

bdpatoday®

FEBRUARY 2023

**2023 BEYA STEM
CONFERENCE**

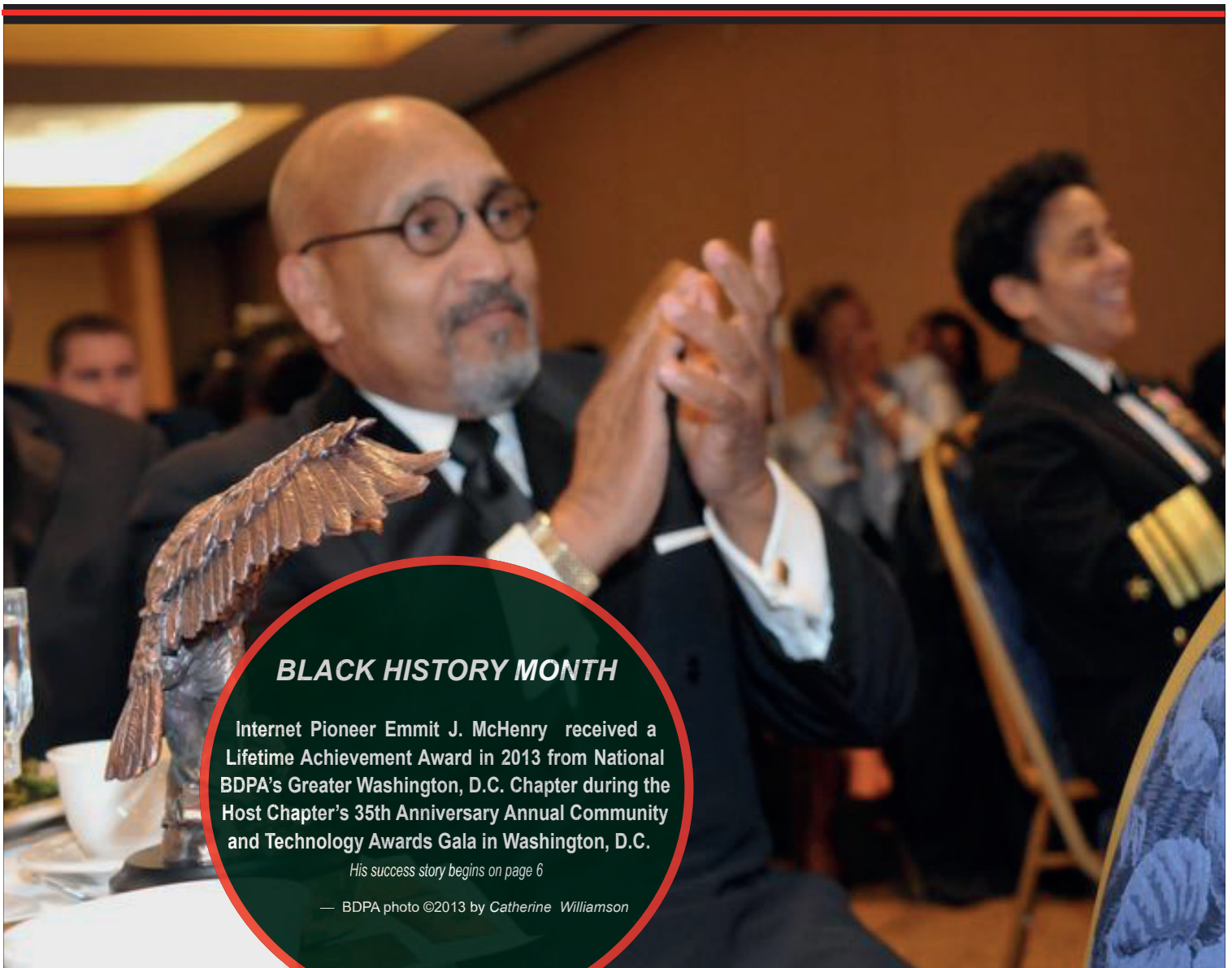
Winner of the 2023 Black Engineer of the Year (BEYA) award announced.
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**MORE VISIBLE AND 'HIDDEN
FIGURES' IN TECH**

Annual Black History Month showcase of innovators and technology leaders.
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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Internet Pioneer Emmet J. McHenry received a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2013 from National BDPA's Greater Washington, D.C. Chapter during the Host Chapter's 35th Anniversary Annual Community and Technology Awards Gala in Washington, D.C.

His success story begins on page 6

— BDPA photo ©2013 by Catherine Williamson



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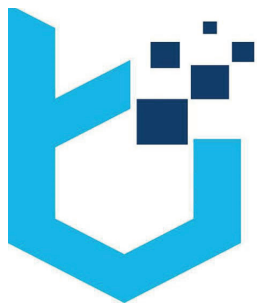
↪ on track?

DELPHIA	15:15	15:42
ORK	15:20	15:30
S	15:25	15:44
	15:25	15:44



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— BDPA photo

BDPA Launches 45th Annual BDPACON in 2023

BDPACON23 Returns to Atlanta

ATLANTA — BDPA looks forward to welcoming you and your organization to Atlanta, GA for its 45th Annual BDPA Technology Conference and Career Expo. These conferences are open to both students and professionals in STEM and all digital technology fields. The Association also invites those in emerging professions and industries that increasingly rely on data technology to enhance their work to join the annual convening, which is highly immersive and transformative

If you are a BDPA Member, contact the association at helpdesk@bdpa.org to receive special discount code(s) for BDPA Members.

