The 44th Eastern Area of The Links, Incorporated Call to Conference A Legacy Inspiring a Bold Future

RICHMOND, VA
APRIL 19-23, 2017
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My Dear Sister Links,

Sometimes, in order to move forward, one must go back. In the Twi language of Ghana, the word Sankofa means, “go back and get it” (san - to return; ko - to go; fa - to fetch, to seek and take). This year’s conference theme is rooted in the traditions of The Links. We are going back to reclaim the bold legacy of our organization and celebrate not only where we have come from, but also the talent and spirit leading the way to where we are heading. This conference marks our 44th year of service to our communities and the strength of the friendships we have made. Our roots are in service and this conference pays homage to that.

I also want to thank each one of you for your hard work and dedication, as well as your attendance at this year’s conference. With life becoming so busy with the hustle and bustle of family and careers, I know it takes a little something extra to be here. So thank you for your time, resources, talents and expertise. Thank you for giving your best selves in service to The Links.

In keeping with tradition, this year’s conference is filled with events and activities for everyone to connect and enjoy. From our opening ceremony, our Great Gatsby themed White Rose Gala, and the return of the Color Guardsmen Processional with the Virginia State University Gospel Chorale, our goal is to educate, inform and inspire you! This is a time to find out more about what is happening within the organization, become more engaged as well as connecting with friends, new and old.

Our Legacy journey could only come this far because of the dedication to community that our members have shown over the years. I am not only honored to be a part of this organization I call family, I am humbled. During the week we will enjoy the best of the arts, entertainment and dining. I look forward to seeing every one of you up close and personal as we celebrate our legacy here in Richmond, a city with a history as rich as our own. So let us go back, reclaim our roots, and then charge forward into the next chapter of The Eastern Area of The Links, Incorporated.

Affectionately yours,

Natalie H. Fant
Eastern Area Director
Greetings to our Link Sisters of The Eastern Area:

As your 2017 Eastern Area Steering Committee, it is truly our honor to be here with you in the historic city of Richmond, Virginia. We hope you enjoy everything you encounter while participating in all the wonderful activities.

Richmond is steeped in a rich African American heritage that stretches from the U.S Antebellum years to today. Among the many firsts that came out of Richmond, was in 1903, when Maggie Lena Walker established St. Luke Penny Savings Bank becoming the first American woman bank president in the United States. Richmond also claims tennis great and HIV/AIDS Activist and philanthropist, Arthur Ashe, whose tireless efforts helped to bring much needed attention and research money to the efforts around treating this disease. What better place could we have visited to strengthen friendship’s chain and to conduct the business of The Eastern Area of The Links Incorporated? What a pleasure to be in a city that has brought forth such inspiring legacy as we make plans to venture forth into our bold future.

When you see your Eastern Area Steering Committee throughout the conference, know that we are here for you. We want you to have the best experience ever. We wish you nothing but the best of wishes for a successful, memorable, and transformational conference.

In Friendship and Love,

The 2017 Eastern Area Conference Steering Committee
It is our pleasure to welcome you all to Virginia. The Central Virginia Cluster is thrilled that you are on your way to Richmond. We have been stockpiling our very best to showcase our region.

The region is steeped in history and laced with five-star venues that include world-class museums, hotels, restaurants and entertainment centers, institutions of higher education, medical centers and churches. Richmond is the home of history makers such as Governor L. Douglas Wilder, Arthur Ashe, Maggie Walker and Oliver Hill. Their stories and other outstanding Virginians fill the walls of the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia. Our region includes so many notable destinations from the Rappahannock area to Petersburg.

Richmond and the surrounding neighborhoods are vibrant and rich with talented and accomplished individuals. We are so proud of the more than 200 strong link sisters who have made their home in the large geographic region that makes-up the Central Virginia Cluster. We boast educators, physicians, judges, lawyers, dentists, business owners, legislators, public officials and more. We are the leaders called upon by the larger community because of the results of our numerous projects that emerge from our dedicated facet work. We can trace millions of dollars that we have invested in initiatives for the most needy in our communities.

Please know we are poised and ready to make our home, your home for your stay throughout the duration of the 2017 Eastern Area conference.

We are on board and fully embrace the conference theme “A Legacy Inspiring A Bold Future.”

Welcome Sister Links, Connecting Links and Heir o’ Links!
CENTRAL VIRGINIA CLUSTER STEERING COMMITTEE
2017 EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE

McClenny, Rita Denise
Richmond (VA) Chapter
CVC Steering Committee Co-Chair

West, Marilyn H.
Richmond (VA) Chapter
1st Vice President
CVC Steering Committee Chair

Wilson, Ernestine G.
Petersburg (VA) Chapter
CVC Steering Committee Co-Chair

Booker, Margie R.
Commonwealth (VA) Chapter
CVC Steering Committee Financial Co-Chair

Brandon, Ed.D., Yvonne W.
Commonwealth (VA) Chapter
President

Byrd, Lisa Lovings
Richmond (VA) Chapter
CVC Steering Committee Finance Chair

Harris, Jill Bussey, D.M.D.
Richmond (VA) Chapter
President

Harris-Braxton, Kelly, Esq.
Richmond (VA) Chapter
Immediate Past President

Jones, Valarie Abbott
James River Valley (VA) Chapter
Immediate Past President

Moore, Marie M.*
Commonwealth (VA) Chapter
Immediate Past President

Muse, Rose B.
Petersburg (VA) Chapter
President

Parks, Beblon G
James River Valley (VA) Chapter
President

Sinkler, Beth
Rappahannock (VA) Chapter
CVC Steering Committee Recording Secretary

Topps, Jacinta, M.D.
Rappahannock (VA) Chapter
President

*in memoriam
The Central Virginia Cluster will roll out a Community Service Project to heighten the awareness of the senior sector of citizens in the Richmond Metro Richmond about the leading causes of death, focusing on diabetes and heart disease in the African American community. The targeted seniors will be provided with a menu of interventions and approaches to prevent and manage chronic diseases to help promote healthy living. The vehicle for conveying information and options for reducing and/or eliminating the risk factors associated with heart disease and diabetes will be a health fair, which will address the service delivery model.

Supporting the health fair will be health advocates and experts from diverse providers and practitioners specializing in the prevention and treatment of chronic diseases for the aging population and their care givers. Participants will learn that they have within their control the means to reverse poor health status that results from cardiovascular disease and diabetes by understanding risk factors associated with the disease, taking steps to manage the unhealthy medical condition and adopting practices to sustain a healthy lifestyle.

Featured stations on the participants’ journey through the health fair include Health Screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, BMI and diabetes. The following stations will be included: Dental Hygiene; Medication Tips; Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease Prevention/Management; Healthy Eating Habits; Keeping a Healthy Mind and Outlook. Among the current participating organizations are the American Heart Association, the American Diabetes Association, the Behavioral Health Authority and Senior Connections.

Join Us Link Sisters and Connecting Links as Our Honored Guests and Boost Your Understanding of Behaviors that Promote Healthy Living for the Aging Population, Extend Life Expectancy and Minimize the Impact of Chronic Disease.

**DATE:**
Wednesday, April 19

**TIME:**
9:30AM - 12:30PM

**LOCATION:**
Cedar Street Baptist Church
2301 Cedar Street
Richmond, VA 23223

**TRANSPORTATION:**
Provided for all Registered Links and Connecting Links for the CSP
Welcome to the 44th Eastern Area Conference of The Links Incorporated.

We ask you to indulge yourself in the excitement of our Opening Ceremony as we once again continue to strengthen Friendship’s Chain. Let it be known that your experience at this conference will be memorable, impactful and will strengthen your commitment to the mission of our beloved Links Incorporated. Whether this is your first Area Conference or your tenth, you will be sure to learn something new and strengthen something old.

As we gather to highlight our accomplishments over the past two years and to decide our path for the next two, let us do so with renewed focus and invigorated fervor. Let us highlight our programs, which through our 5 Facets, are the foundation of our purpose and organization. Let us work to make our operations more efficient and productive therefore affording The Eastern Area the opportunity to support our programs and chapters whilst they go about the business of promoting our Links Brand throughout the entire Eastern Area.

It is with great pride that we enrich this year’s opening ceremony with the phenomenal voices of the award winning Virginia State University Gospel Chorale and Grammy nominated Melba Moore. The Virginia State University Gospel Chorale has been featured on America’s Got Talent and has performed for The Pope in Vatican City. They have also performed at the official kick-off events for President Obama’s National Day of Service during his second inauguration weekend. Melba Moore, whose smooth, sultry, rich vocals have blessed the airways and the stages of Broadway for more than 4 decades. One of her major accomplishments was being instrumental in having “Lift Every Voice and Sing” inducted in the United States Library of Congress as the official Black National Anthem. She will also bless us with an additional selection of her choice.
The Opening Procession, led by the Color Guard carrying the American Flag and the Virginia State Flag, will include our National Presidents, our Area Director, our Area Vice-Director, our Past Area Directors, our Area Leadership Team, our 76 Chapter Presidents, and our Central Virginia Cluster members. This procession is living proof of our Links Legacy which is what our future is solidly built upon. Please extend your warmest and most sisterly of greetings to them and all of our Sister Links attending our 44th Eastern Area Conference. Look for a wonderful inspirational surprise during our Opening Ceremony, which will surely set your hearts aglow!

Please enjoy the reception for the Opening Ceremony and use the evening to make new friends, strengthen old connections and gear up for the business at hand. We have all convened at this one time and place to continue to build our legacy and to Welcome The Eastern Area Links to Richmond Virginia!
Fit-Links - Workout to Wellness

Fitness is important to our overall health and well-being. With that in mind, we must stay fit in order to continue pushing forward with the great work of our organization. The Eastern Area Heart Links Committee, led by Chair Nicolette Martin has planned some exciting fitness activities.

We are thrilled to offer the first annual FIT-LINKS WORKOUT TO WELLNESS, starting Thursday, April 20th, running through Saturday, April 22nd from 5:30 A.M. to 6:15 A.M.

Getting us pumped and ready to begin our day will be our special guest, Ricky Martin. Ricky has over 30 years’ experience in the fitness and wellness industry. He holds certification through the American Federation of Fitness and Aerobics Instructors in Les Mills Body Jam, Gentle Yoga, Reiki, and Group Exercise. Ricky is excited to help us begin our day and looks forward to motivating folks of all fitness levels.

Prizes will be given to Link Sisters who have signed up and completed the FIT- LINKS WORKOUT TO WELLNESS events. The winners will be drawn randomly.

Whether you are a beginner or an avid fitness lover, pack your workout clothes and sneakers and get ready to become a FIT- LINK in 2017!

Nicholette Martin, MD  
Eastern Area Heart Links Chair
YOU ARE INVITED!
Link Sisters and Connecting Links as our honored guests to experience art, entertainment, local Virginia foods and so much more...

... on Thursday evening, April 20th at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA). Amidst world-renowned exhibits you’ll find a lively venue filled with inspiring collections.

The VMFA is one of the top comprehensive art museums in the United States. The museum’s permanent collection comprises more than 35,000 works of art spanning 5,000 years of world history. Collections of Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Modern and Contemporary American, South Asian and African art are some of the finest in the nation. Noteworthy exhibits, which have attracted people from all over the U.S. and world, include Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Kehinde Wiley, Edvard Munch, and Fabergé of America. A beautiful Elizabeth Catlett sculpture, titled “Standing Mother and Child” donated by Richmond (VA) Chapter is featured in the collection.

In a stunning contemporary setting, you will be treated as you arrive to a signature cocktail and enjoy regionally inspired dishes fit for a queen created by Chef Greg Haley. In every corner of the museum, you can stroll to view exhibits and enjoy an evening of entertainment, art, food and good fellowship with your Link sisters.

Date: Thursday, April 20, 2017
Time: 7:00 P.M. Cocktails and “Taste of Virginia Food”;
5:30 PM “Taste of Virginia” Food;
8:00 P.M. Entertainment;
9:00 P.M. Coffee & Dessert
Location: Virginia Museum of Fine Art
Event: Reception Hosted by the Central Virginia Cluster*
Transportation: Provided for all Registered Links and Connecting Links for Taste of Virginia

*Commonwealth (VA), James River (VA), Petersburg (VA), Rappahannock (VA) and Richmond (VA) Chapters
Legacy Luncheon

One of the biggest highlights of the conference is our Legacy Luncheon. Here, we will celebrate years of friendship and dedicated service. We will honor past administration for their dedication, commitment and hard work to Links Incorporated.

Their hard work reflects an enduring legacy that not only allows us to imagine the possibilities, but to realize a future that paves the way for future generations.

Past National Presidents and Past Eastern Area Directors will share stories about their ascension in administration, their trials and tribulations.

These talented leaders will share uplifting and compelling stories about their years of service to The Links, Incorporated. For sure, the stories about the excitement and bonding that took place among extraordinary women will make you laugh and cry as we celebrate the beauty of sisterhood.

Our Panelists will include:

National Presidents
8th - Dolly Desselle Adams
9th - Regina Jollivette Frazier
11th - Patricia Russell- McCloud
13th - Gladys Gary Vaughn
14th - Gwendolyn B. Lee
15th - Margot James Copeland

Eastern Area Directors
9th - Betty King Obiajulu
11th - Cecelia B. Henderson
12th - Alethia L. Spraggins
13th - Joyce C. Lowe
14th - Bishetta D. Merritt
15th - Dianne S. Hardison

These women, each with their own unique skills, talents and gifts joined together making a positive impact on Linkdom and their communities culturally, educationally and economically for generations to come.

We honor you for your service and dedication!
Each year, members of The Links, Incorporated, commit more than 500,000 hours to serving their communities. The giving of their time, talents and resources does not go unnoticed and deserves to be recognized. We will honor you Oscar Style, complete with “green” carpet, flashing lights, paparazzi and a Links statue for the outstanding work you do with our programming facets. Have your photo taken on the “green” carpet and show off!

