



# NBMBAA-NJ Chapter Newsletter

May 1, 2008  
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NBMBAA-NJ Chapter, P.O. Box 28023, Newark, NJ 07101  
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## President's Notes

By Kevin McMillan

I bring you greetings on behalf of the New Jersey Chapter. Freshly energized from my most recent attendance at the chapter leadership retreat, I am proud to bring to you this year's conference theme "Catalyst For Change". In reflecting on what this means to me, I am excited at the possibilities that our chapter can attain any set goals if we dedicate ourselves to excellence in everything we do. We as a chapter must not change just for change sake, but change in order to adapt to an ever changing world. As an organization we must also enhance the value proposition for not only our members, but our corporate partners as well.

We have had great success with our 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday networking event at Delta's located in New Brunswick which is held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month. Participation has grown exponentially and we are happy to provide such event where members can mingle and learn more about how to get involved. We as an organization are working on a regional level in the sharing of best practices in such areas as governance, fundraising and chapter relations. Presently we are working hard to provide every member access to the five channels of engagement of our organization which are Education, Career, Leadership, Entrepreneurship and Lifestyle. Through our programming and professional development initiatives we hope to fulfill our members' needs.

We have been charged as an organization to increase membership between 10-15% each year by the national and in that vein we as an organization must look at recruiting members from minority affinity groups and fraternities and sororities. This will enable us to increase the amount of participation at the local and the national level.

I hope to see all of you at the conference and thank for your continuing support.

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*"If you seek what is honorable,  
what is good, what is the truth of  
your life, all the other things you  
could not imagine come as a  
matter of course." - Oprah Winfrey*

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*"It is better to be prepared for an opportunity and not have one than to have an opportunity and not be prepared." (Whitney Young, Civil right Activist.*

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## Member's Profile

*By Natasha C Edwards*

Natasha C Edwards is currently completing a M.A in Industrial/Organizational Psychology and an MBA in Human Resource Management at Farleigh Dickinson University (expected 05/08), she is a result driven HR Professional who strives to get to the bottom line. She is currently an IT Recruiting Researcher for Automatic Data Processing, Inc where she assists in the sourcing and screening of top IT talent for the organization. As a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated she is very active in the community and places a large focus on economic empowerment, education, and fighting for equal opportunity. Her undergraduate degree was received from Temple University where she majored in Psychology and minored in Business Administration and received Cum Laude Honors. She was the Valedictorian of Arts High School's Class of 2000. Other Professional Affiliations include: The Society of Human Resource Management, American Psychology Associations, Society of Industrial Organizational Psychologists, Psi Chi Honor Society and Golden Key Honor Society. She also currently serves as the Recording Secretary for the National Black MBA Association.

## LOT (Leaders of Tomorrow)

*By Andrea Gibbs*



NBMBA–NJ Chapter officially launched the 2008 LOT Program (Leaders of Tomorrow) @ Rutgers University- Newark Campus with a successful kickoff meeting that began on March 15, 2008 with twenty brand new leaders. What an exciting feeling!

The LOT program goal is to provide high school students between the ages of (13-17) with an educational, motivational, and creative experience that will aid them in creating a roadmap for the future. Students who graduate from high school and pursue a college education or non-collegiate alternative training/entrepreneurial opportunities; It also provides leaders with analytical, technical, leadership and communication skills needed to succeed in an ever changing job market and business world.

For further information on the LOT program, please contact Andrea Gibbs @ (201) 838-7107 or visit us at [www.nbmbaa-newjersey.org/leaders\\_of\\_tomorrow.asp](http://www.nbmbaa-newjersey.org/leaders_of_tomorrow.asp)

## Our Past Programs

By: *Tamara Douge and Natasha C Edwards*

### 2/20/08 Entrepreneur Track Seminar

*Guest Speakers: Cassandra R Johnson, Warm Spirit Executive and National Expansion Leader #4855 & Sherrill Austin, Senior Director, Finance, Global Operations at Travelport*

We had the pleasure of listening to two very inspirational and motivated speakers. Cassandra R Johnson a very ambitious person, who enjoys life and takes advantage of all the possible great endeavors offered to her as long as they allow her to be the same energetic and devoted being, has used her education, her religion and both professional and personal skills to become a successful entrepreneur. Sherrill Austin has used her education, personal and professional skills to become one of the best in her career by working hard and aligning her goals with her needs to become a thriving woman in the business world.

