Association of Black Women Physicians presents

37th Annual Charity and Hope Luncheon Scholarship Benefit

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2018
FOUR SEASONS HOTEL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
UCLA Health

and the

David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Applaud

The Honorable Holly Mitchell
California State Senator
Humanitarian of the Year

and

Dr. Patrice Harris, MD, MA
President Elect of the American Medical Association
Lifetime Achievement Award

Your commitment to improve public health and welfare by advancing knowledge and community outreach inspires us.
HONORING

HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD
The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell
California State Senator, 30th District

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Patrice A. Harris, M.D. M.A.
President-Elect, American Medical Association

2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS
Varina Clark
Amanda Dupre
Lauren Gibbs
Etuajie Halbert
Allison Leggett
Denise McIntyre
Zesemayat Mekonnen
Maureen Nwaokoro
Ozioma Obiwuru
Shannon Sullivan
Charnise Taylor
Alexandria Thomas

FEATURED SCHOLARSHIPS
Anna L. Smith, MD Award
Beverly James, MD Memorial Award
Carmen Parrot, MD Memorial Award
Charles R. Drew Medical Society Scholarship Award
Vena Ricketts, MD/ABWP Community Scholarship Award
Rebecca Lee Davis Crumpler, MD Awards

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2018
FOUR SEASONS HOTEL LOS ANGELES
AT BEVERLY HILLS
Los Angeles, California
Be ready to Give through Mobile Cause today

Text a pledge of any amount!

1. Text ABWP to 41444

2. In your message:
   ABWP space Amount space Your Name
   Example: ABWP 100 John Smith

3. Press send

Accepting all major credit cards

Also join us on Social Media!

Facebook: BlackFemaleDoctors
Twitter: ABWP_Drs

Use #ABWP37thGala

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LUNCHEON
Program

Association of Black Women Physicians
37th Annual Charity and Scholarship Benefit

Master of Ceremonies
Thomas Cunningham IV

Welcome and Introduction
Vocal Selection – “I am Elijah”
Jennifer Tapia

Invocation

Lunch

President’s Remarks & Sponsor Acknowledgements
Final Silent Auction Bidding & Closeout
Scholarship Awards Presentation
Student Testimonial
Mobile Fundraising

Humanitarian of the Year Award Presentation
The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell
Senator, Representing California’s 30th Senate District

Lifetime Achievement Award Presentation
Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA
President-Elect, American Medical Association

Acknowledgments
Silent Auction Winners Announced
Congratulations

Association of Black Women Physicians
2018 Scholarship Recipients & Awardees

Special Commendations

President Ana Lopes Johnson, M.D.
and the ABWP Executive Board

With pride and support
of your extraordinary services to
humanity through ABWP

Jessie L. Sherrod, MD, MPH, FAAP HMS '75
Founding President, Association of Black Women Physicians
Co-Founder, Acts of Faith: Sherrod Foundation
City National
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE
Association of
Black Women Physicians
OUR HISTORY

The Association of Black Women Physicians (ABWP) was founded in 1982. Almost 50 African-American women physicians met to share their experiences and to discuss career development at the first meeting held in the recreation room of Dr. Jessie Sherrod’s home. The need for such an organization was abundantly clear, and the founders of our organization were women who passionately worked together for the organization. Over the course of a few months, members adopted the official name, transformed their goals into a mission statement, established Bylaws and began actively engaging in organized community service programs and philanthropic endeavors.

Over the past 37 years, ABWP has grown to represent African-American women physicians, medical students and undergraduate students throughout California, the United States and the Caribbean. Focused primarily in Southern California, the nonprofit organization has made an impact in local communities through health literacy programs, community outreach activities, mentoring and scholarship awards. All of our programs and services facilitate fulfillment of our mission:

“The Association of Black Women Physicians is an organized network of African-American women physicians committed to the improvement of public health and welfare, through the advancement of knowledge concerning women and community health.”

- Health Fairs with Community and Faith-Based Organizations
- Black Women Lawyers Los Angeles Joint Symposiums
- Breast Cancer Awareness and Education Sessions
- Network of Ethnic Physician Organizations for the California Medical Association Foundation, Member
- Health and Wellness Advocacy

“We also serve as a philanthropic source of funds to projects related to the health concerns of traditionally underserved communities.”

- Annual Charity and Scholarship Benefit Gala
- Annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive

“We endeavor to enhance the personal and professional quality of life of present and future African-American women physicians.”

- General Membership Meetings
- Sister 2 Sister Mentorship Program
- Practice Point Communications CME

“The Association of Black Women Physicians is an organized network of African-American women physicians committed to the improvement of public health and welfare, through the advancement of knowledge concerning women and community health. We also serve as a philanthropic source of funds to projects related to the health concerns of traditionally underserved communities. We endeavor to enhance the personal and professional quality of life of present and future African-American women physicians.”
I am both humbled and excited to welcome our honored guests, supportive sponsors and cherished members. This collective has come to be a source of strength to ABWP as we support our important mission within the amazing communities which we serve.

On this Veteran's day, ABWP brings a message of Hope. There have been many events this year that empower and motivate us to continue our community service efforts. We are still healing from the loss of our Charter Member and past ABWP award recipient, Dr. Carole Jordan Harris. Our event time was chosen by Dr. Jordan Harris. She dedicated innumerable hours of volunteer services and financial contributions to our organization. Our angel will always shine her light on ABWP's work.

