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**Earn your
certificate in
Board Governance**

**Friday & Saturday
April 7 & 8, 2017**



**8am - 5pm
Loyola Law School
(Downtown Campus)**

\$600 - Early registration
(before March 3)

\$700 - Registration fee
(after March 3)

Deadline for applications:
March 17, 2017

Apply today!

Up Next:

"You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right."

~ Rosa Parks

Board Chair's Message

What will the next five years mean for us and for our country?

AABLI's founding vision five years ago was to bring the voice of the African American community to the rooms where decisions affecting its people are made. The events of the last year and the 2016 election reaffirm that AABLI's work must continue.



Technology and globalization have worked seismic changes in our world, with results both positive and, as argued by some, negative. In any event, it is hard to ignore that fear of the future has led many in this country to abandon long held and revered values in the hope that a new commander-in-chief will smash the elites and the "others" to "make American great again."

Unlike our country's new president, I do not believe that carnage is consuming America. Far from it. But it is plain that issues of racism and poverty have persisted, perhaps even escalated, despite the advances of technology and the appeal of globalization.

In the past, the federal government has developed social safety net programs to ameliorate the effects of income inequality. In coming years, there is little doubt that federal government spending will be reduced. There will be a greater reliance on philanthropy to attack issues arising from income inequality.

AABLI has its work cut out for it over the next five years. It will have to expand its efforts to recruit and train people to serve in board rooms and on commissions. We must find a way to reach other regions of California and the United States that need active, savvy and fearless board and commission representation. To accomplish all of this, we'll have to increase our resources, plain and simple.

I am hopeful that, five years from now, AABLI will have a national footprint. I believe our alumni will create that footprint, serving on governing boards and organizations that are working to reduce poverty, secure better education for our young people, provide legal services to

Does Your Nonprofit Have a Social Media Crisis Communications Playbook?



AABLI Partners with NCM Network

**Wednesday
March 22, 2017**

**Check-in: 8:30-9am
Program 9-11am**

Location: California
Community Foundation
Joan Palevsky Center
221 S. Figueroa Street, #
100
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Register today!

Alumni Only

**Public Boards and
Commissions Training**

**Saturday
March 18, 2017
9:00am-4:00pm**



If you are a current or former commissioner, or if you are interested in serving as a commissioner, this training program is for you.
\$99 (AABLI Alumni only)

Alumni Register today!

protect our most vulnerable, improve our health care system and reform our criminal justice system.

This will be a challenge, but we've never let that stop us. Our community needs AABLI, and to do what's necessary in a climate where ill winds are blowing, AABLI needs you.

Virgil Roberts
Board Chair

Faculty Office Hours: *Annual Checkups All Around!*



Latonya Slack, JD, Slack Global Consulting and AABLI Head Faculty

Do you schedule annual physicals for yourself or for your family members? Most of us do because checkups are good things. But how many of us realize that annual checkups

for our nonprofits are also a good idea?

Years ago, it was possible to file your articles of incorporation, send in your Form 990s every year and essentially ignore the health of your organization's backbone, at least until something went wrong. Today, **read more...**

Get Social!

Resolve to make social media a habit for your organization!

Start 2017 off right by committing to these social media activities...

Social networking is, hands down, the most inexpensive way small to mid-sized organizations can build relationships with prospective customers.



Monique Stennis
Social Media Manager
University of Redlands
AABLI Class #6
Photo: Leroy Hamilton

A whopping 74 percent of consumers rely on social networks to guide their purchase decisions, according to an ODM Group study. That's rich opportunity for your organization to 1) provide engaging content to its target market and 2) influence others to share your information on their networks, which can translate into increased profits and memberships.

If you devote 30 minutes a day to social media, I am confident that by the end of March you will see an increase in your organization's social media presence. And you will be much better equipped as your company enters the year's second quarter.

Quick Links

www.aabli.org

[Board Leadership
Program Application](#)

[Member Organization
Application](#)



Engage with Us on Social Media!



Newsletter Publisher
Victoire "Vickie" Prothro
Manager of Communications &
Marketing
(213) 346-3241

Below are five tips + 1 bonus tip to help you make social media a daily habit: [Continue to read here](#)

7 Leadership Skills for Excellence

During a career that has been equally interesting and fulfilling, I've been privileged to serve both on boards and as chief executive officer of nonprofit organizations. This means I've been able to view organizations from two different perspectives, engaging in numerous conversations and mastermind sessions about what makes an organization or business excellent.



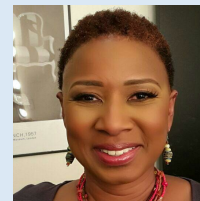
Gregory C. Scott
Partner, InVista
Associates, Inc., Scott
Leadership Group
AABLI Class #4

Discovering the right answers is not a straightforward process, I have learned, but something that can and should be the goal of every leader who wants to make a difference.

