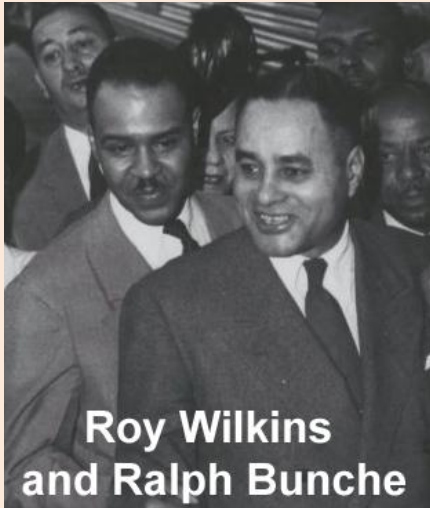


# HISTORY OF NAACP MID-MANHATTAN BRANCH



**Roy Wilkins  
and Ralph Bunche**

In the fall of 1965, Max Delson, upon learning that there was no branch covering the Mid-Manhattan area, decided that he would work towards establishing such a branch. In November 1965, Gloser Current, Tom Allen, Max Delson and Shirley Stewart Farmer held a conference regarding the formation of the Mid-Manhattan Branch. The Branch covers the area from 34th Street on the south to 110th Street on the north, and from river to river. In February 1966, Roy Wilkins and Ralph Bunche sent a letter and NAACP membership applications to approximately 500 people in the Mid-Manhattan area.

Upon obtaining the required 50 members, a charter application was sent to the National Office. The National Board of Directors approved the application. On June 8, 1966 the first general meeting was held at FREEDOM HOUSE where Dr. John Morsell presented the Charter to the organization. Since its foundation, the Mid-Manhattan Branch has been a community-based beacon for the NAACP.

## **Accomplishments**

The NAACP Mid-Manhattan Branch has been diligent in its efforts to fulfill the mission of the National Organization through its various committee programs. Our Education Committee has an adopt-the-class program at the Booker T. Washington Middle School and continues to make education its top priority; our Health Committee holds seminar on vital health issues; our Political Action and Membership Committee presents vital voter education and empowerment programs and holds membership enhancement activities. We are also presently forming our legal redress committee. We now have a quarterly Newsletter informing our membership and the community of Branch activities and other pertinent community issues.

As a result of the topics chosen and the quality of presentation by our branch committees, we won the coveted 2003 Thalheimer Award class I-C Branch for Programmatic Activity at our Annual National Convention held in Miami, Florida in July, 2003. The Thalheimer Award has been given annually since 1944, pursuant to a grant by Dr. Ross Thalheimer. They are presented to the NAACP Branches and State Conferences that have contributed more to the furtherance of the Association's mission during the preceding year.