traveled around the world as a professional speaker. He has traveled extensively in Asia and spoken in 12 countries.

He has been interviewed by *Newsweek*, *The Wall Street Journal*, Reuters News Service, and National Public Radio and has appeared on the *NBC Today Show* and *NBC Sunday Morning News*.

Arthur and his wife, Charlene, have two children: Scott Washington, DC and Amber, and her husband Ben, of Houston. He enjoys walking, reading, classical and bluegrass music, traveling and learning conversational German and Mandarin



Lonnie Heim, CPA *1st Vice Chairman.* In July 2006, assumed the duties of managing partner of HBC CPAs & Advisors. He has thirty years of experience in the areas of auditing and consulting. He spent considerable time during those years auditing and advising state and local government entities including municipals, public universities and public trust that were created to operate airport, golf courses, hospitals and for other public purposes.

He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma (Bachelor of Accountancy, December, 1978). He is a past investigator for the Oklahoma Accountancy Board, a past two-time member of the OSCPAs' Governmental Accounting and Auditing Committee and currently serves on the OSCPAs' Peer Review Committee.

He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Oklahoma Society of CPAs.



N. Oswald Tweh Sr., Esq. 2nd Vice Chairman. In October 1999, Mr. Tweh co-founded Pierre, Tweh & Associates, which has become a successful and leading Liberian law firm. He is presently serving as the Managing Partner of Pierre, Tweh & Associates.

He has served in following positions: Managing Partner, Brumskine & Associates, Member, National Board of Bar Examiners, Supreme Court of Liberia, Member, Board of Directors, Liberia Telecommunications Corporation (LTC), Member, Tax Commission of Liberia, Member, Grievance & Ethics Committee, Liberia National Bar Association, Chairman, Board of Directors, Industrial Property Office, Chairman, Provisional Board of Directors, Liberia Telecommunications Corporation, Member, Judicial Inquiry Commission, Supreme Court of Liberia, Co-chairman, Judicial Training Institute Steering Committee, Supreme Court of Liberia, Member, Board of Directors of the Liberian National Oil Company, and, Member, Executive Council of the Liberia Chamber of Commerce.

He is also affiliates with several social organizations: Master Mason and a member of the Order of Eastern Star, Past Master of Oriental Lodge #1, A.F. & A.M., Past Patron of Martha Chapter #10, Order of Eastern Star, and District Deputy General Grand Patron, Sinoe District, General Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Republic of Liberia, and a member of the Rotary Club of Monrovia.

He earned a B.Sc. from the Cuttington University College (now Cuttington University), Suacoco, Bong County, Liberia and received his law degree from the Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law, University of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia, in 1986; both with high honors. In 1988, he was awarded the LL.M. degree from the Harvard Law School.

He is a member of the Liberian National Bar Association, Counsellor-At-Law of the Supreme Court of Liberia, and member of the New York State Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

He is an active member in his church, S. Trowen Nagbe United Methodist Church, Monrovia, Liberia and has also held many leadership position. He is married and have four children.



Bracha (Barbara) Laster, Ed. D. Secretary. B. P. From 1974 to 1994, Dr. Laster was a reading specialist at every grade level in K-12 public schools. She taught in elementary, middle, and high schools in Florida, Ohio, Massachusetts, and Virginia. Currently, Dr. Laster attempts to touch students and teachers as a Professor, Co-Director of the graduate programs in Reading Education at Towson University, and her work in K-12 settings. She teaches courses on current topics in literacy theory and research, literacy interventions for special populations, new literacies, reading disabilities, literacy and culture.

Her publications include work on aspects of comprehension, teacher development, digital literacy, family literacy in reading clinics, service learning, and religious diversity in public school settings. She has published multiple book chapters and over 25 peer-reviewed journal articles in such venues as *Literacy Research Association Yearbook*, *The Reading Teacher*, *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*, *Literacy Research and Instruction*, *Journal of Curriculum and Instruction*, *Language Arts*, and *English Education*.

Among other service, she has served on the International Reading Association's 2010 Standards for Reading Professionals Committee, the National Joint Committee on Learning Disabilities, and the IRA Commission on Response to Intervention (RTI).



Kysha Williams, Esq. *Treasurer.* Kysha is a native Oklahoman practicing law since 2001. She received a Bachelor in Criminal Justice in 1995 from the University of Central Oklahoma and a Juris Doctor degree in 2001 from Oklahoma City University College of Law. Ms. Williams currently offices at the Williams Law Office, P.C., where she is a general practitioner, a certified NFLPA agent, and also currently serves as municipal judge for the Township of Langston, in Langston, Oklahoma. Besides the practice of law, she is writing a book the basis of which is a person's right to remain silent.



Emmanuel Dei-Tumi, *Trustee.* He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Ghana and a Masters in Leadership and Governance from Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA), Diploma in Insurance from the Chartered Institute of Insurance, UK, Diploma in Youth Development from the University of Ghana.

He is the founding President and Chief Executive Officer of the Future Leaders Group comprising Foundation for Future Leaders International, Future Leaders Investment Micro Finance Ltd, Future Leaders Cooperative Credit Union, Future Leaders Investment Club and Wisdom Centre International, a national organization providing training for corporate institutions as well coaching and mentoring, intellectual assistance, and fund-raising opportunities for youth-focused institutions and faith based organizations.

Headquartered in Accra, Ghana, the Future Leaders Group also assist other youth and community based organizations and socially-concerned investors in accessing business and investment opportunities in yet untapped neighborhoods and improving individuals, through collaboration with community-focused religious institutions.

His singular mission is to develop the potential of the next generation of national and indeed world class leaders and build on their unique strengths, and resources to help create and sustain thriving neighborhood and communities.



Hon. Borkai Sirleaf, *Trustee.* Hon Sirleaf is Deputy Director General/Operations with General Services Agency (Government of Liberia). He earned his B.Sc. in Zoology from Howard University in Washington D. C. in 1978, and his M. Sc. in Soil Science from the Prairie View A. M. University in Prairie View, in 1982. He is co-owner in a number of business ventures in Liberia. He has travelled a lot. He is active in community organizations an member of several social and athletic clubs. He is married with six children.