



National Black Nurses Association, Inc.
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NBNA Announces 2026 Conference Keynote Speakers

Silver Spring, MD – The National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) is proud to announce the keynote speakers for its upcoming 54th Annual Institute and Conference, taking place in Saint Louis, MO from July 28 - August 2, 2026.

Opening Keynote Address – Cori Anika Bush

Cori Anika Bush is a politician, nurse, pastor, and Black Lives Matter activist who served as the U.S. representative for Missouri's 1st congressional district from 2021 to 2025 and is currently running to reclaim her seat. She is the first African American woman to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives from Missouri. She will deliver the opening keynote address during the conference's opening ceremony on Thursday, July 30, 2026.

Closing Keynote Address – Dr. Angela Amar, PhD, RN, FADLN, FAAN

Dr. Angela Amar, President-Elect of the American Academy of Nursing and Professor and Dean in the Rory Meyers College of Nursing at New York University, will deliver the closing keynote address during the conference's official closing Brunch Ceremony on Sunday, August 2, 2026.

“Both of these extraordinary leaders have worked to advance healthcare issues from a justice, equity, diversity, and inclusive perspective, and we are fortunate to have them both address the conference attendees this year,” said Dr. Sheldon D. Fields, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, AACRN, FNAP, FAANP, FADLN, FAAN, 14th President & CEO of NBNA.

NBNA's Annual Institute and Conference is the premier event for Black nurses, bringing together nursing professionals, students, and health care leaders for education, networking, and community building. The 54th Annual Institute & Conference will be held July 28 – August 2, 2026, at the St. Louis Union Station Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri. This year's conference theme, "Gateway to Health Equity: Advancing Innovation, Justice and Leadership in Nursing," and registration is still open. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://nbna.org/news-events/conference/>.

About NBNA

Founded in 1971, the mission of NBNA 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 represents over 350,000 black registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses, nursing students and retired nurses from the USA, Eastern Caribbean, and Africa, through 111 chartered chapters, in 34 states and the District of Columbia. Learn more at NBNA.org.