



DOC
DNP's Of Color



DESIGNING OUR COLLECTIVE FUTURE

IGNITING COMMUNITY &
DRIVING INNOVATION

15-18
OCTOBER
DETROIT, MI



A Leader in Healthcare Since 1909

Samuel Merritt University has been advancing healthcare education since 1909. With campuses across the SF Bay Area and the Central Valley, we offer programs in health sciences, nursing, and podiatric medicine — all designed to prepare the next generation of healthcare innovators and leaders.

Explore your future at SMU and join a legacy of shaping healthier communities.



**Samuel Merritt
University**

Learn more at
samuelmerritt.edu

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

INAUGURATION 2025

In a time of hate
Love is an act of resistance

In a time of fear
Faith is an act of resistance

In a time of misinformation
Education is an act of resistance

In a time of poor leadership
Community is an act of resistance

In a time like this
Joy is an act of resistance

RESIST. RESIST. RESIST.

— Loryn Brantz

STAY INFORMED
STAY ENGAGED
STAY VIGILANT

TAKE ACTION
GET INVOLVED
with DOCs Policy
policy@dnpsocolor.org





Dr. Danielle K. McCamey
Founder, President & CEO

WELCOME TO THE MOTOR CITY

WHAT UP DOES?!

GREETINGS, DNPs OF COLOR COMMUNITY!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are so excited to welcome you to Detroit, a city rich with history, culture, creativity, resilience, and innovation. It is only fitting that we bring those same elements into our Sixth Annual DNPs of Color Conference as we gather around this year's theme:

Designing Our Collective Future: Igniting Community & Driving Innovation.

Over the next few days, we invite you to experience everything we have intentionally designed for you. We'll kick things off with a little Detroit flavor at our Motown Karaoke Mix & Mingle, be inspired by our keynote speaker, Dr. Nutrena H. Tate, and stretch ourselves through experiences including our first-ever hackathon and a powerful storytelling session.

But beyond the sessions, speakers, and experiences, I hope you make room for something equally important: each other.

Find time to connect with someone new. Reconnect with someone not so new. Share an idea. Start a conversation. Dream together. Build something that lasts beyond this weekend.

And, of course, we look forward to celebrating with you at our Gala of the Future, where we'll step into what's next in our best black and metallic attire.

NO ONE IS COMING TO SAVE US BUT US.

This conference is about designing our collective future because no one is coming to save us but us.

That is not a statement of despair. It is a declaration of power.

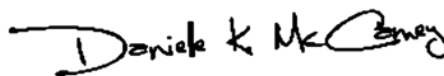
Our communities understand the challenges because we live them, study them, lead through them, and care for people affected by them every day. And within our communities also lives the wisdom, creativity, knowledge, and innovation needed to build the solutions.

So this weekend, we are not waiting for the future to happen to us.

We are designing it. Together.

Welcome to Detroit. Welcome to community. Welcome to the Sixth Annual DNPs of Color Conference.

Let's ignite community, drive innovation, and design our collective future.



Danielle K. McCamey, DNP, CRNP, ACNP-BC, FCCP, FAAN, FADLN, FAANP

Founder, President & CEO
DNPs of Color, Inc.

CONFERENCE NONPROFIT

GIVE BACK TO DETROIT

\$10,000

GOAL



As we gather in community, we are also committed to giving back to the community that is hosting us. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 for Congress of Communities, an organization serving Southwest Detroit. I hope you will join us in reaching—and hopefully exceeding—that goal by giving generously throughout the weekend.



SCAN TO GIVE



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

DR. NUTRENA H. TATE

THE WHOLE CLOSET IS HERS.

Our keynote speaker has worn a lot of coats and she wears every one of them very well.

Dr. Nutrena H. Tate is a nurse. A pediatric nurse practitioner. A scientist. A tenured professor. An executive. An entrepreneur. A national president. A strategist. A mentor. And, depending on the day, probably a few other things that didn't fit in this introduction.

MEET OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER

With nearly three decades in nursing, Dr. Tate has built a career that refuses to fit neatly into anyone's box. She has moved from the bedside to the boardroom, from faculty meetings to executive suites, from caring for children and families to influencing the policies and systems that shape their care.

And she came prepared.

She holds a PhD in Nursing Research, an Executive MBA, advanced nursing degrees, postdoctoral training, national certifications and enough letters behind her name to make you wonder whether there's any alphabet left for the rest of us.

But here's the thing: the letters are impressive. **The impact is the story.**

Dr. Tate currently serves as National President of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, a tenured Associate Professor at the University of Detroit Mercy, and Founder and CEO of Brand Nu Consulting, Inc. She has served as an Associate Dean and health system nursing research executive, led nationally, practiced internationally, published, researched, advocated, mentored, built programs, challenged systems, and opened doors—sometimes doors that weren't exactly waiting to be opened.

Because Dr. Tate has never believed that leadership requires choosing just one version of yourself.

DNPs OF COLOR, GET READY.

Please welcome a woman who has stopped asking which coat she should wear...
BECAUSE SHE FINALLY FIGURED OUT THE WHOLE DAMN CLOSET IS HERS.

**Unapologetically Black.
Unapologetically a nurse.
Unapologetically scholarly.
Unapologetically ambitious.
Unapologetically feminine.
Unapologetically strategic.
And unapologetically committed to
bringing other people along.**

She knows what it means to walk into rooms where nobody expected you, sit at tables that weren't designed with you in mind, and eventually realize:

**"MAYBE YOU WERE SENT THERE
TO REARRANGE THE FURNITURE."**

Her leadership philosophy is simple: Know who you are. Know what you bring. Stop shrinking it to make other people comfortable. And when the opportunity comes... wear the coat.

Not somebody else's coat. **Yours.**

Every color. Every credential. Every scar. Every lesson. Every failure. Every victory. Every version of yourself that it took to get here.

So today, she isn't coming to talk to us about climbing one more ladder. She is coming to talk about what happens when we finally understand that everything we have lived, learned, survived, earned, and become belongs in the room with us.

FROM YOUR CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

WELCOME TO DETROIT!

Designing Our Collective Future: Igniting Community & Driving Innovation

On behalf of the 6th Annual DNPs of Color Conference Planning Committee, it is our distinct pleasure to welcome you to Detroit!

As we gather around this year's theme, **Designing Our Collective Future: Igniting Community & Driving Innovation**, we are reminded of the extraordinary power that exists when passionate, purpose-driven individuals come together with a shared commitment to advancing nursing, transforming healthcare, and strengthening our communities.

This conference is more than an opportunity to exchange knowledge. It is an invitation to reflect on how far we have come, challenge ourselves to think beyond what is, and collectively envision what can be. Over the next few days, we encourage you to engage in meaningful conversations, embrace new perspectives, build lasting connections, and take what you have learned back to the communities you serve. Our collective future is not something we simply anticipate. It is something we have the power and responsibility to design together.

For months, our conference planning committee has been working diligently behind the scenes to create an amazing experience. Every detail has been thoughtfully considered with the hope that you will leave Detroit feeling informed, inspired, connected, and empowered to continue making a difference.

We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge our fierce and visionary leader, **Dr. Danielle**

McCamey. What began as her bold vision to create a space where DNPs of Color could connect, be celebrated, and thrive has blossomed into something truly extraordinary. We are more than a professional network. We have become a family, forever bonded by shared experiences, collective purpose, and an unwavering commitment to lifting one another as we rise.

As we celebrate our sixth annual gathering, we recognize that the strength of DNPs of Color has always been its people. Each of you brings a unique story, perspective, and contribution to this collective journey. Together, we are not only shaping the future of nursing but creating a legacy that will extend far beyond this conference.

We encourage you to be fully present, reconnect with familiar faces, welcome new ones, celebrate one another, and most importantly, have an amazing conference experience!

Thank you for being part of this journey and for helping us design a future worthy of the communities and generations we serve.

With gratitude and excitement,



**Dr. Shelitha
Campbell**



**Dr. Josh
Winowiecki**



**Dr. Bridget
Leonard**

2026 CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

WHAT UP DOE?!

Now, for those of you who aren't from Detroit, let me give you your first lesson in Detroit culture! Around here, we don't just say hello. We say **WHAT UP DOE?!** And when somebody says it to you, you better say it back! On behalf of **DNPs of Color**, it is my absolute pleasure and honor to welcome you to the **MOTOR CITY, THE 313, MY HOMETOWN—DETROIT, MICHIGAN!**

And let me tell y'all something. This welcome hits a little differently for me. I was **BORN** here. I was **RAISED** here. And I'm a proud **EAST SIDE GIRL!** So when I say welcome to MY city, I mean that from the bottom of my heart!

Detroit is more than a city. It's a mindset. It's a movement. It's a city built on grit, determination, resilience, innovation, and the refusal to let circumstances dictate our destiny.

Sound familiar? It should. Because that same spirit lives in every nurse, scholar, educator, researcher, entrepreneur, advocate, and leader gathered in this room!

Detroit knows what it means to be counted out, underestimated, and told what cannot be done. But baby, Detroit also knows how to **RISE, REBUILD, REINVENT, AND REDEFINE WHAT'S POSSIBLE!** And **THAT** is exactly why this year's conference theme is so powerful.

Designing Our Collective Future: Igniting Community & Driving Innovation.

We're not here just to talk about the future of nursing. We're here to help **DESIGN IT!** We're here to challenge systems that no longer serve our communities. We're here to turn research into action, ideas into innovation, and conversations into meaningful change. We're here to build bridges between nursing practice, education, leadership, entrepreneurship, policy, and the

communities that depend on us. And most importantly, we're here to remind one another that our greatest impact will never come from our titles alone, but from what we choose to **DO** with them!

Listen, I love a good set of credentials behind somebody's name. And trust me, we've got enough letters in this room to create an entire alphabet! But let me remind you of something.

THE DEGREE OPENS THE DOOR. THE WORK CHANGES LIVES. AND THE COMMUNITY IS WHY WE DO IT!

As a nurse who started this journey as a **CNA** and worked my way through the profession to nursing leadership, education, and beyond, I know firsthand that your beginning does not determine your ending. And as a proud **Detroiter**, I know that innovation doesn't always start in a boardroom or a research laboratory.

Sometimes it starts in a neighborhood. Sometimes it starts at the bedside. Sometimes it starts with one nurse who gets tired of hearing, "That's just the way we've always done it." And sometimes it starts with a room full of brilliant, passionate people who decide that **GOOD ENOUGH IS NO LONGER GOOD ENOUGH!**

Over the next several days, I challenge you to do more than attend sessions. **CONNECT** with someone who doesn't look like you, think like you, or practice like you. **SHARE** your knowledge, your experiences, and your resources. **CHALLENGE** yourself to think bigger, lead bolder, and collaborate differently.

And when you leave Detroit, don't just take home conference souvenirs and continuing education credits. Take home a **NEW CONNECTION. A NEW IDEA. A NEW COLLABORATION.** And a **RENEWED COMMITMENT** to

making a difference in the lives of those we serve. Because the future of healthcare isn't waiting for someone else to create it. **WE ARE THE ONES WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!**

Now, while you're here, please experience some of the magic of my hometown. Enjoy our food, embrace our culture, appreciate our history, support our local businesses, and feel the unmistakable energy of Detroit. And don't leave without getting you some Detroit-style pizza or Coney Island.

As your Conference Committee Co-Chair, I am beyond excited that we have the opportunity to bring this incredible gathering of nursing excellence, innovation, and community to the city that helped shape the woman and leader I am today.

To our speakers, sponsors, volunteers, planning committee, and every single attendee who traveled near and far—**THANK YOU!** Thank you for believing in the mission. Thank you for showing up. And thank you for being part of something bigger than any one of us.

Now y'all know I can't close without leaving you with a little Dr. B wisdom. Don't just occupy space in the room. Make your presence matter. Don't just admire change. **BE** the change. And don't just talk about your power—**BE POWERFUL ON PURPOSE!**

So, one more time, from this proud East Side Detroit girl... **WHAT UP DOE?! WELCOME TO DETROIT! LET'S IGNITE COMMUNITY, DRIVE INNOVATION, AND MAKE THIS CONFERENCE ONE TO REMEMBER!**

Dr. Bridget A. Leonard, DNP, MSN/ MBA-HCM, RN, CRRN, NEA-BC, CNEpv

2026 DNPs of Color Annual Conference Committee Co-Chair

FROM THE MAYOR

CITY OF DETROIT PROCLAMATION

Doctors of Nursing Practice of Color

WHEREAS, Doctors of Nursing Practice (DNPs) are among the nation's most highly prepared clinical leaders, advancing health outcomes through evidence-based practice, scholarly inquiry, and systems-level innovation that transforms care and strengthens the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, DNPs of Color is a national 501(c)(3) organization committed to cultivating excellence in nursing by advancing the professional development of DNP-prepared nurses and future DNPs through mentorship, networking, leadership, and advocacy, while championing a nursing workforce that is as diverse, vibrant, and innovative as the communities it serves; and

WHEREAS, the theme of the 6th Annual DNPs of Color Conference, "Designing our Future: Igniting Community & Driving Innovation," is a bold declaration that nurses of color are not waiting for the future to unfold—they are actively designing it by building more equitable systems, igniting civic and community power, and advancing transformative innovation across clinical practice, education, research, and health policy; and

WHEREAS, designing the future of healthcare requires both the courage to envision what has not yet been built and the resilience to bring that vision to life, recognizing communities not as passive recipients of healthcare, but as co-architects, partners, and essential drivers of meaningful and sustainable change; and

WHEREAS, igniting community means recognizing that lasting transformation occurs when nurses, patients, families, and neighbors are engaged as partners, co-designers, advocates, and leaders in shaping a healthcare system that is more just, responsive, accessible, and centered on the lived experiences of those it serves; and

WHEREAS, driving innovation in healthcare requires a nursing workforce that reflects the rich diversity of the communities it serves, because representation strengthens trust, informs culturally responsive care, advances health equity, and contributes to improved outcomes and more effective healthcare systems; and

WHEREAS, the 6th Annual DNPs of Color Conference brings together nurse leaders, scholars, students, clinicians, educators, and community advocates from across the nation in Detroit, Michigan—a city renowned for its reinvention, resilience, innovation, and enduring creative power—to engage in transformative dialogue, cultivate professional and community leadership, and inspire collective action toward a healthier and more equitable future; and

NOW, THEREFORE, *BE IT RESOLVED*, that I, Mary Sheffield, Mayor of the City of Detroit, do hereby recognize and honor the **6th Annual DNPs of Color Conference** and its participants for their collective commitment to designing a better future, igniting the power of community, and driving innovation toward a more just and equitable healthcare system.



Mary Sheffield

MAYOR

October 15, 2026

DATE

FROM THE GOVERNOR



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

GARLIN GILCHRIST II
LT. GOVERNOR

October 15, 2026

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the state of Michigan, I'd like to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 6th Annual DNPs of Color Conference in Detroit.

Founded in 2018, DNPs of Color serves to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion across doctoral nursing practice, clinical care, and executive healthcare leadership. Under this year's empowering theme, *"Designing our Future: Igniting Community & Driving Innovation,"* your work highlights the indispensable role advanced practice nurses of color play in transforming clinical outcomes, narrowing health disparities, and building a more equitable healthcare system for all Michiganders.

I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude for DNPs of Color's commitment to strengthening member participation and professional excellence through mentorship, networking, and national advocacy. May this gathering provide an empowering space to celebrate all your great accomplishments over the years.

I would also like to extend my deepest recognition to all those involved in the planning and preparation of this event. I have no doubt that this conference will continue to display DNPs of Color's extraordinary vision, talent, and devotion to building a brighter, healthier state and nation.

Again, welcome to the 6th Annual DNPs of Color Conference. Please accept my best wishes for an inspiring, enjoyable, and memorable event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gretchen Whitmer".

Gretchen Whitmer
Governor of Michigan

Become an

ADVANCED CERTIFIED HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE NURSE

The Advanced Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurse (ACHPN®) examination is designed for experienced hospice and palliative advanced practice registered nurses.



Join Thousands of Certificants



The ACHPN® program has been accredited by the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification since 2007 and has nearly 3,000 active certificants.

Patients and families deserve the very best—and certification through the Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center ensures that your commitment is encouraged, recognized, and championed.

