

"IN THE TRADITION..."

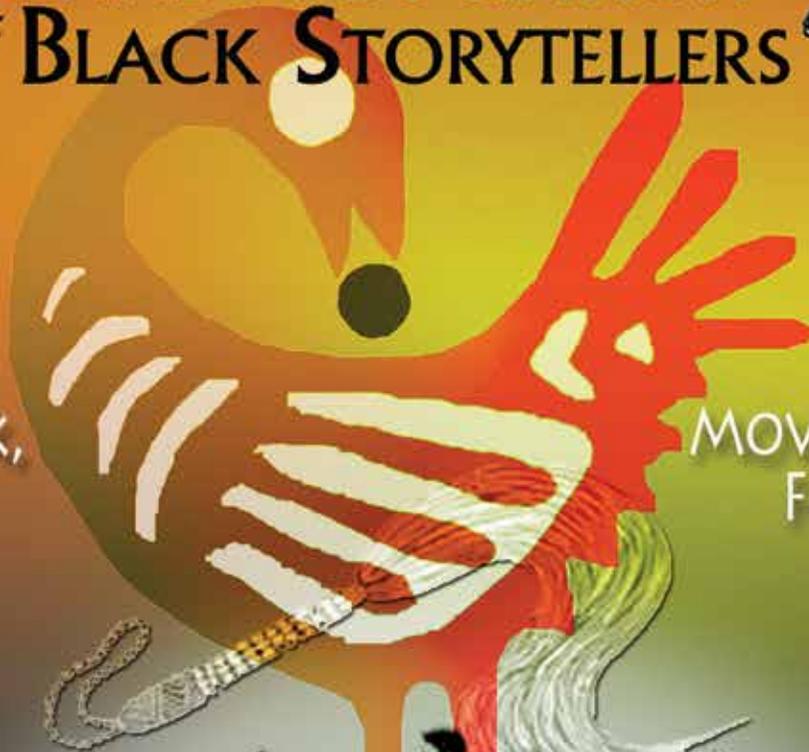
NABS

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF BLACK STORYTELLERS**



LOOKING
BACK,

MOVING
FORWARD.



**37TH ANNUAL NATIONAL BLACK STORYTELLING
FESTIVAL AND CONFERENCE**

"The Authentic Voice of Black Storytelling"

NOVEMBER 6-10, 2019

In Montgomery, Alabama

Embassy Suites by Hilton

300 Tallapoosa Street. Montgomery Alabama. 36104

Co-Founders

Mother Mary Carter Smith
Mama Linda Goss

For More Information Visit Our Website
www.nabsinc.org



Congratulations NABS!

**For 37 continuous years of Fantastic “In The Tradition...”
Conferences and Festivals!**



**Join Black Storytellers Alliance As we Celebrate our
30th Annual “Signifyin’ & Testifyin’”**

Black Master Storytelling Festival

It’s going to be outstanding!

September 24 - 26, 2020!

Minneapolis, Minnesota

*If you are a NABS member and would like to submit your Vimeo work
sample for consideration as one of our Featured Tellers, please
send it to vzulu@blackstorytellers.com by May 19, 2020.*



Co-Founders



Mother Mary Carter Smith



Mama Linda Goss

NABS History

Mama Linda Goss of Philadelphia, PA and beloved ancestor Mother Mary Carter Smith of Baltimore, MD are co-founders of the National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc. They conceived the idea in 1982 to increase opportunities for African American storytellers to be heard and to expand opportunities for the rich heritage of the African American Oral Tradition to be shared.

The first “In the Tradition...” Festival of Black Storytelling, held in 1983 at Morgan State University (MSU) in Baltimore, MD was co-sponsored by the MSU Social Science Department and Alpha Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Linda Jenkins Brown Chapter Basileus. A grant was received from the Maryland Humanities Council, Inc.

In 1984 the second festival was held in Philadelphia, PA where the visionary co-founders responded to the interest on the participants to celebrate and preserve the African and African American Oral Tradition. Thus, the then, Association of Black Storytellers was established.

In 1990 the Association became known as the National Association of Black Storytellers, (NABS). NABS is a not for profit organization that operates under the laws of Maryland and is exempt from federal income taxation under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Service, 501(C)(3) statute.

Mission:

The National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc. (NABS) promotes and perpetuates the art of Black storytelling--an art form which embodies the history, heritage, and culture of African Americans. Black storytellers educate and entertain through the Oral Tradition, which depicts and documents the African-American experience. A nationally organized body with individual, affiliate and organizational memberships, NABS preserves and passes on the folklore, legends, myths, fables and mores of Africans and their descendants and ancestors - “In the Tradition...”

*Greetings
From The Co-Founder*

[on her refusal to give up her bus seat] “When I made that decision, I knew I had the strength of my ancestors with me.”~Rosa Parks

Dear Family and Friends of the National Association of Black Storytellers (NABS),

Ring-a-ling-ling! Ring-a-ling-ling! My bells of remembrance and history, struggle and victory are ringing.

WELL, OH WELL, WELL! IT’S STO---RYTELLING TIME!

Peace and Blessings! Karibu!

Welcome to “In The Tradition...” 37th Annual National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference: LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD.

We have come to **SACRED LAND**. We have come **HOME** to Montgomery, AL. We remember **Rosa Parks** the “Mother of the Civil Rights Movement”. We remember **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** and his **Great Dream** for all of us. We remember so many **Sheroes** and **Heroes** who fought against the rise of Jim Crow: racism, bigotry, inequality and injustice. 1619 to 2019 marks the 400 years of our people on this soil. **WE REMEMBER, WE RECLAIM, WE RECALL OUR ANCESTORS’ NAMES.**

WE CELEBRATE THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF OUR BELOVED CO-FOUNDER, MOTHER MARY CARTER SMITH. She was born in Birmingham, AL February 10, 1919 and made transition on April 24, 2007.

“Africa, Mother of Us All.” ~Mother Mary Carter Smith

This is a **personal homecoming** for me because my father, grandfather, grandmother and other family members (**McNear/McNair/** and **Greenwood**) were born in **Brundidge, AL**, a small town outside of Montgomery. This will be my first time visiting their homeplace.

I am also proud to announce that I am one of the recipients of the **2019 National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowships**. I received this award in Black Storytelling. www.arts.gov

ASANTE SANA (Thank You) to the City of Montgomery and City of Brundidge, AL and the Embassy Suites by Hilton. **ASANTE SANA** to our Festival Director, **Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed** and all the festival committees. **ASANTE SANA** to our Executive Director, **Sister Vanora Legaux**, the NABS’ Board of Directors, **Sister Janice Curtis Greene**, our 16th President, all Program Directors, Committees Chairpersons and their Members. A special **ASANTE SANA** to **Sister Barbara Eady** for always producing a fabulous souvenir journal. **ASANTE SANA** to **Brother Charlie Brown** for donating the Festival tote bags. **ASANTE SANA** to the **Anonymous Person** for sponsoring my Care Angel, **Sister Candace Tarpley**. **ASANTE SANA** to **Sister Rosa Metoyer**, NABS’ Care Angel. **ASANTE SANA** to my gatekeepers and caregivers **Sister Laura and Brother Bernard Carson**, **Sister Julia Hammid** and **Brother Clarence Mollock**. A special **ASANTE SANA** to **Sister Tonja Caldwell**, my invaluable Editorial Assistant. Enjoy life and safety be with you always.

In the Service of Love and Storytelling,

Mama Linda Goss

Mama Linda Goss,
NABS Co-Founder



*Greetings
From The President*

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Black Storytellers Inc., our Fifteen affiliates, supporters, sponsors and friends, I welcome you to NABS’ 37th Annual “In the Tradition ...” National Storytelling Festival and Conference, “Looking Back, Marching Forward” in historic Montgomery, Alabama.

As we march forward in 2019 in our continued quest for equality and democracy, let us like the Adinkra symbol, the Sankofa, never forget those who have marched, sung, protested, suffered and died for the Civil Rights supposedly guaranteed to all Americans by the Constitution. They laid down their lives as bridges for us to march forward into a better future. Unfortunately, many basic human rights are still being denied and the rights for which we fought are in danger of being reversed.