To participate, speakers, presenters, panelists, BDPA Members, Student Members, and exhibitors visit: conference.bdpa.org to pre-register.

The conference will be held August 17th – 19th, 2023 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza in Atlanta, GA. Register today. Join BDPA this year during the 45th Annual BDPA Technology National Conference, where the theme is **Future Now!**
bt

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Cover Story: Emmit McHenry

Internet Pioneer and Network Solutions Co-Founder

30 years later: **NETWORK SOLUTIONS, and the INTERNET**

Above, Internet Pioneer Emmit J. McHenry (left) received a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2013 from National BDPA's Greater Washington, D.C. Chapter during the Host Chapter's 35th Anniversary Annual Community and Technology Awards Gala in Washington, D.C. Joining him his Vice Admiral Michelle Howard, U.S. Navy, one of the year's mission partner award recipients.

(BDPA photo by Catherine Williamson.)

HERNDON, VA (BDPA NoVA) — Network Solutions started out in 1979 as a technology consulting company co-founded by Internet Pioneer Emmit J. McHenry. The firm was launched with a focus on applications development.

Emmit McHenry created a complex computer code whereby ordinary people could begin to surf the web or have e-mails without having to study computer science. He created what we now know today simply as “.com”.

In 1993, Network Solutions was awarded a \$4.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop the Internet's domain name registration service. **Cooperative Agreement NO. NCR-9218742** between



the NSF and Network Solutions, Incorporated was fully executed on January 1, 1993.

In May 1993, the NSF privatized the domain name registry; Network Solutions was the only bidder on the \$5.9 million annual contract to administer it. This new 5-year contract with NSF was awarded under SBA's 8(a)

program and allowed Network Solutions to register domain names thus becoming the sole registry for .com, .net, .org and .edu domains.

According to *The History Makers*, for 16 years, McHenry and his partners continued to work hard and build a solid company. They could not get money from

the financial institute so they mortgaged their properties and maxed out their credit cards. They were good engineers and got many contracts but the gem within Network Solutions was a contract with NSF, which was to create the U.S. Government's and World's first domain name addressing system for the Internet.

This was back when the Internet was just a government project, and its commercial potential had yet to be realized.

At this point domain names were free, and the NSF paid Network Solutions to register and administer them. Network Solutions was the only company to submit a bid for that NSF contract.

After developing the technology, Network Solutions became the first and only domain name registrar until 1999, when the domain name industry opened up to competition. In 2000, Network Solutions was acquired by VeriSign, which was the largest internet purchase in history.

In 2003, Network Solutions was acquired by Pivotal Equity Group, an investment firm that focuses on companies in the telecommunications, Internet services, energy, manufacturing, consumer products and leisure industries. At that time, the company re-launched the Network Solutions

brand and began concentrating on developing a robust suite of Web-related services to help customers establish and grow their businesses online.

Today, Network Solutions hosts millions of domain names and hundreds of thousands of e-mailboxes and Web sites for its customers.

McHenry was born in Forrest City, Arkansas, on July 12, 1943, the grandson of a minister. Growing up in Tulsa, Oklahoma, McHenry attended Stewart Elementary School, Carver Middle School and Booker T. Washington High School. After graduating in 1962, he went on to receive his B.S. in communications from the University of Denver in 1966. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, and eventually became a Marine Corps Communications Officer. McHenry would go on to Northwestern University, where in 1979 he earned his M.S. degree in communications. McHenry held various management positions with IBM, Connecticut General, Union Mutual and AllState Insurance Company.

Today, our Internet is on the doorsteps of an Exascale Era with attention turning to the next challenges: Quantum and Zettascale computing.

View related articles at → bdpatoday.com

BDPA's Renowned SITES Programs and Competition Series Enters its 37th Season



NEW YORK—BDPA announces seasonal kick-offs for I.T. showcases, coding, and mobile app development. The association's 2023 SITES competitions are open and currently available for new and aspiring research analysts, social scientists, tech writers, systems engineers, and junior developers (JrDevs). SITES coordinators' names and emails from participating BDPA Chapters were provided to National BDPA last month, on January 20, 2023.

BDPA's SITES Program

Launched in 1986 by Dr. Jesse Bemley, the association's **Student Information Technology Education and Scholarship (SITES)** program falls under the association's STEM+ pillar. This program was created to expose our youth to the concepts of computers and give them the expertise to develop web, internet-of-things (IoT), edge computing, and mobile applications.

BDPA's renowned National High School Computer Competition (HSCC) program which is a hands-on software development program for high school students, has introduced tens of thousands of high school students to coding and application development while presenting opportunities for students to obtain technical college scholarships due to corporate leadership commitments of mission partners and local sponsors. Because of BDPA's focus on students and professional members alike, BDPA continues to support and lead the upward success of its members "from the classroom to the boardroom".

Source and photos: BDPA



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#TheBDPAStory

A new business-technology paradigm shift was underway, shaking up the work place and forever changing how corporations large and small would operate. Corporate computer usage skyrocketed, demand for computer programmers, analysts, operators, and managers also skyrocketed. Inspired by these emerging societal opportunities in the mid 1970's, Earl A. Pace, Jr. and David Wimberly launched BDPA — Black Data Processing Associates — expanding new opportunities for African Americans to upskill far beyond data-entry positions. And this journey begins.



