Black History Month Special Edition — Founded in 1975, BDPA™ Nears its Golden Anniversary

bdpatoday®

FEBRUARY 2024

2024 BEYA STEM CONFERENCE

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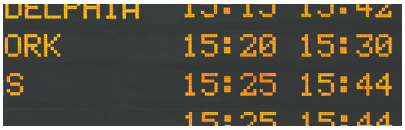

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OUR MISSION

To be the leading and most recognized organization in enabling digital leadership preparedness for aspiring diverse professionals

OUR VISION

To build a pipeline of diverse professionals and aspiring students in the STEM and digital technology fields

OUR BELIEFS

Our purpose is to serve and elevate students and young professionals of today for leadership tomorrow. That a talented and diverse group of people is the most creative and innovative workforce.

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ABOUT US

Founded in Philadelphia, PA in 1975, BDPA is the premier organization focused on nurturing and developing diverse working professionals and future IT leaders in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and all digital technology fields. For almost 50 years, BDPA has enabled the upward mobility of African-Americans and other minorities in the Information Technology (IT) and STEM fields.

WHAT WE OFFER

BDPA offers a wide range of opportunities including leadership development, our annual national conference, over 30 chapters in the US, various student programs, IT training and workshops, and much more.

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— BDPA photo

BDPA Launches 46th Annual Tech Conference in 2024 as BDPACON Returns to Atlanta

ATLANTA — BDPA looks forward to welcoming you and your organization to Atlanta, GA for its 46th Annual BDPA Technology Conference and Career Expo. These conferences are open to both students and professionals in STEM and all digital technology fields. The Association also invites those in emerging professions and industries that increasingly rely on data technology to enhance their work to join the annual convening, which is highly immersive and transformative

If you are a BDPA Member, contact the association at **helpdesk@bdpa.org** to receive special discount code(s) for BDPA Members.

To participate, speakers, presenters, panelists, BDPA Members, Student Members, and exhibitors visit: **conference.bdpa.org** to pre-register.

BDPACON24 will be held July 31st – August 3rd, 2024 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza in Atlanta, GA. Register today. Join BDPA this year during the 45th Annual BDPA Technology National Conference. **bt**

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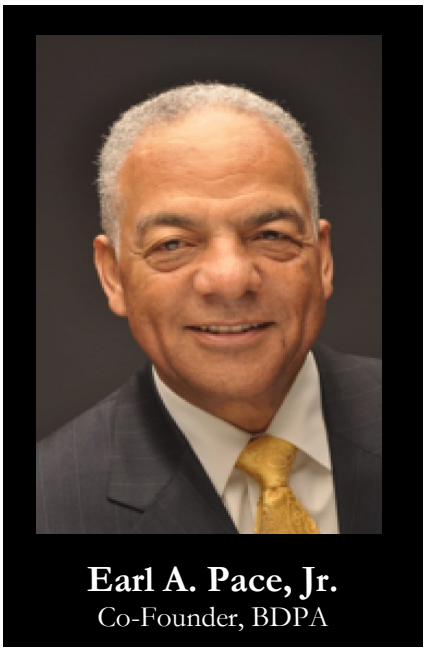
PHOTOGRAPHERS
Lynn Dunigan, Sr.
Charlie Perkins
Catherine Williamson

MULTIMEDIA + SOCIAL MEDIA CONTRIBUTORS
Vester Banner, III
Wayne Bertram
Evan Carter
Kyle Carter
Tenaiya King
Sharrarne Morton
Jerod Neal
Corey Parrish
Louis Shack

Largo, Maryland
February 1, 2024

Black History Month: *The BDPA Legacy* ™

Dear Members, Associates, and Partners:



Earl A. Pace, Jr.
Co-Founder, BDPA

As BDPA advances toward its 50-year milestone and Golden Anniversary next year, we invite you to take this opportunity to deeply reflect with us the great legacy that surrounds us. *Black History Month* is a reminder of challenges, successes, and greater responsibilities to honor our founders, inventors, and colleagues from all cultures.

During this reflective period, one cannot help to rediscover that our strength lies in our combined capabilities to continue developing talent for our industry and community. It is our fundamental belief that a highly skilled workforce is required not only for large and small business partners but also for schools and governments within every community we serve. To that end, our new skill sets must properly be maintained while forging greater career paths for our youth, returning citizens, and entry-level workforces.

To our senior data scientists, mid-level software engineers, entry-level professionals, and junior developers, let *Black History Month* ignite deeper conversations, spark collaborations, and inspire more breakthroughs. The very essence of progress is our continued immersion in the narratives of those who continue to pave the way. Every chapter in your book, "*The BDPA Story*", weaves a unique fabric of passages across our deeply rich heritage bridging close to five generations of leadership, entrepreneurship, and talent within our tech industry. The courage to deploy better solutions faster than ever before, to challenge algorithmic biases, and to amplify more voices from digitally divided communities, continues to fuel our innovative ambitions from our classrooms to your new boardrooms.