Our Co-Founders Ancestor Queen Mother Mary Carter Smith and Mama Linda Goss had a vision 37 years ago to assemble storytellers from all over the country to preserve and perpetuate the Sacred Oral Tradition of Storytelling. They charged us to be beacons love and hope to ensure that our light will shine and overcome any darkness in our path.

We, the Storytellers, Jali’s, Griots, History Keepers, Culture Bearers and Legacy Guardians must continue to uphold the banner and tell the stories so that those who come after us will remember what our ancestors did in the past, what we do in our present and what they are charged to do for our future. We must continue to march forward always remembering to look back, to go back and get it.

One day when the Glory comes it will be ours, it will be ours. Today when the story is told we will be sure, we will be sure. GLORY!

Welcome to Montgomery, Alabama and let us continue to tell our Story.

Janice Curtis Greene

Janice Curtis Greene, President
National Association of Black Storytellers



*Greetings
From The Festival Director*



**JAMBO! HABARI GANI!
PEACE AND BLESSINGS!**

Return to old watering holes for more than water; friends and dreams are there to meet you- African Proverb

Yes. We return every year to be renewed, refreshed, reacquaint and reestablish relationships and to welcome storytellers who have made this journey for the first time.

In historic Montgomery, AL, the first capital of the Confederate States of America, we return, descendants of enslaved Africans in all our splendor and pride, not arrogant but confident and humbled by the struggle and accomplishments of our forefathers and foremothers.

We will tell our stories, pour libations, sing our songs, play our drums, eat good food, embrace and cry if the spirit touches us. We will signify, testify, praise and pray. We will engage in “Good Jaliya”.

We will always acknowledge and honor our Co-Founders, Mother Mary Carter Smith and Mother Linda Goss for their vision, forethought and leadership.

We will welcome new Board Members and future leaders of this organization. We will teach our youth and encourage them.

For the 37th year, we will gather under the banner of the “In the Tradition...” Annual National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference. We will indeed be “Looking Back, Moving Forward”.

SPREAD THE WORD!

Sis. Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed
2019 Festival Director

*Greetings
From The Executive Director*



*In the spirit of love and story, I am delighted to Welcome you to the
37th Annual “In the Tradition...”
National Black Storytelling
Festival and Conference*

It is by Divine intervention that we are gathered here in the City of Montgomery, Alabama, A city with a complicated history, heavy with racial tensions, but also a powerful place, with a world changing history. Our theme this year is “Looking Back, Moving Forward”

Working with Festival Director Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed, Administrative Assistant Eslyn Hinmon, and Past President Barbara Eady every possible meticulous detail has been covered. Special thanks to Aquan Robinson, and Octavius Jackson, Montgomery CVB, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Rho Zeta Chapter, Alabama State Director Calandra Jones-McDonald, Mrs. Emma Faulk PRP, Dr. Rosalind Pijoux Hale, Darwina Johnson, and Valarie Satterwhite, We are grateful to you our devoted and faithful followers who join each year with keenness and zeal for Black Storytelling. We are standing on the shoulders of our ancestors while recognizing the incomparable commitments and momentous accomplishments of our NABS past and present Board of Directors that have brought us this far! “In the Tradition...”

ASANTA SANA!! Enjoy time with our NABS Family!!
Peace and Blessings,

Vanora

Vanora Franklin Legaux
Executive Director

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Todd Strange, Mayor

Post Office Box 1111 PH 334.625.2000
Montgomery, Alabama FX 334.625.2600
36101-1111



GREETINGS:

As Mayor of Montgomery, it is indeed a privilege to extend a warm greeting and cordial welcome to each of you as you attend the "In the Tradition..." 37th Annual National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference being held November 6-10, 2019 at the Embassy Suites Hotel & Conference Center.

The National Association of Black Storytellers truly exemplifies the theme, *Looking Back, Moving Forward*, as its members promote and perpetuate the art of Black storytelling. As it continues to empower communities through storytelling, the National Association of Black Storytellers is spreading the message that every story is important and should be shared.

I want to encourage each of you to use this time as an opportunity to feel at home in these surroundings. Montgomery is truly a fascinating place with its big city amenities and small town flavor. A visit through Montgomery will also show our community has multiple cultural and recreational amenities. From historical landmarks and museums to sports venues, the Capital of Dreams has something for everyone. We are proud to live in a city with such a rich heritage and warm, friendly hospitality.

I am delighted to have you here as our guests. Please enjoy your event as well as your stay in Montgomery. We hope to see you again in the near future!

Very truly yours,

Todd Strange
Mayor



Marshall J. Taggart Jr.
4445 Selma Hwy
Montgomery, AL, 36108
September 27, 2019

Ms. Barbara Eady
Souvenir Journal Developer
National Association of Black Storytellers
Hosted by Embassy Hotel
3700 Tallapoosa Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

Dear Ms. Eady,

Thank you for placing your confidence in the Montgomery Regional Airport for your flying needs. We are pleased that you have chosen to visit our great city of Montgomery. We will make sure that your Fly-In to MGM is comfortable and relaxing.

We are very pleased that you have chosen to host your 37th Festival Conference in our beautiful city this November. We are confident that you will enjoy the city as well as the historic history behind it.

I am the new Executive Airport Director here at the Montgomery Regional Airport. If you have any further questions, you can reach me at 334-300-9773 or contact my Administrative Assistant Ms. Jennifer Thrasher at 334-281-5040 opt 1.

Again, thank you so much for placing your trust in the Montgomery Regional Airport.

Sincerely,

Marshall J. Taggart Jr.
Executive Airport Director

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Executive Airport Director

Montgomery Regional Airport
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Featured Tellers



Willa Brigham

is the **two time** Emmy Award winning host of the television show, “Smart Start Kids”, an Inspirational Speaker, Storyteller, writer and performing artist. She is a native of Tuskegee, Alabama, a graduate of Alabama State University and Indiana University. Willa has entertained and delighted audiences across the US and to standing ovations on cruise lines in the Caribbean. Willa’s service and professional organization affiliations include the National Speakers Association; Toastmasters, the North Carolina Storytelling Guild, the North Carolina Association of Black Storytellers, and the African American Quilt Circle. Willa is the recipient of the Zora Neale Hurston Award, the North Carolina Federation of Women’s “Woman of Distinction” and the Carolina Health and Humor Association Entertainer of the Year. She has six CD’s to her credit and the author of **Golden Years**-a collection of stories and poems dedicated to senior citizens and **The Pizza Store**.

Valerie Tutson

graduated Brown University with a self-designed major, Storytelling as a Communication’s Art, and a Masters in Theatre. She holds an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Rhode Island College. Since 1991 she has traveled the country and world teaching and telling stories. Her repertoire includes folktales, songs, personal and historical stories with an emphasis on black traditions. Valerie is a founding member and Director of the Rhode Island Black Storytellers, and FUNDA FEST: A Celebration of Black Storytelling. Valerie has received numerous awards for her work using storytelling to foster community. She is a 2018/19 Intercultural Leadership Institute Fellow. Valerie has also served as Co-Director of the 21st “In the Tradition...” Annual National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference in 2003.



Nothando Zulu

is a Master storyteller who has been sharing stories with audiences since 1976. She shares stories that entertain, educate, motivate and inspire. She has performed in many venues as she draws from an extensive resource of colorful, often funny characters whose antics and follies leave audiences pondering their own life’s lessons. She is the President and Director of Black Storytellers Alliance, a nonprofit organization dedicated to maintaining the oral tradition as practiced by African people in the diaspora. She and her husband, Vuzi, with the help of their Board of Directors has produced a three-day storytelling festival, “Signifyin’ & Testifyin’” since 1991. In 2019, “Signifyin’ & Testifyin’” will celebrate their 28th year of storytelling celebration in the Minneapolis area. Nothando is very committed to community. She states “I don’t separate the artist from the community, everything is circular and apart of”. Nothando is also a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grand mother, community and political activist who believes in the power of stories.