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2023 BEYA STEM CONFERENCE

2023 Black Engineer of the Year Awards — *Source: U.S. Army Engineer R&D Center (ERDC)*



VICKSBURG, MS—Abdul Mohamed, a researcher from the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), was chosen to receive a 2023 Black Engineer of the Year Award (BEYA). The BEYA recognizes African American scientists and engineers around the country who are

shaping the future of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), as well as promoting diversity and inclusion in the STEM pipeline.

Mohamed, a computer scientist in the Information Technology Laboratory (ITL) Scientific Software Branch, has been an employee of the ERDC for 19 years.

He was awarded the Modern-Day Technology Leader Award and received recognition virtually at the 2023 BEYA STEM Conference during the Technology Recognition Event on Friday, February 10, 2023. “I felt honored and surprised when I found out that I received this award,” Mohamed said. “It is definitely gratifying to be recognized by your colleagues.”

As a college undergraduate student, Mohamed attended a BEYA conference and career fair where he was able to gain experience by interviewing for a summer internship. “To receive this award, makes me feel like my professional career has come full circle” he explained.

Mohamed’s love for STEM began in high school when he discovered that he enjoyed numbers. He thought of pursuing an accounting degree, but while he was in the dual degree program at Jackson State University, he decided to major in mathematics. Later, he received his computer engineering degree from Mississippi State University.

Mohamed’s advice to African American students

interested in STEM is to take advantage of all available resources. “Local community organizations or schools may offer in-person workshops or summer programs to expose African Americans to STEM,” he said. “Establishing a solid foundation in STEM at a young age will definitely help in the long run.”

In his day-to-day role, Mohamed works in application development — which spans from web applications to desktop client applications. He is excited about a new cutting-edge technology called edge computing — an architecture that offers computation and data storage closer to the data source. Mohamed credits his team and supervisors for creating an awesome work environment at ERDC. **bt**

HUD Seeks Applicants from Non-Profits and BDPA Chapters for FY24 Grants

WASHINGTON—HUD will host a series of monthly webinars and weekly “office hours” starting the week of March 6, 2023, to review these changes and support grantees through the grant award process and beyond. HUD will send reminder emails prior to each session with the link to register.

The Fiscal Year 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-328) (the FY2023 Act) contained \$2,982,285,641 for 1,616 congressionally-directed Economic Development Initiative

(EDI)-Community Project Funding (CPF) grants.

CPF grants provide investment in a wide variety of projects such as housing, homelessness prevention, workforce training, public facilities, parks, resilience planning and other critical infrastructure and services.

If your local BDPA Chapter was designated to receive an FY2022 CPF grant, then HUD provided a separate correspondence regarding that grant and has provided additional detail on the FY2023 EDI-CPF section of their program’s website. **bt**



(Above) Student members from local BDPA Chapters train and compete every year during BDPACON for national High School Coding Competition (HSCC) regional engagements and national scholarships.

View related success stories at bdpatoday.com.

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Commemorating Black History Month



In 2011, Earl A. Pace, Jr. was inducted into the **IT Hall of Fame** as an innovator for co-founding BDPA, formerly known as **Black Data Processing Associates**.



Commemorating Black History Month



bdpaloday photo © 2018

Norman Mays, founded BDPA of Greater Washington, D.C. (BDPA-DC) and BDPA Cleveland. His 40-year journey with **Black Data Processing Associates** (BDPA) began in 1975, when founders Mr. Earl A. Pace, Jr., and the late David Wimberley created BDPA's Philadelphia Chapter. He heard about the organization from Mr. Wilbur McReynolds, a mutual friend of **Earl A. Pace, Jr.**, BDPA's Co-Founder. At that time, Mays was a Captain in the U.S. Army, stationed at Ft. Meade, Maryland and assigned to the first official US Army organization dedicated to Computer Systems Security. After being invited as a speaker at one of the Philadelphia Chapter's monthly program meetings, and coming to understand the value of BDPA's mission statement, Mays joined BDPA in 1976, not realizing that he had begun one of the most rewarding experiences of his life. Norman Mays is shown above during BDPA-DC's **40th Anniversary Gala** with the Chapter's High School Coding Competition (HSCC) teams.



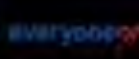
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Jesse L. Bemley
Ph.D. Founder, Joint Educational Facilities, Inc.



Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO)
District of Columbia

As the Founder of District-based **Joint Educational Facilities**, **Dr. Jesse L. Bemley** launched BDPA's *National High School Computer Competition (HSCC)* Program as well as BDPA's *National I.T. Showcase Program*.

For over three decades, thousands of BDPA Student Members in the National Capital Region and across the United States have directly and indirectly benefited from Dr. Bemley's innovation and foresight across advanced computational topics rapidly evolving today — many have since received graduate and STEM degrees.



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www.jef.org

Commemorating Black History Month



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The Hewlett-Packard Company (HP) co-hosted an event for Joint Educational Facilities (JEF) and BDPA Student Members interested in HP's Unix (HP-UX) operating systems and artificial intelligence (Ai).