Today, we celebrate Senator Holly Mitchell, Humanitarian of the Year, and Dr. Patrice Harris, President-Elect of the American Medical Association, our Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. They embody the inspirational leadership required to pave the way for better healthcare. We also have exceptional students receiving scholarships today. These students will become our future healthcare champions.

We all play a pivotal part in ABWP's success in providing free wellness education, supporting physicians in training and improving public health. Take advantage of the networking opportunities this event presents and realize the impact of everyone's participation in improving healthcare and eliminating health disparities.

Our 37th Annual Scholarship and Charity Benefit is made possible by our sponsors, our members, our families and you.

Thank you,

Ana Sofia Lopes Johnson
Ana Sofia Lopes Johnson, MD
President
CHARTER/FOUNDING MEMBERS

Augua Andrews, MD
Phyllis M. Barracks, MD
Geraldine Branch, MD, MPH*
Lola Burnett-Brown, MD
Lettie Burgette, MD
Vanessa Castine, MD
Michelle Clark, MD
Dorlesta Crawford, MD
Elizabeth J. Covington, MD
Flora Denise Cox, MD
Eugenia Davis, MD
Joann Dawson, MD
Margo Deleaver-Russell, MD
Paula Demerius, MD*
Elea D. English, MD
Hughenna Gauntlett, MD*
Ellen Goudlock, MD
Lolita Gonzalez, MD
Wendy L. Green, MD, MBA
Terry Hope, MD
Josephine Isabel-Jones, MD
Adelene James, MD
Rose Jenkins, MD*
Carole Jordan-Harris MD, MS*
Marguerite Lewie, MD
Arkie Logan, MD
Mary McCoo, MD*
Evelyn Mendez, MD
Anitha Mitchell, MD
Carolyn Mohr, MD
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Debra Nelson, MD
Pamela Perry-Hunter, MD
Shirletta Richards-Nijie, MD*
Denise Ridley-Davis, MD
Vonnie K. Ross, MD
Jessie L. Sherrod, MD, MPH
Anne Staveren, MD
V. Joy Simmons, MD
Jacqueline Stiff, MD
Sylvia Swilley, MD
Mary Taylor, MD
Ruth Temple, MD*
Gwendolyn Todd-Jones, MD
Judith Watson, MD
Lillie Mae Williams, MD, MS
Rebecca Wills, MD
Vivian Woodard, MD
Margaret Yarborough, MD

*DECEASED
HOPE Luncheon

FOUNDING OFFICERS

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President

Lolita Gonzalez, MD
Corresponding Secretary

Adelene James, MD
Recording Secretary

Denise Ridley, MD
Financial Secretary

Rose Jenkins, MD *
Treasurer

FOUNDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Executive

Vonnie K. Ross, MD
Bylaws/Social

Wendy Green, MD, MBA
Membership

Denise Ridley, MD
Finance

Augua Andrews, MD
Program

Carole Jordan-Harris, MD, MS *
Public Relations

*DECEASED
LIFETIME MEMBERS

Nicole Alexander MD MA
Claudia Alleyne, MD
Patricia Bath, MD
Regina Benjamin, MD
Jasmine Bowers, MD
Jacqueline Bowles, MD
Denise Braithwaite, MD
Geraldine Branch, MD, MPH *
Letitia Bridges, MD, MBA
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C. Freeman, MD, MBA
Michele Yvonne Freeman, MD
Marcia Glenn, MD
Lynn Goodloe, MD
Michele Green, MD
Wendy Lynn Green, MD, MBA
Kimberly Diane Gregory, MD, MPH
La Tanya Hines, MD
Judy Hunter-Davis, MD
M. Deborah Hyde, MD
Josephine-Isabel Jones, MD
Marion Johnson, MD
Carole Jordan-Harris, MD, MS *

Paula Joubert-Green, MD
Juanita Kagwa-Nyauzi, MD
R. Marquerite Lewie, MD
Kim Lipscomb, MD
Karen Maples, MD
Christina McAlpin, MD
Anitha Mitchell, MD
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Othella Owens, MD
Vivian Pinn, MD
Willye Butcher Powell, MD
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Karen Ragland Cole, MD, MPH, MBA
Denise Ridley-Davis, MD
Sherril Rieux MD
Paula Rodgers, MD
Vonnie Ross, MD
Natalie Sanders, MD, MPH, MBA
Jessie L. Sherrod MD, MPH
V. Joy Simmons, MD
Anna Smith, MD *
Germaine Smothers, MD
Anne Staveren, MD
Sylvia S. Swilley, MD
Mary Taylor, MD
Monica Thornhill-Joynes, MD
Carolyn Towler, MD
Valencia P. Walker, MD, MPH
Lillie Mae Williams, MD
Antronette Yancey, MD, MPH *