Featured Tellers



Dejeliba Baba The Storyteller

is a “ubiquitous bard plagued by an implacable passion for parables, proverbs, and pleasing palaver”. He has been a touring, professional speaker since 1994 and is a U.S. born practitioner of the ancient West African storytelling craft known as Jaliyaa. He has received numerous awards over the years for his work as a folklorist, traditional harpist, storyteller, community activist, and volunteer. Baba has presented in thousands of schools and other institutions all across the world, including Romania, Poland, the Canary Islands, Peru, Ecuador, Costa Rica and Brazil. In the latter part of 2019, he will take his stories to Vietnam and Qatar. He is also a recipient of a California State Assembly Certificate of Recognition for his creative uses of storytelling and his commitment to community in working with troubled teens. The City of Long Beach California recognized him as their municipality’s Artist of the Year, an award presented to him by the Mayor. He has also earned additional commendations from both the U.S. Senate and U.S. Congress. He has studied with the jalolu in the Casamance region of Senegal and also in Guinea and Mali. He is the author of **Road of Ash and Dust: Awakening of a Soul in Africa**.

Donna Willingham

is known for sharing stories that are relatable, emotional, and uplifting. She delivers stories as if she were just “having a conversation” with an audience. Through a blend of vocal intonation, facial expression, and body movement, Miss Donna utilizes her ability to realistically portray characters, thus bringing unforgettable life to stories. Miss Donna strives to leave listeners entertained and inspired. And if you attended the 2015 “In the Tradition...” Annual National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference, you were a witness to her exceptional gifts. Known for sharing stories that are relatable, emotional, and uplifting, Donna Willingham delivers stories as if she were just “having a conversation” with an audience. Through a blend of vocal intonation, facial expression, and body movement, Miss Donna utilizes her ability to realistically portray characters, thus bringing unforgettable life to stories. Miss Donna strives to leave listeners entertained and inspired.



Charlotte Blake Alston

Master Storyteller, narrator and librettist performs in venues throughout North America and abroad. Venues have included the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Smithsonian Institution, the Kimmel Center, the Women of the World Festival in Cape Town and a refugee camp in northern Senegal. Her solo performances are often enhanced with traditional instruments such as djembe, mbira, shekere or the 21-stringed kora. She began studying the kora with the Seneglese griot (jali), the late Djimo Kouyate. She recently resumed her studies with Malian Virtuoso Yacouba Sissoko. In 2005, she was the sole American selected to perform on a main stage at the STIMMEN: Voices Festival in Basel, Switzerland and the Cape Clear Island Festival in Ireland. In 2018, she represented the US at the Boca do Ceu International Storytelling Festival in Sao Paulo, Brazil and in 2019 was featured at the International Storytelling Festival Austria.



Special Presenters



Jocelyn Dabney

is a storyteller, actress, and retired high school librarian from Youngstown, Ohio. She has a B.S.Ed. in Speech/Drama from Kent State University. Jocelyn is the first African-American to receive a Masters Degree in Storytelling/Reading from East Tennessee State University. She is the author of one picture book, *Nana Be & Me*. Jocelyn performs with her husband, Robert who accompanies her with his inspired singing and lively drumming. They have presented programs and workshops for schools, libraries, universities, and conferences across the country. They are charter members of the Cleveland Association of Black Storytellers (CABS) and members of the National Association of Black Storytellers (NABS). Jocelyn and Robert attend The Rising Star Baptist Church. She is the Director of the Creative Arts Ministry and he is a Deacon and Praise Leader.

Sheila Arnold

has been gifted by God with performance skills and has used this talent since she was eight years old. Since 2003 she's been a full-time Storyteller traveling through the United States and abroad, sharing a variety of stories, as well as presenting Historic Character Presentations and Christian Monologues. Sheila has been a featured Storyteller at several Storytelling Festivals: twice at the National Storytelling Festival (Jonesborough, TN); Timpanogos Storytelling Festival (Lehi, UT), White Mountain Storytelling Festival (Plymouth, NH), Paris Storytelling Festival (Paris, KY); Connecticut Storytelling Festival; Georgia Mountain Storytelling Festival (Young Harris, GA); Hearts Afire Storytelling Weekend (Richmond, VA); Stories: From Sea to Shore Storytelling Weekend (Norfolk, VA); and the Florida Storytelling Festival (Mt. Dora, FL). At her core, Ms. Sheila, as she's commonly called, is a Professional Imaginator with a passion, vision and ministry of healing hearts and unifying communities. Sheila is the author of two books: a picture book, *Weeping Willow, or, Why the Leaves Change their Colors*, and an historical fiction using biblical persons, *David's Mighty Man: Benaiah*. She also has two storytelling CD's, "Mini, Many, Minnie Tales" and "Hands Wide Open".

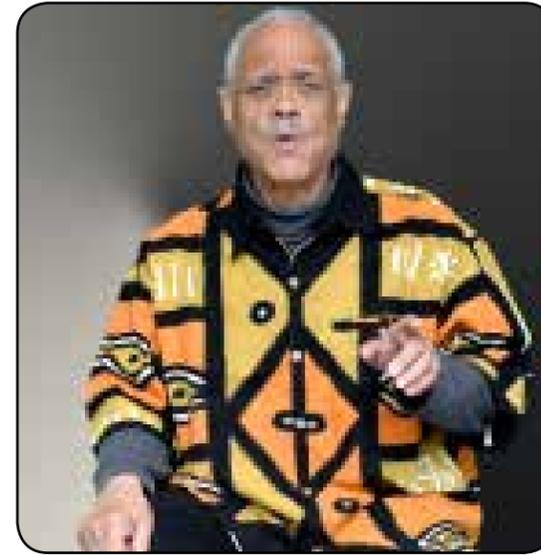


Donna Kokumo Buie

(aka. Mama Koku), is a Master Storyteller and children's writer. She is also an educator who has taught all ages from pre-school to adults. Her repertoire includes African and African American Folktales, Multi-Cultural Stories, Science Stories, and living history performances as Ruby Bridges and Mary McLeod Bethune. Koku graduated with honors from North Carolina Central University, majoring in Theatre Arts with concentrations in Performance and Education, where, she received awards from both Education and Drama departments for outstanding achievements in scholarship, performance and service. Koku is a member of the Kuumba Storytellers of Georgia, The National Association of Black Storytellers Inc, and the Southern Order of Storytellers. She is the Official Teller of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Book Fair. Mama Koku is a "Rambler" for The Wren's Nest Museum, a Featured Teller for Everybody Wins Atlanta, and a Teaching Artist for Fulton County School's Teaching Museums. Koku's been telling professionally for 21 years, 15 full time.



Special Presenters



Sumner McClain

was born in Boston and grew up in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He has been known throughout the greater Boston area as a Master Storyteller, musician and actor. He has served as an instructor and director of dramatic arts. He received a Master's in Social Work from the University of Michigan and was a recipient of the Martin Luther King Jr Scholarship at Boston University where he earned a Master of Divinity degree. Mr. McClain has performed at hundreds of schools, libraries and colleges throughout New England and abroad. He has appeared on Boston television programs and worked with the Peoples Theatre Inc., New African Company and The Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts. He has directed plays and has taught drama to adults and children. Sumner learned early in life about the power of storytelling to heal wounds and increase pride. He believes storytelling to be a unique resource for building self-esteem. His stories show an appreciation for differences stimulate curiosity, imagination and the celebration of life.

Scholar's Panel

African American History - How Far Have We Come?

Presenter: Dr. Richard Bailey

A native of Montgomery, AL, Richard Bailey has earned the BS, MEd, and Ph.D degrees. A joint fellowship from Cleveland State (Ohio) University and the University of Massachusetts enabled him to travel and study in Europe and Africa. His research has focused on Alabama Reconstruction and African American History.

Since returning to Montgomery, Dr. Bailey has been a consultant for the Center for Public Television at the University of Alabama and an advisor for the Gees Bend story and the Horace King documentary.

A frequent radio and television talk show guest, Bailey has appeared on numerous radio stations and television networks to discuss Southern history, Alabama history, including the freedom rides, election returns and contemporary events. In 2004 he appeared on *Bill Moyers Journal* to discuss Gov. Bob Riley's tax package.

Bailey has been a member of several speakers' bureau, including the Alabama Humanities Foundation.

He is the author of *Neither Carpetbaggers nor Scalawags: Black Officeholders during the Reconstruction of Alabama, 1867-1878* and *They Too Call Alabama Home: African American Profiles, 1800-1999*.



