

VIRTUAL NNPA 2021 NATIONAL CONVENTION

BLACK PRESS MATTERS



— TRUSTED —
VOICE



— RESILIENT —
VITALITY



— TRANSFORMATIVE —
VISION

JUNE 23-26, 2021

WWW.VIRTUALNNPA2021.COM

#BLACKPRESS • #VIRTUALNNPA2021



Pfizer is proud to support

THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION (NNPA)

Pfizer is proud to support patients living with rare diseases such as transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy, or ATTR-CM – a life-threatening, underdiagnosed disease associated with heart failure. In the U.S., the most common mutation (V122I) associated with the hereditary form of ATTR-CM is found almost exclusively in African Americans. We are dedicated to raising awareness for rare diseases, like ATTR-CM, and making an impact on the lives of patients and caregivers.



Visit YourHeartsMessage.com to learn more about ATTR-CM.

This information is intended only for residents of the United States. The health information and other information contained herein is provided for educational purposes only and is not intended to replace discussions with a healthcare provider and other professional advisors. All decisions regarding patient care must be made with a healthcare provider, considering the unique characteristics of the patient.

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LEARN MORE AT WWW.NNPA.ORG/EDUCATION

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Because great journalism matters, now more than ever.

History will record the severe disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on the African American community. Great journalists are writing the first draft of that history today. That's why we are proud to support the NNPA and Black Press of America in their work to help journalists navigate and report on these difficult times.

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GREETINGS FROM THE NNPA CHAIR

We are so excited to welcome you to the National Newspaper Publishers Association 2021 Virtual National Convention!

Our theme this year is “Black Press Matters: TRUSTED Voice, RESILIENT Vitality, TRANSFORMATIVE Vision.”

We have weathered yet another storm and the Black Press remains RESILIENT and STRONG!!! The deadly COVID-19 pandemic brought uncertainty and a lot of changes for us, but with those changes have come great opportunities, new relationships and continued progress!

The NNPA is still here to reaffirm our mission and our purpose as the trusted voice of Black communities throughout the United States. We remain sober and vigilant, especially today. Today, we realize that the Black community is under attack like never before, and the stakes have never been higher.

With the combined reach of our wonderful Print and Digital Publications, NNPA member newspapers are positioned to grow and continue to speak up for us, as well as educate, equip and empower the Black community during these challenging times in America and in our industry.

Our NNPA Executive Committee and our entire Board of Directors are grateful that you have taken the time to join us and to support us.

We are very proud of our NNPA Convention planning team who have worked tirelessly to plan this awesome 2021 Virtual Convention. We look forward to connecting with each and every one of you real soon. Enjoy the Convention!

We are the Original Black Press! We are the NNPA...the Black Press of America!

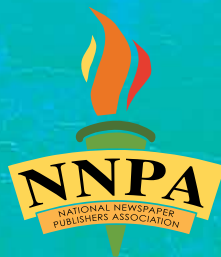
May God Richly Bless the NNPA!



Karen Carter Richards
NNPA Chairman



Karen Carter Richards
NNPA Chair



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RICHARDS**

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FRANCES DRAPER**
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The Afro American Newspaper
(Baltimore and DC)



SHIRLEY GRAY
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Dallas Post Tribune



HIRAM E. JACKSON
CEO,
Real Times Media



TERRY JONES
Publisher,
New Orleans Data Weekly



NABA'A MUHAMMAD
Publisher, Final Call



SONNY MESSIAH-JILES
Director At-Large
Publisher, Houston Defender



ROSETTA MILLER PERRY
Publisher, Tennessee Tribune



**REVEREND DR. JOHN
WARREN**
Parliamentarian
Publisher, San Diego Voice &
Viewpoint



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Director At-Large
Publisher, Dallas Weekly



KERRI WATKINS
Publisher, Afro Times

PRESIDENT & CEO



DR. BENJAMIN F. CHAVIS, JR.



Pluria Marshall, Jr.
NNPAF Chairman

DEAR NNPA FAMILY

First, let me welcome all our friends, colleagues, partners and sponsors to this year's Virtual NNPA National Convention. Considering what we've all endured over the last 18 months, it truly is a blessing to be able to extend this greeting.

Families, businesses and communities have suffered crushing blows since the COVID-19 pandemic came to America's shores last year – and many of them may never be the same. But to paraphrase poet Maya Angelou: Still, like dust, we'll rise.

Slowly but surely, we will liberate ourselves from the oppressive bonds of the COVID-19 plague. And we will do it – as we have for more than 400 years in this land – by applying the abiding principles reflected in this year's convention theme: transformative vision, resilient vitality and trusted voice.

One thing the pandemic has taught us is that life is both precious and fragile. It should be valued and cherished and put to urgent, productive use every single day because it matters. Mission matters. Service matters. Purpose and charity matter.

That's why the NNPA, its 200-plus newspapers and its charitable wing – the NNPA Fund – should emerge from COVID with a revitalized commitment to mission and service and purpose. If the Black Press truly does matter, let's accelerate our efforts to inform, inspire and empower Black people to continue fighting for the social justice and economic parity to which we are entitled.

I know we all have the will and passion and vision to reach that goal. And I am committed – starting today – to raising our game and advancing our mission of public and community service. How about you?

Sincerely,

Pluria Marshall Jr.
Chairman
NNPA Fund



NNPAF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS



PLURIA MARSHALL, JR.

*NNPAF Chairman
Publisher
Wave Community
Newspaper Group*



SONNY MESSIAH JILES

*NNPAF Vice Chair
Publisher
Houston Defender*



DENISE ROLARK BARNES

*NNPAF Secretary
Publisher
Washington Informer*



JAYME CAIN CASIMERE

*NNPAF Treasurer
Publisher
The Times Weekly*

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*NNPA Executive Committee
Publisher
The Mississippi Link*



DIRCK HARGRAVES

*President & CEO
Ascendant Strategies*



KAREN CARTER RICHARDS

*NNPA Executive Committee
Publisher, Houston Forward Times*



SONYA ROSS

*Founder & Editor in Chief,
Black Women Unmuted*



JANIS L. WARE

*NNPA Executive Committee
Publisher, The Atlanta Voice*



TRENNIE L. WILLIAMS

*Publisher,
Memphis Silver Star*

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER



DR. BENJAMIN F. CHAVIS, JR.
NNPA President and CEO



NNPA PRESIDENT AND CEO WELCOME

On behalf of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), we welcome you to the Virtual NNPA 2021 Annual National Convention. We are pleased that you have taken time to view and to interact with the Black Press of America as we celebrate the 194th year of the Black Press.

The NNPA continues to be the largest and oldest national trade association of Black owned media in the world. During the past year as we all witnessed and were seriously impact by the COVID-19 pandemic, the NNPA was able to maintain our relevance and representation of the interests of Black America.

The pandemic was also disproportionately fatal to people of African descent and other people of color throughout the world. Thus, the awesome responsibility of the Black Press necessitated that we also raised the issues related to COVID-19 on the global scale as well.

We are, therefore, thankful for the progress that we have made over the past year domestically and internationally. The theme of our 2021 convention is right on point: THE BLACK PRESS MATTERS: Trusted VOICE, Resilient VITALITY, Transformative VISION.

Black Lives Matter. Black Votes Matter. Black Businesses Matter. And yes, the Black Press Matters in 2021 and into the future. The program of our national convention reflects and embodies our core historical and contemporary mission: "To promote the interests of the Black Press by securing unity and action in all matters relative to the profession of journalism and the business of publishing."

The NNPA's 230 member publishers across the United States overall are experiencing growth and expansion in today's marketplace. We note with appreciation the current leadership of the NNPA with Karen Carter Richards as NNPA Chair and the NNPA Executive Committee who are all distinguished African American women publisher-leaders.

Yes, there are real challenges that we face, but also the opportunities to gain a stronger financial sustainability are omnipresent. In fact, given the heightened awareness today in corporate America concerning Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI), there are now more opportunities to significantly increase national advertising spends with the Black Press via print, digital and social media.

We salute and thank especially the NNPA's longstanding annual partners: General Motors, Reynolds American, Pfizer Rare Disease, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. We also thank our convention sponsors: Google News Initiative (GNI), Facebook Journalism Project, Northrop Grumman, Wells Fargo, AARP, Comcast NBC Universal, American Petroleum Institute (API), Molson Coors, Nissan, Black Hollywood Education and Resource Center, Knight Foundation, and Nina Turner.

Sincerely,

Benjamin F. Chavis Jr.



Terry Jones
NNPA Convention Chair

WELCOME FROM TERRY JONES CHAIR, NNPA CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE

On behalf of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) Convention Planning Committee, I am very pleased to welcome all to our Virtual NNPA 2021 Annual National Convention.

While many of our families, businesses, and communities are still challenged by the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the United States, we have planned and structured a vibrant, informative, and engaging virtual national convention.

We appreciate your presence and participation in this year's convention. We had a record response at last year's virtual convention, and we are expecting a significant response again this week. Our convention theme is: **THE BLACK PRESS MATTERS: Trusted VOICE,**

Resilient VITALITY, Transformative VISION.

We are grateful to NNPA member publishers, our corporate partners and sponsors for your support and encouragement.

