



National Black Nurses Association, Inc.
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National Black Nurses Association Announces 2026 Scholarship and Awards Recipients Honoring Excellence in Nursing Leadership, Scholarship, Research, Service, and Health Equity

Silver Spring, Md. — The **National Black Nurses Association (NBNA)** proudly announces the recipients of its **2026 Scholarships and National Awards**, recognizing outstanding nurses, nursing students, chapters, and leaders whose commitment to excellence continues to advance the nursing profession and improve health outcomes in communities across the nation.

The recipients will be recognized during the **54th Annual Institute & Conference**, 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,"** celebrates those who are transforming healthcare through leadership, education, advocacy, research, and compassionate care.

2026 NBNA Scholarship Recipients

Dr. Lauranne Sams Scholarship (\$1,000): Four \$ 1,000 scholarships, which is named for the Founder and First President of the NBNA, Dr. Lauranne Sams, have a proud and distinguished legacy. The recipient must be an individual who truly represents the leadership, commitment to service and the scholarship of Dr. Sams. The Dr. Lauranne Sams Scholarship is awarded to qualified NBNA members based on their scholastic achievement, financial need, community service and pursuing a baccalaureate or advanced nursing degrees.

Teneisha Howard
Metroplex Black Nurses Association Dallas



Afshanti Hunter
BNA of Greater St. Louis





Benjamin Njoku
New York Black Nurses Association



Amanuel Nurga
Direct Member



NBNA Board of Directors Scholarship (\$1,500): This scholarship, provided by the NBNA Board of Directors, is awarded to a qualified NBNA member who is pursuing a baccalaureate or advanced nursing degree.

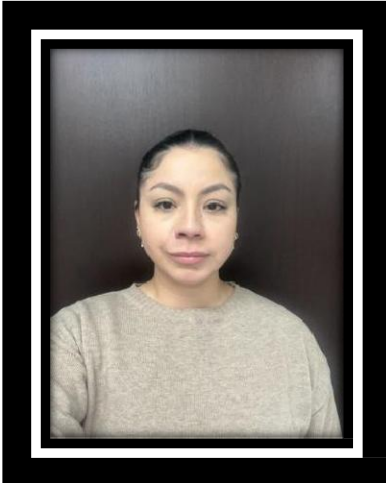
Caroline Otuke
Metroplex Black Nurses Association Dallas





Arizona College Scholarships (\$10,000 each): Arizona College is offering 20 \$10,000 scholarships to students pursuing a baccalaureate nursing degree.

Maheli Bojorquez
Greater Inland Empire Black Nurses Association



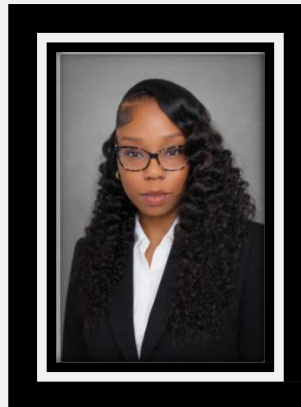
Demetria Brown
Treasure Coast Council of Black Nurses



Shayna Close
Capitol City Black Nurses Association



Cristal Douglas
Greater Fort Lauderdale Broward Chapter of the NBNA





Mekelit Fiseha
Southern Nevada Black Nurses Association



Ayannah Harris
Direct Member
(Not Pictured)

O'llillian Harris
Central Virginia Chapter NBNA



Aaliya Herr
Black Nurses Association of Greater Cincinnati





Kiana Houser
Greater Inland Empire Black Nurses
Association



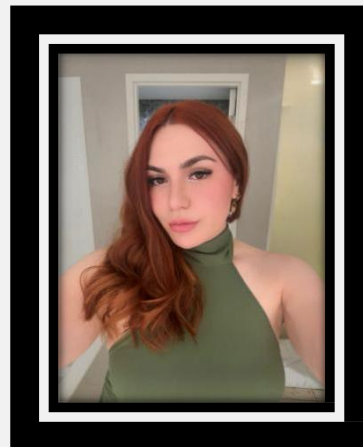
Odell Howell
Black Nurses Association Greater
Phoenix Area