You are all distinguished women, individual achievers and you take the time to make a difference in your communities and abroad. You are business and civic leaders, innovators, ground-breakers, role models, mentors, activists and volunteers, all working towards a common vision by engaging like-minded organizations and individuals for partnership. Your great work is strengthening your communities and enhancing the nation.

Thank you so much for your commitment of time and energy!
Check out what The New York Times and The Boston Globe had to say about Ron Brown & Evidence:

**The New York Times** review reads, “...Deep, spiritual seriousness. A sophisticated mastery of the stage. Music that makes you want to move. A vocabulary, drawn from many parts of the African diaspora, that Mr. Brown developed into a personal language that’s flexible, richly expressive and irresistibly kinetic....”

**The Boston Globe** review reads, “...Brown takes his audiences to church... a sense of grounded spirituality and abiding humanism that runs through his dances like a deep vein, including the three Boston premieres that he and the eight exquisite dancers of his EVIDENCE, A DANCE COMPANY.”

Brown founded Evidence in 1985 and this acclaimed Dance Company is known for leaving its audience mesmerized by the flow and grace of their performances. Brown has set works on Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Ballet Hispanico. Brown is a passionate advocate for the growth of the African-American dance community and uses movement as a way to acquaint audiences with the beauty of traditional African forms and rhythms. Mr. Brown choreographed Regina Taylor’s award-winning play, Crown, for which he won an AUDELCO Award. In addition, he has received a John Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship, a National Endowment for the Arts Choreographers Fellowship, a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship and a United States Artists Fellowship, among others.

The University of Richmond is excited to host three private shows exclusively for the Eastern Area Links at the Modlin Center for the Arts located on their campus in Richmond, Virginia. The center opened in 1996 and features state of the art performance venues, galleries and studios. We have plenty of seating for all Links however; show times will be on a first come first serve basis using the show schedule listed below.

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<th>Evidence Show Schedules</th>
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<td>SHOW #1 7:00PM - 8:00PM</td>
<td>Four Corners, March &amp; Grace</td>
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<td>SHOW #2 8:45PM - 9:45PM</td>
<td>Four Corners, March &amp; Grace</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHOW #3 10:30PM - 11:30PM</td>
<td>Four Corners, March and “A Conversation with Ron Brown”</td>
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Recognizing the call to our community and providing solutions to their needs are the premises of why we have a Civic Luncheon. The individuals that we honor have answered the call to bring awareness and solutions for those in our community whose voices may sometimes go unheard. As an organization that prides itself on delivering outstanding civically minded programming, and recognizing those who walk this journey with us, also shows the community that no one does this alone. We strengthen our community ties and organizational brand by recognizing those who strive to bring about the same societal changes that will strengthen and nurture our communities all over the world.

Emmy-nominated actor, director and producer, Tim Reid is just that type of person. He will join us to talk about his work through his Legacy Media Institute, which is a great example of the civically minded mission our organization values. He works with international students, as well as, emerging filmmakers and nurtures the art of filmmaking through films that promote excellence and accountability in creating media that reflects a diverse global society. He has been a champion of using his craft to share the unique legacy of people of African descent who played essential roles in shaping the destiny of America.

Glenda F. Newell-Harris MD, our National President, will address the attendees at the Civic Luncheon. As a nationally celebrated board certified physician, Dr. Newell-Harris has worked for many years to bring change to the communities to which she has served. Among her civic activities, she has been a municipal health commissioner as well as having worked as the consultant in various healthcare settings ensuring equitable care for all. Dr. Newell-Harris is the recipient of the National Medical Association’s highest honor, the Scroll of Merit, which aptly represents the mighty civic force we have in our national president.
Civic Luncheon

continued

The Honorable Levar Stoney, who is the youngest mayor in Richmond’s history, not only brought youth to Richmond’s city hall, but a spirit of civic service that he developed long before he was elected mayor. As we wind up our conference, he will bid us farewell and surely acknowledge the strong relationship forged between his great city and our illustrious sisterhood.

Congressman Bobby Scott, the first African-American elected to Congress from the Commonwealth of Virginia since Reconstruction and only the second African-American elected to Congress in Virginia’s history will also join in our civic excitement.

As we continue our journey towards making a difference in our respective communities, remember that the legacy you leave will be the inspiring foundation for a bold future.
EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE EVENTS

THE WHITE ROSE GALA

APRIL 22, 2017
7:30 P.M. - 11:30 P.M.

WE INVITE YOU TO AN EVENING OF SOPHISTICATION, CELEBRATION AND FUN!
To end the 44th Eastern Area Conference we invite you to an evening of sophistication, celebration, and fun! Please join us in celebrating our long-held traditions of friendship and service during our “Great Gatsby” themed White Rose Gala held at the historic, Science Museum in Richmond, Virginia at the Dewey Gottwald Center - Part of the Science Museum of Virginia (SMV) Campus. Hosted by actress, model, designer and film producer Daphne Maxwell Reid.

Jay Gatsby spared no expense when it came to his friends and guests and neither have we. Be prepared to dine on a scrumptious, hearty meal prepared by a local, top rated caterer and although the “Great Gatsby” was set during Prohibition, that didn’t prevent liquor from flowing freely, and so likewise, we will be serving specialty cocktails.

The Richmond Science Museum is rich in history and is the ideal venue to host our special event. The Museum has several major exhibition galleries and preserved historic areas, which make the perfect backdrop for our Gala.
Daphne Maxwell Reid, best known as Aunt Vivian from the hit comedy, “The Fresh Prince of Bel Air” will serve as our Mistress of Ceremony for the evening. Her 40-year acting career is still vital with roles on many new television programs including as the host of “Virginia Currents” on Richmond’s WCVE (PBS). Presently serving on the following boards, her involvement in the community at large rounds out a full schedule; Honorary Co-Chair National Arts & Letters Commission of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Virginia Foundation For The Humanities Board, The Richmond Forum Board, the Petersburg Area Art League Board, and the Citizens’ Action Commission for the Governor’s Mansion.

Be sure to join us for this ultimate roaring 20s affair of cocktails, dinner and dancing to a spectacular live musical performance by Johnny Graham & The Groove. This band features the jazzy and improvisational sounds of the Harlem Renaissance, showcasing trumpeter, Johnny Graham, as the exceptional talent that he is.

In between the bands performance, local DJ Michael Raines will entertain us. Over the years, Michael has been invited to perform all across Europe and will treat us to a variety of musical hits from classic oldies to Top 40.

The roaring 1920s was a magical time. **Ladies:** be sure to pack your best white flapper, tassel or sequined dress; 1920s style jewelry; hair decoration; and a feather fan, the larger the better!

**Men:** we are looking forward to seeing your 3 piece pinstripe or black full dress; or elegant white.

And if you want to be more adventurous, don’t forget your two tone shoes, hat, and cotton gloves!
CONFERENCE TIDBITS
Knowing what to wear ahead of time at the Eastern Area 2017 Conference will lend to a comfortable and pleasant experience. Below you will find dress requirements and suggestions of what to wear to each of the events. Couple these suggestions with your dress hats, dainty fascinators, dressy shoes, and the prettiest of Links’ Pins and you will be dressed to Impress!

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<td>Wednesday, April 19, 2017</td>
<td>Cedar Street Baptist Church</td>
<td>Business Comfortable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Service</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 19, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
<td>Uninterrupted White (Required)</td>
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<tr>
<td>44th Eastern Area Conference Opening Ceremony and Reception</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 19, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
<td>Uninterrupted White or Links’ Chic</td>
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<td>Fit - Links Workout to Wellness</td>
<td>Thursday, April 20, 2017</td>
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<td>Plenary Sessions - 1st, 2nd</td>
<td>Thursday, April 20, 2017</td>
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<td>Thursday, April 20, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
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<td>Plenary Session - 3rd</td>
<td>Thursday, April 20, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
<td>Business Attire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ventrail Virginia Cluster (CVC) Taste of Virginia</td>
<td>Thursday, April 20, 2017</td>
<td>The Virginia Museum of Fine Art</td>
<td>Links’ Chic</td>
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<td>Eastern Area Hospitality Suite</td>
<td>Thursday, April 20, 2017</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Comfortable</td>
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<td>Fit - Links Workout to Wellness</td>
<td>Friday, April 21, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
<td>Workout Clothes and Sneakers</td>
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<td>Program Workshops</td>
<td>Friday, April 21, 2017</td>
<td>Altria Theater</td>
<td>Business Attire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Luncheon</td>
<td>Friday, April 21, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
<td>Business Attire</td>
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## Tips for Dress

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<td>Plenary Session - 4th</td>
<td>Friday, April 21, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
<td>Business Attire</td>
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<td>Alvin Ailey’s Famed Choreographer, Ron Brown &amp; His Evidence Dance Company</td>
<td>Friday, April 21, 2017</td>
<td>University of Richmond, Modlin Center for the Arts</td>
<td>Elegant evening Theater Attire, Reminiscent of Kennedy Center Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Area Hospitality Suite</td>
<td>Friday, April 21, 2017</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Comfortable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fit - Links Workout to Wellness</td>
<td>Saturday, April 22, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
<td>Workout Clothes and Sneakers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations Workshops Sessions 1 and 2</td>
<td>Saturday, April 22, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
<td>Business Attire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Civic Luncheon</td>
<td>Saturday, April 22, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
<td>Business Attire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plenary Session - 5th</td>
<td>Saturday, April 22, 2017</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel</td>
<td>Plenary Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Rose Gala, Great Gatsby Theme</td>
<td>Saturday, April 22, 2017</td>
<td>The Science Museum of Virginia (SMV), at the Dewey Gottwald Center - Part of SMV [Optional Ticketed Event]</td>
<td>The roaring 1920s was a magical time. Ladies: be sure to pack your best white flapper, tassel or white sequins dress; 1920s style jewelry; hair decoration; and a feather fan, the larger the better! Men: we are looking forward to seeing your 3-piece pinstripe or black full dress; or elegant white. And if you want to be more adventurous, don’t forget your two-tone shoes, hat, and cotton gloves.</td>
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MEMBER CERTIFICATION

To retain membership in The Links, Incorporated, participation beyond the Chapter level is required. The member certification regulation, better known as the “one-in-five” rule, mandates that: A member must register for, attend, and participate in at least one (1) National Assembly or one (1) Area Conference within every five-year period, beginning with the 33rd National Assembly held in Chicago in 2002. Members must attend two plenaries, one operational workshop, and one program workshop in order to be in compliance at the 2017 Eastern Area Conference. This provision does NOT apply to alumna and provisory members.

REGISTRATION/PAYMENT

There are different registration types for Links Members/Connecting Links/Signficant Others/Guests. The registration information section for Connecting Links, Significant Others, and Guests can be found by referencing the Table of Contents.

All registration must be completed online at easternarealinks.org in the Members Only Section.

LINKS BASIC REGISTRATION FEE: $695.00

LINKS HOST CHAPTER BASIC REGISTRATION FEE: $680.00

LINKS OPTION ACTIVITY FEE: White Rose Gala, Great Gatsby Theme [Saturday, April 22, 2017, 7:30 P.M. – 10:30 P.M.] $150.00

ACCEPTABLE REGISTRATION PAYMENT TYPES:
American Express; VISA; MasterCard; and Discover credit cards are accepted. We also offer eChecks as a payment option.

REGISTRATION CLOSES ON TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017 AT 11:59 P.M. EST.

THERE WILL BE NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION FOR THE 44TH EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE.

PLENARY SESSIONS AND LUNCHEONS SEATING ARE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

Individual event and activity tickets will not be refunded after Monday, March 20, 2017.

For any refund requests after Monday, March 20, 2017, a request must be sent in writing to The Eastern Area of The Links, Incorporated EAC2017 Mailbox (EAC2017@easternarealinks.org) for approval by the Eastern Area Executive Committee. Refund requests due to illnesses, deaths, acts of God, and unforeseen circumstances are left to the discretion of the Executive Committee, considering financial information received after the conclusion of the Eastern Area Conference. If granted a refund, the attendee will only be refunded up to one-half (50%) of the registration fee. All refunds will be issued AFTER the conclusion of the Eastern Area Conference.
CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY

All cancellations and requests for refunds of Eastern Area registration fees (and optional activity fees) must be presented in writing to The Eastern Area of The Links, Incorporated EAC2017 Mailbox (EAC2017@easternarealinks.org) on or before Monday, March 20, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. EST to be considered for reimbursement less a $100.00 processing fee.

QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Online Registration:
Eventsibles, Inc.
support@eventsibles.zendesk.com
Tel: 678 254-3254

Eastern Area Website:
webmaster@easternarealinks.org

General Conference Queries:
EAC2017@easternarealinks.org

DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Each chapter is required to have a delegate at the Assembly. The delegate should be registered by Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. EST. If the name of the delegate is unknown as of Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. EST, the chapter should register the delegate under the chapter’s name. A name change will be permitted for delegates only. This must be done by Thursday, April 6, 2017 no later than 7:00 p.m. EST. Please contact Eventsibles, Inc.
support@eventsibles.zendesk.com or Tel: 678 254-3254.
The following special committees will be comprised of volunteers from all Chapters. We encourage all members to volunteer to serve on one of these special committees. Those members who are selected to serve on one of these committees will be expected to attend the respective orientation meeting on Wednesday, April 19, 2017, 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M at the Marriott Richmond Downtown Hotel.

**DOORKEEPERS** help to enforce the rules of the conference during plenary sessions and some special events. These committee members will control the flow of traffic and direct the seating of delegates/alternates and general audience. Doorkeepers will monitor entrance and exit procedures to limit program disruptions. These members will be guided by and work closely with the sergeant-at-arms and her committee.

**FLOOR COURIERS** facilitate communication between the officers, delegates and other Links. The committee members function in all plenary sessions to facilitate the smooth conduct of business by assisting officers and delegates as needed. The committee works closely with the Area Secretary and the Area Recorder.

**TIMEKEEPERS** monitor timing during the plenary sessions. Committee members must be fair and ensure that all time guidelines are adhered to. The committee works closely with the Area Secretary and the Area Recorder.