The panel discussions, special presentations, entertainment, and a myriad of video expressions of salute to the Black Press of America will serve to enrich the national and global impact of the Virtual NNPA 2021 Annual National Convention

Next year we plan to have our NNPA 2022 Annual National Convention in my hometown, the empowering city of New Orleans. Again, we hope that you will enjoy this year's virtual presentations.

Sincerely,

Terry Jones, Publisher, New Orleans Data Weekly
NNPA Convention Chair



VIRTUAL NNPA 2021 ANNUAL CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Karen Carter Richards, Chair, NNPA Board of Directors

Publisher, Houston Forward Times

Terry B. Jones, NNPA Convention Committee Chair

Publisher, New Orleans Data News Weekly

Brenda Andrews, NNPA Treasurer

Publisher, New Journal and Guide

Bobby Henry, 2021 Nominating Committee Chair

Publisher, The Westside Gazette

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., NNPA President and CEO

Claudette Perry, NNPA Executive Administrator

NNPA PRODUCTION TEAM

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., NNPA Executive Producer

Claudette Perry, NNPA Production Coordinator

Norman Rich, NNPA Production Engineer and Digital Creative Designer

Stacy Brown, NNPA News Director and Livestream Talent Manager

DIGITAL PROGRAM BOOK DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

Al Flowers, President and CEO, FLOW Group, LLC

Claudette Perry, NNPA Executive Administrator



About the National Newspapers Publishers Association

"THE **BLACK PRESS** IN AMERICA IS **MORE RELEVANT THAN EVER**"

The National Newspaper Publishers Association is a trade association representing the Black Press which has chronicled the history and voices of Black communities for 194 years. Twenty million readers each week get their news and information from black-owned newspapers that report with excellence from an African American perspective. Visit the NNPA website www.nnpa.org for more information on the NNPA.

Celebrating 194 years of Black Press Publishing in America

#BlackPress194yrs

SCHEDULE

2021 ANNUAL CONVENTION PROGRAM SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2021

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM EST

NNPA Meeting of the Full Board of Directors

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021

11:00 AM EST

Convention Welcome and Acknowledgments

- Karen Carter Richards, *NNPA Chair*
- Terry Jones, *Chair, NNPA Convention Planning Committee*
- Dr. Benjamin Chavis, Jr., *NNPA President and CEO*
- Greetings from Members, Partners, Sponsors and Friends

11:10 AM EST

NNPA Newspaper Front Page Exhibit
Sponsored by the Google News Initiative

11:15 AM EST

Welcome Greeting by Majority Whip, The Honorable James Clyburn
(D-SC)

11:20 AM – 11:35 AM

PFIZER PANEL DISCUSSION

ATTR-CM – A Rare Heart Disease Affecting African Americans

MODERATOR

Dr. Dara Richardson Heron, Pfizer's Chief Patient Officer

PANELISTS

Don Chaney, *Former Coach, Houston Rockets, Pfizer ATTR-CM Ambassador*

Jackie Chaney, *Wife of Don Chaney*

Dr. Elizabeth Ofili, *Board Member, Association of Black Cardiologists, Practicing Cardiologist and Professor at Morehouse*

Muriel Finkel, *Amyloidosis Support Groups*

11:35 AM – 11:45 AM EST

PRESENTATION

Address to Black America on the Impact of COVID 19

PRESENTER

Dr. Anthony Fauci

11:45 AM – 11:50 AM EST

Special Presentation to the Black Press by the Center for Disease Control

PRESENTER: Dr. Rochelle Walensky, Director, Center for Disease Control

11:50 AM – 12:00 PM EST

Greetings to the Black Press of America:

Cedri L. Richmond, Sr. Advisor to the President of the United States

The Honorable Nancy P. Pelosi, U.S. Representative (D-CA),

Speaker of the House

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM EST

BREAK

1:00 PM – 1:20 PM

Welcome

Karen Carter Richards, *NNPA Chair*

Public Awareness in Education Conversation

with Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. *NNPA President and CEO* and Denise Forte, *President and CEO, Education Trust*

1:20 PM – 1:23 PM

AARP Greeting and Presentation

PRESENTER: Rita B. Choula, MA, *Director, Caregiving Projects, AARP Public Policy Institute*

1:23 PM – 1:28 PM

Reynolds American Inc. Message to the Black Press

PRESENTER: Shawna Williams, Senior Director State and Local Government Relations, Reynolds American

SCHEDULE

1:30 PM – 1:50 PM

Panel Discussion Sponsored by Comcast

TOPIC

Technology and Innovation

MODERATOR

Jotaka Eaddy, *Founder and CEO, Full Circle Strategies*

PANELISTS

Dr. Nicole Turner Lee, *Director, Center for Technology and Innovation, Brookings Institute*

Jocelyn Tate, *Sr. Policy Advisor, Black Women's Roundtable and National Coalition of Black Civic Participation*

1:50 PM – 2:10 PM

Discussion: The Social Impact of Music Legends and the Black Press
Interview with Earth, Wind & Fire's Phillip Bailey

2:10 PM – 2:11 PM

Greeting and Shout Out from Ziggy Marley

2:12 PM – 2:32 PM

Stephanie Mills Discusses the Importance of the Black Press to the Black Music Industry

2:32M – 2:33 PM

Greetings from Sponsors:

Nissan

Nina Turner

2:33 PM – 2:50 PM

PRESENTATION

A Strategic Alliance Between the Small Business Administration and the Black Press

PRESENTER

Isabella Casillas Guzman, *27TH U.S. Administrator, Small Business Administration (SBA)*

2:50 PM

A Message from Karen Carter Richards, *NNPA Chair*
Acknowledgment of Partners and Sponsors

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., *NNPA President and CEO*

PARTNERS

General Motors; Reynolds American; Pfizer Rare Disease; Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

SPONSORS

Google News Initiative, Facebook Journalism Project, Northrop Grumman, Wells Fargo, AARP, Comcast NBC Universal, API, Molson Coors, Nissan, Black Hollywood Education and Resource Center, Knight Foundation, Nina Turner

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

The National Newspaper Publishers Association Fund (NNPAF)
Honors Black Press Publishers at the "Messenger Awards"

HOSTED BY

Pluria Marshall, Jr., *NNPAF, Chair and Publisher, Wave Media Group*

Sonny Messiah Jiles, *NNPAF, Vice Chair, Publisher, Houston Defender*

SPONSORS

Facebook Journalism Project, Google News Initiative, Molson Coors

SPECIAL GUESTS

The Reverend Al Sharpton, *President and CEO, National Action Network*

Stacy Abrams, *Founder, Fair Fight Action*

Michael Nordman, *Senior Manager, Community Affairs, Molson Coors*

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021

11:00 AM – 11:05 AM EST

Greetings and Welcome from *NNPA Chair*, Karen Carter Richards, Terry Jones, *NNPA Convention Chair* and Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., *President and CEO*

11:05 AM – 11:22 AM EST

A Conversation with Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. and Bob Marshall, *National Small Business Development Leader, Wells Fargo & Company*

TOPIC

The Importance of Economic Development in Black America

11:22 AM – 11:42 AM EST

Panel Discussion

TOPIC

Goggle News Initiative

MODERATOR

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

PANELISTS

Mollie Belt, *Publisher, The Dallas Examiner*

Walter White, *Publisher, The Dayton Defender*

11:45 AM – 12:00 PM

REMARKS:

Karen Carter Richards, *NNPA Chair*

Terry B. Jones, *Convention Chair*

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

SCHEDULE

Thank you and Acknowledgment of Sponsors:

PARTNERS

General Motors; Reynolds American; Pfizer Rare Disease; Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

SPONSORS

Google News Initiative, Facebook Journalism Project, Northrop Grumman, Wells Fargo, AARP, Comcast NBC Universal, API, Molson Coors, Nissan, Black Hollywood Education and Resource Center, Knight Foundation, Nina Turner

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Legacy Awards Presentations

PRESENTERS

Karen Carter Richards, *NNPA Chair*
Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. *NNPA President and CEO*

- **Congresswoman Joyce L. Beatty:** The NNPA proudly presents the 2021 National Congressional Leadership Award to The Honorable Joyce L. Beatty, Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, for Outstanding and Courageous Leadership, Washington, DC, June 25, 2021
- **Attorney General Keith Ellison:** The NNPA proudly presents the 2021 National Equal Justice Award to The Honorable Keith Ellison, Minnesota Attorney General, for Outstanding and Courageous Leadership, Washington, DC, June 25, 2021
- **Scotty Barnhart:** The NNPA proudly presents the 2021 National Performance and Outstanding Leadership Award to Scotty Barnhart, Conductor of the World Famous Count Basie Orchestra, Washington, DC, June 25, 2021
- **The Reverend Dr. Starsky Wilson:** The NNPA proudly presents the 2021 National Achievement and Outstanding Leadership Award to The Reverend Dr. Starsky Wilson, President and CEO of the Children's Defense Fund, Washington, DC, June 25, 2021
- **The Reverend John P. Kee:** The NNPA proudly presents the 2021 National Gospel Transformative Award to The Reverend John P. Kee for Outstanding Leadership, Creativity and Uplifting Impact in Music and Ministry, Washington, DC, June 25, 2021
- **Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett:** The NNPA proudly presents the 2021 Outstanding Achievement Award in Medicine and Science
- **Darnella Frazier:** The NNPA proudly salutes and presents the 2021 Ida B. Wells Freedom Fighting Photo Journalism Award to Darnella Fraizer for Fearless and Courageous Actions by Video Taping the Murder of George Floyd on May 25, 2020 in Minneapolis, MN, Washington, DC, June 25, 2021

