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Spring 2008

Newsletter of the National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing

National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing

Website: nbaslh.org

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Donn Bailey, NBASLH Founding Member Passes



One of our Founders, Donn Bailey, passed in December from a brief illness in his home town of Chicago. Members attending the memorial services were Gene Wiggins, Juanita Sims Doty and Arnell Brady. At its recent meeting, the NBASLH Executive Board voted to honor Donn by instituting The Donn Bailey Lecture to be part of our Annual Convention beginning April 2009 in Atlanta. A committee has been appointed to work with the Board in developing guidelines for the Donn Bailey Lecture. The committee included NBASLH member, Gene Wiggins (DC), Juanita Sims (MS), Wanda Miller (WI) and Linda Pendleton (LA). Donn was a pioneer in promoting the inclusion of African American culture as a part of the educational curriculum for Black students, from pre-school to graduate school. Join us for a special tribute to Donn at the Annual Awards Dinner on April 18.

From the Chair



In less than a month, NBASLH will convene its 30th anniversary meeting in the DC Metroplex (Crystal City, VA). This milestone occurs in the mist of enormous political, economic and social changes - a war, painful racial examinations and economic crisis. While these are disturbing events, we must remember that NBASLH was born in the mist of such uncertainties three decades ago. We also know that from pressure, newness can emerge often in a rare unanticipated form, much like the Pearl which is the symbol of this anniversary, a gem born in response to trauma.

What a better way to celebrate this milestone than to meet in our nation's capital! NBASLH will start early this year at 8:00 a.m., Thursday, April 17, with Breakfast and a Briefing in the Sam Raburn Building on Capital Hill. This will be followed by fifteen minute visits to our State Representatives with fact sheets for you provided by NBASLH and ASHA. RSVP today by emailing ddarcy@asha.org to get information on scheduling your appointments.

These visits will be a wonderful opportunity for students and a continued tradition for seasoned professionals as we use our oral language abilities to advocate on behalf of clients whose communication and hearing skills are challenged. And finally they are a must for us as citizens to help ensure a responsive democracy!

Safe Travels,

Cathy Runnels

Cathy Runnels, M.S., CCC-SLP
Chair

In The Works...

- NBASLH's Special Interest Group-Neurogenics Special Interest Group (NSIG), spearheaded by Michele Norman, Assistant Professor at Longwood University, is presenting a mini-seminar at the 2008 Convention titled, Pros and Cons of VitalStim® Therapy. NSIG will have their business meeting following this presentation.
- *ECHO*—will publish '08 Convention Proceedings
- Student Fundraising—new efforts by Doanne Ward
- 2009 Convention—ATLANTA (Hyatt Regency)
- 2010 Convention—WHERE? You tell us. Complete evaluation survey at the end of Convention. We're seeking locations out west to connect with members in that region. Texas and Las Vegas are among the options



AMERICAN
SPEECH-LANGUAGE-
HEARING
ASSOCIATION

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)

**cordially invites
NBASLH Convention participants
to attend a reception celebrating**

NBASLH's 30th Anniversary

**Saturday, April 19, 2008
5:00-7:30 pm**

**The new ASHA National Office
2200 Research Blvd
Rockville, MD 20850**

*Transportation and tours of the ASHA National Office to be
provided.*

Space is limited and an RSVP is required.

*Email the NBASLH Office at nbaslh@nbaslh.org to request
additional information from ASHA and to RSVP.*

Wear Your Afro- Centric Attire to the 2008 Convention Opening Session and Reception

Convention attendees are being encouraged to wear their African Inspired (Afrocentric) Attire to this year's Opening Session and Reception on Thursday, April 17, 2008 from 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm.

Examples of Afrocentric attire for women may include the following:

- African-inspired gowns
- Afrocentric accents including a colorful scarf or shawl of kente cloth or mud cloth
- Dazzling African jewelry

Examples of Afrocentric attire for men may include the following:

- A bow tie, cummerbund or vest of kente cloth
- A tuxedo embellished with a kente cloth lapel or other accent

According to the article "Fashion: Spotting the Afrocentric Look," located at <http://www.africanloft.com/fashion-spotting-the-afrocentric-look/>, the current trend is wearing a shirt with an Ankara (African print) skirt and head-tie or wearing an Ankara shirt with pants. Both men and women have caught onto this trend.