**HOSTESSES/PROTOCOL COMMITTEE** welcomes and assists with the seating of Links and guests at each meal function, plenary session, and some special events. Prior to meal functions and events, committee members assist with distribution and placement of materials, favors and gifts. Special attention will be given to the needs of physically challenged Links and guests. This committee will work closely with the Eastern Area Hostess and Protocol Committees as well as the Eastern Area Alumna and Platinum Affairs Committees.

**MEDICAL SUPPORT COMMITTEE** is comprised of medical professionals (M.D., N.P. and P.A.) who agree to support our members who may need medical ‘triage’ during the Eastern Area Conference. Committee members agree to serve for three-hour time periods throughout the Conference, including as a stand-by medical professional in the exhibit hall (if needed). Time slots will be assigned after the volunteer committee list is completed. For liability purposes, all medical professional volunteers will be required to present a copy of their medical license.

**LOGISTICS COMMITTEE** is responsible for the smooth operations of the Eastern Area Conference. They will work with every other committee.
During the conference, a first aid station will be available daily just outside the main ballroom at the Richmond Marriott. Anyone in need of minor medical care should report to the first aid station immediately.

We care specializes in helping our aging members who still desire to engage in friendship activities. Our experienced team will be there to assist during our 44th Eastern Area Conference. They will embrace our aging members in a loving way while showing the respect, care and compassion that all our members deserve.

Their mission is to activate and energize the personal relationships with our Alumna and Platinum members and to recognize contributions and provide support where needed.

*Please remember to bring your health insurance card(s) and a list of all medications with dosages.*

**“We Care” Committee Chairs**

Cynthia J. Gresham  
Chair  
Greater Queens (NY) Chapter

Inez N. Richardson  
Co-Chair  
Metro-Manhattan(NY) Chapter
Medical/Emergency Aid Form

Please complete the important emergency contact information below. Print out a copy and place it in the back of your conference ID badge holder.

IMPORTANT EMERGENCY INFORMATION (ICE)

Name (Last) ___________________________________________ (First) ___________________________________________

Home Number ___________________________________________ Cell Number ___________________________________________

In Case of Emergency (ICE) Contact Info:

Name ___________________________________________

ICE Home No. ___________________________ ICE Cell No. ___________________________

Allergies Yes___ No____ Type __________________________________________________________

Medical Precautions (Diabetes, Asthma, etc..) ______________________________________________________________

Medications/Dosage * _________________________________________________________________

Pharmacy No. _________________________________________________________________

*please bring extra medication with you

If you require a wheelchair or scooter, please contact the following, directly:

Discount Medical Supply
1220 North Blvd
Richmond, VA 23230
804-354-6746

Clay Medical
333 South Crater Road
Petersburg, VA 23805
804-861-1606

All Med
9820 Midlothian Turnpike
Richmond, VA 23235
804-864-0011
Transportation for the 44th Eastern Area Conference will be provided by James River Transportation. Since 1928, James River Bus Lines has been a recognized leader in transportation solutions. Serving a diverse client base worldwide, the firm’s rich history sprang from modest beginnings in rural Virginia where its one and only bus would bring passengers to Richmond for daily shopping. Today, the firm is headquartered in Richmond, Virginia, and features a fleet of more than 80 vehicles including buses, motor-coaches, mini-coaches, limousines, executive sedans, vans and SUVs. Now called James River Transportation, the company provides a broad array of transportation solutions to an ever-expanding mark.

This reliable and almost 80 year old transportation company will be on hand to make sure we arrive to all of our plenary sessions, workshops, and activities in comfort and on-time and return back to our hotels when all is done. The coach buses will do pick-ups and drop-offs at all of the hotels listed as one of our conference hotels. All of the hotels are with-in a 1 mile radius and will be on the coach bus stops schedule. There will also be transportation for all of our evening activities.
HOUSING
We have selected the best centrally located accommodations in Richmond, Virginia. The host hotel is the Richmond Marriott Downtown with 5 additional hotels to choose from, ALL located within minutes of the Marriott and Altria Theatre where plenary sessions will take place.

Transportation will be provided to and from the hotels to the conference events. Registered attendees can benefit from a continental breakfast at the Richmond Marriott Downtown or breakfast at your selected choice hotel.

- **From Richmond International Airport:**
  I-64West to 5th Street, Exit #190. Hotel is three blocks on Left.

- **From I-95South:**
  North to Broad Street Exit #74C. Hotel is 10 blocks on the Right. Corner of 5th and Broad Street.

- **From I-95 North:**
  Take Exit # 74C (Broad Street West) proceed straight ahead for 10 blocks hotel is on the right

- **From Richmond Amtrak Train Station:**
  Head Northwest on E. Main Street toward South 15th Street; Turn Right at the 2nd cross Street onto N. 14th Street; Turn Left onto E. Broad Street
**EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE HOUSING**

**HOTELS & LODGING**

---

**AMENITIES**
- Free WiFi
- Free WiFi in lobby
- 405 smoke-free guestrooms
- Restaurant and bar/lounge
- Indoor pool
- Breakfast available
- Free area shuttle
- Fitness center
- Valet parking
- Conference center
- Air conditioning
- Daily housekeeping
- Front desk safe

**Food and drink:**
- Restaurant
- Bar/lounge
- Coffee shop/café
- Room service (during limited hours)

**Things to do:**
- Fitness facilities

**Working away:**
- Business center

**Services:**
- Tours/ticket assistance
- Dry cleaning/laundry service
- Laundry facilities

---

**MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN HOST HOTEL**

**Room Type**
- Run of House

**Room Desc.**
- 2 Double Beds or 1 King

**Nightly Rate**
- $150/night

**Taxes**
- 8.00% City Tax
- 5.30% State Tax

**Total**
- **169.95/night**

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**CROWNE PLAZA RICHMOND DOWNTOWN**

**Room Type**
- King Room
- Double Room

**Room Desc.**
- 2 Double Beds or 1 King

**Nightly Rate**
- $169/night

**Taxes**
- 8.00% City Tax
- 5.30% State Tax

**Total**
- **191.95/night**

---

**AMENITIES**
- Free WiFi
- 298 smoke-free guestrooms
- 2 restaurants
- Indoor pool
- Breakfast available
- Free area shuttle
- Fitness center
- Valet parking
- 24-hour business center
- 24-hour front desk
- Air conditioning
- Daily housekeeping
- Front desk safe

**Food and drink:**
- 2 restaurants
- Bar/lounge
- Coffee shop/café
- Room service (during limited hours)

**Working away:**
- 24-hour business center

**Services:**
- Dry cleaning/laundry service
- Laundry facilities
- Free newspapers in lobby
- Luggage storage
- Multilingual staff
- Porter/bellhop
HOTELS & LODGING

OMNI HOTELS

Room Type: Standard Deluxe Room
Room Desc.: 2 Double Beds or 1 King or 1 Queen
Nightly Rate: $150/night
Taxes: 8.00% City Tax, 5.30% State Tax
Total: 169.95/night

AMENITIES
- Free WiFi in lobby
- 361 smoke-free guestrooms
- Restaurant and bar/lounge
- Indoor pool
- Breakfast available
- Free area shuttle
- Fitness center
- Valet parking
- Conference center
- 24-hour front desk
- Air conditioning
- Daily housekeeping
- Front desk safe

Food and drink:
- Restaurant
- Bar/lounge
- Coffee shop/cafè

Working away:
- Business center

Services:
- 24-hour front desk
- Concierge services
- Tours/ticket assistance
- Dry cleaning/laundry service
- Luggage storage

EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE HOUSING

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT

Room Type: Standard Double, Standard King
Room Desc.: 2 Double Beds or 1 King
Nightly Rate: $165/night
Taxes: 8.00% City Tax, 5.30% State Tax
Total: 186.95/night

AMENITIES
- Free WiFi and free parking
- 154 smoke-free guestrooms
- Restaurant and bar/lounge
- Indoor pool
- 24-hour fitness center
- 24-hour business center
- 24-hour front desk
- Air conditioning
- Lobby fireplace
- Laundry service

Food and drink:
- Restaurant
- Bar/lounge
- Coffee shop/cafè

Working away:
- 24-hour business center

Services:
- 24-hour front desk
- Dry cleaning/laundry service
- Laundry facilities
- Free newspapers in lobby

Things to do:
- Indoor pool
- 24-hour fitness facilities
HOTELS & LODGING

Hilton
RICHMOND DOWNTOWN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>King Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room Desc.</td>
<td>King Room Only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nightly Rate</td>
<td>$209/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>8.00% City Tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.30% State Tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>236.80/night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AMENITIES**
- Free WiFi
- 250 guestrooms
- Restaurant and bar/lounge
- Free area shuttle
- 24-hour fitness center
- Valet parking
- 24-hour business center
- 24-hour front desk
- Air conditioning
- Lobby fireplace
- Front desk safe

**Food and drink:**
- Restaurant
- Bar/lounge
- Coffee shop/café
- Room service (during limited hours)

**Things to do:**
- Indoor pool
- Spa Tub

**Services:**
- 24-hour front desk
- Dry cleaning/laundry service
- Laundry facilities
- Luggage Storage

Residence Inn
Marriott

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Standard Double</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room Desc.</td>
<td>Standard King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nightly Rate</td>
<td>$165/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>8.00% City Tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.30% State Tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>186.95/night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AMENITIES**
- WiFi
- Fitness center
- Valet parking
- 24-hour business center
- Coffee/tea in a common area
- Air conditioning
- Daily housekeeping
- Garden
- Computer station
- Lobby fireplace
- Front desk safe

**Food and drink:**
- Free hot/cold buffet
- Breakfast daily
- Coffee/tea in a common area
- Barbecue grills

**Working away:**
- 24-hour business center
- Computer station

**Services:**
- Dry cleaning/laundry service
- Laundry facilities
- Free grocery shopping service
- Free newspapers in lobby
- Luggage storage
CONFERENCESCHEDULE
## EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### Links - Tentative Schedule of Events

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Office Opens</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### WEDNESDAY APRIL 19, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Office Opens</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Medical/First Aid Station &quot;We Care&quot;</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Central Virginia Cluster Community Service Project – &quot;Voyage to Healthy Living: Choosing Healthy Habits for a Better Tomorrow&quot;</td>
<td>Cedar Street Baptist Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 P.M. -- 1:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Team Lunch</td>
<td>Hilton Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.</td>
<td>First Time Attendees Orientation And Conference Overview</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Protocol Meeting</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Hostess Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Door Keeper/Floor Courier/Time Keeper/Logistics Committee Meeting; Medical Support</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 P.M. -- 6:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Memorial Service (Uninterrupted White)</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 P.M. -- 6:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Chapter Presidents Meeting</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 P.M. -- 10:30 P.M.</td>
<td>44th Eastern Area Conference Opening Ceremony and Reception</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### THURSDAY APRIL 20, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30 A.M. - 6:15 A.M.</td>
<td>FIT- LINKS WORKOUT TO WELLNESS</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Office Opens</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. - 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. - 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Omni Richmond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. - 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Courtyard Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. - 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Residence Inn Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. - 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Hilton Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. - 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Crowne Plaza Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 A.M. - 7:45 A.M.</td>
<td>Delegate/Alternate Voter Training</td>
<td>Altria Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.</td>
<td>First Plenary Session</td>
<td>Altria Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Vendors’ Market Set-Up</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### THURSDAY APRIL 20, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Medical/First Aid Station &quot;We Care&quot;</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Friendship Time – Altria Theater Food and Beverage Available for Purchase</td>
<td>Altria Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Candidates Meet and Greet</td>
<td>Altria Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Second Plenary Session</td>
<td>Altria Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Vendors’ Market</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Legacy Luncheon</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Third Plenary Session</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Central Virginia Cluster (CVC) Taste of Virginia</td>
<td>The Virginia Museum of Fine Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 P.M. – Midnight</td>
<td>Eastern Area Hospitality Suite</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FRIDAY APRIL 21, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30 A.M. – 6:15 A.M.</td>
<td>FIT- LINKS WORKOUT TO WELLNESS</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Office Opens</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Omni Richmond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Courtyard Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Residence Inn Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Hilton Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Crowne Plaza Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Program Workshops Part 1 of 2</td>
<td>Altria Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Medical/First Aid Station &quot;We Care&quot;</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.</td>
<td>Friendship Time – Altria Theater Food and Beverage Available for Purchase</td>
<td>Altria Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Program Workshops Part 2 of 2</td>
<td>Altria Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Vendors’ Market</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Program Luncheon</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Fourth Plenary Session</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 P.M. – 11:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Alvin Ailey’s Famed Choreographer, Ron Brown &amp; His Evidence Dance Company **Evidence Show of Schedules :: Show #1: 7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. Four Corners, March, and Grace; Show #2: 8:45 P.M. – 9:45 P.M. Four Corners, March, and Grace; Show #3: 10:30 P.M. – 11:30 P.M. Four Corners, March and “A Conversation with Ron Brown”</td>
<td>University of Richmond, Modlin Center for the Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 P.M. – Midnight</td>
<td>Eastern Area Hospitality Suite</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Links - Tentative Schedule of Events

#### SATURDAY APRIL 22, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30 A.M. – 6:15 A.M.</td>
<td>FIT- LINKS WORKOUT TO WELLNESS</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Office Opens</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Omni Richmond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Courtyard Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Residence Inn Richmond Downtown</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Hilton Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Crowne Plaza Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Vendors’ Market</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Medical/First Aid Station &quot;We Care&quot;</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.</td>
<td>Operational Workshops - Session 1</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.</td>
<td>Operational Workshops - Session 2 (repeat of Operational Workshop Session 1)</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Civic Luncheon</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Fifth Plenary Session</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Vendors’ Market Breakdown</td>
<td>The Science Museum of Virginia (SMV), at the Dewey Gottwald Center - Part of SMV [Optional Ticketed Event]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 P.M. – 10:30 P.M.</td>
<td>White Rose Gala, Great Gatsby Theme</td>
<td>The Science Museum of Virginia (SMV), at the Dewey Gottwald Center - Part of SMV [Optional Ticketed Event]</td>
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#### SUNDAY APRIL 23, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Day Departures</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>All Hotels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Plenary Sessions provide us with forums to discuss business pertaining to The Eastern Area of The Links, Incorporated. This year, we added a unique spin for our plenary sessions. Instead of sitting theater style in a hotel ballroom or conference center, our plenary sessions are being held at the beautiful and historic Altria Theatre. Grammy Award winning songstress Melba Moore will sing a brief spiritual song to kick off our first business meeting Thursday, April 20th.

