## HALL OF ACHIEVEMENT

## 2018/2019 Journal

## DAWN MICHELLE HARDY

Class of 1992

Dawn is an award-winning publicist and highly sought-after publishing consultant who graduated from the Fashion Institute of Technology with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Fashion Buying and Merchandising and a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing: International Trade.

In 2004 she leaped into entrepreneurship and formed Dream Relations PR & Literary Consulting Agency where she aids authors in promoting their books. A "Cool Jobs" profile by Ebony magazine branded her as "the literary lobbyist." Dawn has garnered national media attention, awards and distinctions for clients, including New York Times Bestseller recognition, Phyllis Wheatley Award, USA Best Book Award, Eric Hoffer Award, The White House "Champions of Change" honors and the PEN Literary Award.

Called a "powerhouse who shares industry truths" in Upscale magazine, Dawn is a frequent podcast guest and conference presenter. She is a member of the NAACP Image Award Literary Committee, has been featured in The Guide to Literary Agents and has served as a member of Women in Media Group. Dawn is the creator and host of the Speed Mentoring Series: Navigating the Book Publishing Experience.

In 2011, Dawn expanded her career and joined Serendipity Literary Agency. In her role as agent, she generated ideas and built a list of interesting non-fiction titles including: *Forgotten Burial: A Restless Spirits Plea from the Grave* by Jodi Foster; *Not a Game: The Incredible Rise and Unthinkable Fall of Allen Iverson* by Kent Babb and *Beyond Broadway Joe: The Superbowl Team That Changed Football* by Bob Lederer.

Dawn has devoted a decade of service to the Love Fellowship Tabernacle and was appointed Executive Director of Public Relations. She was also appointed as Executive Director of Public Relations for Body Sculpt and has completed the NYC marathon as part of Team of Kids which raises money to bring free programs to students across the country.

Designated "Most Talkative" by the Class of 1992, Dawn has spent her entire adult life effectively advocating for creatives and children...and for those choices, she is hugely fulfilled.

"He/she who is not courageous enough to take risks will accomplish nothing in life." – Muhammad Ali