*DECEASED
2018

PHYSICIAN MEMBERS

Sonya Brown MD
Resan Caivano, MD
Ingrid Dombrower, MD
NaNotchka M. Chumley, DO, MPH
Karen Fleming, MD
Jametria Howard-Jones, MD
Monique King, MD
Naomi Lawrence, MD
Ana Lopes Johnson, MD
Tiffany Morton, MD
Gifty-Maria Ntim, MD MPH
Ashely Prosper, MD
Eloise Skelton, MD
Rachel White-Younkins, MD
# 2017-2018 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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<td>President</td>
<td>Ana Lopes Johnson, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Sylvia Gates Carlisle, MD, MBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Roberta Doucet, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corresponding Secretary</td>
<td>Ebony King, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>NaNotchka M. Chumley, DO, MPH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Representative</td>
<td>Sherril Rieux, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members-at-Large</td>
<td>Rachel White, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
<td>Valencia P. Walker, MD, MPH</td>
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# 2017-2018 STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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<td>Sylvia Gates Carlisle, MD, MBA</td>
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<td>Rachel White, MD</td>
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<td>Finance &amp; Mentorship</td>
<td>La Tanya Hines, MD</td>
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<td>Scholarship/Sister 2 Sister</td>
<td>Sara V. Smith, MD</td>
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<td>Communications</td>
<td>Renee Poole, MD, MMM</td>
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<td>Charity Benefit</td>
<td>Ana Lopes Johnson, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Service</td>
<td>Carol Jordan-Harris, MD, MS *</td>
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*DECEASED
2018 SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE

La Tanya Hines, MD
CHAIRPERSON

NaNotchka M. Chumley, DO, MPH
Valencia Walker, MD, MPH
Renee Poole, MD, MMM
Sylvia Gates Carlisle, MD, MBA

2018 CHARITY BENEFIT COMMITTEE

Ana Sofia Lopes Johnson, MD
CHAIRPERSON

NaNotchka Chumley, DO, MPH
La Tanya Hines, MD
Renee Poole, MD, MMM
Sherril Rieux, MD
Valencia Walker, MD, MPH
Ashley Spooner
Lauren Senkbeil

EVENT COORDINATOR
Sabra Diogioes-Waddy, Splendid Affairs, Inc.

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Sarah Harris, SuiteEvents
## 2018 Student Members

Pamela Akametalu  
Sarah Andebrhan  
Lorraien Benturn  
Yasmin Broy  
Lorene Cudjoe  
Denise Dailey  
Olaya Daki  
Danay Lancey  
Lacey Malone  
Natalie McGhee  
Denise McIntyre  
Tiffany Morton  
Chika Obiora  
Ozioma Obiwuru  
Eden Patton  
Kristen Rivers  
Rebekah Rogers  
Lopriela Seabrook  
Daryn Smith  
Nicole Syder  
Alexandria Thomas  
Alexis Umoye  
Grace Williams

## 2018 Residents

Bianca Carson, MD  
Jennifer Lewis, MD  
Jahnnavi Mandam, MD  
Sheila Young, MD
THOMAS CUNNINGHAM IV brings more than 20 years of experience as a producer of television and live events across the globe. He has coordinated and produced programs for Black Entertainment Television (BET), as well as the Zain Africa Challenge, which aired in eight countries across the continent. As a manager for Montell Jordan, he coordinated tours nationwide and abroad.

With the emergence of digital media, he found himself tapped as a frequent contributor to HuffPost Live, where he has logged more than 60 appearances. He has appeared on TV One's Unsung, and brought his baritone voice to the drama "To Hell and Back" on the same network. He also flexed his mental muscle on two episodes of GSN's top-rated quiz show, The Chase. As part of the first-ever group of contestants to return to the show, he and his teammates vanquished the intimidating “Beast” to split the cash prize.

Currently, he utilizes his design acumen as a contributor to his fraternity's national publication, The Kappa Alpha Psi Journal. He also advises non-profits on digital and web branding and sits on the board of Center for World Strings, an organization focused on teaching urban youth to play the violin.

Through it all, he has been committed to service in the interest of educational opportunity for students of color. His affiliation with the Association of Black Women Physicians is an important part of that commitment. Thomas is married to Kathryn Bailey Cunningham, his partner in Bailey Cunningham and Company. They are the proud parents of three children: daughter Alyce, and sons Thomas V and Kole.
With nearly 60 bills signed into law, Mitchell’s other groundbreaking successes include improving human services, expanding access to healthcare, defending the civil rights of minorities and the undocumented, and reducing the numbers of children growing up in poverty.

Mitchell, the mother of a teen-age son, has devoted her professional life to creating a California where all children thrive. She has led the charge to reform the criminal and juvenile justice systems, expand access to healthcare, early care and education, foster care, secure women’s reproductive health and end the trafficking of minors. She is a passionate defender of women’s rights and the environment.

A third-generation native Angeleno, Senator Holly J. Mitchell is the proud daughter of career public servants and the protégé of community leaders who instilled in her a passion for service. She continued her family legacy of “firsts” when she was named the first African American to chair the powerful Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee in December 2016. Less than two months later, a profile in The Los Angeles Times described Mitchell as “the moral compass of the Senate.”

She proved to be just that in 2017 and 2018 when she oversaw the adoption of consecutive state budgets of nearly $200 billion each and won wide praise for directing funds to elementary and college students, the health-care systems and long-neglected programs to assist infants, the elderly, youth and working families.

Advocate for children
Mitchell, the mother of a teen-age son, has devoted her professional life to creating a California where all children thrive. She has led the charge to reform the criminal and juvenile justice systems, expand access to healthcare, early care and education, foster care, secure women’s reproductive health and end the trafficking of minors. She is a passionate defender of women’s rights and the environment.

Fighting for #EquityAndJustice
In addition to fighting for a budget that better serves the more vulnerable among us, Mitchell and Senator Ricardo Lara jointly authored a package of criminal justice reforms that place a greater emphasis on prevention, rehabilitation and maintaining family cohesion. By the end of 2017, six of the measures were signed into law.