This year’s sessions will include the traditional officer and committee chair reports. We have another surprise for our attendees. HBCU Virginia Union University’s choir, led by Dr. Willis Barnett will entertain us in-between the Thursday, 4/20 plenary session.

University’s choir, led by Dr. Willis Barnett will entertain us in-between the Thursday, 4/20 plenary session. Also, joining us at the Altria Theater, on Friday, 4/21 during the Programming Workshops Presentations, compliments of the Eastern Area International Trends and Services Facet, will be Kevin Davis & Ban Caribe. “Clave Soul” is Kevin Davis & Ban Caribe’s unique style that replaces the drum set with timbales, congas, bongos, maracas, steel pan and claves with guitar chords and harmonic vocals. Clave Soul is an exciting blend of Afro-Cuban, Latin, Caribbean and Soulful Rhythm and Blues, laced and fused together by pulsating percussion beats. We will enjoy all of the talents of this group throughout our programming day, on Friday, 4/21 as they will have multiple sets for us to enjoy during the “intermissions”.

The Altria Theatre ranks high among the ten greatest in the United States. It is located to the west of downtown Richmond, across from historic Monroe Park. The deep-rooted history of the Altria Theater makes it the perfect venue to host our plenary sessions.

Worried about grabbing a snack in between meetings or the programming workshops? Don’t be! The Altria Theater will have snacks, soda, water, and wine available for purchase on every level of the venue.
The programming workshops will take place in the beautiful and historic Altria Theater in Richmond. There will be plenty of seating, 3,600, to accommodate all of the conference attendees and will make our Programming Workshop presentations inviting, informative, and memorable. Plan to stay for all 7 workshops to hear all about the impactful and transformational programming that has been happening throughout the Eastern Area of The Links Incorporated. All of the Programming Workshops are in one set and all the attendees will see all of the Programming Workshops!

You will have the opportunity to see all the programming superstars in one session. The facets have been extremely busy working and promoting the Links Brand in our communities with programmatically organizationally aligned impactful and sustainable programs. The Eastern Area Umbrella Program has emerged as a promising and sustainable fixture to our overall Eastern Area Programming, which will continue to expand in years to come.

We invite you to sit back and enjoy our program workshops. It promises to be memorable and educational. Our Eastern Area Chapters will have lots of ideas and guidance brought to them to continue building their legacies in our communities in the name of The Links, Incorporated.
EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE 2017 PROGRAM WORKSHOPS

Friday, April 21, 2017

The Eastern Area Program Chair

EASTERN AREA PROGRAMMING AT ITS BEST

Interested in ideas on how to plan, launch, improve and sustain a winning transformational program that is not only indelible, irreversible, and viable, but also builds strong ties and partnerships that assure the greatest impact to the community you serve?

Yes! This is the workshop for you. The 2017 Eastern Area Program Workshop will give attendees an opportunity to hear first-hand, from a panel of eight Award Winning Chapters about the programming planning, implementation and execution of their sustainable, transformational programs. The selected Chapters represent winners in each of the categories for the five Facets, Umbrella, Integrated and Legacy programs. They have won awards at the last two Area and National Conferences. Each of these representatives will introduce their chapter’s program and speak briefly about the roles of their perspective facet in either leading, integrating or supporting the winning program.

The Eastern Area Program Co-Chair

A LOOK BEHIND THE EASTERN AREA UMBRELLA PROGRAM:
A Health Equity Ambassadors Celebration!

The Eastern Area Health Equity Ambassadors and Community Health Advisors training programs will be featured in this workshop. We will highlight their accomplishments and celebrate their work in the community. Come hear how the Eastern Area trained and certified more than 100 Health Equity Ambassadors and Community Health Advisors to address global health disparities and equity, and see how our public policy efforts in scientific research, access to affordable care, STEM education and career readiness opportunities at HBCUs have impacted the communities we serve. Please join us as we hear from our Community partners: Tawana Thomas-Johnson, Senior Director of Inclusion and Strategy, American Cancer Society, Dr. Camille Ragin, Founder of the African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium and Associate Professor at Fox Chase Cancer Center with Robin Roberts, MD, Senior Lecturer at University of the West Indies (UWI) Faculty of Medical Sciences, Grand Bahamas and Hazel Harper, DDS, Past President of the National Dental Association and Founder of NDA-HEALTHNOW.

The Arts:

THERE IS AN ARTIST IN EVERY CHILD AND A CHILD IN EVERY ARTIST!

The Eastern Area of The Links, Incorporated has a rich legacy of support for the artistry of our youth. We have provided opportunities for inspired artistic excellence, growth, development, and expression through our EA Arts visual, performing, and literary arts programming. Join us as partner organizations to our Virginia chapters (The Pearl Bailey Library and The George Washington High School) discuss their award winning work with young people to promote creative writing. You will also be treated to performances by the gifted and talented 2016 Young Master Writer Program first place winner IsMonie Davis and second place winner Dayvondria Braxton. The Young Master Writers Program embodies the hope, skill and creativity of our own, very talented high school writers. Their creative writing touches on visions of themselves, their world, their history and legacy. The published works of poetry, short stories and essays of these accomplished YMWP students now bear two Library of Congress (LOC) copyrights! A third edition is in process.

You will return to your chapter enriched and reenergized by these presentations; prepared to amplify artistic programming for the youth in your community.
Health and Human Services:

**KNOWLEDGE IS POWER, KNOW THE TRUTH**

African American Women Have the Highest Rate of HIV Infection Amongst All Other Women and Most Don’t Even realize Their Risks.

Did you know that a woman tests positive for HIV every 35 minutes in this country and that African American women account for 66% of new cases of HIV among all women? Rear Admiral (RADM) Deborah Parham Hopson, PhD, MSPH, RN, Assistant Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service, is the Program Day speaker as the Eastern Area Health and Human Services (HHS) Facet’s presentation focuses on the effect of HIV/AIDS on the mental health of African American women. Rear Admiral Hopson is a nurse officer who currently serves as Senior Advisor in the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. As Senior Health Advisor, she provides expert guidance on national and global public health issues, programs, policies and initiatives with a particular emphasis on HIV/AIDS in the U.S., Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.

International Trends and Services:

**ITS CAN LEAD, ITS CAN FOLLOW!**

The purpose of the workshop will be to give participants tools to move from working in silos to form stronger, integrated and preferably umbrella programming in which ITS can be the lead facet or can be the facet that follows as part of an umbrella/integrated program. The participants will walk away with solid programing ideas as presented through panel discussion and use of existing award winning programs in the Eastern Area. The participants will walk away with ideas on how to implement seamlessly an umbrella and/or integrated program involving a Chapter’s ITS facet. Panelist: Olga Carter Dais, Greater New York Chapter (NY), Area ITS Chair (Introduction and Co-moderator), Rosalind Lewis, Fairfield County Chapter (CT), Area ITS Co-Chair videographer and Co-moderator, Barbara Nance McKee, Patuxent River (MD), Area ITS Co-Chair wrap-up and Co-moderator. Entertainment: Ban Carib (Steele Band), a blend of Afro-Cuban/Latin/Caribbean music laced with soulful rhythm.

National Trends and Services:

**THE 411 AND 911 ON BLACK LIVES MATTER!**

This workshop will provide information on understanding Black Lives Matter (BLM) and its movement. The panel will review the history of policing techniques, the impact of the new Justice Department and how it will affect communities of color. Panelist: Marc Lamont Hill, host of BET News and VH1 Live, as well as a political contributor for CNN along with Brandon D. Anderson, Founder and Managing Partner at Raheem AI will provide tools and strategies on how to respond and work with law enforcement, specifically preparing our young people for a safe encounter.

Services to Youth:

**BLACK LIVES MATTER AT HBCUs!**

You’re in for an unforgettable experience that will lead you to spread the word about the amazing resources and educational experiences available from our Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Join a collective of HBCU Presidents from the Eastern Area as they share their wisdom about the transformational programs available on their campuses. Invited guests include the following: William R. Harvey, Ed.D., Hampton University; Eddie N. Moore, Jr., Norfolk State University; Makola M. Abdullah, Ph.D., Virginia State University; Joseph Johnson, Ph.D., Acting President - Virginia Union University; and Daphne Bernard, Ph.D., Provost - Howard University).
Interested in ideas on how to plan, launch, improve and sustain a winning transformational program that is not only indelible, irreversible, and viable, but also builds strong ties and partnerships that assure the greatest impact to the community you serve?

Yes! This is the workshop for you.

The 2017 Eastern Area Program Workshop will give attendees an opportunity to hear first-hand, from a panel of eight Award Winning Chapters about the programming planning, implementation and execution of their sustainable, transformational programs. The selected Chapters represent winners in each of the categories for the five Facets, Umbrella, Integrated and Legacy programs. They have won awards at the last two Area and National Conferences. Each of these representatives will introduce their chapter’s program and speak briefly about the roles of their perspective facet in either leading, integrating or supporting the winning program.

Hearing from each of the winners will give chapters, not only a variety of key strategies, but also unique perspectives, as to how to integrate certain key elements into existing programs utilizing the Links’ Service Delivery Model (SDM); and ideas to develop proficiency in implementing transformational programs that make an impact in the communities they serve. What a ‘take-away’!

**PANELISTS:**

- **Pat Fisher** - HHS Portsmouth (VA) Chapter
- **Tracie Matthison** - The Arts Bucks County (PA) Chapter
- **Shelly Ennett** - NTS - Greater Queens NY (NY) Chapter
- **Andrea Phoenix** - ITS - Long Island (NY) Chapter
- **Vicky Scott** - Umbrella Commonwealth (VA) Chapter
- **Robin Hodge Williams** - Integrated Greater Hudson Valley (NY) Chapter
Michelle Morgan Spady, Eastern Area Program Chair, is a 20-year member of The Links, Incorporated. Her membership began with the Old Dominion (VA) Chapter; and is currently in the Reston (VA) Chapter. She served in this position, under two administrations, and as Eastern Area Services to Youth Chair. She has also served in various leadership positions in her chapter.

Retired English and Business teacher, holding licenses in three states; her entrepreneurial spirit began at the conception of the VA state lottery. Supporting her husband’s formation of a gaming company; they bid, and won a multi-million dollar, service and training contract lasting thirteen years. She served as VP of Operations and company liaison to the VA Lottery.

As “Authorpreneur”, she has published five books under the imprint of her LLC, named B’Artful. Recently, she formed a not for profit, The Literacy Art and Mind Foundation.

Michelle has held leadership positions in other women’s organizations, such as Jack and Jill of America and NCBW 100; garnering local and National recognition and awards for her exemplary leadership and outstanding service to communities.

She has been showcased in books such as LEGENDARY LOCALS OF MCLEAN, VA and has contributed to two published anthologies, TWO MINUTES, compiled by the Great Falls, VA Writers’ Group, and THE SIDS SURVIVAL GUIDE. A staunch advocate for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), she once testified before a Senate Appropriations committee to support NICHD on a lucrative grant request. Her past achievements also include a nomination for Arlington County Public School’s Teacher of The Year Award.

Michelle resides in Reston, VA with her husband and son.
A LOOK BEHIND THE EASTERN AREA UMBRELLA PROGRAM:
A Health Equity Ambassadors Celebration!

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Please join us as we hear from our Community partners: Tawana Thomas-Johnson, Senior Director of Inclusion and Strategy, American Cancer Society, Dr. Camille Ragin, Founder of the African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium and Associate Professor at Fox Chase Cancer Center with Robin Roberts, MD, Senior Lecturer at University of the West Indies (UWI) Faculty of Medical Sciences, Grand Bahama and Hazel Harper, DDS, Past President of the National Dental Association and Founder of NDA-HEALTHNOW.
Kimberly Newman-McCown currently serves as the Eastern Area Programs Co-Chair. She is a graduate of the Scott-Hawkins Leadership Institute (Cohort III) and has served as the Eastern Area Health and Human Services, Chair, Chapter Vice President, Chapter Recording Secretary and International Trends and Services, Co-Chair.

Kimberly is a Research Scientist with specialty in Organic Chemistry, Cellular Molecular/Tumor Biology and Clinical Trial development. She has held positions at The National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI), Kimmel Cancer Center at Thomas Jefferson University (NCI-designated), Fox Chase Cancer Center (NCI-designated), Quest Diagnostics Inc. Johnson & Johnson and DuPont.

She is currently serving as a member of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Council of Research Advocates (NCRA), a federal advisory committee comprised of advocate leaders at NCI. NCRA members are chosen for their expert knowledge of issues of importance to the cancer research community. Kimberly has been a volunteer for the American Cancer Society since 2008. She recently completed a three year term with the American Cancer Society’s, Extramural Research Grants Council, and held a three year term as a Stakeholder Reviewer, on the Society’s, Cancer Control and Prevention: Psychosocial and Behavioral Research Committee. She has also been a Peer Reviewer for the California Breast Cancer Research Program in San Francisco, CA. and for the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) in Washington, D.C.

Kimberly is a 12 year member of the Penn Towne (PA) Chapter and resides in Melrose Park, PA with her husband.
THE 44TH EASTERN AREA CONFERENCETHE EASTERN AREA OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED

A LOOK BEHIND THE EASTERN AREA UMBRELLA PROGRAM: A Health Equity Ambassadors Celebration!