ACHPN® Exam Fees

Initial Certification	Non-Member	\$515
Initial Certification	HPNA Member	\$355



"I have held the ACHPN® certification for more than a decade. First, earning this certification helped me to establish expertise in my clinical practice. Then, as an advanced certified nurse, I was able to teach a graduate level palliative care course."
- ACHPN® Certificant

Get Started!

The ACHPN® exam is available in March, June, September, and December. Scholarships are available during the application process. Learn more and apply today!





WELCOME TO DETROIT

THE STORY Detroit was a key stop on the Underground Railroad, and Second Baptist Church, founded in 1836, served as a station. Beginning in 1916, the Great Migration brought Black families north, and Black Bottom and Paradise Valley became centers of Black business and nightlife. Dr. Charles H. Wright founded the museum hosting us in 1965.

THE SOUND In 1959, Berry Gordy started Motown in a modest house on West Grand Boulevard that he called Hitsville U.S.A. Today it's the Motown Museum. In the 1980s, three friends from Belleville, Juan Atkins, Derrick May and Kevin Saunderson, are credited with creating Detroit techno, a sound that spread to Europe and beyond.

MAKE TIME FOR MIDTOWN Even a free hour goes a long way. The Detroit Institute of Arts holds Diego Rivera's *Detroit Industry Murals*, 27 fresco panels from 1932 and 1933 depicting the city's industry and workers. The Detroit Historical Museum and the Detroit Public Library's main branch are close by.

01

CONFERENCE HOTEL

DETROIT MARRIOTT AT THE RENAISSANCE CENTER

Located along the Detroit Riverwalk in the heart of downtown, the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center is our home base for the weekend. Rest, recharge and reconnect with your DOCs community between sessions.

ADDRESS

400 Renaissance Drive
Detroit, MI 48243

PHONE

313-568-8000

LOCATION

Downtown Detroit, on the Detroit Riverwalk



The Wintergarden atrium, overlooking the Detroit River

Photo: Nathaniel Lindsey via CTBUH

WHERE
WE STAY

02

CONFERENCE VENUE

CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

One of the world's largest institutions dedicated to African American history and culture, the Wright has been telling our story since Dr. Charles H. Wright founded it in 1965. This year, it's where we learn, connect and celebrate.

ADDRESS

315 E. Warren Ave.
Detroit, MI 48201

WEBSITE

thewright.org

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Museum auditorium

GALA OF THE FUTURE

Saturday, Oct. 17
6:30–11:30 PM



Dr. Charles H. Wright,
museum founder



The museum rotunda



Outside the museum



WHERE
WE GATHER

Virtual **MOVIE NIGHT**

OCTOBER 14 | 8 PM ET FREE | Virtual

WHAT GRACE LEAVES BEHIND

Virtual Film Screening + Fireside Chat

A poetic short film about returning home after incarceration and reclaiming dignity, voice, and belonging. *What Grace Leaves Behind* challenges harmful narratives about formerly incarcerated women and explores the systemic realities shaping reentry, including trauma, poverty, racism, housing instability, and access to support.

FEATURING: Cecilia Zavala, Executive Director, Nation Outside

CO-MODERATED BY: Dr. Courtney Pladsen & Dr. Sarah Dafils



Cecilia Zavala



Dr. Courtney Pladsen



Dr. Sarah Dafils



SCAN TO REGISTER

www.dnpsofcolor.org

Presented by **DNP**s of Color in collaboration with **Represent Justice**

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

With gratitude to the committee members who brought the 6th Annual Conference to life in Detroit.

CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

**Dr. Shelitha
Campbell**

**Dr. Bridget A.
Leonard**

**Dr. Josh
Winowiecki**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

• **Dr. Yvette Conyers**

• **Dr. Danielle McCamey**

• **Dr. Michelle Webb**

• **Dr. Tammi Lining**

• **Dr. Ka'Shiris Perryman**

• **Dr. Tracy Wilson**



OUR CONFERENCE NONPROFIT

CONGRESS OF COMMUNITIES

Empowering communities for a brighter future.

Congress of Communities is a resident-led organizing and advocacy agency in Southwest Detroit. It grew out of a three-year planning process that brought together more than 10,000 residents, youth and stakeholders, and today it provides leadership and facilitates collaboration to build a thriving, safe, green and culturally rich community.

ADVOCATE

Education, public safety and a strong resident voice

ORGANIZE

Cross-community conversations and collaboration

ENERGIZE

Leadership development for residents and youth

PROGRAMS & IMPACT

EARLY CHILDHOOD & PARENTS

Support for SW Detroit children, informal caregivers and families

YOUTH

Latinx Youth Council and Youth Environmental Healing

BUILDING WHAT'S NEXT

Youth-Driven Community Center, a new Early Learning Center and a community garden

GIVE BACK TO DETROIT

\$10,000
GOAL

As we gather in community, we are also giving back to the community hosting us. Help us raise \$10,000 for Congress of Communities by giving throughout the weekend.



SCAN TO GIVE



MICHIGAN NURSING
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

We Dare to Provide Health for All

At the University of Michigan School of Nursing, we prepare nurse leaders to turn evidence into action, advance health equity and address health care's biggest challenges. Through research, education and practice, we empower nurses to create lasting change.

Learn more: nursing.umich.edu

EVERY 19TH

OCT
19

The kickoff to National
DNP Week



Celebrating National DNPs of Color Day

October 19, 2026

Founded by Dr. Danielle McCamey in 2016, DNPs of Color (DOCs) was officially approved as a nonprofit organization on October 19, 2018—a date now celebrated as National DNPs of Color Day. DOCs became fully operational in 2020 with the launch of its first program, Virtual Commencement, honoring DNP graduates impacted by COVID-19, and the establishment of its inaugural Board of Directors.

Wear your DOCs para with pride—because your very existence, whether you're an official member or not, is literally changing the face and impact of nursing practice. This day also marks the kickoff to National DNP Week, a time to celebrate the power, purpose, and impact of DNPs everywhere. And every 19th of the month, we honor DOCs Day—for you, for us, and for the communities we serve and represent.

You can find merch at the DOC Shop online and the exhibit hall during the conference.

THE KICKOFF TO

**NATIONAL
DNP WEEK**

REGISTER FOR DNP WEEK VIRTUAL EVENTS · [DNPWEEK.COM](https://dnpweek.com)

SHOP THE DOC SHOP · [DNPSOFCOLOR.ORG/DOC-SHOP](https://dnpsofcolor.org/doc-shop)



INTRODUCING THE DNP^s OF COLOR

NAMESAKE AWARDS

At the 6th Annual DNP^s of Color Conference, we are proud to introduce a new collection of namesake awards. Each one honors leaders whose careers reflect the values we want future generations of nurses to carry forward.

These awards are not memorials. They are living tributes to the kind of leaders DNP^s

of Color works to cultivate. Several pairings intentionally unite a DNP-prepared and a PhD-prepared nurse leader, because the future of nursing is strongest when practice expertise and research scholarship inform one another.

ALLEYNE-LAMANDRE EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL PRACTICE AWARD

Named for Dr. Dwayne Alleyne & Dr. Efrat LaMandre · *Clinical excellence through compassion and innovation*

BLUE-VALDEZ HEALTH EQUITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

Named for Dr. Marshall H. Blue Sr. & Dr. Anna Maria Valdez · *Health equity through leadership and scholarship*

WILLIAMS-ROMAN EMERGING LEADER AWARD

Named for Dr. Michael Williams & Dr. Roberto Roman · *Emerging leadership through service and vision*

LINTON-MELHADO OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

Named for Dr. Janice Linton & Dr. Lolita Melhado · *Visionary leadership in compassionate, person-centered care*

WEBB-MOORE ADVOCACY AWARD

Named for Dr. Michelle Webb & Ottamissiah "Missy" Moore · *Advocacy for equitable access to compassionate serious illness care*

The inaugural class of namesake award recipients will be recognized in 2027.

ALLEYNE-LAMANDRE

EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL PRACTICE AWARD

The Alleyne–LaMandre Excellence in Clinical Practice Award recognizes nurse leaders whose clinical excellence extends beyond exceptional patient care to transform the practice of nursing through innovation, advocacy, leadership, and service. This award honors clinicians who elevate the profession by improving care delivery, mentoring others, challenging barriers to equitable care, and demonstrating the highest standards of professional practice.



DR. DWAYNE ALLEYNE
DNP

Dr. Dwayne Alleyne represents the very best of academic clinical practice. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated that excellence at the bedside must be paired with excellence in teaching, mentorship, and leadership. As an award-winning clinician, educator, and Associate Professor at the University of South Carolina College of Nursing, Dr. Alleyne has devoted his career to preparing future nurse practitioners while advancing minority health, reducing health disparities, and promoting culturally responsive care. Beyond academia, Dr. Alleyne has been a tireless advocate for nurse practitioners and the nursing profession. As founder of the South Carolina Nurse Practitioner Network, he created new opportunities for professional collaboration, advocacy, and leadership development for advanced practice nurses across the state. His longstanding service to DNPs of Color, including Board leadership, mentorship, conference planning, and organizational development, reflects his unwavering commitment to strengthening the profession through service and community building. Dr. Alleyne's career demonstrates that outstanding clinicians not only provide exceptional care—they develop future clinicians, strengthen professional organizations, and create pathways for others to succeed.



DR. EFRAT LAMANDRE
PhD

Dr. Efrat LaMandre has redefined what is possible for nurse practitioners through entrepreneurship, innovation, and fearless advocacy. As founder and CEO of multiple healthcare organizations, she has built successful nurse practitioner-led businesses while demonstrating that advanced practice nurses can simultaneously be clinicians, executives, educators, authors, and innovators. Widely recognized as “Dr. E,” Dr. LaMandre has become a national voice addressing medical gaslighting, patient advocacy, healthcare innovation, and LGBTQ+ inclusion. Through bestselling books, media appearances, podcasts, and national speaking engagements, she has expanded public understanding of the nurse practitioner role while empowering clinicians to think beyond traditional career pathways.

Her career reflects the belief that clinical excellence includes challenging outdated systems, embracing innovation, and creating new models of care that improve patient outcomes while advancing the nursing profession.

WHY THIS AWARD BEARS THEIR NAMES

Together, Dr. Alleyne and Dr. LaMandre represent two complementary dimensions of clinical excellence. Dr. Alleyne exemplifies excellence through education, mentorship, professional service, and patient-centered leadership. Dr. LaMandre exemplifies excellence through innovation, entrepreneurship, advocacy, and transformational practice. Together, they demonstrate that exceptional clinicians do more than deliver outstanding care—they redefine what nursing practice can become. The Alleyne–LaMandre Excellence in Clinical Practice Award honors nurse leaders who embody this same commitment to advancing clinical practice through compassion, innovation, leadership, and service.

BLUE-VALDEZ

HEALTH EQUITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Blue-Valdez Health Equity Leadership Award recognizes nurse leaders whose careers have been dedicated to advancing health equity through advocacy, scholarship, leadership, philanthropy, and systems change. This award honors individuals who work to eliminate inequities, challenge injustice, and create more inclusive healthcare systems where every person has the opportunity to achieve optimal health.



DR. MARSHALL H. BLUE SR.
DNP

Dr. Marshall Blue Sr. has dedicated his career to advancing diversity, equity, and belonging throughout the nursing profession. A respected executive nurse leader, educator, and mentor, Dr. Blue has consistently invested his time, expertise, and resources to strengthen opportunities for future generations of nurses. As a Board member of DNPs of Color, Dr. Blue has played a pivotal role in the organization's growth through governance, mentorship, strategic leadership, philanthropy, and advocacy. His generous support of scholarships and professional development opportunities has directly expanded access for countless nurses seeking doctoral education and leadership opportunities. Throughout his career, Dr. Blue has championed diversity initiatives, organizational leadership, and workforce development, demonstrating that health equity is achieved not only through advocacy but through sustained investment in people, institutions, and future leaders. His legacy reminds us that meaningful change requires both vision and generosity.



DR. ANNA MARIA VALDEZ
PhD

Dr. Anna Maria Valdez is an internationally recognized nurse scholar whose work has transformed conversations surrounding health equity, disability justice, racism, bias, and environmental justice. Through groundbreaking research and national leadership, she has helped redefine what equitable healthcare means within nursing education, practice, and policy.

As Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Emergency Nursing and a member of the National Commission to Address Racism in Nursing, Dr. Valdez has advanced scholarship that challenges systemic inequities while amplifying the voices of historically marginalized communities. Her work extends beyond traditional health disparities research by incorporating disability justice, intersectionality, environmental health, and structural inequities into nursing science. She has become one of the profession's leading voices advocating for healthcare systems that recognize dignity, accessibility, and justice as essential components of quality care.

Her scholarship continues to influence educators, clinicians, researchers, policymakers, and healthcare organizations nationwide.

WHY THIS AWARD BEARS THEIR NAMES

Together, Dr. Blue and Dr. Valdez represent two essential pillars of health equity leadership.

Dr. Blue demonstrates how organizational leadership, mentorship, philanthropy, and community investment create lasting opportunities for equity.

Dr. Valdez demonstrates how rigorous scholarship, policy leadership, and advocacy challenge systems of injustice while advancing new knowledge that transforms healthcare.

Together, they embody the belief that health equity requires both action and evidence—leaders who invest in people alongside scholars who reshape systems. The Blue-Valdez Health Equity Leadership Award recognizes individuals whose leadership reflects this same commitment to creating a more just, inclusive, and equitable future for nursing and healthcare.

WILLIAMS-ROMAN

EMERGING LEADER AWARD

This award honors emerging leaders who lead before they have authority, create opportunities for others, champion health equity and inclusion, and inspire the next generation of diverse nurse leaders.



DR. MICHAEL WILLIAMS
DNP

- Represents servant leadership, philanthropy, and giving back.
- Created a scholarship at his alma mater to support future students.
- Featured in Latinos in Nursing for helping increase visibility and representation of Latino nurses.
- Board leader within DNPs of Color and longstanding mentor.
- Clinician, educator, artist, and advocate whose leadership demonstrates that emerging leaders can bring their whole selves to the profession.
- National voice on HIV prevention, LGBTQ+ health, men's health, and culturally responsive care, with public education through media appearances and community outreach.

WHY HE REPRESENTS "EMERGING LEADERSHIP"

Michael's leadership has never been about title—it has been about lifting others. His career demonstrates that leadership begins with service, mentorship, generosity, and investing in the next generation.



DR. ROBERTO ROMAN
PhD, DNP

- Internationally recognized scholar focused on LGBTQ+ health equity.
- Researcher of the Year from the University of Miami LGBTQ+ Student Center.
- One of the first 40 people globally certified in evidence-based practice.
- National advocate for inclusive healthcare for sexual and gender minority populations.
- Nurse executive, educator, mentor, researcher, and academic innovator.
- Provost and Chief Innovation Officer leading institutional transformation.
- Co-founder and leader within Nurses Shift Change, advancing advocacy and health equity through grassroots nursing leadership.
- His scholarship spans LGBTQ+ health, oncology, mentorship, evidence-based practice, and reducing health disparities for underserved communities.

WHY HE REPRESENTS "EMERGING LEADERSHIP"

Roberto embodies a new generation of nursing leadership—one that integrates rigorous scholarship, innovation, advocacy, and authentic representation. His career demonstrates how emerging leaders can transform both institutions and systems while remaining deeply connected to community.

THE STORY TOGETHER

The Williams–Roman Emerging Leader Award honors leaders who:

- Lead before they have authority.
- Create opportunities for others.
- Invest in their communities.
- Champion health equity and inclusion.
- Advance the profession through service, scholarship, innovation, and advocacy.
- Inspire the next generation of diverse nurse leaders.

Michael represents the heart of leadership through service and philanthropy.

Roberto represents the vision of leadership through scholarship, innovation, and systems transformation.

Together, they illustrate exactly what DNPs of Color wants emerging leaders to become: servant leaders who are courageous advocates, lifelong learners, innovative thinkers, and builders of a more equitable nursing profession.

