

Dinner Tickets

___ **Table of 10 guests:** \$800
___ **Individual tickets:** \$80 per person
___ I cannot attend but wish to make a contribution.
I am enclosing a check/money order for \$_____.

Raffles

\$10 each / 3 for \$25 / 7 for \$50

1st Prize: \$500.00
2nd Prize: Apple Ipad Mini 4
3rd Prize: Fitbit Wristband

Journal Ad

JOURNAL DEADLINE: SEPT. 28, 2018

E-mail in JPEG or mail camera-ready art format to
info@dbmcenter.org

___ Back Cover \$200
___ Front Inside Cover \$150
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Enclosed is my check in the amount of
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Please make checks payable to:
Dorothy Bennett Mercy Center

Online donations can be made at: www.dbmcenter.org
Click on "Donate" button

Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

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Catered by: Ludwig's Catering

Entertainment by:

Steve Zucker & Rosemary Mazzara

Questions? Contact:

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E-mail: info@dbmcenter.org
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Dorothy Bennett Mercy Center 12th Annual Benefit

Honoring:

James Bonamassa,
Board Member

Adina Johnson,
Vice Chairperson

Friday, October 12, 2018
Time: 7pm - 11pm

The Belle Harbor Yacht Club
533 Beach 126 Street
Belle Harbor, NY 11694

"Dorothy Bennett Mercy Center provides programs that empower families in an urban community to achieve well-being and self-sufficiency."

Mercy Spirit Award Recipient: James Bonamassa



James Daniel Bonamassa was born and raised in the Marine Park section of Brooklyn. From a young age, his life centered around two fundamental

values – his community and doing the right thing. These values are evident throughout James’ schooling, work, and volunteer activities.

James attended Catholic grammar school as well as high school, which explains why his penmanship is unmatched. He went on to graduate from Pace University with a Masters in Taxation where Jim met his lovely wife, Janet. While juggling an already busy schedule as a CPA and raising his two oldest children, James attended St. John’s School of Law, where he earned his degree in 1987.

James eventually settled in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, where he and Janet had three more children. In addition to the CPA and law practice he founded in 1987, James was a very active member in his parish, St. Anselm’s. He coached baseball and basketball for St. Anselm’s youth organizations for 19 years and served as its baseball commissioner for a decade. James has always been active in charitable organizations and has served as a member of many youth activity boards.

James grew his practice, first with the help of Larry Maietta in 1991, and later with the help of Vincent Cartelli in 2000. Bonamassa, Maietta & Cartelli, LLP has expanded its business to include locations in both Brooklyn and Manhattan and employs dozens of people.

Throughout his stellar professional career, James has always managed to keep the important things front and center: working diligently to make time for his family, his community, as well as volunteering his time to worthy causes.

Mercy Service Award Recipient: Adina Johnson



A native New Yorker, born and raised in Harlem, Adina Johnson is a product of New York City public schools and a graduate of Hunter College of the City of New York.

In 1956, Adina and Henry Johnson, childhood friends, married and moved to the Marble Hill section of the Bronx, where they raised their children, Henry III, Richard, and Stephanie.

Professionally, Adina served on several city and state boards and task forces, the New York State Weatherization Policy Advisory Council, the New York City Weatherization Coalition, the In Rem Task Force, Black Women’s Advisory Committee to the City Council President, and the Housing and Community Development Coalition. Throughout, her work focused on the disadvantaged and disenfranchised.

Adina and Henry moved to Willoughby Walk Cooperative Apartments (WWCA) in 1982, and she became an active member of the Co-Op, chairing the Contract Committee, researching and making recommendations for major projects, and as Recording Secretary of the WWCA Retirees/ Seniors Committee and Treasurer of the Finance Committee.

Adina has been involved most of her adult life in activism and community service—both in her community and in her career. She served her Bronx community in many capacities. It was this involvement that led to her work, initially as a volunteer and thereafter as staff member at Operation Open City, a fair housing non-profit agency. Following her work at Open City, she became Director of Social Services at Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp., developing and supervising programs to assist families threatened with homelessness. Following her retirement, as a consultant, she developed grant proposals for non-profit agencies.

(Cont.)

As an active member of St. Lucy-St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church, she served for twenty-five plus years as a Catechist, choir member, Trustee, Eucharistic Minister, Past President and current Treasurer of the Rosary Society. In 2000, Adina became an Associate of the Sisters of Mercy, which has thoroughly enriched her spiritual life. Through her affiliation with the Sisters and her church, she was invited to serve on the Board of the Dorothy Bennett Mercy Center and on the Advisory Board of Mercy Gardens, a residence for single women.

Personally, she is also a proud sixty-five-year active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., established in 1908 by nine African-American college women to raise the status of African-Americans, particularly girls and women, through education, health, support and empowerment programs in “service to all mankind”, and as a member of VESTA Houseplan, formed in her Hunter undergraduate days and still active to this day. And, through God’s grace, as a sixteen year breast cancer survivor, she is a Team Leader, raising funds for the American Cancer Society’s Annual Making Strides vs. Breast Cancer Walk.

Despite this involvement, Adina’s overriding interest is her family, especially her grandchildren. She spends time enjoying music, the theater, travel and a lifelong circle of friends.

Adina and her late husband of 49 years, Henry, Sr., were blessed with three wonderful children and their spouses, Henry and Bonita Johnson, Richard Johnson, Stephanie and William DeVane, and nine terrific grandchildren, Lindsey, Jessica and husband Roland Mills, Richard, Jr., Andrea, Ayana, Aliyah Alicia, Herbert, and Terrance.