WORKSHOP PANELISTS

ROBIN ROBERTS, MD  

Robin Roberts, MD is a medical graduate of the University of the West Indies. He is a Fellow of the Canadian Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons with his certification in Urology and a Fellowship in Renal Transplantation from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He is a Consultant Urologist at the Princess Margaret Hospital and Doctors Hospital in Nassau and the Rand Memorial Hospital in Freeport, Grand Bahama. Currently, he is senior lecturer in the UWI Faculty of Medical Sciences with an MBA from the University of Miami and serves as the Director of the UWI School of Clinical Medicine and Research, The Bahamas.

CAMILLE RAGIN, PHD, MPH  

Camille Ragin, PhD, MPH is Associate Professor in the Cancer Prevention and Control Program at Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, the College of Public Health and the School of Medicine at Temple University. Her research focuses on cancer epidemiology and prevention primarily in Black populations. She earned a Ph.D. in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology from the University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health and completed her postdoctoral training and MPH degree in Epidemiology as part of the NIH/NCI-funded Cancer Education and Career Development Program at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute. In 2006, she established the African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium, a research group designed to promote collaboration between cancer researchers who focus their work on the African diaspora. Recognizing the public health significance of cancer in populations of African origin, and socio-cultural factors that influence disparities in health outcomes, she has fostered collaborative research by leading numerous multi-national pooling data initiatives to examine genetic, molecular and environmental contribution in carcinogenesis among populations of African origin. She is the recipient of a number of NIH and Foundation grants and is a recent American Cancer Society grantee with a 5-year Research Scholar Award to study racial disparities in HPV-negative head and neck cancer.

REVEREND TAWANNA THOMAS JOHNSON  

Reverend Tawana Thomas Johnson serves as the American Cancer Society’s National Senior Director of Diversity and Inclusion. She has oversight for the development of the Society’s strategies, external partnerships and organizational policies to promote diversity and inclusion. In her role, she also provides leadership to the Society’s programmatic efforts to improve cancer outcomes in disparate populations through strategic planning and program development. She has more than twenty years of experience in public health, community development, advocacy and diversity and inclusion. She is also the Executive Producer of the award winning documentary “More Than Conquerors” which examines the burden of cancer in the African American community.

HAZEL J. HARPER, DDS, MPH  

Dr. Harper is a graduate of Howard University College of Dentistry and the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health. She maintains a part–time private practice in general dentistry in Washington, DC. As an activist for oral health, she has served her profession in many capacities including: a member of Bill Clinton’s Health Reform Task Force; National Spokesperson for the American Dental Association; and longtime editor of National Dental Association Journal. She was the first woman President of the National Dental Association (NDA) and founded the organization’s Corporate Roundtable. Dr. Harper has held several leadership positions and is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. She co-founded and directed the Deamonte Driver Dental Project, a grassroots, school-based, mobile dental project, named in memory of the 12-year old boy who died in Maryland from untreated tooth decay. Since his death in 2007, she has devoted her energies and creative talents to designing and implementing oral health events in cities across the country. She is the Founding Director of NDA-HEALTH NOW®, the organization’s award-winning signature program, that supports programs in 15 cities. Currently, she is President and Founder of Hear to HEAL, Inc. a new non-profit to support inter-professional education and student leadership. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Washington, DC Chapter of the Links, Incorporated. She also serves on the Links National Oral Health Committee.
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You will return to your chapter enriched and reenergized by these presentations; prepared to amplify artistic programming for the youth in your community.
Kellee Ewing is a 17 year member of the Morris County (NJ) Chapter. She currently is the Eastern Area The Arts Chair and a member of the National Arts Committee. She has held leadership positions in her Chapter and Area including Chapter Vice President and Eastern Area Nominating Committee member, and was a member of Scott Hawkins Leadership Institute, Cohort II.

Kellee has also contributed to her community through her service as a board member and officer in local non-profit organizations. She has worked for marquee corporations such as Procter & Gamble, Ford Motor Company, and Pfizer, Inc. in cross-functional management positions of increasing responsibility. Kellee presently is the U.S. Marketing Lead at Becton Dickinson for Injection Systems. Kellee has received numerous corporate awards including Black Achiever in Industry and Spirit of Excellence Team Leader Award while at Pfizer. She is a graduate of Phillips Academy in Andover, MA, has her B.S. in Economics from Vanderbilt University, and an MBA from Penn State. Kellee resides in Randolph, NJ.
THE ARTS:
There is an Artist in Every Child and a Child in Every Artist!

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

SONYA SCOTT
PEARL BAILEY LIBRARY

Ms. Sonya Scott is a native of Hampton, Virginia and a graduate of Greensboro College. She has worked as a librarian at the Newport News Pearl Bailey Library for over fifteen years and is a recipient of the City of Newport News City Ambassadors Recognized for Excellence (C.A.R.E.) Award. This award recognizes employees who exemplify the organizational values of commitment, caring and collaboration. The Pearl Bailey Library youth programs include a Teen Advisory Council, Male Mentoring Program, Urban Literature Book Club and other youth activities. In 2013 under the direction of the Coretta Scott King, Virginia Hamilton Award winning librarian, Demetria Tucker, the library was awarded the National Arts and Humanities Youth Programs Award in Washington, DC. This is the nation’s highest honor for out of school youth programs. Deja Mitchell, 2015 Young Master Writer Program first place winner, participated in the Library’s program.

DAYVONDRIA BRAXTON
YMWP PARTICIPANT
NEWPORT NEWS (VA) CHAPTER:

Dayvondria Braxton, 2016 Young Master Writer Program second place winner, is a resident of Hampton, Virginia. She is a graduate of Bethel High School and is now a freshman at Hampton University in the School of Pharmacy.

SHARON LEIGG
GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Sharon Leigg is a teacher of Magazine Journalism, English and Japanese at the George Washington High School in Danville, Virginia. She holds an MFA from Warren Wilson College (Asheville, NC) and a B.A. in English from the College of William and Mary (Williamsburg, VA). Ms. Leigg writes under the pen name of Telisha Moore Leigg and has published short stories in the William and Mary Gallery of Writing, Jump!, Primavera, Stickman Review, Crate, Wild Violet and Gulf Stream. She is anthologized in Long Story Short: Flash Fiction by 65 of North Carolina's Finest Writers and writes a series of short stories for Evince Magazine. Ms. Leigg is the advisor to the award winning George Washington High School Literary-Arts Magazine. Euantes. This annual publication provides a means for students to showcase their talents. It features fiction, poetry, prose, photography and artwork done by George Washington Students. The magazine has received national recognition and the highest awards from the Virginia High School League, the American Scholastic Press Association, the National Scholastic Press Association and the Southern Interscholastic Press Association. Two YMWP first place winners have worked on the GW Magazine, LaDawn Noble, 2012 first place winner, and IsMonie Davis, 2016 first place winner.

ISONINE DAVIS
YMWP PARTICIPANT
DANVILLE (VA) CHAPTER:

IsMonie Davis, 2016 first place YMWP winner, is a graduate of the George Washington High School, Danville, Va. An award winning short story writer and poet, IsMonie is a freshman at Virginia Union University. She has a double major in biology and chemistry.

Special thanks to
the Danville and Newport News Chapters that have forged these partnerships and strengthened our YMWP Competition.
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
KNOWLEDGE IS POWER, KNOW THE TRUTH...

Did you know that a woman tests positive for HIV every 35 minutes in this country and that African American women account for 66% of new cases of HIV among all women? Rear Admiral (RADM) Deborah Parham Hopson, PhD, MSPH, RN, Assistant Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service, is the Program Day speaker as the Eastern Area Health and Human Services (HHS) Facet’s presentation focuses on the effect of HIV/AIDs on the mental health of African American women. Rear Admiral Hopson is a nurse officer who currently serves as Senior Advisor in the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

As Senior Health Advisor, she provides expert guidance on national and global public health issues, programs, policies and initiatives with a particular emphasis on HIV/AIDS in the U.S., Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. The HHS Facet presentation will begin with “Many Women, One Voice: African American Women and HIV”, a video featuring women from across the country and from all walks of life speaking openly and candidly, sharing their personal stories, experiences and broad knowledge. The video aims to inspire women to take care of themselves, protect one another and make a difference in their communities and to educate and mobilize – everyone from individuals to organizations, from schools to faith communities, from the news media to policy makers.
Norma B. Hutcheson serves as the Chair of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) for the Eastern Area of The Links, Incorporated. She also has served as Vice President for Programming and Treasurer for the Potomac Chapter (VA) of The Links, Incorporated. In August of 2016, Norma was sworn in as a Member/Commissioner on the District of Columbia’s Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (“BEGA”) for a six year term.

She retired from the position of Deputy Managing Counsel for the Capital Metro Law Office of the United States Postal Service Law Department, effective January 3, 2016, after 36 years of service in the federal government, 35 of which were with the Postal Service. She served as liaison and legal counsel to senior postal management and represented the Postal Service in unique cases of significant organizational impact. She managed, litigated and trained in the areas of labor and employment law, ethics, and revenue protection. Norma has held in multiple positions in the National Bar Association (“NBA”) including Regional Director for Region XII (the District of Columbia), past president of the Greater Washington Area Chapter of the Women Lawyers Division (“GWAC”) and past chair of the GWAC Foundation, Inc. Norma participated in the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law Election Protection project for the last four national elections.

She has served as Secretary to the Board of the Women’s Bar Association Foundation and as a board member of the Women’s Bar Association of DC. She has been historian and Chair of the Social Justice and Human Rights Committee for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Theta Omega Omega Chapter. She was on the Board and was treasurer for Ivy Vine Charities, Inc. until December 2015. She has been a Loaned Executive to the Combined Federal Campaign for the National Capital Area. Norma currently is chair of the Issues and Resolutions Committee for the NBA and has served in this position since 2004. She chairs the Family Strengthening Committee for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Theta Omega Omega Chapter. She sits on the Board of the YMCA for Metropolitan Washington. She is a deacon at Zion Baptist Church in northwest Washington, DC and secretary to Zion’s Board of Church Administration. She is a member of Leadership Greater Washington – Class of 2000. A native Washingtonian, Norma is a graduate of Bucknell University (B.A. in History and Political Science) and the University of Pennsylvania Law School (J.D.). She is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia (active) and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (inactive).
Rear Admiral Deborah Parham Hopson, Assistant Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service, is the Senior Health Advisor for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). As Senior Health Advisor, she provides expert guidance on national and global public health issues, programs, policies and initiatives with a particular emphasis on HIV/AIDS in the U.S., Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.

Prior to assuming this position, Dr. Parham Hopson was the director of HRSA's HIV/AIDS Bureau for 11 years. In that assignment, Dr. Parham Hopson was responsible for managing the $2.4 billion Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program which provided funds for medical care, treatment and support services for over $2 million uninsured and underinsured people living with HIV (PLWH) disease in the United States and U.S. Territories. In addition, as part of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief or PEPFAR, she directed a multimillion dollar global HIV/AIDS program which provides services to thousands of People Living With HIV/AIDS in Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean.

Dr. Parham Hopson has authored numerous articles and is the recipient of many awards and recognitions. She earned her undergraduate degree in nursing and health from the University of Cincinnati and her masters and doctoral degrees in health policy and management from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Gillings School of Global Public Health. She is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. She is married to Kevin Hopson and the mother of one son.
INTERNATIONAL TRENDS AND SERVICES: ITS Can Lead, ITS Can Follow!

The purpose of the workshop will be to give participants tools to move from working in silos to form stronger, integrated and preferably umbrella programming in which ITS can be the lead facet or can be the Facet that follows as part of an umbrella/integrated program. The participants will walk away with solid programing ideas as presented through panel discussion and use of existing award winning programs in the Eastern Area. The participants will walk away with ideas on how to implement seamlessly an umbrella and/or integrated program involving a Chapter’s ITS facet.

Panelists:
Olga Carter Dais, Greater New York Chapter (NY), Area ITS Chair (Introduction and Co-moderator),
Rosalind Lewis, Fairfield County Chapter (CT), Area ITS Co-Chair videographer and Co-moderator,
Barbara Nance McKee, Patuxent River (MD), Area ITS Co-Chair wrap-up and Co-moderator.
Entertainment: Ban Carib (Steele Band), a blend of Afro-Cuban/Latin/Caribbean music laced with soulful rhythm.
Serving as a Link for over 24 years, Olga Carter Dais accepted the invitation to work as the Area’s International Trends and Services Chair in 2015. Her association with the Links, Incorporated began when she was inducted into the Westchester Chapter in 1993; she later transferred to the Greater New York Chapter in 2011. As a Link, Mrs. Dais has contributed significantly to the organization’s mission in a myriad of ways. She has chaired numerous award-winning facets, including both International Trends and National Trends Services; she has also chaired numerous committees, including fund raising, retreat/strategic planning, social, and women’s affairs, to name just a few.

Most of Mrs. Dais’s years in Linkdom have been devoted to improving programming and developing ways to fund impactful and meaningful programs. In her professional life, Mrs. Dais is an accomplished attorney specializing in Labor Law. Currently working as the Assistant Vice President of Legal and Labor Affairs for Baruch College, City University of New York (CUNY), Mrs. Dais has worked in the CUNY system for over 16 years, including working for York College, CUNY. She has also served as the General Counsel of the New York State Workers’ Compensation Board as well as the Corporation Counsel for the City of Mount Vernon. Mrs. Dais has a wonderful family including her husband Larry Dais with whom she has two sons, four grandsons, and two daughters-in-law.
NATIONAL TRENDS AND SERVICES:
The 411 and 911 on Black Lives Matter!

This workshop will provide information on understanding Black Lives Matter (BLM) and its movement. The panel will review the history of policing techniques, the impact of the new Justice Department and how it will affect communities of color. Panelist: Marc Lamont Hill, host of BET News and VH1 Live, as well as a political contributor for CNN along with Brandon D. Anderson, Founder and Managing Partner at Raheem AI will provide tools and strategies on how to respond and work with law enforcement, specifically preparing our young people for a safe encounter.
Karyne Jones currently serves as Eastern Area Chair of National Trends and Services. She became a member of the Links, Inc. in her hometown of San Antonio, Texas in 1995. After accepting a lobbying position with SBC Communications (now ATT) and relocating to the Washington, DC area. Karyne joined the Silver Spring (MD) chapter where she has held several offices, facet and committee positions. Professionally, Karyne is President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Caucus and Center on Black Aging and NCBA Housing Management and Development Corporation. NCBA is the largest aging minority focused organization in the country and is recognized as a national leader in senior housing, employment, health and advocacy on behalf of minority seniors.

