



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2023

*Connecting, Celebrating & Supporting Community & Culture*  
<https://www.jnaofdc.org> Email: [info@jnaofdc.org](mailto:info@jnaofdc.org) FB: [jnaofdc.org](#) IG: [@jnametrodmv](#)

## JNA LEADERSHIP 2020-2023

### Board of Directors

#### Executive Committee

President – Elaine V. Knight, Ph.D.  
Vice President – Rev. Dr. Noel Godfrey  
Executive Secretary – Toni Zavana, J.D.,  
(2020-2021)  
Recording Secretary – Delores McKoy  
(2020-2022)  
Public Relations –Bobbie Rossiter  
(2020-2021)  
Treasurer – Colin Boothe  
Asst. Treasurer – Jennifer Asher  
Parliamentarian – Franklyn Burke, Esq.

#### Standing Committees

*Communications & Outreach:*  
Bobbie Rossiter (2020-2021)

*Community Service & Development:*  
Co-Chairs: Delores McKoy,  
Moye Stephenson-Fairweather,  
Jennifer Wilson

*Cultural Heritage and  
Social Activities:*

Co-Chairs:  
Moye Stephenson-  
Fairweather,  
Beverly Thomas, Jennifer Wilson,

*Finance and Fundraising:*  
Colin Boothe, Co-Chair

*Membership:*  
Carol-Ann Boothe, FCCA, CPA,  
CGFM – Co-Chair  
Jennifer Asher – Co-Chair

*Student Outreach and Educational  
Support:(SOES)*  
Jennifer Asher, Chair

### Advisory Council Members

Doreen Thompson, Esq, Chairperson  
Winston A. Anderson, Ph.D.  
Franklin W. Knight, Ph.D.  
Ambassador Curtis Ward, Esq.  
Col. (Ret.) Jacqueline Payne-Borden,  
Ph.D.  
Richard Wilson, Esq.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear JNA Members and Friends of Jamaica:

2023 was a busy and significant year for JNA. Our accomplishments were many and are highlighted below in our “Summary of Accomplishments”.

As you know, JNA is a 55-year old, 100% volunteer-run, 501(c)(3) nonprofit association. Over the decades, we have experienced “highs” of which we are rightfully proud. However, over those decades, we have also experienced “lows” through which we have persevered as “we come from strong and we “likkle but we talewah”.

The COVID pandemic’s impacts continued to be felt by JNA and JNA is still in a state of recovery. It left JNA needing to urgently and aggressively rebuild and reignite its membership base, which historically was largely grown and supported through in-person events. The pandemic also left JNA needing to re-connect with its members to encourage them to volunteer, donate and fill leadership positions. This led to changes in JNA’s Bylaws that were implemented in February 2023 including allowing for remote elections and other virtual operations. Full recovery will require members to share with JNA what direction they would like JNA to take and what they would like JNA to be.

Our 2023 election signals a new door opening for JNA and I wholeheartedly congratulate JNA’s 2024-2025 Executive Committee members. Two major goals of my Administration of which I hope our new Board will continue to focus are the following:

- Increase JNA’s membership and outreach, and
- Ensure that Jamaicans in the Washington DC Metropolitan Area know about JNA, what it represents, and what it does.

These goals, however, cannot be achieved without your help. You, your love of Jamaica and your Jamaican heritage are at the heart of JNA and what binds us together.

Our deepest gratitude to the members of the Board of Directors, Advisory Council and Committees, Members, Volunteers, Donors, and Friends who contributed to JNA’s success over the years and in 2023. We could not have done it without you.

