University of Delaware
Alumni Wall of Fame Awards

In recognition of the many notable achievements of its alumni, the University of Delaware Alumni Association (UDAA), in partnership with the University, established the Alumni Wall of Fame in 1984. The Alumni Wall of Fame recognizes outstanding professional and public service achievements by UD graduates. This year's recipients are Michael J. Carragher, Class of 1984; Robert L. Hilliard, Class of 1948; Cynthia Primo Martin, Classes of 1969 (undergraduate degree) and 1971 (graduate degree); David G. Raymond, Class of 1979; and Jacqueline Richter-Menge, Classes of 1979 (undergraduate degree) and 1981 (graduate degree).



Cynthia Primo Martin, who received a bachelor's in 1969 and a master's in 1971, is a retired nonprofit executive specializing in agency management, fund development and marketing. Earlier in her career, she served as a corporate human resources officer for a major insurance company.

Martin founded Trustees of Color, an organization that works to ensure board diversity by expanding the pool of people of color to serve on Delaware's nonprofit boards through recruitment, training and support to boards and candidates. At the University of Delaware, she served as a member of the Board of Trustees from 2001 to 2013. In 2021, she wrote and published The Handbook for Nonprofit Leadership: Recruiting, Training and Engaging Trustees of Color.

"Cynthia has been a trailblazer and champion of the rights of women and people of color in Delaware," said Fatima Conley, vice president of the Office of Institutional Equity and chief diversity officer at the University of Delaware. "She believes that it is incumbent upon the older generation of civil rights activists to mentor younger professionals who are passionate about social justice issues."

In 2017, Martin was awarded the University of Delaware's Medal of Distinction for her leadership in local and global communities as a change agent for inclusion of women and people of color. She has also served with numerous nonprofit organizations.

"Cynthia's commitment to insisting structural racism and implicit bias be confronted is vital to our institutions and our country living up to the ideals upon which democracy stands," said Raye Jones Avery, Class of 1977, in her nomination of Martin for the award.