## Carole Davis

## **Board Member**

From a young age, Carole had a passion for the arts. As a youth, she became a member of an off-Broadway theatrical company called Total Theatre for Youth while living in New York City. While there she trained and performed in acting, singing, and dancing. Carole performed at many venues in New York including, the Lincoln Center.

After moving to Florida, she continued to develop her singing and dancing skills by performing at her church and with high school choirs. She attended Bethune-Cookman University and became a member of the Concert Chorale under the direction of Dr. Rebecca Steele. While in the chorale, she was able to travel across the country using her gift of song and dance. She also participated with the drama department and dance department in order to continue sharpening her skills.

Upon graduation, she immediately went to work in the corporate world, but her passion and drive for the arts persisted. In an effort to continue pursuing her passion, she used her gifts in her local church and at other churches and community events. Always wanting to hone and perfect her craft, she attended acting school. She married the love of her life, her soulmate, Greg Davis Sr in 1982 and out of that union is one amazing son and actor. Greg Davis Jr.

She has done several projects including local commercials, industrials, independent films and the critically acclaimed stage play "Raisin In The Sun" as 'Mama', which was performed at the Orlando Museum of Art located in Orlando, Florida. Carole stopped acting for many years to pursue her teaching career in middle school.

However, in 2013, she lost her beloved spouse and had to take some time off to gather herself. It was not an easy journey. But in finding herself again, she was reminded by a close friend to focus on what she really loves and pursue it which was and is the performing arts.

After auditioning and becoming involved with a local community theatre, she performed on stage in the critically acclaimed musical, Dream Girls and played the role of Miss Hannigan in Annie, The Musical, with Lavarious Slaughter & Co.

Carole also played the role of Evilene in The Wiz and did a dramatic portrayal of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune at the Florida Conference of the National Council of Negro Women in 2018. She just recently landed the role of Clairee' in Steel Magnolias.

Carole was also honored to have the Black Box Theatre (children's theatre) named after her at community theatre (The Container Theatre).

Carole uses her God-given gifts of song, acting & dance to empower and inspire others. She is adamant about embracing her passion and following her dreams with God's strength and grace!!

Carole is also the founder of Emerging Diamonds Widows Empowerment, an on-line and face-to-face support group for widows in the Orlando area.

You may reach her at: Facebook: <u>CaroleDavis</u> Instagram: Carole7Davis