To our executives, mentors, and trailblazers, our Post-Quantum Era awaits your brilliance. Be the catalysts for change. Role models matter. Influence matters. Be not afraid to possess all of the wonders and force multipliers of transformation—but use them wisely throughout our new world order and beyond. As our co-founders, the late Earl A. Pace, Jr. and the late David Wimberly did almost half a century ago, continue to hold your torches very high just as the late Vivian Wilson, the late Ollie Morgan, the late Diane Davis, the late R. Wayne Hicks, the late Margaret "Midge" Jennings, the late R. Keith Harding, Norman Mays, Kenneth Wilson, and Dr. Jesse Bemley did this while illuminating more paths forward for those who follow.

With deep admiration and appreciation,

President, BDPA

#TheBDPAStory

A new business-technology paradigm shift was underway, shaking up the work place and forever changing how corporations large and small would operate. Corporate computer usage skyrocketed, demand for computer programmers, analysts, operators, and managers also skyrocketed. Inspired by these emerging societal opportunities in the mid 1970's, Earl A. Pace, Jr. and David Wimberly launched BDPA — Black Data Processing Associates — expanding new opportunities for African Americans to upskill far beyond data-entry positions. And this journey begins.







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BEYA returns to Baltimore in 2024: Dr. Ken Washington

2024 Black Engineer of the Year

Dr. Ken Washington of Medtronic Honored as the 38th BEYA Awardee

(Above) Dr. Ken Washington, Vice President of Research & Advanced Engineering at Ford Motor Company (right), talks with Perry Carter (left), Publisher, *bdpatoday,* after presenting keynote remarks during CES 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Dr. Washington shared his memories of attending BDPA events in Detroit.

(bdpatoday® archived photo © 2016 by Kyle Carter)

BALTIMORE (BDPA Baltimore)—After its launch 38 years ago in Baltimore, MD, the ***Black Engineer of the Year Awards (BEYA) Conference*** took place in Washington, D.C., for the first time in 2011. For the 2012 conference, Philadelphia, Pa. was the host city. The conference returned to the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in northwest D.C., in 2013. To mark 30 years of bringing together thousands of scientists, engineers, educators, and corporate leaders to ensure that the African-American community plays a leading role in global STEM competitiveness, BEYA was back in Philadelphia, Pa., in 2016, returning to D.C., and now Baltimore.

— Source: Career Communications Group (CCG)



ATLANTA (BDPA Atlanta) — Tech industries project new careers with tremendous growth will result from advances in artificial intelligence (Ai). According to the Consumer Technology Association (CTA), Ai holds enormous potential to improve our world, transforming how we communicate and do business.

BDPACON returns to Atlanta, GA for its 46th technology conference and career expo from July 31 through August 3, 2024. Ai, Data Science, and Cybersecurity are among leading career opportunities to be presented and discussed, along with soft skills, technical skills, and industry-specific skills. ***BDPACON24*** is open to the general public, professionals, and students in STEM and digital technology fields. **bt**

*— Source: BDPA (*bdpa.org*)*

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In 2011, Earl A. Pace, Jr. was inducted into the **IT Hall of Fame** as an innovator for co-founding BDPA, formerly known as ***Black Data Processing Associates***.

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bdpatoday photo © 2018

Norman Mays, founded BDPA of Greater Washington, D.C. (BDPA-DC) and BDPA Cleveland. His 40-year journey with ***Black Data Processing Associates*** (BDPA) began in 1975, when founders Mr. Earl A. Pace, Jr., and the late David Wimberley created BDPA's Philadelphia Chapter. He heard about the organization from Mr. Wilbur McReynolds, a mutual friend of **Earl A. Pace, Jr.**, BDPA's Co-Founder. At that time, Mays was a Captain in the U.S. Army, stationed at Ft. Meade, Maryland and assigned to the first official US Army organization dedicated to Computer Systems Security. After being invited as a speaker at one of the Philadelphia Chapter's monthly program meetings, and coming to understand the value of BDPA's mission statement, Mays joined BDPA in 1976, not realizing that he had begun one of the most rewarding experiences of his life. Norman Mays is shown above during BDPA-DC's ***40th Anniversary Gala*** with the Chapter's High School Coding Competition (**HSCC**) teams.

Commemorating Black History Month



BDPA photo

R. Wayne Hicks, Jr. served as the National President for BDPA in addition to multiple national and local BDPA Chapter roles.

For the last myriad of years Mr. Hicks served as Executive Director for BDPA's Education & Technology Foundation (BETF) and BDPA's National Director for Corporate Sales. Having leadership roles in BDPA's Cincinnati, Detroit, and Los Angeles Chapters, Mr. Hicks was known the world over as "**Mr. BDPA**."

