President's Message

In the past seven years, I’ve had the privilege to watch AABLI grow into an exceptional organization with a rigorous leadership training program unparalleled throughout the nation. We know our efforts are making a difference towards building a pipeline of qualified African American professionals for leadership roles to better serve communities. Since November 2012, AABLI has conducted 14 board leadership programs and provided 550 professionals with certificates in Board Governance. Although most alumni reside in the Southern California area, there are many who travel from other parts of California and as far as New York, Texas, Tennessee, Washington DC, Seattle, Mississippi, Chicago, and Florida to participate in this unique training program.

As we strive to achieve our mission, we continue to focus on meeting the expectations of our distinguished alumni, generous donors and faithful friends. This last year also provided us with an opportunity to create new programming along with new friends. We increased our flagship Board Leadership Program from two days to three days to provide additional time to focus on statements of financial activities and address appropriate uses of various organizational operating resources; we produced our first full-day Corporate Directors Initiative’s forum, entitled Foundations of Corporate Boards, which focused on pathways to corporate boards; we welcomed five new collaborative partners into the AABLI family and conducted our first multi-ethnic Women in Leadership forum.

We remain dedicated to our mission and focused on our vision. For this, I am extremely proud.

In service,

p.s. The staff survived the implementation of Salesforce!
A Women In Leadership Forum
January 31, 2019
Pictured (l-r) Lisa Baca, California Latino Leadership Institute; Lindy Huang Werges, Women’s Business Enterprise Council West; Manjusha P. Kulkarni, Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council; Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager-Dove; Yvette Chappell-Ingram, AABLI; Linda Akutagawa, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics; Joy Atkinson, Los Angeles African American Women’s Public Policy Institute

ALMUNI SPOTLIGHT
Celebrating Women’s History Month

With the support of six multi ethnic women leaders, a coalition was formed to bring women together to meet and listen to Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-Los Angeles), AABLI Class #2, share her political journey. She decided to run for public office to bring a different lens to issues effecting communities.

Assemblymember encouraged the attendees to “tell someone about your interest in running for office to plant the seed. When presented an opportunity to run for office - be prepared to say yes and have a reason why. Your why will keep you strong on the campaign trail.” She concluded with, “think about the women you know, who are great, and how you can support them on their political journey. Be sentinels for other women.”

Assemblywoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-Los Angeles) was elected to the California State Assembly in a special election on April 3, 2018. In 2015, Sydney became the second African-American woman ever elected president of the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) with a district spanning 900 square miles and serving over 250,000 students. Sydney also served as the district director for California State Senator Holly J. Mitchell (D-Los Angeles).

She is a teacher and a frequent speaker on education issues, economic development, and the arts, among other topics. She is passionate about education, criminal justice reform and poverty issues which are central to her work in Los Angeles and Sacramento. She is a wife and step-mother.

A Board Member’s Guide to Supporting an Organization’s Full Cost Needs
Trella Walker, JD, AABLI Class #10

It is no secret that nonprofit organizations have expenses that go beyond those associated with programming. We often label those expenses as overhead or indirect cost. Just as necessary to nonprofits as direct programming costs, these expenses include executive salaries, administrative supplies, facility costs, technology and other items. Such costs, however, are difficult to fund.

So what is the answer?

March Madness Teaches Us to Work Our Board Net
Thyonne Gordon, Ph.D., AABLI Class #3

Why is March Madness such an exhilarating competition? My guess is because it’s an opportunity to showcase young college players for the ultimate prize: the NBA.

It doesn’t, however, start on the court.
March Madness begins with preparation and working the net on and off the court. The nonprofit world can learn a lot from the March Madness way of working the net. Review these March Madness terms to set your organization up for ways to work your board net!

Create Your Own News Bureau
Monique Stennis, MBA, AABLI Class #6

Now, with over three billion social media users worldwide, people are becoming acquainted with your personal brand - experience, expertise, competencies and achievements - in the marketplace, directly online. So making that powerful first impression has become a game changer on social media.

Welcome Class #14
February 20 and March 22 - 23, 2019
An AABLI Reboot!
Professional Development: What's The Difference Between a Résumé and a CV?
Loren Hill, Ph.D., AABLI Class #6

At some point in our job seeking journeys, we’ve all been asked to submit our résumés or CVs. But how many of us assume these documents are essentially the same thing? They are not, and understanding the difference can help you make the case for yourself.

What's in your professional bag?

Alumni Mixer Brings Out Our Book Recommendation

On January 15, 2019, the AABLI alumni along with friends and family gathered together, at the Downtown Los Angeles Gensler Building, to celebrate a new year with a sense of renewed enthusiasm.

Thank you Karen A. Clark and Bill Duke for inspiring everyone in attendance to make a collective commitment to be of service.

Sponsored by City National Bank
The purpose of the Duke Media Foundation is to prepare our youth for the future by exposing them to specific new media tools and financial literacy tools that will enable them to compete, survive and thrive. Our economy is experiencing a paradigm shift far beyond film and TV to media. Film and TV are still a part of the landscape but we have moved into virtual worlds, games, cell phone apps, mobile TV, animation and webisodes.

Thank you to our generous sponsors for the ongoing support!
The mission of the African American Board Leadership Institute is to strengthen nonprofit, public and private organizations through recruiting, preparing and assisting with the placement of African Americans on a broad range of governing boards.

Donate Here

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