

**CRAIN'S NEW YORK BUSINESS**

**Meet the 2023 Notable Black Leaders**  
**Crain's New York Business Staff | February 21, 2023**  
**Viewers Per Month: 528k | [Click Here to View Online](#)**

**In celebration of Black professionals**, *Crain's* is highlighting many of the pacesetters uplifting New York.

Black New Yorkers make up nearly a quarter of the city's population and can be found across its most vaunted industries. *Crain's* sought to recognize exemplars of leadership not only at the office but also in their communities in this first edition of Notables for 2023.

The 50 professionals who made the grade hail from a broad range of backgrounds and occupations. When you dive into the list, you will find individuals who have risen to the heights of medicine, law, finance, real estate, technology and communications, among other fields. You will also discover people who have founded nonprofits, supported young people affected by the criminal-justice system, promoted minority-owned businesses, opened doors to opportunity and pushed for health equity.

To qualify, candidates had to self-identify as Black and must have held a leadership position in the New York metropolitan area for at least five years.

**Allison Lake**

*Executive director,*  
Westchester Children's Association

As executive director of the WCA, Lake provides a voice for children and families confronting issues such as homelessness and juvenile justice. Under Lake's direction, the WCA has worked to unite community partners and advance digital inclusion for low-income students. She was involved in successful efforts to end the arrest and prosecution of children younger than 12, and she advocated increased funding for youth mental health in the 2022 and 2023 Westchester County budgets. Lake recently was appointed to Gov. Kathy

Hochul's task force to reduce child poverty, and she serves on Nonprofit Westchester's executive committee.