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2019 Most Influential Women in Corporate America

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Sylvia Rhone Chairman & Chief Executive Officer Epic Records

Sylvia Rhone is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Epic Records.

In this role, Rhone leads the overall creative direction and management of Epic Records, overseeing a roster of chart-topping artists.

Prior to this appointment, Rhone held the position of President of Epic Records since 2014, where she has guided the release of a number of leading hits. She has also overseen a diverse range of developing artists.

Rhone's career in the music industry has spanned more than four decades. Prior to Epic Records, she helped guide an award-winning roster at Universal Music Group for eight years, where she was President of Universal Motown Records.

From 1994 to 2004, Rhone was Chairman and CEO of Warner Music Group's Elektra Entertainment Group, the first African American woman to be named Chairman of a major record company, guiding the careers of a diverse repertoire of artists, including Missy Elliott, Busta Rhymes, Metallica, Third Eye Blind, Tracy Chapman, Gerald Levert, Yolanda Adams, Phish, Jason Mraz and others.

Rhone was the first woman to receive the Music Business' Association Presidential Award for Sustained Achievement.

Rhone is a graduate of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.



Chief Executive Officer

Adtalem Global Education

isa W. Wardell is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Adtalem Global Education.

Wardell was appointed to this role in 2016 and has been a member of Adtalem's Board of Directions.

Wardell is one of two African American female Chief Executive Officers in the Fortune 1000.

tors since 2008.

Prior to her current position with Adtalem, Wardell was Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the RLJ Companies, a diversified holding company with portfolio companies in the financial services, asset management, real estate, hospitality, professional sports, film production and gaming industries.

Prior to joining The RLJ Companies, Wardell was a Principal at Katalyst Venture Partners, a private equity firm that invested in start-up technology companies in the media and communications industries.

Wardell serves on the Board of Lowe's and Adtalem Global Education.

Wardell holds a Bachelor's degree from Vassar College and a Law degree from Stanford Law School. She earned her Master's in Finance and Entrepreneurial Management from Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.



Angela F. Williams President & Chief Executive Officer Easterseals

ngela F. Williams is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Easterseals, the nation's leading nonprofit provider of life-changing services and powerful advocacy for children and adults with disabilities, veterans, and older adults.

In this role, Williams is leading the organization as it marks its 100th anniversary. She is driving strategy to assure growth and heightened impact as it begins its second century of service to America.

The 10th person to lead Easterseals in its history, she is the first African American, and the first female within the past 41 years, to hold the post.

With 30 years of leadership experience in the nonprofit and corporate sectors, Williams was

most recently Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Chief Administration Officer at YMCA of the USA.

Williams began her professional career as an officer in the United States Air Force's Judge Advocate General's Corps.

Williams was a 2005 Henry Crown Fellow of the Aspen Institute.

Williams earned a Bachelor's degree in American Government from the University of Virginia, a Juris Doctor from the University of Texas School of Law and a Master's of divinity from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, Virginia Union University.



ary A. Winston is the Interim Chief Executive Officer for Bed Bath & Beyond Inc., an omnichannel retailer that is the trusted expert for the home and heartfelt life events.

Prior to Bed Bath & Beyond, Winston was the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Family Dollar Stores, Inc.

In this role, Winston played a vital part working with the Board of Directors, shareholders and other constituents during the acquisition of leading retailer Family Dollar by Dollar Tree.

Prior to joining Family Dollar, Winston was the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Giant Eagle, Inc., a leading grocery and fuel retailer. Prior to that, Winston was the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Scholastic Corporation, a global leader in publishing, education and media. Winston has extensive experience in the retail, publishing and manufacturing industries.

Winston is a Board Member of the Carolinas Chapter of the National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD). Winston serves on the boards of Acuity Brands, Inc., Domtar Corporation and Dover Corporation.

Winston holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and an MBA from Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management.

Leading Easterseals Into its Second Century of Service to America

As America's largest nonprofit health care organization,

Easterseals is committed to the comprehensive health and wellness of the more than 1.5 million people it serves each year and is prepared to respond to the needs of the one in four Americans living with disability today. Angela Williams, the 10th person to lead Easterseals in its history, the first African American, and the first female within the past 41 years, joined Easterseals in early 2018 as the organization was putting the finishing touches on plans for its 100th Anniversary in 2019.

Throughout the last 18 months, Williams has immersed herself in the history of the organization and has been proud to learn of the impact Easterseals has made – and continues to make. This encompasses life-changing services of early intervention, inclusive childcare and autism services for young children; job training and coaching, employment placement and transportation services for adults with disabilities, including veterans; adult day services; pediatric and adult medical rehabilitation, including physical and occupational therapies; assistive technology; mental health services; and respite and inclusive camping and recreation.

Born in the 1960s in the height of the Civil Rights movement, Williams' life was influenced by her parents and how they modeled a call to service. Her journey from active duty military service to the Department of Justice, private practice and employment by a Fortune 500 company gave her a diverse perspective on work, people and systems. This prepared her to lead an organization "making profound positive differences in people's lives every day." Easterseals' message of access and inclusion – a message of civil rights - casts its vision of a world in which every one of us is 100% included and 100% empowered to realize our full potential. Nothing exhibits this better than the story of Kyle, who came to Easterseals at age two after his grandmother noticed how little he was interacting with his sisters and other family members, was often destructive and seemed to be"in his own world." She encouraged Kyle's mom to get an evaluation at Easterseals after his pediatrician repeatedly told his mom"boys are often just slower than girls in developing." Kyle was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum



disorder and received a variety of early intervention services from Easterseals before he started school – on par with his peers. He's now a sixth grader who is thriving both academically and socially – and he no longer exhibits previous disruptive behaviors.

From its beginnings to a role in the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990 and to the protection of Medicaid-funded services in 2017, Easterseals has been at the forefront of legislation that clears pathways, assures social justice and opens equal opportunities for all. For example, its workforce development services provide people with disabilities, veterans and older adults with skills assessments and training as well as job coaching and placement in meaningful employment. One client in South Georgia is a young man with an intellectual and developmental disability who dreamt his whole life of being a firefighter. Easterseals helped make that dream come true by working with the local fire department to assist him with training and certification as a volunteer firefighter. He's one of 75,000 individuals with disabilities that were helped last year alone.

As Easterseals enters its second century of service to America, Williams' vision for the organization is to grow brand awareness. It is also to build an even stronger network of innovative and responsive community service providers known by families who need Easterseals as well as by leaders and influencers in corporations, media, government and philanthropy who immediately think of Easterseals when choosing a partner through which they want to advance social change and inclusion for children and adults with disabilities, veterans and older adults. §



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