LINTON-MELHADO

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

CARE BEYOND CURE SUMMIT AWARDS

The Care Beyond Cure Summit Awards recognize extraordinary individuals whose leadership, advocacy, scholarship, and compassion are transforming serious illness care, palliative care, caregiver support, and human flourishing. Presented annually during the Care Beyond Cure Summit, these awards celebrate those who exemplify the belief that exceptional healthcare extends beyond curing disease—it is rooted in dignity, compassion, equity, and honoring the lived experiences of every individual and family.

The Linton–Melhado Outstanding Leadership Award is the highest honor presented by the Care Beyond Cure Summit. It recognizes visionary leaders whose work has advanced compassionate, person-centered care while inspiring others to reimagine how serious illness, supportive care, and human flourishing are approached within healthcare and communities.



DR. JANICE LINTON
DNP

Dr. Janice Linton is a respected nurse leader and educator whose leadership has helped shape the organization's commitment to compassionate care, mentorship, and professional excellence. Throughout her career, she has championed patient-centered care, interdisciplinary collaboration, and leadership development, while helping cultivate a culture where service, compassion, and humanity remain central to nursing practice. As an early champion of Care Beyond Cure, Dr. Linton helped establish the vision that compassionate care extends beyond treating disease—it requires honoring the dignity, values, goals, and lived experiences of every individual and family navigating serious illness.



DR. LOLITA MELHADO
PhD

Dr. Lolita Melhado has been instrumental in the creation, growth, and sustainability of Care Beyond Cure. As a founding leader of the initiative, she has helped transform an idea into a national platform that brings together clinicians, educators, researchers, students, caregivers, and community leaders committed to improving serious illness care. Her leadership reflects an unwavering commitment to education, interdisciplinary collaboration, mentorship, health equity, and creating spaces where difficult conversations surrounding serious illness and end-of-life care can occur with compassion, dignity, and hope.

WHY THIS AWARD BEARS THEIR NAMES

Together, Drs. Linton and Melhado represent the foundation of Care Beyond Cure.

Their leadership reminds us that transforming healthcare is not only about improving clinical outcomes—it is about creating systems, relationships, and communities where every person experiencing serious illness is seen, heard, valued, and cared for with dignity. The Linton–Melhado Outstanding Leadership Award recognizes individuals whose visionary leadership advances compassionate care, strengthens communities, mentors future leaders, and leaves a lasting legacy in serious illness and palliative care.

WEBB-MOORE

ADVOCACY AWARD

The Webb–Moore Advocacy Award recognizes individuals whose courageous advocacy advances equitable access to compassionate, high-quality serious illness and palliative care. This award honors leaders who elevate patient and caregiver voices, influence policy and practice, engage communities, and work to eliminate disparities in care for historically underserved populations.



DR. MICHELLE WEBB
DNP

Dr. Michelle Webb is a nationally recognized hospice and palliative care leader whose career has transformed the profession through systems leadership, education, and advocacy. With decades of experience spanning clinical practice, executive leadership, academia, and national service, she has worked tirelessly to improve the quality, accessibility, and delivery of serious illness care. As a former President of the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA), educator, executive nurse leader, and Assistant Professor, Dr. Webb has advanced the field by preparing future clinicians, influencing national standards of practice, and advocating for excellence in hospice and palliative nursing. Her leadership has strengthened the profession through education, workforce development, interprofessional collaboration, and a steadfast commitment to ensuring that every individual has access to compassionate, high-quality care throughout serious illness.

Her career exemplifies advocacy at the systems level—demonstrating that lasting change is achieved by shaping organizations, developing leaders, influencing policy, and transforming the way healthcare delivers serious illness care.



OTTAMISSIAH "MISSY" MOORE
DNP(c)

Ottamissiah "Missy" Moore has devoted nearly four decades to advocating for individuals navigating some of healthcare's most vulnerable moments. Her career spans hospice, long-term care, dementia care, wound and ostomy care, and end-of-life support, consistently centering dignity, compassion, equity, and service. As an End-of-Life Doula, Board Chair of the National Alliance of Wound Care and Ostomy (NAWCO), longtime DNPs of Color Board member, and founding contributor to Care Beyond Cure, Moore has worked tirelessly to elevate the voices of patients, caregivers, and communities too often overlooked within healthcare systems.

Her advocacy extends beyond the bedside into professional leadership, education, mentorship, and community engagement, demonstrating that meaningful change occurs when clinicians become champions for those they serve. In 2026, she received the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) Champion Award, one of the profession's highest honors recognizing significant impact through advocacy, community involvement, and practice—a testament to the national significance of her work.

WHY THIS AWARD BEARS THEIR NAMES

Together, Dr. Michelle Webb and Ottamissiah "Missy" Moore represent two essential dimensions of advocacy within serious illness and palliative care. Dr. Webb exemplifies advocacy through national leadership, education, systems transformation, and advancing the hospice and palliative care profession through policy, workforce development, and organizational leadership.

Missy Moore exemplifies advocacy through community engagement, patient and caregiver empowerment, mentorship, and unwavering presence alongside individuals and families during life's most vulnerable moments. Together, they demonstrate that meaningful advocacy requires both visionary leadership that transforms systems and compassionate action that changes lives one patient and one family at a time. The Webb-Moore Advocacy Award recognizes individuals who embody this same commitment by championing equitable access, elevating marginalized voices, advancing policy and education, and ensuring that every person experiencing serious illness receives compassionate, person-centered care with dignity and respect.

RISING SCHOLAR

CARE BEYOND CURE RISING SCHOLAR AWARD

The Care Beyond Cure Rising Scholar Award recognizes students and emerging scholars whose scholarship, leadership, innovation, or quality improvement demonstrates exceptional promise for advancing serious illness care, palliative care, caregiver support, and human flourishing. This award celebrates the next generation of leaders whose work reflects intellectual curiosity, compassion, and a commitment to improving the lives of individuals and families experiencing serious illness.

WHY THIS AWARD EXISTS

The future of serious illness and palliative care depends upon courageous scholars who are willing to ask difficult questions, challenge existing models, and develop innovative approaches to compassionate care.

The Care Beyond Cure Rising Scholar Award honors students whose early achievements demonstrate exceptional potential to transform the future of serious illness care through research, implementation science, education, advocacy, clinical innovation, and community engagement.

Recipients exemplify the values of Care Beyond Cure by combining scholarship with compassion and recognizing that advancing science must always be accompanied by advancing humanity.

Advancing science must always be accompanied by advancing humanity.



RESEARCH

IMPLEMENTATION
SCIENCE

EDUCATION

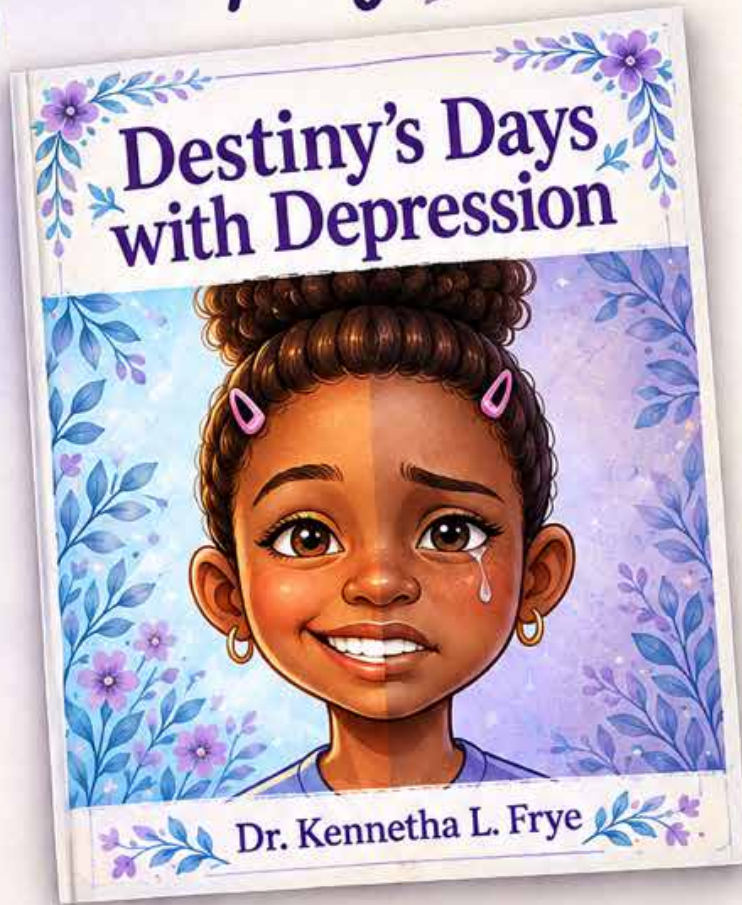


ADVOCACY

CLINICAL
INNOVATIONCOMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

The inaugural Care Beyond Cure Rising Scholar Award recipients will be recognized in 2027.

My First Book! ♥



*A story of
understanding,
hope, and healing.* ♥

I am beyond excited to
share my first book...

Destiny's Days with Depression

By Dr. Kennetha L. Frye ♥

This book was created with
the hope of helping children
understand that their feelings
are real, their emotions matter,
and they don't have to navigate
difficult days alone.

A story that helps with...

- ♥ Understanding
- ♥ Conversation
- ♥ Emotional Awareness
- ♥ Hope

Depression can be difficult
to explain—especially to a child.
My goal is to create a story that
opens the door for understanding,
conversation, and healing.



*Scan the QR code
to get your first copy!* ♥

Thank you for supporting my dream!

♥ DR. KENNETHA L. FRYE ♥

2026 AWARD HONOREES

2026 HONOREE

2026 McCAMEY-DEWITTY FOUNDERS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT & DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



DR. ETHLYN McQUEEN-GIBSON
DNP, MSN, RN-BC

Dr. McQueen-Gibson serves as the Director for Health Equity, Education and Access for the Urban League of Hampton Roads, Inc. and in the clinical role of Research Associate and Geriatric Clinical Nurse Specialist at the Glennan Center for Geriatrics & Gerontology at Eastern Virginia Medical School at Old Dominion University. Also, Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Geriatric Medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical School and Professor in the Ellmer School of Nursing at Old Dominion University. In 2025, she received an appointment as an adjunct associate professor at Howard University School of Nursing in Washington, DC in the graduate studies division for their inaugural Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program at an HBCU.

She holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Ursuline College Breen School of Nursing in Cleveland, OH, a Master of Science degree in Nursing from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, GA, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Ursuline College Breen School of Nursing. She holds the distinction as a Fellow in Applied Gerontology conferred by the Southern Gerontological Society.

She has practiced nursing for over 40 years to include clinical and administrative positions and is a veteran having served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps on active and reserve duty.

She currently serves as a senior research consultant for the (R01) clinical study "The

Black American United Memory and Aging Project (BA-UMAP): An examination of cognitive decline in midlife and older Black adults using remote cognitive assessments (North Carolina AT&T, PI).

She has served as co-PI with colleagues from EVMS at Old Dominion University addressing early Alzheimer's Disease interventions in diverse and vulnerable populations through the clinical drug diversity arm "Lecanemab® sub-study AHEAD 345."

She is an active life member of American Nurses Association, the National Black Nurses Association, DNPs of Color Inc, NAACP, National Urban League, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the Links Incorporated.

"She has consistently used every platform of influence to open doors for those historically absent from decision-making."

— Bimbola F. Akintade, PhD, MBA, APRN, FAANP, FAAN

ABOUT THE AWARD

The McCamey-DeWitty Founders Lifetime Achievement & Distinguished Service Award represents one of DNPs of Color's highest honors. It recognizes an individual whose career reflects sustained excellence, distinguished service, and an enduring commitment to advancing nursing, developing others, and strengthening the communities we serve.

2026 AWARD HONOREES

2026 HONOREE

2026 LEGACY OF JUSTICE & HUMAN FLOURISHING AWARD

A Legacy of People, Power, and Possibility

For more than four decades, Maria Anita Salinas has dedicated her life to ensuring that the people of Southwest Detroit have more than a voice in their communities. They have the power to shape their future.

Born and raised in Southwest Detroit, Salinas has built a remarkable legacy as a community organizer, advocate, mentor, and champion for social justice. Her leadership is grounded in a simple but transformative belief: communities thrive when the people most affected by inequity have the resources, opportunities, and authority to create meaningful change.

As Founder and Executive Director of Congress of Communities, Salinas has helped transform grassroots organizing into a sustainable model of resident leadership and collective action. Emerging from the Skillman Foundation's Good Neighborhoods Initiative, Congress of Communities was formally established in 2010 following a multiyear planning process involving more than 10,000 residents, youth, and community

**MARIA ANITA SALINAS**FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CONGRESS OF
COMMUNITIES

"Justice is not simply an ideal to pursue, but a responsibility to practice."

stakeholders.

Under her leadership, the organization has advanced youth development, educational equity, environmental justice, family well-being, and neighborhood advocacy. From cultivating young leaders and supporting parents as community advocates to developing youth-centered spaces and strengthening neighborhood partnerships, her work reflects a commitment to addressing the conditions that shape opportunity, health, and quality of life.

Salinas understands that lasting change requires more than programs and services. It requires shifting power. Throughout her career, she has worked to connect residents with institutions, challenge systemic barriers, and ensure that community knowledge and lived experience inform the decisions that affect their lives.

Her influence extends beyond neighborhood organizing. With a professional background in public health, advanced education in community leadership, and a fellowship focused on racial equity and institutional racism, she has bridged grassroots advocacy, scholarship, and civic leadership. Her contributions have earned numerous recognitions, including the 2024 Mariam C. Noland Award for Nonprofit Leadership from the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

Yet perhaps her most enduring contribution is the generation of leaders she continues to cultivate. Through mentorship, community organizing, and opportunities for meaningful participation, Salinas is helping ensure that the future of Southwest Detroit is shaped by those who call it home.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The DNPs of Color Legacy of Justice & Human Flourishing Award recognizes individuals whose leadership advances human dignity, challenges inequity, and creates lasting opportunities for individuals and communities to flourish. Established by DNPs of Color, the award was presented for the first time in 2025 in Oakland, California, to Dr. Angela Y. Davis.

As the 2026 recipient, Maria Anita Salinas embodies the spirit of this distinction. Her life's work reminds us that justice is not simply an ideal to pursue, but a responsibility to practice, and that human flourishing becomes possible when communities are empowered to determine their own futures.

DNPs of Color proudly honors Maria Anita Salinas for her extraordinary commitment to justice, community empowerment, and the enduring work of creating a future in which all people have the opportunity to thrive.

2026 AWARD HONOREES

**DR. SANDY PHAN**

DNP, RN, NPDA-BC, NPD-BC, EBP-CH, FADLN

2026 HONOREE**2026 OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARD**

Dr. Phan is a Nursing Professional Development Specialist at UC Davis Health and Program Manager at HealthImpact. She earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice from San José State University and is pursuing a PhD in Nursing at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. With over 13 years of nursing experience, Dr. Phan is committed to advancing mentorship, professional development, and health equity.

Her work includes leading mentoring initiatives for new graduate nurses and aspiring nurse leaders and supporting statewide mentoring programs that address nursing workforce needs. A Distinguished Fellow of the Academy of Diversity Leaders in Nursing, Dr. Phan has held national leadership roles advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as nursing professional development.

She has mentored multiple nurses and graduate students, supporting their growth as leaders, educators, and scholars. Through her mentorship and leadership, Dr. Phan strives to cultivate a sense of belonging, expand

access to professional opportunities, and empower nurses from diverse backgrounds to recognize their potential, advance their careers, and mentor the next generation.

“Dr. Phan not only guides mentees through milestones, she also helps them recognize their potential and creates opportunities for them to grow.”

— DaJanae Gresham-Ryder, DNP, MSN, RN, PHN, CMSRN, FADLN

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Outstanding Mentor Award recognizes an individual who demonstrates an exceptional commitment to developing, supporting, and creating opportunities for others. It honors mentorship that extends beyond guidance alone to include sponsorship, encouragement, knowledge sharing, and the intentional cultivation of future leaders.

2026 AWARD HONOREES



DR. CYRIL DAVIS
DNP, PMHNP-BC

2026 HONOREE

2026 EMERGING LEADER AWARD

Dr. Cyril Davis, DNP, PMHNP-BC, is a doctoral-prepared Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Program Director at Lakes Center Mental Health Network. He is an emerging leader committed to advancing equitable behavioral healthcare through clinical excellence, education, advocacy, and systems leadership.

