

## Short Bio

Estina Baker is a nationally recognized Actress, Poet and Storyteller. Ms. Baker is a Second generation graduate of Howard University and a third generation graduate of a Historically Black College. She is the daughter of the late nationally renowned Harlem physician Dr. Vernon G. Baker and the daughter of iconic Early NJ Childhood Educator, Isabelle M. Baker. Estina is also the grand-daughter of one of the founders of the Brotherhood of Pullman Porters, Minor M. Coleman. Estina served as the Artist-In-Residence @ the National Civil Rights Museum (The Lorraine Motel) in Memphis, TN, site of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from 1998 – 2000. During her tenure at the National Civil Rights Museum, Ms. Baker designed and implemented After-School Theatre-In-Education Programs for “At-Risk” Teens. Ms. Baker was also instrumental in expanding the Teen Docent Program. During her residency at the National Civil Rights Museum, Estina wrote, developed and toured her One Woman Show entitled “Conversations...Between Sisters” to critical acclaim in the Mid-South. The One Woman Show has become a must-see for Women’s History Month. While a student at Howard University, Ms. Baker was the East Coast College Coordinator for the Committee (Lead by Stevie Wonder) to get legislation signed to get Martin Luther King’s Birthday recognized as a National Holiday. A much sought after motivational speaker on the National Circuit, Estina is a past recipient of the NYC Mayor’s Award for Artist of the Year. She won this award for her tremendous work as a Community Artist and through her innovative Arts-In-Education Programs. Since 2001, Ms. Baker has registered over 4500 African American voters in Bergen County NJ. She has run the Bergen County Democratic African American and Faith Based GOTV for local, state and national elections including: the 2001 D.37 State Assembly Race; the 2002, 2006 Bergen County (County) Executive Race; the 2004 US Presidential Race; the 2005& 2009 NJ Gubernatorial Race, the 2006 NJ US Senatorial Race. In 2008, Ms. Baker worked the AA Faith Based Vote for then IL Senator Barack Obama’s Presidential Campaign travelling to Primary States in SC, DC, MD, VA, PA and IN, finishing the General Election in her home state of NJ. Ms. Baker has trained over 150 Political Volunteers (ages 16 – 25) for GOTV. In 2012, Estina served as the Regional GOTV Director/OFA-PA for the President’s Re-election Campaign in Chester County, PA. After taking a 4 month Sabbatical in Charlotte, NC, Ms. Baker was excited and rejuvenated for her role as the Regional Organizing Director-Pittsburgh/Western PA for Mayors Against Illegal Guns in 2013. Ms. Baker became the Senior State Director for Working America, the Community Affiliate of the AFL-CIO in 2014. She served briefly as a Senior Policy/Mobilization Director for PA Senator Art Haywood of the 4<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District in 2016. Estina is National staff for CWA (Communications Workers of America, where she serves as the Senior Campaign Lead based out of the district office in Trenton, NJ. She recently represented CWA-NJ District One as the Senior Adviser to the Annual 2020 Atlantic City Women’s “We Rise Together” March