



## L.A. PARKER: STARS SHINED FOR NATIONAL JUNIOR TENNIS & LEARNING OF TRENTON GALA

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Think about great moments in your life that are not connected with child birth, weddings, or graduation.

Kind of limits your list but a March 21 such an experience during the National Junior Tennis & Learning of Trenton gala at the Princeton Hyatt.

Testimonials were heartwarming as four local NJTL of Trenton participants delivered insights about their life journeys.

Their core message underscored that the city-based organization served as life changer and life saver.

Rob and Eileen Conway and Johnson&Johnson, were gracious award honorees who encouraged continued investment in youth.

Trenton Mayor Eric Jackson described the impact NJTL of Trenton makes on lives and the social well-being of children who attempt to rise, some out of the most challenging conditions.

Of course, national and local tennis powers Amy Smith, Beth Deitchman, Dave Haggerty, and NJTL of Trenton Executive Director Rob Howland made even more special an event that highlights a tennis outreach effort that also guides teen participants through daily life challenges.

All the aforementioned people and success stories would have made for a wonderful event.

This fabulous night included an introduction of Katrina Adams, the first African American CEO, Chairperson, and President of the United States Tennis Association.

New York City Mayor David Dinkins' attendance added more historical value to Adams' amazing life story.

Dinkins served as NYC's first African American mayor after growing up on Spring St. in Trenton along with this city's first African American Mayor Douglas H. Palmer.

Dinkins has long supported U.S. tennis national interests, plus, he has made several hometown appearances on behalf of the NJTL of Trenton.

On this night, numerous attendees requested photos with one of the city's great exported success stories who always remembers his roots.

The NJTL of Trenton remains an integral part of this city's desire to move both forward and upward.

L.A. Parker is a Trentonian columnist. Reach him at [laparker@trentonian.com](mailto:laparker@trentonian.com). Twitter@laparker6.