Following a career in law enforcement with the Detroit Police Department and as a Federal Air Marshal, Dr. Davis sustained a line-of-duty traumatic brain injury that inspired his transition into nursing. Today, he combines lived experience with evidence-based psychiatric practice to improve outcomes for individuals, families, first responders, and underserved communities.

Dr. Davis serves on the Oakland Community Health Network Board

of Directors and was elected Metro Regional Representative to the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan Executive Board, representing Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties, the state's largest public behavioral health region. These organizations oversee Michigan's largest public behavioral health budgets and serve the most individuals receiving community mental

health services. Dr. Davis is one of only two Nurse Practitioners on these governing bodies, providing a vital nursing perspective to regional behavioral health leadership.

He is committed to mentoring future nurse leaders, advancing evidence-based care, and strengthening partnerships that improve access to behavioral health services across Michigan.

“He has turned personal adversity into a lifelong dedication to serving others and inspiring future healthcare professionals.”

— Lynne Lyons, MD, Medical Director and Founder of Lakes Center Mental Health Network

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Emerging Leader Award recognizes a rising nurse leader who is demonstrating meaningful impact early in their leadership journey and whose work reflects innovation, service, professional excellence, and a commitment to advancing nursing and the communities we serve.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS

OUTSTANDING BOARD MEMBER

Dr. Michael Williams

Ottamissiah (Missy) Moore

OUTSTANDING COMMITTEE SERVICE

Dr. Bridget A. Leonard · Conference

Dr. Josh Winowiecki · Conference

Dr. Janeé Stevenson · Research

Dr. Demetrius "DJ" Kirk · Governance

Dr. Michelle Lockett · Programming

Dr. Jessica Lamberson · DEIAA

Dr. Devyn Barron Nixon · Policy & Advocacy

2024-2026 BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Marshall Blue Sr.

Dr. Michael Williams

Dr. Ravenne Aponte

2026 CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

Dr. Josh Winowiecki

Dr. Shelitha Campbell

Dr. Bridget A. Leonard

2026 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Dr. Yvette Conyers

Dr. Ka'Shiris Perryman

Dr. Michelle Webb

Dr. Tammi Lining

Dr. Bridget A. Leonard

Dr. Josh Winowiecki

Dr. Shelitha Campbell

Dr. Danielle McCamey

Dr. Tracy Wilson

2026

DOC DAISY AWARD WINNERS

DOC DAISY AWARDS · PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



The DAISY Award is an international recognition program that honors the extraordinary clinical skill and compassionate care provided by nurses every day. Established by the DAISY Foundation, the award celebrates nurses who go above and beyond in their commitment to patients, families, and the nursing profession. Recipients are nominated by patients, families, colleagues, and physicians who witness firsthand the remarkable difference these nurses make. This year's DOC DAISY Award winners exemplify the highest standards of nursing excellence:



DR. ANGELA MORRIS

DNP, APRN, AGCNS-BC, CCRN, SCRNP, CNE

THE DAISY NURSE LEADER AWARD

The DAISY Nurse Leader Award recognizes nurse leaders who create environments in which compassionate, skillful care can thrive and whose leadership positively influences nurses, teams, patients, families, and communities.



DR. YVETTE CONYERS

DNP, RN, FNP-C, CTN-B, CFCN, CFCS, CNE, FADLN, CWCN-AP, FNAP

THE DAISY AWARD FOR NURSES ADVANCING HEALTH EQUITY

This DAISY Award recognizes nurses whose work advances health equity and addresses disparities affecting individuals, families, and communities.



2026 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Leadership Lessons From... Scholarship Winners

Leadership Lessons From Scholarship is awarded to recipients who demonstrate a commitment to ethical healthcare leadership and eliminating racism. The scholarship is sponsored by Leadership Lessons From..., a nonprofit foundation dedicated to ending racism and promoting ethical healthcare leadership. The foundation provides financial assistance to underrepresented populations pursuing careers as ethical healthcare leaders, including travel grant scholarships for DNP's of color to attend conferences. Additionally, Leadership Lessons From... supports primary research, education, and policy development that advance ethical healthcare leadership through podcasts, blogs, seminars, and research initiatives.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Natira
Holmes

Jose
Perpignan

Brianna
Grace

Lynnae
Elliott

SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ella Byas Scholarship for Justice and Leadership

Missy Ottamissiah Moore

RECIPIENT

LEARN MORE >

leadershiplessonsfrom.org

ABOUT THE ELLA BYAS SCHOLARSHIP >

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



Takiyah Jones

DNP, APRN, FNP-C, PMHNP-BC
Continuum Integrated Mental Health

Dr. Takiyah Jones, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, PMHNP-BC, is a dual-certified family and psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, nurse educator, and practice owner committed to expanding access to integrated, high-quality care.

Dr. Jones earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice from Georgia State University, where she is a double alumna and currently serves as part-time nursing faculty. Her clinical experience includes primary care, mental health, substance use treatment, and community-based care. As an educator, she teaches undergraduate nursing and graduate family nurse practitioner students, helping prepare the next generation of nurses and advanced practice nurses.

She is the founder of Continuum Integrated Mental Health, an independent practice grounded in the connection between physical and mental health. Her experience establishing an NP-owned practice has deepened her interest in the policies and structural barriers that influence where and how nurse practitioners can provide care. These experiences have also shaped her growing research interests in health equity, workforce access, and advanced practice nursing policy and regulation.

Dr. Jones believes nurse practitioners can play an important role in developing innovative models of care that respond directly to community needs while improving access for populations that may otherwise experience gaps in care.

WHO IS DUET? HOW DO THEY SUPPORT NP ENTREPRENEURS?

At Duet, we're on a mission to transform community health through trusted, NP-owned practices. We support NP entrepreneurs with the resources they need to build independent businesses and address the needs of their communities.

Through partnerships with organizations like DNPs of Color, we offer conference scholarships that help NP practice owners access education, build connections, and grow as leaders.

Keep an eye out for conference scholarships, membership sponsorships, and free webinars offered through our partnership.

Now, we're excited to introduce this year's Duet scholarship recipient for the DNPs of Color Conference.

ABOUT DOCS

DNPs of Color (DOC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to increase diversity in doctoral studies, clinical practice, and leadership for nurses. As the only national organization dedicated to DNP-prepared nurses of color, DOC represents a growing community of nearly 3,000 members, including students, advanced practice registered nurses, faculty, entrepreneurs, and healthcare leaders, spanning the United States and reaching internationally.

3,000

ENGAGED COMMUNITY

400+

GRADUATES RECOGNIZED SINCE
2020

7

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Since our founding, DOC has provided a powerful community for nurses of color who have obtained, are aspiring to, or are working toward their Doctor of Nursing Practice. Our programming includes professional development, national conferences, virtual commencements, mentorship initiatives, speaker series, research fellowships, and advocacy for educational support.

DOC is a Designated Colleague Organization of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and an NP Organization with the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).

MISSION

To serve DNPs of Color through networking, mentorship and advocacy to increase diversity in doctoral studies, clinical practice and leadership.

VISION

To inspire, empower and transform the landscape of nursing by increasing diversity in doctoral nursing practice.

OBJECTIVES

- To create opportunities for engagement in academia, research and clinical practice.
- To advocate for educational support for DNPs of Color.
- To serve as mentors and guide nurses of color to pursue Doctor of Nursing Practice studies.

Care Beyond Cure

dIMENsions in Nursing

My DNP Manuscript

DOC Speaker Series

DOC Research Fellowship

CEO Leadership Bootcamp

HBCU DNP Academic Collaborative

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dr. Danielle McCamey

DNP, CRNP, ACNP-BC, FCCP
FOUNDER, PRESIDENT & CEO



Dr. Dwayne Alleyne

DNP, APRN, ACNP-C
BOARD CHAIR



Dr. Marshall H. Blue Sr.

DNP, MSN, RNC-NIC, CNL, PHN
VICE CHAIR



Dr. Ronnie Ursin

DNP, MBA, RN, CENP, FACHE
TREASURER



Dr. Ravenne Aponte

PhD
HISTORIAN



Dr. Michael Williams

DNP
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE



Latrina Walden

MHA, MSN, PMHNP-BC, FNP-BC
BOARD MEMBER



Ottamissiah Moore

DNP(c)
BOARD MEMBER

FIND YOUR PEOPLE.

JOIN DOCS.

Inspiring nurses. Empowering professionals. Transforming nursing practice.

Conference discounts · CE credits · members-only communities · mentor & preceptor network · committee access · a vote in where we go. Memberships for DNPs, nursing professionals, students, retirees and affiliates.

dnpsocolor.org/join-us

Membership comes with perks
see the next page >



OUR PARTNERS

Your DOCS membership opens doors. These partners offer exam prep, clinical placements, mentorship and recognition to our members. Join, then take them up on it.



EG PREP EDUCATION

Members get: Transition-to-practice modules in adult, peds, women's health and acute care, with CEUs for DOCS members.

egprep.com/doc >



NP HUB

Members get: Search 2,000+ preceptors and book your clinical rotation through the DOCS portal. Preceptors can join too.

partner.nphub.com/doc >



LATRINA WALDEN EXAM SOLUTIONS

Members get: Live ANCC and AANP board review with Professor Walden for FNP, AGNP, PMHNP and ACNP, plus question banks.

latrinawaldenexamsolutions.com >



G-DNA

Members get: Community, mentorship and global collaboration through the Ghanaian-Diaspora Nursing Alliance.

g-dna.org >



THE DAISY FOUNDATION

Members get: DOCS is a DAISY Supportive Association. Celebrate and nominate the extraordinary nurses around you.

daisyfoundation.org >



THE STUDENT LOAN DOCTOR

Members get: An exclusive discounted one-on-one consultation for personalized guidance on your student loans.

slduniversity.org/sld2 >



NURSES YOU SHOULD KNOW

Members get: Access to nursing history and resources from the Nurses You Should Know publication on Medium.

medium.com/nurses-you-should-know >

NOT A MEMBER YET? JOIN DOCS

dnpsocolor.org/join-us · partners: info@dnpsocolor.org

DNPS OF COLOR · OFFICIAL MERCH

GET YOUR DOC SWAG



HOT PINK HOODIE



DAD HAT



ZIP HOODIE



BLACK HOODIE



CUFFED BEANIE



CLASSIC TEE



PIQUE POLO



DOC SOCKS



SCAN OR TAP

Hoodies, hats, bags, mugs & more.
Every order supports DOCs programs.

dnpsofcolor.org/doc-shop



OCT
15

DAY 1

THURSDAY

Conference: Wright Museum Auditorium

Clinical Practice Track: On Demand (Online) · Sponsored by NPACE

8:00 – 9:00 AM

Registration & Engage with Exhibitors

8:45 – 8:55 AM

Opening Mindfulness *Dr. Marcia Derby-Davis, PhD., RN*

8:55 – 9:00 AM

Welcome by Conference Co-Chairs

Shelitha R. Campbell, DNP, MSN, BSN, FNP-BC, PHN

Joshua Winowiecki, DNP, APRN, ACCNS-AG, CCRN, TCRN, CNE

Bridget A. Leonard, DNP, MSN/MBA-HCM, RN, CRRN, NEA-BC, CNEpv

9:00 – 9:10 AM

Welcome to the “D”: Inaugural DOCs “Welcome to My City” Opening Address

Demetrius “DJ” Kirk, DNP, MSN, MBA, LNHA, RN

9:10 – 9:15 AM

Welcome from the Wright Museum

9:15 – 9:45 AM

Igniting Community Through a Scalable Nurse Practitioner Engagement Model

Nurse practitioners face rising burnout, professional isolation, and limited leadership development. This session shares a statewide NP Week engagement model: eight coordinated events over seven days that blended networking, leadership development, education, and recognition. Participants reported a stronger sense of community, professional validation, and motivation to lead. Learn how to replicate this multi-touch, inclusive approach in your own organization.

April J. Odom, DNP, APRN-FPA, FNP-BC, FAANP

Yvette Kimble, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

9:45 – 10:15 AM

(In)Equity by Design: Applying Artificial Intelligence to Nurse Staffing Decisions

Staffing models built on fixed ratios and historical volume often miss patient acuity, skill mix, and inequities built into care delivery. This session examines how AI-enabled staffing tools can either promote or reduce inequity, what to consider when evaluating them, and why nurse voices must be central to every AI staffing conversation. Attendees will leave with strategies to lead responsible adoption that supports equitable workloads and better patient outcomes.

Adrienne M. McIntyre, DNP, RNC-NIC, CNS

Sarah K. Wells, MSN, RN, CEN, CNL

10:15 – 10:35 AM

Break & Engage with Exhibitors

10:35 – 11:05 AM

Rooted in Belonging: Strategies for Cultivating Inclusive Nurse Mentors

Inclusive mentorship is essential to retaining a diversifying nursing workforce. This session shares results from a four-hour workshop that prepared nurse residency mentors to build trust, honor individual differences, and manage bias. Twelve months later, 95% of mentors were still applying the concepts, and residency retention reached 95%. Learn how to embed inclusion principles into your own mentor development programs.

Sandy Phan, DNP, RN, NPDA-BC, NPD-BC, EBP-CH, FADLN

Denise Angelo Prudencio, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, NPD-BC, PCCN, CGNC, FFMRCIS, FSIEN, FADLN

11:05 – 11:35 AM

A.P.P.L.I.E.D.: A Standardized Competency-Based Framework for Wound Repair Education

As procedural expectations for nurse practitioners grow, wound repair education remains inconsistent, leaving many NPs less confident managing lacerations independently. This session introduces the A.P.P.L.I.E.D. Framework (Assess, Plan, Prepare, Local Anesthetic, Irrigate, Execute, Document, and Disposition). It is a competency-based model that combines procedural steps, clinical reasoning, patient communication, and documentation. Educators will learn how to apply it in simulation, onboarding, and skills assessment.

Ofonime Bless, DNP, MBA, APRN, FNP-BC, ENP-C

11:40 AM – 12:10 PM

SIGNATURE SESSION

Leadership Lessons Signature Session: Community-Driven Innovation for Health Equity

Health-equity innovation starts with disciplined listening, not technology for its own sake. This action-oriented session introduces a practical 90-day method for moving from a community-defined inequity to measurable systems change. Participants will draw on lived experience, data, and workflow analysis, co-design solutions with community members, and learn to make the case to boards, funders, and policymakers. Attendees will leave with an outline for a health-equity innovation sprint they can launch immediately.

Kim Byas, PhD, MPH, FACHE



12:10 – 1:25 PM

Lunch & Engage with Exhibitors

1:25 – 1:35 PM

Mindfulness Reset *Dr. Marcia Derby-Davis, PhD., RN*

1:35 – 2:05 PM

Technology-Enabled Humanization of Pressure Injury Prevention: Clinical and Economic Outcomes of Sub-Epidermal Moisture Scanning for Person-Centered Care in Diverse Populations

Hospital-acquired pressure injuries disproportionately affect patients with darker skin tones, whose early warning signs are harder to see. This session presents a systematic review and meta-analysis of sub-epidermal moisture (SEM) scanning, which detects early tissue damage regardless of skin tone. Across eight studies of roughly 20,000 patients, SEM-guided care cut the odds of pressure injury by 64% while lowering costs, supporting earlier and more equitable prevention.

Rhonda Sullivan, DNP, PhD, MBA, MSN, CWON, LNCC, NE-BC, CSPHA, CLSSBB

2:05 – 2:35 PM

Designing Our Collective Future: Impact of African American and Black ERGs in Pediatric Healthcare

Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) can drive real organizational change. This session shares the impact of an African American and Black and Allies ERG at a predominantly white pediatric institution, now more than 170 members strong. Presenters will discuss how the ERG has shaped workplace culture, professional development, and culturally competent patient care. They will also cover how allyship and collective support strengthen resilience during challenging times.

Kimberly M. Williams, DNP, RN, NE-BC

Tiffany N. Inness, DNP, MBA, RN, RNC-NIC

2:35 – 2:55 PM

Break & Engage with Exhibitors

2:55 – 3:25 PM

BEEMS™: Designing a Nurse-Led Workforce Vital Signs Model to Detect Strain Before the Crisis

Burnout is an outcome, and by the time health systems see it, the window to act has closed. BEEMS™ (Belonging, Energy, Exhaustion and Recovery, Meaning and Purpose, and Psychological Safety) is a nurse-led Workforce Vital Signs Model that turns five leading indicators into a weekly pulse that takes under five minutes. Learn how real-time stability zones help leaders detect strain early and address retention disparities among nurses of color.

