

# Audrey's society whirl

## Rev. Al Sharpton and National Action Network host b'day fundraiser

By Audrey J. Bernard

*Society Editor*

**R**ev. Al Sharpton and the National Action Network — the vanguard in the fight for social justice — hosted a star-studded fundraiser for Sharpton's 65th birthday on Thursday, October 3, 2019, at 7:00 pm to celebrate his sacrifice and commitment to social justice and his vision in 1991 to create National Action Network, which has become one of the nation's most visible civil rights organization. The Celebration and Party with a Cause took place at The New York City Public Library in the Stephen A. Schwarzman building on Fifth Avenue at 42<sup>nd</sup> Street in NYC. The fundraiser supports the work of NAN,

which was founded in 1991 by Rev. Sharpton. This was a star-studded event attended by notables such as: Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Governor Andrew Cuomo, Mayor Bill de Blasio, Actor and Film Producer Samuel L. Jackson, Actor and Film Producer Robert De Niro, Film Director, Producer, Writer, and Actor Spike Lee, Hon. David N. Dinkins, President of MSNBC Phil Griffin, CEO of Essence Communications Michelle Ebanks, Actress and Producer Latanya Richardson, Talk Show Host Wendy Williams, Head of Multicultural Engagement and Strategic Alliances at AT&T Tanya Lombard, Melanie Campbell, head of the Black Women's Roundtable, and many more. (Photos by Antoine Debrill)



Atmosphere: The Celebration and Party with a Cause took place at The New York City Public Library in the Stephen A. Schwarzman building



Rev. Sharpton speaks before cutting his cake



Angela Rye, Joy Ann Reid, Michelle Ebanks, Melanie Campbell



T.J. Holmes, Marilee Holmes, Joy Ann Reid, Selena Hill



(L-R) Aisha McShaw, Ashley Sharpton, Rev. Sharpton, Dominique Sharpton, Samuel L. Jackson, Spike Lee (Photo by Getty Images)



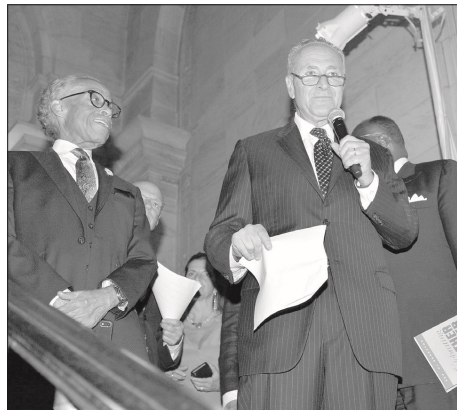
Rev. Al and Joy Ann Reid get down on the dance floor



Rev. Al Sharpton, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), NY Governor Andrew Cuomo and Former Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama, Valerie Jarrett (Photo by Don Pollard)



Robert DeNiro, Rev. Al Sharpton



Senator Chuck Schumer, Rev. Al Sharpton



Mayor Bill de Blasio toasts Rev. Sharpton