

**The W.E.B. Du Bois Center for Freedom and Democracy's** mission is to educate the public about the life and legacy of civil rights pioneer W.E.B. Du Bois and the rich African American heritage of the Berkshires. Located at the former Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church in Great Barrington, where he was born and raised, this vibrant center of Black thought and remembrance constitutes the first museum and living memorial in North America dedicated to Du Bois' life and legacy. Learn more at [duboisfreedomcenter.org](http://duboisfreedomcenter.org).

**The NYC Committee to honor Dr. May Edward Chinn** was established in February 2022 to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. May Edward Chinn. Committee co-chairs Michelle D. Winfield and Dolores Leito were assisted in their research of Dr. Chinn's life and career by the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Harlem and Great Barrington-based historian Bernard Drew.

Supporters of the initiative include Health+Hospitals Bellevue Hospital/Harlem Hospital; New York University Langone Health; Strang Cancer Preventive Institute; and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. The Committee's work has garnered the following recognition of Dr. Chinn:

- New York State Governor Kathy Hochul, Citation
- U.S. Representative Adriano Espaillat NY-13, Congressional Record, Extensions of Remarks
- NYC Council Member Carlina Rivera, Co-naming of Doctor May Edward Chinn Place
- Mayor Eric Adams, Proclamation of Dr. May Edward Chinn Day for New York City
- Health+Hospitals/Harlem, Tribute to honor May Edward Chinn, Physician
- N.Y. State Assembly Member Inez E. Dickens, Citation

## **A Tribute to Dr. May Edward Chinn**



**First Congregational Church  
Great Barrington, MA  
April 15, 2023 at 1:00 PM**

Dark daughter of the lotus leaves that watch the Southern sea,  
Wan spirit of a prisoned soul a-panting to be free;  
The muttered music of thy streams, the whispers of the deep  
Have kissed each other in God's name and kissed a world to sleep.

The will of the world is a whistling wind sweeping a cloud-cast sky,  
And not from the east and not from the west knelled its soul-searing cry;  
But out of the past of the Past's grey past, it yelled from the top of the sky;  
Crying: Awake, O ancient race!. Wailing : O woman arise!

—*W.E.B. Du Bois, excerpt from "The Burden of Black Women"*  
*published in The Crisis, 1914*

*Cover photo by E.F. Foley, N.Y.*

### **Welcome**

Wray Gunn, Sr., President  
The W.E.B. Du Bois Center for Freedom and Democracy

### **"The Burden of Black Women"**

Sabrina Allard, Board Member  
The W.E.B. Du Bois Center for Freedom and Democracy

### **Biography of Dr. Chinn**

Bernard Drew, Local Historian

### **"Rise Up"**

Aaliyah Johnson, Pittsfield High School Student

### **Black Women of the Berkshires**

Frances Jones-Sneed, Board Member  
The W.E.B. Du Bois Center for Freedom and Democracy

### **"Stand Up" by Cynthia Erivo/Joshua Brian Campbell**

Aaliyah Johnson, Pittsfield High School Student

### **Proclamation**

Ed Abrahams, Great Barrington Selectboard Member

### **Remarks**

Michelle D. Winfield, Co-chair  
Dolores Leito, Co-chair  
NYC Committee to Honor Doctor May Edward Chinn

*Please join us for refreshments after the program*