

The AFFILIATE

a-ffili-ate (ə'filē,āt/) noun: a person or organization officially attached to a larger body



JANUARY 2016

UBEOC ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDEE

Tedros Teklzghi is a testament to the adage, “hard work pays off” and of the University at Buffalo Educational Opportunity Center’s (UBEOC) mission of lifelong learning. An Eritrean refugee when he came to the United States in 1991, he wholeheartedly embraced and now embodies the American Dream. Tedros initially relocated to San Francisco and worked as a Walgreens Drugstore Cashier. He visited Buffalo upon the invitation of his friend who was attending the UBEOC. Seeing opportunity here, Tedros later moved to Buffalo and in 1994 enrolled in the UBEOC English as a Second Language (ESL) program.

Tedros worked diligently learning the language while assimilating to a new culture. Upon completing the ESL program, he enrolled in and graduated from the UBEOC College Preparation program in 1995. Tedros attended Erie Community College (ECC) and acquired an Associates of Science degree in Computer Information Systems and was hired as a Computer Technician. While working at ECC for two years, Tedros enrolled at Buffalo State College in the Computer Information System program and as a student, worked as a Computer Consultant. He graduated with his Bachelors of Science in Computer Information Systems in 2000.



*TEDROS TEKLGHI
UBEOC Class of
1994, 1995*

Having earned his college credential, Tedros was hired as a User Support Technician at the University at Buffalo (UB) Law School. He was promoted to Manager of the Computer Lab and presently works as the UB Law School System Administrator.

Tedros is married and has 2 children. (He met his “wife” at UBEOC)! An active community supporter, he coordinates a volunteer ministry group, offering services for North Collins Correctional Facility inmates. He also serves in a decision making capacity in the community to enhance opportunity for the Buffalo Eritrean population.

UBEOC ALUMNI WOMEN’S CONFERENCE 2015



Margot Barrett Keysor (UBEOC Alumni Affairs/Student Development Administrator), Cynthia Coates ('13), Loretta Small ('14), Laythanette Shine ('09), Vandelhia Crump(1999), Leona Boling Blackburn (1970's), Zola Lowery Crowell (1975), Colette Stephens (1986), Brenda Harris (1988), Jacqueline White ('14)

ARTHUR O. EVE EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Arthur O. Eve Education and Community Service Award honors the legacy of Mr. Eve, former NY State Assembly Deputy Speaker and champion of the EOC's and EOP's statewide.



*Zola Lowery Crowell
UBEOC Class of 1975*

Zola Lowery Crowell reflects how she was erroneously placed in special education classes from first through twelfth grade and how she learned to live with that stigma. Until she came to UBEOC that is. "EOC gave me the courage to move beyond the falsehood". Zola grew up in Andalusia, AL and Niagara Falls, NY and worked as a Postal Clerk, Nursing Aide and Secretary. At UBEOC she earned her high

school equivalency diploma, took college preparation courses and then attended Millard Fillmore and Empire State Colleges. She retired from the Federal Government as an Administrative Assistant at Buffalo Veteran's Hospital. Zola's service to community is vast and includes the Niagara Falls Chapter of the Links, Association of Black Social Workers, Harriet Tubman 300's, Black Pioneers of the Niagara Frontier, American Business Women's Association and the First Shiloh Baptist Church. Presently she is a Charlotte, NC Chapter of the Links member, a venue through which she met former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan and former British Prime Minister Tony Blair at a United Nations Gala. Zola has been recognized by the Library of Congress and the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, DC for her genealogical transcript of her Great-Great Grandmother, Charity Butler, who was born into slavery in the 1850's.

"Buffalo EOC was my lifeline. Because EOC believed in me, I developed my own resolve to succeed and help others in need".



CLASS OF 2015 "ALUMNI" HONORED

On May 20, 2015, UBEOC hosted the forty-second annual commencement and welcomed the Class of 2015 as new Alumni. Graduation was held in Slee Hall at the University at Buffalo North Campus. **Zola Lowery Crowell** (Class of 1975) received the Arthur O. Eve Education and Community Service Award in recognition of her 30 plus years of volunteer and community service. **Tedros Teklzghi** (Class of 1994, 1995) was honored with the 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award. **Julius Gregg Adams**, UBEOC Executive Director, expressed congratulations to the class. Greetings were extended by **Alexander Cartwright**, Provost, State University of New York System Administration; **Mary H. Gresham**, UB Vice Provost for Educational Collaboration and Engagement; **Susan Perkins**, Director of Programs and Services University Center for Academic and Workforce Development and **Mary Craig**, UBEOC Advisory Council Chairperson. The keynote address was delivered by **Ellen E. Grant**, Deputy Mayor, City of Buffalo.