Lovena Jean
Tampa Bay Black Nurses Association

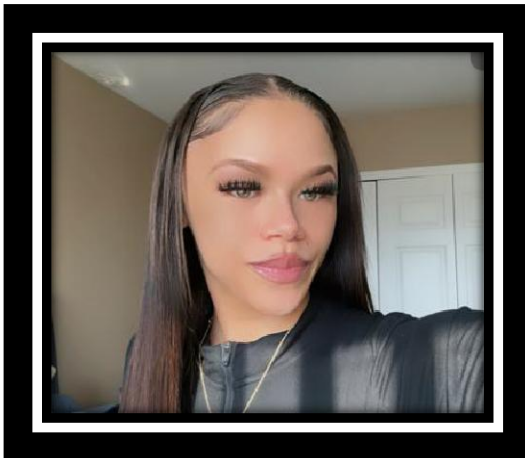


Vania Lopez
Black Nurses Association Greater
Phoenix Area





Christen Masse
Detroit Black Nurses Association



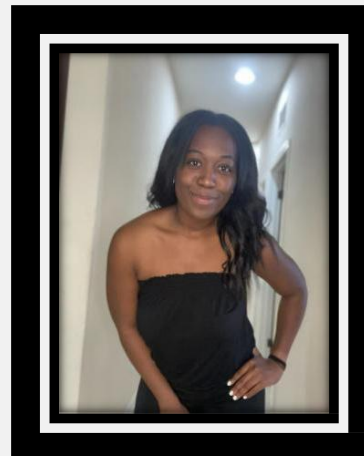
Naomi Orina-Becton
Southeast Texas Black Nurses Association



Eudora Poe
Northern Connecticut Black Nurses Association

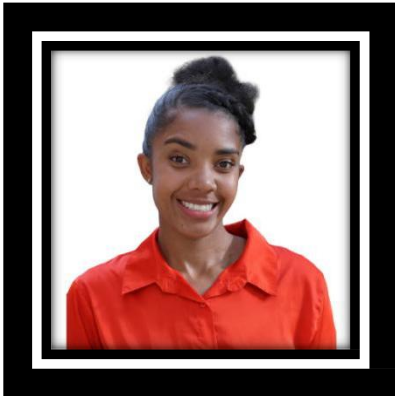


Kyara Renelus
Black Nurses Association Tampa Bay





Jai'Dah Richardson
Direct Member



Dominique Smith
Detroit Black Nurses Association



Raeleigh Thomas
Direct Member



Brandi Victor
Black Nurses Association of Greater Cincinnati





Margaret Pemberton Scholarship (\$4,000): The scholarship is provided by Margaret Pemberton, a member of the Black Nurses Association of Greater Washington, DC Area. This endowed scholarship is awarded to a nursing student from the chapter in the conference's host city.

BaBari Naabien

Black Nurses Association of Greater St. Louis



VITAS Healthcare/Esther Colliflower Scholarship (\$1,500): This scholarship is sponsored by VITAS Healthcare and is awarded to an NBNA nurse or student who is interested in pursuing a career in End-of-Life-Care.

Obna St-Ange

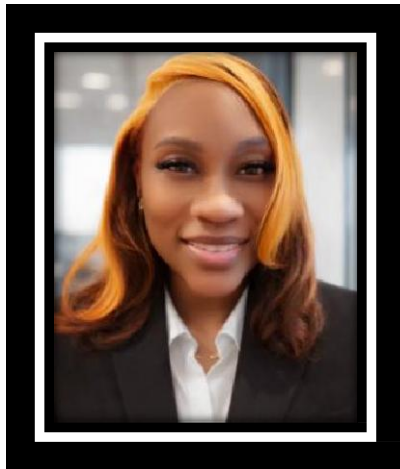
Miami Chapter Black Nurses Association





Maria A. Dudley Advanced Practice Scholarship (\$1,000): This scholarship is provided by Maria A. Dudley to a nurse pursuing a degree as an advanced practice nurse.

Latoya Bumpers
Birmingham Black Nurses Association



Martha R. Dudley LVN Scholarship (\$1,000): The scholarship is sponsored by Maria Dudley, Member, Council of Black Nurses, Los Angeles, in honor of her mother Martha R. Dudley, to a Licensed Vocational Nurse pursuing a Bachelor's degree in nursing.

Olivia LeNoir
Birmingham Black Nurses Association





George E. McGuire Memorial Scholarship (\$4,000): The George McGuire Memorial Scholarship is an endowed scholarship awarded to a nursing student whose focus is Social Justice. The candidate must be a NBNA member for at least two years pursuing a graduate degree in nursing. Mr. McGuire was loyal member of NBNA.

Kianca Fincher
Chicago Chapter NBNA



Lucy Johnson Scholarship (\$1,000): Awarded to one recipient with proven academic excellence in nursing.

