



OFFICE OF ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

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Treasurer Frerichs Presents Awards to Downstate Leaders In Honor of Black History Month

Andre Iguodala, Boys and Girls Club Leader Among Those Recognized

SPRINGFIELD – Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs today hosted a celebration to commemorate Black History Month and honor leaders in the African American community.

The event, held at the Marine Bank Building at 1 E. Old State Capitol Plaza, was an opportunity to reflect on the great achievements of Black leaders. The eight honorees included a businesswoman, a youth group executive, a girls' nonprofit founder, a state representative, a labor leader, a former NBA star, and a voice professor.

“We acknowledge the great achievements and contributions of African Americans every day, not only during the month of February,” Frerichs said. “These leaders are investing in companies, making a difference in the lives of our youth, and fighting for a more equitable Illinois. We celebrate their dedication to making our communities a better place to live, work, and raise a family.”

Black History Month is a national effort. In 1926, University of Chicago graduate, author and educator Carter G. Woodson created Negro History Week. In 1976, the annual celebration was expanded to a month. This year's Black History Month theme is “African Americans and the Arts.”

Treasurer Frerichs honored the following individuals for their outstanding commitment to the community:

Outstanding Service in Business

Pamela Frazier

President & CEO | All In One Management & Services Inc.

Outstanding Service in Leadership

Tiffany Mathis Posey

CEO & Executive Director | Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Illinois

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Outstanding Commitment to Community Service

Timara Pflug

Founder & CEO | Dollhouse Project

Outstanding Commitment as an Elected Official

Hon. Maurice West, II

Illinois State Representative | 67th District

Outstanding Achievement in Workforce and Labor

Barbara McElmurry

Union Steward | Laborers' Local 773

Outstanding Achievement in Sportsmanship

Andre Iguodala

Former NBA basketball player

Outstanding Achievement in Arts and Humanity

Barrington L. Coleman

Professor of Voice | University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign School of Music

Earlier this month, Frerichs held a celebration in Chicago honoring Chicago-area Black leaders.

About the Illinois Treasurer

The Illinois State Treasurer's Office is a powerful economic engine that invests in people to drive prosperity, development and growth throughout the state. As State Treasurer, Michael Frerichs (FRAIR'iks) is the state's Chief Investment and Banking Officer and actively manages approximately \$55 billion. The investments help families pay for college and trade school; workers save for a dignified retirement; and local governments process bill payments more efficiently so they can pass along the savings to taxpayers. The office provides financial institutions money to loan to farmers, small business owners, and qualified individuals at below-market rates because better jobs create stronger communities. The office operates the state's largest consumer-protection initiative, the unclaimed property I-Cash program, which has returned a record-breaking \$1.9 billion since Frerichs was elected.

For more news about the State Treasurer's Office, please follow Treasurer Frerichs on X (formerly Twitter) at [@ILTreasurer](#), Threads [@iltreasurer@threads.net](#), Instagram at [ILTreasurer](#), [LinkedIn](#) and on Facebook at [Invested in You – Treasurer Michael Frerichs](#).

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