

## MISSION STATEMENT

We, the members of the Christian Debutante-Master Dedication Commission of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, endeavor to promote the principles and doctrines of Christian Education as set forth in the guidelines of this initiative.

We will create an environment for spiritual growth and development of our youth through exploration of “spiritual gifts”; availing resources and remembrances that will guide, instruct and instill Christ-like attributes in our youth. Furthermore, we resolve to work collaboratively and diligently in fulfilling our commitment to “*creating a future worthy of our past.*”

## MOTTO

“DAILY MAGNIFY CHRIST”

## SCRIPTURES

“O Magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together”  
Psalm 34:3

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it.”  
Proverbs 22:6

## LITURGICAL COLORS

**Red** symbolizes excitement, energy, and power.

**White** symbolizes celebration, joy, and peace

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14th—20th TBD

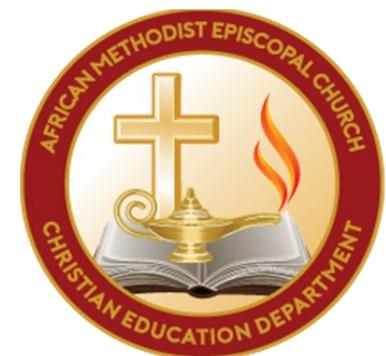


[www.cdmc-ame.org](http://www.cdmc-ame.org)

**Bishop David Daniels, Jr.**  
*Commission Chair*

**Rev. Dr. Garland Pierce**  
*Executive Director*  
*Department Christian Education*

**Mrs. Lyndajo Watson**  
*Connectional CDMC Administrator*



# Christian Debutante-Master Commission

## Historical Overview

What is now a popular activity, the introduction of young people to society under church auspices, and their dedication to continued Christian service, was inaugurated as a Christian rite of passage by the A.M.E Church in 1952 and is denoted by the phrase, "The Christian Debutante-Master Dedication Commission".

The CDMC, originated by Dr. Julma Crawford, is under the division of Christian Education. The first Debutante-Master Dedication was held at the seat of the 34th General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, May 18, 1952 in Chicago's Coliseum. By elected legislation enacted at the 39th Session of the A.M.E General Conference held in June 1972 in Dallas, TX., the CDMC became an official commission.

On July 1, 1972, Dr. Crawford was elected Administrator of the commission with the rank of General Officer. In 1976, she became a connectional officer as the administrator of the newly legislated Debutante-Master Commission. The CDMC is a commission of adults comprising a new supportive and supplemental service to youth groups of the division of Christian Education at each level of the A.M.E Church. Dr. Crawford retired in 1992.

Mrs. Loretta Fields Hill of Austin, TX was named as Connectional CDMC Administrator. Mrs. Hill retired in 2008. In July 2008, Mrs. Gloria Massey Ward of Memphis, TN was named Connectional Administrator at the 48th session of the General Conference of the AME Church held in St. Louis, MO. In 2016 Mrs. Lyndajo Jones Watson of Little Rock, Arkansas was named Connectional Administrator at the 50th Session of the General Conference held in Philadelphia, PA.

## Purpose

The purpose of the Christian Debutante-Master Dedication Commission is to provide guidance and information as to relevant study of fieldwork activities, program suggestions, liturgical requirements and all other details. It shall also plan and prepare for the presentation of a unified, coordinated program on the Connectional, Episcopal District, Annual Conference, Presiding Elder District, Local Church, Ecumenical and Community levels.

## Eligibility Requirements

The general criteria for participation in CDMC ceremony includes age, single marital status, Christian belief, active church involvement, regular attendance, personal desire, parental sanction, community service, and uniformity of attire for the dedication.

The Allenite, Sub-Debutante and Sub-Master categories provide training opportunities for becoming a Debutante and Master. The youth shall receive age appropriate training in each category. The dedication ceremony is the culminating act that leads the young people to a new level of Christian adulthood.

**Marital Status: Only single young males & females with no children may participate in the dedicatory ceremony.**

**Age:** The age level for youth participation is from five to twenty two years of age with the following divisions:

**Pre-Allenite: Age 5-8 (optional)**

**Allenite: Age 9-12**

**Sub-Debutante/Sub-Master: Age 13-15**

**Debutante/Master: Age 16-22  
(Optional)**

**Sarah Allenites and Men of Allen  
Age 23-26**

## Focus

The CDMC is focused on the period of transition from adolescence to adulthood. This period of transition has been considered so significant by most recorded cultures that it has been celebrated in ceremony. (Anthropologists call such occasions "Rite of Passage"). Contemporary youth also desire to celebrate and symbolize their new adult status.

The Christian Debutante-Master Commission seeks to channel this desire in an easy way that enhances the mission of the Christian Church. Young people in the A.M.E. Church who are being introduced must have participated in RAYAC, Y.P.D., Sunday School, choir, CDMC, usher board, junior stewards, junior trustees, junior stewardesses or other youth programs. Adults are charged with the responsibility of training young people. Adults who are willing to generously give of their time, talent, and finances to improve, empower, and strengthen the work of young people are sought after to fulfill this responsibility.

