

Carol L. Adams, Ph.D.

Newly Appointed Illinois Representative to Africa

Experience:

- Secretary, Illinois Department of Human Services (2003-present)
- Executive Director, Northeastern Illinois University Undergraduate and Graduate Center for Inner City Studies (2000-2003)
- Director, International House of Blues Foundation (1997 - 1998)
- Director, Museums and Public Schools (1998 - 2000)
- Director, Resident Services Division, Chicago Housing Authority (1989-1996)
- Director, Department of African-American Studies, Loyola University (1981-1987)

International Accomplishments:

- South Africa: Represented State of Illinois in humanitarian mission on HIV/AIDS prevention
- Benin: Developed itinerary and follow-up strategy for delegation of President Boni Yayi
- Ghana: West African Connections tour, University of Ghana at Legon
- Ghana: Consultant on Maternal and Child Health
- Egypt: “Return to Kemet” – Historic cultural educational tour to Cairo, Luxor, and Aswan for the Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations
- Uganda: Trade mission sponsored by the Africa-USA Chamber of Commerce and Global Integrated Development Group
- Kenya: Member of trade mission
- Brazil: International cultural exchange sponsored by the National Conference of Artists; Organizer of the Brazil Cultural Tour for Kennedy King College
- Jamaica: Organizer of Marcus Garvey Centenary Celebration tour for Loyola University
- Jamaica: Organizer of Faculty-Student exchange project between Northeastern Illinois University and the University of the West Indies
- United Nations: Member of delegation to UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan’s forum on the African-American community and the United Nations

Professional Memberships:

- American Sociological Association
- Conference of Minority Public Administrators
- Association for the Study of Classical African civilizations
- ETA Creative Arts Foundation
- African Festival of the Arts
- African Heritage Studies Association

Honors and Awards:

- Phi Beta Kappa Key
- Grand YeYe, African Festival in the Arts, 2007
- Leadership Award, Organization of the Liberian Community of Illinois
- Outstanding Humanitarian Award, NAACP
- Community Service Award, National Association of University Women
- Kwanzaa “Community Legacy” Award, Malcolm X College
- Community Service Award, Chicago’s Abraham Lincoln Center
- Community Service Award, Kenwood-Oakland Community Organization
- Civic Maker, History Makers
- Governor’s Award in the Arts, Illinois Arts Council
- Black Business Woman of Year, Dollars and Sense magazine
- Leader in Education, YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago
- Woman of the Year, Coalition of United Community Action, Inc.,

Education:

- The Union Graduate School, Ph.D. Sociology (1976)
- University of Chicago - Sociology
- Boston University, M.A. Sociology (1966)
- Fisk University, B.A. Sociology (1965)

Additional Study

- Yale University - Community Studies
- Harvard University - Kennedy School of Government