

Ray C. Johnson

Ray Johnson founded and assisted in the development of schools across the country. He has been a pioneer in the realm of character education, accelerated learning, multicultural and African-Centered curriculum through his groundbreaking, site-based management. He has elevated parental and community involvement to record-breaking levels. Due to his unique ability to engage the reluctant learner and raise student achievement, he has earned the distinction of being one of the country's top educational consultants.



Armed with the mission of providing world-class education for all children, he has worked with countless school districts, universities, and government agencies reaching to develop and empower thousands through his many seminars in curriculum development, organizational psychology, and student motivation. In an effort to bolster self-esteem and foster values, Johnson formed two organizations: Man-to-Man and S.E.L.F. (Sisters Empowered through Love and Friendship) mentoring programs targeting boys and girls ages four through 21.

Johnson's numerous awards include Eastern Michigan's Meritorious Civil Rights Award, Masons' International "Man of the Year" Award, Detroit Institute of Commerce's Excellence in Community Service Award, National Head Start's Outstanding Contributor's to Education Award, the Ameritech Outstanding Educator's Award, the Detroit City Council's Spirit of Detroit Award and other outstanding acknowledgements.

Named by the *Detroit News* as one of "Detroit's Heroes," Johnson, also, has received such media recognition as the "Top of the Class" award from WXYZ Channel 7 in Detroit, Michigan as well as being profiled on NBC and CNN. Additionally, he has been featured on the covers of *Village Voice Newspaper*, and *Black Issues in Higher Education Magazine*. *African-American Family Magazine* also selected Johnson as one of Detroit's "Outstanding Educators."

Johnson has traveled to Europe and Africa to provide training and apply his exceptional vision to the development of new schools. He has lectured at University of Michigan, Michigan State University, University of Massachusetts, Northeastern University and Harvard University. Additionally, Johnson has served as an advisor to political leaders and policy makers on educational reform.

When it comes to embracing the philosophy embodied by the African proverb, "It takes an entire village to raise a child," Ray Johnson's singular approach to education does so wholeheartedly. His dynamism and dedication is fueling a groundswell of change in schools nationwide.