HP-UX was HP's proprietary implementation of the Unix operating system (OS), based on UNIX System V and first released in 1984.

In this historic 1990 photo, the three students (center) in this session later developed an Ai "**Model of a Black Teenager**" using Prolog while at JEF. They eventually received masters degrees and lead IT projects, today!



Commemorating Black History Month



BDPA Chicago © 1990

In the early 1990's, National BDPA's **Chicago Chapter** became the nation's largest and most influential BDPA Chapter by developing and nurturing corporate advisory councils (CACs) with leading I.T. employers and banks across the region. **BDPA Chicago** also published local and national newsletters with ads and CAC funding.

(Seated L-R) **Belinda Betts**, **Sheila McCaskill**, **Debra Rice**, **Wanda Brown**, and **Dee Jones**. (Standing L-R) **Jeff Jordan** and the late **Ollie Morgan**, Chapter President and publisher.



Commemorating Black History Month



BDPA photo

R. Wayne Hicks, Jr. served as the National President for BDPA in addition to multiple national and local BDPA Chapter roles.

For the last myriad of years Mr. Hicks served as Executive Director for BDPA's Education & Technology Foundation (BETF) and BDPA's National Director for Corporate Sales. Having leadership roles in BDPA's Cincinnati, Detroit, and Los Angeles Chapters, Mr. Hicks was known the world over as "**Mr. BDPA.**"



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[#HOPEProjectsBlackHistory](#)

— Raymond Bell, Jr.
Founder, H.O.P.E. Project DMV



National High School Computer, Coding, and Cyber Competitions

Est. 1975



BDPA photo by Charlie Perkins

National BDPA's **High School Computer Competition (HSCC)** hit 2001, the first century of our 3rd millennium, with reckless abandon. Over 25 teams from participating BDPA Chapter cities fielded teams for annual national scholarship rounds.

Powered by **IBM, Mayo Clinic, and Rochester Public Schools**, National BDPA's **Southern Minnesota HSCC Team** (above) became the most diverse set of "top coders" and **#JrDevs** in the nation amassing more world HSCC Championships than all other BDPA Chapters combined. They closed out 2K's first decade with four consecutive HSCC Championships by 2010 and one more in 2011 — **five championships in a row**.

The bar is raised each year for every HSCC team heading to **#BDPACON**, National BDPA's annual technology conference.

- 2000 — BDPA Detroit
- 2001 — BDPA Memphis
- 2002 — BDPA Memphis
- 2003 — BDPA Memphis
- 2004 — BDPA Memphis
- 2005 — BDPA Southern Minnesota**
- 2006 — BDPA Chicago
- 2007 — BDPA Southern Minnesota**
- 2008 — BDPA Southern Minnesota**
- 2009 — BDPA Southern Minnesota**
- 2010 — BDPA Southern Minnesota**
- 2011 — BDPA Southern Minnesota**
- 2012 — BDPA Atlanta
- 2013 — BDPA Southern Minnesota**
- 2014 — BDPA Washington, D.C.
- 2015 — BDPA Atlanta
- 2016 — BDPA Atlanta
- 2017 — BDPA Southern Minnesota**
- 2018 — BDPA St. Louis
- 2019 — BDPA Washington, D.C.
- 2020 — BDPA St. Louis
- 2021 — BDPA St. Louis

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bdpatoday photo © 2009

In 2009, National BDPA received \$50,000 from Oracle launching **BDPA's Oracle Scholars Program** for qualified BDPA Student Members.

Each year, student finalists from local BDPA Chapters apply for scholarships to advance college education or vocational training.



Commemorating Black History Month



BDPA photo © 2009

The **Honorable BJ Penn** assumed responsibilities as Acting Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) on March 13, 2009. He was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment) on March 1, 2005. On August 8, 2009, Mr. Penn was the highest ranking federal official in the United States to attend a National BDPA Technology Conference. He was on deck to present a Navy Scholarship to Ms. Raven Stevenson, one of **National BDPA's High School Coding Competition (HSCC)** finalists in Raleigh, NC.

Pictured (L-R) is **Ms. Denise Holland**, President NBDPA; the **Honorable B. J. Penn**, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (ASN); **Lieutenant Dennis Holmes**, US Navy; and **Vice Admiral Harry Harris, Jr.**, US Navy.



Commemorating Black History Month



Photo © 2009 BDPA Triangle Chapter

Ensign **Raven Stevenson** becomes National BDPA's first High School Computer Competition (HSCC) alumna to receive a Commission in the United States Navy and U.S. Armed Forces. Her "First Salute" was captured live during Naval ROTC Commissioning ceremonies for the Class of 2013 at Duke University. Ensign Stevenson received a full Naval ROTC Scholarship during National BDPA's 2009 Technology Conference and HSCC Scholarship round.



Commemorating Black History Month



In 1999, a young high school student from Waldorf, Maryland was enrolled in her local BDPA Chapter's high school coding competition (HSSC).

After earning a degree from Stanford University and receiving her MBA from MIT, **Stephanie VanPuffen** launches **Blendoor** in 2015, a Silicon Valley start-up.



Commemorating Black History Month



Photo credits: **Black Girls Code**



Kimberly Bryant is Founder and Executive Director of **Black Girls CODE**, a non-profit organization dedicated to "*changing the face of technology*" by introducing girls of color (ages 7-17) to new fields of technology and computer sciences with a concentration on entrepreneurial concepts. Ms. Bryant founded Black Girls CODE in 2011 and was honored by the White House during 2013's Technology Inclusion "Champions of Change" event.