Respectfully,

*Elaine V. Knight*

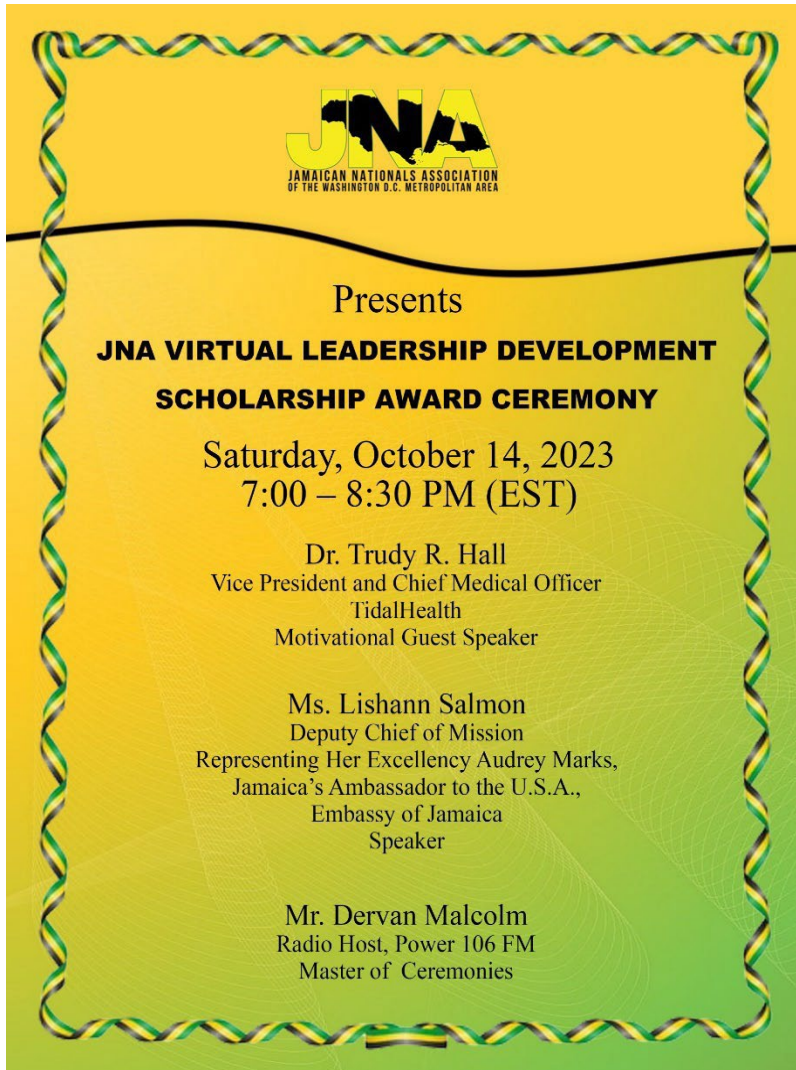
Elaine V. Knight, PhD.  
President

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<b>Summary of Accomplishments.....</b>	
Supporting college students of Jamaican heritage & building leadership skills .....	5
Serving the needy in the community.....	7
Celebrating heritage & culture.....	8
61 <sup>st</sup> Jamaican Independence Celebration Church Service.....	9
61 <sup>st</sup> Jamaican Independence Celebration “Link-Up”.....	10
2023 Black History Month.....	12
2023 Women’s History Month.....	15
2023 Caribbean-American Heritage Month.....	15
Encouraging financial literacy.....	17
Supporting cancer prevention.....	17
Increasing the number of members & volunteers.....	20
Developing virtual operations processes.....	21.
Developing & focusing on ongoing donations (Including “Giving Tuesdays”).....	21
Increasing the use of social media.....	22
Developing nominations & elections guidelines/process.....	22
Electing & Orienting 2024-2025 Officers (Executive Committee Members)	
<b>Acknowledgement of Volunteers.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Acknowledgement of Donors.....</b>	<b>25</b>

## SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Supporting College Students of Jamaican Heritage & Building Leadership Development Skills in the Community



#### JNA's Annual Fall Virtual Leadership Development Scholarship Awards

JNA's Student Outreach & Educational Support (SOES) Program is JNA's major annual charitable activity. Its logo "*Sowing seeds of success for future leaders*" embodies that we believe we can all help, no matter how small. The SOES Committee is chaired by Ms. Jennifer Asher.

2023 highlights included:  
The 2023 Leadership Motivation Speaker:  
Trudy R. Hall, MD, Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, Tidal Health, LLC.

Master of Ceremonies: Dervan Malcolm, Talk Show Producer/Host-Power 106FM, Jamaica,

The 2023 Guest Speaker: Embassy of Jamaica Representative: Ms. Lishann Salmon, Deputy Chief of Mission represented Her Excellency Audrey Marks, Jamaica's Ambassador to the U.S.



## JNA 2023-2024 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

*“Building Future Leaders of Jamaican Heritage”*



**Gabrielle Clarke**  
**HOWARD UNIVESITY**  
International Business Major,  
Spanish Minor



**Navaud Guscott**  
**BENEDICT COLLEGE**  
Finance



**Omario Ricardo Guscott**  
**BENEDICT COLLEGE**  
Electrical Engineering



**Jael Nelson**  
**LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY**  
Biochemistry



**Kaleah Shelton**  
**UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT  
OF COLUMBIA**  
Accounting & Finance (with  
concentration in Logistics and  
International Trade)



**Tonya-Lee Webster**  
**HOWARD UNIVERSITY**  
Media, Journalism and Film  
(Television and Film  
concentration)

## Serving the Needy in the Community

The continued isolation of the elderly, as a result of the pandemic, created a need for access to necessities such as food and supplies. It also created barriers to social engagement for them, especially since the majority of local churches adapted to the pandemic by conducting online church services. To aid in the response and help bridge the pandemic's impact, JNA's Community Service and Development (CSD) Committee's primary focus supported the elderly and low-income families in the DMV through the following efforts:

- **Delivering meals to the community** – JNA partnered with community-based agencies, faith-based organizations, and food pantries serving the community's most vulnerable people. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CSD Committee and its partners purchased, collected, and helped to deliver over 6,080 meals to the community's most vulnerable.
- **Delivering health educational awareness and referral services information to help the elderly** – This assisted in their gaining access to needed services; educating them on measures to prevent contracting the virus, such as social distancing and use of the appropriate PPE supplies.
- **Distributing books to promote summer reading** – JNA partnered with the Ebenezer Church of God, in the “Save A City community event” on Saturday, August 12, 2023, collecting and distributing books to promote summer reading by children in low-income communities.





“Save A City Community Event”

## Celebrating Heritage & Culture

JNA’s Participation in the Embassy of Jamaica’s 61st Independence Anniversary Church Service, July 30, 2023, Sligo Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Takoma Park, MD. JNA’s Vice-President, Rev. Dr. Noel Godfrey and JNA’s President, Dr. Elaine Knight served on the Independence Anniversary Planning Committee. JNA also supported the Celebration through a financial contribution and congratulatory page in the event booklet (see below). Several JNA volunteers including past student leadership scholarship awardee, Zoe Hillocks, and student member, Sheena Hunt participated in the church service.





