

OMOSAZE BOARD MEMBERS

Leon Scott

Mr. Scott and his wife, Verwray, founded Omosaze after working as literacy volunteers in a Marietta City low-income neighborhood. His volunteer experience includes 10 years of tutoring children in Cobb County public housing and serving on the Advisory Board for Cobb Family Resources, an organization that administered self-improvement plans for low-income families in Cobb County.

A graduate of the Air Force Academy, Leon Scott served in the Air Force for six years before receiving an honorable discharge at the rank of Captain. With a Master of Science Degree from the University of Colorado, he has worked at managerial positions with increasing levels of responsibility.

Jessica Wilkerson

Ms. Wilkerson initially joined Omosaze in 2001 as a volunteer and later transitioned to become a member of the Board. She has spent 9 years in consulting, with a focus on developing marketing and innovation strategies for large Fortune 500 companies including Pfizer, Georgia-Pacific, Talbots, Dow Chemical and Intercontinental Hotels. She is currently a Manager at (r)evolution consulting, a marketing and innovation strategy consulting firm based in Atlanta. Prior to joining (r)evolution, she consulted at Kurt Salmon Associates and worked in corporate banking for SunTrust.

When she is not working, Ms. Wilkerson is an avid tennis player, playing in up to 3 Atlanta leagues during any season. She also volunteers her time at The Cathedral of St. Philip by helping with the Flower Guild. She received her undergraduate business degree from the McIntire School at the University of Virginia and her MBA from Emory University.

Verwray Scott

Ms. Scott has a special place in her heart for children. In addition to her work with Omosaze, she has administered church tutorial programs and is a volunteer with Camp Sunshine, a non-profit organization that provides recreational and educational programs for children with cancer and their families. She is a member of the Camp Sunshine Board of Directors.

Ms. Scott graduated from Tuskegee University in Tuskegee, Alabama, with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and holds a M.B.A. from Kennesaw State University. She is a Section Manager for Hewlett Packard Company in Atlanta, Georgia.

Vanessa Sewell

Ms. Sewell has participated in and led a number of notable community activities, including Festival of Trees and Habitat for Humanity. She manages a premier location of the Target Stores in Atlanta, Georgia, where her experience is distinguished by recognition for her leadership and training skills. Ms. Sewell also serves as the Target Community Relations Coordinator and Volunteer Coordinator for her district. Ms. Sewell received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Alabama.

Dewain Carroll

Mr. Carroll is a Senior Network Consultant for Hewlett-Packard in Atlanta. He joined the Omosaze board in 2008. Mr. Carroll holds a B.S in Industrial and System Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology, and has been licensed as a professional engineer in the state of Georgia.

Arnelle Barnett

Ms. Barnett is the Director of Marketing for Stonebranch, Inc., a developer of enterprise systems management software for the U.S. and European markets. She has held similar positions with OHC, LLC (dba Optimus Solutions and Canvas Systems) and City Press Publishing. Ms. Barnett is a high-caliber marketing and event management professional with more than 10 years experience in developing and leading marketing operations. Her expertise includes strategic business planning, training, development, and personnel management, and her professional focus is on pursuing opportunities that contribute to a company's profitability, organization, growth, and efficiency. Ms. Barnett holds a B.A. in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing from the University of Kentucky.

Ms. Barnett joined the Omosaze board in 2008. She also serves on the Advisory Board and as Marketing Chair for the Make a Wish Foundation's Evening in Las Vegas, as a member of the Board for Friends of Centennial Park, as the Public Relations Chair for the American Red Cross's Rhapsody in Red fundraising event, and as Captain of the American Heart Association's Heart of the Season fundraising initiative.

Nikki Canady Penda

Ms. Penda is the Director of HR Services for UCB, Inc., a multi-national biopharmaceutical company based in Belgium. She is responsible for managing benefits, payroll, and HR information systems related to the company's US-based employees. Ms. Penda has held previous benefits and consulting positions with Aon Consulting, Genuine Parts Company, Northern Trust Retirement Consulting, The Hunter Group, and Hewitt Associates.

Ms. Penda holds a B.A. in Economics and English from Amherst College and has obtained an International Certified Employee Benefits Specialist (CEBS) designation from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

A passion for reading led Ms. Penda to begin volunteering with Omosaze in 2001, and she joined the Omosaze board in 2008.

Tiffany Pollock

Ms. Pollock is the Principal at Dunleith Elementary School, a *Reading Saturday* partner since 2002. Previously, she served as Assistant Principal at Marietta Middle School and Dunleith Elementary School. Ms. Pollock moved into an administrative role after nine years as a teacher of children at varying levels of skill, including special needs and gifted students. She has served in an administrative capacity for seven years. Ms. Pollock is certified to teach early childhood education, elementary education, and special education in South Carolina and Georgia. She is also certified in leadership in Georgia.

Ms. Pollock has received numerous awards, including multiple Teacher of the Year awards. In 2000, she received the Top Teacher award from the Ledger-Enquirer, and in 2002, she received the Middle School Teacher of the Year award from the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. In 2001-2002, Ms. Pollock was recognized as Regular Education Teacher of the Year by the Council for Exceptional Children.

Ms. Pollock is completing her doctoral (Ed.D.) studies in Educational Leadership with Nova Southeastern University. She holds an Education Leadership Certification and Educational Specialist degree in Elementary Education from Troy State University as well as a Masters in Elementary Education and a Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education from Lander University. Ms. Pollock is a member of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Chris Lightner

Mr. Lightner joined the Omosaze board in 2009. He is a Patent Attorney at Alston & Bird, a firm based in Atlanta. He is also a volunteer attorney for the Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta and a member of several Intellectual Property committees associated with the Georgia and Atlanta Bar Associations. Prior to joining Alston & Bird, Mr. Lightner worked as a Systems and Mechanical Test Engineer for Boeing.

Mr. Lightner holds a J.D. from the University of North Carolina School of Law, an M.B.A. in Technology Management from the University of Phoenix, and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Tennessee Technological University.

EDUCATIONAL ADVISOR TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Linda Shearon

Linda A. Shearon, Ed.D. is a specialist in literacy education. She has over thirty years experience as a classroom teacher, reading specialist, college instructor, staff developer, district administrator and education consultant. She has led numerous curriculum design committees in all K-12 content areas.

Upon retirement, Dr. Shearon was the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for Marietta City Schools.

Dr. Shearon graduated from LaSalle University with a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities, earned a Master of Education degree in Reading Specialization from Mercer University, and holds a Doctor of Education degree in Elementary Education and Reading Specialization from Auburn University.