

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK MILITARY WOMEN



## Message from the President



Welcome to 2023's first edition of the National Association of Black Military Women Newsletter. I am honored and proud to be your new President. I am a "people" President with open lines of communication. On January 14, 2023, I was installed as the 6<sup>th</sup> President of the NABMW for the term 2023-2025 term. The Officers installation ceremony occurred at the Black Veterans for Social Justice Headquarters in Brooklyn, New York. A Brooklyn native, Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, Minority Leader for the 118<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congress blessed us with his support. his support. Other distinguished guest

included COL (R) Terrance Holliday former Commissioner of the New York City Mayor's office (MOVA), Commissioner James Hendon, New York City Department of Veterans' Services (DVS), Vivian DeCohen, Director NYS Division of Veteran Services, Ashton Stewart, Navy Veteran, MHS Hospice, Veteran Liaison, LTC Lashell Y. Davis, Professor of Military Science, CUNY, Cassandra Alvarez, Chief of Staff Diversity Officer, NYC DVS, NABMW members from Brooklyn, NYC, DMV, Atlanta, NJ, MD, Florida, LA, SC and Texas! Guest attended virtually and in person.

An installation of executive officers' ceremony is inspirational and provides the incoming officers and the community with a sense of appreciation for the military service of Black women. It recognizes all volunteers who have taken an oath of office to continue to carry out the mission of NABMW.

## VISION

As the new President, the vision for NABMW is to restore integrity and trust to NABMW. This can be accomplished by seeking opportunities for

growth and visibility, leading effectively, and share the history of African American Military Women.

### **MISSION**

Our Mission is to provide an archival facility to collect, preserve, communicate, and exhibit informative materials on the participation of Black American Military Women who sacrificed to defend our country. Ensure that historical documentation is available to the U.S. through lectures, forums, exhibitions, school activities, articles, research, and other activities. NABMW will motivate and support the youth in attaining more remarkable achievements by identifying Black Military Women role models throughout our history. We want to increase people's knowledge of Black Military Women who served and are still serving in the military. We want to foster a spirit of camaraderie and goodwill among individuals who are keenly interested in Black history. It is essential to monitor and record military issues about or affecting women in the military.

### **VALUES:**

**Integrity**

**Visibility in Veteran Community**

**Diversity and inclusion**

**Innovation**

**Trust**

### **Communication**

As your new President, I want our Vision, Mission and Values to express the importance of Sisterhood. That is what NABMW stands for **SISTERHOOD!**

Sisterhood promotes love, kindness, compassion, like-mindedness, and collaboration, to allow women to uplift and support, as well encourage, and empower each other. The strength of **SISTERHOOD** navigates to build support systems, families, communities, societies, and the world. **SISTERHOOD** enables women to inspire ways to build up, not tear down, and speak a truth that empowers each other appropriately as needed.

**SISTERHOOD** is a movement that goes deeper than looks and words. **THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK MILITARY WOMEN** promotes sisterhood, not in wrongdoing, but in truth and spirit, with honesty and genuine love; compassion and understanding. We are supportive and empowering to each other and others. **NABMW/SISTERHOOD** is a family and a community of gratitude built on emotional bonds.

Wishing all the best in 2023!

Dr. Annette Tucker Osborne



**STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA (SVA)**



SVA, is a 501 non-profit organization focused on addressing the needs and concerns of American Military Veterans in higher education. SVA is best known for being an umbrella organization for student veteran groups that advocate for improvements in veteran educational benefits.

Student Veterans of America (SVA) hosted its 15<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention, better known as NatCon on January 5-7, 2023, at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, Orlando, Florida. The SVA National Conference is the largest gathering of student veterans anywhere in the world, with SVA Chapters at over 1,500 campuses across the U.S. and in several countries abroad. NatCon serves as a focal point in academia to share ideas and best practices to network with student veterans, military-connected students, their families, supporters, and allies, as partners.

National President-elect Dr. Tucker Osborne and President-elect Brooklyn Chapter Deidre Darden represented NABMW with a table of information for distribution. We had three productive days to speak to several people interested in NABMW. We had four prospective members fill out applications. Chapter (s) of interest received information.