**Jamaica's 61st Independence Anniversary Church Service, July 30, 2023, Sligo Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Takoma Park, MD.**



**JNA**  
JAMAICAN NATIONALS ASSOCIATION  
OF THE WASHINGTON D.C. METROPOLITAN AREA

*Congratulations on 61st Jamaica's Independence Anniversary!*

**JAMAICA 61**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**2023 VIRTUAL LEADERSHIP  
DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP  
AWARDS CEREMONY**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023  
@ 7:00 – 8:30 P.M. EST**

GUEST SPEAKERS  
COLLEGE STUDENT AWARDEES – MUSIC - ENTERTAINMENT

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORMS & GUIDELINES ARE AVAILABLE AT:**  
<https://www.jnaofdc.org/education>

**BECOME A MEMBER OF JNA! SUPPORT AND STRENGTHEN YOUR JAMAICAN HERITAGE**  
Annual Individual membership: \$35.00 Lifetime Membership: \$500.00 Student: \$20.00  
Small Enterprise: \$150.00 Large Enterprise: \$250

Annual Membership dues are payable through  
PayPal on the JNA website; Zelle account using [info@jnaofdc.org](mailto:info@jnaofdc.org);  
or mail a check payable to Jamaican Nationals Association, P.O. Box 56453, Washington, DC 20040. Please click on Membership Dues Button - <https://jnaofdc.org/donate/>

Website: [www.jnaofdc.org](http://www.jnaofdc.org) E-mail: [info@jnaofdc.org](mailto:info@jnaofdc.org) Facebook: [www.jnadc.org](http://www.jnadc.org)  
Instagram: [@jnametrodmv](https://www.instagram.com/jnametrodmv)  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 56453, Washington, D.C. 20040

For more information, please contact:  
Elaine Knight, Ph.D, JNA President (215-512-8651);  
Jennifer Asher (202-250-4521)



**JNA Booth at 61<sup>st</sup> Independence Anniversary Church Service**







**JNA's Participation & Exhibition at the Embassy of Jamaica's Celebration of Jamaican Culture (Jamaica Fest Link Up)**, in recognition of Jamaica's 61<sup>st</sup> Independence Anniversary at the Silver Spring Civic Center, Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring, Maryland. Jamaica Fest featured Jamaican art, fashion, food, and drink, with entertainment by Jamaican DJs and performers.



**Pictures of JNA Members at the Jamaican Embassy "Jamaica Fest Link-Up" Celebration on September 17, 2023**







- **JNA's 2023 Black History Month Celebration:**  
    **“GO VISITS” During Black History Month 2023**  
    **“Get to know African American history within easy access”**

February is always an exciting month in the DMV as there are many historical sites in the DMV and it is Black History Month, “ a time of the year dedicated to honoring the contributions of African Americans to society both in the US and worldwide.” While much of this history has been hidden, February’s focus was an opportunity for persons of Jamaican heritage in the DMV to add to their knowledge of the African American leg of the dispersal of peoples of African descent throughout the world, often referred to as the African Diaspora.

For Black History Month 2023, on a weekly basis, JNA shared with its members and friends information on an easily accessible site to visit or activity, which JNA members recommended.

**Week 1: Harriett Tubman Museum on Maryland's Eastern Shore**



For the opening week of Black History Month, JNA featured the Harriett Tubman Museum on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

Some JNA members reported that they have visited with Church or other groups on bus tours, and recommended that JNA Leadership consider this for a future activity. For one JNA member, a striking memory of this visit is the welcoming mural of Harriett Tubman reaching out to you to come with her as she conducts you to freedom on the “underground railroad.

For more information, visit  
<https://visitdorchester.org/harriet-tubman-museum-educational-center/>

## Week 2: Frederick Douglass Home in Southeast DC



Douglass was a leading voice in the abolitionist movement, and according to the Home's website. "Any time is a great time to learn about his incredible life, his home, and his vision".

One JNA member who has visited wished to reminds JNA visitors of the sweeping view of Washington D.C. from the grounds of this home, and how surprising it is that the incredible vistas accessible from southeast DC are rarely talked about. For more information:

<https://www.nps.gov/thingsstodo/discover-frederick-douglass-home.htm>

## Week 3: Old Town Alexandria's Black History Sites



Freedom House Museum,  
1315 Duke Street

The Freedom House Museum is what remains of a large complex dedicated to trafficking thousands of Black men, women, and children from 1828 -1861. Slavery, race-based laws, and racial terror erased and diminished African American history and contributions from the national narrative. This Museum honors the lives and experiences of the enslaved and free Black people who lived in and were trafficked through Alexandria

## Waterfront

Waterfront cities like Alexandria were also a haven for runaway slaves. Because of the fishing and shipping industries along the Potomac, slaves would sneak to the waterfront in an attempt to board ships and escape to freedom. With the right password, slaves could get taken north. For more information, see the *Washingtonian* article- <https://www.washingtonian.com/2018/02/27/7-must-see-sites-in-alexandria-to-learn-about-black-history/>



### Week 3: Sandy Spring Slavery Museum



The Sandy Spring Slavery Museum and African Art Gallery was founded in 1988 by Jamaican Americans, Winston A. Anderson, PhD, and his brother. Dr. Anderson, a member of JNA's Advisory Council, is a Biomedical Scientist, Professor of Biology at Howard University, and Community History Preservationist, who grew up in Kingston, Jamaica and moved to the U.S. at the age of seventeen.

