



## **Sold Out AWSCPA of Georgia Star Studded Celebration Inspires All to Reach for Their Stars!**

*An inspiration to all, Johnnie L. Clark, CPA, MBA, Ph.D. reveals what propels her to reach for her stars!*

Atlanta – January 26, 2015 - The Georgia Affiliate of the American Women’s Society of CPAs (AWSCPA of Georgia) Celebration Dinner was a smashing success. The sold out celebration honoring Johnnie L. Clark, CPA, MBA, Ph.D., a founding member of the AWSCPA of Georgia, took place in Atlanta on January 8, 2015 at the National Center for Civil & Human Rights. “Forever changed, *I stand in awe of this great lady, this phenomenal woman!*” says Gloria S. Lewis, CPA, CGMA, AWSCPA of Georgia Celebration chair and president-elect.

Dr. Clark’s inspiring story was shared in part through a series of powerful and moving videos filmed and produced by Brian McGovern of the B12 Vision. John Curran of Curran Productions delighted the crowd as he facilitated an evening filled with excitement and deep emotional content. Celebrants shared how Dr. Clark influenced and impacted their lives. “I am the man I am today because of Dr. Clark,” said Mr. James H. Speed of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Clarence Coleman Jr, Ph.D., MBA, CPA, CGMA communicated a message that resonated with many in attendance, saying, “Dr. Clark gave me something that has lasted a life time: If you are going to be successful, you must believe in yourself... Words are inadequate in expressing my sincere thanks for the influence Dr. Clark has had in my life.”

Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover, president of Tennessee State University, shared similar sentiments in a letter that brought understanding tears to the eyes of attendees who related on a deeply personal level to the experience she described: “I could not miss the opportunity to thank Dr. Johnnie Clark and to share with her the tremendous role and impact she has had on my life's journey. There is a saying that people come into your life for a season or for a lifetime. Dr. Clark you may have been in my life for a season, but you have had the lasting impact of a lifetime. As an instructor, your commitment to excellence and nurturing spirit as a mentor continue to be (some of) the guiding principles I incorporate in my life on a daily basis. Simply put, you saw the best in me and I am forever grateful.”

The evening’s festivities included a reception in the lobby of the beautiful Center for Civil & Human Rights, dinner, the awarding of scholarships to some of the accounting profession’s rising stars and recognition for the accomplishments of other leaders in the accounting profession. Infusing the entire event with a sense of unique joy was the awareness that all were excited and honored to be celebrating Dr. Clark’s legacy of excellence.

Spiceda Davis Jackson, CPA spoke for many in the crowd with her comments: "We had a great time this evening celebrating the legacy, legend, and leadership of a phenomenal woman, wife, educator and CPA, Mrs. Johnnie Clark! You are my inspiration. Tomorrow I will work harder in the profession to respect the journey you and so many others have taken for me. I love you and thank you!"

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ABOUT AWSCPA: The American Woman's Society of Certified Public Accountants (AWSCPA) is a national organization dedicated to serving all women CPAs and those actively pursuing the designation. The AWSCPA provides a supportive environment and valuable resources for members to achieve their personal and professional goals through various opportunities including leadership, networking and education. To learn more about the AWSCPA of Georgia and this gala event, please contact the website at [www.awscpa-ga.org](http://www.awscpa-ga.org).

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Left to Right: Legacy Scholarship Recipient: **Vonnick Boyogueno** with Dr. Johnnie L. Clark, Clark Atlanta University; Amy Delaplaine Scholarship Recipient: **Tranai Johnson** with Dr. Johnnie L. Clark, Clark Atlanta University; and, Nancy Frenkel Memorial Scholarship Recipient: **Catresa Barlow, CPA** with Ron Hughes (Husband of the Late Ms. Frenkel), Georgia State University



Front Left to Right: Catresa Barlow, CPA; Kimberly Schaeffer, CPA; Spiceda Davis Jackson, CPA; Joyce Heitner, CPA Back Left to Right: Beth Davis Pitt, CPA; Linda Raschke, CPA; Johnnie L. Clark, CPA, MBA, Ph.D.; Tudeth Harmond Morrow, CPA; Michelle Austell, CPA; and Gloria S. Lewis, CPA, CGMA