



STEWARD SPEAKERS

Matthew Steward, founder and president of Steward Speakers, Inc., began developing speaker series events while a student at Indiana University's Bloomington campus through the campus Union Board. The Union Board, a student-led campus entertainment program, planned and hosted guest lectures, plays, and theater events. Notable guest lecturers to the university community included Harry Belafonte, the late Dick Gregory and Bill Cosby. With the support of his family and help from local community leaders such as the late William Mays, founder of Mays Chemical Company and Sam Jones of the Indianapolis Urban League, Steward Speakers was introduced to the Indianapolis community in November 1986.

For more than 36 years, under his leadership, Steward Speakers has been dedicated to enhancing the community by providing opportunities to engage with America's best leaders and brightest luminaries. More than 150 distinguished featured speakers including Secretary of State, the late General Colin Powell, award-winning actress, Viola Davis, gospel recording artist, Kirk Franklin, entertainer Steve Harvey, former special assistant to President Barack Obama, Valerie Jarrett, NBA legend and philanthropist, Ervin "Magic" Johnson and social activist, Dick Gregory have shared their personal and professional journeys with Steward Speakers' audiences for more than three decades.

Committed to his community, Matthew Steward served with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department for 38-years, retiring with the rank of Sergeant. As a civilian, Matt Steward continues to serve the community as the Strategic Initiatives Liaison with Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department's Community Engagement and Outreach Bureau.

Mr. Steward earned a Bachelor's degree in political science from Indiana University's College of Arts and Sciences. Steward is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and previously served as chairman of the deacon board



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at New Liberty Missionary Baptist Church. Matthew is married to his wife of 31 years, Laverne Steward, and has two adult daughters.