Nickia Jackson, MSN, RN

3:25 – 3:55 PM

The LEAD-IMPACT Framework™: A Conceptual Model for Igniting Community-Engaged Scholarship in Nursing

Nurse scholars, particularly at HBCUs and minority-serving institutions, often lack a structured model for organizing community-engaged scholarship from start to finish. This session introduces the LEAD-IMPACT Framework™, a 10-component model organized across three phases: LEAD (Listen, Envision, Activate, Develop), IMPACT (Implement, Measure, Publish, Anchor), and CT (Cultivate, Transform). Drawing on initiatives at an HBCU School of Nursing, including a rural YMCA health screening partnership, it offers a replicable pathway from community listening to lasting systems change. Attendees will leave with a practical model for launching and sustaining their own community-engaged scholarship.

Tiffany Morris, DNP, MS Ed, MSN, RN, CNE

4:00 – 4:30 PM

You Can't Be What You Can't See: Building Belonging in Science Through the NIH-Funded TRAIN Program

DNP-prepared nurses are well positioned to bridge research and practice, yet few pathways help nurses from underrepresented backgrounds build that expertise. This session shares five lessons from the first two cohorts of TRAIN, an NIH-funded 12-week summer research program. Exposure to diverse nurse scientists, hands-on research, mentorship, and intentional community-building proved essential to helping fellows see themselves as belonging in science.

Kimberly Souffront, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, FAHA, FAAN

4:30 – 4:35 PM

Closing Remarks *Conference Co-Chairs*

6:30 – 9:30 PM THURSDAY · MIX & MINGLE

MOTOWN KARAOKE NIGHT

Location: Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center

Grab the mic and channel your favorite Motown legend at an evening of networking, music, and community. The night includes a nonprofit fundraiser and a presentation from Congress of Communities.





OCT
16

DAY 2

FRIDAY

Conference: Wright Museum Auditorium

7:00 – 8:15 AM

Registration, Breakfast & Engage with Exhibitors

7:30 – 7:55 AM

Sunrise Mindfulness *Dr. Marcia Derby-Davis, PhD., RN*

8:00 – 8:10 AM

Welcome & Conference Theme

Danielle McCamey, DNP, ACNP-BC, FAAN, FAANP, FCCP, FADLN

8:10 – 8:20 AM

Mindfulness Intention Setting *Dr. Marcia Derby-Davis, PhD., RN*

8:25 – 8:55 AM

The Sacred Pause: Designing Our Collective Future Through Intention and Presence

Caregivers are being asked to give more than ever, often at the expense of their own well-being. This session introduces The Sacred Pause, a framework built on three pillars: Rest, Reflect, and Renew. Participants will explore practical ways to pause, stay grounded, and hold space for patients, families, and colleagues while staying connected to themselves. Attendees will leave with simple practices they can bring into everyday caregiving to cultivate presence, clarity, and renewal.

Dr. Marcia Derby-Davis, PhD., RN

10:55 – 11:25 AM

BELIEVE: Building Communication, Bridging Disparities in Maternal Care

U.S. maternal mortality remains among the highest of any high-income nation, and racial disparities in postpartum pain assessment contribute to poor outcomes. BELIEVE (Building Equitable Linkages with Interprofessional Education Valuing Everyone) is a three-phase interprofessional curriculum grounded in TeamSTEPPS that features VR-enhanced simulation. Learn how it is being tested in North Carolina hospitals and adapted for correctional facilities, because better team communication means better patient care.

Kimberly D. Harper, MSN, RN, MHA, C-EFM

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

PANEL

History Panel: Presented by Nurses You Should Know

A powerful conversation honoring the nurses, stories, and legacies that have shaped our profession. The panel highlights historically underrecognized nurses who shaped practice, leadership, and advocacy, and connects their lessons to opportunities for shaping nursing's future.

Felicia Vannostrand, BSN, RN, LRRT
Diallo Smith



12:30 – 12:40 PM

Mayor Sheffield's Office Welcome and Proclamation Presentation

Victoria Westbrooks, Public Affairs Spokeswoman, Office of Mayor Sheffield

12:40 – 1:45 PM

Lunch & Learn with Alnylam Pharmaceuticals

Engage with Exhibitors

Clinical Overview of hATTR Amyloidosis: Identifying and Diagnosing Patients in Your Practice

Chris Michael Bell, RN, MSN, ACNP, and James Ampadu, MD

1:45 – 1:55 PM

Mindfulness Regroup *Dr. Marcia Derby-Davis, PhD., RN*



2:00 – 2:30 PM KEYNOTE

Keynote Address

Nutrena H. Tate, PhD, MBA, APRN, CPNP-PC, NEA-BC, FADLN

2:35 – 3:05 PM

Increasing Adolescent Mental Health Literacy Through Peer-to-Peer Education

Adolescent mental health is a growing public health crisis. This session shares a partnership between an urban Midwest high school and a college of nursing. Student peer-champions were trained to teach classmates to recognize mental health symptoms, reduce stigma, and find resources. Mental health literacy rose more than 25% among both peer-champions and learners, making the case for peer education as a sustainable, school-based strategy.

Claudia Choe, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

3:10 – 3:40 PM

Understanding How Artificial Intelligence Is Shaping Healthcare

AI tools are changing how people find and act on health information. This session presents a practical framework for helping older adults understand and safely use AI, including how tools like ChatGPT differ from search engines. Attendees will learn the W.O.R.T.H. Compass (Wellness, Opportunities, Resources, Transform, Health) for evaluating AI-generated health information, preparing for clinical visits, and supporting informed self-advocacy.

Willa M. Smiley, DNP, MSN, MEd, RN, CCM, CWP

3:40 – 3:50 PM Break & Engage with Exhibitors

3:50 – 4:50 PM

SIGNATURE PANEL

Signature Panel: Community & Innovation

Explore how collective leadership, collaboration, and innovation can shape the future of nursing. Panelists will share strategies to strengthen communities and drive transformative change across education, practice, policy, and research.

Yolanda Ogbolu, PhD, NNP, FNAP, FAAN

Krista L. Walker, PhD

Vincent Guilamo-Ramos, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN

Maria Anita Salinas, Executive Director, Congress of Communities

Sherrine Azab, Co-Director, A Host of People

Moderator: Danielle McCamey, DNP, ACNP-BC, FAAN, FAANP, FCCP, FADLN



4:55 – 5:00 PM

Closing Remarks *Conference Co-Chairs*

6:30 – 8:30 PM

EVENING

Student Happy Hour & Dinner

Location: Fishbones, Greektown · 400 Monroe St, Detroit, MI 48226

Unwind with fellow students at Fishbones in Greektown. Free small bites, a complimentary drink and live music at 7:30 PM. Casual attire, open to all students, no registration needed.

Michael Williams, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

STUDENT PASS · ADMIT ALL

STUDENT HAPPY HOUR

Fishbones · Greektown, Detroit

Unwind with fellow students at Fishbones in Greektown. Free small bites, a complimentary drink and live music at 7:30 PM. Casual attire, open to all students, no registration needed.

DATE

FRI · OCT 16

TIME

6:30-8:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

7:30 PM

ATTIRE

CASUAL

PRICE

FREE

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Free for all students, with a variety of small bites and one complimentary drink.

ADDRESS

400 Monroe St
Detroit, MI 48226
fishbonesusa.com

TAKE THE FREE PEOPLE MOVER

PEOPLE MOVER · FREE

RENAISSANCE CENTER

Detroit Marriott

GREEKTOWN

Fishbones · at the casino

Board at the Renaissance Center station and ride to Greektown. Exit in front of the casino. Fishbones is attached to the casino.

No registration needed, and every student is welcome. Want to give a heads-up or have a question? Contact **Michael Williams** at **718-536-6503**.

OCT 17

DAY 3

SATURDAY

Conference: Wright Museum Auditorium
Futuristic Gala tonight at the Wright Museum

7:20 – 7:30 AM **Sunrise Mindfulness** *Dr. Marcia Derby-Davis, PhD., RN*

7:30 – 8:00 AM **Breakfast & Networking** *Breakfast Area*

8:00 – 9:00 AM

BridgeBio: Don't Pass on Your Heart Health

Location: Auditorium · **Sponsored by** BridgeBio

Where hip-hop, health, and storytelling collide. This interactive experience shows how music, narrative, and culturally relevant messaging can make complex health information accessible, amplify community voices, and inspire action.

8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Hack-a-thon: Designing the Future DNP Experience

Location: Yellow Room (limited to 75 participants)

This hands-on workshop introduces human-centered design as a practical framework for innovation. Working in teams, participants will explore the lived experiences of DNPs, identify unmet needs, and develop and pitch solutions that strengthen the future DNP experience.

Facilitator: Rhonda J. Manns, MBA, BSN, RN, CCM

REPORT OUT · 12:00 – 12:30 PM **Yellow Room**

9:00 – 9:48 AM

Poster Pitch Presentations & Competition

Location: Auditorium

Presenters will be as follows:

Nikeyia Davis, MBA-HCM, MSN, APRN, AGPCNP-C, CNN, FNKF, FANNA: *Advancing Kidney Health Equity Through Community Beauty and Personal Care Partnerships: A Novel Education Model*

Gloria E. Barrera, MSN, RN, PEL-CSN: *Igniting Public Health Nursing Leadership: The SNAIL Mentorship Model for Developing Future Nurse Leaders*

Tiffany Chau, PMP: *The CAU Framework: A Job Demands–Resources Informed Leadership Model to Reduce Cognitive Load and Strengthen Nursing Workforce Resilience*

Crystal Tucker, DNP, PMHNP: *Reducing Restraints Using Music: A Quality Improvement Initiative to Advance Equitable Psychiatric Care*

Sydney Robinson, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC: *Enhancing Condom Use Attitudes Through Digital Sex Education in Primary Care*

Vote for your favorite poster: <https://forms.gle/sPxksPgmp88SuuZN6>

9:48 – 10:00 AM

Break

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Reclaiming Our Narratives: Storytelling, Legacy, and Healing

Location: Auditorium

Every leader has a story, and every story has the power to heal, inspire, and transform. Through guided writing, storytelling, and shared reflection, participants will explore the experiences that shaped their journeys and develop a personal narrative reflecting the legacy they hope to leave.

Facilitator: Beth Toner, MSN, MJ, MFA, RN

12:35 – 12:40 PM

Closing Remarks Dwayne Alleyne, DNP, APRN, ACNP-C, Board Chair

WELCOME TO THE

GALA OF THE FUTURE

The Allen-Mahoney Annual Scholarship & Awards

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 · 6:30–11:30 PM · CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM

Attire: Dress future forward in metallic and black.

6:30 – 7:30 PM

Cocktail Hour & Networking

7:30 PM

Dinner Served & Presentation from Congress of Communities

7:45 – 8:00 PM

Welcome & Land and Ancestor Acknowledgment

8:00 – 8:15 PM

DOCs Vision & Fundraising Pitch

8:15 – 8:45 PM

Scholarship & Award Presentations

8:55 – 11:30 PM

Dancing & Celebration



OCT
18

DAY 4

SUNDAY

Starts and ends at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Walking Tour: Resilience, Culture, and Flavor

Starting and ending at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, this guided two-hour tour explores the history, architecture, and culture of downtown Detroit. It highlights the contributions of immigrants, Black Detroiters, and diverse communities who shaped the Motor City. Stops include the Gateway to Freedom Underground Railroad Monument, the Joe Louis "Fist" monument, and Detroit's art alleys, with local culinary fare along the way. The route is about 1.8 miles on flat, accessible terrain with seated breaks, restroom access, and some transit segments.

HOW TO OBTAIN CONTACT HOURS

DOC 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE · ACTIVITY #20-1408092

Earn up to 15.0 contact hours for the full 3-day conference. Partial contact hours are available for the days you attend.

- 1 Complete the Speaker and Program Evaluation at the end of each day you attend.
- 2 Scan the QR code or click the link for that day below.
- 3 Create a free account, or if you have used this site before, sign in with your username and password (or reset your password).

DAY 1

Obtain your contact hours



[Scan or click >](#)

DAY 2

Obtain your contact hours



[Scan or click >](#)

DAY 3

Obtain your contact hours



[Scan or click >](#)

OneAccord Health is an approved Florida Board of Nursing CE Provider #50-24971

SHARE YOUR STORY

Words are great. VIDEO IS BETTER.



Share your #DOCsDetroit26 Conference experience.

Tap the button or scan the QR code to get started.



Share Your Story





MEET YOUR GUIDE

Dr. Marcia J. Derby-Davis, PhD, RN, is a nurse educator, wellness facilitator, and mindfulness and meditation teacher with more than 30 years of nursing experience. She is the founder of ZahariYAH Healing Body Mind and Spirit and the creator of The Sacred Pause™, a practice of pausing, breathing, and returning to the present moment.

*Living with gratitude.
Leading with intention.*

A FREE GIFT FOR CONFERENCE ATTENDEES



The Sacred Pause

PORTAL

The Sacred Portal is designed for the DOC: DNP of Color 2026 Conference. A space for presence and renewal. There is nothing you need to complete here. Nothing you need to accomplish. Nothing you need to prove. Just simply arrive...

FREE · 15 LESSONS · ABOUT 30 MINUTES

YOUR THREE-DAY JOURNEY

Day 1 Pause Before You Begin

Day 2 Return to Yourself

Day 3 Carry the Pause Forward



ENROLL FREE >

Scan or tap to enter the portal
derbydavisacademy.com/courses/thesacredpauseportal



Dwayne Alleyne

DNP, APRN, ACNP-C

DiMENsions in Nursing Panel: Designing the Future of Men's Health: Advancing Prostate Cancer Awareness and Action · Closing Remarks (Day 3)

Dwayne Alleyne, DNP, APRN, ACNP-C is a native of Brooklyn, New York, and resides in Columbia, South Carolina. He is a Clinical Associate Professor and Director of the Office of Practice at the University of South Carolina College of Nursing. He also serves as Program Director of diMENsions in Nursing, a program associated with DNPs of Color that is dedicated to empowering men of color in nursing. Through this role, he helps create a supportive and inclusive environment that encourages men in nursing to pursue excellence in their professional careers and provides mentorship to help nurses reach their full potential. Dr. Alleyne earned his Bachelor of Science in Physiology from Michigan State University, a BSN from Adelphi University, and both an MSN and DNP from the University of South Carolina. With more than 20 years in nursing and 16 years as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Dr. Alleyne has served in diverse clinical settings, including Prisma Health and the Columbia VA Health Care System. His leadership extends both nationally and locally, as he serves as Board Chair of DNPs of Color and as Chair of the Advanced Practice Committee for the South Carolina Board of Nursing. In addition to his clinical expertise, Dr. Alleyne is committed to advancing nursing education, practice, and policy through mentorship, advocacy, professional engagement, and the development of future nursing leaders.



Sherrine Azab

Co-Director, A Host of People

Signature Panel: Community & Innovation

Sherrine Azab is the Co-Director of the Detroit-based theater company A Host of People, which creates original multimedia theater for social change. She is a theater maker and director focused on creating new work, as well as a producer and educator who has worked nationally and internationally in cities including Detroit, Seattle, New York, and Berlin. Sherrine holds a BFA from Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle and a postgraduate certificate from the Institute for Curatorial Practice in Performance at Wesleyan University. Woven throughout her artistic life is ongoing training in practices that support the creation of art for social change, including Emergent Strategy, restorative practice, and equity in civic life. More recently, Sherrine has expanded her focus on the intersection of art and health. In May, she premiered Memory Generation, a play co-created with Sara Zatz at La MaMa in New York City that centers the experiences of people living with dementia and their caregivers. Sherrine is a TimeSlips Certified Facilitator and a proud board member of the MENA Theater Makers Alliance.