**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK MILITARY INSTALLATION CEREMONY**

The Installation of National Officers : Dr. Annette Tucker Osborne, COL (R) President of NABMW, COL (R) Irma Cooper, VP Of Operations, MAJ (R) Stanlee Richards, VP Of Military Affairs, SSG (R) Judith Cotten, SGM (R) Melissa Jones, Treasurer, MAJ (R) Deidre Darden Asst. Tresaurer, LTC ( R) Ida Goodwine, Historian, COL (R) Cheryl Adams, Asst. Historian, LTC (R) Christine Lewis, Asst. Historian and CW2 (R) Latia Suttle, Public Relations Officer.

The Installation of the Brooklyn Chapter: MAJ (R) Deidre Darden, President, CSM (R) Annie Suggs, VP, SGM (R) Melissa Jones, Secretary, MSG (R) Angela Roberts, Treasurer, SGT (R) Deborah Hunter-Smith Asst. Treasurer, SSG (R) Timolin Nunn, Co-Chair Membership, SPC Sandra McCain, Co-Chair Membership, and SGT Michelle Wilson, Public Relations Officer.



Fort Hamilton High School JROTC, Brooklyn, New York



COL (R) Terrance Holliday



Commissioner James Hendon



The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries



Installation of the National Officers of NABMW



Members from Bklyn, NYC, ATL, Texas, DMV, LA, NJ, South Carolina, Florida, MD



Brooklyn Chapter Installation, NABMW

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The Black Long Term Care Executive Club (BLTCE) in collaboration with the Health Care Executives Club (HEC), celebrated on February 22, 2023, a virtual Black History Month with a panel discussion of four remarkable women. These women shared their perspectives on how they “shook up” and impacted the status quo in their professional careers. Panelists were from Healthcare, Education, Armed Forces, and Non-Profit Human Services. President Dr. Tucker Osborne was one of the panelists.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

*She Believed She Could, So She Did.*

## Black Women in the Workplace

Hear four perspectives from trailblazing black women making a difference in healthcare, education, armed services, and non-profit human services.

Wednesday, February 22 @ 6-8p  
Virtual Zoom Event

Register: [www.bit.ly/bhmc2023](http://www.bit.ly/bhmc2023)  
More info: [www.blctce.org](http://www.blctce.org)



Dr. Maureen  
Beverley



Elena FitzPatrick  
Sifford



Dr. Rosanne Tucker  
Osborne COE, (Ret)



Lindi Mairai  
Southerland



Black Long Term Care Executives

Sponsored by:  
Black Long-Term Care Executives in  
collaboration with the Healthcare Executives  
Club



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK MILITARY WOMEN



### CHICAGO INSTALLATION CEREMONY



The Chicago, Illinois Chapter Installation held Saturday February 18, 2023, 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Sgt. James W. Robinson Jr. U.S.A. R. Center. The Center was located at 7400 S Pulaski Road, Chicago, Illinois. The National President Dr. Annette Tucker Osborne, with members of the National Executive Board, SGM (R) Melissa Jones, Treasurer, MAJ (R) Deidre Darden, Asst. Treasurer, and SSG (R) Judith Cotten, Secretary attended and participated in the Installation Ceremony.



Meet the Chicago Chapter



### BROOKLYN CHAPTER AWARDS ITS FIRST CUNY SCHOLARSHIPS



Brooklyn Chapter awarded its first recipient of this scholarship to Nhu Phan and Cadet Natalia Alegarbes CUNY ROTC students virtually on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 each awardee received \$500. NABMW Brooklyn Chapter is proud to provide assistance to current and future military members via a fiscal award based on the criteria detailed in the application.

The National Association of Black Military Women Brooklyn Chapter aims to empower military members through scholarship, recognition and much more. NABMW Brooklyn Chapter is a women led



organization with goals of inclusion for all people who proudly support women veterans in telling HerStory.



