



CONTACT: Esmé Artz  
Public Information Coordinator  
215-351-1243  
[eartz@whyy.org](mailto:eartz@whyy.org)

### **Music Legend and Humanitarian Kenneth Gamble to Receive Lifelong Learning Award at WHYY President's Dinner, May 7**

PHILADELPHIA, March 28, 2013 — WHYY will honor music legend and humanitarian Kenneth Gamble with its Lifelong Learning Award at the 13th annual WHYY President's Dinner on Wednesday, May 7. The event takes place at WHYY's Dorrance H. Hamilton Public Media Commons and features an on-stage interview with Gamble by Terry Gross, acclaimed host of National Public Radio's *Fresh Air*.

A true Philadelphia success story, Gamble rose from humble beginnings and has achieved international fame. He is widely known as part of the Gamble and Huff writing duo for having co-written, produced, recorded and published more than 3,000 songs performed by renowned artists, including The Jacksons, Teddy Pendergrass, Jerry Butler, The O'Jays, Spinners, Harold Melvin and the Bluenotes, Jones Girls, Billy Paul, Lou Rawls, Phyllis Hyman, Patti LaBelle, Soul Survivors and many others. He founded several record companies, including Philadelphia International Records, of which he remains CEO and Chairman of the Board.

Acclaimed worldwide for making hit records, it is Gamble's charitable work for which he prefers to be recognized. Gamble used his business success to launch Universal Companies, a not-for-profit neighborhood revitalization project aimed at rebuilding Philadelphia's African American community. With a mission of creating educational, cultural and entrepreneurial opportunities that break the poverty cycle within historically distressed urban communities, Universal Companies has maintained a proven track record of turning around under-achieving schools since 1999. To date, the organization has been the conduit for over \$1.5 billion of real estate development and investment and currently educates over 5,000 students in nine schools (K-12). Gamble's charitable work and civic efforts continue today as founder and Chairman of Universal Companies, as well as through other altruistic endeavors.

"Kenneth Gamble is Philadelphia born and raised. His outstanding contributions to the music industry have brought national recognition to this great city while his noble humanitarian efforts in our most distressed communities have made Philadelphia a significantly better place," said Bill Marrazzo, WHYY president and CEO. "I'm thrilled to recognize Kenny for his commitment to neighborhood revitalization in Philadelphia and beyond."

Each year at the President's Dinner, WHYY encourages individual commitment and leadership by recognizing the achievements of a person who initiated positive social change and lifelong learning for all. Past recipients of the Lifelong Learning Award are



Terry Gross, Judy Woodruff, Tavis Smiley, Carl Kasell, Ken Burns, Gwen Ifill, Charlie Rose, Cokie Roberts and Ed Rendell. The President's Dinner award ceremony will be held in WHYY's Dorrance H. Hamilton Public Media Commons before a live audience, including hundreds of business and political leaders.

Presenting sponsors of this year's event are M&T Bank and Wilmington Trust. Welcome reception sponsor is Brandywine Realty Trust. Platinum Sponsors are Aramark, Bank of America, CRW Graphics and PECO.

For information about corporate sponsorship, program book advertisements, or to reserve tickets to the WHYY President's Dinner, contact Roseann Oley, WHYY Vice President of Institutional Advancement, at 215-351-1223 or [roleyn@whyy.org](mailto:roleyn@whyy.org).

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