- **Phillip Bailey:** The NNPA proudly presents the 2021 National Lifetime Achievement Legacy Award to Phillip Bailey for Outstanding Achievement, Impact and Creative Genius as Lead Singer of the Phenomenal Earth, Wind and Fire, Washington, DC, June 25, 2021
- **Chaka Khan:** The NNPA proudly presents the 2021 National Lifetime Achievement Legacy Award to Chaka Khan for Decades of Creative Genius and Outstanding Leadership for Freedom, Justice and Equality in America and Throughout the World, Washington, DC, June 25, 2021

8:00 PM – 8:30 PM

HONORABLE SALUTES

- Al McFarlane, *Publisher, Insight News for Outstanding Coverage of the Floyd Murder Trial*
- Mel Reeves, *Minnesota Spokesman Recorder for Outstanding Coverage of the Floyd Murder Trial*

8:30 PM – 9:15 PM EST

ENTERTAINMENT

Candice Hoyes, *Jazz Vocalist*

John P. Kee, *Gospel Great*

Chaka Khan, *World Known Entertainer and Civil Rights Advocate*

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 2021

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Publishers' Wind Down and Think Tank

Hosted by: Karen Carter Richards, *NNPA Chair*

12:30 PM

Conference Adjourns

P R E S E N T E R S



Rita Choula

As the Director of Caregiving with the AARP Public Policy Institute, Rita Choula bridges policy and research to practice. Much of her work focuses on identifying and supporting the needs of multi-ethnic, multicultural family caregivers through an interdisciplinary approach that elevates the unique nature of each caregiving experience. She currently leads a strategic initiative that seeks to address disparities and build equity in long-term care for Black, Latino and Asian American Pacific Islander older adults and their family caregivers.

In collaboration with clinical experts and key stakeholders, Rita develops programs and tools that enable health care professionals to better recognize and support family caregivers across settings. Through the Home Alone Alliance, she leads the development and production of easily-accessible “How-To” videos that provide family caregivers with the technical information and guidance necessary to perform complex medical/nursing tasks. Most recently, Rita also managed a grant-funded initiative focused on elevating the recognition and support of family caregivers providing complex care by health care providers, particularly those in hospitals and larger health systems, through the identification of promising practices within these settings.

Rita has a background in corporate research in the health and information technology sectors. She served in the education field as the Assistant Principal of a parochial school for several years. Rita holds a Master’s degree in the Management of Aging Services from the University of Maryland Baltimore County.



Don Chaney

Don Chaney is a former NBA player and coach whose career spanned over 36 years. Years after his retirement from basketball, Don started experiencing frequent heart-related symptoms, including fatigue, palpitations, and shortness of breath, but his doctors could not immediately determine the underlying cause. In 2019, he was finally diagnosed with hereditary ATTR-CM – a rare, life-threatening heart condition that is associated with heart failure and is passed down from a relative due to a genetic mutation. The gene mutation Don has is found almost exclusively in African Americans. Don is now working with Pfizer Rare Disease to share his personal experience and help raise awareness of this underrecognized disease in the Black/African American community.



Jackie Chaney

Jackie Chaney, Don’s wife of over 50 years, acts as his primary caregiver and advocate.

P R E S E N T E R S



Dr. Anthony S. Fauci

As a physician with the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Fauci has served the American public health sector in various capacities for more than 50 years, and has acted as an advisor to every U.S. president since Ronald Reagan. He became director of the NIAID in 1984 and has made contributions to HIV/AIDS research and other immunodeficiency diseases, both as a research scientist and as the head of the NIAID. From 1983 to 2002, Fauci was one of the world's most frequently-cited scientists across all scientific journals. In 2008, President George W. Bush awarded Fauci the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States, for his work on the AIDS relief program PEPFAR.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Fauci was one of the lead members of President Donald Trump's White House Coronavirus Task Force. In the early stages of the pandemic, *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times* described Fauci as one of the most trusted medical figures in the United States. Currently Fauci is the Chief Medical Advisor to President Joe Biden, officially appointed in 2021.



Denise Forte

Denise Forte is the interim CEO at The Education Trust. With more than two decades of experience in the federal legislative and executive branches advancing progressive education and family policy, Denise brings strategic leadership to the organization's efforts to engage policymakers and diverse coalitions of advocates in demanding and securing equity-advancing policy change at the national and state levels. She also will lead Ed Trust's legislative efforts and, as a member of the Senior Leadership Team, coordinate an organization-wide advocacy agenda and strategy.

Prior to Ed Trust, Denise was a senior fellow and director of public affairs for The Century Foundation, a progressive think tank. She also spent 20 years in progressively senior congressional staff roles, most recently as the staff director for the House Committee on Education and the Workforce (Minority), providing strategic advice and counsel to the Ranking Member, Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), managing and directing the legislative and policy agenda for Committee Democrats and as Education Policy Director for Chairman George Miller. Denise also served in the Obama administration at the U.S. Department of Education, where she held the positions of Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary in the Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development, providing direction and management of the office that oversees policy and budget development for the agency.

P R E S E N T E R S



Muriel Finkel

Muriel Finkel, president of Amyloidosis Support Groups, has been advocating for the ATTR amyloidosis community for nearly 15 years.



Dr. Dara Richardson-Heron

Dr. Dara Richardson-Heron, Pfizer Chief Patient Officer, works to ensure the patient is at the center of everything Pfizer does. Her patient-centric approach has been shaped by her years of experience serving in public health (she was chief engagement officer and scientific executive for the National Institutes of Health All of Us research program) as well as non-profits (she's been CEO with YWCA USA, as well as with the Greater NYC Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure and National Chief Medical Officer at United Cerebral Palsy of New York City). But she says it's her early days as a doctor that have made an indelible mark in her passion for putting patients first.

P R E S E N T E R S



Isabella Casillas Guzman

Isabella Casillas Guzman serves as the 27th Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and was sworn in on Wednesday, March 17, 2021. Administrator Guzman represents the more than 30 million U.S. small businesses and is committed to helping small business owners and entrepreneurs start, grow and be resilient.

A lifelong proponent of small businesses, Guzman grew up as the daughter of a small business owner and learned at a young age how important small businesses are to the communities they serve, the people they employ, and the economies they help power.

Administrator Guzman previously served as Director of the California Office of the Small Business Advocate, a position she held after being appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom in April 2019. In that role, she served as the voice of small businesses and innovative startups in the 5th largest economy in the world. She administered and advocated for programs and initiatives to help small businesses access capital, markets, and networks for stronger outcomes. She and her team helped connect entrepreneurs in every community with the resources needed. As the economic recovery support function coordinator for the state, she focused on resilience and most recently worked to help small businesses access relief during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In California, Administrator Guzman oversaw a network of small business centers focused on expanding assistance to underserved business groups. She launched new public private partnerships and collaborated to deliver cutting edge resources to small businesses, including through initiatives like Get Digital CA to increase technology and e-commerce adoption and Source Diverse Source Local to strengthen supply chain readiness. She advocated fiercely for financial relief for small businesses, leading to the expansion of state supported lending and the largest COVID-19 grant relief program in the nation at over \$2.5 billion. Guzman's office launched the Entrepreneurship Task Force to serve as a bridge to small businesses and create content and programs to help strengthen the competitiveness of startup and small firms.

Administrator Guzman has previously served in leadership at the SBA as the agency's Deputy Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor during the Obama-Biden Administration, where she oversaw policy and new program implementation. She was a small business entrepreneur herself, and an advisor to fellow founders including in accelerating technology commercialization and in helping small business contractors leverage the federal marketplace. Administrator Guzman earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business.

P R E S E N T E R S



Dr. Elizabeth Ofli

Dr. Elizabeth Ofli is chair of the board of the Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC) and a professor of medicine at Morehouse School of Medicine, seeing patients with Morehouse Healthcare.



Rochelle Walensky

Rochelle Paula Walensky is an American physician-scientist who is the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Prior to her appointment at the CDC, she was the Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Massachusetts General Hospital and a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. Walensky is an expert on AIDS and HIV.

Walensky had been on the faculty of Harvard Medical School since 2001, first as an instructor, then as a professor. Walensky was a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School from 2012-2020, and served as chief of the division of infectious diseases at Massachusetts General Hospital from 2017-2020. She served on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic and conducted research on vaccine delivery and strategies to reach underserved communities. Walensky has worked to improve HIV screening and care in South Africa, led health policy initiatives, and researched clinical trial design and evaluation in a variety of settings.

Walensky was Chair of the Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council at the National Institutes of Health from 2014 to 2015 and has served as a member of the US Department of Health and Human Services Panel on Antiretroviral Guidelines for Adults and Adolescents since 2011. She serves on the board of directors of Mass General Brigham. She has been co-director of the Medical Practice Evaluation Center at Massachusetts General Hospital since 2011.