Dr. Anderson saw that the history of the black community in Sandy Spring, one of the oldest freed black communities in the WMA, was unrecognized and created the museum to preserve this history to allow future generations to learn about its past. For more information, please visit: <https://www.sandyspringslavemuseum.org/>

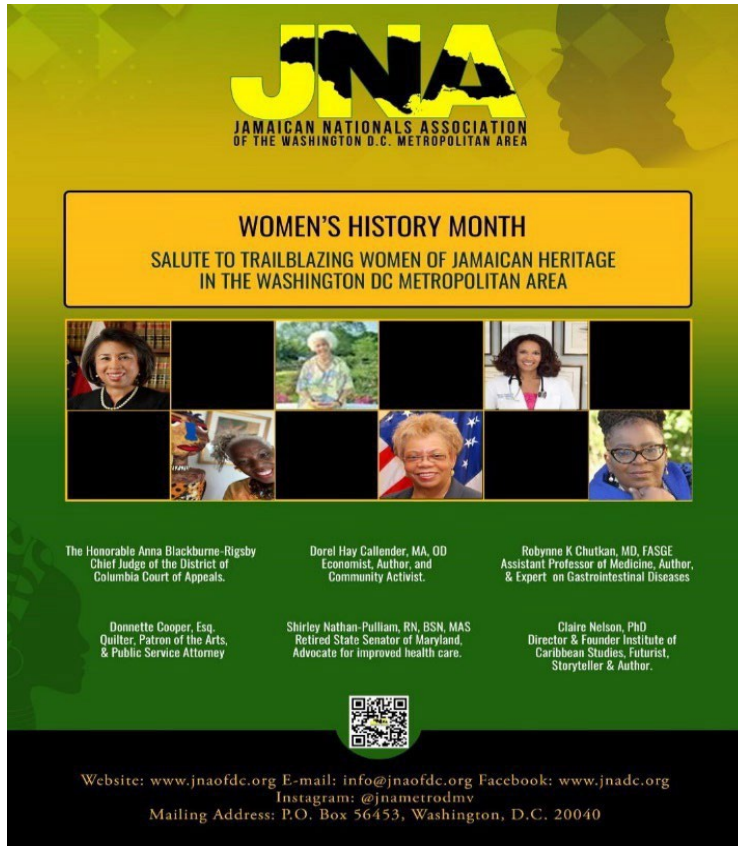
### Week 4: Netflix documentary, *Descendant*, from Director Margaret Brown



JNA closed out Black History Month by encouraging its Members and Friends to view the Netflix documentary *descendant*. On July 9, 1860, more than 100 captive Africans were brought to the shores of Mobile, Alabama, on a ship named the *Clotilda*, under cover of darkness. The international slave trade had been made illegal in the US in 1808, but human trafficker Timothy Meaher made a bet that he could get around the law with his ship. Today, the residents of Africatown, just north of Mobile, count the *Clotilda* survivors among their ancestors.


The new documentary *Descendant*, from director Margaret Brown, brings their stories to light as they grapple with a growing spotlight on their community following the discovery of the sunken *Clotilda*. The film shows how events that unfolded more than a century ago continue to have lasting repercussions several generations later. For more information, <https://www.netflix.com/tudum/articles/descendant-documentary>

■ **JNA's March 2023 Celebration of Women's History Month .**



**JNA**  
JAMAICAN NATIONALS ASSOCIATION  
OF THE WASHINGTON D.C. METROPOLITAN AREA

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**  
SALUTE TO TRAILBLAZING WOMEN OF JAMAICAN HERITAGE  
IN THE WASHINGTON DC METROPOLITAN AREA



The Honorable Anna Blackburne-Rigsby  
Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

Dorel Hay Callender, MA, OD  
Economist, Author, and Community Activist.

Robynne K Chutkan, MD, FASGE  
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Author, & Expert on Gastrointestinal Diseases

Donnette Cooper, Esq.  
Quilter, Patron of the Arts, & Public Service Attorney

Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, RN, BSN, MAS  
Retired State Senator of Maryland, Advocate for improved health care.

Claire Nelson, PhD  
Director & Founder Institute of Caribbean Studies, Futurist, Storyteller & Author.

Website: [www.jnaofdc.org](http://www.jnaofdc.org) E-mail: [info@jnaofdc.org](mailto:info@jnaofdc.org) Facebook: [www.jnadc.org](http://www.jnadc.org)  
Instagram: [@jnametrodmv](https://www.instagram.com/jnametrodmv)  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 56453, Washington, D.C. 20040

JNA recognized Six Honorees by widely distributing summaries of their accomplishments to JNA members and supporters. Honorees included:

**Honorable Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, Esq.,** Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals ■ **Dorel Hay Callender, MA, OD,** Economist, Author, and Community Activist ■ **Robynne K Chutkan, MD, FASGE,** Assistant Professor of Medicine, Author & Expert on Gastrointestinal Diseases ■ **Donnette Cooper, Esq. ,** Quilter, Patron of the Arts, & Public Service Attorney ■ **Shirley Nathan- Pulliam, RN, BSN, MAS,** Retired State Senator of Maryland, Advocate for improved health care ■ and **Claire Nelson, PhD,** Director & Founder Institute of Caribbean Studies, Futurist, Storyteller & Author.