Workshop Presenters



Deborah Pierce-Fakunle

Dr. David Fakunle

Mary J. Grant

Willa Brigham



Elisha T. Minter

Keesha Dixon

Queen Nur

Sandra Guilliard



Oba William King

*Mama Linda Goss
Co-Founder*

Martha Ruff

Dylan Pritchett

Workshops

Intersectionality of Storytelling and Public Health

Presenters: DiscoverME/RecoverME-Deborah Pierce-Fakunle and Dr. David Fakunle

The workshop will highlight the current intersectionality of storytelling and public health, and the use of storytelling in challenging Western perspectives on health and healing. Storytelling as a practice is being intentionally applied to address mental and emotional health outcomes. Within research, storytelling encourages better understanding and appreciation of scientific findings and exhibits a genuine, equitable methodology for capturing information from communities, particularly historically divested communities.

The Story Within the Story of African Americans in the Great Migration

Presenter: Mary J. Grant

This interactive workshop will use an exciting approach for crafting a story using known and unknown facts of the struggle and triumphs of African Americans who left the South and moved to the North in the Great Migration. A four-step approach to building stories using first or third-person narratives will be discussed. The participants will review famous African American narratives with a partner and prepare a storyboard to present a point of view presentation.

Silhouettes: Looking Back and Giving Thanks (Youth)

Presenter: Willa Brigham

Hands on art project creating silhouettes to represent a person of interest that has made a significant contribution in one’s life. Using fiber, needles, thread and embellishments in the creation while discussing the need to look back, remember and move forward in the most positive way possible. A new version of the old classic “quilting bee”, this workshop demonstrates how to share and pass on knowledge and wisdom.

Creating Successful and Sustainable Youth Programs for Affiliates

Presenters: Elisha T. Minter and Keesha Dixon, Youth Co-Directors

This workshop will give examples of ongoing successful programs from several representatives of established youth programs with NABS, e.g. The Growing Griots of The Griots’ Circle of Maryland, Asante Children’s Theatre; ASE Youth Ensemble of ASE- The Chicago Association of Black Storytellers, Watoto of Joy of Keepers of the Culture, Watoto of Columbus, Ohio and Kuumba Tattletales of Kuumba Storytellers of Georgia. Outlines will be distributed that suggests methods to establish a youth group. The dynamics of consistency, sustainability and best practices in the programs will be discussed.

Way Beyond Wikipedia: Crafting Folklife Into Historical Tales

Presenter: Queen Nur

The session will be presented in three stages: 1. What is Folklife? -this section will explore the current definitions in the field as well as the fluidity of the discipline; 2. Research-will answer the question of where to find folklife information relevant to the time period, culture and demographics; and 3. Crafting-Interactive exercises on integrating folk references with historical facts while maintaining cultural integrity and creating a sensory experience for audiences. Participants should bring a historical story that is in the creative process stage. This workshop is designed for intermediate to advanced storytellers.

Workshops

Aesop Remix: How to Craft Old School Fables into New School Tales (Youth)

Presenter: Saundra Gilliard

Aesop fables are treasured tales that have always appealed to both youth and beginning storytellers. They are short, easy to read and feature imaginary characters. The morality tales can be easily integrated into every aspect of life and lend themselves to personal interpretation and application. In this introductory level session participants will read 5 classic fables and learn to re-craft them for contemporary times. Participants will also engage in writing exercises to grasp the application of addressing morality issues in contemporary stories. After engaging in this session, participants will have the ability to: 1. Identify story structure; 2. Understand plot development; 3. Conduct a character analysis; 4. Extract the major components from a story; 5. Re-write a story and preserve its integrity; 6. Understand the difference between re-crafting and retelling a story.

The Ancestor's Drum-We Are Connected (Youth Drumming Circle)

Presenter: Oba William King

Youth will participate in a hands on drum lesson and will be introduced to story song, story rhythm and drum play. Participants will gain the experience of working as an ensemble and will receive personal assessment, encouragement and precise coaching notes for future development. This workshop will also teach youth tellers theatrical techniques such as visualization, voice modulation, body language and expression. A cross-section of literary content will be presented by the facilitator including Buzzard and Monkey (traditional story), an adapted excerpt from Ntozake Shange's play “For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow is Enuf”, Dark Phases, Snake by Oscar Brown, Wrap Me Up In Mudcloth by Mama Linda Goss and Pull'em Up Story Song© by Oba William King.

Conversation with The Elders (Youth)

Presenter: Co-Founder, Mama Linda Goss

A 2019 National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellow, and Co-Founder of the National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc. Mama Linda Goss, addresses our youth, the next generation of storytellers. With her legendary and familiar call “Well, Oh Well, Oh Well. It's Storytelling Time”, Mama Linda continues to transmit and disseminate folkloric knowledge and valuable storytelling wisdom for the participants in this workshop and participants at the “In the Tradition...” Festival. Adults are welcome to attend.

Mary Carter Smith's Legacy of Storytelling & Cultural Heritage

Presenter: Martha Ruff

She was given the title of America's Mother Griot and left a legacy that enriches the knowledge of storytellers/educators and provides historic cultural information about African American heritage. This presentation shares the highlights of Mary Carter Smith's life journey as she learns the power of storytelling and lays a foundation for future storytellers. It will highlight her development from her youth when she loved to perform for adults to her success as a global professional storyteller who led a revival of the art of storytelling. Several film clips and audio segments of her storytelling style will be presented. Handouts will include a bibliography of her works, an outline of her life and a list of recommendations for preserving the storytelling legacy and honoring the 100th anniversary of her birth.

What Am I Doing And Why Am I Doing It?

Presenter: Dylan Pritchett

This workshop is intended to delve into the essence of your storytelling niche. Such topics as self-evaluation, evaluating the art of others, connecting to your audience, knowing your limits and a variety of other storytelling advice that will make you a better storyteller...”In The Tradition...”!

Brother Blue Circle of Elders Award

Janice Curtis Greene



Commissioner Janice Curtis Greene is an award winning Author and Master Storyteller, an American Griot. She has been telling African, African American and Multicultural stories for over 25 years. She is a Life and President of the National Association of Black Storytellers, Past President of the Griots' Circle of Maryland, Inc. and was appointed by Governor Lawrence Hogan to serve as a Commissioner on the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture.

Janice Curtis Greene has performed at various venues across the United States as far away as Canada, Jamaica, Zambia, South Africa and Egypt. Janice has performed with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and is also known for her portrayals of historical African American women. Janice is also a spiritual revivalist whose stories of healing after the death of her sons has brought peace to many grieving parents.

Gloria S. Elder



Gloria S. Elder is a professional storyteller and author who enjoyed growing up with her family in Newnan, Georgia. She enjoys telling stories of her many adventures with her grandparents, who taught her with kindness and understanding. They told her stories about who she was and from where she came. Both her grandmothers were larger than life to her, which inspired her to write and tell stories. Gloria believes it is very important for children to spend time with their grandparents, whenever possible, because, as she says they “love you unconditionally.”

A graduate of Spelman College and Atlanta University, Ms. Elder taught and directed a preschool education program for more than fifteen years and told stories to children and adults. Gloria changed careers and started writing programs and curricula for children, and adults on Stress Management Education. “I am humbled and honored to receive the 2019 Brother Blue Circle of Elders Award.”

Irma Gardner Hammond



In the early 90's Irma Gardner Hammond took on the mantle of the Griot with Keepers Of The Culture. As a musical therapist for 35 years, specializing in geriatrics, Storytelling Irma has used her guitar, harmonica and thunderous voice to carry the essence of true storytelling: the ability to change lives. She began telling in nursing homes around Philadelphia to the elders as a volunteer, and frequented the libraries, telling stories to children on the weekends. She is an alumna of Howard University and Temple University. Through her diligence and efforts in grant writing, residencies and permanent programs have been established all over the city of Philadelphia. Irma's face can be seen on the mural “Historic Women of Germantown” as Dinah, the enslaved African she portrays regularly at the historic Stenton House. Irma truly believes that no one should be denied the healing power of a story.