2021 NNPA NATIONAL *Awardees*

VIRTUAL NNPA 2021 ANNUAL CONVENTION



2021 NATIONAL CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

*The Honorable
Joyce L. Beatty*

Congresswoman Joyce Beatty, the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, is a native Ohioan with a strong history of connecting people, policy, and politics to make a difference.

Since 2013, Beatty has proudly represented Ohio's Third Congressional District. She sits on the exclusive House Committee on Financial Services and serves on two Subcommittees: Chair of Diversity and Inclusion; and Housing, Community Development and Insurance. The Financial Services Committee oversees the entire financial services industry, including the nation's banking, securities, insurance, and housing industries, as well as the work of the Federal Reserve, the United States Department of the Treasury, and the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

As Chair of the Financial Services Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion, Beatty leads efforts to ensure the financial services industry works better for all Americans. Congresswoman Beatty has dedicated her life to helping make an impact by delivering results and through service to Central Ohio.

In Congress, Beatty has had numerous pieces of legislation signed into law, including two measures to combat human trafficking, and another to empower college students to make more informed financial decisions. She also spearheaded legislation officially designating the National Veterans Memorial and Museum located in downtown Columbus, as well as a bill to make the tax deduction permanent for out-of-pocket expenses paid by elementary and secondary teachers for supplies and expenses, and a measure to improve legal services for veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Finally, her advocacy proved critical to enacting a law to help more stroke victims gain access to fast, high-quality telemedicine.

Congresswoman Beatty is Chair of the powerful Congressional Black Caucus, Region 10 designee on the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee and is an influential member of the Democratic Seniors Task Force, Co-Chair of the Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus and Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition, Deputy Vice-Chair of the Congressional Voting Rights Caucus, and founder of the Congressional Civility and Respect Caucus. She was also tapped by Speaker Nancy Pelosi to serve on the United States Congressional Joint Economic Committee and the Kennedy Center Board of Trustees. Outside of her committee and numerous caucus memberships, Beatty is a committed and vocal supporter of early education, women's equality, concussion awareness, and the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion (OMWI), which seeks to increase the participation of women and minorities in all facets of the financial marketplace, among many other priorities.

Congresswoman Beatty is active in The Links, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Columbus Urban League, The American Heart Association—where she previously served on the board—and numerous other organizations.

Congresswoman Beatty has been awarded honorary doctorate degrees from The Ohio State University, Ohio Dominican University, and Central State University, as well as an honorary juris doctor from Capital University Law School.

Congresswoman Beatty is married to attorney Otto Beatty, Jr. and a proud grandmother to Leah and Spencer, who lovingly call her "Grammy."



2021 NATIONAL EQUAL JUSTICE AWARD

*Attorney General
Keith Ellison*

Keith Ellison was sworn in as Minnesota's 30th attorney general on January 7, 2019. As the People's Lawyer, Attorney General Ellison's job is to help Minnesotans afford their lives and live with dignity, safety, and respect. His guiding values are generosity and inclusion.

From 2007 to 2019, Keith Ellison represented Minnesota's 5th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he championed consumer, worker, environmental, and civil- and human-rights protections for Minnesotans.

He served for 12 years on the House Financial Services Committee, where he helped oversee the financial services industry, the housing industry, and Wall Street, among others.

Among his legislative accomplishments are passing provisions to protect credit-card holders from abusive practices and protect the rights of renters and tenants.

While in Congress, he founded the Congressional Antitrust Caucus and the Congressional Consumer Justice Caucus.

He also served as co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, which he helped build to more than 100 members.

Before being elected to Congress, Attorney General Ellison served four years in the Minnesota House of Representatives.

Prior to entering elective office, he spent 16 years as an attorney specializing in civil-rights and defense law, including five years as executive director of the Legal Rights Center.

As the leader of this public-interest law firm, he oversaw a team of attorneys focused on delivering justice for Minnesotans who had nowhere else to turn. He was also a noted community activist.

Attorney General Ellison received his law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1990. He is the proud father of four adult children: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Elijah, and Amirah. He is the first African American and the first Muslim American to be elected to statewide office in Minnesota.



2021 NATIONAL IDA B. WELLS FREEDOM FIGHTING PHOTO JOURNALISM AWARD

Darnella Frazier

The African American teenager recorded the traumatizing and shocking video of Derek Chauvin pressing his knee on George Floyd's neck for nearly 10 minutes is certainly an American hero.

It is because of Darnella's heroism and quick thinking in filming the video that the former Minneapolis police officer was convicted on murder and manslaughter charges and is set to receive a long prison sentence.

Darnella, who was 17 at the time, continued her bravery when she testified during the trial, stating that she wishes she could have done more.

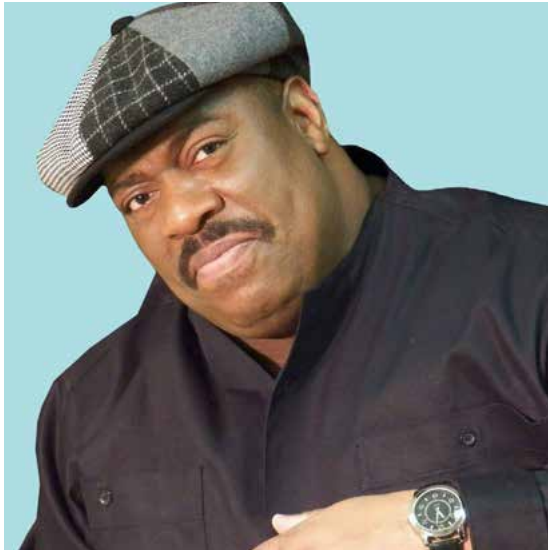
She said she had spent nights apologizing to Floyd for not doing more.

However, Floyd's family and even President Joe Biden, credited her bravery and quick thinking in capturing the video that they said made the guilty verdict possible.

After the jury convicted Chauvin of all three charges, Darnella shared a social media post expressing relief and thanking God. "Justice has been served," she said.

Darnella recently received a citation from the Pulitzer Prize Board for her courageous act in taking the video of police officers killing George Floyd.

Darnella is now a sought-after motivational speaker and is followed on Twitter by more than 170,000 people.



2021 NATIONAL GOSPEL TRANSFORMATIVE AWARD

*The Reverend
John P. Kee*

Known as the Prince of Gospel, Kee picked up where Rev. James Cleveland left off when he passed away in 1991. Although there are modern elements to his music, Kee has largely kept the traditional black choir style that Cleveland popularized alive and well with such songs as “Show Up”, “New Life”, and “Wash Me”.

The next to last of 16 children, Kee was born June 4, 1962, in Durham, North Carolina. A handsome and gifted child Kee excelled in school.

He graduated from North Carolina School of the Arts at the age of 14 and later attended the Yuba College Conservatory. Before he came of age, Kee was gigging with jazz legend Donald Byrd and funk band Cameo.

When he was on the road with singer James Taylor, Kee began to sell drugs. “I was working mainly to support my drug habit” he told Rejoice Magazine. “I didn’t use crack, but I free based, which is the same spirit.”

When a cocaine exchange went awry, he saw a buddy murdered. “And that’s been my testimony from day one. To know that this brother died in my presence for forty dollars crushed me. But what it also did was allow me to go home and repent.

“That doesn’t mean to go home and cry, but it means to re-evaluate your situation to rethink who you are. That is what happened to me. I was hustling and selling drugs, but it

stopped that day. God got my attention, and that was the day I surrendered my will to him. I didn’t smoke any more coke or marijuana from that day on.

“I wasn’t totally free because I was still running the girls (pimping), but God delivered and freed me, and I realized that salvation was a process.”

Kee became a musician for Jim and Tammy Baker’s PTL Club in Charlotte. He started writing songs and sending them to artist. Some of the first to record them were Edwin Hawkins, who recorded “Jesus Lives In Me”, and the New Jerusalem Baptist Choir, who recorded “Show Me The Way.”

In 1981, Kee founded the New Life Community Choir with 60 members. At the time, it was nicknamed the welfare choir because so many of the members came from the hood.

In 1987, Kee made his debut with the Yes Lord LP on Tyscot Records. Then the choir recorded Wait On Him for Tyscot, which peaked at No. 4 on the gospel album sales chart and won three Stellar awards in 1989, including one for Song of the Year for “It Will Be Alright.”

In 1995, Kee founded the New Life Fellowship Center in Charlotte where he is full time pastor. He and his wife have 8 children, another choir in the making.



2021 NATIONAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT LEGACY AWARD

Chaka Khan

Chaka Khan is one of the world's most gifted and celebrated musicians, with a rich musical legacy, the 10-time GRAMMY® Award-winner is looking forward to a celebration of a lifetime.

A songwriter, actor, author, philanthropist, entrepreneur and activist, Chaka Khan has influenced generations of recording artists.

She has the rare ability to sing in seven music genres, including R&B, pop, rock, gospel, country, world music and classical.

Affectionately known around the world as Chaka, she is revered by millions of fans as well as her peers for her timeless, classic and unmatched signature music style and ability.

The late, great Miles Davis often said, "She [Chaka] sings like my horn." And the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin says, "[Chaka] is a one-of-a-kind, premier vocalist."