■ **JNA's Celebration of Caribbean-American Heritage Month**



**JNA**  
JAMAICAN NATIONALS ASSOCIATION  
OF THE WASHINGTON D.C. METROPOLITAN AREA

**MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023**  
7 PM - 8:30 PM

**VIRTUAL PROGRAM**

**THE SUCCESS OF CARIBBEAN CUISINE®**  
*Stories from Jamaican DMV Entrepreneurs*

Let's celebrate them. Hear about their journey, what inspired them and learn from them.



Ms. Doreen Thompson, Esq.  
Co-Founder, NCAFFA  
Moderator.



Margaret & Earl Chin  
of Negril

Lisa Wadell Nash  
The Jerk Pit

Joan Beckford  
Island Pride Oasis  
Restaurant & Catering

Donovan & Sandra  
Subahwon  
Sandovan Restaurant  
& Lounge

Donna Henry  
Soup Up

O'Henry Bryan  
Portland's Pride  
Jerk Seasonings

**Meeting ID:** 870 3839 7414  
**Passcode:** 183610

**One tap mobile**  
+13017158592,87038397414#...\*183610# US  
(Washington DC)  
+13092053325,87038397414#...\*183610# US

**Find your local number:**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87038397414?pwd=WWFjSVRzZWlEK09XK04yMkhNT3Jydz09>

Website: [www.jnaofdc.org](http://www.jnaofdc.org) E-mail: [info@jnaofdc.org](mailto:info@jnaofdc.org)  
Facebook: [www.jnadc.org](http://www.jnadc.org) / Instagram: [@jnametrodmv](https://www.instagram.com/jnametrodmv)  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 56453, Washington, D.C. 20040

**YOUTUBE CHANNEL  
LIVE STREAM**

- ✓ ***Partnering to Recognize & Celebrate Jamaican DMV Food Entrepreneurs -***  
In June, JNA partnered with the National Caribbean Foods & Foodways Alliance (NCAFFA) to highlight the contributions of Jamaican food entrepreneurs in the DMV. NCAFFA is a nonprofit platform which promotes Caribbean cuisine and tells the history and stories of Caribbean foodways through collaborations with individuals and organizations. Because of their significant contributions, a number of Jamaican food entrepreneurs in the DMV were invited to participate in a Virtual Talk on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 7:00pm EST to share what motivated them to express themselves through Jamaican cuisine, and the satisfying experiences and challenges they have encountered in bringing a “taste of home” and the “world of flavor” in Jamaican cuisine to fellow Jamaicans and the general community.
- ✓ ***Encouraging the Celebration of Caribbean Restaurant Week in the DMV.***  
As JNA members celebrate National Caribbean-American Heritage Month each June, they are aware that Caribbean cuisine is one of the most visible parts of our Caribbean culture. As a result, JNA encouraged its members and friends to celebrate Caribbean Restaurant Week in the DMV, (June 11-17, 2023) to highlight that Caribbean cuisine not only adds to cultural diversity but is a driver of economic growth both in America and in the Caribbean and must be elevated and supported.
- ✓ ***Partnering to Unite the DMV’s Caribbean Community through the June Interfaith Service.***  
JNA partnered with other DMV organizations to plan the Caribbean Diaspora Interfaith Service in celebration of Caribbean-American Heritage Month, held on June 25<sup>th</sup> at the Peoples Congregational United Church, Washington, DC. JNA represented by Elaine Knight, PhD., Mrs. Jennifer Wilson and Mrs. Moye Stephenson-Fairweather served on the planning committee.
- ✓ ***Participating in Celebrating Caribbean Culture in the DMV through the Caribbean Festival, Bladensburg Waterfront.***  
JNA participated in the Prince George’s County Caribbean Festival held on Saturday, June 11, at the Bladensburg Waterfront, hosted by Angela Alsobrooks, Prince George’s County Executive




## Encouraging Community Development Through Financial Literacy

JNA successfully initiated a program which it hopes will be an annual focus, financial literacy. Robert Streete a new JNA member stepped up to begin this Program.



**APRIL IS FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH.**  
**PLAN TO ATTEND JNA's VIRTUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**ON SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023, AT 4PM**  
**GET ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON YOUR CREDIT AND FINANCIAL PLANNING.**



**ATTENDING TO YOUR CREDIT IS IMPERATIVE!**

- Your credit score comes in many forms, do you know what they are?
- What are the five ways your credit score is calculated?
- What are the best ways to increase your credit score?
- In the event of a bad credit score, do you know what happens?

**Get answers to these great questions from**  
**Joan Henry-Fields, DBA**  
**JNA Lifetime Member**  
Specializes in financial empowerment.  
She hails from Clarendon, JA.

**FINANCIAL PLANNING – LET'S START WITH SOME BASICS!**

- What is the best way to evaluate your current financial situation?
- Are you familiar with the process of developing a spending plan?
- How about setting financial goals?

**Let's take a trip down the financial road with**  
**Robert Streete, MBA**  
**JNA Member**  
Specializes in creating solutions to meet financial goals.  
He hails from Kingston, JA.



