

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NBNA Announces 2022 Trailblazer Award Winners

Best of the Best in Nursing Honored at 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Chicago on July 26 - 31

**SILVER SPRING, MD, (July 13, 2022)** - The National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) is honored to reveal the winners of the 2022 NBNA Trailblazer Awards - a prestigious honor that recognizes exemplary leadership and innovation in nursing education, practice, research, advocacy and community engagements. The reception to honor the awardees will be held during the 50<sup>th</sup> NBNA Annual Institute and Conference Awards Ceremony on Saturday, July 30, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. CST.



The theme of this year's conference is "***Bridging the Gap of Social Injustice and Health Disparities through Excellence in Nursing Practice, Education, and Research.***"

Selected by the NBNA President, the NBNA Trailblazer Award recognizes an individual whose character places her/him in a position of leadership. It is given to individuals that have made an impact in the nursing profession and outstanding community, state, and national service in health care business, education, philanthropy, education, and science.

*"It is an honor to announce the three winners of this year's 2022 NBNA Trailblazer Awards - all of whom do vital work in the nursing industry and within our communities to ensure inclusivity, innovation, and forward thinking in the profession," states Dr. Martha A. Dawson, NBNA President. "Overall, the healthcare industry continues to evolve; therefore, we need exceptional leaders that are up for the challenge and do more than just talk the talk - but can walk the walk and inspire others to come along with them as they forge new pathways to benefit others. That's the true definition of a Trailblazer and this year's list of awardees are nothing short of exceptional. Congratulations to our honorees!"*

### 2022 Trailblazer Honorees:



**Carol Jenkins-Neil, PhD, RN** is currently a Professor of Nursing in the RN to BSN program at Florida State College at Jacksonville, President of the First Coast Black Nurses Association, Lifetime Member of the National Black Nurses Association, and chairs the NBNA Population Health Committee. She was the recipient of the 2020 Nurse of the Year for Community Service. Dr. Neil has written grants and received funding to address issues in her local community. Most recently, she assisted her chapter in receiving \$250,000 to support engagement during and post the COVID pandemic. Her community outreach includes collaboration with Jacksonville Medical Association, Urban League, Hispanic Nurses Association, health systems, and many other partners in the health care space.



**Kenya Beard, EdD, AGACNP-BC, CNE, ANEF, FAAN** is Associate Provost at Chamberlain University. Her vision of strengthening the preparedness of nurse educators to advance social mission has resulted in Chamberlain University creating the first National Nurse Faculty Residency program in the country. Dr. Beard is the Chair of the New York State Board of Nursing and leads efforts to advance policies and practices that protect the public and ensure the professional preparation of nurses. She is a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine, the American Academy of Nursing, and the Academy of Nursing Education. She is an editorial board member for the American Journal of Nursing and is Chair of the American Academy of Nursing's Diversity and Inclusivity Committee. She served as an Advisory Board Member for the New York Academy of Medicine Health Equity Scholars and co-authored the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) Perspectives *Dismantling Systemic Racism and Advancing Health Equity throughout Research.*

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**Tavell L. Kindall, Ph.D., DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, AACRN, AAHIVS, FAANP** is the Director of HIV Prevention and Treatment at St. Thomas Community Health Center in New Orleans, LA. In this role, he leads the provision of clinical services and care model advancement related to HIV prevention, HIV primary care, sexually transmitted infections, and viral hepatitis. In 2020, he became the first African American male to serve as President of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN). He serves on the Louisiana Commission on HIV and Hepatitis C education, prevention, and treatment, and served on the Louisiana COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force. Most recently, Dr. Kindall became the eighth African American male to be inducted as a Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

Expecting more than 800 nurses and nursing students to attend, more information about the conference and a detailed agenda is located at <https://www.nbna.org/conf>.

**To read more information about the NBNA Award Program, visit [here](#).**

To join the conversation on social media, follow NBNA on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#) and use the hashtags #NBNAResilient, #NBNA50thConference

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## About the National Black Nurses Association

Founded in 1971, the National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) is a professional organization representing over 499,000 African American registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses, and nursing students in 111 chapters and 32 states, plus the District of Columbia. The NBNA mission is “to serve as the voice for Black nurses and diverse populations ensuring equal access to professional development, promoting educational opportunities and improving health.” NBNA chapter members offer voluntary hours providing health education and screenings to community residents in collaboration with community-based partners, including faith-based organizations, civic, fraternal, hospitals, and schools of nursing. For more information, visit [nbna.org](http://nbna.org). Follow us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#)! #NBNAResilient, #NBNA50thConference