Commemorating Black History Month



David L. Steward is an entrepreneur, civic leader, philanthropist and the founder and chairman of World Wide Technology (WWT), the largest I.T. Black-owned company in the United States. He is committed to expanding opportunities for the Black community and others from historically under-represented and underserved communities.

Mr. Steward is actively involved in organizations that work to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion for historically under-served or under-represented communities including, but not limited to National Urban League; Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Boy Scouts of America, Jackie Joyner-Kersee Foundation.

Mr. Steward also has supported many professional organizations with missions to grow and develop diverse talent within the information technology sector, including BDPA, HITEC, and ITSMF.

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Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO)
District of Columbia

As the Founder of District-based **Joint Educational Facilities**, **Dr. Jesse L. Bemley** launched BDPA's *National High School Computer Competition* (HSCC) Program as well as BDPA's National *I.T. Showcase Program*.

For over three decades, thousands of BDPA Student Members in the National Capital Region and across the United States have directly and indirectly benefited from Dr. Bemley's innovation and foresight across advanced computational topics rapidly evolving today — many have since received graduate and STEM degrees.

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Joint Educational Facilities



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© 1990 Marvin T. Jones & Associates for *I+Plus Magazine*/BDPA-DC

The Hewlett-Packard Company (HP) co-hosted an event for Joint Educational Facilities (JEF) and BDPA Student Members interested in HP's Unix (HP-UX) operating systems and artificial intelligence (Ai).

HP-UX was HP's proprietary implementation of the Unix operating system (OS), based on UNIX System V and first released in 1984.

In this historic 1990 photo, the three students (center) in this session later developed an Ai "***Model of a Black Teenager***" using Prolog while at JEF. They eventually received masters degrees and lead IT projects, today!

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BDPA Chicago © 1990

In the early 1990's, National BDPA's ***Chicago Chapter*** became the nation's largest and most influential BDPA Chapter by developing and nurturing corporate advisory councils (CACs) with leading I.T. employers and banks across the region. **BDPA Chicago** also published local and national newsletters with ads and CAC funding.

(Seated L-R) **Belinda Betts**, **Sheila McCaskill**, **Debra Rice**, **Wanda Brown**, and **Dee Jones**. (Standing L-R) **Jeff Jordan** and the late **Ollie Morgan**, Chapter President and publisher.

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#HOPEProjectIsBlackHistory

— Raymond Bell, Jr.
Founder, H.O.P.E. Project DMV

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bdpatoday photo © 2009

In 2009, National BDPA received $50,000 from **Oracle** launching ***BDPA's Oracle Scholars Program*** for qualified BDPA Student Members.

Each year, student finalists from local BDPA Chapters apply for scholarships to advance college education or vocational training.

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BDPA photo © 2009

The **Honorable BJ Penn** assumed responsibilities as Acting Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) on March 13, 2009. He was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment) on March 1, 2005. On August 8, 2009, Mr. Penn was the highest ranking federal official in the United States to attend a National BDPA Technology Conference. He was on deck to present a Navy Scholarship to Ms. Raven Stevenson, one of **National BDPA's High School Coding Competition** (HSCC) finalists in Raleigh, NC.

Pictured (L-R) is **Ms. Denise Holland**, President NBDPA; the Honorable **B. J. Penn**, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (ASN); Lieutenant **Dennis Holmes**, US Navy; and Vice Admiral **Harry Harris**, Jr., US Navy.

Commemorating Black History Month



Alabama's latest BDPA Chapter was founded in 2013. ***BDPA's Hunstville Chapter*** was co-founded by Dr. Marvin Carroll, Mirie Westbrook, and Perry Carter.

National BDPA NEC Members **Teresa Williams**, Regional Vice President, BDPA South (second from the left), and **Curtis Jenkins**, Vice President, Member Management (third from the left), are shown presenting the Charter to Mr. Westbrook.

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Photo © 2009 BDPA Triangle Chapter

Ensign **Raven Stevenson** becomes National BDPA's first High School Computer Competition (HSCC) alumna to receive a Commission in the United States Navy and U.S. Armed Forces. Her "First Salute" was captured live during Naval ROTC Commissioning ceremonies for the Class of 2013 at Duke University. Ensign Stevenson received a full Naval ROTC Scholarship during National BDPA's 2009 Technology Conference and HSCC Scholarship round.

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Photo credits: ***Black Girls Code***



Kimberly Bryant is Founder and Executive Director of **Black Girls CODE**, a non-profit organization dedicated to "*changing the face of technology*" by introducing girls of color (ages 7-17) to new fields of technology and computer sciences with a concentration on entrepreneurial concepts. Ms. Bryant founded Black Girls CODE in 2011 and was honored by the White House during 2013's Technology Inclusion "Champions of Change" event.