Wanda Gigetts



“Griot Mother to all” describes Wanda Gigetts, co-founder of Keepers of the Culture, Inc. She has served in education for 31 years, where her storytelling passion was born. As a student, Wanda was the first African American to integrate the school system of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, and is an alumna of Temple University, double certified in Early and Secondary Education. She is the mother of two daughters and grandmother of two grandchildren. Mama Wanda has taken the charge to add structure and elegance to the spirit of the griot, doing exhaustive research on stories, authors, and themes that make up all KOTC productions. When she has spare time, you can find her traveling to visit her family and living out her latest mission: to recruit and mentor young leaders in storytelling and search out untold stories and hidden figures in our ongoing struggle.

Brother Blue Circle of Elders Award



Cheryl "Sparkle" Mosley

Cheryl "Sparkle" Mosley also known as the "STORY DOVE" is a professional storyteller, writer, teaching artist, motivational speaker, emcee and workshop facilitator that entertain, educates, motivates, enlightens and engages audiences of all ages and for all occasions. Sparkle served as National President of the National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc. (NABS) 2002-2004, Past President-Board of Directors 2004-2006, President-Elect 2000-2001 and member of Board of Directors starting 1999. NABS Festival Director for San Diego, CA - 2006, Richmond, VA - 2001 and Co-Festival director for Winston Salem 1999. Also, Editor of the NABS Spread The Word Newsletter. Former State President of the North Carolina Association of Black Storytellers, Inc. (NCABS) 1997-2001. Storytelling Festival Coordinator from 2001-2007 for the National Black Theatre Storytelling Festival, Winston Salem, NC. Former producer and host of the Time Warner Cable TV Show "Express It!" and weekly WGIV.AM Radio Show "Story Dove." Currently, National Collegiate Affiliate Director.



Janice "Jawara" Bishop

Janice "Jawara" Bishop began storytelling as she babysat her nine siblings. It was only natural that this innate ability would lead her to graduate from Temple University and be an educator for 40 years. As a co-founder of Keepers of the Culture, Inc., Jawara's full smile and warm embrace has become a part of the KOTC brand. From the Great Migration, to the Deep South, and over to the African Diaspora, her storytelling repertoire is endless. Her dedication to the craft intensified when she decided to graft her family into the culture of storytelling. With a 50 plus year marriage, 2 sons, 2 daughters, 12 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren she now has two generations of talented storytellers, working on the third! Jawara has her hand in everything KOTC related, and yet she continues on. May her a labor of love serve as an inspiration for generations to come.



Sandra Williams Bush

Sandra Williams Bush, a retired librarian, is a charter member of Tradition Keepers: Black Storytellers of WNY. In her love for NABS, she served on the Board as Secretary for two terms and is a NABS Gold Life member. She is also a member of the performance group, Daughters of Creative Sound, an African American women's percussion ensemble.

As a family historian, Sandra has taken on the challenge of documenting her family's history. She has presented introductory genealogy workshops to audiences ranging from youth groups to senior citizens. Her love of storytelling complements her love of genealogy, as evidenced in her genealogy blog: *Ancestor Callings: Georgia and Mississippi Roots*. She is a member of several genealogy and African American history organizations.



Patsie Stepney

Patsie Stepney, professional storyteller has earned many alcaides throughout the years. Pat is a former Head Start teacher and worked as the Forsyth County Public Library Storyteller for 30 years before retiring as Assistant Director of the Children's Outreach Department. Patsie was and still is known as Mrs. Pat the kids and now adult school audience. Patsie is Founder and former Pastor of the Children's Church Ministry at St. Peter's World Outreach Center where she ministered to thousands of children at church and at national conventions as "Auntie Pat". Patsie was active in planning Kwanza at the East Winston Branch Library and established the First Juneteenth Celebration in W-S, NC. Among other things, Patsie acted as Anna, an African enslaved maid in the Village Tavern at Old Salem. Although retired, she is known for weaving folktales and keeping the rich heritage of storytelling alive by continuing to weave tales throughout NC. Mardia is the Founder and Vice President of the NCABS (North Carolina Association of Black Storytellers) who performs as celebrity storytellers for the National Black Theatre Festival.

Cowtail Switch Award



Jilisa Milton, JD, MSW

Jilisa is an Equal Justice Works Fellow at Alabama Disability Advocacy Program in Montgomery, Alabama. She coordinates the Black Belt Disability Justice Project, which advocates for children with mental health and Autism Spectrum disorders who are involved in the school to prison pipeline in the rural black belt region of Alabama known for its agricultural slave history and history of civil rights. Jilisa is a native of Birmingham, AL and is a community organizer, social worker, and attorney who uses storytelling in various capacities to describe and advocate for civil rights and human rights changes in the south, as well as preserving the true history of southern black folk.



Lovie-Afi Greene

Lovie-Afi Greene is a Junior Elementary Education with a concentration in Special Education at North Carolina A&T State University. As she matriculated through her program, she has the opportunity to volunteer, conduct research, and teach in her local community. Lovie looks forward to life after graduation as she hopes to teach across the world making a difference in education. Although she has attended NABS before, Lovie is excited to attend the conference this year and to finally be with family.

Storytelling has always been a part of Lovie's life. She is excited to continue to study different stories so that one day she can tell hers too.

Baba Jamal Koram Harambee Youth Award



Madison Jackson

Madison Jackson is a member of the KUUMBA Storytellers of Georgia. She has attended two NABS Festivals and won second place in the 2018 Jackie Torrance Tall Tale Contest. She has a natural stage confidence that draws the audience to listening to her every word.

Madison has performed at the Triple Tale, KUUMBA Mama Tales, Black History Programs and 2018 NABS Festivals.

Madison loves, reading, dancing, making "bottle dolls", and enjoys learning and making up stories. She is a very caring person and loves helping others.



Jeremiah Franklin

Jeremiah Franklin is a member of the KUUMBA Storytellers of Georgia. He is a sixth grade honor student who enjoys soccer, holds a yellow belt in taekwondo and dreams of being a great jazz saxophone player. Jeremiah takes pride in being a Royal Ambassador teaching younger boys how to give of themselves through service to people within their community as well around the world and being aware of their responsibilities to Christ being His Ambassadors.

Jeremiah has performed at the Triple Tale, Bear in the Square and 2018 NABS Festivals. He also won 3rd Place in the Jackie Torrance Tall Tale Contest. When Jeremiah isn't engaged in school and his various activities he loves playing videos games, pranking others and making them laugh and hanging out with his best friend.

Linda Jenkins Brown Nia Award for Service



Gwendolyn A. Hilary

Gwendolyn A. Hilary is a Gold Life Member and Treasurer for the National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc. and is a member of ASE: Chicago Association of Black Storytellers where she has served as Secretary, Treasurer, President and currently, Vice President. She is a former administrator, teacher, librarian, and mentor for the Chicago Public Schools with 38 years of service. Featured on television stations Channel 21 and 23, she hosted several educational programs and regularly reviewed books and performed as a storyteller.

Gwen has enjoyed serving as treasurer and on the Board of Directors for NABS, dedicating herself to an organization which she loves. A lifetime experience was being one of the eight NABS members who performed for PANAFEST 2015 in Cape Coast, Elmina, Accra, Ghana.

Service has long been Gwen's mission and motivates her to be involved in volunteerism and community programs. She has written numerous grants that assisted women's shelters, food pantries, the homeless, and local youth. Gwen is devoted to her small church and serves as treasurer, administrator of various programs as well as a lay Assisting Minister. ASE's annual Storytelling for a Cause Concert, which Gwen organizes and chairs, raises funds for NABS and

organizations that provide relief and support for people nationally and in developing counties. For several years, she also organized storytelling "mini" festivals for a school district in Matteson, IL

Gwen has a BS Degree in Foreign Languages (German, French) from Roosevelt University and a Masters in Library Science from Chicago State University. She is humbled and honored to receive this greatest of recognitions, The Linda Jenkins Brown Nia Award.



Zora Neale Hurston Award



Dr. MaryAnn Harris

Dr. MaryAnn Harris is an educator and curator of words, words from the heart, soul, spirit and blood of the ancestors. She approaches life as an activist, leading and following, responding to challenges and "succeeding, against the odds." She believes storytelling, education, history, and culture come together as a four-dimensional artistic project. She demonstrates a "Global Mindset", by absorbing information, traditions and "cultural norms from around the world."

Dr. Harris has been a featured speaker at the National Women's Day Celebration, in Johannesburg, South Africa, Secondary schools in Gaborone, Botswana, and Maseru, Lesotho. She is a recipient of the United States of America's Fulbright-Hays Fellowship. Dr. Harris is also a National Endowment for The Humanities Zora Neale Hurston scholar.