Whether you are an executive, an entrepreneur, the owner of an established company or a member of a board of directors, you should consider the following seven ideas. They can help you take your business to another level of excellence. [Continue to read here](#)

Real Talk: HEAD to HEART Growing Up a Start-Up

Starting a business or organization is an undertaking that usually comes straight from the heart. Vision opens the doors, brings in volunteers and begins a swell of meaningful work. The start-up's heart energy pumps at full speed.



Thyonne Gordon,
Ph.D.
CEO, Beyond Story
AABLI Class #3

But a heart constantly pumping like a prizefighter's is not a healthy thing. It is not sustainable. Leaders must take it down a notch and recruit a team that will help the organization grow at a steady pace. That growth comes from creating strategy and setting goals that are planned by the head, not the heart.

For AABLI's fifth anniversary, use these five tips to lead your organization from a start-up to a midsize business: [Click here to read the entire article](#)

Affiliated Placements



Michelle L. Kazadi
Class #9



Samere Reid
Class #8



Channel Frampton
Class #11



Brian K. Williams
Class #4



J'on Dennis
Class #9



Leonard Washington
Class #8

[Click here to view other AABLI-affiliated placements](#)

Spotlight



Transforming Youth. Enhancing Communities.

"The [LA Conservation Corps](#) is the nation's largest urban conservation corps and Los Angeles' preeminent youth development organization.

We provide at-risk youths with an opportunity to transform their lives by offering stable paid work experience, training, and supportive services while they earn a high school diploma.

To further the impact of our mission, we are seeking board members with a passion for uplifting the youth and who care about the environment.

As a proud new African American Board Leadership Institute member organization, we are excited to share our passion for the Corps' work with the large network of AABLI alumni board candidates as we seek to diversify our board so that we may better serve our young people."

Wendy Butts,
Chief Executive Officer



"The [Wildwoods Foundation](#) provides nature-based programs to Los Angeles schools and families.

Our programs use ecology as a springboard to help students understand that the principles governing an ecosystem - interdependence, diversity and sustainability - are important to the social fabric of our community. Our focus on communication skills & conflict resolution sets us apart from traditional outdoor programs.

We're looking for like-minded individuals with an entrepreneurial spirit to help us transition to the next level of organizational development.

Maintaining a pipeline of board talent is critical for organizational sustainability. We need that fresh energy and new perspectives and ideas to ensure relevance to our constituents. That's one of the things that we appreciate most about AABLI. Rather than a short-term internship, when an AABLI graduate joins your board, you know that he or she is both well trained and committed to your organization and mission.

The stars aligned when we met J'on Dennis (Class #9). Not only is Mr. Dennis a CPA, but he has years of experience specific to our field. Mr. Dennis was

**Interested in these
board opportunities?
Contact: Katarina Eleby
AABLI Manager
Programs & Operations
keleby@aabli.org
(213) 346-3291**

unanimously elected to the
CCA Board of Directors. We
are grateful to AABLI for the
introduction to our wonderful
new board member."

Dwain Wilson
Executive Director

AABLI Welcomes Dr. Yolanda Gorman to Its Board of Directors

We are pleased to announce
that Yolanda J. Gorman,
Ph.D., senior advisor to the
Chancellor of the University of
California, Los Angeles, has
been elected to the board of
directors of AABLI.



Dr. Gorman has more than 25
years as a successful
organizational consultant
specializing in nonprofit
management. She has assisted nonprofit organizations
with infrastructure and resource development, and has
consulted on and provided program and strategic
planning, research and evaluation, board training and
organizational development services.

Join us as we welcome Dr. Gorman to the AABLI family!

AABLI HAPS!



California Community
Foundation's PAT
Speed Networking
for Nonprofit Boards

January 25, 2017



16th Annual SoCal Women's
Health Conference and Expo

December 16, 2016



AABLI Celebrates 5 Years!
Annual Holiday Mixer

California African American
Museum (CAAM)



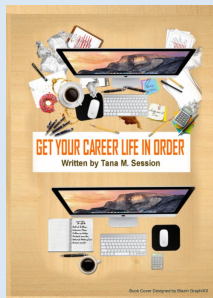
AABLI's Public Boards and
Commissions Training

Exclusively for AABLI alumni

December 3, 2016

Recommended Reading

"Get Your Career Life in Order,"
by Tana M. Session, Principal Consultant
[TMS Business Solutions, Inc.](#)



Get Your Career Life in Order is a step-by-step guide with tips, tricks, worksheets and templates designed to help readers navigate the job market and manage their careers within their organizations.

Tana M. Session is an AABLI alumna, Class #7

Thank You to Our Supporters



the James Irvine foundation



THE
RALPH M. PARSONS
FOUNDATION



A Sempra Energy utility



Contribute to our mission!