Commemorating Black History Month



White House photo

Dr. Juan E. Gilbert, a Lifetime BDPA Member, receives a National Medal of Technology and Innovation from President Biden in 2023. Dr. Gilbert is a human-centered computing expert and associate chair of research under the Preeminence Initiative at the University of Florida. Dr. Gilbert is chair of the University of Florida's Department of Computer & Information Science and Engineering (CISE) and has many inventions to his and his lab's credit. Dr. Gilbert gained recognition when the electronic voting interface he created became a new standard for universal accessibility in elections after successful applications in Oregon, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin. A lifetime BDPA Member, Dr. Gilbert earned a Ph.D. in **Computer Science** from the University of Cincinnati, one of the youngest African Americans to do so.

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Photo credit: LISNR

LISNR® is one of the world's most advanced ultrasonic data platforms. No WiFi. No wires. **LISNR** is one of CNBC's ***#Disruptor50*** firms and recent winner of several ***CES Innovation Awards***.

Co-Founded by **Rodney Williams** (right), LISNR is an Industry leader in ***Data-Over-Audio***. LISNR uses sound to evolve across emerging ***Internet of Things*** (IoT) and **5G** markets. Mr. Williams has an MBA from Howard University and is a Member of National BDPA's Cincinnati Chapter.

Commemorating Black History Month



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For several decades, National BDPA's local chapters have established unique relationships with corporate sponsors and mission partner employee resource groups (ERGs).

AT&T's ERG and **Interns** are shown in this iconic photo during an annual ***TECH and Media Reception*** co-hosted by **SiriusXM Satellite Radio** and **BDPA-DC** in 2016.

The **#TECHandMEDIA** hash-tag was adopted by local **NABJ** (WABJ-DC) and **NBDPA** (BDPA-DC) chapters to commemorate the convergence of "Tech and Media."

Commemorating Black History Month



Each year, BDPA members travel to Austin, Texas to attend the annual ***South by Southwest***® (SXSW) Conference and Festival.

Participating in 2013's ***Stomp the Divide*** panel at SXSW is: (L-R) **Navarrow Wright** (Interactive One), Ayori Se (Salesforce), **Chris Bennet** (Black Founders and Soldsie), **Christine Celise Johnson** (DiversiTech), **Cleavon Blair** (Blosme) and **Greg Greenlee**, founder of ***Blacks in Technology***.

Commemorating Black History Month





Dr. Margaret Wood is the Founder and CEO of WOOD Consulting Services, Inc. Dr. Wood launched her career as an Intern with the National Security Agency (NSA). Today, her firm manages a multi-million dollar prime contract for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and multi-million dollar portfolios for Defense and the Intelligence Community. Dr. Wood is an alumna of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and recepient of BDPA-DC's Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2017.



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Ms. Tenaiya King (left), was a North Carolina A&T State University Multimedia Journalism Intern and BDPA Student Member. An Air Force JROTC alumna, she was one of BDPA's first Interns on assignment in Dayton, OH with Ms. Anissa Lumpkin (right), a Tennessee State University alumna and Lead Program Manager for the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), Air Force Small Business Office. Her team co-hosts Air Force HBCU/MSI Outreach Initiative Colliders with National BDPA.

— Source: ***bdpatoday***

National High School Computer, Coding, and Cyber Competitions

Est. 1975



BDPA photo by Charlie Perkins

National BDPA's **High School Computer Competition** (HSCC) hit 2001, the first century of our 3rd millennium, with reckless abandon. Over 25 teams from participating BDPA Chapter cities fielded teams for annual national scholarship rounds.

Powered by **IBM**, **Mayo Clinic**, and **Rochester Public Schools**, National BDPA's ***Southern Minnesota HSCC Team*** (above) became the most diverse set of "top coders" and #JrDevs in the nation amassing more world HSCC Championships than all other BDPA Chapters combined. They closed out 2K's first decade with four consecutive HSCC Championships by 2010 and one more in 2011 — five championships in a row.

The bar is raised each year for every HSCC team heading to #BDPACON, National BDPA's annual technology conference.

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Photographs: ***digitalundivided*** and ***BIG Accelerator***



Kathryn Finney is one of the most influential women in tech and is recipient of numerous awards, including the *White House Champion of Change* and *Echoing Green Fellowship*. Ms. Finney, a second-generation BDPA alumna, was Founder and CEO of ***digitalundivided*** and daughter of the late Robert Finney, Past President of National BDPA's Twin Cities Chapter in Minnesota. Ms. Finney also was a Student Member of BDPA's Twin Cities' team. She is the founder and Board Chair of ***The Doonie Fund*** and founder of the ***Genius Guild.***

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In 1999, a young high school student from Waldorf, Maryland was enrolled in her local BDPA Chapter's high school coding competition (HSSC).