She currently serves on the national board of directors for the American Society on Aging (Chair-Elect), Leading AGE, Generations United and the Washington Government Relations Group. Karyne was honored in 2014 by Smart CEO Magazine with a Washington Brava! Award as a top female CEO and nationally recognized in Next Avenue Magazine as a 2016 Influencer in Aging. A former state legislator, Karyne was elected five times to the Texas House of Representatives representing District 120 in San Antonio. Prior to her legislative tenure, she served on the East Central Independent School District. A graduate of Clark Atlanta University, she holds two master’s degrees from Northern Illinois University (MAPA) and Harvard University (MPA).
NATIONAL TRENDS AND SERVICES:
The 411 and 911 on Black Lives Matter!

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

BRANDON D. ANDERSON
Brandon Anderson is the Founder and Managing Partner at Raheem AI: a technology startup with a mobile chatbot that listens to your stories about police interactions — positive and negative. Anderson is responsible for leveraging community input, charting the company’s overall vision, and developing Raheem AI’s business strategies. Anderson is a former US Army satellite engineer, a Smithsonian American Ingenuity Award Nominee, and was named one of 100 Black LGBTQ Leaders to Watch by the National Black Justice Coalition. Anderson is also the youngest serving advisor for the Consumer Health Foundation, a foundation advocating for racial, health, and economic justice. He earned his B.A. in Sociology and Philosophy from Georgetown University.

MARC LAMONT HILL
Marc Lamont Hill is currently the host of BET News and VH1 Live, as well as a political contributor for CNN. An award-winning journalist, Dr. Hill has received numerous prestigious awards from the National Association of Black Journalists, GLAAD, and the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences. Dr. Hill is Distinguished Professor of African American Studies at Morehouse College. Prior to that, he held positions at Columbia University and Temple University. Since his days as a youth in Philadelphia, Dr. Hill has been a social justice activist and organizer. He is a founding board member of My5th, a non-profit organization devoted to educating youth about their legal rights and responsibilities. He is also a board member and organizer of the Philadelphia Student Union. Ebony Magazine has named him one of America's 100 most influential Black leaders.
You’re in for an unforgettable experience that will lead you to spread the word about the amazing resources and educational experiences available from our Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Join a collective of HBCU Presidents from the Eastern Area as they share their wisdom about the transformational programs available on their campuses. Invited guests include the following: William R. Harvey. Ed.D., Hampton University; Eddie N. Moore, Jr., Norfolk State University; Makola M. Abdullah, Ph.D., Virginia State University; Joseph Johnson, Ph.D., Acting President - Virginia Union University; and Daphne Bernard, Ph.D., Provost - Howard University).

Since the establishment of HBCUs, we have educated generations of accomplished leaders who have achieved excellence and made unlimited contributions to our local, national and international communities. All will enlighten you about the influence and impact HBCUs have had on our society continuously for the last 179 years.

Hear directly from our esteemed guests about some of the ways in which we as Links Sisters can partner and maximize outcomes for our youth. This session will offer great insight for all involved in chapter programming and especially those looking for ways to build a meaningful HBCU program to support our Area and National initiatives. Become more informed about these powerful influential HBCUs and appreciate how they have impacted our lives and society on all levels. Find the answers to the many college dilemmas that will make you understand why Black Lives Always Mattered at HBCUs!
Barbara Martin currently serves as the Eastern Area Chair of Services to Youth Facet, The Links Incorporated. For 32 years, she has rendered administrative, managerial and social work services, besides advocacy to New York City’s adolescents and families. She was the Associate Director for the Department of Social Work at Harlem Hospital Center for 25 years. She is employed at Bronx Community College as Director of the CUNY EDGE Program. She has assisted over eight hundred students to obtain a College education and to find employment in a wide variety of fields. Barbara Martin is a graduate of A&T State University, Greensboro, NC where she received her Bachelor of Science Degree, and earned her MSW at Clark Atlanta University, School of Social Work. She received certifications from Columbia University for Postgraduate studies in Clinical Aspects of Services to Children, and a certificate in Staff Supervision Procedures.

She serves on the Blue Ribbon Committee at New York State Board of Education to improve outcomes of Boys and Young Men of Color. She serves on the Advisory Board of the Family Friends Program at Harlem Hospital Center. She is a Charter Member of Metro Manhattan (NY) Chapter of Link, Incorporated. She served for eight years as National Chair of Educational Linkage. Barbara Martin initiated the signature program, Young Achievers, Go to High School, Go to College for the Metro Manhattan (NY) Chapter of Links Incorporated. The Program was created to address the needs of Young Men of color in the Harlem Community. Over 300 young men have been assisted on their journey to attend college. Please remember “Many Hands, Many Minds, One Goal.” This is what the STY is all about.
Maureen Olivia Holmes Baxter, known to all as Olivia, currently serves as the Eastern Area Services to Youth Co-Chairperson and Eastern Area HBCU Chairperson. She has been a hardworking dedicated member of the Rancocas Valley (NJ) Chapter of the Links, Incorporated since 1999. After becoming a member of the chapter, she attended all National, Eastern Area and Leadership Conferences from 1999 to 2016. This afforded her the opportunity to learn about Linkdom on all levels and to meet many friends. As a result, she has served as Corresponding Secretary, Services to Youth Chairperson, Vice President, and Strategic Planning Committee Chairperson and in many other capacities. In May 2016, she completed her second term as President of the chapter.

Olivia attended Virginia Union University in Richmond, VA earning a BA Degree in Elementary Education and Beaver College in Glenside, PA earning a MA Degree in Reading Education. She taught 7th and 8th grade Language Arts in Burlington, New Jersey for forty-one years. As Master Teacher, she received Teacher of the Year countless times, NJ Teacher of the Year for Alliance of Black School Educators, nominated for the Disney Teacher of the Year and has been listed in Who’s Who among American Educators and Teachers for years. She was named one of Virginia Union University’s Distinguished Alumni in their 150th Anniversary book.

Olivia is member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Charter Member of Burlington–Willingboro Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., second term president of The Cottagers, Incorporated of Martha’s Vineyard, MA, For Women Only and numerous other local organizations.
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innovative leadership is reflected in the growth and quality of
position among the nation's colleges and universities. His
innovations, which have solidified Hampton University's stellar
Since being named President, Dr. William R. Harvey has introduced
the country.

Eddie Moore is married to Elisia Almendarez Moore, and has five
faithful service to the people of the Commonwealth.

In 2010, the Virginia General Assembly issued a joint resolution
the Excellence in Virginia Government Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2009, President Moore received
General William E. Deputy and General Brehon Burke Somervell
He was the recipient of the U.S. Army Outstanding Civilian Award,
veteran, Moore served as an officer and received several honors. He was the recipient of the U.S. Army Outstanding Civilian Award, General William E. Deputy and General Brehon Burke Somervell Awards (respectively) in 2010. In 2009, President Moore received the Dominion Virginia Power Strong Men and Women in Leadership Award, Thurgood Marshall College Fund Award in Excellence, and the Excellence in Virginia Government Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2010, the Virginia General Assembly issued a joint resolution from the House of Delegates and Senate commending President Moore on his many achievements and years of dedicated and faithful service to the people of the Commonwealth.

Eddie Moore is married to Elisia Almendarez Moore, and has five children and three grandchildren.

Dr. William R. Harvey is President of Hampton University and 100% owner of the Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Houghton, Michigan. Since 1978, he has served with distinction as President of Hampton University and created a monumental legacy during his thirty year tenure—one of the longest tenures of any sitting president of a college or university in the country.

Since being named President, Dr. William R. Harvey has introduced innovations, which have solidified Hampton University’s stellar position among the nation’s colleges and universities. His innovative leadership is reflected in the growth and quality of the University’s student population, academic programs, physical facilities, and financial base. During Dr. Harvey’s tenure as President, the student enrollment at Hampton University has increased from approximately 2,700 students to over 6,300. Moreover, the average SAT score of entering freshmen has increased approximately 300 points!

On February 1, 2016, Dr. Makola M. Abdullah became the 14th President of Virginia State University (VSU). President Abdullah emphasizes several focus areas to sustain VSU as an 1890 University. The areas of focus include providing a transformative experience for students, strategically investing in academic programs, partnering with others as a university to tell the VSU story, embracing the University as a top Land-Grant University and embracing the University’s role as Virginia’s Opportunity University. President Abdullah is an academic administrator committed to excellence. He is an internationally-renowned educator recognized for outstanding research.University. He earned his undergraduate degree from Howard University in civil engineering. He serves as member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, and the 5000 Role Models of Excellence. He and his wife, Ahkinyala Cobb-Abdullah, Ph.D., are the proud parents of two college students, Mikailii and Sefiyetu, who both attend a historically black college or university.

In her current role, Dr. Bernard oversees all aspects of accreditation and assessment for the university. She also serves as the Middle States Commission on Higher Education Academic Liaison Officer for the university. Prior to being appointed as an Associate Provost, she most recently served as Interim Dean of the College of Pharmacy at Howard University where she is also an Associate Professor. With almost twenty years as a respected and accomplished professional and academic administrator, Dr. Bernard is considered a leader and expert in academic assessment and accreditation with a true commitment to academic excellence and servant leadership. Dr. Bernard has been appointed by the mayor and serves as the Chair of the District of Columbia Board of Pharmacy, and she also currently serves as the District 2 President of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

Dr. William R. Harvey is President of Hampton University and 100% owner of the Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Houghton, Michigan. Since 1978, he has served with distinction as President of Hampton University and created a monumental legacy during his thirty year tenure—one of the longest tenures of any sitting president of a college or university in the country.

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**SUNDAY APRIL 23, 2017**

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<td>All Day Departures</td>
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During the past biennium, the Eastern Area has focused on Recruiting, Retaining and Engaging members in each chapter. When we value each member and their skillset, engage them in chapter activities of interest to them, we build a strong impactful chapter.

This session will focus on building a strong membership TEAM:

T - Take the time to build a strong membership team by recognizing the talents of your members
E - Engaging your team by assuring they have a clear understanding of our governing documents. Work collaboratively to develop expectations and outcomes to benefit the membership
A - Accomplish the vision by cultivating the right people (multi-generational) with the right talents. All must understand why/what they are doing
M - Motivate others by Modeling & Mentoring. Your actions define the expected behavior and motivate others. Recognize sisterly behavior and actions.

The Vice President plays a critical role in her chapter. She is the point person for all things membership...the lifeblood of our chapters. The Vice President must have an understanding of the chapter’s culture, knowing the past, understanding the present and visioning future directions. Organizing and planning membership activities with your team is critical for success. Whether it’s a chapter retreat, friendship activity or membership activity, you must be inclusive and know the desired outcome. You must leverage the strengths of your multi-generational membership when doing so. In turn, you build strong relationships and maximize your productivity as a chapter.

During the past year, Sisters have Shared Strategies of best practice that can be replicated. Today’s session will include hearing from those chapters that have built strong membership TEAMS and implemented successful membership activities that have engaged ALL members.

Who Should Attend?
Chapter Presidents, Vice Presidents and any Link interested in learning membership processes and strategies to engage members to promote a healthy chapter membership.
Shuana Tucker-Sims was inducted into the Old Dominion (VA) Chapter of Links 20 years ago and is currently a member of the Fairfield County (CT) Chapter. At the chapter level, she has served as President, Vice President, Program Coordinator, Recording Secretary, Facet Chair and in other appointed positions. During her tenure in The Links, Incorporated, she has served both at the national and area levels. Nationally, she served as the Assistant Director of Services to Youth, National Chair of Links to Success: Children Achieving Excellence and a member of the National Services to Youth Facet. At the Area level, Link Shuana was elected Eastern Area Secretary in 2013. Prior to that, she served as Chair, Eastern Area Services to Youth, Chair, Eastern Area Education Linkage, Member, Eastern Area Mental Health Committee and Member of the Awards, Rituals and Courtesies Committee.

Professionally, Link Shuana is Chief Talent Officer for the Consolidated School District of New Britain. In this capacity, she has oversight of 1,200 employees and a multi-million dollar budget. Her ultimate goal is to develop each staff member to their fullest potential while ensuring educational excellence for students. Prior to joining the New Britain District, Link Shuana was the Supervisor of Talent & Professional Development and Interim Director of Education Personnel for Waterbury Public Schools. Her career in education and human resources has spanned 20 years and afforded her the opportunity to work at the University of Connecticut in the Educational Leadership Department, Danbury & Hartford Public Schools, and the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, DC.

She earned her Ph.D. in Educational Policy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a Master of Public Administration from Louisiana State University, and Bachelor of Science degree from Xavier University of Louisiana. Link Shuana has published book chapters and numerous articles on a variety of topics. She is a member of several organizations and has held numerous leadership positions. She is a Life Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Jack & Jill of America, Incorporated, and the New Haven Chapter of Girl Friends, Incorporated. Governor Dannel Malloy appointed Dr. Tucker to serve as a Commissioner to the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. She also serves on the Board of the Girl Friends Fund, Incorporated, which provides scholarships annually to students in need.

She’s been recognized by several organizations including: the University of Connecticut, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Education Advancement Foundation, The National Congress of Black Women and the CT State NAACP to name a few. In her spare time, Link Shuana enjoys traveling, reading, genealogy research and spending time with family and friends.
The purpose of an established parliamentary procedure is to make it easier for us to work together effectively and to help us accomplish our goals.

Following rules of procedure assists with the conducting of a meaningful and fruitful meeting. All meetings must be characterized by fairness. Parliamentary strategy is the art of using transparent procedure so that a legitimate objective comes to fruition. The rights of the minority must be protected at all times. All Links have equal rights, privileges, and obligations. The rights of each Link should be the concern of all Links.

