



PRESIDENT

Sarah Glover
NBC Owned TV Stations
New York, N.Y.

October 2, 2015

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Dorothy Tucker
WBBM-TV
Chicago, Ill.

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

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Marlon Walker
Atlanta Journal-Constitution

VICE PRESIDENT - DIGITAL

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Sherlon Christie
Asbury Park Press

TREASURER

Greg Morrison
CNN
Atlanta, Ga.

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Dave Jordan
WSPA-TV
Spartanburg, S.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I'm seeking your help with celebrating a major milestone in the history of American media.

The National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ), the largest organization for journalists of color, will celebrate its 40th anniversary on December 12, 2015.

In 1975, at a time when America's newsrooms did not reflect the communities they serve, 44 brave African American men and women gathered at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C. to form the NABJ.

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter welcomed the esteemed NABJ founders to meet with him at the White House for a briefing. I'm seeking your help today to recreate that meeting and bring the NABJ founders to the White House on December 11, a day before the milestone anniversary. We are fortunate to have so many of our founders with us today and they surely deserve the recognition.

The impact of those mighty journalists has reverberated over the last four decades. The NABJ has grown to about 3,000 members and is committed to ensuring fair coverage of minority communities, strengthening ties among black journalists, expanding job opportunities, honoring journalistic excellence, providing cutting-edge training and developing the next generation of journalists and media professionals.

NABJ awards nearly \$100,000 in scholarships and internships to college and high school students and provides fellowships for veteran journalists. While the NABJ has had a significant impact in print, on-air and online over the last 40 years, the need for diversifying American newsrooms and the coverage they produce persists.

REGION I DIRECTOR

Johann Calhoun
The Philadelphia Tribune

REGION II DIRECTOR

Vickie Thomas
WWJ/CBS Radio
Detroit, Mich.

REGION III DIRECTOR

Gayle Hurd
WPTF-AM/NC News Network
Raleigh, N.C.

REGION IV DIRECTOR

Marcus Vanderberg
Yahoo! Sports
Los Angeles, Calif.

ACADEMIC REPRESENTATIVE

Michelle Johnson
Boston University

MEDIA-RELATED REPRESENTATIVE

Tanzi West-Barbour
Black Alliance for Educational
Options -Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Darryl R. Matthews, Sr.



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Multiple diversity journalism organizations were initiated after the NABJ, including the Hispanic, Asian and Native American journalists organizations.

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Every year, NABJ hosts an annual convention. Next year, the NABJ convention will take place from August 3 to 7 at the same hotel where NABJ's founding took place -- the Marriott Wardman Park. It will be a joint convention with the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and we expect upwards of 5,000 journalists to attend. I would like to personally invite you to join us.

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As the newly elected 21st NABJ president, I look forward to speaking with a member of your staff about bringing the NABJ founders to the White House to meet with you. I've included a list of the founders by name and the news organizations they represented in 1975.

SECRETARY

Sherlon Christie
Asbury Park Press

I thank you kindly for your consideration.

TREASURER

Greg Morrison
CNN
Atlanta, Ga.

Yours in Service,

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Dave Jordan
WSPA-TV
Spartanburg, S.C.

Sarah Glover
NABJ President
Social Media Editor
NBC Owned Television Stations
@sarah4nabj

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Founders of the National Association of Black Journalists

December 12, 1975

Norma Adams-Wade

Dallas Morning News

Carole Bartel

CORE Magazine

Edward Blackwell (Deceased)

The Milwaukee Journal

Paul Brock

Founding Executive Director

Reginald Bryant (Deceased)

Black Perspective on the News

Maureen Bunyan

WTOP-TV
Washington, D.C.

Crispin Campbell

WNET-TV
New York

Charlie Cobb

WHUR Radio
Washington, D.C.

Marilyn Darling

WHYY-TV
Wilmington, Del.

Leon Dash

The Washington Post

Joe Davidson

The (Philadelphia) Evening
Bulletin

Allison J. Davis

WBZ-TV
Boston

Paul Delaney

The New York Times

William Dilday

WLBT-TV
Jackson, Miss.

Sandra Dillard

The Denver Post

Joel Dreyfuss

The Washington Post

Sam Ford

WCCO-TV
Minneapolis

David Gibson

Mutual Black Network

Sandra Gilliam-Beale

WHIO-TV
Dayton, Ohio

Bob Greenlee

New Haven Register

Martha Griffin

National Public Radio

Derwood Hall (Deceased)

WSOC-TV
Charlotte

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Bob Hayes
San Francisco Examiner

Vernon Jarrett (Deceased)
Chicago Tribune

Mal Johnson (Deceased)
Cox Broadcasting

Toni Jones
Detroit Free Press

H. Chuku Lee
Africa Journal Ltd

Claude Lewis
The (Philadelphia) Evening
Bulletin

Sandra Dawson Long
The (Wilmington, Del.) News
Journal

Pluria Marshall
Freelancer

Acel Moore
Philadelphia Inquirer

Luix Overbea (Deceased)
The Christian Science Monitor

Les Payne
Newsday

Claudia Polley
NBC

Alex Poinsett
Ebony Magazine

Richard Rambeau
Project Bait
Detroit

Max Robinson (Deceased)
WTOP-TV
Washington, D.C.

Chuck Stone (Deceased)
Philadelphia Daily News

W. Curtis Riddle
The (Louisville, Ky.) Courier-
Journal

Jeannye Thornton
U.S. News & World Report

Francis Ward
Los Angeles Times

Charlotte Roy
Detroit Free Press

Vince Sanders
National Black Network

John C. White
The Washington Star

DeWayne Wickham
The Baltimore Sun