She has journeyed to the United Kingdom to participate in the Gilder Lehman Institute of American History civil rights movement seminar. She has journeyed to China to observe educational techniques in Chinese schools. Dr. Harris has studied Kiswahili and Twi African languages at Ohio University under

sponsorship of the United States Department of State Foreign Language and Area Studies. Dr. Harris embraces storytelling from a viewpoint of Kujichagulia, (determination). According to Dr. Harris this process impacts telling a story from a perspective of cultural, economic, ethical, legal, historical, political, sociological, and musical lenses.

Dr. Harris is a former East Cleveland City Schools, board member. Currently, she serves as a trustee of the East Cleveland Public Library. She is also a life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Dr. Harris served as the 13th president of the National Association of Black Storytellers.

Bryan Stevenson



Bryan Stevenson is the founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI), a human rights organization in Montgomery, Alabama. Mr. Stevenson is a widely acclaimed public interest lawyer who has dedicated his career to helping the poor, the incarcerated, and the condemned. Under his leadership, EJI has won major legal challenges eliminating excessive and unfair sentencing, exonerating innocent death row prisoners, confronting abuse of the incarcerated and the mentally ill, and aiding children prosecuted as adults. Mr. Stevenson and his staff have won reversals, relief or release from prison for over 135 wrongly condemned prisoners on death row and won relief for hundreds of others wrongly convicted or unfairly sentenced. Mr. Stevenson has argued and won multiple cases at the U.S. Supreme Court, including a 2019 ruling protecting condemned prisoners who suffer from dementia and a landmark 2012 ruling that banned mandatory life-without-parole sentences for all children 17 or younger. Mr. Stevenson has initiated major new anti-poverty and anti-discrimination efforts that challenge inequality in America. He led the creation of two highly acclaimed cultural sites which opened in 2018, The Legacy Museum and The National Memorial for Peace and Justice. The new national landmark institutions chronicle the legacy of slavery, lynching and racial segregation and the connection to mass incarceration and contemporary issues of racial bias. Mr. Stevenson's work has won him numerous awards including 40 honorary doctorates, the MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Prize and the ABA Medal, the American Bar Association's highest honor. He is a graduate of the Harvard Law School and the Harvard School of Government and the author of the award winning New York Times bestseller, Just Mercy.

“In The Tradition...”

37th Annual National Black Storytelling Festival & Conference
“Looking Back, Moving Forward”
Montgomery, Alabama
November 6, - November 10, 2019

Schedule of Events

WEDNESDAY, November 6, 2019

6:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Hotel Complimentary Breakfast	
7:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Festival Registration	Registry
10:00AM-10:25 AM	TOUR CHECK-IN	
10:30 AM-5:00 PM	HERITAGE TOUR	

THURSDAY, November 7, 2019

6:00 AM-9:30 AM	Hotel Complimentary Breakfast	
7:30 AM-5:00 PM	Festival Registration	Registry
8:40 AM	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF SCHOLAR Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed, Festival Director	Embassy I
8:45 AM-10:00 AM	SCHOLAR’S PRESENTATION: African American History- How Far Have We Come? Presenter: Dr. Richard Bailey, Author and Historian	Embassy I
10:15 AM-11:30 AM	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS Intersectionality of Storytelling & Public Health Presenters: Dr. David Fakunle and Deborah Pierce Fakunle	Salon A
	The Story Within the Story of African Americans in the Great Migration Presenter: Mary Grant	Salon B
	Silhouettes: Looking Back and Giving Thanks (Youth) Presenter: Willa Bingham	Salon C
11:45 AM-1:30 PM	Brother Blue Circle of Elders Awards Luncheon and Concert	Embassy II

1:45 PM-3:00 PM

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS
NABS WORKSHOP
Creating Successful and Sustainable
Youth Programs For Affiliates
Presenters: Elisha Minter and Keesha Dixon,
Youth Co-Directors

Way Beyond Wikipedia: Crafting Folklife
Into Historical Tales
Presenter: Karen Abdul-Malik

Aesop Remix: How to Craft Old School
Fables into New School Tales (Youth)
Presenter: Saundra Gilliard

3:15 PM-4:45 PM

AKWAABA GATHERING
Sylvia Yancy Davis, Membership Chairperson

3:30 PM-4:30 PM

Affiliate’s President’s Meeting
Salon B

4:00 PM-5:30 PM

The Ancestors’ Drum –
We Are Connected
Youth Drumming Circle
Presenter: Oba William King (Youth)
Governor’s Room

5:30 PM-6:30 PM

VISIT THE MARKETPLACE
Dinner on Your Own
Capitol Ballroom I & II

7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

MOTHER MARY CARTER SMITH
OPENING GALA!
Concert
Linda Jenkins Brown Award
Mother Mary Carter Smith Love Circle
Embassy I & II

FRIDAY, November 8, 2019

6:00 AM-9:30 AM

Hotel Complimentary Breakfast

8:00 AM-12:00 Noon

Festival Registration
Registry

9:00 AM-10:15 AM

Village Telling
NABS Affiliates
Embassy I

10:30 AM-11:15 AM

Conversation with the Elders (Youth)
Mama Linda Goss, Co-Founder
Salon C

10:30 AM-11:45 AM

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS
Mary Carter Smith’s Legacy of
Storytelling And Cultural Heritage
Presenter: Martha Ruff
Salon A

10:30 AM-11:45 AM	"What Am I'm Doing and Why Am I Doing It?" Observations and Reflections on the art form of Storytelling Presenter: Dylan Pritchett	Salon B
12:00 Noon-6:00 PM	Historic Tour- Youth	
12:00 Noon-1:45 PM	Lunch on Your Own	
2:00 PM-4:30 PM	2019 NABS MEMBERSHIP MEETING Induction of New Board Members	Embassy I & II
5:00 PM-7:00 PM	<i>VISIT THE MARKETPLACE</i> Dinner on Your Own	
6:00 PM-8:00 PM	Festival Registration	
7:30 PM-9:30 PM	"In the Tradition..." Concert	Embassy I & II
<u>SATURDAY, November 9, 2019</u>		
7:00 AM-10:00 AM	Hotel Complimentary Breakfast	
9:30 AM-12:00 Noon	Baba Jamal Koram Harambee Youth Awards & Youth Concert	Embassy I & II
12:00 PM-1:30 PM	<i>VISIT THE MARKETPLACE</i> Lunch on Your Own	Capital Ballroom I & II
1:45 PM-2:45 PM	Jackie Torrence Youth Tall Tale Contest	Embassy I & II
2:45 PM-5:00 PM	Jackie Torrence Adult Tall Tale Contest	Embassy I & II
5:30 PM-7:30 PM	DINNER ON YOUR OWN	
7:00 PM-8:00 PM	Festival Registration	Registry
8:00 PM-8:30 PM	Zora Neale Hurston Awards	Embassy I & II
8:30 PM-10:00 PM	Zora Neale Hurston Concert	Embassy I & II
<u>SUNDAY, November 10, 2019</u>		
8:00 AM	Mama Linda Goss Spiritual Breakfast	Embassy I & II
9:30 AM-11:30 AM	Mama Linda Goss Spiritual Breakfast Concert Mama Linda Goss Closing Unity Circle	Embassy I & II Embassy I & II

2019 Festival and Conference Committees

Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed, Festival Director

Awards

Linda Goss
Janice Burnett

Budget and Finance

Deborah Fakunle
Gwen Hilary

Festival Administration

Janice Curtis Greene
Karen "Queen Nur" Abdul-Malik
Bunjo Butler
Carolyn Carroll
Keesha Dixon
Eslyn Hinmon
Vanora Legaux
Elisha Minter
Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed

Program and Selection

Dylan Pritchett
Keesha Dixon
Elisha Minter
Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed, Chairperson

Public Relations

Beverly F. Burnett

Souvenir Journal

Barbara Eady
Dr. Caroliese F. Reed

Volunteers

Beverly Cottman
Oluremi Oliver
TAHIRA AKUA TAHIRA
Affiliate Presidents

Youth

Emily Bailey
Priscilla Best
Jackia Boyd
Oba William King
Willa Brigham
Mitch Capel
Esther Culver
Keesha Dixon, Co-Director
Elisha Minter, Co-Director
Dawn Flowers
Sandra Gilliard
Janice Curtis Greene
Lovey Greene
Emily Lansana
Onam Lansana

STORYTELLING ETHICS AND ETIQUETTE

We always encourage our members to share stories and "pass it on". However, respect for the storyteller and their work is expected.

