

Dr. Ruth J. K. Pratt is a native of Baltimore, Maryland. She is a product of the Baltimore City Public School System. She graduated from the Historic Frederick Douglass High School in 1939. In the fall of 1939, she was admitted to Coppin Teachers College, a city supported school for African American students who were qualified and desired to become certified educators. In June of 1943, she graduated from Coppin College with a Bachelor of Science Degree. In 1948, she earned a Master of Arts Degree, financed by the State of Maryland from Howard University in Washington, D.C. (The laws of segregation were enforced in Maryland which prohibited African Americans from attending the University of Maryland and other schools with graduate programs). The state encouraged them to continue their studies out of State, at the expense of the State. In 1985, Dr. Pratt received a Doctor of Education Degree (Ed. D) from the University of Maryland College Park.



After successfully passing the National Teachers' Examination in the fall of 1943, she started a long career in elementary education with the Baltimore City Public School System. She moved up the ladder of success in the field of education serving as a Curriculum Specialist, Assistant Principal, Principal, Administrative Assistant for Community Relations, and Chief Educational Officer to the Superintendent of the Baltimore City Public School System. After forty years of successful service in education in the Baltimore City Public School System, Dr. Pratt retired in 1986. After her formal retirement, Dr. Pratt continued to work on special projects for the school system.

In 1999, Dr. Pratt returned to Coppin State University as an Adjunct Professor in the areas of Reading, English and Psychology until her second retirement in 2011. Dr. Pratt continues her work as an active member of a variety of social organization, a leader in the Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association, the Sharon Baptist Church, many civic groups and an advocate for quality life and education for young people in Baltimore City. She was identified in 2013 by the Remington Registry, as "**THE ROSA PARKS OF EDUCATION**". She is the recipient of over fifty Certificates, Plaques, Trophies and other awards to include the 2013 NcourageD Legends Award, The Afro American Newspaper's 2014 Legends and Pioneers Award, and the 2015 Harriet Ross Tubman Lifetime Achievement Award from the State of Maryland.

Dr. Ruth J. Pratt is a Golden Life Member of the Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association. She has served the Association in a variety of capacities and is HFDHSA's Parliamentarian. On August 2, 2020, Dr. Ruth J. K. Pratt, will celebrate her 99th Birthday.

Dr. Pratt is the "ORIGINAL DIVA", and our "LIVING LEGEND". We salute her and wish her many more years of happiness and good health!