Commemorating Black History Month



Photograph credit: CISE, University of Florida

Dr. Juan E. Gilbert is a human-centered computing expert and associate chair of research under the Preeminence Initiative at the University of Florida. Dr. Gilbert is chair of the University of Florida's Department of Computer & Information Science and Engineering (CISE) and has many inventions to his and his lab's credit. Dr. Gilbert gained recognition when the electronic voting interface he created became a new standard for universal accessibility in elections after successful applications in Oregon, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin. A lifetime BDPA Member, Dr. Gilbert earned a Ph.D. in **Computer Science** from the University of Cincinnati, one of the youngest African Americans to do so.



Commemorating Black History Month



Photo credit: LISNR

LISNR® is one of the world's most advanced ultrasonic data platforms. No WiFi. No wires.

LISNR is one of CNBC's **#Disruptor50** firms and recent winner of several **CES Innovation Awards**.

Co-Founded by **Rodney Williams** (right), LISNR is an Industry leader in **Data-Over-Audio**. LISNR uses sound to evolve across emerging **Internet of Things (IoT)** and **5G** markets. Mr. Williams has an MBA from Howard University and is a Member of National BDPA's Cincinnati Chapter.

Commemorating Black History Month



For several decades, National BDPA's local chapters have established unique relationships with corporate sponsors and mission partner employee resource groups (ERGs).

AT&T's **ERG** and **Interns** are shown in this iconic photo during an annual **TECH and Media Reception** co-hosted by SiriusXM Satellite Radio and BDPA-DC in 2016.

The **#TECHandMEDIA** hash-tag was adopted by local **NABJ** (WABJ-DC) and **NBDPA** (BDPA-DC) chapters to commemorate the convergence of "Tech and Media."



Commemorating Black History Month



Each year, BDPA members travel to Austin, Texas to attend the annual *South by Southwest*® (SXSW) Conference and Festival.

Participating in 2013's *Stomp the Divide* panel at SXSW is: (L-R) Navarrow Wright (Interactive One), Ayori Se (Salesforce), Chris Bennet (Black Founders and Soldsie), Christine Celise Johnson (DiversiTech), Cleavon Blair (Blosme) and Greg Greenlee, founder of *Blacks in Technology*.

Commemorating Black History Month



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Dr. Margaret Wood is the Founder and CEO of WOOD Consulting Services, Inc. Dr. Wood launched her career as an Intern with the National Security Agency (NSA). Today, her firm manages a multi-million dollar prime contract for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and multi-million dollar portfolios for Defense and the Intelligence Community. Dr. Wood is an alumna of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and recipient of BDPA-DC's Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2017.



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As one of several high-profile U.S. Department of State diversity recruitment programs, the FAIT Fellowship focuses on attracting and growing top technology talent that reflects the diversity of the United States. Women, members of minority groups underrepresented in the Foreign Service, and those with financial need, are encouraged to apply.

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- Be on a timeline to graduate with your bachelor's or master's degree in spring 2025 while enrolled full-time for spring and fall semesters.
- Hold a minimum 3.2 GPA on a 4.0 scale at the time of the application, and maintain this GPA throughout the program.



To learn more and apply, visit FAITFellowship.org



As a FAIT Fellow, you must:

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- Obtain and maintain [medical and security clearances and suitability requirements](#).
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- Maintain a minimum 3.2 GPA and stay on the two-year timeline to graduate with your degree.
- Fulfill the summer internship obligations during your first year and second year as a FAIT Fellow.
- Agree to a minimum five-year commitment with the Foreign Service upon successful completion of the program and Foreign Service requirements.
- Be prepared to enter the Foreign Service after you complete the two-year fellowship.

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Ms. Tenaiya King (left), was a North Carolina A&T State University Multimedia Journalism Intern and BDPA Student Member. An Air Force JROTC alumna, she was one of BDPA's first Interns on assignment in Dayton, OH with Ms. Anissa Lumpkin (right), a Tennessee State University alumna and Lead Program Manager for the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), Air Force Small Business Office. Her team co-hosts Air Force HBCU/MSI Outreach Initiative Colliders with National BDPA.

— Source: *bdpatoday*

Commemorating Black History Month



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SENIOR MANAGEMENT FORUM

Fostering the career growth
of African-American executives



photo credits: ITSMF, NSBE, and Per Scholas

The **Information Technology Senior Management Forum (ITSMF)**, formed in 1996, began with conversations between prominent technology executives who found that only 3% percent of information technology management roles were being held by Black professionals. Studies suggested that not enough Black professionals were positioned for senior-level technology positions nor projected across BDPA's pipeline and tech industry executive staffing models.

This discussion sparked those executives to action as they were compelled to reach, teach and cultivate those aspiring technology professionals. Under the leadership of Carl Williams, the 501c(3) organization was founded in Chicago, Illinois and began the work of recruiting those Black professionals who ranked among the "Who's Who" in technology; as well as those companies and individuals looking to support the mission of the organization.