If you want to learn:

1. The basics for an effective meeting
2. Types of motions to make in a meeting
3. How to make a motion
4. The rules of debate – attend this parliamentary workshop.

Who Should Attend?
Parliamentarians, Chapter Presidents and other Officers, anyone interested in assuming leadership positions within or outside Linkdom.
Angela Ivy Foster, Esq. has been a member of The Links, Incorporated since 1994. Currently, she is the Parliamentarian for the Eastern Area of The Links, Incorporated. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. Angela has gained a wealth of legal experience as a Washington D.C. practicing attorney (receiving numerous awards and commendations). She has acted as Chief Counsel at a U.S. federal agency’s office in Las Vegas, Nevada.
Whether you are a new Link or a seasoned Link... a current chapter officer or an aspiring one...this is the workshop for you. People’s perspectives are shaped by experiences. Join the Eastern Area Secretary and change your perspective of the Eastern Area of The Links, Incorporated through this transformational experience. Learn the inner workings of the Area and National organization we all love through hands on, interactive workshop that will broaden your understanding and knowledge of policies and procedures, and expand your knowledge of resources through the eyes of a secretary.

Gain knowledge by going behind the scenes, of documents and requests and learn what is done and why. This information will help each Link be a better member of the organization as well as prepare her for any desired office. Every office in the chapter must use the MMS to perform her duties effectively. When you know better you do better. Attending this workshop will help you be better.

There are many ways to learn, visually, audibly and kinesthetically. In this workshop we will learn through all means. We will not simply discuss how to do something. We are going to DO IT!! Bring your laptops, ipads, tablets and phones because we will roll up our sleeves, log in and examine the mysteries of the Members Management System (MMS), how members can maximize it for personal use as well as tools of the trade of the recording secretary. We will also explore the Eastern Area website which enhances one’s knowledge. For those who are technologically challenged, don’t be afraid. This workshop is for YOU!!

Who Should Attend?
Link Members and Link Chapter Officers. Those members who want to expand their knowledge and enhance their Link experience.
Lisa Loury Lomas
EASTERN AREA SECRETARY

Link Lisa Loury Lomas, Eastern Area Secretary, joined The Links, Incorporated by way of the Hoffman Estates (IL) chapter in 2003. After joining the Columbia (MD) chapter in 2006 and serving tirelessly in numerous member and leadership roles, Link Lisa was appointed as the first Eastern Area Mental Health Chair in 2011, creating a focus and vision for this initiative prior to mental health becoming a part of National programming. Link Lisa has worked in the field of psychology for over twenty-five years and is an expert in human relations and development. Link Lisa, affectionately referred to as Dr. Lisa by her clients, has received a B.S. in psychology, an M.A. in clinical psychology focusing on father absence and the effect on self-esteem, and a Ph.D. in general psychology with particular emphasis on applied social psychology. She has served the judicial branch of government as well as academia and the private sector. As a 17 year solo practitioner, her practice, which spans the Midwest and the East Coast, involves conducting individual, couples, and family counseling sessions, as well as developing and facilitating corporate workshops and seminars. Her public speaking engagements are vast and include the NAACP Leadership Summit in Scottsdale, AZ and the World Diversity Leadership Summit in Vienna, Austria.

Link Lisa’s diverse educational and professional publications and background prompted an invitation to serve on the Howard County Mental and Behavioral Health Task Force and the Board of Directors for Howard County NAMI. Link Lisa is a proud member of the Columbia (MD) Chapter, Jack and Jill of America Incorporated, and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated.
Links are called to be leaders within our chapters and communities. Just as athletes continuously train to hone their skills to be at the top of their game, so too must those aspiring to - or currently in - leadership positions enhance their skills to be the best leaders they can be. True leadership begins by taking a close look at what are the specific attributes required for a leadership position in a particular organization (whether professionally or within Linkdom), and what are the skill sets needed to succeed in that role. The bottom line is that leadership is not for spectators; you must engage to lead.

Come and participate in a session where we’ll review the basic tenants of leadership, some leadership paths within Linkdom, examine the tools of leadership, and explore ways to navigate challenging leadership scenarios. No matter what level you serve on now, or how much experience you have, join the conversation to learn best practices for upping your game to take you to the next level of leadership.

Who Should Attend?
Chapter Officers, Committees Members, and all Links who are Interested in Pursuing Leadership Roles.
Link Leslye Miller Fraser was initiated into the Potomac (VA) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated in 2009. She currently serves as Co-Chair of The Links, Incorporated’s National STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Committee, on which she had served as a member since 2014. Within the Potomac (VA) Chapter, Leslye served as Chapter Parliamentarian (2010-2011), Vice President of Membership and Cooperative Relations (2011-2014), and Chapter President (2014-2017), a position from which she stepped down when appointed STEM Co-Chair.

Since January 2016, Leslye also has served as the National President of the African American Federal Executive Association (AAFEA), a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the professional development and advancement of African Americans into and within the senior ranks of the U.S. government (www.aafea.org). Also in early 2016, with 21 years of federal service (including 15 years as a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES) – the highest level of government service -- and 11 years in the private sector), Leslye retired from her position as an Environmental Appeals Judge at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Her previous SES positions include Associate General Counsel in EPA’s Office of General Counsel, and Director of the Office of Regulations, Policy and Social Sciences at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. Prior to becoming a federal employee, she practiced labor and environmental law at a leading international law firm, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher; and was a research engineer and manager at TRW, an aerospace company subsequently acquired by Northrop Grumman Corporation.

Leslye received bachelor and master of science degrees in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and a juris doctor degree, Order of the Coif, from the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law. She is a charter member of both the Lambda Upsilon Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. at MIT and the MIT Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE); a life member of AKA, NSBE, and BAMIT (Black Alumni of MIT); former Regional Co-chair of the MIT Educational Council for Washington, DC Metropolitan Area; past President of the Montgomery County, MD Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.; past Chair of the Deacons Ministry at Zion Baptist Church in Washington, DC (the first woman to hold this position); and current Co-Chair of the College Ministry and a member of Zion’s Leadership Academy Steering Committee.

Link Leslye has received numerous awards for both her professional and community service accomplishments, including a U.S. patent for a material she co-invented for spacecraft hydraulic systems; the 2003 Department of Health and Human Services Secretary’s Award for Distinguished Service; and the 2006 Meritorious Presidential Rank Award, which the President awards each year to a small group of federal career SES officials who “consistently demonstrate strength, integrity, industry, and a relentless commitment to excellence in public service”. She also is the first recipient of both the AAFEA Ebenezer Bassett Distinguished SES Award and EPA’s Vivian Malone Jones Legacy Award, which is awarded to persons who have demonstrated consistent integrity and regular contributions to social justice within EPA or in the community at large through personal leadership, mentoring and/or program management.
Link Sheryl Y. Battles was initiated into the Fairfield County (CT) Chapter of the Links, Incorporated in 2011. She is currently President of the Chapter (since April 2016). Link Sheryl has served at the Chapter and the Area level including: Chapter Finance Task Force (2011-2012); Gala Budget Chair (2012); Treasurer and Financial Secretary of the Greater Fairfield County Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Fairfield County (CT) Chapter (2012-2014); Eastern Area Communications Chair and National Communications Committee for the Links, Incorporated (2013-2014), a position from which she stepped down in 2014 to become Vice President and Chair of the Membership Committee for the Fairfield (CT) County Chapter (2014-2016).

Professionally, Link Sheryl is Vice President, Communications and Diversity Strategy for Pitney Bowes Inc. She is a seasoned professional who communicates the company's strategies and developments to a variety of stakeholders, including investors, and provides strategic communications counsel to the COO, the CFO and the CLO. She also leads the company's global diversity and inclusion strategy, and develops thought leadership positions on key business issues and trends impacting global commerce. Pitney Bowes has recognized Link Sheryl's exceptional contributions with several awards, including the company's highest employee honor – the Walter H. Wheeler, Jr. Award. She is a three-time winner of the Pitney Bowes One Standard Excellence Award for outstanding team accomplishments.

Link Sheryl is a National Achievement Scholar who graduated from Stanford University with a degree in Human Biology. She has received numerous professional and community honors including: 2016 Brava Award from the Greenwich CT YWCA; Women of Power Award from the Urban League of Southern Connecticut; "Donald H. McGannnon Award" from the National Urban League; the "Community Service Award" from the Yerwood Center; the "African American Cultural Series Community Service Award" from the Stamford Center for the Arts; the Urban League of Southwestern Connecticut's "In Honor of Women – Leadership and Courage Award"; the "Distinguished Service Award" from the Alpha Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; and an ACE award for speech writing from the New York Chapter of the IABC. Media coverage about Link Sheryl includes: The Harvard Business Review ("Leadership in Your Midst: Tapping the Hidden Strengths of Minority Executives"); Time Magazine ("Pathways to Power" – photo caption in which she was noted for mentoring women who were earlier in their career); twice named to Savoy Magazine’s "Top Influential Women in Corporate America"; PR Week ("Mothers of Invention") and Ebony Magazine “100 Most Promising Black Women in Corporate America.”

Link Sheryl is a popular speaker for a variety of professional and community events including: Keynote Speaker the Women’s Leadership Council for the Bridgeport Regional Business Council; 2016 Women's Transformative Leadership Conference; Panelist on The Wealth Gap, Urban League; The Arthur W. Page Society's Fall Conference for Chief Communications Officers; 2015 Women's Empowerment Seminar for the Urban League of Southern Connecticut; 2015 Women in Leadership Symposium for the Tri-State Diversity Conference; the 2015Women’s Day keynote speaker for the historic Dixwell Avenue Church in New Haven; the 2014 Women's Empowerment Seminar at the Urban League of Southern Connecticut; and the keynote speaker for the Bridgeport Rescue Mission's Hearts of Hope event for an audience of approximately 800 over two evenings. She has spoken to professional and community organizations -- such as the International Association of Business Communicators, the National Society of Hispanic MBAs, Bulldog Reporter, the National Black MBA Association, InRoads, and the National Urban League -- on topics such as career management in changing times, personal branding, ethics in communications, crisis/reputation management and diversity.

Link Sheryl's other community and professional involvement includes serving on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committees of the Stamford Center for the Arts and the Stamford Partnership. She is Co-Chair of the Arthur W. Page Society's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, a member of the Chief Diversity Officers Board of i4cp, the Forbes Corporate Communications Council and ColorComm. She is a member of the Stamford-Norwalk Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., the Fairfield County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, Public Relations Society of America, the Stanford University Alumni Association, and the Stanford National Black Alumni Association.
Strategic planning continues to be a critical step in providing a clear view of the 3-5 year objectives of the Links, Inc. This workshop will be a guide on continuing to implement our plan, identifying strategic imperatives, communication of programs and implementation tactics.

What you will learn in this workshop:

- Using the Tracking System for tracking your progress against goals
- Components of the Tracking System
- Working with Program Information
- Measuring and Reporting your progress
- Submitting amendments or changes as necessary
- Communication of progress to the Chapter and Area:

This workshop will also review the Links, Incorporated. Strategic Planning Resources:

- The Links, Incorporated National Strategic Plan
- National Strategic Planning Workshop Presentations
- Strategic Planning Webinar Resources

We will also discuss the Eastern Area progress to date.

Who Should Attend?
Chapter Officers, Strategic Planning Chair, and Program Officer.
DeVera Redmond is the Eastern Strategic Planning Chair. She is currently employed at the Department of Transportation and is responsible for ensuring the Department of Transportation’s compliance with Federal statutes and initiatives as they relate to small business development. She is responsible for ensuring that Small Businesses are treated fairly and have an opportunity to compete and be selected for a fair amount of the agency’s contracting and subcontracting dollars. She works directly with Small Businesses (SB), Small Disadvantaged Businesses (SDB), 8(a) firms, Woman-Owned Businesses (WOB), Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUB Zone) Businesses, Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (VOSB), and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB).

Ms. Redmond responsibilities also include serving as Congressional Liaison for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization which include advising the Office Director and other senior management regarding legislative and oversight activities of Congress that impact the small business program.

DeVera Redmond holds a M.P.A in Public Administration - University of Baltimore B.S in Business Administration – Morgan State University.
It can truthfully be said that Leadership calls all who serve. Anyone who chooses to make a difference, takes on a leadership role. Anyone who speaks for those who have no voice, takes on a leadership role. Everyone who is a Link, takes on a leadership role. Your leadership role can be as small as taking the time to bring a specific subject matter to the attention of your chapter in order to start a service program. Your leadership role can be as big as being elected to the presidency of your chapter. The undeniable truth is that like it or not, every member of our organization is a leader in some aspect of her Link Life. But, how do we cultivate this role so that it becomes innovative and bold? We need to continuously address this fact and help each other to realize our responsibility of leadership, in order to keep our organization at its best in our lives as well as the lives of the communities that we serve. Strong leaders within our chapters will help to keep negative Links from spreading that influence within the chapters. Strong leadership will triumph over unsisterly Links!

Leadership covers all aspects of your membership within our operational structure and our programmatic facets. Take the time to know The Links, Incorporated through and through. Know the organizations documents that govern its membership and operations. Know Parliamentary Procedures. Go to your Chapter Meetings. Participate in your chapter’s programs. Help plan your chapter’s programs. Run for an elected office in your chapter. Sponsor strong candidates for membership. Take pride in your presence as a member and make it your business to lead yourself, yours chapter and your community. The longevity of your chapter and ultimately the entire organization will depend on your willingness and commitment to lead.

Lastly, your leadership will not always be from the front. Leading from the back means that you are a part of the movement that will create the solution. Your input and your teamwork are what will lead to the end product which will influence change and accomplishment. Don’t be afraid to be an active, vocal leader within the planning groups, the standing committees, the monthly meetings.

Leadership is the role you took on the second you became a member of the Links, Incorporated. Accept the challenge and know your leadership is the only way we will succeed as an organization. Be bold. Be attentive. Be a Leader.