Throughout her legendary career, Chaka has released 22 albums and racked up ten #1 Billboard magazine charted songs, seven RIAA certified gold singles and ten RIAA certified gold and platinum albums.

Chaka's recorded music has produced over 2,000 catalog song placements.

"I am honored and blessed to celebrate 40 years in music and entertainment," says Chaka.

"I am so humbled by the love, support and gracious spirit of my fans worldwide and the continuous support my peers have shown over the years. Throughout my 40-year career, I have been through the fire a few times over and I'm still here as a living testament to God's love and grace. Next year, I will be celebrating 40 years in the business and 60 years on earth, which equals one hundred percent Chaka."

Early on, she caught the attention of music icon Stevie Wonder, who penned her first smash hit with Rufus, "Tell Me Something Good."

The single from the group's 1974 platinum-selling album, *Rags to Rufus*, earned Chaka her first GRAMMY Award. With Chaka as the group's dynamic center, Rufus became one of the most popular acts around selling out shows throughout the country and dominating the airwaves with hit after hit with songs such as "You Got the Love," which Chaka co-wrote, "Once You Get Started," "Sweet Thing," "Everlasting Love," "Do You Love What You Feel?" and "Ain't Nobody," Chaka's second GRAMMY Award-winning song with Rufus. Rufus and Chaka Khan racked up five RIAA certified gold and platinum albums during their time together.



2021 NATIONAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT LEGACY AWARD

Phillip Bailey

Philip Bailey began singing in church as a child in his native Denver. He remained in his hometown for college, studying at Metropolitan State University and the University of Colorado. During this period, Bailey played in a band called Friends & Love.

They opened for Earth, Wind & Fire, whose Maurice White consequently invited Bailey -- and eventually the singer and percussionist's bandmate, saxophonist Andrew Woolfolk -- to be part of his group's overhauled lineup.

Bailey joined in time to cut the third EW&F album, *Last Days and Time* (1972), and took on a greater role in the following *Head to the Sky* (1973), co-writing "Evil" and fronting "Keep Your Head to the Sky," the band's first two singles to peak within the Top 25 of the R&B chart.

Bailey became an integral component of EW&F, an electrifying live act with remarkably consistent commercial and critical success.

From the mid-'70s through the early '80s, Bailey co-wrote and was showcased on some of their signature songs, including the Top 40 pop hit "Devotion" and the number one pop and R&B single "Shining Star," which went gold and won the band their first Grammy for Best R&B Performance.

Bailey co-wrote and fronted "Reasons," a show stopper rivaled only by the Isley Brothers' "Footsteps in the Dark" as the era's finest, well-known ballad not released as an A-side.

Bailey also founded Music is Unity, a leading non-profit that focuses on youth aging out of foster care.

Since 2007 MIU has provided grants to non-profit, community-based organizations and agencies offering supportive services to the over 23,000 youth who are emancipating from the U.S. Foster Care system each year.



2021 NATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

Scotty Barnhart

In the history of Jazz music, there is only one bandleader that has the distinction of having his orchestra still performing sold out concerts all over the world, with members personally chosen by him, for over 30 years after his passing.

Pianist and bandleader William James “Count” Basie was and still is an American institution that personifies the grandeur and excellence of Jazz.

The Count Basie Orchestra, today directed by Scotty Barnhart, has won every respected jazz poll in the world at least once, won 18 Grammy Awards, performed for Kings, Queens, and other world Royalty, appeared in several movies, television shows, at every major jazz festival and major concert hall in the world.

The Count Basie Orchestra is one of the most prominent jazz performing groups of the swing era, founded by Count Basie in 1935 and surviving long past the Big Band era itself and the death of Basie in 1984.

Under the direction of trumpeter Scotty Barnhart since 2013, the Orchestra continues to adapt the Basie sound to the modern era, while staying true to its signature sound.

Scotty Barnhart is an internationally acclaimed Jazz trumpeter, composer, arranger, educator, author, producer, two-time Grammy winner and Director of the Count Basie Orchestra.

Whether performing as a featured soloist and directing the Count Basie Orchestra in venues all over the world for three decades, playing muted solos behind legends Frank Sinatra, Cab Calloway, Joe Williams, Rosemary Clooney, or Tony Bennett, appearing with pianist Marcus Roberts at Carnegie Hall, giving lectures at universities in South Africa, Japan, Europe, and all over the United States, or leading his own quintet at major Jazz festivals and night clubs, musicians and critics alike have acknowledged Scotty Barnhart as an exciting and powerful voice in the world of Jazz.



2021 NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

*The Reverend
Dr. Starksy Wilson*

Dr. Starksy Wilson is a national thought leader in racial justice, community organizing, and movement building. He is a champion for children's rights and has a longstanding relationship with the Children's Defense Fund, having led the effort to bring the CDF Freedom Schools literacy and empowerment program to serve children and families in the St. Louis area and serving as a leader of the annual CDF Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry.

In the wake of the 2014 shooting of teenager Michael Brown, Dr. Wilson co-chaired the Ferguson Commission, which released the 'Forward Through Ferguson: A Path Toward Racial Equity' report calling for sweeping changes in policing, the criminal justice system, child well-being and economic mobility.

Marian Wright Edelman brought Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision to the movement to end child poverty. Now, entering a new chapter of the struggle for equality and justice in America, the CDF said it's incredibly honored to follow the leadership of Dr. Wilson to guarantee the rights of all children.

The CDF works with Congress and the federal government to advocate for federal policies that improve children's lives.

The organization also advocate at the state level, pushing for policy reforms through our six state offices that collectively represent nearly 40 percent of all children living in poverty in America.

And the CDF trains and equip young people, faith communities, decision makers and community organizations to become local advocates for children across the country.

After four decades of advocacy, CDF officials said they know that changing the system to better serve our children takes time – and there are children across America who need help now.

The CDF runs programs that change the odds for children like CDF Freedom Schools, which reach more than 12,000 children every year, empowering them to excel today and make a difference tomorrow.

And because the CDF's Freedom Schools are staffed primarily by college students of color, the organization is building two generations of change-makers at the same time.

For more than 40 years, the Children's Defense Fund has been fiercely independent and unwavering in its defense against any attack on children.

The CDF continues to work every day, at every level and on behalf of every child to improve their lives right now and for generations to come.

Dr. Wilson began his tenure as President and CEO in December 2020.



2021 NATIONAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT LEGACY AWARD

Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett

Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett, one of the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) lead scientists, has joined Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health as an assistant professor.

Dr. Corbett is most widely known for playing an integral role in the development of Moderna's coronavirus vaccine, which has proven to be up to 94.1% effective, according to the CDC.

Dr. Corbett's work has earned praise from luminaries in medicine and government alike, from NIAID Director Anthony Fauci, and president of the National Medical Association Oliver Brooks, to President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris.

As a young, Black female scientist, Dr. Corbett has used her national platform to address lingering vaccine hesitancy, or as she calls it, "vaccine inquisitiveness," in the Black

community and reassure skeptics of its safety and efficacy by speaking virtually at churches and other community organizations. She hopes to continue these community outreach efforts in Boston.

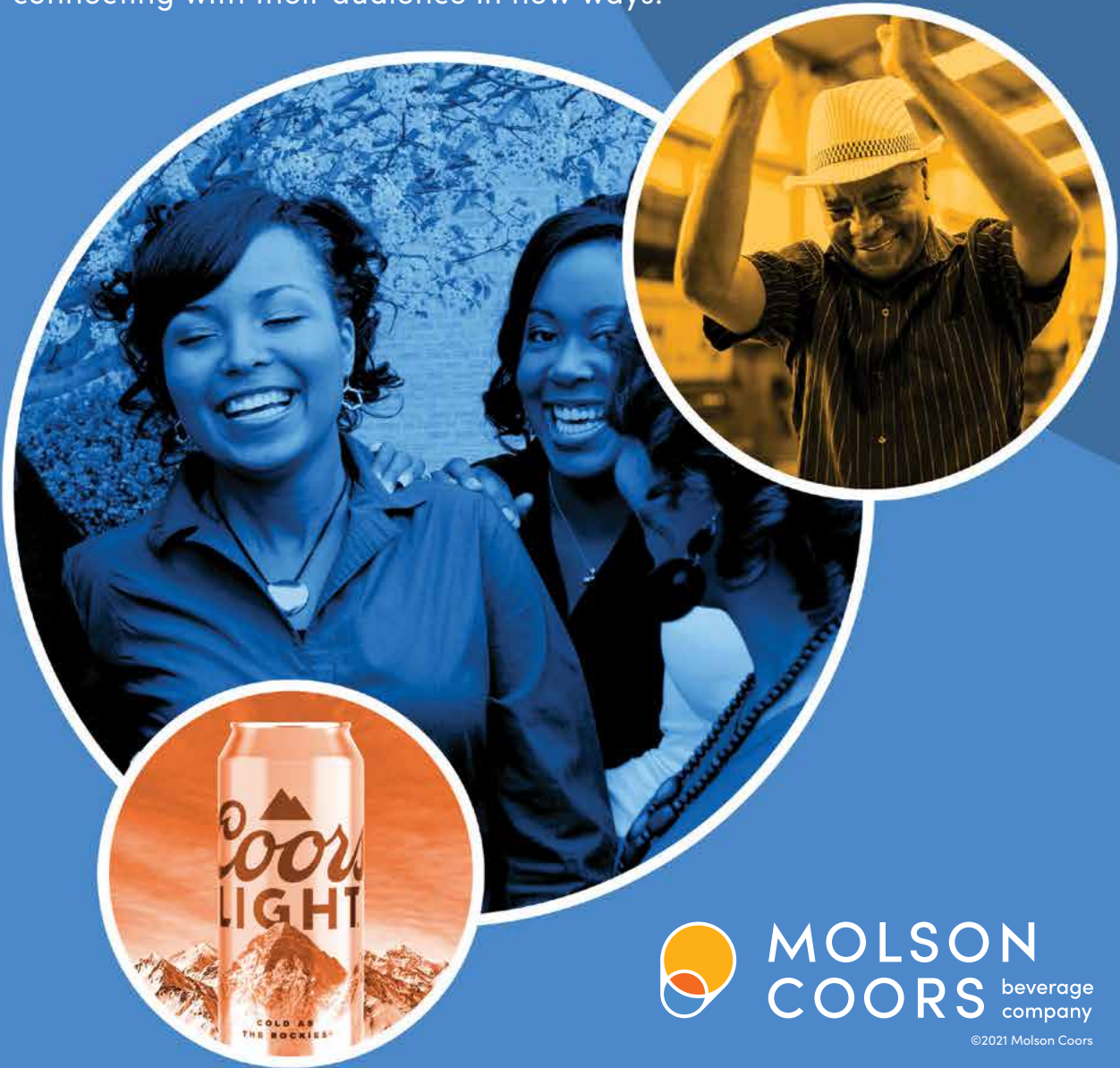
A native of North Carolina, Dr. Corbett, 35, spent six years as a research fellow and the scientific lead for the Coronavirus Vaccines Team at the Vaccine Research Center's Viral Pathogenesis Laboratory.