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK MILITARY WOMEN



### HOUSTON, TEXAS INSTALLATION CEREMONY

Installation of the Houston Texas Chapter was held Sunday March 12, 2023, 2 PM-4 PM, at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post (VFW) at 1560 VFW Way, Houston, Texas. The Irma Cooper National VP of Operations served as the Presenter, and Army Veteran the Honorable Shannon B. Baldwin, Presiding Judge, Harris County Criminal Court, was the Installer for the Houston Chapter ceremonies.





Meet the Houston Chapter





**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK MILITARY WOMEN- NYC CHAPTER**

NABMW, New York City Chapter, held its Meet & Greet Brunch, on March 25, 2023, from 11:00AM to 3:00PM at the VFW located 240-08 135th Ave, Rosedale Queens, New York. The event was held to welcome new chapter member and to encourage fellowship with senior members. Deidre Darden MAJ (Ret) Brooklyn Chapter President and Annie Suggs CSM (Ret) Brooklyn Chapter Vice President represented the Brooklyn Chapter at the event.

The program started with the National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance, and the Black National Anthem – Lift Every Voice & Sing, sung by all. The Invocation with the blessing of the food was made by NABMW NYC Chapter Chaplain, Blossom Ferguson LTC (Ret). The Mistresses of Ceremonies for the afternoon were Stanlee Richards, MAJ (Ret) NYC Vice- President, and Carol St. Pierre, COL (Ret) NYC President. Stanlee Richards welcomed the special guest National President Dr. Annette Tucker Osborne COL (Ret) at the event, and Christine Lewis LTC (Ret), made a presentation on the History of NABMW organization and explained its goals and objectives.

Raffles and ice breakers were held during the breaks between scheduled events. There were vendors on hand: Mrs. Bilquis Benu, BZB Wellness, Mrs. Danielle Henderson, CLTC Agent – Financial Wellness and Mrs. Ericka Washington, Health Benefits Consultant, US Health Plans.



Chaplain Blossom Ferguson



VP Stanlee Richards



President Carol St. Pierre



National President Dr. Tucker Osborne LTC (R) Christine Lewis LTC(R) Bernice Simmons & Tobius



NABMW NYC Meet & Greet Group Photo







## **Spotlight on 6888<sup>th</sup> Central Postal Directory Battalion**

### **Member**

### **Ms. Lena King**



NABMW's Public Relations Officer had the honor of being invited to attend Ms. Lena King's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on January 27, 2023! Congratulations Ms. King!



## **Spotlight on Dr. Andrea Lorenz**

### **LA Chapter President**

Soldiers to Sidelines will recognize Dr. Andrea Lorenz at the Legacy of Leadership dinner on March 27, 2023, for her work with high-performing athletes on rehab and preventative rehab and longevity in collegiate/professional sports and her Basketball Camps for underserved youths in San Diego - an organization she founded with two other military veterans, RAW Athletic Talent Builders.

Soldiers to Sidelines is a non-profit organization whose mission is: 1) develop our military leaders to become excellent coaches 2) integrate them into youth sports so they may inspire, motivate, and encourage young athletes to succeed in sports and life. Soldiers to Sidelines service all branches of the military. Active duty, retired, wounded, ill, or injured. Soldier-Coaches work in football and lacrosse in the Washington, DC area but plan to expand to all sports in cities throughout the United States.

The 2nd Annual Legacy of Leadership Dinner will occur at the Ritz Carlton, 1150 22nd St. N.W., Washington, DC, from 6:30 PM- 9:30 PM.







