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## NEWS RELEASE

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**ATLANTA, GA [June 19, 2009]** – LeMoyne-Owen College was among several national honorees recognized at the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association’s Annual Power to End Stroke Campaign celebration. The College received the *Affiliate Strategic Alliance Award* and LeMoyne-Owen College Instructor Dr. Damita Dandridge was also named among the honorees at the event which was held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia on June 12, 2009.

*The Power to End Stroke Campaign* is “an aggressive education and awareness effort that embraces and celebrates the culture, energy, creativity and lifestyles of African Americans.” Many celebrities were among the honorees and also provided entertainment for the evening. The host was Lexi Allen, co-host of *The Bobby Jones Gospel Show*, which airs on BET. Entertainment was provided by three-time Grammy nominee Dottie Peoples, R& B and Jazz Singers Kenny Lattimore and Chante’ Moore, and Alisa “Star” Ballard. Dr. Bobby Jones was one of the honorees, along with many other celebrities.

The focus of the *Power to End Stroke campaign* is to reduce the incidence of heart attack and stroke in the African American community. Judge Dandridge and others were recognized for their contributions in this area.

According to the American Stroke Association, “Stroke is the number three killer in the United States and a leading cause of long-term disability. Some 105,000 African Americans suffer from stroke each year, resulting in about 17, 500 deaths. Additionally, African Americans have almost twice the risk of stroke as Caucasians.”

For more information, please see the contact above.

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