



Shekenia Mann
"Ben and Ken"
12"x16", Photography

Left - Neurosurgeon and Author Dr. Benjamin Carson and Right, Attorney and Mentor Kenneth T. Watkins. Both men are graduates of Detroit Public Schools and are currently leaders in their respective fields of Medicine and Law.

Ben Carson became a neurosurgery resident at the top-ranked Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. At age 32, he became the hospital's youngest Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery. In 1987, Carson made medical history by being the first in the world to successfully separate a pair of Siamese twins joined at the head.

A 70-member surgical team, led by Dr. Carson, worked for 22 hours. At the end, the twins were successfully separated and can now survive independently.

Carson's other surgical innovations have included the first intrauterine procedure to relieve pressure on the brain of a hydrocephalic fetal twin, and a hemispherectomy, in which an infant suffering from uncontrollable seizures has half of its brain removed. He was appointed in 2004 by President George W. Bush to serve on the President's Council on Bioethics. He is a highly regarded motivational speaker who has addressed various audiences from school systems and civic groups to corporations and the President's National Prayer Breakfast.

Kenneth T. Watkins is a litigation attorney and Senior Shareholder at the law firm, Sommers Schwartz, who specializes in medical malpractice, birth trauma, personal injury, and auto negligence. He resolved one of the largest 7-digit medical negligence cases in Macomb County Circuit Court in 2008 and closed out resolutions above a million dollars in Oakland County and Lucas County Circuit Court in Ohio in 2009 and 2010. Adding to the many multimillion dollar settlements he has earned for his clients over the past 18 years, Mr. Watkins is also a member of the exclusive 'million dollar verdict' club. He gives back to the Metro-Detroit Community speaking at Detroit Public School Career Days and serves on the Urban Solutions, Inc. Board of Directors, providing multiple scholarships to inner-city youths annually. Attorney Watkins was selected by his peers for **Michigan Super Lawyers 2010**, the Top Attorneys in Michigan and has been nominated for 2011 as well. Only 5% of the attorneys in the state are named in Super Lawyers. Mr. Watkins was also recognized for his contributions to the legal profession in the inaugural edition of Who's Who In Black Detroit.