According to the article, "Afrocentric Attire" in *Ebony*, April 2000, by Lynn Norment, "the key to carrying off a regal ethnic look is to not overdo it. Few things are more comical than a garish ensemble of mix-matched African fabrics. Those in the know and those who are experienced in style and fashion say that less may be best in most situations."

Feel free to use your imagination and show your African pride as you don your ethnic clothing to this year's Opening Meeting and Reception. We look forward to seeing you there.



NCCU Eagles Soar Into ASHA's Minority Student Leadership Program

What is the Minority Student Leadership Program (MSLP)? This program, has been in existence for almost 10 years. The program is lead by ASHA leaders Vicki Deal-Williams and Melanie Johnson. The purpose is to recruit and retain members of underrepresented populations in the field of speech-language pathology and audiology. Participants are minorities and represent various ethnicities. Thirty-eight students were chosen from a competitive pool of 144 applicants from undergraduate, graduate and PhD programs. There were three students chosen from North Carolina Central University for the MSLP Class of 2007: Aundra Gause, Jamila Foreman and Colette Lantelme. Aundra Gause is a second-year graduate student and Jamila Foreman and Colette Lantelme are first-year graduate students at North Carolina Central University. MSLP started in 1999 in an attempt to increase attendance of minority students at the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Conventions. Interestingly, North Carolina Central University has represented with three graduate student participants in the Minority Student Leadership Program for the past three years. "When I read the letter stating that I was accepted, I started screaming and crying because I was so excited and happy," said Aundra Gause.

Benefits of the program include paid expenses to the ASHA Convention, which took place this year in Boston. In addition, students are able to connect with individuals from other cultures and to learn more about careers as speech-language pathologists and audiologists. Participants have the opportunity to establish relationships with peer mentors and professional mentors. As members of MSLP, participants are allowed access to the inner workings of ASHA and to the leaders of the organization. Participants are also allowed to attend the Legislative Council meeting, which is the governing body of the organization. Finally, the greatest benefit is making 38 new friends. "All of a sudden, you have a huge support group of other students who are taking on the challenge of graduate school. The experience is special because you not only have a chance to meet those who are taking on the same academic challenges, but those who are also having the unique experience of being a minority, and the challenges that come with that, in the field," stated Jamila Foreman.

Highlights of the experience include observing various committees, the Legislative Council Meeting and lunching with the president of ASHA. Colette Lantelme explained, "The highlight of the MSLP for me was learning about the inner workings of ASHA's Legislative Council. I enjoyed presenting a persuasive speech, sitting in on sub-committees and attending an official Legislative Council meeting. I gained a wealth of information on how ASHA's Legislative Council works and most importantly how to make policy changes." All three Eagles agree, meeting Dr. Noma Anderson, president of ASHA, and an African-American female was the most inspirational. "I was inspired by her willingness and love for the field as well as her humility. It was a true humbling experience that I will cherish," Aundra stated. Jamila added, "Having her share her story and some of the challenges she has faced as well as her leadership style really inspired me. It reminded me that this gift of education and learning was once not so easy for African-American females to obtain, and I should appreciate each moment of my experience."

The MSLP program is an excellent program that prepares student leaders to become leaders in the profession. It provides students with experiences that are essential to being a good leader: networking, providing persuasive arguments, mentoring and understanding a professional organization. Colette commented, "As a result of this experience, I would like to become a member of ASHA's Legislative Council in order to implement necessary changes in our field. Vicki Deal-Williams did an excellent job of giving us an overview of the Legislative Council and its similarity to the U.S. Congress. I couldn't have learned this anywhere else except through my experience with MSLP."

North Carolina Central University (NCCU) offers an excellent and unique academic experience in the study of communication disorders. It is a university that should not be overlooked when pursuing graduate programs of study. As a historically black college, the mission of the School of Education, where the Department of Communication Disorders is housed, is "preparing educators for culturally diverse cultural contexts." With onsite practicum experiences to serve preschoolers from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds with communication disorders or delays, NCCU offers an exceptional experience. Students have practicum opportunities with Hablemos, a preschool for bilingual children and with the Assistive Technology for Infants and Preschoolers Project (ATIPP), where assistive and augmentative technology is infused to serve preschoolers. The fact that for the last three years, there have been three Eagles selected to participate in the MSLP program is a testament to the types of future clinicians that NCCU prepares. Soar Eagles Soar!

