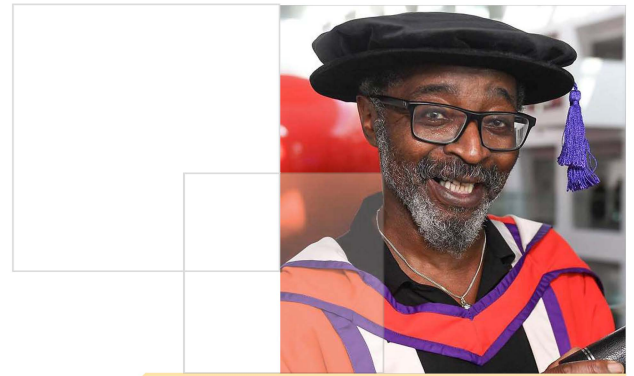


DON JOHN



Don John works as a race and diversity consultant and has 40 years of experience working in the field. He established himself in Southampton where he was a youth and education officer for the Southampton Council for Race Equality (SCRE), eventually becoming its Director. The Council works with Black and Asian youth, and more specifically addresses the criminal justice system and racism in education services. After years of service, he secured a position as lead Diversity officer for Southampton City Council and was involved in developing the city's diversity policies.

He has made significant connections across the UK through his time as a consultant, working with a wide range of organisations including the BBC and the Royal Navy to tackle racial equality and diversity from within. He also has a vested interest in cultural diversity in the arts and has produced several race themed docu-shorts to help educate others.

Don founded Black History Month in Southampton, now a key annual event, viewed as one of the most progressive in the UK. He proceeded to co-author a reference book called *The Black History of Southampton 16th Century to 21st Century*, recording the history of Black people in the city for over 500 years.

valour

progressive

dignity

criminal justice

history

NOMINATED BY: NICKI NORTHERN

"I am inspired by Don John because he embodies grace, dignity, valour and humility as he tirelessly raises positive awareness about Black history, voices and contributions in the UK, particularly in Southampton. Over decades he has been instrumental in orchestrating dynamic Black History Month programmes that reach across colour barriers and provide hope."