A history of caring
Mitchell previously headed California’s largest child and family development organization, Crystal Stairs, and worked for the Western Center for Law and Poverty. This gave her valuable insights in how to improve services to diverse communities whose needs were not being addressed by state or local governments.

With nearly 60 bills signed into law, Mitchell’s other groundbreaking successes include improving human services, expanding access to healthcare, defending the civil rights of minorities and the undocumented, and reducing the numbers of children growing up in poverty.

Mitchell sits on the Senate Health Committee; the Joint Committee on Rules; the Public Safety Committee; the Labor and Industrial Relations Committee; and the Insurance, Banking and Financial Institutions Committee. She also chairs the Senate Select Committee on Women and Inequality, which she founded. In January 2018, she was named as vice chair of the Joint Committee on Rules Subcommittee on Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response.

Mitchell has been cited for her outstanding leadership by nearly two dozen community and business groups, including the Courage Campaign, Sierra Club, United Cerebral Palsy Association and the Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce. She was named the 2017 Lois DeBerry Scholar by Women in Government Leadership and this year received the first Willie L. Brown Jr. Advocacy Award from the California Black Lawyers Association. The National Conference of State Legislatures last summer elected her to its national Executive Committee. Her advocacy on behalf of the expansion of mental health services earned her the Legislator-of-the-Year Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness California. She also served as Faculty in Residence at Rutgers University in 1997, and has served as Legislator in Residence at Mount St. Mary’s University since 2016.

First elected to the Legislature in 2010, Mitchell represents nearly 1 million residents of the 30th Senate District, which ranges from Century City to South Los Angeles and takes in Culver City, Cheviot Hills, Crenshaw District, USC, downtown L.A. and a portion of Inglewood.
Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA, was elected president–elect of the American Medical Association in June 2018. A psychiatrist from Atlanta, Dr. Harris has diverse experience as a private practicing physician, public health administrator, patient advocate and medical society lobbyist.

Active in organized medicine her entire career, Dr. Harris has served on the board of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and was an APA delegate to the AMA. She has also been a member of the governing council of the AMA Women Physicians Congress, testified before and served on AMA reference committees, and has served on AMA work groups on health information technology, SGR and private contracting. The AMA Board of Trustees (BOT) appointed her to the AMA Council on Legislation in 2003, and she was elected by the council in 2010 to serve as its chair. She was first elected to the AMA-BOT in June 2011.

Dr. Harris has held many leadership positions at the state level as well, including serving on the board and as president of the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association and on the Medical Association of Georgia’s Council on Legislation, its Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, and its Membership Task Force. She was also the founding president of the Georgia Psychiatry Political Action Committee. In 2001 Dr. Harris was selected Psychiatrist of the Year by the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association. In 2007 she was inducted into the West Virginia University Academy of Distinguished Alumni.

Governing themes in Dr. Harris’ professional life are a passion to improve the lives of children and service to others. Starting with medical school at West Virginia University, followed by a psychiatry residency and child psychiatry and forensics fellowships at Emory, and then as the Barton senior policy fellow at the Emory University School of Law, she has worked for children both clinically and in the advocacy arena.

At Emory she addressed public policy for abused and neglected children before the Georgia legislature and in public education programs. Dr. Harris has also given invited lectures and presentations on children’s mental health, childhood trauma, integration of health services, health equity, and the intersection of athletics and health.

As former director of Health Services for Fulton County, Ga., which includes Atlanta, Dr. Harris was the county’s chief health officer, overseeing all county health-related programs and functions, including a wide range of public safety, behavioral health, and primary care treatment and prevention services. She spearheaded the county’s efforts to integrate public health, behavioral health and primary care services. Dr. Harris also served as medical director for the Fulton County Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities.

Currently, Dr. Harris continues in private practice and consults with both public and private organizations on health service delivery and emerging trends in practice and health policy. She is an adjunct assistant professor in the Emory Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.
Etuajie Halbert

Growing up in Alabama, Lauren Gibbs became very aware of health disparities that exist in underserved, minority areas. Currently a third-year medical student in the Charles R. Drew/UCLA Medical Education Program, Ms. Gibbs has been determined to work for the underserved and mentor those hoping to follow the same path. As an executive board member of the CDU/UCLA Chapter of SNMA from 2017-2018, Ms. Gibbs worked tirelessly to help charter a Minority Association of Premedical Students Chapter at UCLA to provide sustainable mentorship and workshop series for underrepresented premedical students. In addition to mentoring several undergraduates, Ms. Gibbs maintained involvement in the community by conducting group health education classes focused on healthy eating and physical activity as a scholar in the Neighborhood Diabetes Education Program. As an Albert Schweitzer fellow, she incorporated meditation and acupressure into her health education classes to address the role of stress in chronic illness. Ms. Gibbs is committed to exploring understudied aspects of health which contribute to disparities, as shown through her summer research on community safety and health outcomes. She is currently interested in women’s health and plans to pursue disparities research pertaining to the reproductive health of black women.

Varina Clark

Varina Clark is a current second-year medical student at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA from Mount Vernon, NY. She attended Brown University for undergrad, concentrating in Human Biology. After graduation, she worked as a Clinical Research Supervisor at Memorial Sloan Kettering and volunteered at the Montefiore Family Health Center in NYC. Through these experiences, Varina learned about health disparities and the essential components of providing culturally-competent, comprehensive healthcare to patients. She is passionate about the delivery of primary care services to underserved communities and completed global health research this past summer. Currently, Varina serves as Co-President of the UCLA/CDU Chapter of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) and a Student Admissions Representative. She has also served as the MS1 Well-Being Representative of the Medical Student Council (MSC). Outside of her studies, Varina enjoys dancing and global travel.