**View the graduation video and listen to
Zola's interview on WBFO radio:**

<http://www commencement buffalo.edu/video>
[http://news.wbfo.org/post/eoc-commencement-highlights-
opportunities-and-success](http://news.wbfo.org/post/eoc-commencement-highlights-opportunities-and-success)

STUDENT ORIENTATION AND REGISTRATION

UBEOC announces it's new ONE STOP SHOP!
Every Wednesday 9am-2pm
ASSESS your skills and REGISTER in ONE DAY!

HELP A "FUTURE UBEOC ALUM"
TELL FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO CONTACT ADMISSIONS
716.645.1900

- UBEOC faculty and staff are well versed in the new High School Equivalency Test—Test for Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), formerly known as the GED®.
- UBEOC Allied Health and Career and Technical training programs offer industry recognized certifications.
- The UBEOC College Preparation Program and College Connections Office offers pre-collegiate coursework and financial aid counseling.
- The Career Services Office offers career development and job placement services.

UBEOC PROGRAMS

- English as a Second Language
- Academic Review
- High School Equivalency
- College Preparation
- Computer Training
- Customer Service
- Registered Medical Assistant
- Dental Assistant
- Patient Services Technician Specialist
- Medical Billing & Coding



UBEOC PULSE

Career Services for UBEOC Alumni

Services are available to UBEOC Alumni for life.
Sign up for the Jobs Listserv; postings will be sent to your email.

Contact

Darlene Mercado

Supervisor, Career Services
716.645.1944
mercado@buffalo.edu

Faculty Member Receives Recognition

Associate Professor for EOC, **Nancy Lane**, received the 2015 Lorna Arrington Faculty Development Incentive Award. The award acknowledges the 30 year legacy of **Lorna Arrington** as an esteemed UBEOC faculty member.

Save the Date

Career Training and Job Fair

February 3, 2016
10:00am-1:00pm

UBEOC Open House and American Heart Association GO RED DAY

February 4, 2016
10:00am-1:00pm

International Day

March 15, 2016
11:30am-1:00pm

Women's Conference

March 18, 2016
8:00am-2:30pm

UBEOC ALUMNI IN ACTION

Do you know
Dale Martin,
UBEOC Class of 2003
and
Host of **WNY at Work** ?

Listen “live”
on Sunday mornings
10:00-10:30am on
ESPN 1520 AM and
check out what is
happening in Buffalo!

Buffalo is undergoing a
renaissance
and
Dale is on it all
...jobs, sports, economic
development and more!

Stay abreast and like his
Facebook page
WNY@Work



ALUMNI SOCIETY OPINION SURVEY: WE NEED YOUR VOICE!

Your “alma mater” is
establishing an Alumni Society.
Alumni who join will enjoy
opportunities for networking,
professional development
and social and community
engagement. The Alumni
Affairs Office, however, needs
to hear from YOU first!

What activities should the
Alumni Office sponsor? What
workshops/training would be
helpful to you in your career?

Your thoughts are requested
in order to develop a dynamic
organization. Please respond to a
brief survey via the link below or
contact Alumni Affairs.

UBEOC ALUMNI SOCIETY OPINION SURVEY

Click or Visit:

[http://vovici.com/wsb.dll/
s/8727g58726](http://vovici.com/wsb.dll/s/8727g58726)

STAY CONNECTED!

Alumni Profiles

What have you been up to
since you left UBEOC? Got
a great job? Graduated from
or are in college? Opened a
business? Travelled? Received
an award? Alumni Affairs
would love to share your news
in upcoming newsletters.

Contact the AASD Office

Alumni Listserv

Did you receive this newsletter
directly from UBEOC to your
email or was it forwarded to
you by an Alum? Inform the
AASD Office of your email
and receive newsletters and
regular updates to your own
account.

Tell fellow Alumni to sign up

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER

555 Ellicott Street
Buffalo, NY 14203
716.645.9555

www.eoc.buffalo.edu

www.facebook.com/buffaloeducational.opportunitycenter

ALUMNI AFFAIRS AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (AASD)

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