



Photo by: Kwaku Alston

"We're all so blessed to live the lives that we do. I realize that we didn't get here alone. So many people have helped pave this road for all of us. I would like to pay tribute and honor some of those who've come before and have been a Bridge to Now, all legends in entertainment and civil rights, a prestigious group of women I admire and respect. I would be so happy if you could join me in honoring and celebrating them."

—Oprah

Yolanda Adams, singer
 Debbie Allen, actress-dancer
 Dr. Maya Angelou, author
 Ashanti, singer
 Tyra Banks, model
 Angela Bassett, actress
 Kathleen Battle, opera singer
 Halle Berry, actress
 Mary J. Blige, singer
 Shirley Caesar, singer
 Naomi Campbell, model
 Mariah Carey, singer
 Diahann Carroll, actress-singer
 Elizabeth Catlett, artist
 Pearl Cleage, poet-playwright
 Natalie Cole, singer
 Ruby Dee, actress
 Kimberly Elise, actress
 Missy Elliot, rap artist
 Roberta Flack, singer
 Pam Grier, actress

Dr. Dorothy Height, civil rights activist
 Iman, model
 Janet Jackson, singer
 Judith Jamison, dancer-choreographer
 Beverly Johnson, model
 Alicia Keys, singer
 Chaka Khan, singer
 Coretta Scott King, civil rights activist
 Gayle King, editor at large,
O, The Oprah Magazine
 Gladys Knight, singer
 Patti LaBelle, singer
 Darnell Martin, director-screenwriter
 Audra McDonald, actress-singer
 Terry McMillan, author
 Melba Moore, actress-singer
 Brandy Norwood, actress-singer
 Michelle Obama,
 community affairs executive
 Suzan-Lori Parks, playwright
 Suzanne de Passe, producer-writer
 Leontyne Price, opera singer
 Phylicia Rashad, actress
 Della Reese, actress-singer

Diana Ross, singer
 Valerie Simpson, singer-composer
 Naomi Sims, model
 Anna Deavere Smith,
 actress-playwright
 Susan L. Taylor, editorial director,
Essence
 Tina Turner, singer
 Cicely Tyson, actress
 Dionne Warwick, singer
 Nancy Wilson, singer
 Oprah Winfrey
 Alfre Woodard, actress
 The Legends Unable to Attend
 Katherine Dunham,
 choreographer-dancer
 Aretha Franklin, singer
 Nikki Giovanni, poet
 Lena Horne, actress-singer
 Toni Morrison, author
 Rosa Parks, civil rights activist
 Alice Walker, author