**zoom** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86435850620?pwd=ZjU0UVI3TEVIV25BNitYc2Q1MFNQdz09>  
**Meeting ID: 864 3585 0620 Passcode: 031350**  
Website: [www.jnaofdc.org](http://www.jnaofdc.org) E-mail: [info@jnaofdc.org](mailto:info@jnaofdc.org) Facebook: [www.jnadc.org](http://www.jnadc.org)  
Instagram: @jnametrodmv  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 56453, Washington, D.C. 20040



## Supporting Cancer Prevention



### Monthly Reminders to Members

JNA continued to inform its members through social media of the designation of each month of the year's cancer awareness focus and the need to take preventive action.

### Partnerships

#### ✓ Telehealth Advocacy & Screening

JNA continued to partner with the Jamaican Cancer Society, the Diaspora Northeast USA, Maryland, and local cancer prevention advocacy organizations to focus on telehealth through tele-counseling, screening, treatment for cancers particularly breast, cervical and prostate cancers, and efforts towards the purchase of a mobile unit for screening and educational purposes.

#### ✓ Cancer Prevention Walk

JNA partnered with Heart of Tabitha Foundation, the Global Diaspora Council US Northeast, Maryland, and Caribbean-American Chamber of Commerce to host Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, on Saturday, October 28 at Montgomery College, Montgomery College, Rockville, MD

**The fight belongs TO all of us**

1 in 8 women may develop cancer during their lifetime

**TOGETHER, we can make a difference in the fight against breast cancer**

**Join us for Breast Cancer Awareness Walk**

**Date**  
Saturday, October 28, 2023

**Time**  
10:00 a.m.

**Location**  
Montgomery College  
51 Mannakee St  
Mannakee BLDG  
Rockville, MD 20850

**Hosted by:**  
Jamaican Nationals Association of DC (JNA)  
~~~~~  
Heart of Tabitha Foundation  
~~~~~  
Global Jamaica Diaspora Council,  
Northeast USA, Maryland  
~~~~~  
Caribbean-American Chamber of Commerce  
~~~~~

**Why Walk With Us?**  
Raise Awareness | Support Prevention | Save Lives

**We Celebrate Breast Cancer Survivors!**

**For more information contact:**  
info@jnaofdc.org  
240-793-5645





**Booth for Breast Cancer Awareness  
Walk: Saturday, October 28, 2023**



## Increasing the Number of JNA Members, Volunteers & Donors

As a result of its activities in 2023, JNA increased the number of its Members by 24 % and the Number of its Lifetime Members by 18 %.

### LIFETIME MEMBERS (in alphabetical order)

1. Jennifer Asher, Washington DC
2. Dorel Callender, Virginia
3. Rev Agorom Dike, Maryland
4. Rev. Dr. Noel Godfrey, Maryland
5. Elaine Knight, Ph.D, Maryland
6. Jacqueline Payne-Borden, Ph.D, Maryland
7. Janet Redhi, Maryland
8. Sonia Rhoden-Salmon, MD, Maryland
9. Yvonne Stephens, Maryland
10. Doreen Thompson, Esq., Washington, DC
11. Jean Williams, MD, Maryland
12. Laur Wilson, CPA, Maryland
13. Richard Wilson, Esq., Washington DC
14. Rukie Wilson, Washington DC

One significant accomplishment was the development of focused outreach to encourage members to renew and to attract new members.

To do so, JNA's Bylaws were changed in 2018 to add a standing, Membership Committee. The initial Co-Chair of this Committee was Carol-Ann Boothe, CPA.



The poster features the JNA logo at the top left. The main title '2023 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE' is prominently displayed in large, bold, yellow and white text. Below the title, it says 'JOIN OR RENEW AND RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS'. A line of text states 'And be entered into a raffle to win fantastic prizes!'. A section titled 'Benefits of JNA Membership!' lists several advantages in two columns. At the bottom, there is a flowchart with four yellow circles labeled 'Connect', 'Support', 'Network', and 'Grow'. Below the flowchart, it says 'JOIN A COMMITTEE: Communications & Outreach ---- Cultural Heritage & Social Activities' and 'Community Service & Development ---- Membership ---- Student Outreach & Educational Support'. The footer contains contact information for the JNA of the Washington DC Metropolitan Area, including its website, email, Facebook, and Instagram handles.

**JNA**  
JAMAICAN NATIONALS ASSOCIATION

# 2023

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

JOIN OR RENEW AND RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS

And be entered into a raffle to win fantastic prizes!

**Benefits of JNA Membership!**

- Unite persons of Jamaican heritage & friends of Jamaica
- Celebrate & promote Jamaican culture
- Educational & charitable support to college students
- Networking experiences
- Leadership & communication skills growth
- Volunteer & mentorship opportunities
- Improve the communities we serve
- Discounts on selected JNA sponsored events

Join at <https://jnaofdc.org/donate/> and become a member today! Dues start at \$35.00

Connect → Support → Network → Grow

JOIN A COMMITTEE: Communications & Outreach ---- Cultural Heritage & Social Activities  
Community Service & Development ---- Membership ---- Student Outreach & Educational Support



The Jamaican Nationals Association (JNA) of the Washington DC Metropolitan Area is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization.  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 56453, Washington, DC 20040

Visit our Website: [www.jnaofdc.org](http://www.jnaofdc.org) Email: [info@jnaofdc.org](mailto:info@jnaofdc.org) Facebook: [jnadc.org](https://www.facebook.com/jnadc.org) Instagram: [@jnametrodmv](https://www.instagram.com/jnametrodmv)



## Developing & Focusing on Ongoing Donations

JNA initiated its focus on spurring ongoing donations through encouraging donations to its SOES Program and “Giving Tuesdays”.



