General Brown formally installed as 22nd Air Force Chief of Staff

General Brown also is taking the reins of an Air Force in transition, one moving from a decades-long priority on combating and containing terrorism to a new era of Great Power Competition. As part of that new focus, the Air Force and entire U.S. military must be trained, ready and properly equipped to confront, deter and if necessary, defeat, challenges from Russia and China. It also comes at a time of heightened challenges from North Korea and other geopolitical shifts across Asia.

In his remarks, Brown said he would work to build on his predecessor’s accomplishments while also adding his own imprint to assure the United States Air Force remains the most advanced, professional and lethal in the world.

General Motors executive Telva McGruder promoted as automotive giant’s tech-inclusion missions rapidly evolve

DETOUR, MI (BDPA Detroit) — General Motors Company (GM), welcomes Telva McGruder as their new Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer. In a recent statement, the global automotive corporation looks forward to Telva’s leadership as she expands on their current Diversity team’s efforts to bring GM closer to their aspiration of being the most inclusive company in the world.

Telva earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University and began her career as a Test Operations Engineer for Sverdrup Technology, working at the NASA Lewis (Glenn) Research Center in Cleveland, OH. She moved on to start her career with General Motors as a manufacturing engineer in 1994 while completing her Master of Science in Electrical Engineering at Purdue University. Visit bdpatoday.com to view her full story.
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SEMPER PARATUS

August 4, 1790
BDPA, formerly known as Black Data Processing Associates, was established in 1975 and founded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to promote professional growth and technical development to those in or entering information and communications technology (ICT) career fields and related industries.

Now in its 45th year (Volume XLV) National BDPA (NBDPA) and participating local BDPA Chapters publish daily and weekly blogs with quarterly or monthly newsletters.

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DAYTON, OH — The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program was established by Congress in 1982 to fund research and development (R&D) by small businesses of 500 or fewer employees. Eleven federal agencies participate in this program, including the Department of Defense (DoD).

The Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) program was established in 1992 to fund cooperative R&D projects with small businesses and non-profit U.S. research institutions, such as colleges or universities. Five federal agencies participate, including DoD. Both programs focus on projects and services with the potential to develop into products, solutions, or services for both military and commercial sectors.

Small businesses and new startups can respond to Air Force Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs), three times a year. These topics address critical needs identified by U.S. warfighters. Small business proposals are reviewed and awarded SBIR/STTR contracts based on their likelihood to fulfill the identified need.

With the initiation of open innovation topics, through work with AFWERX, Air Force SBIR contracts are being issued with unprecedented expediency. Small businesses that have been awarded a Phase I open innovation topic contract also are being invited to present their solutions for a Phase II contract at Air Force Pitch Day events, where contracts are awarded on the spot. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are highly encouraged to partner with start-ups and small businesses when pivoting from “Grants-To-Contracts.” Learn and earn more by visiting: https://www.afsbirsttr.af.mil/.

National BDPA is co-hosting an Air Force STTR HBCU Collider with Small Businesses, Start-Ups, and HBCUs during this year’s annual technology conference, BDPA2020.com.  

-- Source and photo: U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL)
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NASHVILLE, TN — Air Force ROTC Detachment 790 is located in Nashville, Tennessee at historic Tennessee State University.

The State of Tennessee Historical Commission established a historical marker at Tennessee State University to document the roots of Reserve Officer Training at the university. Since its founding in 1919, the unit has evolved into a diversity rich organization whose members are dedicated to being military officers. In February of 1951, the United States Air Force established a Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps detachment at the university under the instruction of two of the first Tuskegee Airman, Colonel Howard Baugh and Lt Col Hannibal Cox. The purpose of the program was to recruit and train Air Force officers, and expand the community of black aviators.

In January 1993, the Air Force Detachment moved its operations from the Hale Field House to the north end of the Floyd Payne Campus center. A predominant feature in front of the entrance to the AFROTC unit is the USAF T-38 Talon static display.

This fighter aircraft has the name of the highest ranking officer to graduate from the detachment, General Lloyd W. “Fig” Newton, emblazoned below the cockpit. He began his career in the T-38 and flew over 4,000 hours in the F-4 PHANTOM.

Most notably, General Newton was the first African-American selected to fly in the world-famous United States Air Force Thunderbirds. General Newton achieved the rank of four-star general and commanded the USAF Air Education Training Command before his retirement in 2000.
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This year’s digital experiences during vBDPA2020 are virtual for S.I.T.E.S (Students in Information Technology Education and Scholarships) activities. Students with internet access or hot-spots may participate wherever they are directly from their desktop PCs, notebook PCs, tablet PCs, or mobile phones. This year’s proposed virtual schedule follows.

**Day 1 – Thursday, August 20th**
- I.T. Showcase, Mobile App Competition, and National High School Computer Competition (HSCC) coding events

**Day 2 – Friday, August 21st**
- Youth Technology Conference (YTC), I.T. Showcase, Mobile App Competition, National HSCC coding events

**Day 3 – Saturday, August 22nd**
- YTC, I.T. Showcase, and National BDPA scholarship and 45th Anniversary award ceremonies

National BDPA is co-hosting an inaugural **Air Force STTR HBCU Virtual Collider** with Small Businesses, Start-Ups, and HBCU/MSIs during this year’s annual technology conference next month, via BDPA2020.com. YTC students, Junior ROTC (JROTC) Cadets, Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC) Sea Cadets, and Civil Air Patrol (CAP) students also are invited and encouraged to join these virtual workshops and advance program briefings. Contact BDPA for sponsorships. Register by August 15, 2020 at bdpa2020.com.
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