A storyteller's original stories are copyrighted property. It is unethical and illegal to tell another person's original stories without permission of the storyteller/author. This includes personal and family stories as well as original versions of folklore.

Published stories and poetry are copyrighted but those published before January 1, 1924 are now in Public Domain and may be told by anyone. You may access the Stanford Copyright Renewal Database or the WorldCat Copyright Evidence Registry to determine if a work is still under copyright. In certain settings (schools, libraries) copyrighted works may be shared under Fair Use.

Always ensure that you have the proper permission to tell a story that is not your original work.

We appreciate your attendance and continued support of the "In the Tradition..." Festival.
Asante Sana,

Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed
Festival Director



**GRIOTS' CIRCLE
OF
MARYLAND INC.**



MOTHER MARY CARTER SMITH,
FOUNDER

WE ARE LIVING LIBRARIES



**The Griots' Circle of Maryland Inc. Congratulates NABS
for the 37th Annual National Storytelling Festival and Conference,
" Looking Back, Moving Forward" in Montgomery, Alabama.**

**Congratulations to new NABS board members
Kay Merrill and Dr. David Fakunle
and Janice Curtis Greene inductee to the 2019 Circle of Elders**

**We give thanks for the celebration of the life and legacy
of ancestor Mother Mary Carter Smith, February 10 ,1919-April 24, 2007**



www.griotscircleofmarylandinc.org  facebook.com/Griots.Circle

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary

of our founder's birth, The Griots' Circle of Maryland Inc. declares 2019 the year of

Mother Mary Carter Smith

February 10, 1919 - April 24, 2007



*Lifted up as Ancestor
a Legacy given to all who
See - Hear - Feel
Remember You...
You as Mother, You as Griot
Healing broken hearts
Encouraging creative minds
Bringing light to communities
As a Divine Voice
Penetrating fear
loss and pain
to see possibility in the impossible
to live as an act of love
in peace and reconciliation
with faith in the Almighty
Patient while the Bud of Hope slowly unfurls
to show the Beauty of Pure Love deep inside
Our Mother Griot...
Lifted up as Ancestor
a Legacy given to all who
See - Hear - Feel
Remember You...
You as Mother, You as Griot
We miss you
We love you
We will remember you!*

- In Loving Memory, Diane Macklin

We stand on the shoulders of our founder, Queen Mother Mary

Sponsors

Art Works

National Endowment For The Arts
The Nora Roberts Foundation

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Mother Mary Carter Smith \$40

Eslyn G. Hinmon
Michael Myers
Helen Copeland
Edna Ruff
Clarence Mollock
Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed
Thomas Southern
Ami Jackson

Mama Linda Goss \$25

Barbara Eady
Cheryl Hinton
Kay Merrill
Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed
Thomas Southern
Andrea Fain
Ami Jackson

Patrons

Linda Jenkins Brown \$15

Genevieve Bellamy
Eslyn G. Hinmon
Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed
Thomas Southern
Ami Jackson

Brother Blue \$10

Kay Merrill
Michael Myers
Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed
Joan Nabors
Thomas Southern
Diane Walker
Ami Jackson



Congratulations NABS!

on the 37th Annual "In The Tradition..." National Black Storytelling Festival & Conference



Congratulations to All Awardees

Vanora Franklin Legaux
Executive Director





Keepers Of The Culture, Inc.
Philadelphia's Afrocentric Storytelling Group

Celebrates our esteemed Elders as 2019 recipients of the 
BROTHER BLUE CIRCLE OF ELDERS AWARD



Janice Bishop
"Jawara"
KOTC Co-Founder



Wanda Gigetts
"Mama Wanda"
KOTC Co-Founder



Irma Gardner-Hammond
"Storytelling Irma"
KOTC Past President

We proclaim our pride in our members who have diligently worked for the success of the
37th National Black Storytelling Festival And Conference

Jawara Bishop Charlotte Blake Austin Bunjo Butler Wanda Gigetts
Saundra Gilliard Irma Gardner-Hammond Queen Nur
Dr. Caroliese Frink Reed



KEEPERS OF THE CULTURE, INC.
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(317) 759-4732
www.KOTCINC.org

Paul D. Best "Our Sun Paul", President

"Telling Our Story. Claiming Our Glory!"

CONGRATULATIONS TO **MAMA LINDA GOSS** CO-FOUNDER OF NABS

**The 2019 Recipient of the National Endowment
for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship
in Black Storytelling**



*Photo by Janice Curtis Greene, 16th President of NABS
Photo taken at the Library of Congress after the 2019 NEA Ceremony*

**You may know her as Mama Linda, but we know her as "Mom",
"Sister Cuz", "Mama Butterfly", and "My Wife"**

Clay Goss, Husband of 50 years
Daughters Aisha Goss and Uhuru (Don) Flemming
Son Jamaal Goss
Cousin Sharon (Thomas) Dixon
Friends and Publicists Laura and Bernard Carson

"Storytelling is medicine for the spirit and healing for the soul."

~Mama Linda Goss



*ASE: The Chicago Association of Black Storytellers
celebrating our 20th year*

*Congratulates NABS on the 37th Annual "In The Tradition ..."
National Black Storytelling Festival & Conference*



Congratulations Gwen Hilary!

*NABS Treasurer
Current ASE Vice-President,
Past ASE President,
Secretary & Treasurer*



2019 Linda Jenkins Brown Nia Award for Service



Gwendolyn Hilary

2019 Linda Jenkins Brown NIA Award for Service Recipient

In celebration of receiving the Linda Jenkins Brown NIA Award for Service from the National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc., the Church Family of Gwendolyn Hilary, wishes to offer congratulations to our beloved member who exemplifies a life dedicated to rendering "service." Gwen has embraced her church for 44 years and has served faithfully throughout these years. What a legacy! Your "Mediator Family" is proud of you! We salute you! We love you!

*"...let us not love with word or with tongue but in deed and truth."
1 John 3:18*

Christ the Mediator Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL. 60616
The Reverend Miltoria Bey Sangobiyi MDiv., Pastor



Cleveland Association of Black Storytellers

*Congratulations NABS!
on the 37th National Black Storytelling Festival & Conference
We Salute President Elect-Kwanza Brewer
Featured Teller - Donna Willingham
Special Presenter - Jocelyn Dabney
Zora Neale Hurston Award Recipient
Dr. MaryAnn Harris*



The 14th Annual Sisterhood Luncheon, June 8, 2019



Honoring Our Elders



35th Annual Texas Storytelling Festival

Tejas Live with 35!

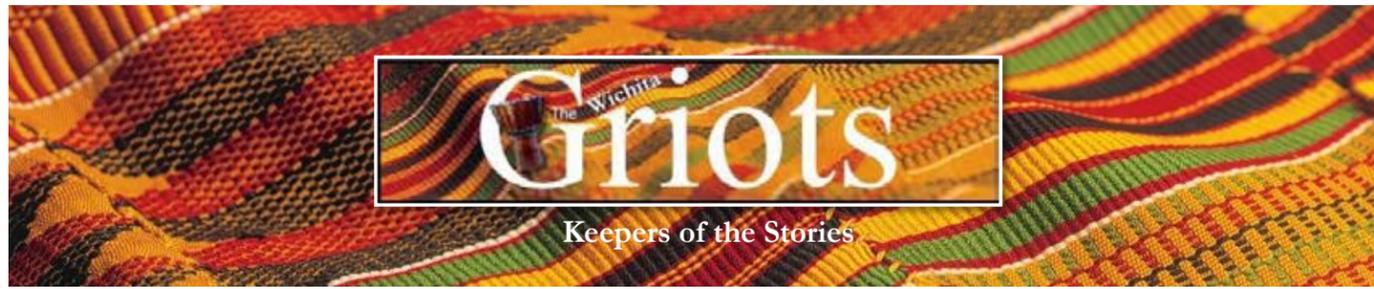
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**Congratulations & Best Wishes
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
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*2019 The Year of Queen Mother
Mary Carter Smith*



February 10, 1919 - April 24, 2007

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Founding Member Arena Players Theater
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Host WEAA Griots for the Young & Young at Heart
Founder Griot's Circle of Maryland
Baltimore's Official Griot
Maryland's Official Griot
Proclaimed America's Mother Griot
Storyteller / Poet / Activist / Teacher / Visionary
And So Much More

Happy 100th Birthday Mother Mary!