Lauren Gibbs

Etuajie is a fourth a fourth-year medical student interested in Dermatology. I have specific interest in skin of color conditions such as vitiligo, melasma, keloids and hyper/hypopigmentary disorders. I am also interested in general dermatology, hair conditions and rare skin disorders. My background comes from varying facets of healthcare including operations, administration, EPIC EHR informatics, health policy and public health. I have served in a myriad of leadership positions including president of various clubs and organizations. I am a member of AOA Sigma Sigma Phi Academic Honors Society and Gold Humanism Honor Society. I am recognized as an effective listener, communicator, organizer and leader. I am committed to mentoring pre-meds, reducing health disparities, organizing community activities and understanding ways to impact society at large through medicine and technology. In my spare time I like to hike, ponder on new business ventures and organize social events. I realize that a physician with broad experiences and knowledge in healthcare is in a unique position to effect meaningful change for her patients and society at large.

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Zesemayat Mekonnen

As a third-year medical and master’s student at the UC Berkeley - UC San Francisco (UCSF) Joint Medical Program (JMP), Ms. Zesemayat Mekonnen is committed to a career focused on health equity and advocacy across diverse communities. Ms. Mekonnen graduated from Stanford University in 2010 where she studied Human Biology with a concentration on Child Development and Developmental Biology. Following college, Ms. Mekonnen studied various lung disorders at UCSF and volunteered at local health fairs to educate underserved communities about airway health. She also volunteered at the Women’s Community Clinic in San Francisco, where she served as a Peer Health Educator. In 2015, Ms. Mekonnen completed a post baccalaureate program at UC San Francisco. While in medical school at the JMP, she has volunteered at the student-run Suitcase Clinics and is a co-director of the Health Career Academy, an afterschool program mentoring high school youth about healthcare professions. She spent this past summer continuing her interest in mentoring youth as a Summer Urban Health Leadership Academy Fellow working with marginalized high school youth from San Francisco at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. Her master’s thesis will explore the relationship between maternal exposure to environmental pollutants and socioeconomic factors that predispose minority women to preterm birth in urban California counties.

Maureen Nwaokoro

Maureen Nwaokoro is an enthusiastic leader who is also a resourceful and courageous advocate for the underserved. Maureen has always given back to the underserved community. At UC Davis, she volunteered for the Imani clinic, which cared for the underserved. She was also a health educator to patients with chronic illness and a source of encouragement to them to achieve better health. Maureen continued working in underserved clinics during medical school. In medical school, Maureen organized an educational experience in the anatomy department for middle school children from underserved communities to learn about the human body. She believes that it is her responsibility to pass the torch to the next generation and advocate for them to achieve their potential. During her time in medical school at Western University of Health Sciences, she successfully completed the Longitudinal Chronic Care Course (Lc3), a four-year experiential program where she was paired with a patient diagnosed with a chronic disease. She served as a health care coach for her patient gaining the full scope of what their patients experience while living with a chronic disease. As part of this four year learning track, Maureen successfully completed an additional curriculum on specialized topics in chronic disease in parallel to their core curriculum. Maureen is a hardworking, first generation college graduate who decided to pursue a degree in medicine. She will be a great asset to the underserved community as she pledges to lift and mentor children as she climbs in her professional endeavors.

Ozioma Obiwuru

Growing up in South Central LA, Ozioma had an early introduction to the importance of embracing diverse patient populations. She studied Health Promotion & Disease Prevention with a minor in Spanish at USC and most enjoyed classes about the social determinants of health. As disease does not respect geographic boundaries, Ozioma went beyond the inner-city clinics where she typically shadowed to lead medical brigades in Honduras. She became passionate about coupling medical care with health education – especially in underserved communities. Ozioma went on to obtain a graduate degree in Global Medicine from USC, learning skills such as grant writing and cultural competence. She spent the following two years working for the USC Stroke Program, where she led the stroke support group and coordinated educational seminars. Ozioma also worked as research assistant and published a paper exploring ethnocultural perceptions held by Hispanics with Multiple Sclerosis. She spent the summer after her M1 year working with federally qualified health centers to learn about the challenges and rewards that accompany leadership in primary care. Ozioma recently presented her summer research findings and won an award for best in Quality Improvement & High Value Care. As a third year medical student at UIC, she continues to champion for community and minority health as a member of the Urban Medicine program, a Student Ambassador for UIC College of Admissions, and a leader in her chapter of the Student National Medical Association. Ozioma is especially passionate about mentoring the next generation of minority health care leaders.
Shannon Sullivan
Shannon Sullivan is a 3rd year medical student at Howard University College of Medicine (HUCM) in Washington, DC. A member of the ABWP since she was a pre-med student, Shannon feels that the guidance, support, and mentorship provided by the ABWP have been instrumental in her success in her medical journey thus far. Inspired by her involvement in the ABWP, Shannon is a founding E-board member of the American Medical Women’s Association chapter at HUCM and currently serves as co-Vice President of the organization. Shannon has acquired valuable skills in working with and leading multiple teams, working with diverse groups, and tackling problems from multiple perspectives—all of which will continue to help shape her into a socially responsible physician who is conscious of not only the final result, but also the final impact on society at large. With a background in Biomedical Engineering and a passion for advocacy and mentorship, Shannon intends to pursue a career that integrates her passions for medicine and engineering while also inspiring youths to not only consider careers in science, medicine, and engineering, but also make positive change for themselves and others in their communities.

