

# 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Menu of HOPE

Benefitting Children's Hunger Alliance

## Keynote Speaker: Sampson Davis, M.D.

Sampson Davis, M.D. was raised as the fifth of six children in Newark, one of New Jersey's poorest cities. As a child Davis grew-up in cramped living quarters, surrounded by fragmented families, crime and drugs. Still, he was a good student, able to strike the fragile balance between being smart yet socially acceptable on the streets. It was this combination of skills, Davis says, that were most critical to his survival.

While attending University High School in Newark, Davis met Dr. Rameck Hunt and Dr. George Jenkins, two fellow students who together made a promise to become doctors. Davis and his two childhood friends each successfully fulfilled their pact and today Davis is a board certified emergency medicine physician.

In February 2013, Davis released his latest book, *Living & Dying in Brick City—An E.R. Doctor Returns Home*. In addition to discussing Davis' riveting experiences as an ER physician, the book also offers preventative guidance as a means of supporting healthier communities. Davis has appeared on numerous talk and radio shows including *Oprah*, *Dr. Oz*, the *Today* show, *The View*, *PBS NewsHour*, *Tavis Smiley* and NPR as well as print publications including but not limited to *Readers Digest*, *O Magazine*, *People*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Vibe* and *Black Enterprise*.



Ms. Winfrey also delivered the highest honor naming Davis, "One of The Premiere Role Models of the World". Davis was honored in 2000 with the *Essence* "Lifetime Achievement Award" and also named one of their "40 most inspirational African Americans in the country". He is the youngest physician to receive the National Medical Association's highest honor, "The Scroll of Merit", and was previously honored on the 2009 BET Awards.

Today, Davis spends his time practicing medicine and traveling the country delivering keynote speeches with timely messages. Davis believes it is important to give education a sense of style and fashion. To glorify and glamorize education is the key. A face must be present, a concrete image that all individuals across America can draw inspiration from. Davis considers his 3 D's, Dedication, Determination and Discipline, as the necessary ingredients to success. Graduating with honors, Davis received his bachelor's degree from Seton Hall University, his medical degree from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at the same hospital where he was born, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

Today, Davis is a board certified emergency medicine physician at St. Michaels Medical Center in Newark New Jersey. He has been a weekly correspondent on the *Tom Joyner Morning Show* and a frequent guest on CNN where he focuses on prevalent and life-changing medical topics. Davis has also co-authored *New York Times* best-selling books, *The Pact*, *We Beat the Street* and *The Bond*. In 2000, during his residency, Davis along with his best friends felt the burning need to give back to communities in need, and together created The Three Doctors Foundation. This non-profit organization offers a series of free public programs focused upon health, education, leadership and mentoring.