Gloria E. Barrera

MSN, RN, PEL-CSN

Poster Pitch Presentation: Igniting Public Health Nursing Leadership: The SNAIL Mentorship Model for Developing Future Nurse Leaders

Gloria E. Barrera, MSN, RN, PEL-CSN, PLNC, is a public health nurse, educator, and advocate dedicated to advancing health equity and strengthening the nursing workforce. She serves as Director of the RN to BSN Program at the University of Illinois Chicago, where she leads one of the nation's top-ranked online nursing programs. Gloria co-founded the Society of Latinx Nurses (SOLN) and made history as the first Latina President of the Illinois Association of School Nurses. During her tenure, she launched the state's first School Nurse Lobby Day and led initiatives to expand school health capacity and promote vaccine education. She is also a co-founder of Nurses Shift Change, a national movement advancing nurse leadership and policy engagement. A recognized leader in advocacy and equity, Gloria is an alumna of Healing Politics '25 and the American Nurses Advocacy Institute '25. She was named Nurse Influencer of the Year by ANA-Illinois and selected as one of the de Beaumont Foundation's 40 Under Forty in Public Health. She played a foundational role in establishing the ANA-Illinois DEI Committee and its inaugural DEI Award, and currently serves as an inaugural lead of the DEI Committee for the National Association of School Nurses. With nearly two decades of experience, Gloria is committed to board service as an extension of her servant leadership, contributing to state and national boards advancing health equity, workforce development, and climate and health initiatives.



Ofonime Bleess

DNP, MBA, APRN, FNP-BC, ENP-C

A.P.P.L.I.E.D.: A Standardized Competency-Based Framework for Wound Repair Education

Ofonime Bleess is an entrepreneur, board certified family and emergency nurse practitioner and an assistant professor whose work centers on preparing advanced practice providers to manage high-acuity conditions in primary care and resource-limited settings. Drawing from real-world emergency practice, she focuses on practical stabilization strategies, procedural skills training, diagnostic reasoning, and decision-making under pressure. Her work focuses on bridging the gap between theory and real-world clinical decision-making. Dr. Bleess leads innovative education initiatives to fulfill her personal mission where she helps APPs stop second-guessing their clinical skills, so they can practice with confidence and have less stress at work.



Kim Byas, Sr.

PhD, MPH, FACHE, FACHDM

Leadership Lessons Signature Session: Community-Driven Innovation for Health Equity

Dr. Kim Byas, Sr., PhD, MPH, FACHE, FACHDM, is an international health care strategist, educator, mentor, and social-justice leader helping organizations translate values into measurable change. His career spans public health, hospital and health system leadership, health policy, managed care, executive education, board governance, social entrepreneurship, and community-centered innovation. As Founder and CEO of Leadership Lessons From, he advances ethical leadership practices that reduce disparities and expand opportunity for underrepresented leaders. He helped design and lead the first Social Determinants of Health Innovation Hub that joined health systems, public agencies, technology partners, and community stakeholders to address structural racism, poverty, firearm violence, behavioral health, housing, food insecurity, jobs, transportation, and digital access. As a father of three adult children and a mentor to many, Dr. Byas teaches ethics, health policy, leadership, and comparative health systems to graduate and doctoral students in the United States and Europe. A longtime mentor, he supports emerging and senior health care leaders—many of whom have become CEOs and senior executives. His work invites health care leaders to claim their influence, build community power, and design a more just health care future for patients, families, communities, organizations, and future generations of nurses and nurse leaders.



Tiffany Chau

PMP

Poster Pitch Presentation: The CAU Framework: A Job Demands–Resources Informed Leadership Model to Reduce Cognitive Load and Strengthen Nursing Workforce Resilience

Tiffany Chau is a leadership and systems consultant specializing in sustainable workforce design and cognitive load reduction in complex organizational environments. She is an engineer by training, Certified Project Management Professional (PMP) and a Health and Wellness Coach with a focus on translating systems thinking and wellbeing science into practical leadership tools for healthcare and mission-driven organizations. Her work centers on developing scalable frameworks that support leadership sustainability, team resilience, and operational clarity in high-demand settings. Tiffany is the creator of the CAU Framework (Choose–Assign–Uplift), a Job Demands–Resources–informed leadership model designed to help leaders reduce cognitive overload, optimize delegation, and intentionally integrate workforce restoration practices. She partners with organizations to redesign leadership workflows and strengthen capacity without increasing burnout. Her work bridges leadership development, behavioral science, and workforce wellbeing, with a particular interest in advancing equitable, sustainable leadership practices that support long-term system performance and human-centered care delivery.



Claudia Choe

DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Increasing Adolescent Mental Health Literacy Through Peer-to-Peer Education

Claudia S. Choe is a board certified family nurse practitioner and educator focused on strengthening the nursing workforce, clinical excellence, and health equity. Dr. Choe currently serves as a clinical instructor at the University of Illinois Chicago, where she is passionate in fostering professional identity, leadership, and critical thinking skills during students' clinical courses. As an elected Membership Assembly Representative for ANA-Illinois, she is a leading voice in shaping legislative initiatives and professional policies that affect the nursing workforce. Dr. Choe's scholarship centers on advancing health equity among adolescent communities and advocacy for a growing nursing workforce. She continues to elevate the nursing profession and its critical voice at the forefront of healthcare through her roles in clinical practice, advocacy, and academia.



Nikeya Davis

MBA-HCM, MSN, APRN, AGPCNP-C, CNN, FNKF, FANNA

Poster Pitch Presentation: Advancing Kidney Health Equity Through Community Beauty and Personal Care Partnerships: A Novel Education Model

Nikeya Davis, MBA-HCM, MSN, APRN, AGPCNP-C, CNN, FNKF, FANNA, is a nephrology nurse practitioner and nationally recognized health equity advocate with nearly 27 years of nephrology experience. A Fellow of both the American Nephrology Nurses Association and the National Kidney Foundation, she has dedicated her career to advancing equitable kidney care for underserved and vulnerable populations. Nikeya is the former Chair and continued member of the American Nephrology Nurses Association's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, where she has helped advance inclusive practices and awareness across nephrology nursing. Since 2021, she has also served as an inaugural member of the American Kidney Fund's Health Equity Coalition, contributing to patient education resources, clinical initiatives, and community-centered programs focused on kidney health equity. Her leadership includes supporting multiple grant-funded community initiatives, participating in national workgroups and symposiums, and advocating for improved access, education, and outcomes across the kidney care continuum.



Marcia J. Derby-Davis

PhD, RN

The Sacred Pause: Designing Our Collective Future Through Intention · Conference Mindfulness Sessions

Dr. Marcia J. Derby-Davis, PhD, RN is a registered nurse, educator, wellness facilitator, and creator of The Sacred Pause, a heart-centered framework that invites individuals to pause, breathe, and return to the present moment with greater intention and presence. With more than 30 years of clinical, academic, and leadership experience, she has taught in undergraduate and graduate nursing programs, mentored future nurse leaders, and presented nationally and internationally on nursing practice, well-being, and whole-person care. As the founder of ZahariYAH Healing Body Mind Spirit, Dr. Derby-Davis integrates evidence-informed mindfulness practices with compassionate nursing to support the well-being of healthcare professionals, educators, and caregivers. Through presentations, retreats, coaching, and conference wellness experiences, she creates spaces where presence is possible, helping individuals reconnect with themselves through the guiding pillars of Rest, Reflect, and Renew. Her work reminds us that self-care is not selfish, it is necessary, and that sustainable leadership begins by caring for ourselves with the same compassion we offer others. Dr. Derby-Davis believes meaningful transformation often begins with a single intentional breath. "Living with Gratitude. Leading with Intention."



Ebony Gebrehawariat

BSN, RN

From Awareness to Action: Mobilizing Nurses for Policy Advocacy

Ebony Gebrehawariat, BSN, RN, is a graduate student, Clinical Resource Nurse, and health policy advocate and activist committed to advancing equity, innovation, and systems change in healthcare. With more than a decade of experience across the care continuum — including acute care, home health, care coordination, ambulatory, and correctional settings — she brings a broad perspective to leadership, workforce development, and patient-centered care. Ebony currently serves as President of Texas Nurses Association District 7, representing more than 8,000 nurses across Central Texas. She is an Eddie Bernice Johnson Health Equity Policy Scholars Institute (EBJ-HEPSI) Scholar and nominee for the Outstanding 25 Texas Nurses Award. Her work centers on coalition-building, nursing advocacy, education, and challenging disempowering narratives to create more sustainable and equitable healthcare systems.



Vincent Guilamo-Ramos

PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN

Signature Panel: Community & Innovation

Vincent Guilamo-Ramos holds the Leona B. Carpenter Chair in Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing and is Executive Director of the Center for Latino Adolescent and Family Health. Dr. Guilamo-Ramos' work advances evidence-based solutions across the sectors that shape health, positioning the elimination of health inequities as a practical and essential strategy for repairing the broken U.S. health system. Most recently, Dr. Guilamo-Ramos and colleagues authored the New England Journal of Medicine article "Correcting False Narratives-Indispensable Latino Contributions to U.S. Population Health," which documents Latinos' essential contributions to the country and explains how false narratives and policies harm not only Latino communities but the health and prosperity of the entire nation. He has published extensively in leading journals, including the New England Journal of Medicine, The BMJ, and The Lancet, and his work has been featured by CNN, The New York Times, and NPR, and is a contributor to NBCNews.com, Telemundo.com, and Nurse.org. Dr. Guilamo-Ramos served as co-chair of the HHS Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS and on the National Academies committee that authored Unequal Treatment Revisited. He serves on the Board of UnidosUS, the nation's largest Latino civil rights organization.



Kimberly D. Harper

MSN, RN, MHA, C-EFM

BELIEVE: Building Communication, Bridging Disparities in Maternal Care

Kimberly D. Harper, MSN, RN, MHA, C-EFM, is a nurse leader and maternal health advocate whose work spans clinical practice, public health, policy, and research. As Perinatal Neonatal Outreach Coordinator and Research Associate at the UNC Collaborative for Maternal and Infant Health, she is currently pursuing her Doctor of Nursing Practice at North Carolina A&T State University. From building OB emergency preparedness in rural and critical access communities to leveraging digital technology and AI to expand access to care, Kimberly's work is rooted in a commitment to closing the gap between evidence and practice. As co-Principal Investigator for the BELIEVE Project through the P3 EQUATE Network, she leads research on interprofessional education training using VR-enhanced simulations. Committed to advancing equity and representation in nursing science, she ensures the voices of DNPs of color shape the future of maternal health so that every person receiving maternal care gets the safe, dignified care they deserve.



Cessalyn Harvey

MS, PA-C

DiMENsions in Nursing Panel: Designing the Future of Men's Health: Advancing Prostate Cancer Awareness and Action

Cessalyn Harvey, MS, PA-C, is an Assistant Professor and Associate Director of Clinical Education in the Physician Assistant Studies Program at the University of Detroit Mercy. A native Detroit and graduate of Wayne State University, she has more than 20 years of experience as a physician assistant, with a clinical background spanning robotic surgery, urology, gynecology, and surgical care. She remains active in clinical practice while educating and mentoring the next generation of physician assistants. Her academic interests include clinical education, procedural skills training, student success, and advancing diversity and equity within PA education. She is actively engaged in scholarship and professional service and was inducted into Pi Alpha, the National Honor Society for Physician Assistants, in 2026.



Tiffany N. Inness

DNP, MBA, RN, RNC-NIC

Designing Our Collective Future: Impact of African American and Black ERGs in Pediatric Healthcare

Dr. Tiffany Inness stands as a distinguished healthcare leader with over 15 years in neonatal and pediatric intensive care as well as nursing informatics whose professional journey reflects outstanding achievements in nursing practice, education, and advocacy. Holding a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) with Neonatal Intensive Care certification (RNC-NIC), Dr. Inness has devoted her career to enhancing patient outcomes while advocating for diversity, equity, and inclusion in healthcare systems. Dr. Inness actively works to eliminate healthcare access barriers through leadership roles in nursing organizations and policy development. Dr. Inness prepares nursing professionals to deliver equitable care while implementing DEI initiatives in clinical and leadership settings. Her contributions have earned recognition through numerous awards and peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Inness has expertise in nursing informatics, co-authoring a McGraw Hill textbook and previously serving as Director of Informatics for the U.S. Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.



Nickia Jackson

MSN, RN

BEEMS™: Designing a Nurse-Led Workforce Vital Signs Model to Detect Strain Before the Crisis

Nickia Jackson, MSN, RN is the Founder and CEO of CT Nurse Wellness™ and Chief Well-Being and Workforce Stability Strategist with 25+ years of experience in critical care, patient safety, and performance improvement. As a nurse of color who led through the workforce crisis from the ICU bedside, she built BEEMS™ (Belonging, Energy, Exhaustion and Recovery, Meaning and Purpose, and Psychological Safety), a proprietary Workforce Vital Signs Model that fills a gap no existing tool addresses: treating nurse well-being as real-time data, not retrospective reporting. Designed for acute care nurses and the leaders who support them, BEEMS™ applies clinical surveillance logic to detect strain signals before burnout, disengagement, and turnover emerge. Presented at the Connecticut Center for Nursing Workforce 2026 Annual Statewide Nursing Summit, BEEMS™ equips DNP-prepared leaders with a replicable, evidence-grounded model for workforce surveillance and stabilization. An SBA-Certified EDWOSB and CT DAS S/MBE business owner, Nickia is building nurse-led infrastructure for a future where no nurse has to break down before the system pays attention.



Sabrina Ali Jamal-Eddine

PhD, RN

Dr. Sabrina Ali Jamal-Eddine, PhD RN is a health humanities nurse scientist, disability justice scholar-activist, spoken word poet, and assistant professor of nursing at University of South Carolina. Prior to this, Dr. Jamal-Eddine completed her postdoctoral fellowship in Disability and Human Development, PhD in Nursing, and certificate in Disability Ethics at University of Illinois Chicago. Dr. Jamal-Eddine's research seeks to dismantle ableism in nursing education and practice through anti-colonial pedagogic strategies, policy transformations, and community-based interventions rooted in the lived experiences of multiply marginalized disabled people. Dr. Jamal-Eddine simultaneously theorizes how systems of oppression—including white supremacy, capitalism, and colonialism—disproportionately manufacture disability, both domestically and transnationally.

Dr. Jamal-Eddine is a 2026 Johns Hopkins Nursing Science Incubator in Social Determinants of Health Solutions Fellow, an inaugural 2025-26 Hispanic Serving Research University Postdoctoral Fellow, and a 2024-25 Paul K. Longmore Institute Emerge Disability Justice Fellow. Dr. Jamal-Eddine is an emerging national disability justice leader shaping the disciplines of nursing and disability studies through high impact publications, invited presentations, research collaborations, and community-based scholar-artist-activism.



Yvette Kimble

DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Igniting Community Through a Scalable Nurse Practitioner Engagement Model

Dr. Yvette Kimble is a compassionate and accomplished Family Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Educator with more than 35 years of nursing experience. Based in Chicago, Illinois, she is committed to advancing the profession through patient-centered care, academic excellence, and community empowerment. Her journey reflects resilience, faith, and determination. As a teen mother, she refused to let her circumstances define her future. Through perseverance, she built a legacy of excellence that she now shares with her daughter, who is also an APRN. Dr. Kimble earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago and is nationally certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner. She provides holistic care across the lifespan, with a focus on underserved populations. As a tenured Nursing Professor at Malcolm X College, she prepares future nurses using evidence-based strategies. She also leads Nurses With Knowledge and Eternal Compassion, advancing mentorship, education, and health equity.



Demetrius "DJ" Kirk

DNP, MSN, MBA, LNHA, RN

Welcome to the "D": Inaugural DOCs "Welcome to My City" Opening Address

Demetrius Kirk is a seasoned healthcare executive and respected thought leader, known for his deep understanding of post-acute care, operational excellence, and leadership development. With over 15 years of experience—from Certified Nursing Assistant to C-suite—Demetrius brings a grounded, no-nonsense perspective to the most complex issues in healthcare.

As a Registered Nurse, Licensed Nursing Home Administrator, and national consultant, Demetrius has supported organizations across the country in achieving compliance, improving outcomes, and building stronger teams. He knows how healthcare really works—at every level. When hosting or moderating, Demetrius brings sharp insight, authenticity, and an ability to create real dialogue. His style is energetic but grounded, ensuring conversations stay relevant, respectful, and deeply engaging.