Finding yourself and knowing exactly where you want to be in the near future was the main topic of both speakers. Since the internet has provided us with some of the best search engines we must make use of the abundance of information. Government offices also provides many information for any type of business ideas, grants, business plans etc... Creating healthy relationships is the key to any type of business whether you are self employed or work for a company. Always make use of any information available and be proactive.

### 3/19/08 - Professional Development Seminar

*Guest Speaker: Jim Norman, Senior Director Human resources - Kraft Foods Snacks & Cereal Segment in East Hanover, NJ*

Jim Norman has been with Kraft Foods for more than twenty-five years. Jim Norman presented an insightful look into the mentorship process in corporate America. Based on the research and findings of David Thomas, author of "Breaking Through, the Making of Minority Executives of Corporate America," Norman captivated the audience by helping them to uncover the truth about mentoring.

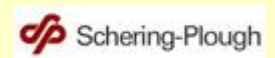
The steps of developing a successful mentoring program were addressed, in addition to outlining the grey areas where things can potentially go wrong. Discussion of Thomas' analysis helped to fill the gaps of why some middle managers do not emerge into the executive suite. He also discussed some of the successful tactics used on how to pair mentors and mentees in order to provide the most effective and flourishing mentoring relationships. As a mentor and former mentee, his best advice was to be able to recognize indicators within a mentoring relationship that may be hindering instead of fostering future successes because of lack of communication.

### 4/16-/08 - Effective Presentation Seminar

*Guest Speaker: Charles Moore - President and CEO of LearnSmart Private Tutoring*

Charles Moore an inspirational entrepreneur captivated our attention by doing a few exercises to show our flaws when speaking in public. He also made us aware of the ultimate chance to make a change and get the attention we desire when we first introduce ourselves to someone else or a crowd. Mr. Moore shared his thoughts with us by providing us with some insightful elements of Public Speaking such as body language, body position, tone of voice, attitude etc...

Self confidence provides every public speaking person with the way to leadership which in turn is the way to success. While being confident about yourself, one must use the introduction as a key to open all doors. Clear and concise messages must be conveyed to the receiver about yourself and your business. We must also believe in our message and understand it in order to figure out which best leadership language to use. We must believe in the notion that we talk to people the way we want to them to listen by making sure that our message is clear and concise.



*Thanks to our corporate sponsors for their continued support!*

## Upcoming Events

- May 21, 2008 - Professional Coaching  
 June 1, 2008 - New Member Welcome Event  
 June 22, 2008 - Diversity Connections Event at  
 Johnson and Johnson  
 June 18, 2008 - Tiffany & Co

## Board Members and Committees Chairs

### 2008 Elected Officers

**President:** Kevin McMillan  
**Vice President Administration:** Robert Trewick  
**Vice President of Operations:** Charlotte Briscoe  
**Treasurer:** Andrea Gibbs  
**Recording Secretary:** Natasha C Edwards  
**Corresponding Secretary:** Michele Mitchell

### Committee Chairs

**Corporate Relations:** Michele Mitchell  
**Finance:** Vanel Beuns  
**Fundraising:** Vacant  
**Membership:** Brad Neilley  
**Marketing and Public Relations:** Tamara Douge  
**Programs:** Yvonne Thomas  
**Students Affairs:** Andrea Gibbs  
**Technology:** Robert Trewick  
**Economic Development:** Vacant

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## Scholarship Info

Please check our website for updated information regarding scholarship opportunities.

## Corporate Partner/Sponsor

We need your help. Please inquire about our different packages that may meet your goals.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE VOLUNTEER IN ONE OF OUR COMMITTEES

Corporate Relations  
 Finance  
 Fundraising  
 Membership  
 Marketing and Public Relations  
 Programs  
 Students Affairs  
 Technology  
 Economic Development

## Welcome New Members

Veronique Pierre-Louis  
 DionJonai Elzy  
 Kenneth Aikens  
 Tom A. Rubinacci  
 Djuanna Kennedy  
 Denise Monroe  
 Gentry Long  
 James Plummer