

## **REVISED Media Release**

Contact: Joaquina Bela Teixeira  
Executive Director  
Rhode Island Black Heritage Society  
The Arcade, Suite 29  
65 Weybosset Street,  
Providence, RI 02903  
401.751.3490  
401.751.0040 (F)  
[riblackheritagesociety@verizon.net](mailto:riblackheritagesociety@verizon.net)  
[www.providenceri.com/RI\\_BlackHeritage](http://www.providenceri.com/RI_BlackHeritage)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Black Heritage Society Selects Co-chairs for 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Ball

Dr. Charles J. McDonald, and Mr. George A. Vecchione have been invited to co-chair The Rhode Island Black Heritage Society's 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Ball.

A recipient of the Society's *Dr. Carl R. Gross Award*, Dr. McDonald has established a legacy of community service. His commitment to Rhode Island in particular is exemplified by his membership with the Rhode Island State Board of Education, and his trusteeship of 25 years with the Providence Public Library. In terms of regional involvement, Dr. McDonald is the current president of the American Dermatological Association and, among other things, is a member of the Board of Trustees at Howard University. He is currently a professor and chairman of the Department of Dermatology at Brown Medical School, as well as the Physician-in-Chief of Dermatology at Rhode Island Hospital. Graduating *Magna cum Laude*, Dr. McDonald earned his BS from North Carolina A&T University, and his M.D.—with highest distinction—from Howard University School of Medicine. He is married to Maureen McDonald.

Hailing from New York City, Mr. Vecchione currently serves as the president and CEO of Lifespan--a healthcare system encompassing Rhode Island Hospital, Hasbro Children's Hospital, The Miriam Hospital, Bradley Hospital, and Newport Hospital. He is also the chairman of the board for the Rhode Island Quality Institute. Mr. Vecchione is a member of the boards of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island, Citizens Bank, and the Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council. Additionally, he was appointed to be a member of the Governor's Economic Policy Council. Previously, Mr. Vecchione served as the executive vice president and director of New York Hospital, and was the executive director of The New York Presbyterian Healthcare System. Mr. Vecchione is a certified public accountant who holds an undergraduate degree in Accounting from St. Francis College in Brooklyn, NY, and a Master's Degree in Healthcare Management Systems from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. He is married to Melanie Vecchione, and has two grown children.

The Rhode Island Black Heritage Society proudly welcomes Dr. McDonald and Mr. Vecchione to the planning team, and looks forward to the inspired leadership both men have to offer. Founded in 1974, the goal of the Society is to recognize and publicize the contributions of African Americans locally, as well as nationally, through the preservation of historical documents, photographs and artistic works.

For further information: [www.providenceri.com/RI\\_BlackHeritage](http://www.providenceri.com/RI_BlackHeritage)

Contact: [riblackheritagesociety@verizon.net](mailto:riblackheritagesociety@verizon.net)

Phone: 401.751.3490

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Written by Indigo Bethea,  
*Department Coordinator, Dept. of Architecture, RISD*  
*and she is also a Ph.D. Candidate in Anthropology, Brown University*