



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patricia Fahy

Senator Fahy Announces Induction of Oldest Black-Owned Funeral Home in Northeastern U.S. into New York State Historic Business Preservation Registry

PATRICIA FAHY January 10, 2025

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ALBANY, N.Y. – Senator Patricia Fahy (D—Albany) announced the induction of Garland Brothers Funeral Home into the New York State Historic Business Preservation Registry today. **Garland Brothers Funeral Home** on Clinton Avenue in Albany is the oldest-owned and operated black-owned funeral home in the Northeastern United States, having been founded in 1929, serving the Albany area and Capital Region to this day.

“A family-owned business for almost a century, Garland Brothers Funeral Home has served the Albany community with distinction and helps many of our neighbors navigate some of the most difficult times in their lives,” **said New York State Senator Patricia Fahy**. “I’m thrilled to have nominated them and to see them formally inducted into the New York State Historic Business Preservation Registry. Our small businesses are the cornerstones of our communities, and after almost 100 years, Garland Brothers Funeral Home remains a pillar of Albany and our Capital Region community. Congratulations on this well-earned and deserved distinction and honor.”

“We’ve been serving the Albany community for 96 years and look forward to continuing our legacy of dedication to our neighbors in their time of need,” **said Benjamin Garland, CEO and President of Garland Brothers Funeral Home**. “Thank you to Senator Patricia Fahy for nominating us to the New York State Historic Business Preservation Registry. As the oldest black-owned funeral home in the Northeastern United States, we are honored to receive this distinction and look forward to continuing to serve our community for many years to come.”

Garland Bros. Funeral Home of Albany has served the Albany community since its founding in 1929. Starting a business at the beginning of the Great Depression wasn’t easy for founder James C. Garland, but Garland Bros. prided themselves on never turning anyone away despite the financial straits the grieving family may have been in.

Today, they continue this legacy by meeting families where they are and offering personalized support during difficult times. Garland Bros. Funeral Home is also the oldest black-owned funeral home in the Northeast. The business was intentionally founded to serve the African American and black community of Albany, and it continues to do so today. They continue this legacy of service today by continuing to provide meaningful, appropriate, and affordable services to their customers and community.

The [New York State Historic Business Preservation Registry](#) is administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation and highlights businesses that have been in operation for at least 50 years and have contributed to their community's history. At a time when many businesses face new and unique challenges, this registry allows New Yorkers to recognize and honor historic businesses, while providing educational and promotional assistance to ensure their continued viability and success.

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