



**Media Contact:**  
Ashlei Stevens  
UNCF Communications  
[astevens@uncf.org](mailto:astevens@uncf.org)  
202.810.0226

**\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\***

**UNCF HOSTS “A MIND IS...” GALA MARCH 3 HONORING  
FORMER NEW YORK CITY SCHOOLS CHANCELLOR JOEL KLEIN  
AND THE REV. AL SHARPTON**

*72nd anniversary event also honors Fund II Foundation for efforts to advance education*

**NEW YORK (March 1, 2016)**—Many of New York’s boldest names will put on their black-tie best and join UNCF Thursday, March 3, at the 72nd anniversary “A Mind Is ...” Gala at the Grand Hyatt New York. The gala will raise funds to support UNCF’s 37 member historically black colleges and universities and more than 400 scholarship, internship and fellowship programs.

The 2016 UNCF “A Mind Is...” Gala will continue its tradition of honoring noted civic, education and business leaders for their game-changing advocacy on behalf of education through partnerships with UNCF and their own work. UNCF will present the Frederick D. Patterson Award to Fund II Foundation, a new UNCF partner, for its major investments into scholarships for African American students, including the Fund II Foundation UNCF STEM Scholars Program. The UNCF President’s Award will be presented to Joel Klein, chief policy and strategy officer of Oscar Health Insurance Corp. and former New York City schools chancellor. The Shirley Chisholm Award for Community Service will be presented to the Rev. Al Sharpton, the noted civil rights activist.

**WHO:** UNCF

**WHAT:** **2016 UNCF “A Mind Is ...” Gala**  
**Honorees:** Fund II Foundation, Joel Klein and the Rev. Al Sharpton  
**Gala Chair:** John K. Martin, Chairman and CEO of Turner Broadcasting System  
**Mistress of Ceremonies:** Michaela Pereira, co-host of CNN’s “New Day”  
**Student performer:** Jumohny Walker, Virginia Union University, Class of 2016

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 3, 2016  
6 p.m. Reception  
7 p.m. Dinner

**WHERE:** Grand Hyatt New York  
109 E. 42nd St. at Grand Central Terminal  
New York, NY 10017

**INFO:** For tickets or additional on the gala, contact the UNCF office at 212.820.0140 or e-mail [uncf@pepnyc.com](mailto:uncf@pepnyc.com). Also visit [UNCF.org](http://UNCF.org) for continuous updates and news and follow UNCF on Twitter at [@UNCF](https://twitter.com/UNCF).

**Follow the gala on Twitter:**  
[@uncf](https://twitter.com/uncf) #AMIGALA

###

## About UNCF

UNCF (United Negro College Fund) is the nation's largest and most effective minority education organization. To serve youth, the community and the nation, UNCF supports students' education and development through scholarships and other programs, strengthens its 37 member colleges and universities, and advocates for the importance of minority education and college readiness. UNCF institutions and other historically black colleges and universities are highly effective, awarding nearly 20 percent of African American baccalaureate degrees. UNCF awards more than \$100 million in scholarships annually and administers more than 400 programs, including scholarship, internship and fellowship, mentoring, summer enrichment, and curriculum and faculty development programs. Today, UNCF supports more than 60,000 students at more than 1,100 colleges and universities across the country. Its logo features the UNCF torch of leadership in education and its widely recognized motto, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste."<sup>®</sup> Learn more at [UNCF.org](https://www.uncf.org), or for continuous updates and news, follow UNCF on Twitter at [@UNCF](https://twitter.com/UNCF).