

COUNCILgram ▶

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NEW COUNCIL PRESIDENT ENCOURAGES EDUCATIONAL LEADERS TO EMBRACE THEIR WORK ON BEHALF OF ALL CHILDREN



The following remarks were provided at the 2018 Fall Leadership Summit's opening keynote by 2018-19 Council President Lorna Lewis, Plainview-Old Bethpage on September 23, 2018.

It is with honor and pride that I stand before you as the 2018-2019 President of THE COUNCIL. My journey to this place has been charted by many sea captains over the years, many who are here to celebrate this moment with me. I thank my family, colleagues and friends who have and continue to spur me on and allow me to remain focused on the things that matter.

I pause for a moment to honor the person whose selfless commitment to me has made all the difference in my life. My Aunt who raised me in my first 16 years, a teacher and passionate educator. She is no longer with us in body, but her wisdom and guidance remain for eternity through the number of children she influenced. I can still hear her saying, "the heights by great


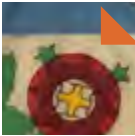
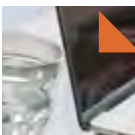
men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night." This mantra was instilled in me at an early age and is one that has served as the foundation for my work.

My education began when at the age of 3-years-old, my Aunt said to me, you must to come to school with me because I have no one to leave you with. So off I went to Kindergarten, not realizing that 3-year-olds were not supposed to be there. Every teacher welcomed me and challenged me to do my best. It's ironic that if my Aunt was a teacher in any one of our districts in New York, I would not have been permitted to begin my schooling for another 2-3 years. Ken Robinson often criticizes us for educating students by their manufacture date rather than their readiness and ability to be successfully challenged.

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