In 2008, she received a BS in biological sciences, with a secondary major in sociology, from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, where she was a Robert and Jane Meyerhoff and NIH undergraduate scholar.

Dr. Corbett obtained her PhD in microbiology and immunology from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2014.

UNITING TOGETHER TO TELL OUR STORIES

We're proud to be a partner of the NNPA Fund for more than 30 years and to serve as sponsor of the Messenger Awards. We know how important the black press is to telling the black community's stories through their newspaper and digital platforms and we celebrate the honorees who are connecting with their audience in new ways.



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CHAKA
KHAN

CANDICE
HOYES





WELCOME TO OUR NEW SITE



CommunityEnergyCenter.org will Educate the Public about Energy Empowerment among Diverse Communities

Diverse communities not only will be shaped by an evolving energy sector, they will shape it. Our new website – CommunityEnergyCenter.org – welcomes perspectives from commentators and journalists from publications in diverse communities to promote a deeper understanding of how energy and economic matters play a role in daily life. This new content hub will educate diverse communities to explore job opportunities and participate in the energy sector's growth and vitality.

Visit www.communityenergycenter.org to learn more.



The Community Energy Center, a cooperative with the National Newspaper Publishers Association and National Association of Hispanic Publications Media, will provide information and perspectives on the integral role of the energy sector in daily life for American families in a wide range of communities.



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VIRTUAL NNPA 2021 ANNUAL CONVENTION



NNPA STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

NNPA Strategic Alliances

African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME)

American Association Of Blacks In Energy (AABE)

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Black News Channel

The Impact Network

Minority Media And Telecommunications Council (MMTC)

National Action Network (NAN)

National Association For The Advancement Of Colored People (NAACP)

National Association Of Black Journalists (NABJ)

National Association Of Hispanic Publications (NAHP)

National Association For Equal Opportunity In Higher Education (NAFEO)

National Association Of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB)

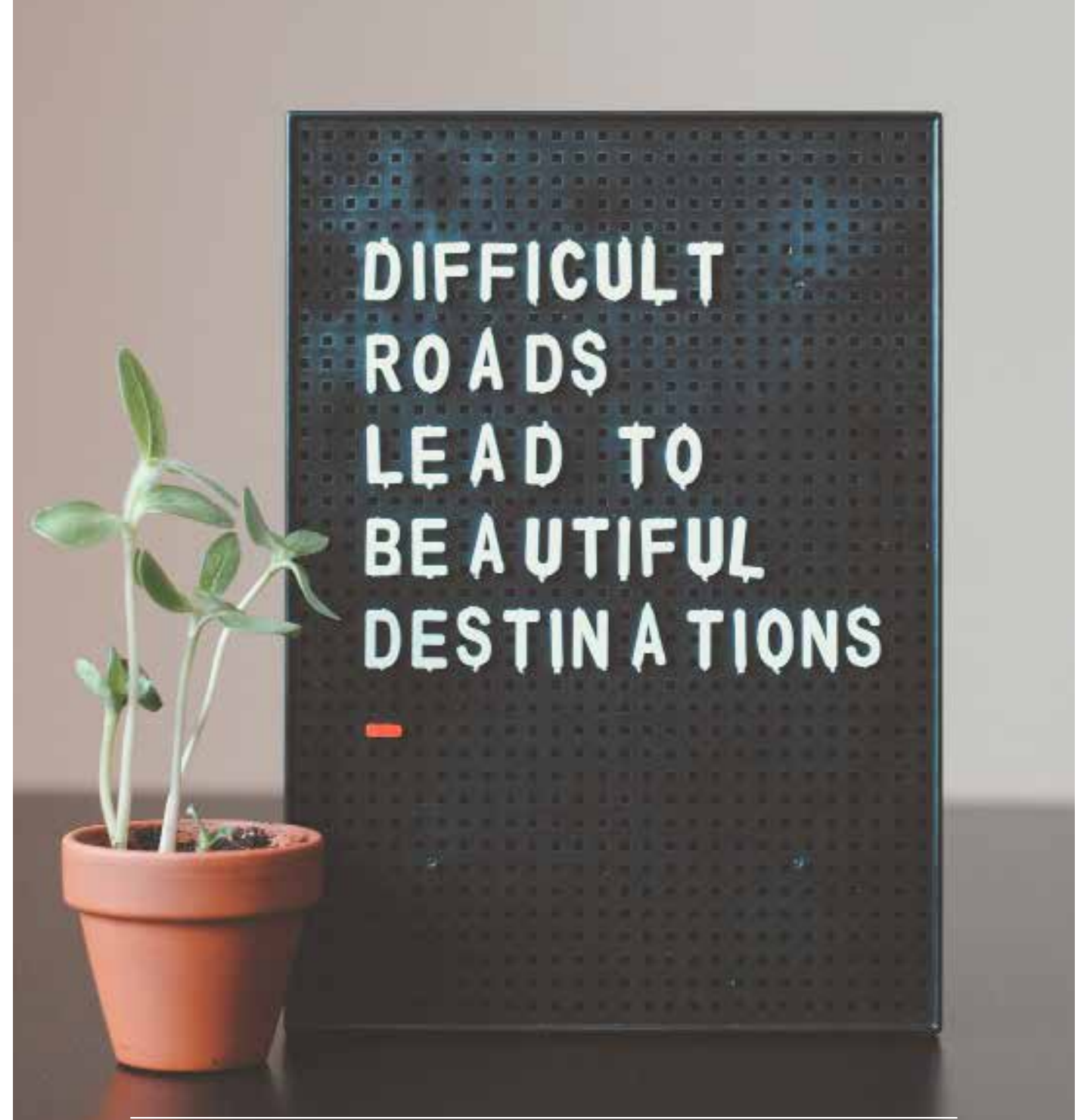
National Bar Association

National Pan-Hellenic Council

Rainbow Push Coalition

United Negro College Fund (UNCF)

Zenger News Agency

A photograph of a small green plant in a terracotta pot next to a black sign with white text. The sign has a grid of small holes and the text "DIFFICULT ROADS LEAD TO BEAUTIFUL DESTINATIONS" in a bold, sans-serif font. A small red horizontal line is visible below the text on the sign.

DIFFICULT
ROADS
LEAD TO
BEAUTIFUL
DESTINATIONS



Our design team proudly supports the
National Newspaper Publishers Association
in its continued endeavor to be the voice
of our communities.



Diversity, Equity,
and Inclusion are
our foundations
for innovation
and drive our
business forward.