Allison Leggett
Carmen Parrott Memorial Scholarship Recipient
Allison Gabriella Leggett is a first-year medical student in the Charles R. Drew/UCLA Medical Education program and is the current co-president of her class. Prior to matriculation, Allison attended Loyola Marymount University, where she graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Human Sciences—earning the title of program scholar for graduating at the top of her class’ major. At her university, she was an active member of the Honors Program and was awarded with a Presidential Citation for outstanding academic achievements, community leadership, and service. She served as a community leader on her campus, dedicating 800 hours as a volunteer Emergency Medical Technician, organizing advocacy events exploring food justice through Oxfam America, volunteering at community clinics through the Venice Family Clinic, establishing a scholarship to fund social justice initiatives through the Center for Service and Action, serving as Vice President of both the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students (MAPS) and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and leading service trips to both Haiti and Nicaragua exploring public health on a global scale. Furthermore, she has worked as a research assistant in a NIH-funded study exploring the physiological effects of heavy alcohol consumption on the bone mineral density and muscle quality in college students, work that she presented at several conferences and is excited to continue investigating within medical school.

Charnise Taylor
Charles R. Drew Medical Society Scholarship Recipient
Charnise Taylor grew up in Los Angeles, California and graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a degree in Biochemistry. She is a first year medical student in the Charles R. Drew/UCLA Prime-Leadership and Advocacy program. Her fight to end health disparities in South LA and beyond is personal. After all the hurdles she has overcome, growing up with limited resources, she thrives on creating solutions to challenge dealing with the complex needs of the underserved. Growing up in South LA, her hardships in building her life has contributed to her intimate understanding of the financial and social barriers many African Americans in underserved communities face. As a medical student, she will embark on this unique training that will allow her to focus on serving the disadvantaged communities she grew up wanting to serve. Due to her personal life story and working at MLK Hospital and other sites serving vulnerable populations, She has developed a deep interest in addressing the mental health needs of the African American community. Her goals are to obtain a Master’s in Public Health to meet the skills required to critically approach and resolve issues surrounding the health care of my community.

Alexandra Thomas
Beverly James Memorial Scholarship Recipient
Alexandria Thomas was born in Long Beach, California and moved to Irvine, California with her parents and younger sister. From a young age she was very interested in sports and improving her community. She went on to earn a basketball scholarship at Cal State University of Fullerton where she studied Health Science and Community Health. At CSU, Fullerton she spent a great deal of time in the community and was able to use her courses to develop innovative health promotion programs that could fill the needs within the community of Fullerton. After completing her undergraduate degree, she attended Western University of Health Sciences where she earned her Master’s degree in Medical Sciences and continued to serve the community by taking on the roles of dinner coordinator for the Pomona Homeless Outreach Program and Vice President of SNMA. She is currently a student in the Charles R. Drew/UCLA program and is committed to being a primary care physician in urban underserved areas. Her goal is to provide high quality care to minority populations to decrease the health inequities seen in Los Angeles and worldwide.
Amanda Dupre

Amanda Dupre was born and raised in Northridge, California. Ever since she was a child she has enjoyed working in the community. Over the years, Amanda has had the opportunity to take part in several community service activities locally and globally that have been enriching and have had a huge impact on the development of her character. She completed her Bachelor’s of Science degree of Biological Sciences at UC Irvine. Serving in underserved communities while at UC Irvine inspired Amanda to pursue medicine and a Master’s degree in public health. While obtaining her MPH at LLU, she was a public health research fellow, assisted in a community lifestyle intervention program for minority women in San Bernardino, CA, and participated in a medical mission in Malawi. Amanda states, “My MPH gave me a better understanding of how a physician can serve the greater community and be an advocate for patients.” She is now a fourth year medical student at Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific. As a medical student, Amanda continues to stay active in her community from volunteering at free student run mobile clinics to teaching children about healthy lifestyles. Her medical education, community outreach experience, and background have sparked her interest in primary care. She has known for a long time that she wanted to be in a profession that promotes change, treats and empowers patients, and also eliminate health disparities. Amanda plans to pursue a career in family medicine after graduation.

Denise McIntyre

Denise McIntyre grew up in a rural farm town in Jamaica with her mother and brothers before migrating to the United States at the age of fourteen. She is a graduate of the University of Florida where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree. Her academic and career pursuits have displayed a fervent commitment to public health, community-based research and health advocacy in underserved communities of color. She has engaged with underserved communities as a community health worker, health department intern, domestic violence survivor advocate, HIV clinic coordinator and community health researcher.

Denise hopes to influence healthcare of underserved communities of color not only through research and treatment but also through social action. While she has enjoyed her public health engagement and research experiences within her community, she looks forward to continuing her education as a medical student at the Charles R. Drew University/UCLA Medical Education Program. She is currently interest in Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics and would like to conduct research in partnership with underserved communities to find evidence-based solutions to issues such as: access to health resources and youth affected by trauma.