Rhonda J. Manns

MBA, BSN, RN, CCM

Hack-a-thon: Designing the Future DNP Experience (Facilitator)

Rhonda J. Manns is a nurse leader, healthcare innovator, and digital health strategist with a career spanning emergency nursing, case management, health IT, and product management. She brings a rare perspective that bridges clinical care, business strategy, and healthcare technology, helping organizations design smarter systems and ensuring clinical voices are represented in innovation.



Danielle McCamey

DNP, ACNP-BC, FAAN, FAANP, FCCP, FADLN

Welcome & Conference Theme · Moderator, Signature Panel: Community & Innovation

Danielle McCamey, DNP, APRN, ACNP-BC, FCCP grew up in a single-parent family home in Northern Virginia. Inspired by her mother, she became a nurse and received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Virginia. Dr. McCamey started her nursing career at Georgetown University Hospital. Shortly afterwards, she obtained her Master of Science from Georgetown University, specializing in Acute Care Advanced Practice. She then received a Doctorate in Nursing Practice from Georgetown University, where her dissertation focused on integration of palliative care screening of neurosurgical patients on admissions.

She has over 16 years of critical care nursing experience and nearly a decade as an Acute Nurse Practitioner. Currently, she works as the Associate Dean for Clinical Partnerships and Innovation with the University of Maryland School of Nursing. She also is chair of the MedStar Doctoral Nurses Collaborative. In 2019, she was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Chest Physicians.

Dr. McCamey, the founder, CEO and president of DNPs of Color, Inc., was inspired to create DNPs of Color because she wanted to create a space, a community for DOCs to elevate themselves, the nursing profession and communities through the richness of our diversity. Danielle has a passion for mentoring students, especially those interested in nursing. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, spending time with family and riding her motorcycle.



Adrienne M. McIntyre

DNP, RNC-NIC, CNS

(In)Equity by Design: Applying Artificial Intelligence to Nurse Staffing Decisions

Dr. Adrienne McIntyre brings more than 20 years of healthcare leadership experience across women's, neonatal, and pediatric services in large, complex health systems. She currently serves as the System Executive Director for Women & Children's Clinical Institute at Providence and President and Founder of Adrienne McIntyre Consulting - a nurse-led consulting business focused on leadership and health equity. Adrienne is known for her human-centered leadership approach, strong operational execution, and deep commitment to improving outcomes for women, infants, and families.



A. Sebastian Morales Barreto

RN, BSN, MS, CCRN

Poster Pitch Presentation: Implementing Nurse-Led Interdisciplinary Rounds in the Adult ICU to Decrease Length of Stay

Alvaro Sebastian Morales Barreto is a DNP student at Quinnipiac University. As a 2026 Summer Research Student in Mount Sinai's Translational Research and Implementation Science for Nurses (TRAIN) Program, Sebastian is strengthening his ability to move evidence into practice while advancing medication safety and critical care quality. He currently serves as Charge Nurse/Assistant Manager in the CTICU, overseeing staffing, crisis management, and care for complex post-surgical and advanced mechanical circulatory support patients. Sebastian brings extensive experience with LVADs, ECMO, Impella, IABP, CVVHD, and other advanced cardiac technologies, and has cared for CABG, transplant, and high-acuity cardiothoracic populations across ICU and step-down settings. He maintains CCRN and is fluent in Spanish.



Tiffany Morris

DNP, MS Ed, MSN, RN, CNE

The LEAD-IMPACT Framework™: A Conceptual Model for Igniting Community-Engaged Scholarship in Nursing

Dr. Tiffany D. Morris, DNP, MSN, MS Ed., RN, CNE, is the Clara Adams-Ender Endowed Associate Professor and Director, School of Nursing at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. A registered nurse since 1994, she brings over three decades of experience across clinical nursing, academic leadership, and community health. Dr. Morris developed the LEAD-IMPACT Framework™, a model for community-engaged scholarship, and leads initiatives advancing rural health equity, congregational health nursing, and workforce development for underserved communities. She is a National League for Nursing Certified Nurse Educator and Mental Health First Aid instructor. Her philosophy: "Generational Health is Generational Wealth."



April J. Odom

DNP, APRN-FPA, FNP-BC, FAANP

Igniting Community Through a Scalable Nurse Practitioner Engagement Model

April J. Odom, DNP, APRN-FPA, CRRN, FNP-BC is a doctorally prepared Family Nurse Practitioner with over 25 years of diverse healthcare experience. From her early roles as a pharmacy technician and certified nurse assistant to her current position as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse with Full Practice Authority, April has consistently demonstrated commitment and expertise. Her extensive career encompasses inpatient rehabilitation, home healthcare, outpatient surgery, emergency medicine, primary care, home based primary care and leadership roles. Serving as the Immediate Past President of the Illinois Society for Advanced Practice Nurses, she remains dedicated to advancing the profession. As the CEO of Physicals Plus Health & Wellness, she focuses on preventive care, offering vitamin therapy, weight loss programs, and comprehensive family care. April's commitment to education extends to Odom Education and Consultants, where she guides aspiring and current nursing entrepreneurs. Her numerous accolades, include awards reflecting and celebrating her remarkable contributions and unwavering dedication to the nursing profession. Outside her professional life, April loves to unwind with her family, explore new places and host events.



Yolanda Ogbolu

PhD, NNP, FNAP, FAAN

Signature Panel: Community & Innovation

Yolanda Ogbolu, PhD, NNP, FNAP, FAAN, is the Bill and Joanne Conway Dean and a tenured professor at the University of Maryland School of Nursing, and the school's first alumna to serve as dean. Before becoming dean in 2023, she chaired the Department of Partnerships, Professional Education, and Practice, co-directed the Center for Health Equity and Outcomes Research, and directed the Office of Global Health. A neonatal nurse practitioner for 21 years, Dr. Ogbolu focuses her work on health inequities locally and globally; she has secured more than \$12 million in funding and leads the West Baltimore RICH Collaborative. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and the National Academies of Practice.



Sandy Phan

DNP, RN, NPDA-BC, NPD-BC, EBP-CH, FADLN

Rooted in Belonging: Strategies for Cultivating Inclusive Nurse Mentors

Dr. Sandy Phan is a Nursing Professional Development Specialist at UC Davis Health with over 13 years of experience in academic healthcare systems. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Diversity Leaders in Nursing and currently pursuing a PhD, focusing on cultural humility in nursing education. Dr. Phan has served in several leadership roles, including Chair of the Association for Nursing Professional Development Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and Board of Directors of the Sacramento Sierra Nurse Leaders Chapter. She is deeply passionate about fostering civility, healthy work environments, and advancing health equity.



Denise Angelo Prudencio

DNP, RN, NEA-BC, NPD-BC, PCCN, CGNC, FFMRCIS, FSIEN, FADLN

Rooted in Belonging: Strategies for Cultivating Inclusive Nurse Mentors

Dr. Denise Angelo Prudencio serves as a Nursing Professional Development Specialist and Program Director at the University of California, Davis Health's Center for Professional Practice of Nursing. He also serves nationally as faculty for the Philippine Nurses Association of America's leadership programs, is a Fellow of FSIEN, FADLN, and FFMRCIS, and has received honors including the PNAA National Excellence Award for Nurse Educator and the American Association of Men in Nursing Luther Christman Award.



Sydney Robinson

DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC

Poster Pitch Presentation: Enhancing Condom Use Attitudes Through Digital Sex Education in Primary Care

Sydney L. Robinson, MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC, is a dedicated Pediatric Nurse Practitioner with over 11 years of nursing experience and specialized expertise in pediatric primary care and newborn care. She completed the Doctor of Nursing Practice Transformational Leadership program at North Carolina A&T State University in May 2026. Her doctoral project focused on implementing a digital health education intervention designed to improve health literacy and promote safer sexual health practices among adolescents. This work allowed her to combine clinical expertise, evidence-based practice, and innovation to address real barriers faced by youth in underserved communities. She is committed to service and leadership within the nursing profession and the community. Robinson participates in local and global health initiatives through Nurses With Purpose medical missions, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc., Sigma Chi Chapter, and the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club.



Maria Anita Salinas

Executive Director, Congress of Communities

Signature Panel: Community & Innovation

Maria Anita Salinas was born and raised in Southwest Detroit, where she has been active in leadership and community development for over 45 years. Maria has a Master's degree in Organization and Community Leadership Development from Michigan State University and is currently pursuing her PhD. She also has many publications through the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan, where she worked for close to 20 years in the '80s and '90s. More recently, Maria developed a Youth Driven Community House for Congress of Communities in SW Detroit, a hub for leadership development for residents, youth, and stakeholders. Currently Maria is working on two new development projects: a state-of-the-art Early Learning Center and a Community Center.

Maria is the Executive Director of Congress of Communities, which she founded out of the Good Neighborhoods Initiative launched by the Skillman Foundation in 2006. She is an advisor for the Policy Council for Matrix Head Start, Building the Engine of Community Development in Detroit, the FBI Multi-Cultural Committee, and Oakland County Democrats, and was appointed by the mayor to serve as Vice President of the Detroit Women's Commission. She is also a board member of Salvation Army National and Matrix Human Services, and Chairperson of the 482Forward board, of which she is a founder.

Maria is a Global Fellow for the Kellogg Foundation and has completed fellowships including Kellogg Fellow Leadership Alliance (KFLA), Leadership Detroit, MALDEF, and La Raza Detroit, and was a graduate of the inaugural Great Lakes Leadership Academy (GLLA). Recent honors include the 2026 Community Champion Award from the Southwest Detroit Business Association, the Legacy Volunteer award from Detroit Public Schools Community District, and the Neighborhood Heroes Award from Urban Neighborhood Initiatives.



Willa M. Smiley

DNP, MSN, MEd, RN, CCM, CWP

Understanding How Artificial Intelligence Is Shaping Healthcare

Dr. Willa M. Smiley, DNP, MSN, MEd, RN CCM, CWP is a trailblazing Wellness Practitioner, Global Health Consultant, and AI Health Integrationist. She is known for her innovative leadership at the intersection of wellness education, public health, and cannabis policy. An award-winning nurse, author, and educator, Dr. Smiley brings decades of experience in clinical care, academia, foreign service, and corporate health environments. Her practice work includes the U.S. Embassy and Peace Corps in West Africa, as well as healthcare systems in Washington D.C., Florida, and New York. Rooted in values of equity, education, and global health access, Dr. Smiley is on a mission to ensure individuals and organizations connect to world-class medical, social, and wellness services—advancing informed cannabis use and transforming public health outcomes across diverse populations. Her purpose in life is to investigate, study, write, research, and disseminate information for living healthily. The goal is to engage in LIFE, continue to evolve with it, and practice self-care as a habit.



Kimberly Souffront

PhD, RN, FNP-BC, FAHA, FAAN

You Can't Be What You Can't See: Building Belonging in Science

Kimberly Souffront, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, FAAN (She/Her) is an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Health Equity Science at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and Associate Director of the Center for Nursing Research & Innovation at the Mount Sinai Health System. She is an emergency trained Nurse Practitioner, and her research interests include asymptomatic hypertension, emergency care, research capacity, and health equity.



Rhonda Sullivan

DNP, PhD, MBA, MSN, CWON, LNCC, NE-BC, CSPHA, CLSSBB

Technology-Enabled Humanization of Pressure Injury Prevention: Clinical and Economic Outcomes of Sub-Epidermal Moisture Scanning for Person-Centered Care in Diverse Populations

Rhonda Sullivan DNP, PhD, MSN, RN, MBA, CWON, LNCC, NE-BC, CSPHA, CLSSBB is a Registered Nurse with 30 years' experience. Twenty-four years have been dedicated to the wound, ostomy, and legal specialties. She is Board-Certified as a Nurse Executive, Wound-Ostomy Nurse, Legal Nurse, Safe Patient Handling Associate, and Lean Six Sigma Black Belt. Dr. Sullivan is a published author, award-winning researcher, med-legal expert, approved CE provider for the Florida, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico, and South Carolina Boards of Nursing, and an international speaker on wound and skin care, value-based models of care, evidence-based care, outcomes-based standardization, harm reduction, and med-legal matters. Dr. Sullivan's passion lies in empowering nurses and other healthcare stakeholders to lead positive change through the pursuit of clinical excellence and financial success by alleviating patient harm and reducing avoidable hospital-acquired conditions, waste, and redundancy in care.



Beth Toner

MSN, MJ, MFA, RN

Reclaiming Our Narratives: Storytelling, Legacy, and Healing (Facilitator)

Beth Toner, RN, MJ, MSN, MFA, is director of program communications at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She has more than 35 years of experience in marketing and corporate communications; she is also a registered nurse with clinical experience in long-term care and community health settings.

Toner holds an associate of applied science in nursing from Delaware County Community College, a bachelor's degree in communications from Messiah College, a master of journalism degree from Temple University, a master of science in nursing from Eastern Mennonite University, and a master of fine arts degree from Dominican University of California.

Born in Detroit, Toner currently lives in Kingsley, Michigan, with her husband, Joe. An avid trail racer, she has completed 30 marathons, five ultra marathons, more than 50 half marathons, and four sprint triathlons. She is also a writer and actor; she has performed her one-woman shows in Reading and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as well as New York City.



Crystal Tucker

DNP, PMHNP

Poster Pitch Presentation: Reducing Restraints Using Music: A Quality Improvement Initiative to Advance Equitable Psychiatric Care

Crystal Tucker is a DNP prepared psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner. Her work focuses on improving patient safety and advancing health equity through evidence-based practice and quality improvement initiatives. She is particularly interested in reducing the use of coercive interventions, including violent restraints, by promoting trauma-informed care and staff education.



Krista L. Walker

PhD

Signature Panel: Community & Innovation

Krista L. Walker, PhD, is the Founder and CEO of SarAI, an AI-powered maternal health technology company developing patient-centered solutions to strengthen health education, communication, care navigation, and informed decision-making during pregnancy and postpartum. Her interdisciplinary career spans higher education leadership, teacher education, maternal health research, community engagement, and global initiatives. Dr. Walker's work centers on translating research, education, and technology into practical solutions that strengthen patient advocacy and improve experiences within healthcare systems. She has led and contributed to initiatives focused on maternal health, health equity, workforce and educational development, and community-engaged research. Her global work includes partnerships and initiatives in Tanzania focused on strengthening education, health, and community capacity. Through SarAI, Dr. Walker brings together her expertise in education, research, leadership, and advocacy to develop innovative approaches to persistent challenges in maternal healthcare. She is particularly interested in how artificial intelligence and patient-centered technology can help individuals better understand health information, communicate effectively with healthcare providers, recognize concerning symptoms, and navigate complex systems of care.



Sarah K. Wells

MSN, RN, CEN, CNL

(In)Equity by Design: Applying Artificial Intelligence to Nurse Staffing Decisions

Sarah K. Wells, MSN, RN, CEN, CNL, is an internationally recognized nurse leader, speaker, storyteller, and consultant driving innovation in workforce development, clinician well-being, and healthcare technology. A trusted voice in the nursing profession, Sarah partners with organizations, media, and policymakers to shape the future of nursing, advocate for sustainable workforce solutions, and elevate professional development opportunities that empower nurses at every stage of their careers.



Kimberly M. Williams

DNP, RN, NE-BC

Designing Our Collective Future: Impact of African American and Black ERGs in Pediatric Healthcare

Dr. Kimberly M. Williams is a distinguished healthcare leader, currently serving as the Director of Nursing, Patient Care Services at Stanford Medicine Children's Health. With over 20 years of experience in healthcare leadership, Dr. Williams has demonstrated her commitment to advancing patient care and fostering an inclusive and equitable environment within the healthcare sector. As a Co-Founder of the Stanford Medicine African American Black and Allies Employee Resource Group, Dr. Williams has passionately advocated for a supportive community that values diversity and encourages professional growth among staff. Her ability to inspire and guide others has resulted in tangible improvements in organizational culture, promoting a sense of belonging and empowerment. Dr. Williams' contributions to healthcare have been marked by her unwavering dedication to excellence, her innovative leadership approach, and her commitment to creating an inclusive, diverse, nurturing environment for both patients and healthcare professionals.