After earning a degree from Stanford University and recieving her MBA from MIT, **Stephanie VanPutten** launches ***Blendoor*** in 2015, a Silicon Valley start-up.

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Students participate in a weekend industry day and inner-city open house at the Joint Educational Facilities (JEF) training center in Washington, D.C. **Dr. Jesse Bemley**, BDPA DC and JEF Executive Director co-hosted a High Performance Computing (HPC) primer with **Dr. Paul Gray**, University of Northern Iowa, (shown above) for area youth, October 15, 2006.

"**Little Fe**", as opposed to " Big 'Iron' ", is a portable HPC computational cluster for educational use developed by Dr. Gray's team.

Commemorating Black History Month



Perry Carter joined BDPA in 1983 as co-founder of Temple University's BDPA Student Chapter. Upon graduation and completion of Naval ROTC, Carter served as a Data Systems officer in the United States Marine Corps. He served as the Public Affairs Officer for the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) and founding publisher of ***NNOA Meridian***, BDPA's ***I+Plus Magazine***, and ***bdpatoday***. In 1990, Carter Chaired National BDPA's annual Technology Conference and Career Expo in Washington, D.C. In 1996, Carter led BDPA's transition to the Internet as the organization's first Web Master successfully launching *BDPA.org* with **Silicon Graphics**, **HP**, and **U.S. Black Online** during BDPA's annual Technology Conference in Atlanta.

Commemorating Black History Month



photo credits: ITSMF, NSBE, and Per Scholas

The **Information Technology Senior Management Forum** (ITSMF), formed in 1996, began with conversations between prominent technology executives who found that only 3% percent of information technology management roles were being held by Black professionals. Studies suggested that not enough Black professionals were positioned for senior-level technology positions nor projected across BDPA's pipeline and tech industry executive staffing models.

This discussion sparked those executives to action as they were compelled to reach, teach and cultivate those aspiring technology professionals. Under the leadership of Carl Williams, the 501c(3) organization was founded in Chicago, Illinois and began the work of recruiting those Black professionals who ranked among the "*Who's Who*" in technology; as well as those companies and individuals looking to support the mission of the organization.

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Aaron Saunders (right), Chief Executive Officer of ***Clearly Innovative, Inc.*** received BDPA-DC's **2016 Entrepreneur of the Year Award**. Mr. Saunders successfully led an app development team deploying mobile applications for the new ***National Museum of African American History and Culture***.

The Honorable Muriel Bowser (above), Mayor of the District of Columbia, joined community tech leaders, executives from the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), Howard University deans, and Mr. Saunders during the 2017 grand opening of **In3**. ***Inclusive Innovation Incubator*** (In3), founded by Mr. Saunders, is the District of Columbia's first community space focused on inclusion and innovation where under-resourced members have access to the space and services needed to launch, build, and grow very successful businesses. Mr. Saunders is a Member of BDPA's DC Chapter.

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Commemorating Black History Month



More than two-dozen engineers and scientists received National awards and recognition during 20th anniversary *Black Engineer of the Year Awards* (**BEYA**) celebrations at the Baltimore Convention Center. **Dr. Marvin P. Carroll**, a Howard University graduate and President of Huntsville, Alabama-based ***Tec-Masters, Inc.***, was honored as one of BEYA's 2006 Entrepreneurs of the Year. Dr. Carroll (left), co-founder of **Huntsville's BDPA Chapter**, stands with General Benjamin S. Griffin, Army Materiel Command.

Commemorating Black History Month



U.S. Army photo



Lieutenant General Robert S. Ferrell became the U.S. Army's CIO/G-6 on December 23, 2013. As Chief Information Officer, General Ferrell reported directly to the Secretary of the Army, setting strategic direction and objectives with a $10 billion budget for the Army network and supervised all Army C4 (command, control, communications, and computers) and IT functions. In 2017, General Ferrell received National BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter Lifetime Achievement Award during an annual awards gala at Bowie State University. (L-R) PTTC Director, Mr. Thurman Jones; Mr. Robert Ferrell, Vice President, Public Sector Strategy for Worldwide Technology; and Dr. Daryl Stone, Assistant Professor and P.I., Bowie State Univerdsity.

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Lieutenant General Alonzo E. Short, Jr. , U.S. Army (*seated to the right of the lectern*) was BDPA's Keynote Speaker during during the annual National BDPA Technology Conference in 1990. General Short, an HBCU alumnus and distinguished graduate of Virginia State University, was stationed in Fort Huachuca, Arizona where he was Commanding General from 1990 to 1991 of the U.S. Army Information Systems Command.

The Defense Communications Agency (DCA) was renamed in 1991 to the ***Defense Information Systems Agency*** (DISA) to reflect its newly expanded role as a combat support agency. General Short served as DISA's Director from August 1991 to July of 1994 where he retired in Arlington, Virginia.



Commemorating Black History Month



U.S. Navy photo | 31 July 2010

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) **Admiral Gary Roughead** greets high school Jr. Devs from the New York Chapter of the National Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA).

During the awards gala in Philadelphia. Admiral Roughead received **National BDPA's Lifetime Achievement Award** for his personal dedication to outreach and leadership. The Admiral became the first Service Chief in BDPA's history to attend BDPA's annual National Technology Conference.

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General Ronnie Hawkins, US Air Force; Dr. Caesar, Jackson, NSF; and Admiral Cecil Haney, U.S. Navy during BDPA Awards Banquet at DC Navy Yard. © 2010 ***bdpatoday***



Lt. Gen. Ronnie D. Hawkins, Jr., U.S. Air Force (Retired) was the Director, Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) and Commander, Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ) – Department of Defense Information Networks (DODIN), Fort Meade, Maryland. He led a global organization of military and civilian personnel who plan, d evelop, deliver, and operate joint, interoperable, command and control capabilities and a global enterprise infrastructure in direct support of the President, Secretary of Defense, and other mission partners across a full spectrum of operations. In 2010, General Hawkins was BDPA-DC's annual Community Awards Banquet keynote presenter.

Commemorating Black History Month



General **Kevin Nally**, USMC (left), Director for C4, Deputy Commanding General for MARFORCYBER and the DCIO for the United States Marine Corps, presents Lieutenant Colonel **Joseph H. Carpenter**, US Marine Corps (Retired) National BDPA's *Lifetime Achievement Award* during the 2012 National BDPA Technology Conference. Lt. Col. Carpenter is a Montford Point Marine and is the Marine Corps' first African American Data Systems officer.

Commemorating Black History Month



BDPA-DC photographs © 2008 bdpatoday



Marines from the ***National Naval Officers Association*** (NNOA) assigned to the Marine Corps Systems Command in Quantico, VA served as judges during NBDPA's Regional **High School Computer Competition** (HSCC) and coding events at Bowie State University in June of 2008. Students from Hartford, CT (above), Baltimore, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, DC vie for scholarships and internships during annual BDPACON events.

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The United States Coast Guard officially opened their new headquarters on 29 July 2013 in Southeast Washington, D.C. near the Anacostia River. CGHQ units relocated to their new building which later was renamed the Douglas A. Munro Coast Guard Headquarters Building.

Vice Admiral Manson Brown (above) , Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, discusses his four mission areas which include Human Resources Engineering and Logistics, IT, and acquisitions. He is shown here sharing new leadership opportunities within the Coast Guard with National BDPA's Washington, D.C. student members and coding teams on a special tour. VADM Brown retired in 2014 as the Coast Guard's top-ranking black officer.

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USCG photo | May 6, 2015

Lucinda Cunningham is recognized as the first African American female to be promoted to *Captain* in the United States Coast Guard during a promotion ceremony. The United States Coast Guard was the ***2014 Federal Sponsor of the Year*** for National BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter. While assigned to Coast Guard Cyber Command, Captain Cunningham accepted BDPA's award on behalf of the United States Coast Guard at an awards gala hosted by Bowie State University.

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BDPA's Annual Earth Day Tech Summits

The *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* (NOAA) is an American scientific agency within the United States Department of Commerce that focuses on the conditions of the oceans, major waterways, and the atmosphere. Above, NOAA Meteorologist **Dr. DaNa Carlis**, a Howard University alumnus, delivers geospatial tech and satellitte presentations during National BDPA's inaugural **Earth Day Tech Summit** in Washington, D.C. in In3's Incubator near Howard University.

#CyberEarth17

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BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter was selected as one of ***Best Buy Children Foundation's*** grant recipients in 2011 for community outreach and STEM programs.

BDPA Student members participate in coding competitions, application development, and graphic design programs offered by participating local BDPA Chapters.

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***Black Engineer of the Year Awards* (BEYA)**

Dr. Tyrone Taborn, President, Career Communications Group (CCG), and BEYA with **Ms. Monique Berry**, President-Elect, National BDPA; and **Mario Armstrong**, Digital Lifestyle Expert, TV Host and Emmy Award Winning Media Personality during BEYA 2009. BDPA's Baltimore Chapter was BEYA's Host BDPA Chapter.

Annual BEYA Conferences create connections between students, educators, and STEM professionals while facilitating partnerships with local STEM resources.

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October 8, 2011 ©bdpatoday

Carlos Buskey (right) was a college student working at a hotel in Richmond, Virginia when he was discovered by Annette Yates (center), the Host Chapter's President. BDPA Richmond was hosting a Regional BDPA Technology Conference when Buskey mentioned his interests and work in computer sciences to Ms. Yates. Today, **Dr. Carlos Buskey** is a Professor at Howard University's School of Business. He received degrees from Virginia State University and Bowie State University. These HBCUs have long-term and distinguished relationships with BDPA and BDPA Chapters. In this historic photo, Dr. Buskey is shown with Ruffin Bell (Chapter Co-Founder) and Ms. Yates where he was the Keynote Presenter durng the Chapter's 20th Anniversary.

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BDPA photo © 2006

BDPA 's Cleveland Chapter wins the 2006 ***Tubbs-Jones Economic Impact Award*** from the Consortium of African American Organizations (**CAAO**).

Willard (Will) Brown accepts BDPA's award on behalf of Cleveland's Host BDPA Chapter.

This special award originally was presented by the late Congresswoman **Stephanie Tubbs-Jones** (D-Ohio, 11th District).

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Gloria Parker served on the Obama-Biden Transition team in 2008 – 2009 as the co-team lead on National Archives and Government Printing Office (GPO) Agency Review Teams. She also served on the TIGR (technology) team for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as well as the U.S. Department of Education.

In addition to the task of understanding the status of tech initiatives in these agencies, Ms. Parker was responsible for understanding the need for open government in each Federal agency.

Ms. Parker is shown with Keith Scott, BDPA-DC, during a BEYA reception in Washington. A Hampton University alum, Ms. Parker is one of the first African American CIOs to lead federal agency technology deployments.

bdpatoday photo © 2019

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Johns Hopkins University, Whiting School of Engineering

Dr. Percy Anthony Pierre is an electrical engineer recognized as the first African-American Ph.D. in electrical engineering, the first African-American appointed assistant secretary of the U.S. Army for Research and Development, and the first African-American appointed acting Secretary of the Army.

Dr. Pierre was a principal architect of the national minority engineering effort. He served as vice president emeritus and professor of electrical and computer engineering at Michigan State University.

Source: ***Changing the Face of Engineering: The African American Experience***

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Photo © 1995 BDPA

The ***Million Man March*** was a gathering of African-American men in Washington, D.C., on **October 16, 1995**. The march was held on the National Mall.

Organized by leading groups of civil rights activists and the *Nation of Islam* working with civil rights organizations, the The *National African American Leadership Summit*, founded by Dr. Benjamin Chavis,Jr., formed the *Million Man March Organizing Committee*.

National BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter was the March's Host Chapter for participating BDPA Members. (L-R) *Michael Harvey*, BDPA-DC's Chapter President, with *Jimm Middleton* (Membership) and *Perry Carter* (Communications) on committees.

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National BDPA's ***Information Technology (IT) Showcase*** allows student presenters from educational institutions across the United States to present and demonstrate their research. All presentations represent advanced computing and technical topics presented by college and high school students to an audience of corporate representatives. IT professionals and students participate in this 2-day event held annually during National **#BDPACON** events.

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© 2006 BDPATV



You've probably seen **Mario Armstrong** on TV as a two time ***Emmy Award–winning*** talk show host and Digital Lifestyle Expert® or as a regular contributor on NBC's TODAY Show, CNN, and NPR. Or maybe even on Inside Edition, Dr. Oz, Steve Harvey, or Rachael Ray.

Mr. Armstrong is host of the Emmy winning ***Never Settle Show***, the world's first crowd-produced, livestreamed talkshow with live participation from in-studio and online audiences. Mr. Armstrong is shown above interviewing **Denise Hebner**, Head of Diversity and Inclusion Americas for UBS on **BDPA-TV**, during BDPA's 2008 Conference.

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Sharrarne Morton (center) of ***Morton Media*** is one of BDPA's cofounders of **Popular Technology TV** (PTTV) and Executive Producer of special programming.

A radio and television host and local personality in the Greater Washington, D.C. area, Ms. Morton provided unprecedented access to media outlets never before offered to the technology industry nor underserved communities. She also serves as BDPA's EmCee.