Aundra Gause, Jamila Foreman, Colette Lantelme

New Membership Outreach via Booth in Boston!

The NBASLH presence at ASHA continues to provide visibility for our association including to the 1645 certified African American speech-language pathologists and audiologists. Thanks to Ron Jones and Arnell Brady for their 24/7 coverage of the booth and for collecting close to 200 names for follow-up.

The Southern California Affiliate

The Southern California Affiliate will be featured as a Special Interest Group at the California Speech and Hearing Association (CSHA) 56th Annual Convention April 10-13, 2008. News of interest and NBASLH goals will be shared during this excellent opportunity for Recruitment. Diatra Stearn, NBASLH Life member, is Coordinator.

Affiliate Member, Yola Robateau will be awarded for Outstanding Achievement for District 6 of the Association reports Soloris Greene, member of the District 6 Advisory Board and NBASLH member.

The Affiliate recently held their 5th Annual Oratorical & Essay Contest in celebration of Black History Month. This Community Outreach event is presented with the Youth Department at the University Seventh-day Adventist Church in Los Angeles, California.

The purposes are to raise the awareness of Black contributions and literacy among students in the Inner City Public and Private Schools. Emphasis is placed on improving reading, writing and speaking skills to enable students to meet the state standards and to pass the California High School Exit Examination. Participants from Grades 3-12 are invited to enter. Awards are given for the best entries; all participants are presented with Certificates. Cheryl Wiggins, Affiliate President. For more information please contact Soloris Greene or Diatra Stearn, Co-Chairs.

Welcome to the Newest NBASLH Affiliate:

Nova Southeastern University

Affiliate President – Rachel Williams, Ph.D.

President-Elect – Fred DiCarlo, M.S.

Secretary – Nancy Gauvin, M.S.

Treasure – Mary Ann Lowe, SLP-D

Convention Updates

Pre-Convention Flyers Have Been Mailed!

The Convention is well under way with pre-convention flyers in the mail. Please note the following:

- Thursday, April 17—8:00 am -12:00 pm **CAPITOL HILL VISITS**. Join us for breakfast, briefings and visits to your Legislators. On a first-come, first-served basis, sign up via email with Deborah Darcy, ASHA's Director of Grassroots Advocacy at ddarcy@asha.org. There are limited funds available to help defray Wednesday night's hotel costs for out-of-area members planning on staying at the Doubletree. You will be notified if selected.
- Thursday, April 17—6:30 pm **OPENING MEETING AND RECEPTION**. African Inspired attire. See article on page 2.
- Friday, April 18—**ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER**. Creative Black Tie attire
- Saturday, April 19—**TOUR AND RECEPTION AT ASHA NATIONAL OFFICE**. The seminars will end on Saturday at 3:30 to allow you time to prepare for the buses that will take us to the ASHA National Office in upper Rockville, MD. RSVP Required. See additional information and ASHA personal invite on page 2.
- Sunday, April 20—Return of the **FAREWELL BRUNCH** from 8:30-10:00 am
- **SILENT AUCTION**—throughout Convention. Bring extra funds for art, tests, materials and jewelry. A real hit last year. Contact Diane at our Headquarters to donate.
- **NEW — EXHIBIT AREA ONLY PASS**—Invite colleagues from other professions and friends to visit the exhibit area with a special pass for just \$30.

KUDOS

Arnell Brady—project in Lagos, Nigeria. Project with Blue Cross Blue Shield Chicago

Sandra Mayfield has been appointed as Assistant Provost as Governors State University in Chicago's South Suburbs.

Travis Threats, Ph.D., has been made a Full Professor at St. Louis University and re-appointed as Chair.

Email KUDOS info to nbaslh@nbaslh.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



NBASLH 2008 Convention

April 17-19, 2008

PRAXIS Review

April 17-19, 2008

NBASLH Executive Board

September 1, 2007-August 31, 2008

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Do you have news to share?

Members are encouraged to submit items for consideration and publication in the *Resound*)))))). Topics include articles of interest to the membership and areas that pertain to speech-language pathologists or audiologists. Share your good news and accomplishments!

If you have a story, announcement or event you would like to place in the *Resound*)))))), please send your information to:

Diane Yenerall
NBASLH Business Manager
nbaslh@nbaslh.org

Check www.nbaslh.org for Event Updates and Reminders!