Commemorating Black History Month



Perry Carter joined BDPA in 1983 as co-founder of Temple University's BDPA Student Chapter. Upon graduation and completion of Naval ROTC, Carter served as a Data Systems officer in the United States Marine Corps. He served as the Public Affairs Officer for the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) and founding publisher of *NNOA Meridian*, BDPA's *I+Plus Magazine*, and *bdpatoday*. In 1990, Carter Chaired National BDPA's annual Technology Conference and Career Expo in Washington, D.C. In 1996, Carter led BDPA's transition to the Internet as the organization's first Web Master successfully launching BDPA.org with **Silicon Graphics**, **HP**, and **U.S. Black Online** during BDPA's annual Technology Conference in Atlanta.

Commemorating Black History Month



Students participate in a weekend industry day and inner-city open house at the Joint Educational Facilities (JEF) training center in Washington, D.C. **Dr. Jesse Bemley**, BDPA DC and JEF Executive Director co-hosted a High Performance Computing (HPC) primer with **Dr. Paul Gray**, University of Northern Iowa, (shown above) for area youth, October 15, 2006.

"Little Fe", as opposed to "Big 'Iron'", is a portable HPC computational cluster for educational use developed by Dr. Gray's team.

Commemorating Black History Month



Photographs: [digitalundivided](#) and [BIG Accelerator](#)



Kathryn Finney is one of the most influential women in tech and is recipient of numerous awards, including the *White House Champion of Change* and *Echoing Green Fellowship*. Ms. Finney, a second-generation BDPA alumna, was Founder and CEO of *digitalundivided* and daughter of the late Robert Finney, Past President of National BDPA's Twin Cities Chapter in Minnesota. Ms. Finney also was a Student Member of BDPA's Twin Cities' team. She is the founder and Board Chair of *The Doonie Fund* and founder of the *Genius Guild*.

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Aaron Saunders (right), Chief Executive Officer of **Clearly Innovative, Inc.** received BDPA-DC's **2016 Entrepreneur of the Year Award**. Mr. Saunders successfully led an app development team deploying mobile applications for the new **National Museum of African American History and Culture**.

The Honorable Muriel Bowser (above), Mayor of the District of Columbia, joined community tech leaders, executives from the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), Howard University deans, and Mr. Saunders during the 2017 grand opening of **In3. Inclusive Innovation Incubator (In3)**, founded by Mr. Saunders, is the District of Columbia's first community space focused on inclusion and innovation where under-resourced members have access to the space and services needed to launch, build, and grow very successful businesses. Mr. Saunders is a Member of BDPA's DC Chapter.

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Alabama's latest BDPA Chapter was founded in 2013. **BDPA's Hunstville Chapter** was co-founded by Dr. Marvin Carroll, Mirie Westbrook, and Perry Carter.

National BDPA NEC Members **Teresa Williams**, Regional Vice President, BDPA South (second from the left), and **Curtis Jenkins**, Vice President, Member Management (third from the left), are shown presenting the Charter to Mr. Westbrook.

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More than two-dozen engineers and scientists received National awards and recognition during 20th anniversary *Black Engineer of the Year Awards (BEYA)* celebrations at the Baltimore Convention Center. **Dr. Marvin P. Carroll**, a Howard University graduate and President of Huntsville, Alabama-based *Tec-Masters, Inc.*, was honored as one of BEYA's 2006 Entrepreneurs of the Year. Dr. Carroll (left), co-founder of **Huntsville's BDPA Chapter**, stands with General Benjamin S. Griffin, Army Materiel Command.

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U.S. Army photo



Lieutenant General Robert S. Ferrell became the U.S. Army's CIO/G-6 on December 23, 2013. As Chief Information Officer, General Ferrell reported directly to the Secretary of the Army, setting strategic direction and objectives with a \$10 billion budget for the Army network and supervised all Army C4 (command, control, communications, and computers) and IT functions. In 2017, General Ferrell received National BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter Lifetime Achievement Award during an annual awards gala at Bowie State University. (L-R) PTTC Director, Mr. Thurman Jones; Mr. Robert Ferrell, Vice President, Public Sector Strategy for Worldwide Technology; and Dr. Daryl Stone, Assistant Professor and P.I., Bowie State University.



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Lieutenant General Alonzo E. Short, Jr., U.S. Army (seated to the right of the lectern) was BDPA's Keynote Speaker during the annual National BDPA Technology Conference in 1990. General Short, an HBCU alumnus and distinguished graduate of Virginia State University, was stationed in Fort Huachuca, Arizona where he was Commanding General from 1990 to 1991 of the U.S. Army Information Systems Command.

The Defense Communications Agency (DCA) was renamed in 1991 to the **Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA)** to reflect its newly expanded role as a combat support agency. General Short served as DISA's Director from August 1991 to July of 1994 where he retired in Arlington, Virginia.



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Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) **Admiral Gary Roughead** greets high school Jr. Devs from the New York Chapter of the National Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA).

During the awards gala in Philadelphia, Admiral Roughead received **National BDPA's Lifetime Achievement Award** for his personal dedication to outreach and leadership. The Admiral became the first Service Chief in BDPA's history to attend BDPA's annual National Technology Conference.