Michael Williams

DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

DiMENsions in Nursing Panel: Designing the Future of Men's Health: Advancing Prostate Cancer Awareness and Action

Dr. Michael Williams is a board-certified Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN). As an Afro-Latino, bilingual (English, Spanish) APRN who has a focus in Internal Medicine and HIV-PrEP, he provides care to a culturally and socio-economically diverse population. In addition, Michael serves as a clinical instructor.

Michael credits his love for healthcare to growing up in New York City and to his parents, who are from Panama. His upbringing exposed him firsthand to many healthcare challenges and obstacles. These experiences led him to pursue a career in Nursing.

He is a board member of the Black Men's Health Clinic and DNPs of Color. He has also been featured in the Wall Street Journal, highlighting the importance of males in nursing, and Telemundo, raising community awareness of World AIDS Day. Michael firmly believes that improving healthcare outcomes begins with educating and empowering the community that he serves.

Join us live for a special film screening & important discussion

DON'T PASS ON YOUR HEART HEALTH

REAL STORIES. REAL TALK. RECOGNIZING ATTR-CM.

Learn about heart health challenges facing Black Americans.

Bring your questions for a live discussion
with community advocates and heart specialists.

Film brought to
you by BridgeBio
featuring a candid
conversation
between:



Howard H. White,
Successful sports executive, author,
motivational speaker, former
college basketball player, and
founder of the Howard "H" White
Center for Cardiac Amyloidosis.

Doug E. Fresh,
Founding Artist of Hip Hop
Public Health, community
& health education partner.

Sway Calloway,
Media mogul, broadcaster,
journalist, entrepreneur,
and cultural innovator.

Together, we'll explore Black American heart health
and ATTR-cardiac amyloidosis (ATTR-CM), an underdiagnosed heart condition
impacting lives in this community.

Gain the power of knowledge where hip-hop meets heart health.

DATE: October 17, 2026

TIME: 7:30 AM ET

**LOCATION: The Charles H. Wright Museum
315 E Warren Ave, Detroit, MI 48201**

HOSTED BY:
BRIDGEBIO



BridgeBio is a trademark of BridgeBio Pharma, Inc.
All other trademarks are the property of their respective
owners. © 2026 BridgeBio Pharma, Inc. All rights reserved.
MAT-US-ACO-1784 V1

Cinematic Imagery Films



VIDEOGRAPHY

Every brand has a story – we make sure yours looks cinematic. At Cinematic Imagery Films, we bring creativity, precision, and storytelling together to create visuals that elevate your brand presence across every platform.

Brand & Commercial Videos

Creative Direction & Strategy

**Photography &
Visual Campaigns**

Full-Service Production



www.cinematicimageryfilms.com



202-999-3236

THANK YOU

TO THE SPONSORS WHO MADE DETROIT POSSIBLE

PIONEER

BRIDGEBIO

CATALYST



ADVOCATE



Samuel Merritt
University

SCHOLARSHIP ADVOCATE



SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES



COFFEE BREAK

PHOTO BOOTH

ALLY



FOUNDATION BUILDER



EDUCATION PARTNER



FRIENDS



OUR EXHIBITORS

Stop by each table to connect, learn and discover resources for your practice.

The logo for BridgeBio, featuring the word "BRIDGEBIO" in a bold, black, serif font.

BRIDGEBIO

The logo for Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, featuring a stylized blue and green circular graphic to the left of the word "Alnylam" in a serif font, with "PHARMACEUTICALS" in a smaller sans-serif font below it.

ALNYLAM PHARMACEUTICALS

The logo for Traverse Therapeutics, featuring a stylized green and blue circular graphic to the left of the word "TRAVERSE" in a bold sans-serif font, with "THERAPEUTICS" in a smaller sans-serif font below it.

TRAVERSE THERAPEUTICS

The logo for Teva, featuring the word "teva" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, with a stylized green and yellow leaf graphic to the right of the "a".

TEVA MEDICAL AFFAIRS

The logo for the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Board (NPCB), featuring the letters "N", "P", "C", and "B" each inside a colored circle (purple, pink, red, and red respectively), with the full name of the organization below in a sans-serif font.

AANP CERTIFICATION BOARD (NPCB)

The logo for TribeAccredAI, featuring a stylized green and blue geometric graphic to the left of the word "TribeAccred" in a sans-serif font, with "AI" in a smaller sans-serif font to the right.

TRIBE ACCREDAI

The logo for NPACE, featuring the word "npaace" in a blue, sans-serif font, with "CE/CME FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS" in a smaller sans-serif font below it.

NPACE

The logo for the Congress of Communities, featuring a stylized graphic with a red "C", a yellow sun, and the words "CONGRESS OF COMMUNITIES" in a bold, sans-serif font.

CONGRESS OF COMMUNITIES

The logo for DNP of Color, featuring a stylized blue and yellow graphic to the left of the word "DOC" in a large, bold, sans-serif font, with "DNP of Color" in a smaller sans-serif font below it.

DNPs OF COLOR

THE PEOPLE WHO MADE IT HAPPEN

CONFERENCE TEAM & CREATIVES

CONFERENCE STRATEGIC TEAM

Julius Rainey Jr.

Marketing & Digital Strategist
aka Marco M.

Czarina Chavez

Administrative Strategist

CONFERENCE CREATIVES

Conference powered by small, minority-owned businesses

High Yellow Soul

Harvey Rhames II
DJ

Cinematic Imagery Films

Ledon Carroll & Helsie Mack
Photo & Videography

JURU

Julius Rainey Jr.
Graphic Design / Digital Marketing

Zahariyah Body Mind Spirit

Dr. Marcia Derby-Davis
Wellness Practitioner

Colorful Clouds Atelier

Chelsea Colley
Gala Decor

Order With Winter

Winter Backmon
Conference Coordinator

ONE Accord Health

Dr. Lolita Melhado
CE Provider

Tr33, LLC

Darryl Anderson
Strategic Consultant

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



Caring for every woman.

Honoring every hand that heals.

This October, DNPs of Color honors the nurses, nurse practitioners, DNPs, physicians and care teams who stand with patients from the first screening through survivorship. Your expertise, compassion and advocacy change outcomes every single day.



GIVE HOPE >

cancer.org/donate/hope

We celebrate the survivors, those in treatment, and the families and caregivers who walk beside them, and we lovingly remember those we have lost.

Black women are about 40% more likely to die from breast cancer than white women, often because of later diagnosis and unequal access to care. Early detection, culturally responsive care and nurses of color at every level of practice help close that gap.

Schedule your screening. Encourage a sister, a patient, a friend to schedule hers. Early detection saves lives.



GW NURSING *SUPPORTS* DNP^s OF COLOR

Their contributions are
essential to fostering a more
equitable healthcare system.



Nursing

www.nursing.gwu.edu



WATCH THE RECAP

2025 DNP^s OF COLOR CONFERENCE

GW Nursing & DNP^s of Color

[Click the video or scan to watch the 2025 conference recap on YouTube >](#)





Three goals. On purpose.

Three active goals — because the things that matter deserve your full attention, not a spot on a growing list.



www.dorpamine.com



Download on the
App Store



Get it on
Google Play



Your software, ITEMIZED.

Most organizations don't lack software. They have too much of it, and none of it connects. Staff work around the gaps by hand, and nobody has added it all up.

JURU audits the stack, cancels what isn't earning its keep, and connects what's left. One project, monthly support, or part-time leadership, sized to what you need.

Led by Julius Rainey, Jr., PMP. Twenty years running technology for non-profits, local government and a major airport.

TECHNOLOGY · OPERATIONS · MARKETING



JURU.TECH

Scan or visit to book a 15-minute call.

YOUR ORGANIZATION
SOFTWARE STACK · ANNUAL
PRINTED FOR THE BOARD

FILE STORAGE	x3
same files, three places	
PROJECT TOOLS	x2
one per department	
EMAIL MARKETING	x2
lists don't match	
CRM	x2
one unused since 2023	
SPREADSHEETS DOING A DATABASE'S JOB	x11
LOGINS NOBODY HAS	x6
"TEMPORARY" WORKAROUNDS since 2019	x4
OFFICE SERVER	x1
crashes monthly	
VENDOR "SUPPORT"	x1
repair fees, recurring	
SUBTOTAL	MORE THAN YOU THINK
STAFF HOURS LOST	NOT LISTED
RISK	NOT LISTED
SYSTEMS AUDIT	x1
by JURU. keep what works, cancel the rest, connect it.	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS
PLEASE KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS



NO. 0001 · VOID WHERE AUDITED

7TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE • SAVE THE DATE

COLLECTIVE CAPITAL

Leveraging Talent, Amplifying Influence, Securing Our Future.

ATLANTA



OCT 14–16, 2027

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Join DNPs of Color in Atlanta, Georgia, for our 7th Annual Conference, October 14–16, 2027.

Collective Capital recognizes that our greatest power is not simply what we know or accomplish individually—it is what becomes possible when we bring our knowledge, expertise, creativity, relationships, influence, and lived experiences together.

Over three days, DNP-prepared nurses, students, leaders, innovators, educators, clinicians, entrepreneurs, and community partners will gather to learn, connect, create, and mobilize around four dimensions of collective capital:

CLINICAL CAPITAL

Advancing practice, outcomes, and the health of the communities we serve.

+ INNOVATION CAPITAL

Transforming ideas, evidence, and imagination into solutions that move nursing and health care forward.

+ INFLUENCE CAPITAL

Leveraging leadership, scholarship, storytelling, visibility, and our collective voice to shape systems and drive change.

+ COMMUNITY CAPITAL

Building the relationships, networks, partnerships, and shared power necessary for sustainable impact.

= COLLECTIVE CAPITAL

The 2027 conference will feature dynamic educational sessions, nationally recognized speakers, and meaningful opportunities for connection, collaboration, and celebration.

A DNP DIFFERENT WORLD

Rep your alma mater and celebrate the institutions, traditions, and experiences that helped shape your journey.

HATS, HEELS & HABERDASHERY GALA

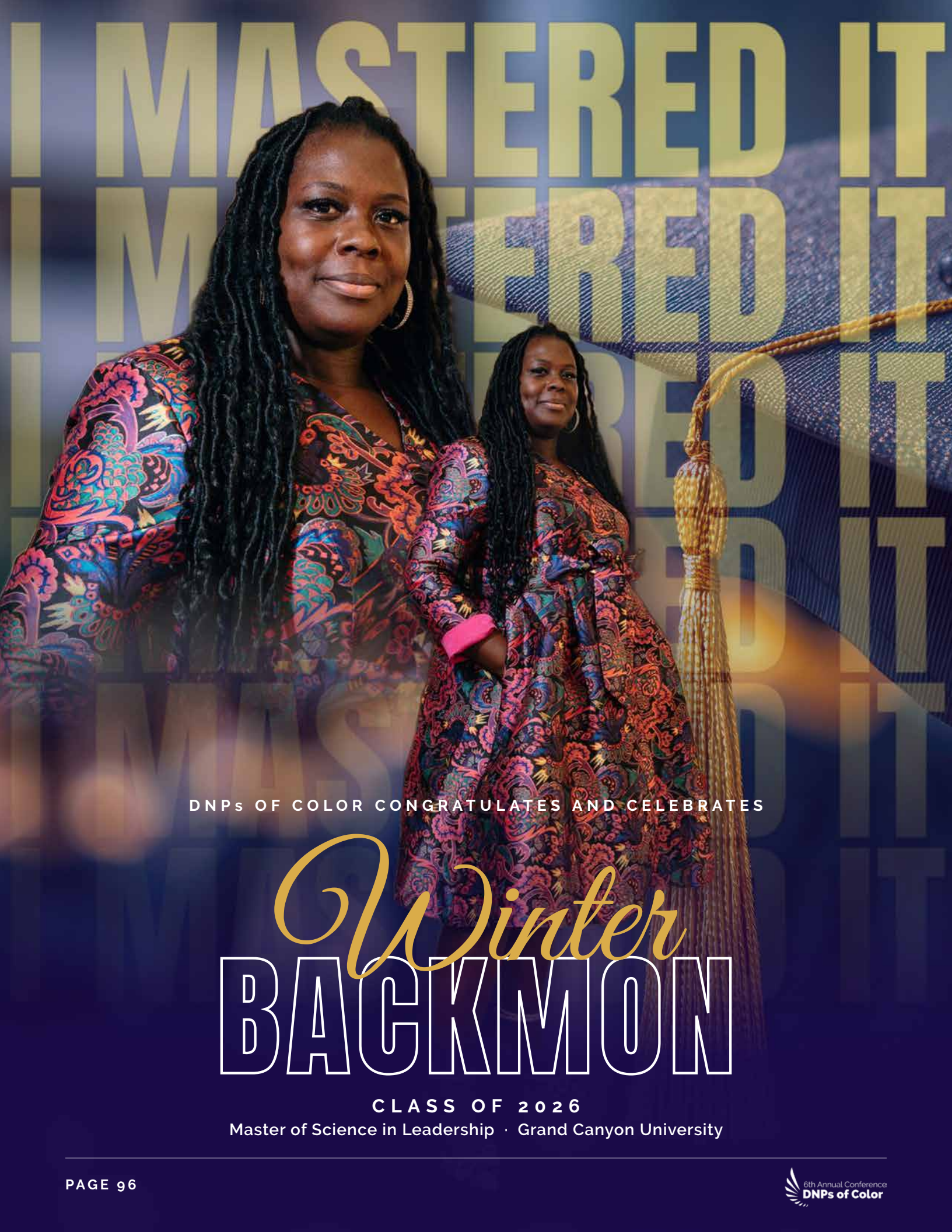
Step out in statement hats, standout heels, and distinguished haberdashery for an evening of celebration, style, and collective excellence.

WHY ATLANTA

Atlanta provides a fitting backdrop for Collective Capital. Known for its rich culture, world-class institutions, entrepreneurship, innovation, health care, civil and human rights legacy, and global influence, Atlanta embodies what can happen when people, ideas, institutions, and communities come together to create lasting impact.

Come ready to contribute what you carry, connect with what others bring, and imagine what we can build together.

DNPSOFCOLOR.ORG · @DNPSOFCOLOR



DNPs OF COLOR CONGRATULATES AND CELEBRATES

Winter BACKMON

CLASS OF 2026

Master of Science in Leadership · Grand Canyon University

SAVE THE DATE



DNPs OF COLOR CELEBRATES THE CLASS OF 2026

2026 VIRTUAL GRADUATION

Scan to register



REGISTER NOW >

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2026

**VIRTUAL
COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY**

Join us as we celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2026 during our Virtual Commencement Ceremony. This special event recognizes the dedication, perseverance, and accomplishments of our graduates as they reach this important milestone. Family, friends, colleagues, and members of our community are invited to attend and help honor the graduates whose work and commitment continue to advance the profession and the communities they serve. We look forward to celebrating the Class of 2026 with you.



EXPAND YOUR EXPERTISE.

LEAD WHAT'S NEXT.

BOLDER NURSES. STRONGER COMMUNITIES. BRIGHTER FUTURES.

FLEXIBLE ONLINE CLASSES

**OUR NEW
PROGRAM**

**MASTER'S IN HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP
DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM**

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR POST MASTER'S CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS:

**ADULT-GERONTOLOGY ACUTE CARE · PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH
FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER POST-MASTER CERTIFICATE**



**LEARN MORE AT MRU.EDU
OR CALL 305.442.9223**

 **/MIAMIREGIONALUNIVERSITY**



ACCREDITATION AND DISCLOSURE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.MRU.EDU/CONSUMER-INFORMATION.
MRU is approved to participate in State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements. Online programs available for participating NC-SARA states.



2027 CARE BEYOND CURE

Primary Palliative Care Conference

FRIDAY–SATURDAY

APRIL 9-10

Renaissance Fort Lauderdale West Hotel

Fort Lauderdale, Florida · Two days, in person

WATCH THE PREVIEW

Care Beyond Cure Preview

Hear what the conference is about, then save your seat for April.

[Scan or click to watch >](#)



KEEP LEARNING

Earn a Micro-Credential

Build your skills year-round with courses from One Accord Health.

[Scan or click to explore >](#)



2028

8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON, DC

OCTOBER 19-21, 2028



ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

WHERE WE'RE HEADED NEXT

SAVE THE DATES · conference.dnpsofcolor.org

2029

9TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CHICAGO, IL

OCTOBER 16-18, 2029