Dana Wilson, SVP,
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Black Press of America

MAKING IMPACT AND PROGRESS

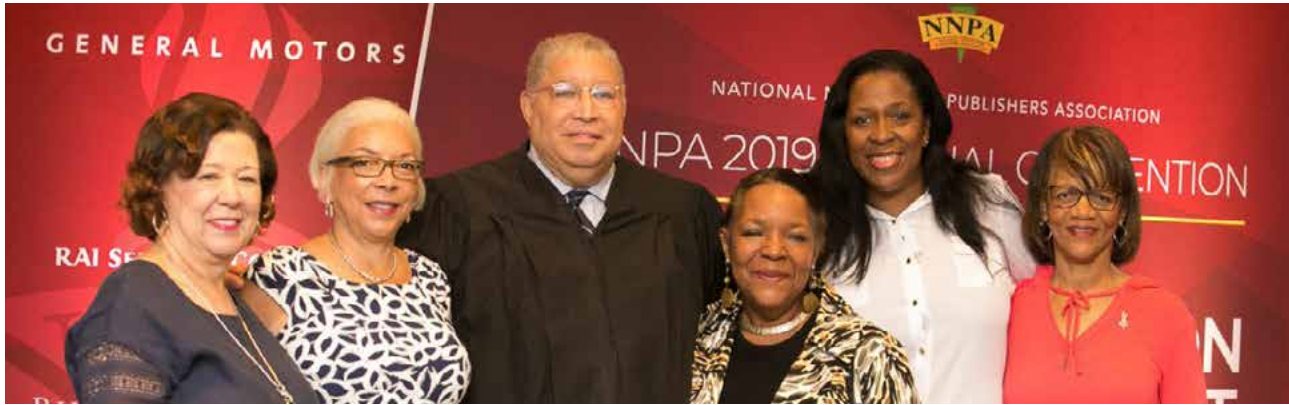


Photo Caption: Thanks to an experienced and dedicated all-women Executive Committee who ascended to lead the national trade association, the NNPA stunningly has enjoyed perhaps the most successful and productive years in its history.

Two years ago, the National Newspaper Publishers Association enthusiastically elected a new National Chair and an Executive Committee with the promise of moving the organization to new heights and re-invigorating the Black Press of America as the trusted voice of Black communities across the nation. Less than a year into their two-year term, the world was confronted with the first global pandemic in 100 years – COVID-19.

Businesses shuttered, tens of millions of individuals fell ill, and nearly 4 million died. Black businesses, in particular, were decimated. Throughout the 81-year history of the NNPA and 194 years of the Black Press of America, African Americans have remained strong, executing steadfast resilience in the face of adversity and racism. Thanks to an experienced and dedicated all-women Executive Committee who ascended to lead the national trade association, the NNPA has enjoyed perhaps two of the most successful and productive years in its history.

“Despite the pandemic, the Black Press of America is moving forward, and I’m so thankful that we have these Black women leaders who each stand for the elegance, integrity, vision, and success that Black America is known for,” NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. exclaimed.

“This is the best executive team the NNPA has had in years. The organization is probably in a better financial situation in 2021 than we have been in the last three decades,” Dr. Chavis added.

The NNPA’s executive includes: National Chair Karen Carter Richards of the Houston Forward Times, First Vice-Chair Janis Ware of the Atlanta Voice, Second Vice Chair Fran Farrer of the County News in Charlotte, National Secretary Jackie Hampton of the Mississippi Link in Jackson, MS and National Treasurer Brenda Andrews of the New Journal & Guide in Norfolk, VA.

“The NNPA is a big part of my life,” Richards explained. “I didn’t join the NNPA. I was born into the NNPA.”

“I’ve been serving the NNPA for 40 years, right after I finished college and my father sent me to the first conference,” Ware recalled. “It was so impressive to see so many African American business owners in one place. I couldn’t be happier that I made that decision and commitment to the NNPA.”

Hampton remarked that it had been her greatest honor to serve as NNPA secretary, a comment echoed by Fran Farrer, the second vice-chair.

“I was so happy to be a part of this organization, and I have learned so much,” Hampton stated.

“It’s been my greatest honor to set aside the time necessary to give back to an organization that has done so much for me,” she said.

Added Farrer: “The strength of the Black women in leadership and in other areas can never be underestimated and I’m so proud of what we’ve been able to accomplish as the Executive Committee.”

While 2020 proved challenging for Brenda Andrews and the New Journal & Guide, she noted how she and her team managed to overcome some of the most challenging times the world has seen.

“We were able to re-establish ourselves, and we were also able to recruit and solicit new advertising based around the pandemic and the health crisis,” Andrews stated.

While about 37,000 workers were laid off or furloughed at media companies like the Los Angeles Times, Condé Nast, The Dallas Morning News, Gannett, McClatchy, National Public Radio, and VOX, the NNPA added staff and expanded services to NNPA member publishers across the nation.

Buoyed by Dr. Chavis’ special on-camera interview in Charleston, South Carolina, with then Presidential candidate Joe Biden, the NNPA embarked on nationally televised livestreams.

Each week, the NNPA reached tens of thousands of viewers as it introduced the world to its publishers and business owners during the broadcasts.

The NNPA livestream broadcasts reached another level when its senior national correspondent, Stacy Brown, recruited A-list superstars to appear on the social media channels of the Black Press.

An interview with Reggae superstar Ziggy Marley garnered a live audience of more than 168,000 and reached several million overall at Facebook.com/BlackPressUSA/Videos, and YouTube.com/c/BlackPressUSATV.

Temptations founder Otis Williams, songstress Stephanie Mills, hip-hop icons Ice Cube, Chuck D, LL Cool J, and Russell Simmons also made appearances.

Members of Congress and the Senate made appearances, including then-Congressional Black Caucus Chair Karen Bass (D-Calif.), Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.), Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-New York), then-Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.), and Sen. Chuck Schumer.

Basketball legends Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Isiah Thomas, and Kareem Abdul Jabbar, and Attorney Joey Jackson, Rapper DMC, comedian Sinbad, and boxing icon Sugar Ray Leonard also joined the livestreams for interviews and shout outs to the NNPA during its annual conference.

Some of the appearances the NNPA's senior national correspondent recruited, like that of Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban, led to direct business and advertising sales for some members of the NNPA.

The following is a list that highlights the outstanding NNPA progress and accomplishments during the past two years:

- In January 2020, the NNPA hosted a high-tech consultation at the NNPA national office that included executives of Google, Local Media Association (LMA), and Association of Alternative News (AAN) that resulted in the over \$1 million ad buys from Google for NNPA member publications to date, college student internships for NNPA member publications, and 18 NNPA member newspapers selected for Google News Initiative (GNI) "Google Ad Lab Transformation Program" Phase One in 2021. Phase Two will be in 2022 for the Google GNI that will extend more opportunities for NNPA member publications.
- Also, in January 2020, the NNPA established a partnership with Facebook that resulted in the sponsorship of NNPA conferences, grant funding of training programs for the NNPA Fund for \$140,000 in 2021, and a limited NNPA ad buy for member publications. Currently, the NNPA is negotiating with Facebook about increasing its ad buys with NNPA member publications in 2021 and 2022.
- In 2020, for the first time in the organization's history, NNPA-negotiated print corporate sponsorships and advertising buys for NNPA member publications exceeded \$20 million. This includes ad buys from the U.S. Census and political ads.
- The NNPA Executive Committee and other NNPA member publishers in March 2020 participated in the historic NNPA in-person exclusive live televised interview with former Vice President Joe Biden in Charleston, South Carolina on the eve of the 2020 South Carolina Presidential Primary Election where Biden pledged to support the Black Press of America as the next President of the United States
- For the first time in the history of the NNPA, the NNPA's public news portal, <http://www.blackpressusa.com> delivered achieved the milestone

of 3 million pageviews per month in January of 2020

- NNPA's Digital Network increased delivery of digital advertising opportunities, generating additional revenue for NNPA member publications in each of the NNPA's five regions in 2020
- In 2020, the NNPA established and has maintained the NNPA COVID-19 Pandemic Task Force and was the first national news association to declare, based on the available scientific data, that COVID was an "airborne infectious disease" that was disproportionately deadly impacting Black America
- The Virtual NNPA 2020 Annual National Convention in July 2020 hit a record 100,000 pageviews a dramatic increase over the number of in-person attendees that have comprised the audience when the event was held in physical locations
- The Virtual NNPA 2020 National Leadership Awards Reception in September 2020 had an additional 351,000 pageviews
- In January 2021, the NNPA launched a daily, Monday through Friday, early morning livestream video news show, "Let It Be Known" hosted by Stacy Brown, NNPA Senior National News Correspondent at 7:30 AM Eastern Time that attracts a growing national and international audience and engagement on behalf of the Black Press of America
- NNPA's national membership has today increased from 200 to 230 Black-owned newspapers and media companies in 2021
- In 2021, a record number of 122 NNPA publishers paid their annual membership dues in the first two quarters of the year
- The NNPA in 2021 became an official member of The White House Correspondents Association (WHCA)
- The NNPA in 2021 has negotiated a "strategic alliance" with the U.S. Department of Commerce Small Business Association (SBA) to strengthen African American-owned businesses and to help member newspapers and other African American-owned businesses recover from the negative impact of COVID-19. The SBA will be a presenter at the Virtual NNPA 2021 Annual National Convention
- The NNPA in 2021 has negotiated a "strategic alliance" with the S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) to assist in the national dissemination of accurate and factual information about COVID-19 to Black America and to other communities of color. The CDC will also be presenting at the Virtual NNPA 2021 Annual National Convention.

"The NNPA has made unprecedented progress under the leadership of Chair Karen Carter Richards and the NNPA Executive Committee, as well as with the dedication of all 17 members of the NNPA Board of Directors," Dr. Chavis stated.

"As our nation and world continue to struggle to end the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the truth is there are more opportunities today for the advancement of the Black Press of America via the NNPA than ever before."

Dr. Chavis continued:

"It continues to be my honor to work directly with the dynamic group of African American women publisher-leaders who currently serve in the important executive board leadership positions. My prayer is that God will continue to bless the Black Press with success, sustainability, and experienced leadership."

