

First Lady Mary Pat Christie Bestows 50th New Jersey Hero Honor To Newark's A'Dorian Murray-Thomas

Stay Connected with Social Media

Stay Connected with Email Alerts

LIKE THIS PAGE? SHARE IT WITH YOUR FRIENDS.



Tags: [First Lady](#)



SHE Wins Founder and Executive Director Recognized for Efforts to Empower the Young Women of Newark



Trenton, NJ - First Lady Mary Pat Christie today named A'Dorian Murray-Thomas, founder and executive director of SHE Wins Inc., a non-profit organization in Newark, as her 50th New Jersey Hero. At an early age, A'Dorian, overcame the death of her father after he was fatally shot in Newark. She created *SHE Wins* to empower young women like herself who have experienced the tragedy of violence by implementing a system of support that encourages community leadership and college and career readiness.

"A'Dorian has drawn strength from her own personal loss to become a symbol of hope for the young women of Newark," said First Lady Mary Pat Christie. "She is providing a strong, resilient support system that fosters and encourages these girls to flourish scholastically while becoming successful leaders in the community and in our state. I am proud to honor A'Dorian's achievements by naming her as my 50th New Jersey Hero."

Since its founding, the *SHE Wins* organization has helped more than 200 girls between the ages of 10 and 15 through summer, after-school, workshop, and conference programming. The *She Wins* curriculum combines social justice, mentorship, and leadership

development programming to provide young girls with the skills to advance themselves academically, but also the tools to discover solutions to the issues that affect their communities.

"At *SHE Wins*, our motto is 'She needed a hero, so she became her own,'" said A'Dorian Murray-Thomas. "The young scholars of *SHE Wins* work tirelessly at transforming their lives and communities every day. They are the true heroes. Thank you for recognizing us and adding us to the rich legacy of change makers in the New Jersey Heroes family."

From promoting childhood literacy by reading to elementary classrooms across the City of Newark to advocating for legislation like the Let Girls Learn Act on Capitol Hill, the overall mission of *SHE Wins* is to create a community of young women leaders equipped with the social, emotional, and leadership skills to achieve their goals and serve as agents of change.

In fact, youth-led community service projects through *SHE Wins* have impacted nearly 1,000 members of the Newark community. In addition, more than 90 percent of the girls who participate in *SHE Wins* believe they have what it takes to achieve the goals they have set for themselves.

A'Dorian was awarded the "White House Champions of Change for College Opportunity" in 2016.

For more information about *She Wins*, visit: www.shewins.org

New Jersey Heroes is a private, non-partisan, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization founded by First Lady Mary Pat Christie in 2010 to showcase the positive and unique ways people and organizations are impacting New Jersey and their communities.

Press Contact:

609-777-2600



[Contact Us](#) | [Privacy Notice](#) | [Legal Statement & Disclaimers](#) | [Accessibility Statement](#) | 

Statewide: [NJ Home](#) | [Services A to Z](#) | [Departments/Agencies](#) | [FAQs](#)
Office of the Governor: [Home](#) | [Newsroom](#) | [Media](#) | [Administration](#) | [NJ's Priorities](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Copyright © State of New Jersey, 1996-2018
Office of the Governor
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625
609-292-6000