In her spare time, Denise enjoys hiking, going to the beach and trying new foods.
ABWP Community Service Award honoring Dr. Vena Ricketts

Dr. Vena Ricketts was honored as ABWP’s 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. As a UCLA professor, Dr. Ricketts received multiple awards for her dedication and excellence in teaching, community service, and patient care. Dr. Ricketts’ passion has always been to help the sick and suffering and to give back to the community at large. As a founding member and past President of the Olive View-UCLA Medical Center Foundation and later Vice President of Development, Dr. Ricketts established several award-winning programs targeting the Spanish-speaking population in the San Fernando Valley. For more than 20 years, Dr. Ricketts also led volunteer medical teams to Ghana, The Gambia, Nigeria, Haiti, Armenia, Cambodia, Nepal, Bulgaria, Sri Lanka, Jamaica, the Philippines, the Western Sahara Desert, and Morocco with over 140,000 people served. Dr. Gerianne Dudley and Dr. David Griffin financially supported many of her international volunteer teams. After attending the 2015 ABWP Charity Benefit Gala, they generously pledged to donate $10,000 towards scholarships on an annual basis towards scholarships for students with outstanding community service to personally honor Dr. Ricketts’ esteemed career.

Beverly James Memorial Scholarship

The scholarship is presented in memory of and in celebration for Anatomic and Clinical Pathologist Dr. Beverly James. Dr. James’ pathology career focused on diagnostic techniques related to breast cancer. As bright and gifted as she was professionally, she was a humble, caring, fun-loving and unassuming person with a gentle and welcoming spirit. She lived an active life style, traveled widely, loved sports, music and the arts. She was a devoted member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Apart from medicine, Dr. James discovered a burning passion for real estate development and became an extremely shrewd businesswoman working along with builders and contractors yet remained very sensitive to the needs of tenants. In February 2014, Dr. James passed away. In her honor, friends and family developed this scholarship in 2014 to memorialize her endearing spirit, and funds from their donation continue to sustain this scholarship until exhausted.
Carmen Parrott Memorial Scholarship
Dr. Carmen Parrott was a practicing dermatologist in Los Angeles, CA. She grew up in Maryland and completed her training at University of Pennsylvania. After establishing her practice in Los Angeles, Dr. Parrott was very active and engaged with the Association of Black Women Physicians, including a leadership position on the executive board. She was kind, passionate, engaging and a friend to everyone she met. Her humble and kind spirit combined with her brilliance and skill left an indelible impression on the organization. A memorial scholarship in her name was initially established by her mother who understood her commitment to ABWP, and it has continued to be funded by members of the organization each year since its inception.

Anna Smith Memorial Scholarship
Dr. Smith was a beloved psychiatrist and an Association of Black Women Physicians lifetime member. She also raised a daughter, Dr. Anne Staveren, who is a charter member and past-president of the organization. Dr. Smith was dedicated to addressing disparities in mental health for people of color and enhancing wellness in underserved communities. Her memorial scholarship was created to honor her career and commitment to these concerns and is meant to support a student with similar passion and dedication.

Charles R. Drew Medical Society Scholarship
As a partner organized medical organization in Los Angeles, the Charles R. Drew Medical Society has provided additional scholarship support to the Association of Black Women Physicians’ Annual Charity and Scholarship Benefit Gala for many years. The purpose of this scholarship is to recognize and honor a student with clear dedication to addressing and eliminating health disparities that disproportionately affect communities of color. The Association of Black Women Physicians is grateful to the Charles R. Drew Medical Society for their ongoing support, similar goals and shared mission.
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MD, MPH

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Charles R. Drew Medical Society
November 11, 2018

Dear Friends,

I am proud to greet the Association of Black Women Physicians as its members gather to celebrate its 37th Annual Charity and Scholarship Benefit.

Founded in 1982 by fifty Black women physicians, the organization focuses on two areas of activity. First, it strives to improve public health and welfare, especially for under-served women and their families, through community education and health advocacy. Second, it aims to provide organized support for Black women pursuing a profession in medicine through networking, mentorship, and awarding scholarships to medical students.

I would like to congratulate the young women receiving ABWP scholarships tonight, as well as this evening’s remarkable honorees, two women who have achieved singular success in their fields:

- Dr. Patrice A. Harris, Lifetime Achievement Award
- Senator Holly J. Mitchell, Humanitarian of the Year Award

I appreciate ABWP’s efforts to lift up the value that Black women bring to the practice of medicine; to encourage Black female students in their study of medicine; and to address health disparities across the region.

You have my best wishes for a memorable event!

Sincerely,

Karen Bass
Member of Congress
Greetings

Message from Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard
November 11, 2018

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending The Association of Black Women Physicians’ (ABWP) 37th Annual Charity and Scholarship Benefit Hope Luncheon.

Since 1982, the ABWP has empowered Black women physicians in practice or training throughout Southern California and the entire United States. Their commitment to improving public health and welfare is evident through their thriving Sister to Sister Mentoring Program and their scholarship program that has awarded over 250 medical students with more than $750,000 in scholarships based on academic merit, financial need, and commitment to the improvement of healthcare in underserved communities.

Congratulations to the 2018 scholarship recipients who are the future physicians of this country. I am also proud to join all of you in congratulating tonight’s honorees: Dr. Patrice A. Harris and Senator Holly J. Mitchell. They are incredible leaders and advocates of health in our communities.

Best wishes for a successful and enjoyable luncheon.

Sincerely,

Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress
40th District
November 11, 2018

Association of Black Women Physicians
4712 Admiral Way, #175
Marina Del Rey, CA 90292

Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone to the 37th Annual Charity and Scholarship Benefits presented by the Association of Black Women Physicians.