Great Britain's First Black Studies Professor **WANTS** **TO UNITE THE** **DIASPORA**



Photo Caption: "With 'The New Age of Empire,' I wanted to start with the very beginning of this thing called the West in 1492. This period marks the start of the largest genocide in human history, which in turn led to the enslavement of Africa and the evolution of colonial violence," Andrews remarked.

Kehinde Andrews grew up as a child of the British Black Power movement. A professor of Black Studies in the School of Social Sciences at Birmingham City University in Great Britain, Andrews, said both parents were heavily involved in the 1970s movement. "Both my parents were heavily involved. We also had the Saturday Schools, which were formed as supplemental learning because the racism was so bad, even in elementary school," Andrews, who counts as the United Kingdom's first Black Studies Professor told the nonprofit Truthout. "It was not until the mid-1960s that Britain started to have large numbers of Black children in the schools here. But since the educational setting and curriculum were so colonial in their views and teachings – so anti-Black, anti-Caribbean, and anti-African – we made our own schools on the weekends," Andrews continued in his conversation with Truthout.

He said those supplementary schools were not just for Black history and culture. "Those same schools also included math and English because a lot of Black children weren't receiving any education at all," Andrews asserted. "The Saturday Schools are definitely where my calling first began. Black Studies may be new here in the formal sense, but our resistance has always been present." The co-editor of "Blackness in Britain," and director of the Center for Critical Social Research, Andrews, has called on the African diaspora to unite.

In a follow-up to his 2018 book, "Back to Black: Retelling Black Radicalism for the 21st Century," Andrews has penned, "The New Age of Empire: How Racism and Colonialism Still Rule the World." "With 'The New Age of Empire,' I wanted to start with the very beginning of this thing called the West in 1492. This period marks the start of the largest genocide in human history, which in turn led to the enslavement of Africa and the evolution of colonial violence," Andrews remarked.

"One of the things I wanted to drive home is this connection of colonial violence that makes capitalism possible. Without this history of colonial violence, not only is capitalism not possible, neither is White supremacy and the industrialization of Europe as we currently know it." According to the book's editors, the professor and historian "take the reader from genocide to slavery to colonialism, deftly explaining the histories of these phenomena, how their justifications are linked, and how they continue to shape our world to this day." The editors contend that "The New Age of Empire" is a damning indictment of White-centered ideologies from Marxism to neoliberalism and a reminder that our histories are never really over. "I also wanted to show how this history still shapes what the West is today," Andrews insisted.

"To our oppressors, the same Black life that was disposable 500 years ago is just as disposable in 2021 – from the U.K. to the U.S., from the Caribbean to the continent of Africa."

By Stacy M. Brown

NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

@StacyBrownMedia

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[VOL. I. No. 3.]

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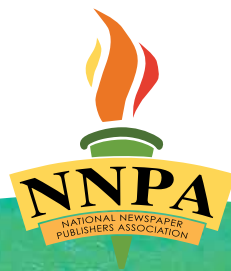
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NNPA CONFERENCE CALENDAR

NNPA 2021 Virtual National Leadership Reception

September 29-30, 2021

www.virtualnnpa2021.com

NNPA 2022 Mid-Winter Training Conference

January 26-29, 2022

TBD

NNPAF 2022 Black Press Week

March 16-18, 2022

TBD

NNPA 2022 Annual Convention

New Orleans, LA

June 21-25, 2022

Hotel TBD

NNPA 2022 National Leadership Awards Reception

September 29-30, 2022

TBD

A portrait of Nina Turner, a Black woman with short dark hair, wearing red-rimmed glasses, a white collared shirt, and a dark blue blazer. She is smiling and looking towards the camera.

Nina Turner

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**“Congratulations to the
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may the stories you tell
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- Nina Turner -

A dark blue silhouette of the state of Ohio.

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 Greene County Democrat
 Mobile Beacon
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ARIZONA

Arizona Informant

CALIFORNIA

Bakersfield News Observer
 Black & Magazine
 California Voice
 Compton Bulletin
 Inglewood Today
 LA Focus on The Word, Inc.
 LA Watts Times
 Los Angeles Sentinel Newspaper
 Oakland Post
 Our Weekly - LA
 Our Weekly - Antelope Valley
 Precinct Reporter Group
 San Francisco Bay View
 San Francisco Sun Reporter
 The California Advocate Newspaper
 The Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley and Latino Journal
 News The Sacramento Observer
 The San Bernardino American News
 The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint
 Tri-County Sentry
 Black Voice
 Los Angeles Wave - Culver City Star
 Los Angeles Wave- East Edition
 Los Angeles Wave - Herald American
 Los Angeles Wave - Los Angeles Independent

Los Angeles Wave- Lynwood Press
 Los Angeles Wave - Northeast Edition
 Los Angeles Wave - The Press
 Los Angeles Wave - West Edition

COLORADO

Denver Weekly News

CONNECTICUT

The Inner-City News
 Inquiring News

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Afro-American Newspaper (Wash DC) Diaspora
 Today Magazine
 The Washington Informer
 Walls & Associates

FLORIDA

Capital Outlook
 Daytona Times
 Florida Courier
 Florida Sentinel Bulletin
 Jacksonville Free Press
 Orlando Advocate
 The Pensacola Voice
 South Florida Times
 The Florida Star Newspaper
 The Florida Sun
 The Miami Times
 The Orlando Times, Inc.
 Westside Gazette

GEORGIA

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta Inquirer
Atlanta Tribune
The Courier Eco Latino
CrossRoadsNews
Macon Telegraph
Metro Courier
Savannah Herald
The Albany Southwest Georgian
The Atlanta Voice
The Columbus Times Newspaper Rolling Out
The Savannah Tribunev

ILLINOIS

Chicago Citizen Newspaper
- Chatham-Southeast
Chicago Citizen Newspaper - Weekend Citizen Chicago
Citizen Newspaper - Hyde Park
Chicago Citizen Newspaper Group
- South Suburban
Chicago Citizen Newspaper Group
- South End Citizen
Chicago Defender
Chicago Standard
Ebony.com
Muslim Journal
The Chicago Crusader
The Final Call Newspaper
The Windy City Word
The Times Weekly

INDIANA

Frost Illustrated
Indiana Herald Newspaper
Indianapolis Recorder
The Gary Crusader

KENTUCKY

Louisville Defender

LOUISIANA

New Orleans Data News Weekly
New Orleans Tribune
The Shreveport Sun
The Louisiana Weekly

MARYLAND

The Annapolis Times
Montgomery County Sentinel
Prince George's Sentinel
The AFRO American Newspaper (Baltimore)
The Baltimore Times

MICHIGAN

Detroit Native Sun
Grand Rapids Time
Michigan Front Page
The Telegram Ecrose
The Michigan Chronicle

MISSOURI

East St. Louis Monitor
Kansas City Call
St. Louis Argus
The Kansas City Globe
The St. Louis American

MISSISSIPPI

Jackson Advocate
The Mississippi Link

NEBRASKA

The Omaha Star

NEW JERSEY

South Jersey Journal
Jersey City Daily Challenge
Newark Daily Challenge
Patterson Passaic Daily Challenge

NEW YORK

Afro Times
Buffalo Criterion
Challenger Community News
Harlem Community News- Bronx
Harlem Community News- Brooklyn
Harlem Community News
Harlem Community News - Queens
Hudson Valley Press
New America of New York
New York Amsterdam News

New York Beacon
The New York Carib News
New York Daily Challenge
The Westchester County Press

NORTH CAROLINA

Carolina Call
Fayetteville Press
Greater Diversity News
The Carolina Peacemaker
The Carolina Times
The Carolinian
The Charlotte Post
The County News The Drum
The Triangle Tribune
The Wilmington Journal
Urban News
Winston-Salem Chronicle

OHIO

Buckeye Review
Call & Post
City News
Columbus Post
Communicator News
Dayton Defender
The Cincinnati Herald
The Reporter
The Sojourner Truth
The Toledo Journal

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma Eagle
The Black Chronicle

OREGON

The Portland Observer
The Portland Skanner

PENNSYLVANIA

New Pittsburgh Courier
Philadelphia Observer
Philadelphia Tribune

SOUTH CAROLINA

The Charleston Chronicle
The Community Times Newspaper

TENNESSEE

The Christian Recorder / AME Church Memphis
Silver Star News
The Nashville Pride
The New Tri-State Defender
The Tennessee Tribune

TEXAS

African American News & Issues
African News Digest
A King Size View
The Dallas Examiner
Dallas Weekly
D-Mars.com
East Texas Review
Garland Journal
Houston Defender
Houston Forward Times
Houston Style Magazine
I-Messenger.com
La Vida News - The Black Voice
NOKOA, The Observer
North Dallas Gazette
San Antonio Observer
Southwest Digest
Texas Informer
Texas Metro News
The Dallas Post Tribune
The Villager Newspaper

VIRGINIA

Legacy Newspaper
New Journal & Guide
Richmond Free Press

WASHINGTON

The Metro Homemaker
Seattle Medium
The Tacoma True Citizen
The Seattle Skanner

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee Community Journal
Milwaukee Courier
The Madison Times Weekly
The Milwaukee Times Weekly Newspaper



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