I Love You

Janice Curtis Greene, President, National Association of Black Storytellers

**Congratulations to NABS and RIBS director
Valerie Tutson**



SAVE THE DATES

JANUARY 25-FEBRUARY 1, 2020

Join us in Rhode Island

For Full Festival Info: www.ribsfest.org

Featuring Internationally renowned storyteller
Gcina Mhlophe of South Africa
& her daughter **Khwezi Becker** *and more!*



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*Congratulations
to my wife*

*Willa Brigham
Featured Teller*

*@ The 37th Annual
National Black Storytelling
Festival & Conference*



**Congratulations
to My Wife**

Gloria Smith Elder

on being
inducted into the

**Brother Blue
Circle of Elders**

at the
37th Annual
National Black
Storytelling Festival &
Conference

All my love,
Walt



The Family & Friends of
Gwendolyn Hilary

congratulate her on receiving the

**National Association of Black Storytellers
2019 Linda Jenkins Brown Nia Award for Service**



KUUMBA STORYTELLERS OF GEORGIA, INC.



**North Carolina Association of Black Storytellers
Sends Special "CHEERS" to Pat "Mardia" Stepney and Cheryl "Sparkle" Mosley!**

*Congratulations NABS on the 37th Annual
National Black Storytelling Festival & Conference
From President-Elect Kwanza Brewer
Recognizing Lifetime Achievement*



**Mama Linda Goss,
2019 Recipient
National Endowment for the Arts
National Heritage Fellowship**



**Sonia Sanchez, 2019 Recipient
Anisfeld Wolf Book Award for Lifetime Achievement
September 26, 2019, Cleveland Ohio**

**DAUGHTERS OF CREATIVE SOUND
Buffalo, New York
HONORING OUR HISTORY AND CULTURE
with MUSIC, SONG, and STORY
WE APPLAUD NABS FOR NURTURING THE SPIRIT OF SANKOFA!**



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**TRADITION KEEPERS:
BLACK STORYTELLERS OF WNY**

**Celebrating the 37th Annual
National Black Storytelling Festival & Conference
"Looking Back, Moving Forward"
Congratulations to the National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc.!**



[Facebook.com/TKStorytellers](https://www.facebook.com/TKStorytellers)

Congratulations!

Mama Linda Goss

NATIONAL HERITAGE FELLOW 2019

National Endowment for the Arts

Dr. MaryAnn Harris

13th President, (2013 & 2014)

National Association of Black Storytellers

We Salute

Dr. MaryAnn Harris

2019 ZORA NEALE HURSTON AWARD RECIPIENT

"The prestigious Zora Neale Hurston Award is the highest honor awarded annually by the National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc."

Family, Friends, Church

&

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Congratulations

to

The National Association of Black Storytellers

On your 37th Annual Festival Conference

and to

Gloria Elder

On your induction into the Brother Blue Circle of Elders

Amy Johnson, Storyteller

Amysworldofstories@gmail.com; Multicultural stories recognizing the hero in each of us.



Stamps
Florence Henry Samuel
Elizabeth William Clay
Washington Lucy
Willie Willis
Turner
Richard MaryJane
Brown
Arthur
Button
Barrett
Joan Lane
Mary
Noah
Vivian

I am honored to be inducted into the NABS Brother Blue Circle of Elders

I stand on the shoulders of my Ancestors

One Love

Sandra Williams Bush

Congratulations

Linda Jenkins Brown Award Winner

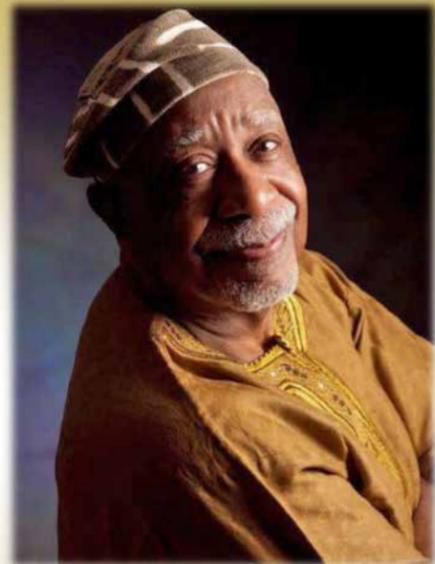
Gwen Hilary

*Well Deserved
My Phenomenal Sister
Well Deserved !*



Love Queen Nur

2019



I continue to share the magic of "STORY"
to all who want to hear.
So proud to be a member of NABS
Much Love!

Thomas Southern

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*Beloved Story Queens of
Keepers Of The Culture, Inc.
JAWARA, WANDA GIGETTS,
STORYTELLING IRMA
2019 Recipients of The Brother Blue
Circle of Elders Award*



The Blackstorytelling League of Rochester salutes

The National Association of Black Storytellers
37th Annual National Festival & Conference:
LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD
www.blackstorytelling.org



Congratulations to Gwen Hilary, our Sister & Mother
2019 Recipient of the
Linda Jenkins Brown Nia Award for Service
National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc.

We are so proud of you!
Marilyn Lyle and Marc & Keith Hilary

Congratulations NABS!

On the 37th Annual "In the Tradition..."
National Black Storytelling Festival & Conference
Montgomery, AL



Detroit Association of Black Storytellers
313-422-DABS (3227)



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(313)622-431

Mary Johnson Grant also known as
Nkenja Maymay



MICHIGAN



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Congratulations to NABS on The 37th Annual National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference



Rosa Ashby Metoyer
NABS Board Member
NABS Care Committee, Chair
Louisiana Storyteller



Charlotte Starks
801.263.3708
charstarks@comcast.net

Congratulations
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On the 37th Annual Festival and
Conference

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Leadership, NSOUL



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NABS RESOURCE ROOM CAPITAL BALLROOM III

SCHEDULE

Thursday, November 7, 2019

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Product Drop Off Only

5:00 PM - 6:15 PM Open for Business

9:30 PM - 11:00 PM Open for Business

Friday, November 8, 2019

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Open for Business

9:30 PM - 11:00 PM Open for Business

Saturday, November 9, 2019

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Open for Business

10:15 PM - 11:30 PM Open for Business



Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson, J. Rosamond Johnson

*Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.*

*Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.*

*God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand.
True to our God,
True to our native land.*

"IN THE TRADITION..."

NABS



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF BLACK STORYTELLERS

*In The
Footsteps
of
The Ancestors*

**38TH ANNUAL
NATIONAL BLACK STORYTELLING
FESTIVAL AND CONFERENCE**

"The Authentic Voice of Black Storytelling"

**November 19-22, 2020
In Richmond, Virginia**

Omni Richmond Hotel
100 S. 12th Street. Richmond VA

Co-Founders
Mother Mary Carter Smith
Mama Linda Goss



**For More Information Visit Our Website
www.nabsinc.org**

The National Association of
Black Storytellers, Inc.

Adopt-A-Teller Program

Monumental In Montgomery

Co-Directors

Bunjo Butler • Queen Nur

Made possible by:



2019 AATP Roster Artists:

Eva Abrams	Baba Jamal Koram
Karima Amin	Elisha Minter
Akua Anokwale Anansesemfo	Kunama Mtendaji
Sheila Arnold	Emily Hooper Lansana
Deborah Asante	Vanora Legaux
Willa Brigham	Diane Macklin
Mitch Capel	Arthuretta Martin
Ilene Evans	Sumner and Linda McClain
Danielle Daniel	Gwendolyn J. Napier
Salaam Green	Dylan Pritchett
Janice Curtis Greene	Toni Simmons
Mary Grant	TAHIRA
Gwen Hilary	Donna Willingham

The Nora Roberts
Foundation



"See you next year when we will be Riveting in Richmond!"