U.S. Navy photo | 31 July 2010



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General Ronnie Hawkins, US Air Force; Dr. Caesar, Jackson, NSF; and Admiral Cecil Haney, U.S. Navy during BDPA Awards Banquet at DC Navy Yard. © 2010 *bdpatoday*

Lt. Gen. Ronnie D. Hawkins, Jr., U.S. Air Force (Retired) was the Director, Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) and Commander, Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ) – Department of Defense Information Networks (DODIN), Fort Meade, Maryland. He led a global organization of military and civilian personnel who plan, develop, deliver, and operate joint, interoperable, command and control capabilities and a global enterprise infrastructure in direct support of the President, Secretary of Defense, and other mission partners across a full spectrum of operations. In 2010, General Hawkins was BDPA-DC's annual Community Awards Banquet keynote presenter.



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General **Kevin Nally**, USMC (left), Director for C4, Deputy Commanding General for MARFORCYBER and the DCIO for the United States Marine Corps, presents Lieutenant Colonel **Joseph H. Carpenter**, US Marine Corps (Retired) National BDPA's *Lifetime Achievement Award* during the 2012 National BDPA Technology Conference. Lt. Col. Carpenter is a Montford Point Marine and is the Marine Corps' first African American Data Systems officer.

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BDPA-DC photographs © 2008 bdpatoday



Marines from the **National Naval Officers Association (NNOA)** assigned to the Marine Corps Systems Command in Quantico, VA served as judges during NBDPA's Regional **High School Computer Competition (HSCC)** and coding events at Bowie State University in June of 2008. Students from Hartford, CT (above), Baltimore, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, DC vie for scholarships and internships during annual BDPACON events.

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The United States Coast Guard officially opened their new headquarters on 29 July 2013 in Southeast Washington, D.C. near the Anacostia River. CGHQ units relocated to their new building which later was renamed the Douglas A. Munro Coast Guard Headquarters Building.

Vice Admiral Manson Brown (above), Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, discusses his four mission areas which include Human Resources Engineering and Logistics, IT, and acquisitions. He is shown here sharing new leadership opportunities within the Coast Guard with National BDPA's Washington, D.C. student members and coding teams on a special tour. VADM Brown retired in 2014 as the Coast Guard's top-ranking black officer.

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USCG photo | May 6, 2015

Lucinda Cunningham is recognized as the first African American female to be promoted to *Captain* in the United States Coast Guard during a promotion ceremony. The United States Coast Guard was the **2014 Federal Sponsor of the Year** for National BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter. While assigned to Coast Guard Cyber Command, Captain Cunningham accepted BDPA's award on behalf of the United States Coast Guard at an awards gala hosted by Bowie State University.

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BDPA's Annual Earth Day Tech Summits

The *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)* is an American scientific agency within the United States Department of Commerce that focuses on the conditions of the oceans, major waterways, and the atmosphere. Above, NOAA Meteorologist **Dr. DaNa Carlis**, a Howard University alumnus, delivers geospatial tech and satellite presentations during National BDPA's inaugural **Earth Day Tech Summit** in Washington, D.C. in In3's Incubator near Howard University.

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BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter was selected as one of **Best Buy Children's Foundation's** grant recipients in 2011 for community outreach and STEM programs.

BDPA Student members participate in coding competitions, application development, and graphic design programs offered by participating local BDPA Chapters.

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Black Engineer of the Year Awards (BEYA)

Dr. Tyrone Taborn, President, Career Communications Group (CCG), and BEYA with **Ms. Monique Berry**, President-Elect, National BDPA; and **Mario Armstrong**, Digital Lifestyle Expert, TV Host and Emmy Award Winning Media Personality during BEYA 2009. BDPA's Baltimore Chapter was BEYA's Host BDPA Chapter.

Annual BEYA Conferences create connections between students, educators, and STEM professionals while facilitating partnerships with local STEM resources.



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October 8, 2011 © bdpatoday

Carlos Buskey (right) was a college student working at a hotel in Richmond, Virginia when he was discovered by Annette Yates (center), the Host Chapter's President. BDPA Richmond was hosting a Regional BDPA Technology Conference when Buskey mentioned his interests and work in computer sciences to Ms. Yates. Today, **Dr. Carlos Buskey** is a Professor at Howard University's School of Business. He received degrees from Virginia State University and Bowie State University. These HBCUs have long-term and distinguished relationships with BDPA and BDPA Chapters. In this historic photo, Dr. Buskey is shown with Ruffin Bell (Chapter Co-Founder) and Ms. Yates where he was the Keynote Presenter during the Chapter's 20th Anniversary.

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BDPA photo © 2006

BDPA 's Cleveland Chapter wins the 2006 *Tubbs-Jones Economic Impact Award* from the Consortium of African American Organizations (CAAO).

Willard (Will) Brown accepts BDPA's award on behalf of Cleveland's Host BDPA Chapter.

This special award originally was presented by the late Congresswoman **Stephanie Tubbs-Jones** (D-Ohio, 11th District).

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Gloria Parker served on the Obama-Biden Transition team in 2008 – 2009 as the co-team lead on National Archives and Government Printing Office (GPO) Agency Review Teams. She also served on the TIGR (technology) team for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as well as the U.S. Department of Education.

In addition to the task of understanding the status of tech initiatives in these agencies, Ms. Parker was responsible for understanding the need for open government in each Federal agency.

