**Oliver St. Clair Franklin**

Appointed by the UK Government in 1998 to represent British interest in the region, Oliver is the third Honorary Consul and liaises with the British Embassy and Consulate in New York on business, consular and public diplomacy issues. He has developed various projects for the benefit of the region’s youth including The Duke of Edinburgh Awards Program and a five-year summer London program for students at Simon Gratz High School. In 2002 he was appointed an OBE (Officer of the British Empire) and in 2022 appointed a CBE (Commander of the British Empire). These honors are granted by the monarch for exceptional service.

Oliver arrived in Philadelphia from Baltimore in 1970 and was the Director of Special Projects at Penn’s Annenberg Center where he founded a national Black Film Festival, was treasurer of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council and served on several panels for the National Endowment for the Arts. He joined the Goode administration as the Deputy City Representative for Arts and Culture and Chief of Protocol. He signed the Sister City protocols in Incheon, Korea and Tianjin, China and led cultural delegations to Brazil, and the UK and represented the Mayor in Florence, Italy for a Global Mayoral forum.

In 1990 Oliver left public service and joined the Dreyfus Trust Company in New York as the Senior Vice President leading a team focusing on the public pension funds market and later joined Fidelity Investments in Boston in a similar role. While at Fidelity he founded the City Fellows program which placed minority investment professionals with British investment banks. In 1996, Oliver became a co-founding partner of the first US registered mutual fund to invest in South Africa. That fund, RISA Investment Advisors, was acquired by Calvert Investments.

His next stop was as CEO of the International House of Philadelphia, an international cultural center that housed students and supported international programs. After five years, he joined Electronic Ink, a digital design film as Vice Chairman with and focused on British and European financial markets.

Today, Oliver is an advisor to Liminal Capital a west coast hedge fund, an independent director of JinMed, a Nasdaq traded company and a board member of The Satell institute. He’s on the advisory boards of NatWest (UK) and WSFS Bank and is former Chair of The Academy Funds Trust.

He is on the boards of The Independence Historic Trust, The British American Business Council, chair emeritus of The Civil War Museum, former board member The Philadelphia Foundation and numerous other non-profits.

Oliver was educated at Lincoln University and Oxford University’s Balliol College. In 2019 He received Oxford’s Distinguished Alumni Award and was elected an Honorary Fellow of Balliol.

Oliver is married to Dr Patricia Mikols, a retired psychologist and is the father of Julien, a Philanthropy Officer at The United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey.