



Recession Proof Your Career *Corporate Spotlight with BASF*

On May 19, 2011 the New Jersey Chapter of the National Black MBA Association and BASF Corporation hosted a joint event entitled, "Recession Proof Your Career, How to Market Yourself in a Tough Economy". This was an incredibly rich and informative event with multiple sections of the program. First there was a networking hour, followed by a brief welcome from Michael Kannisto, Director of Staffing and Diversity and Judy Zagorski, Senior Vice President Human Resources in North America. The keynote address was delivered by Tina Kao, Vice President, Human Resources and then there was a presentation by Pat Rossman, Chief Diversity Officer for HR and Communications and finally a BASF Business panel discussion. The event turned out to be a great success with attendance of over 125 minority professionals. The business panel included 3 top BASF employees: Eduardo Amaya, Director of Compensation and Performance, Susan Jackson, Manager Marketing Communications and Douglas Martin, Assistant General Counsel. The final event of the program was a mini-career fair.

Kevin McMillan remarked that the National Black MBA and BASF had pulled out all the stops in making this an amazing program for anyone who was looking for a job. One amazingly enthusiastic participant flew in from Florida to attend the event and he was personally acknowledged by Kathy Valentine, President of the New Jersey Chapter. Other guests observed how committed BASF top executives seemed to be when talking about recruiting and retention of diversity employees and the panel speakers really showed a passion for their company. Both Susan Jackson (pictured bottom right) and Douglas Martin related stories of how they had moved around within the company and made various career changes with the support of BASF. Overall, this program was a major success for the NBMBAA and BASF.



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After-Work Networking Event & Hennessy Tasting

"Make Tax Day Less Taxing"

Members, friends and family gathered together at The Spot restaurant and lounge in Newark New Jersey on Friday April 15th for a fun evening of music, networking and shopping. The NBMBAA-New Jersey Chapter hosted a networking event that included a Hennessy tasting. Guests were given a special arm band that allowed them access to the VIP room for NBMBAA members and friends which included hot and cold appetizers and special reserved seating. During the evening the NJ Chapter President, Kathy Valentine, gave out a number of door prizes and special gifts, including a gift certificate to The Spot. The venue is not only a dance club and lounge, but also a full service restaurant that serves everything from chicken fingers to grilled salmon and seafood salad. The hot wings and meatballs in red sauce were a big hit in the V.I.P. room and a number of guests were seen going back for second helpings of the great fare.

**NEW & RENEWING
MEMBERS**

Charlotte M. Briscoe
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Greetings and thanks for reading our newsletter!

As you have seen by now, the chapter leadership has been working diligently to build our membership, support our charter to promote diversity, personal and professional growth and create opportunities for our members to find new employment. I hope that you had a chance to come out and enjoy one of these excellent programs. If not our upcoming events has something to appeal to everyone

In addition to professional development, we are committed to ensuring a brighter future for our youth and have presented a number of meaningful programs for our Leaders of Tomorrow high school mentoring students. And I could not be more proud of our Case Competition Team that triumphed over teams from all around the country to bring home the 3rd Place Prize at the National Case Competition event at the University of Connecticut.

We have a lot more work to do in the future. The next quarter will feature some of our programming for entrepreneurs and aspiring business owners. I invite you to join us and lend your time and talents to the New Jersey Chapter as I truly believe "where much is given, much is required".
- Kathy Valentine, President



**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

Friday August 19, 2011

After-Work Networking Event
At Loft 47
6:00PM - 9:00 PM
47 Edison Place, Newark NJ

Thursday September 15, 2011

Conference Kick-Off
"Inside Scoop from HR"
Location : TBD

Saturday October 1, 2011

New Entrepreneurs Program
Middlesex Community College
Edison, NJ
8:30am – 4:00pm

MEMBER Spotlight



Lena Taylor is the chairperson of the Professional Development Committee of the NBMBAA, New Jersey Chapter. She joined the chapter in 2004 and has been an active member for quite a few years. Lena has a BA in Political Science from Rutgers University and an MBA in Human Resources from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She currently works as a Project Manager for Newark Parking Authority, where she is responsible for planning and executing project developments that are in line

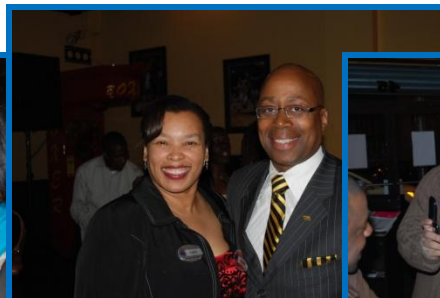
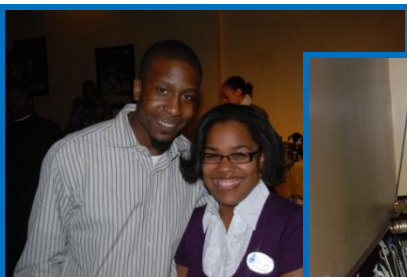
with promoting safe and viable parking for the residents and visitors of Newark, NJ. Some of the programs Lena works on include developing the website, parking permit programs and a complaint call center .

Through NBMBAA , Lena has had the greatest opportunity to oversee committees thereby continuing to enhance skills that she needs to continue to be ahead of the game in her field; working with individuals from all works of life, learning and sharing best practices; networking and cultivating business relationships that have led to viable opportunities. The best business advice she was given, "Think outside the box. The very thing that you think has nothing to do with your problem is that which will solve your problem. So stop, look and listen, not discounting anything or anyone. "

After-Work Networking Event & Hennessy Tasting

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In addition to the great food and music that was featured at the event, there were a number of vendors featured to the right of the stage. Items for sales included clothing, jewelry and hair products. One of the vendors, T's BouTiQue has a number of unique clothing items for sale and guests were very impressed. The evening was a relaxing way to spend a Friday evening and a great way to take the bite out of Tax Day.



The 5 Tracks of the NMBAA Programs:

EDUCATION CAREER LEADERSHIP ENTREPRENEURSHIP LIFESTYLE

2011 Leaders of Tomorrow

High School Mentoring Program

This quarter has been a very busy one for the Leaders of Tomorrow (L.O.T.) program. Each month LOT delivers seminars and programming focused on business skills and college success. The group meets regularly on the 3rd Saturday of the month at Rutgers University in Newark NJ. But in addition to the regular courses, there were a number of special events for the LOT Leaders in Q2. On May 21, 2011 the Youth Empowerment Summit was held at Weequahic High School in Newark NJ. The summit featured a number of dynamic speakers talking one-on-one to the Leaders on the subject of Leadership, Lifestyle, College Prep and Financial Literacy. The keynote speaker for the program was A. Robert Gregory.

Mr. Gregory is the principal of American History High School, the newest magnet school in Newark and the first of its kind in the state of New Jersey. As principal, Gregory has a goal to ensure that 100% of his students graduate high school in 4 years. Other speakers included Alfred Blake and Kasan Lane who have a program entitled I Am Multi and Tiffany Aliche, also known as "The Budgetnista".

The June program for LOT was presented at Weequahic Park Golf Course. The Leaders were given a chance to learn the fundamentals of golf and try their hand on the beautiful scenic course. One of the main themes that was talked about during this program is how golf rules can become life rules. Golf is a game that involves hard work, determination, honesty and integrity.

Mr. Michael Fleming, the NMBAA Membership Chairperson also remarked that golf teaches you to get over your failures, pick up your ball and go onto the next thing. At the end of the event, the chapter held its end of summer awards ceremony. The Leaders received awards for attendance at each meeting, participating on the LOT Student Board of Directors.

Kayla Jackson, our own LOT golf tutor



Special thanks to Tyrus Ballard, 2011 LOT CEO



Leaders pose with DeAndre Rudolph Exec. Director of Newark Youth Golf



Fore!



Leaders received awards and proclamations for their hard work and dedication throughout the year



Empowering visionaries.



Congratulations to the New Jersey LOT Case Team!

The NMBAA held the 10th Annual LOT Case Competition at the University of Connecticut this year on June 25, 2011. Each year teams from the LOT chapters across the country come together for this national event. For the first time this year, the New Jersey Case Team not only made it to the finals, but they beat out 20 other teams to win 3rd Place and \$5,000 in prize money. Special congratulations goes out to the team members (pictured bottom row, left to right): Jelani Williams, Tyrus Ballard, Antoine Saint-Victor, Makaela Newsome, Diarra White and Kwame Crawford.

2011 Membership Meeting

At Toucan Banquet and Catering Hall

The National Black MBA Association, New Jersey Chapter is an organization which leads in the creation of economic and intellectual wealth for African-Americans and dually serves as the professional organization of choice for this community. Their mission is to assist in the professional, entrepreneurial and economic development of their members, corporate partners and the community at-large.

On Thursday June 23, 2011 the New Jersey Chapter hosted a Membership Meeting in Somerset New Jersey. During the meeting, the various officers and board members presented information on the committees that make it possible to deliver the various programs of the NBMBAA-NJ. All of the presenters talked about how much they have benefited from being on the board of the chapter and the President, Kathy Valentine, offered an interesting perspective about the benefits of becoming an active part of the chapter. She outlined a number of ways members can use their work for the chapter to enhance their resume, build their networks and gain experience and new skill sets, all while helping out the community. Take a look at the positions that they still have available. If interested, e-mail: president@nbmbaa-newjersey.org.

- Treasurer
- Newsletter Editor-in Chief/Writers
- Leaders of Tomorrow Committee / Mentors
- Membership Chairperson / Committee Members
- Marketing and PR Chairperson / Committee Members

Mystery Dining Diva

Brief Restaurant Reviews

At The Table

Rating: That's What I'm Talkin' Bout

Let me start by saying that the food is amazing here! Some of the best Southern cuisine I have ever had and the portions were almost too big. Now I know where the expression "Makes you want to slap your Mama" came from - I was about to do just that when mine took the last scrumptious cornbread muffin off the table. I had the macaroni and cheese and green beans as my two sides and both were large servings, very well seasoned and cooked to perfection. I also love the fact that the restaurant is run by mother and son and there is a very friendly, down home atmosphere to the place. There is so much to like about this place that I wanted to give it my highest rating, but I just couldn't get past 1 major flaw.

No alcohol! At the Table does not have a bar and you are NOT allowed to BYOB. Some may think this is a small inconvenience, but I was disappointed that we couldn't even have a nice glass of wine with our meal. The location is a little challenging to find, as well. It is on a side street, so make sure to MapQuest the directions before you head out there. Overall it is worth making a special stop if you are headed to the shore area anyway.



At The Table

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