**“Let’s build future leaders of Jamaican Heritage”**


**GIVE TODAY!!**

CONTRIBUTE TO JNA’S ANNUAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS. SUPPORT JAMAICAN HERITAGE STUDENTS ATTENDING COLLEGES IN JAMAICA AND THE UNITED STATES.

“We make a living by what we get.  
We make a life by what we give.”  
Winston Churchill

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS:	BENEFITS FROM DONATING:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Assistance with costs such as books or part tuition.</li><li>✓ Assistance with leadership and communications skills development.</li><li>✓ Opportunities for networking and mentoring.</li><li>✓ Opportunity to showcase accomplishments and goals at Fall Leadership Scholarship Awards.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Opportunity to make a meaningful difference.</li><li>✓ Recognition in JNA materials, social media, and website.</li><li>✓ Opportunity to donate in honor of family member or someone who made a difference in your life.</li><li>✓ Recognition at JNA’s Fall Leadership Scholarship Awards.</li></ul>

**LET TUESDAYS REMIND YOU TO PAY IT FORWARD!**




PLEASE SUPPORT GIVING TUESDAY “EVERY TUESDAY”

No donation is too small. Four ways to contribute:

- (1) Use Paypal, click the DONOR button at <https://www.jnaofdc.org/donate>
- (2) Use Zelle: [info@jnaofdc.org](mailto:info@jnaofdc.org)
- (3) Use CashApp: @JamaicanNatAssoc
- (4) Mail check to Jamaican Nationals Association, Attn: Scholarships, PO Box 56453, Washington, DC 20040

JNA is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit.  
For more information, visit <https://www.jnaofdc.org>  
Any Questions, please contact JNA Student Outreach & Educational Support (SOES)  
Program Chair, Jennifer Asher at 202-250-4521



## Developing virtual operations Procedures

The pandemic challenged JNA to change its operations. As a result, JNA had to develop virtual operations processes and deal developing a virtual filing system and policies for such files

## **Increasing JNA's Social Media Outreach & Visibility**

JNA increased its use of social media including:

- ✓ Provided a blog and continued to fine tune its website which increased JNA's visibility.
- ✓ Increased its postings to its Facebook page and number of followers.
- ✓ Increased use of E-Newsletter notices.
- ✓ Increased the number of e-mail list contacts by 20 %

JNA's Public Relations Officer position remained vacant. The Communications and Outreach Standing Committee remained inactive. The following persons assisted with communications and outreach:

Doreen Thompson, (Facebook Administrator, Newsletter and Annual Report Editor, Drafter of Flyer); Jennifer Asher, (E-Newsletter Notifications, Drafter of Flyers); Elaine Knight, (Annual Report) Contractor, Fiango Technologies (website and flyers)

## **Developing Nominations & Elections Process**

For the first time in its history, JNA developed written Guidelines with the assistance of Doreen Thompson, Esq. Contributors included Robert Streete, who served as chair of the Nominations & Elections Committee. Assistance was subsequently provided by Col. (Ret.) Dr. Jacqueline Payne-Borden who served as Interim Chair. Contributing Committee Members included: Dr. Franklin W. Knight, Ms. Janice Peterson, Mr. Richard Wilson, Esq. (Advisor).

## **Electing & Orienting 2024-2025 of Executive Committee**

After several years of challenges due to the pandemic, JNA conducted elections in November 2023. Congratulations to the 2024-2025 elected officers who serve as the Executive Committee of JNA's Board of Directors and will take office in January 2024 for a 2-year term expiring in December 2025.

<b>President:</b>	<b>Rukie Wilson</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Carol Ann Boothe, CPA</b>
<b>Executive Secretary:</b>	<b>Althea Grey-McKenzie</b>
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	<b>Jennifer Wilson</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Colin Boothe</b>
<b>Assistant Treasurer:</b>	<b>Jennifer Asher</b>
<b>Public Relations Officer:</b>	<b>Moye Stephenson</b>
<b>Parliamentarian:</b>	<b>Michael Campbell</b>

JNA also conducted an orientation/transition session on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> for the new Executive Committee.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

Many thanks to the volunteers and participants on the following identified JNA projects:

✓ JNA's Annual Fall Virtual Leadership Development Scholarship Awards & Leadership Talk Gratitude to JNA's Student Outreach and Educational Support (SOES) Committee Members, and especially Jennifer Asher, the Committee's Chair.