Who Should Attend?
All Links who are Interested in Pursuing Leadership Roles.
Dr. Gwendolyn E. Boyd, who is a Link in the Capitol City (DC) chapter, has had an accomplished career as a leader in the forefront of change. She does not shy away from a challenge and chooses the lead to make things better for all she comes in contact with. She has been the recipient of the “Find the Good and Praise It” Service Award from Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and the 1996 Black Engineer of the Year Public Service Award. A member of the Leadership Washington class of 1996, she served on the board of directors from 1996 until 1999 and received their Outstanding Alumnus Award. Her many other awards include the Outstanding Service Award from the Howard County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Community Service Award of the United Way, both in 1998, and the National Trio Achievers Award of the National Council of Educational Opportunity Associations. Boyd has received congressional citations and acknowledgements in the Congressional Record and has been presented with keys from more than 20 cities, for of which have declared “Gwendolyn E. Boyd Days.”

Ebony named Link Boyd among the “100+ Organization Leaders” in 2001 and 2002 and among the “100+ Most Influential Black Americans” in 2003 and 2004. In 2003 she was recognized by US Black Engineer magazine as one of the nation’s “Most Distinguished Black College and University Graduates.”

Link Boyd frequently addresses groups ranging from small classrooms to international conferences. In addition to technical presentations, her subjects have included non-profit board development, leadership development, black American history and women’s history, as well as inspirational and motivational topics.

In March of 2004, as reported in America’s Intelligence Wire, Boyd spoke at the U. S. Department of Energy’s Office of Economic Impact and Diversity celebration of National Women’s History and National African American Months: “Women are everywhere and doing everything…. We need to make sure that we celebrate those women who challenged the debate, those who have been part of making the change, those who know that education is the key, and that knowledge is powerful.”

She also served as the National President for the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. from 2000 to 2004. Under her leadership Delta Sigma Theta expanded its brand to include homeownership incentives, as well as STEM initiatives.
QuickBooks is easy to use software. It is great for Non-Profit Organizations and it makes accounting for nonprofits easy! This workshop will cover getting set up and started in QuickBooks.

Learn about:

- How to track your chapter’s income and expenses
- Basic QuickBooks Navigation
- Budget by Programs.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?**

Chapter treasurers, financial secretaries, chapter presidents, and others interested in becoming a financial officer in the future.
**Souvenir Journal Ad Form**

Eastern Area of The Links, Incorporated  
**Eastern Area Conference 2017 Souvenir Journal Ad Form**  
Richmond, VA

**“A Legacy Inspiring a Bold Future”**

**SUPPORT THE 44TH EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE BY PURCHASING AN AD IN THE SOUVENIR JOURNAL**

The directions are outlined on the Souvenir Journal Ad Form.  
A copy of the Souvenir Journal Ad Form is located below for your perusal. In order to officially submit your souvenir journal ad, you will need to go to the following link:  
Here you will find the electronic copy of the Souvenir Journal Ad Form needed to complete your submission.  
This is a wonderful opportunity to extend Best Wishes and Congratulations!

**ADVERTISING RATES & ARTWORK SIZE SPECIFICATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporate/Business Full Page Ad (portrait)</td>
<td>8” x 10”</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate/Business Half Page Ad (landscape)</td>
<td>8” x 5”</td>
<td>$350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual/Chapter Full Page Ad (portrait)</td>
<td>8” x 10”</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual/Chapter Half Page Ad (landscape)</td>
<td>8” x 5”</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All ads should be to the size (listed above), CMYK color, 300 dpi, and provided in the file formats listed below. All ads need to be submitted as digital files in a preferably in a PDF format. Image formats will be accepted, typically in the following formats: JPG, JPEG, TIFF.

**Use One Journal Ad Form per Ad.**

**YOUR AD AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MARCH, 15TH 2017**

**IMPORTANT SUBMITTAL DIRECTIONS:**

1) You must pay for your ad using a credit card **first** through this EAC 2017- Eventbrite –  
[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eastern-area-conference-2017-souvenir-journal-ad-tickets-32100548605](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eastern-area-conference-2017-souvenir-journal-ad-tickets-32100548605) (if the link does not work when clicked, please copy and paste into your browser)  
Checks will not be accepted. There is an Eventbrite processing fee of $4.74 for $150; $7.24 for $250; $9.74 for $350 and $13.49 for $500.

2) After your payment is accepted, you will receive an email confirmation of successful payment from Eventbrite. **This will be your receipt.**

3) You must forward the email containing the receipt of payment with the following two document attachments (see a. and b. below)to this email address:  
  eac2017souvenirjournalad@easternarealinks.org  
  (if the link does not work when clicked, please copy and paste the address into your email client)

   a. Completed Journal Ad Form  
   b. Digital Copy of your Journal Ad

4) If you do not follow these submittal instructions there is a strong possibility of your ad not being included in the Souvenir Journal

**AD AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MARCH 15TH, 2017**

If you have any questions please email them to eac2017souvenirjournalad@easternarealinks.org  
(if the link does not work when clicked, please copy and paste the address into your email client)
THE 44TH EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE
THE EASTERN AREA OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONNECTING LINKS AND GUESTS
Connecting Links, Significant Others, and Guests are cordially invited to accompany their Links to support them as they conduct the business of the organization. You will have an opportunity to enhance and develop strong camaraderie, create lasting friendships and broaden new relationships with Connecting Links throughout the Eastern Area.

While Links attend their organizational meetings, it is our goal to provide engaging and enjoyable activities for everyone. For your leisure, we have reserved a hospitality suite where you can enjoy good food, drinks and fun. This is a time to reunite with old friends, make new friends and come away with memories to last a lifetime.

There is something for everyone!

There are plans for a tour to Virginia Union University (VUU), with lunch, complete with guest speakers leading conversations with a focus on topics relevant to the men in attendance. For the golfers in the group, a golf outing has been scheduled at Magnolia Green Golf Course. You do not want to miss tee time at this lush green, a 2015 recipient of Golf Digest’s Top 10 Best New Courses.

There will be prizes...for the winners of our activities.
Prizes include:

- Men’s Haggar dress causal trousers
- 3 US Flags previously flown over the nation’s capital
(We are honored to present these as prizes)
THE 44TH EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE

Connecting Links, Significant Others and Guests

REGISTRATION FEE:

BASE REGISTRATION FEE:

- Connecting Links $250.00
- Significant Others $250.00
- Guests over 17 $250.00

The base registration fee of $250.00 includes the hospitality suite, refreshments, a souvenir bag, small gifts, guest speaker event, tour - Virginia Union University with lunch, and a souvenir hat.

OPTIONAL A LA CARTE CHOICES

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017; FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017; AND SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017:

6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.
Links Breakfast - $135.00 (includes breakfast for all three days)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017:

7:30 P.M. – 10:30 P.M.
44th Opening Ceremony & Reception - $90.00

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017:

9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
Golf Outing at Top Rated Magnolia Green Golf Course*
*Transportation not included. Carpool, Public Transit, Taxi, Uber Service Available - $70.00
2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Legacy Luncheon - $75.00
7:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.
Central Virginia Cluster Taste of Virginia at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA) - $95.00

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017:

2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Program Luncheon - $75.00
7:00 P.M. – 11:30 P.M.
Evidence Dance Company Performance at the University Of Richmond - $70.00*
Show #1: 7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. Four Corners, March, and Grace Dance Performances
Show #2: 8:45 P.M. – 9:45 P.M. Four Corners, March, and Grace Dance Performances
Show #3: 10:30 P.M. – 11:30 P.M. Four Corners and March Dance Performances - Plus “A Conversation with Ron Brown” (Alvin Ailey’s Famed Choreographer, Ron Brown & His Evidence Dance Company).
Connecting Links, Significant Others and Guests

TENTATIVE REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS INFORMATION

**TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Office Opens</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 A.M. – 7:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Office Opens</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 A.M. – 7:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Medical/First Aid Station “We Care”</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 P.M. – 10:30 P.M. (Optional - $90.00)</td>
<td>44th Eastern Area Conference Opening Ceremony and Reception</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Office Opens</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M. (Optional - Thursday, April 20, 2017; Friday, April 21, 2017; and Saturday, April 22, 2017: 6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M. Total Links Breakfast - $135.00)*</td>
<td>*Continental Breakfast</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>*Breakfast</td>
<td>Omni Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>*Breakfast</td>
<td>Courtyard Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>*Breakfast</td>
<td>Residence Inn Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>*Breakfast</td>
<td>Hilton Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>*Breakfast</td>
<td>Crowne Plaza Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 A.M. – 12 Midnight</td>
<td>Connecting/Significant Other/Guest Links Hospitality Suite</td>
<td>Omni Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Medical/First Aid Station “We Care”</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. (Optional - $70.00)</td>
<td>Golf Outing at Top Rated Magnolia Green Golf Course* Includes Golf and Cart with Lunch. *Transportation not included. Carpool, Public Transit, Taxi, Uber Service Available.</td>
<td>Magnolia Green Golf Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Vendors’ Market</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. (Optional - $75.00)</td>
<td>Legacy Luncheon</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M. (Optional - $95.00)</td>
<td>Central Virginia Cluster (CVC) Taste of Virginia</td>
<td>The Virginia Museum of Fine Art</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Connecting Links, Significant Others and Guests

**TENTATIVE REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS INFORMATION**

## FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Eastern Area Office Opens</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M. (Optional - Thursday, April 20, 2017; Friday, April 21, 2017; and Saturday, April 22, 2017: 6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M. Total Links Breakfast - $135.00)*</td>
<td>*Continental Breakfast</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>*Breakfast</td>
<td>Omni Richmond Downtown</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
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<td>Residence Inn Richmond Downtown</td>
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<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
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<td>Hilton Richmond Downtown</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>*Breakfast</td>
<td>Crowne Plaza Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 A.M. – 12 Midnight</td>
<td>Connecting/Significant Other/Guest Links Hospitality Suite</td>
<td>Omni Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Connecting/Significant Other/Guest Links – Tour, Virginia Union University with Lunch Included* *Transportation Included</td>
<td>Virginia Union University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Vendors’ Market</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Connecting/Significant Other/Guest Links - Guest Speaker: Dr. Elwood Boone Jr. Urologist</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. (Optional - $75.00)</td>
<td>Program Luncheon</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 P.M – 11:30 PM ** (Optional - $70.00)</td>
<td>Alvin Ailey's Famed Choreographer, Ron Brown &amp; His Evidence Dance Company **Evidence Show of Schedules :: Show #1: 7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. Four Corners, March, and Grace; Show #2: 8:45 P.M. - 9:45 P.M. Four Corners, March, and Grace; Show #3: 10:30 P.M. - 11:30 P.M. Four Corners, March and &quot;A Conversation with Ron Brown&quot;</td>
<td>University of Richmond, Modlin Center for the Arts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>*Continental Breakfast</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
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<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>*Breakfast</td>
<td>Omni Richmond Downtown</td>
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</table>
# Connecting Links, Significant Others and Guests

## Tentative Registration and Schedule of Events Information

### Saturday April 22, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 A.M. – 7:15 A.M.</td>
<td>*Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Residence Inn Richmond Downtown</td>
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<td>*Breakfast</td>
<td>Crowne Plaza Richmond Downtown</td>
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<td>Connecting/Significant Others/Guest Links Hospitality Suite</td>
<td>Omni Richmond Downtown</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Vendors’ Market</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Medical/First Aid Station “We Care”</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Civic Luncheon</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Vendors’ Market Breakdown</td>
<td>Marriott Richmond Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 P.M. – 10:30 P.M.</td>
<td>White Rose Gala, Great Gatsby Theme</td>
<td>The Science Museum of Virginia (SMV), at the Dewey Gottwald Center - Part of SMV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sunday April 23, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Day Departures</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>All Hotels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Meet Our Connecting/Significant Other/Guest Links Eastern Area Planning Committee Members:

### Connecting Link John P. Sims
- **Committee Chair**
  - Fairfield (CT) Chapter
- **Spouse**: Shuana Tucker-Sims
- **Eastern Area Vice Director**
- **Supervisor of Corporate Security**
- **Boehringer-Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals**

### Richard Kirkland “Kirk” Bowden
- **Co-Chair**
  - Arlington (VA) Chapter
- **Spouse**: Honorable Shirley Watkins Bowden (Immediate Past Chapter President)
- **Retired Supervisor**
- **Department of Justice**
- **United States Marshals Service**

### Maurice A Spraggins
- **Co-Chair**
  - Arlington (VA) Chapter
- **Spouse**: Marion Spraggins
- **Retired Federal Engineer**, **Project Manager**
- **Current status**: Federal Contractor, Project Manager

### Gerald H. Tootle
- **Co-Chair**
  - Long Island (NY) Chapter
- **Spouse**: Wilma Holmes Tootle
- **Eastern Area Protocol Chair**
- **Retired School Administrator**

### Stephen A. “Steve” Whatley
- **Co-Chair**
  - Capital City (DC) Chapter
- **Spouse**: Annie P. Whatley (Immediate Past Chapter President)
- **Senior Financial Management Specialist**, **Food Safety and Inspection Service USDA**
- **US Army Reserve – Retired**
Elwood B. Boone, Jr., MD, completed Medical School at Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee in 1969. He then went on to complete a surgical residency at Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia from 1970-1972 and a urology residency, also at Medical College of Virginia, from 1972-1975.

An accomplished and published physician, he has been a Clinical Instructor in Surgery at Medical College of Virginia since 1975.

Dr. Boone holds memberships in several professional societies and organizations which include; Richmond Medical Society, Richmond Academy of Medicine, Medical Society of Virginia, American College of Surgeons and the American Association of Clinical Urologists.

Dr. Boone has been in private practice for thirty three years upon which time he joined HCA Physician Services in March 2008.

A well-rounded and highly experienced urologist, Dr. Boone's practice interests are in genitourinary oncology and male reproductive dysfunction.
The 44th Eastern Area Conference

Eastern Area Conference

The Links, Incorporated

Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service
Eastern Area