



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Kevin S. Parker

## The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of New York Host a Black Male Responsibility Summit during the 53rd Annual Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Legislative Conference

JAUkia MCCONEYHEAD March 19, 2024



**Brooklyn, NY** - In a momentous occasion, The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of New York proudly continued its rich history of engagement with distinguished Prince Hall Masons members who are also part of the New York State and City legislative

leadership, by hosting a Black Male Leadership and responsibility summit. The Summit was hosted by State Senator Kevin S. Parker of the 21st Senate District.

Gregory Robeson Smith Jr., Most Worshipful Grand Master of Prince Hall Masonry in the State of New York, expressed his honor and enthusiasm, and welcomed all guest and gave a brief history on the historic beginnings of Prince Hall Masonry. Grand Master Smith Jr. “charged all present to look towards solution and strategies to reengage our community.” He also suggested we all have a responsibility to take care of the least of these.” Senator Paker, and Grand Master Gregory Roberson Smith, Jr. have committed to take part in future Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Legislative Conference's.

The summit was facilitated by Dr. Basil Smikle Jr. is a Distinguished Lecturer and Director of the Public Policy Program and the Roosevelt House Institute for Public Policy at Hunter College and a former Executive Director of the New York Democratic Party. The Panel included State Assembly District Member Al Taylor 71, The Honorable Dr. Maurice O. Franklin, Manhattan Community Board 10 Member, and a Public Policy Professor at California State University Northridge, and Former New York City Council Member the Honorable Robert Cornegy (36).

Prince Hall Freemasonry has a longstanding commitment to the transformation of lives, focusing on children, families, veterans, and the aging population by enhancing their education, health, and family economic stability. Throughout history, the Prince Hall Masons of New York have played a pivotal role in championing equality, justice, and enlightenment within our communities. Our journey is marked by unwavering dedication to personal growth, the pursuit of knowledge, and steadfast support for one another. The Prince Hall Masons of the State of New York remain steadfast in their mission to contribute positively to society and to continue their historic legacy of making good men better.

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of New York proudly stands as one of the state's venerable institutions, with a history spanning centuries. Our lineage and traditions run deep, embodying the timeless principles of fellowship, honor, and service.

### **About State Senator Kevin Parker**

Senator Kevin S. Parker is intimately familiar with the needs of his ethnically diverse Brooklyn district comprising sections of Flatbush, East Flatbush, Kensington, Ditmas Park, Midwood, Flatlands, Canarsie, Georgetown, Old Mill Basin, Mill Basin, Marine Park, and Bergen Beach. A lifelong Brooklyn resident, Senator Parker is the Chairman of the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee and a member of several other Senate committees including Finance, Rules, Banks, Internet and Technology, as well as Budget and Revenue.

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