

Dauida Nelums

I was really a handful as a young child. At age three or four, my mother and grandmother took me to Woolworth's. The store was playing Motown hits, and, while they were busy shopping, I started dancing. When my mother turned around, she saw a crowd. People were even offering me money. My mother and grandmother were both embarrassed and tickled and quickly hustled me out of the store before I collected my tips.



Davida Nelums was not always able to dance so enthusiastically, because, when she entered high school, she was recovering from surgery on both feet and had to use a walker.

“I spent half of my freshman year in casts and wooden shoes,” she recalls. “The athletic coaches were unsure of my ability to compete after being incapacitated by major surgery and recovery downtime. I had to work extraordinarily hard to overcome their perceptions and first impressions.” But struggling on her own to literally and figuratively get herself back on her feet and into competition, Nelums was able to make the varsity basketball and softball teams – even as a freshman. Then, she went on to be the captain on every team she joined, winning numerous varsity letters and athletic-league accolades. “The lesson I learned was to never let others define you or to determine your path in life and to never give up,” says Nelums.

Today, she expresses that leadership and can-do attitude in her role as program director for High Volume Installation at ADT Security Services—a Tyco company. Nelums is responsible for all programs of the \$139 million Residential & Small Business Installation division and the \$1.7 billion recurring revenue business channel of ADT North America.

“The teams under her leadership have been repeatedly recognized for their tireless work ethic, personal integrity, and never-quit attitudes,” says her Eagle Award nominator Jeff Ward, vice president of Residential and Small Business Installation for ADT Security Services.

“My parents inspired me to be the best I could be and to endeavor to be the best at whatever I chose to do. They role modeled a strong work ethic and integrity by example. My mother always advocated for being a leader in life.” That motivated Nelums to become an officer in the Navy, where she

was one of the few women in leadership positions.

“I have been blessed with the ability to motivate and mobilize people around a common goal. A strong team always accomplishes much more than people would individually. Empower them to make decisions and believe in positive intentions. Allow them the freedom to grow and learn by experience. People make the difference in anything one determines to undertake.”

Nelums is also passionate about her community-service work to lend support to those around her. As a member of the leadership team for Green Initiatives at ADT/Tyco, for example, she helps to raise consciousness regarding daily activities that can improve the environment and reduce our overall carbon footprint.

Through her membership in the Junior League of Boca Raton, Nelums works with Kids in Distress, an organization that supports foster children and their foster families, and she is active in the NAACP and the National Council of Negro Women. She is also a member of the U.S. Navy’s Speakers Bureau, helps with the Project Pipeline at The Fountain of New Life Church to improve proficiency in math and science for middle and high school students, and volunteers with the American Cancer Society as a member of Delta Sigma Theta.

CareerFOCUS Magazine[™] and the National Eagle Leadership Institute[®] salute 2010 Eagle Award winner Davida Nelums.

The Leadership Promise at Tyco

Tyco International Management Company has a strong commitment to leadership development and achievement. It aligns with our core values and key behaviors articulated by our CEO. Our commitment includes a suite of programs for developing high-performance leaders that drives our leadership culture and builds our leadership brand. Our leadership-development programs build on leader behaviors and develop successful leadership styles that foster an inclusive environment and an engaged workforce. We offer programs that focus on developing people-management and -development skills, leadership competencies, leadership team development, and targeted development for future-generation leaders.

This commitment, coupled with our diversity and inclusion strategy, enables us to consistently recruit, develop, recognize, and retain high-performing, diverse leadership. Our reward and recognition processes are strategically aligned to support Tyco’s overall company performance goals and reward high-performing leaders. All these factors, together with our talent-development strategy, help ensure we are well positioned to lead the organization and lead in the marketplace.

Davida Nelums At-a-Glance

Nominating Company
Tyco/ADT

Current Position
Program Director,
High Volume Installation

Professional Milestones

- Member, ADT Leadership Team for Green Initiatives
- Member of Women in Security Electronics
- Member, Navy’s Speakers Bureau

Community Leadership

- Member, NAACP
- Member, National Council of Negro Women
- Volunteer, U.S. Naval Academy Admissions Program

Leadership Principle
Motivate and mobilize people around a common goal, ensuring they have the tools and skills to do their jobs and empowering them to make decisions.

Education/Training

- B.S., U.S. Naval Academy
- M.A., University of Redlands

Birthplace
Chicago, IL

Current Home
Boca Raton, FL