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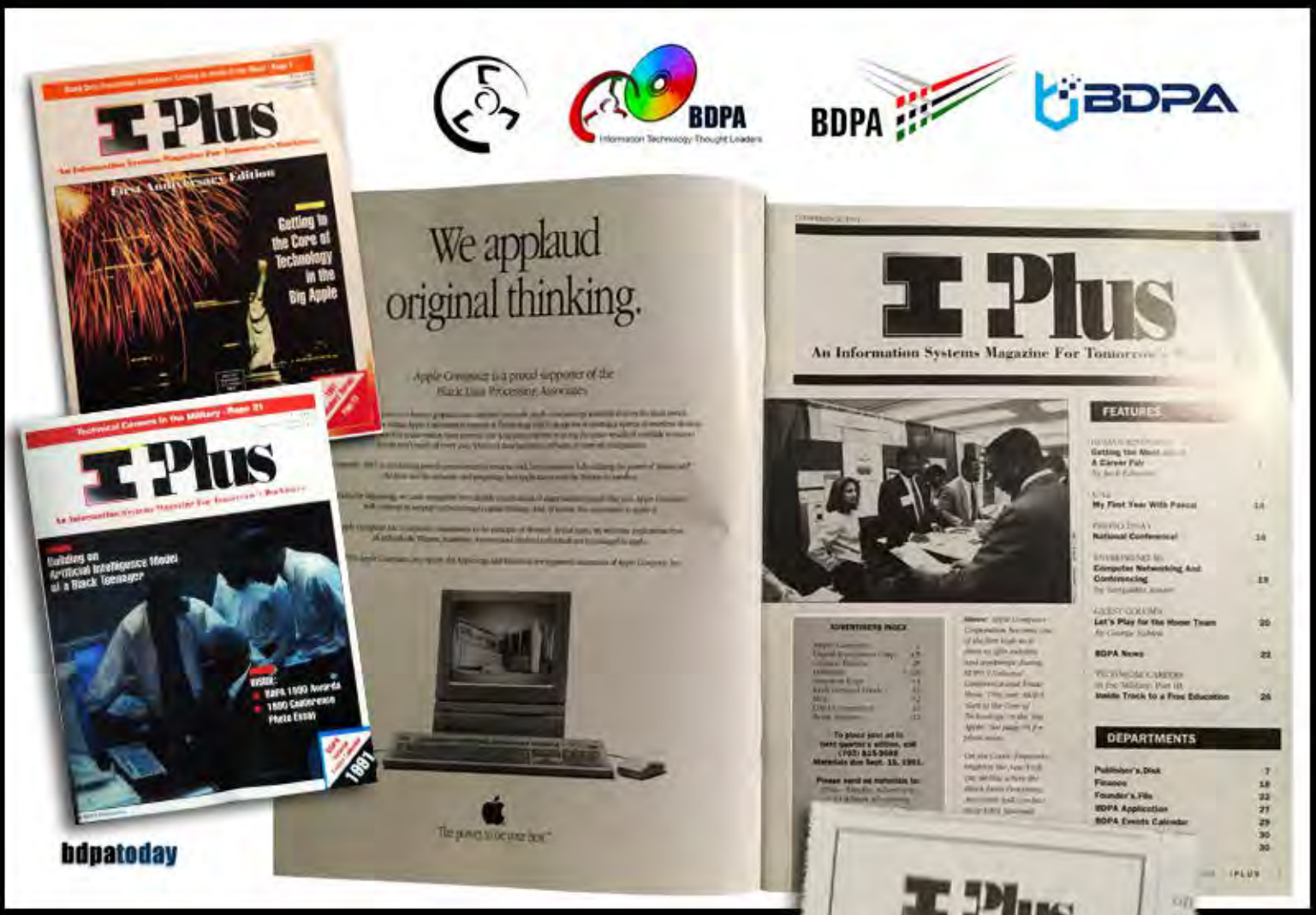
Black Data Processing Associates

Common professional ties also brought Temple students together. One of many professional or majors' groups, the Black Data Processing Associates was established to accumulate data processing knowledge and expertise and to pass on that knowledge and expertise to other data processing students.

Front Row: James R. Norris, Perry W. Carter, Michael Brower. *Second Row:* George Anderson, David Blue, Dawna Jones, Juan Jose Noyles. *Back Row:* Sidney Mitchell, Janice M. Turner, Dwayne V. Lewis, LeVon Foreman Jr.

One of National BDPA's first student chapters was launched in 1983 at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. The chapter was co-founded by the late **Juan Noyles** and **Perry Carter** to gather data processing knowledge and career information to share with new BDPA Student Members.

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One of National BDPA's first publications was ***I+Plus Magazine***. Apple Computer, Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC), U. S. Navy, Hallmark Cards, Perot Systems, Kraft General Foods, and GE Information Services were among the larger advertising accounts and featured career articles. In 1996, when BDPA launched its first web page during the National Technology Conference, last editions of I+Plus signified our new world order — the ***Internet.***



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For 40 years, BDPA has enabled the upward mobility of African Americans and other minorities in the Information Technology (IT) and STEM fields. Through its 40+ local community chapters in major cities across the United States, BDPA has been at the forefront of promoting the minority agenda within the IT profession since 1975. BDPA has been a leader and pioneer in technology and STEM training for IT professionals and High School students since 1986.

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- Obtain exposure to technical and professional topics through program meetings, seminars and workshops
- Participate in certification support groups
- Discounts on IT certifications and training courses

bdpatoday PTTV

In Memoriam

Lieutenant General Vincent R. Stewart

Former Deputy Commander, U.S. Cyber Command

May 11, 1958 - April 28, 2023



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

DoD/USMC photos and graphics

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