# National Association of Black Military Women



## Photo Gallery



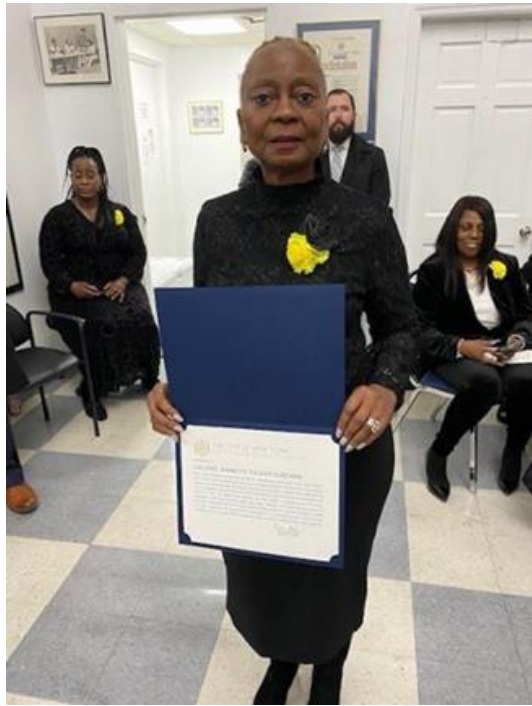
### SVA CONFERENCE, DISNEY SPRINGS, FLORIDA



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK MILITARY INSTALLATION CEREMONY, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

*You can find more Installation pictures on the National Website [www.nabmw.org](http://www.nabmw.org) click at the top 2023-2025 Natl Installation Ceremony*

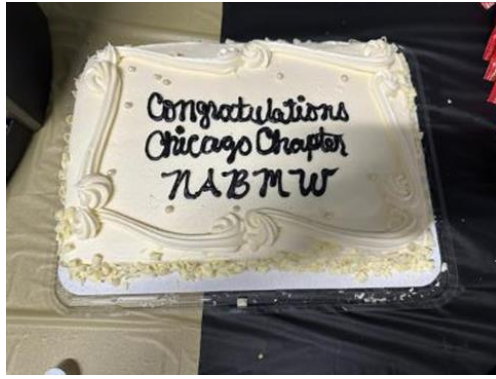






## CHICAGO INSTALLATION CEREMONY







# HOUSTON INSTALLATION CEREMONY





NABMW needs your expertise. Please volunteer for at least one committee. **WHATEVER YOUR SKILL WE NEED IT!!** Listed below are the immediate committees in which we need help. Please contact Irma Cooper, NABMW VP of Operations Email:[irmacooper05charter.net](mailto:irmacooper05charter.net), NABMW Secretary Judith Cotten Email: [nabmwsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:nabmwsecretary@gmail.com)

- ✓ Scholarship Committee –2 Members
- ✓ Memorial Ceremony Committee- 3-4 Members
- ✓ Membership Committee –2-3 Members
- ✓ IT Tech Committee - 2 Members
- ✓ Newsletter Committee –3 Members
- ✓ 2024 Chicago Conference -Each Chapter to submit at least two members to represent their Chapter, also at least two members from the Executive Board
- ✓ Nomination Committee 2-3 Members
- ✓ Mentorship Committee 2-3 Members
- ✓ Bylaws Committee- Established
- ✓ Fundraising Committee 4-5 Members

## CALLING ALL BLACK MILITARY WOMEN

### IT IS TIME THAT WE TELL OUR STORIES AND GIVE HONOR TO THE WOMEN WHO SERVED

Have you ever served or are serving in the US Armed Forces? If so, **JOIN US** Become a member and help us tell “**HerStory**” Help us honor those who ladies who came before us. We seek Black military women who have served during WWII, Korean, Vietnam, Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan. All ranks of service are welcomed. We welcome family, friends, men, and women as Associate Members and supporters!

The NABMW is an organization dedicated to African American Military in keeping our history alive and told. **Membership** is a major part of the growth of our organization. Each of us knows a military woman who is a veteran, reservist or currently serving on active duty. Take it yourself to find a sister Soldier and encourage her to join. Contact Blossom Ferguson, Membership Chairperson at [www.nabmw.org](http://www.nabmw.org)

Let us continue to **HONOR** and praise Black Military Women by telling their stories!

*Editor In-Chief*

*Dr. Annette Tucker Osborne*

*Contributors*

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Vanessa Lee	Andrea Lorenz	Wendy McClinton
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Angela Roberts	Tobius Simmons	Annie Suggs
Latia Suttle	Andrea Tanner	Jonelyn “Cookie” Whales
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