

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT BILL STRICKLAND

"One of the most innovative social enterprise thinkers I have ever met. The 'Strickland' thought process is that of a highly trained jazz musician, coupled with a keen business sense ... He is definitely one of my major heroes."
— Quincy Jones

*"Bill Strickland is a genius, because he sees the inherent genius in everyone. Bill's ability to inspire hope is powerful, universal and world changing. His book, *Make the Impossible Possible*, will show you how you can achieve even your wildest dreams. Bravo!"* — Jeff Skoll, first president of eBay, founder and chairman, Skoll Foundation

"Passionate. Inspirational. Hopeful. Optimistic. Powerful. Compelling. And most important— it works . . . Strickland is the cure to what ails this country."— Alan M. Webber, founding editor, *Fast Company* magazine

"Are you yearning to pursue what others say is an unrealistic or impractical dream? By telling his remarkable story, Bill Strickland shows us that an impossible notion is just an idea nobody had the guts to try. With great flair and amazing range—you'll hear about jazz, pottery, airplanes, even orchids!—he reveals how each of us can change our part of the world. Strickland is inspired and inspiring."— Daniel H. Pink, *NY Times* best selling-author

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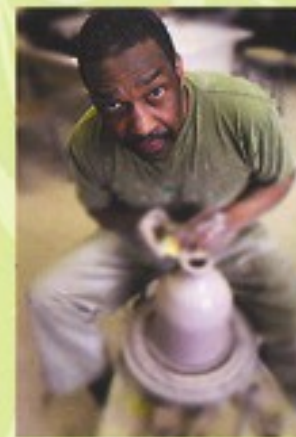
Second Presbyterian Church

State Farm Bank


100 Black Men of Central Illinois

THE ART OF SOCIAL CHANGE

An Evening with Bill Strickland



*A Special Event Benefiting
Western Avenue Community Center and
the Greater Bloomington-Normal Area*



ABOUT BILL STRICKLAND

Bill Strickland was an aimless high school student in a rough Pittsburgh neighborhood when an art teacher captured his imagination with a potter's wheel. Using the arts as a bridge, Strickland established the Manchester Bidwell Corporation.

Today Manchester Bidwell provides troubled kids and disadvantaged adults the training and encouragement they need to transform their lives. Currently it houses programs in ceramics, photography and painting to hundreds of struggling kids a year, ninety percent of whom go on to graduate from high school. Adults receive training in pharmacology, culinary arts and horticultural technology.

Strickland has received the MacArthur Foundation's Genius Award, has been profiled in the Harvard Business Review and has served on the Board of the National Endowment for the Arts.

The goal of this dinner is to launch a program that will adapt Strickland's model in our community by offering:

- A world-class environment for learning;
- An ambitious arts program for at-risk youth;
- Job training that matches the needs of local employers;
- A culture that values all people as assets, not liabilities.

PLEASE JOIN US

For an inspirational evening with
Bill Strickland benefiting
Western Avenue Community Center.

- at -

Second Presbyterian Church
313 N. East Street, Bloomington

Monday, June 21, 2010

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.

Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner, Fine Arts & Entertainment, followed
by a memorable message from
Bill Strickland, social visionary and CEO of
Manchester Bidwell Corporation.

\$50 per person
\$400 per table of 8

For more information about the dinner or
the project, contact Don Crittenden from
Second Presbyterian Church at
(309) 828-6297

ABOUT WESTERN AVENUE

Western Avenue Community Center has served Bloomington's westside since 1926 with a rich array of services including the following:

Lawrence Irvin Neighborhood Center basketball has helped 100+ young adults receive college scholarships while promoting strong values and healthy lives. LINC also provides space for youth mentoring programs.

The Hispanic Outreach Program provides social services, interpretation service and counseling for the growing Spanish-speaking population.

An after-school program provides tutoring, reading skills, snacks and computer access for disadvantaged children who attend District 87 Schools.

Summer camps provide mentoring and life enrichment programs for youth.

A food pantry that supports over 300 families per month with food and nourishment.

Seniors' Programs that provide health and recreational programs for senior citizens.

Western Avenue Community Center is located at 600 Western Avenue, Bloomington, IL 61701, www.westernavenuecc.org or call (309) 829-4807.