

## Akosua Hobert-Pierce: A Member of the Robey Family

By JC Cadena

While Robey Theatre Company playwrights, directors, actors, and set designers have been generously praised and awarded over the last 20-plus years for the quality of our stage productions, Robey's success also depends on people behind the scenes – including long-time valued and generous supporters such as Akosua Hobert-Pierce.



Akosua has been a pillar to The Robey Theatre Company since 2009 when a friend invited her to attend a Robey play. Impressed with the quality of the production, she sought to strengthen her connection to Robey. "Theatre brings excitement into my life," she said. "I love creativity."

The second eldest of ten children, Akosua was born in Harlem, New York. Her first experience with theatre occurred during her college years, when she attended a Broadway play with her mother. Later, she headed west to complete her MA in Education at California State University, Los Angeles. She co-owns Nourish LAB Smoothy's, located in Accra, Ghana and she has two healthy choice businesses. With the support of her friends, neighbors and community in South Central Los Angeles, Akosua established a non-profit, the Friends of Riba, an organization that from 2000-10 provided books and computers to the students of Riba Cross Primary School in South Africa. Currently, Akosua serves as an Advisory Board Member and Office Manager for the African American Firefighter Museum ([www.aafmuseum.org](http://www.aafmuseum.org)). She also serves as the Volunteer Coordinator for the California African American Genealogical Society (CAAGS).

Notwithstanding her busy schedule, Akosua also continues to provide unflagging support to Robey. She leads Robey's super volunteer team, The Friends of Robey, a task that she carries out with a continual, infectious smile. What makes this lady shine? "I know that the Law of Good is continuously operating in my life," she says.

To show our deep gratitude, The Robey Theatre Company recognized Akosua's efforts in 2017 at The Paul Robeson Theatre Festival. Akosua Hobert-Pierce, thank you for being part of the Robey family.