

# **WENDY HILLIARD**

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## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Wendy Hilliard Gymnastics Foundation - Founder/CEO 1996 –**

This foundation, located in Harlem and Detroit, provides funding and programs in gymnastics. The mission of the Wendy Hilliard Gymnastics Foundation “WHGF” is to provide opportunities to improve physical and emotional health through gymnastics for children of all ages in underserved communities. The “WHGF” has served over 20,000 youth and in fall 2016, expanded to Detroit, MI. The WHGF runs gymnastics programs year-round for ages 18 months to adults.

### **GoGirlGo! New York City Director 2011 – 2012**

Ms. Hilliard was brought in to launch this program in NYC, which involved overseeing all aspects of this program, which included grant making, community events, and leadership conferences to reach over 1,500 girls per year. GoGirlGo! is a landmark educational program of the Women’s Sports Foundation. It was launched in 2001 for elementary, middle, and high school girls nationwide to keep girls involved in physical activity and improve sedentary girls' health.

### **Aviator Sports and Recreation – Director of Gymnastics and Youth Sports 2006 – 2009**

Aviator Sports and Recreation “ASR” is a multi-sport, multi-million-dollar sports complex in Brooklyn, NY. ASR is a public/private partnership with the National Park Service, located in Floyd Bennett Field inside Gateway National Park, the 4<sup>th</sup> largest national park in the USA. Ms. Hilliard was brought in to direct the design, construction, and program implementation of the gymnastics center and rock-climbing wall. In addition, Ms. Hilliard managed the implementation of the youth sports programming, special needs, physically disabled, and senior athletic programs and events, after-school programs, summer sports camps, and sports birthday parties and contracted with the NYC Public School Athletic League (21 sports) to host their championship events.

### **NYC2012 – Director of Sports 1999 – 2005**

NYC2012 was the Bid Committee for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. In addition to the planning and coordination of all the sports and athlete issues for both the US and International bids, Ms. Hilliard was also the lead for the Paralympic Games, managed sports facility planning with the design team, developed and managed the local youth sports, education committees and national (NGB) and international sports federations (IF) outreach. Ms. Hilliard created and supervised the NYC2012 Circle of Olympians and Paralympians, which consisted of over 2000 athletes worldwide who supported the bid effort. Additional responsibilities included representing NYC2012 for international and IOC Bid committee meetings, bidding for and hosting national and international events, including the Freestyle Wrestling World Championships held at Madison Square Garden, the Archery World Championships, the Fencing World Cup, and the lead in developing the NYC Triathlon which is now a sold-out annual event.

### **Women's Sports Foundation – President - 1995-1997**

The WSF is the leading national organization representing women and girls’ sports issues, founded by Billie Jean King; Wendy Hilliard was the first Black gymnast to serve as president. Former Presidents include Donna de Varona, Nancy Hogshead, Lyn St. James, Carol Mann, Nancy Lieberman, Benita Fitzgerald-Mosley, Julie Foudy, Dawn Riley, Dominique Dawes, Aimee Mullins, Jessica Mendoza, Laila Ali, Angela Ruggiero, and Angela Hucles.

**USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame - Inducted in 2008 USA Gymnastics - Master of Sport**

**NYC Sports Commission 2000- 2012**

**New York City Sports Commission - Director of Amateur Sports - 1994 - 1995**

She promoted sports participation and bid for national and international sporting events for New York City.

**United States Olympic Committee - Athletes' Advisory Council - 1992 - 1993**

**"ANTIGRAVITY" Associate Director and Founding Member - 1991 - 2012**

International Performance Company

**New York Amateur Sports Alliance - 1990 – 2001**

**Television Sports Commentator CBS, NBC, ESPN, TBS Networks 1989 -**

Analyst and host for rhythmic and artistic gymnastics and various sports, including the 1992 Olympic Games.

**United Nations International School - Rhythmic Gymnastics Team Head Coach -1989 - 1994**

**U.S. National Rhythmic Gymnastics Team Coach - 1990-1996**

Coach of National Team Member Hewitt-Couturier and 1996 Olympian Aliane Baquerot

**USA Gymnastics Board of Directors 1988 -2001**

Athletes' Council Chairperson, Executive Committee, and Vice President of Rhythmic Gymnastics

**U.S. National Rhythmic Gymnastics Team - 1978- 1988**

First Black representative - nine-time national team member, twice elected team captain, national and international gold medalist, competed in three World Championships and the 1984 Olympic trials.

**National Spokesperson for Rhythmic Gymnastics 1984-1994**

Represented USA Gymnastics to promote the Sport of Rhythmic Gymnastics

**U.S. Olympic Gymnastics Team Tours - 1984 - 1992**

The featured rhythmic gymnast on several tours around the country with members of the Men's and Women's Olympic Gymnastics Teams - announcer, assistant choreographer, and featured performer on the 1992 tour.

**“Candide” - Broadway Performance - 1997**

Cast in this Broadway Musical, directed by Tony Award Winner Harold Prince.

**Current Board Memberships**

Armory Foundation (Track & Field), Women’s Sports Foundation - Presidents Committee, Black Women in Sports -

Advisory Board, Special Olympics - Urban Initiative Committee, PowerPlay NYC- Advisory Board.

**EDUCATION**

**New York University, New York, NY – BA, University Honors Scholar - Broadcast Journalism Major**

**Wayne State University, Detroit, MI Course work- Physical Education and Russian Language - Communications Major**