Ms. Parker is shown with Keith Scott, BDPA-DC, during a BEYA reception in Washington. A Hampton University alum, Ms. Parker is one of the first African American CIOs to lead federal agency technology deployments.

bdpatoday photo © 2019



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Johns Hopkins University, Whiting School of Engineering

Dr. Percy Anthony Pierre is an electrical engineer recognized as the first African-American Ph.D. in electrical engineering, the first African-American appointed assistant secretary of the U.S. Army for Research and Development, and the first African-American appointed acting Secretary of the Army.

Dr. Pierre was a principal architect of the national minority engineering effort. He served as vice president emeritus and professor of electrical and computer engineering at Michigan State University.

Source: *Changing the Face of Engineering: The African American Experience*

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Photo © 1995 BDPA

The ***Million Man March*** was a gathering of African-American men in Washington, D.C., on **October 16, 1995**. The march was held on the National Mall.

Organized by leading groups of civil rights activists and the *Nation of Islam* working with civil rights organizations, the *The National African American Leadership Summit*, founded by Dr. Benjamin Chavis, Jr., formed the *Million Man March Organizing Committee*.

National BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter was the March's Host Chapter for participating BDPA Members. (L-R) *Michael Harvey*, BDPA-DC's Chapter President, with *Jimm Middleton* (Membership) and *Perry Carter* (Communications) on committees.

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National BDPA's *Information Technology (IT) Showcase* allows student presenters from educational institutions across the United States to present and demonstrate their research. All presentations represent advanced computing and technical topics presented by college and high school students to an audience of corporate representatives. IT professionals and students participate in this 2-day event held annually during National [#BDPACON](#) events.

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© 2008 BDPA-TV

You've probably seen **Mario Armstrong** on TV as a two time *Emmy Award-winning* talk show host and Digital Lifestyle Expert® or as a regular contributor on NBC's TODAY Show, CNN, and NPR. Or maybe even on Inside Edition, Dr. Oz, Steve Harvey, or Rachael Ray.

Mr. Armstrong is host of the Emmy winning *Never Settle Show*, the world's first crowd-produced, livestreamed talkshow with live participation from in-studio and online audiences. Mr. Armstrong is shown above interviewing **Denise Hebner**, Head of Diversity and Inclusion Americas for UBS on **BDPA-TV**, during BDPA's 2008 Conference.



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Sharrarne Morton (center) of *Morton Media* is one of BDPA's cofounders of **Popular Technology TV (PTTV)** and Executive Producer of special programming.

A radio and television host and local personality in the Greater Washington, D.C. area, Ms. Morton provided unprecedented access to media outlets never before offered to the technology industry nor underserved communities. She also serves as BDPA's EmCee.

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Black Data Processing Associates

Common professional ties also brought Temple students together. One of many professional or majors' groups, the Black Data Processing Associates was established to accumulate data processing knowledge and expertise and to pass on that knowledge and expertise to other data processing students.

Front Row: James R. Norris, Perry W. Carter, Michael Brower. Second Row: George Anderson, David Blue, Dawna Jones, Juan José Noyles. Back Row: Sidney Mitchell, Janice M. Turner, Dwayne V. Lewis, LeVon Foreman Jr.

One of National BDPA's first student chapters was launched in 1983 at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. The chapter was co-founded by the late **Juan Noyles** and **Perry Carter** to gather data processing knowledge and career information to share with new BDPA Student Members.

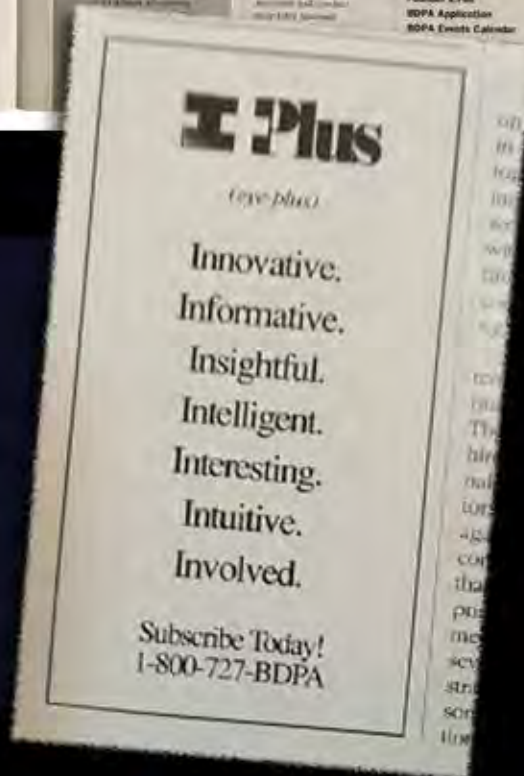
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One of National BDPA's first publications was *I+Plus Magazine*. Apple Computer, Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC), U. S. Navy, Hallmark Cards, Perot Systems, Kraft General Foods, and GE Information Services were among the larger advertising accounts and featured career articles. In 1996, when BDPA launched its first web page during the National Technology Conference, last editions of *I+Plus* signified our new world order — the *Internet*.





For 40 years, BDPA has enabled the upward mobility of African Americans and other minorities in the Information Technology (IT) and STEM fields. Through its 40+ local community chapters in major cities across the United States, BDPA has been at the forefront of promoting the minority agenda within the IT profession since 1975. BDPA has been a leader and pioneer in technology and STEM training for IT professionals and High School students since 1986.

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