



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.

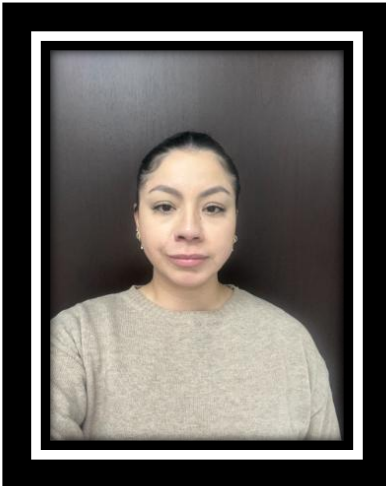
**Caroline Otuke**  
**Metroplex Black Nurses Association Dallas**





**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**



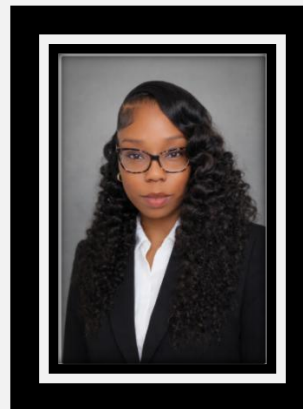
**Demetria Brown**  
**Treasure Coast Council of Black Nurses**



**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**



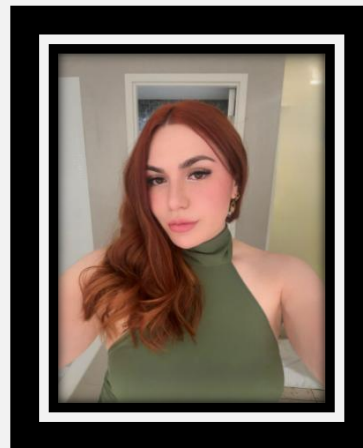
**Odell Howell**  
**Black Nurses Association Greater**  
**Phoenix Area**



**Lovena Jean**  
**Tampa Bay Black Nurses Association**

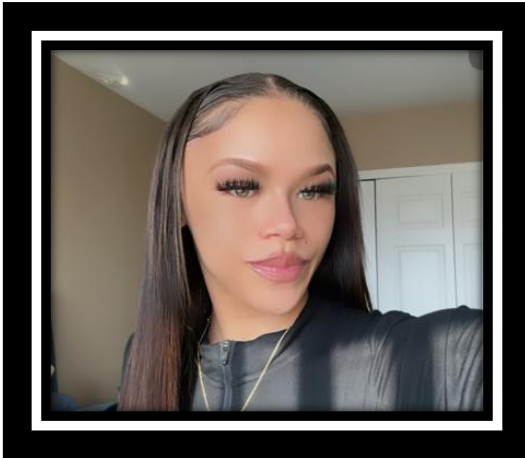


**Vania Lopez**  
**Black Nurses Association Greater**  
**Phoenix Area**





**Christen Masse**  
**Detroit Black Nurses Association**



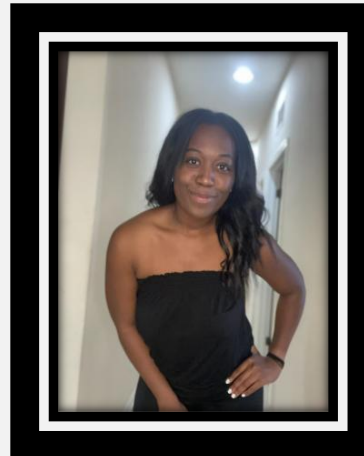
**Naomi Orina-Becton**  
**Southeast Texas Black Nurses Association**



**Eudora Poe**  
**Northern Connecticut Black Nurses Association**

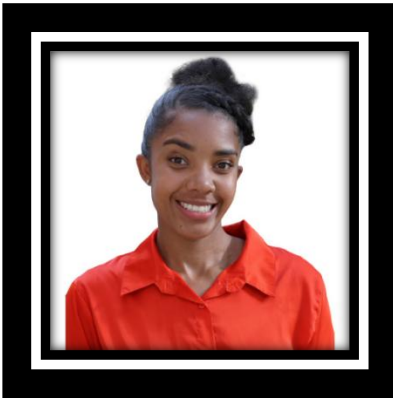


**Kyara Renelus**  
**Black Nurses Association Tampa Bay**





**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**

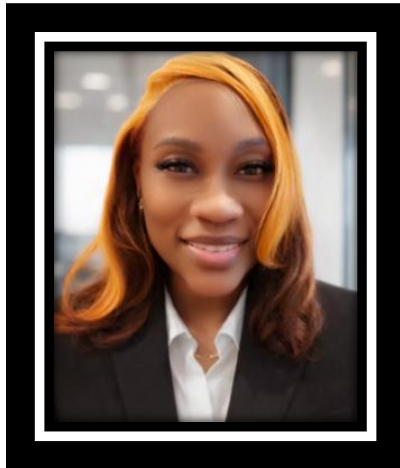




**Maria A. Dudley Advanced Practice Scholarship (\$1,000):** This scholarship is provided by Maria A. Dudley to a nurse pursuing a degree as an advanced practice nurse.

**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**

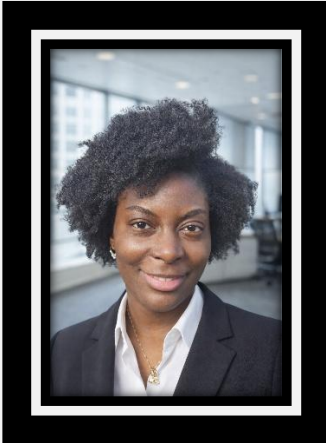


**De'Lorien Hospedales**  
**Greater New York City Black Nurses**  
**Association**





**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.

**DeAundria 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**



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.