Bianca Crenshaw
Birmingham Black Nurses Association





Dr. Millicent Gorham Scholarship (\$3,000): This scholarship is provided by Sandra Evers-Manly in recognition of the work of Dr. (Honorary) Millicent Gorham, NBNA Past Executive Director. The scholarship is awarded to a NBNA student member pursuing a baccalaureate nursing degree.

Paula Mmamelu

New England Regional Black Nurses Association



Dr. Eric J. Williams Scholarship (\$1,000): This scholarship is provided by Sandra Evers-Manly in honor of Dr. Eric J. Williams, the First Male President of the National Black Nurses Association. The scholarship is awarded to a generic associate or baccalaureate nursing student.

Fatoumata Drammeh

New Orleans Black Nurses Association





NBNA Social Justice Scholarship (\$1,000): This scholarship is in the memory of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd and all men and women of color who have died because of racism.

Saphir Jocelyn

New England Regional Black Nurses Association



Abbott Scholarships (\$10,000 each): The Abbott Scholarship Fund provides five scholarships for nursing students including two scholarships for nurse practitioner students and one scholarship for a PhD path student. Selection criteria include interest in primary care, clinical research, and improving diversity clinical trials, financial needs, academic performance, and a desire to serve vulnerable populations.

Kenyatta Beasley (*Nurse Practitioner*)
Piedmont Black Nurses Association-
Charlotte



Alauna Christian
Central Carolina Black Nurses Council





Jessica Coley (*Nurse Practitioner*)
Atlanta Black Nurses Association



Fred Reed (*PhD*)
Memphis-Riverbluff Black Nurses Association



La'Quandria Robinson
Birmingham Black Nurses Association



Timmy Thomas
Hudson Valley New York Black Nurses Association





Victoria Wheaton-Young
San Diego Black Nurses Association



Vanessa Whitton
Northern Connecticut Black Nurses Association



Dorothy B. Martin Scholarship (\$2,000): Dorothy B. Martin Scholarship is to honor her legacy as a committed professional in the field of nursing. This scholarship of \$2,000 is provided to a nursing student from North Carolina, Washington D.C., or Massachusetts pursuing either an undergraduate or graduate degree in nursing that is a member of the National Black Nurses Association. This scholarship is provided by the friends and family of Pamela Martin Green, the daughter of Dorothy B. Martin.

Tymeka Davis
Central Carolina Black Nurses Council





2026 NBNA National Award Recipients

Daisy Chapter President Leadership Award

Dr. Betty Boyle-Duke
Greater New York City Black Nurses Association



Under 40 Awards: To recognize the next generation of nurse leaders who have demonstrated excellence in clinical practice, leadership, and service.

Randall Fortune
Greater New York City Black Nurses Association



De'Lorien Hospedales
Greater New York City Black Nurses Association





Chikilla Parks
Atlanta Black Nurses Association



Lorraine Wilson Batts
Central Carolina Black Nurses Council



NBNA Nurse Researcher Award: To recognize a nurse researcher who has completed an outstanding research study and who has excellent potential to develop and implement a program of research that contributes to the well-being and health care of minorities.

Charleen Jacobs-McFarlane
Greater New York City Black Nurses Association





NBNA Staff Nurse of the Year: To recognize excellence in clinical practice.

De'Aundria Harris

Birmingham Black Nurses Association



NBNA Administrative of the Year: To recognize excellence in clinical practice.

Tiffany Montgomery

Metroplex Black Nurses Association Dallas





NBNA Daisy Health Equity Chapter (Team) Award

Greater New York City Black Nurses Association



Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year

Anthony Young





Nurse of the Year Community Service

Valerie Revolous



NBNA extends its sincere congratulations to each scholarship recipient and award honoree. Their accomplishments reflect the organization's ongoing commitment to fostering excellence in nursing education, leadership, research, clinical practice, and community service. Through the generosity of donors, corporate partners, and endowed scholarship sponsors, NBNA continues to invest in the next generation of nurse leaders while recognizing those making extraordinary contributions to the profession today.

For more information about the National Black Nurses Association and the 54th Annual Institute & Conference, visit **NBNA.org**.

About the National Black Nurses Association

Founded in 1971, NBNA is a professional organization representing more than 308,000 African American registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses, and nursing students through chapters nationwide. NBNA is dedicated to serving as the voice for Black nurses and diverse populations by promoting professional development, educational advancement, leadership, and health equity initiatives that improve the health of communities locally and globally.