### Student Outreach and Educational Support (SOES) Planning Committee

Jennifer Asher, Chair  
Elaine Knight, Ph.D.  
Rev. Dr. Noel Godfrey  
Mrs. Carol-Ann Boothe  
Colin Boothe  
Minister Carl S. Dunn, MBA  
Rev. Delores McKoy  
Ms. Jazmyn McKoy  
Ms. Janice Peterson

Dr. Jacqueline Rhoden-Trader  
Mrs. Yasmin Anderson Smith  
Ms. Blossom Smith  
Mrs. Moya Stephenson-Fairweather  
Ms. Norma Thompson  
Ms. Jennifer Wilson  
Doreen Thompson, Esq. (Advisor)  
Richard Wilson, Esq. (Advisor)  
Franklin W. Knight, Ph.D. (Advisor)

### Participants

*Mr. Dervan Malcolm*

Master of Ceremonies

*Dr. Elaine Knight*

President, Jamaican Nationals Association of the Washington DC Metropolitan Area

*Trudy R. Hall, MD*

Vice President & Chief Medical Officer, TidalHealth

*Ms. Lishann Salmon*

Deputy Chief of Mission

(Representing Her Excellency Audrey Marks, Jamaica's Ambassador to the USA) Embassy of Jamaica

*Mrs. Michelle Tulloch-Neil*

Global Jamaica Diaspora Council - Northeast Representative, USA

*Minister Carl S. Dunn, MBA*

SDA Church, Alpharetta, GA. (Director of Outreach and the Religious Liberty Ministries); and member of JNA's SOES Program

*Jennifer Asher*

Chair, Student Outreach and Educational Support (SOES) Program

### Zoom Hosts

Ms. Jazmyn McKoy (Co-Host) and Mrs. Delores McKoy (Co-Host)

### Webmaster

Clovis Fiango, Fiango Technologies, Inc.



✓ **Other JNA Programs & Outreach to the Community**

**JNA's Cultural Heritage and Social Activities Committee:**

**Co-Chairs:** Moye Stephenson-Fairweather, Beverley Thomas, Jennifer Wilson

**Members:**

**Ann Bell  
Franklyn Burke  
Alanzo Donaldson  
Laura Hill  
Lunette Martin  
Enid McKenzie  
Rolando Robinson  
Errol Roper  
Yvonne Stephens  
Norma Thompson**

**JNA's Community Service & Development Committee:**

**Co-Chairs:** Rev. Delores McKoy, Moye Stephenson-Fairweather, Jennifer Wilson

**JNA's Communications & Outreach Committee:**

**This Committee has no chair. JNA has also not had a Public Relations Officers since 2019.**

**Gratitude to the following volunteers and the JNA contractor who assisted with the following:**

**Facebook Page:** Doreen Thompson, Esq.  
**Developing Flyers:** Doreen Thompson, Esq., Jennifer Asher, Robert Streete  
**E-Newsletters & Notices:** Jennifer Asher, Elaine Knight, PhD, Doreen Thompson, Esq.  
**Website & Final Flyers:** Clovis Fiango, Webmaster of Fiango Technologies

**JNA's Finance & Fundraising Committee:**

**Co-Chair:** Colin Boothe

**JNA's Membership Committee:**

**Chair:** Carol-Anne Boothe, FCCA, CPA, CGFM

**JNA's Nominations & Elections Committee:**

**Chair:** Robert Street (2022)

**Interim Chair:** Col. (Ret.) Dr. Jacqueline Payne-Borden (2023)

**Committee Members:** Dr. Franklin W. Knight, Ms. Janice Peterson, Mr. Richard Wilson, Esq. (Advisor)

**Special Thanks to:**

- JNA's Officers, including Past and Current Leadership
- JNA's Advisory Council Members
- JNA's Lifetime Members and
- JNA's Members

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DONORS

Many thanks to the JNA donors and contributors who graciously gave to JNA to facilitate its mission:

- [For JNA's 2023 Leadership Development Scholarships:](#)



## **SPONSORS:**

### **MARCUS GARVEY, Jamaica's National Hero**

GraceKennedy Foods  
GraceKennedy Money Service

### **PAUL BOGLE, Jamaica's National Hero**

Joel Henry/Robert Streete  
Elaine Knight, Ph.D.  
Mrs. Venice Mundle-Harvey  
Primary Care Physicians, LLC (Dr. Norman Smith)

### **SAMUEL SHARPE, Jamaica's National Hero**

Every Girl Can Learning Institute (Yasmin Anderson-Smith)  
Joshua Mitchell  
Jamaica Tourist Board  
JN Money Online  
Tashes Ankh Restaurant  
Ms. Jennifer Asher  
Col. (Ret.) Jacqueline Payne-Borden, Ph.D.

## **CONTRIBUTORS:**

Gabriel J. Christian & Associates

Jamaica Tourist Board

Ms. Diana Kelly

March Funeral Home

National Caribbean Foods & Foodways Alliance Doreen Thompson,  
Esq. (Honor parents, Randal & Viviana Thompson, Balaclava, St.  
Elizabeth)

Ms. Sherieka Duncan

Linden E. Walters Foundation

Richard Wilson, Esq.

+++

Bennett Abston

Dr. Kingsley Achikeh, DDS

Kevin Asher, DDS, FM

Mrs. Joan Beckford (Island Pride Restaurant)

Michael Blake

Enid Bogle, Ph.D.

[Honor Ruby Bogle Jackson (aunt) & Emily Williams Bogle (grandmother)]

Ms. Charmaine Cha-Camp

Ms. Margaret Chinn (Negril Eatery)

Ms. Marguerite Dennis

Joel Denton

Ms. Joy Dufour (Partners of Good Shepherd)

Ms. Camille Knight

Enid Knight, Ph.D.

Mrs. Lunette Martin

Rev. Delores McKoy

Rick Nugent (Jamaican Assoc. of Maryland)

Ms. Josae Pink

Ms. Marcia Plummer

Dr. Jacqueline Rhoden-Trader