You are to be commended for your dedication to the representation of Black women physicians and to improving public health and welfare.

I also extend my appreciation for your commitment to provide a variety of scholarships for medical students. Your dedication and commitment to the well-being of our youth is greatly appreciated and worthy of this recognition.

On behalf of the residents of the 62nd Assembly District, I applaud all of you for your exemplary accomplishments and offer my best wishes for continued success in the years ahead.

With warmest personal regards,

Autumn R. Burke
Assemblywoman, 62nd District
November 11, 2018

Association of Black Women Physicians
4712 Admiralty Way Suite 175
Marina Del Rey, California 90292

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to congratulate the Association of Black Women Physicians on the occasion of its 37th Annual Charity Benefit Luncheon.

Since 1982, ABWP has provided a voice and a community for hundreds of physicians. The organization’s positive contributions to the medical profession and its commitment to the improvement of public health and welfare in underserved communities throughout Los Angeles are simply exemplary.

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors and the more than 10 million people who reside in the County of Los Angeles, I am pleased to congratulate the honorees and extend my best wishes for continued success and a most memorable event.

With hope,

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Supervisor, Second District
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
November 11, 2018

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Los Angeles, welcome Association of Black Women Physicians’ (ABWP) 37th Annual Charity Benefit.

Since 1982, the ABWP has fostered an empowering, uplifting community for aspiring healthcare professionals. Its comprehensive advocacy, mentorship, and scholarship programs have paved the way for African American women physicians to bring equity and justice to underserved communities, and helped to make Los Angeles a healthier and more inclusive city.

I would like to extend a special congratulations to today’s honorees: President Elect of the American Medical Association Dr. Patrice A. Harris, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award; and Senator Holly J. Mitchell, recipient of the Humanitarian of the Year Award. Their tireless advocacy on behalf of their communities highlights the best of the Angeleno spirit.

I send best wishes for a memorable event and continued success.

Sincerely,

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor
Greetings

HERB J. WESSON, JR.
PRESIDENT, LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
COUNCILMEMBER, 10TH DISTRICT

ASSOCIATION OF BLACK WOMEN PHYSICIANS
37th Annual Charity & Scholarship Benefit Gala

As President of the Los Angeles City Council and on behalf of the residents of the 10th Council District, I am pleased to extend my congratulations and appreciation to the Association of Black Women Physicians (ABWP) for hosting its 37th Annual Scholarship Benefit. The proceeds from this event allow ABWP to continue providing scholarships to qualified and dedicated doctors in training as well as provide funding for their health education/wellness programs and advocacy efforts.

Since its inception, ABWP has been dedicated to addressing the needs and concerns of African American women physicians by striving to remove the cultural, social and economic barriers which have hindered African American women from entering the medical field. ABWP continues to develop the presence of African American women physicians by uniting current and established doctors and specialists with up-and-coming doctors to exchange ideas, provide guidance and strengthen the African American medical community.

I commend today’s honorees, Dr. Patrice A. Harris and the Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, and ABWP for their continued commitment to ensure that the needs and concerns of the underserved and the disfranchised are not only heard, but addressed in the political, medical, educational, social and economic arenas.

Best wishes for a successful and memorable event.

Sincerely,

HERB J. WESSON, JR.
President, Los Angeles City Council
Councilmember, Tenth District
November 11, 2018

On behalf of the City of Los Angeles and the NEW 9th District, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the “37th Annual Charity & Scholarship Benefit,” presented by the Association of Black Women Physicians (ABWP).

For decades, ABWP has worked tirelessly to improve and enhance the public health and welfare of underserved communities. From developing health education programs to supporting initiatives that eliminate health disparities, the ABWP promotes the advancement and empowerment of African-American women in medicine, science and public health. On this day, we shine a bright light on this organization’s dedication and commitment to Black women physicians and the communities they serve.

My warmest congratulations to tonight’s honorees: Dr. Patrice A. Harris and Senator Holly J. Mitchell. Thank you for all that you do and continue to do to elevate communities across Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Curren D. Price, Jr.
Los Angeles City Councilmember, Ninth District
November 11, 2018

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Los Angeles and the Eighth Council District, it is my pleasure to congratulate the Association of Black Women Physicians on their 37th Annual Charity and Scholarship Benefit. Your organization continues to be a leading voice for black women’s health and wellness.

When ABWP began, the founders recognized the need for an organization that supported African-American women pursuing a career in medicine. Today, we rely on that legacy, to help us meet the profound challenges faced by Black women in this country.

I want to extend my congratulations to Dr. Patrice A. Harris, President-Elect of the American Medical Association, on your Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Honorable Senator Holly J. Mitchell, for being one of the most influential health care advocates in our country and her commitment to equality in healthcare. I am in awe of your dedication to the people of Los Angeles and organizations like the ABWP.

With hope,

Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Western University of Health Sciences

Congratulates the Association of Black Women Physicians on the 37th Annual Charity and Scholarship Benefit

HOPE Luncheon

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We salute the Association of Black Women Physicians on its 37th Annual Charity and Scholarship Benefit and congratulate all of this year’s Honorees and Scholarship Recipients for their deserving achievements.
Let us make your next affair a most splendid experience!

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**ABWP office closes**

January 22, 2019
**ABWP office reopens**

Visit our website at
www.blackwomenphysicians.org
for times/registration details.
THERE IS INSPIRATION AMONG US

CONGRATULATIONS TO TODAY’S SPECIAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Senator Holly J. Mitchell
HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

AND

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