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MCCASKILL RECEIVES THE 2009 LAS AMIGAS, INCORPORATED MOST OUTSTANDING MEMBER AWARD

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PHOTO BY ARVEL HOWERTON, SR.

Las Amigas, Incorporated, a national, African American, women's public service organization, awarded its 2009 Dora R. Mason Most Outstanding Member Award to Brenda C. McCaskill of West Chester, Ohio. Said Ms. McCaskill, a 17 year member of the organization, "For me, the reward of volunteering is seeing the smile on the face of a youth with whom you've interacted, or seeing the gleam in the eye of someone who knows that you care. Receiving an award such as this makes it all even sweeter." The award was presented at the Las Amigas, Incorporated 51st Annual Conclave held recently in Charlotte, N. C.



Left to right: Rev. Annlouise Goodner-Brown (Philadelphia Chapter President and past Las Amigas, Incorporated National President), Brenda C. McCaskill, and Joann W. Williams, current and 17th National President of Las Amigas, Incorporated, presenting the 2009 Dora R. Mason Most Outstanding Member Award to Ms. McCaskill during the awards luncheon in Charlotte, N. C.

The Dora R. Mason Most Outstanding Member Award is given in honor of Las Amigas Co-Founder, Mrs. Dora Ramsey Mason. The award was established to recognize a member who has made outstanding contributions to the community and Las Amigas, a national organization with chapters serving communities within the states of Maryland, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, and our nation's capitol.

Ms. McCaskill, founder/organizer of the Cincinnati Chapter of Las Amigas, Incorporated, is a local volunteer mentor, serves on the board of Beechacres Parenting Center and on the advisory board of the Reds Community Fund, is a contributing writer to *The Cincinnati Herald*, founded and writes for a webzine *AboutGreaterCincinnati.com* - a website, free of charge to readers - that tells about inspiring and unique people/events across Greater Cincinnati, and is

an active member of the Cincinnati Queen City Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Said Las Amigas, Incorporated Cincinnati Chapter President G. Daphne Mosley, "Ms. McCaskill epitomizes the meaning of giving of yourself to benefit others."

In addition, Ms. McCaskill is the Las Amigas, Incorporated, national reporter and national website administrator. Thanks to her efforts, Las Amigas, Incorporated

has appeared in various publications such as *The Cincinnati Herald*, *The Carolina Peacemaker*, *The Charlotte Post*, *Richmond Free Press*, *New Journal & Guide*, *The News Reporter*, and other newspapers and television broadcasts. Said Joann W. Williams, Las Amigas, Inc., current and 17th National President, "Las Amigas is making an impact in our communities and our voice is being heard because of active and involved members like Ms. McCaskill."

Ms. McCaskill, who engages in philanthropy, community outreach, and public speaking, is an entrepreneur. She is the owner and lead designer of A Caring Touch, LLC., (www.PutActIntoAction.com) a small business that provides print and design creations for souvenir journals, programs, brochures, websites, etc.

Empowered women committed to public service, Las Amigas, Incorporated. - "the friends" - has convened annually for fifty-one years to further the organization's programmatic thrusts: education, family, health, political awareness/involvement, and economic development. Las Amigas, Incorporated, an affiliate of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), has national partnerships with the Lupus Foundation of America, Inc., the National Bone Marrow Donor Program, the National Kidney Foundation, and Habitat for Humanity.

To learn more about this organization, visit www.lasamigasincorporated.org.