President's Message

Summer - my favorite time of year! Not because the days are longer and the weather is warmer, but because summer is when I spend more time outdoors with family, friends and colleagues.

How are you managing your work vs. personal life? Here are some ideas.

Soak up your surroundings – Studies have shown that time spent in nature generates more positive moods. Take a trip to a nearby park, hike or go fishing for some fun in the sun.

Volunteer – Explore some volunteer and board opportunities.

Mindfulness – Get unplugged. Limit your social media to certain times of the day or take a meditation/mindfulness class at your local college or community center.

Play smart – Take that vacation or local getaway; you’ll be surprised at how it makes you feel.

Gratitude – Practice ending each day with gratitude.

Sleep - Make a good night’s sleep a high priority; it reduces stress, makes you more alert and can even make you smarter.

In this issue of our newsletter, you will find excellent articles with mid-year check-in recommendations and a lot more! This summer, AABLI’s board of directors will be checking its strategic plan to ensure we are on target, particularly as we look forward to a productive and prosperous new fiscal year!

In service,

Yours,

Please Donate Here

Not Just a Seat at the Table, But A Voice, Too!

Gregory C. Scott
AABLI Class #4

Women are dramatically outnumbered on the boards of the nation’s biggest companies. In 2018, California passed a law (California Senate Bill 826) trying to change that. The law, SB 826, requires at least one woman on boards that have four members or less, two women on boards of
After Passing the Budget -
Goals for the Fiscally
Responsible Board Member.
Trella Walker, J.D.
AABLI Class #10

All good board members know it is our job to make sure our organization has a solid budget that supports the organization’s ability to meet both its short and long term goals. So we do our due diligence and pass a responsible budget that can be used to guide the organization for the year.

Head, Heart Board Connection
Thyonne Gordon, Ph.D.
AABLI Class #3

Time flies when you're having fun and also when you're busy. Before you know it, there’s a new year. That's how we ended 2018 and now we’re mid-year into 2019 for our summer holidays. Between Juneteenth and July 4th, is a good time to celebrate not only these Freedom and Independence events but also to take note of just how far we’ve come with our board and organization.

Where are you at with your social media campaigns?
Monique Stennis, MBA
AABLI Class #6

For nonprofit organizations, building trust with communities is golden. It offers much more value than a brochure, advertisement or other marketing material. Integrating video into its social media program can help a nonprofit build trust as it shares its story.
Thank you to our sponsors and supporters!

AABL Alumni Talks

Watch Here

Hear what they are saying...

Your Personal Mid-Year Check In!

Loren Hill, Ph.D.
AABL Class #6

Summer is the season for mid-year reviews. For many of us, that may mean mid-year job performance reviews, or perhaps our summer portfolio review. If we are serving on boards, we may be reviewing the mid-year performance of our organizations. Whatever it is, we’re familiar with the process and we have the skills to critically analyze goals, strategies and performance at macro and micro levels. So this is a good time to apply your skills to your personal mid-year review.

Read More
When I began writing “Affirmed—Life Lessons in Racial Healing and Transformation,” I believed I was on a mission to share and teach about my survival of American apartheid. When I finished, I found that I was really exploring how my experiences equipped me for leadership. In the book, I expressed my need for greater clarity in our conversations about diverse leadership in organizations, institutions and societies.

As a proud member of Class #9, I can attest that lessons learned from AABLI's commissions training sessions and from my solid AABLI network align with several of the “Life Lessons” I share in the book. My attempts to navigate through institutionalized inequities are used to investigate the context of leadership and the role of power in leadership.

Examining leadership from the perspective of a woman who is a person of color/biracial was a powerful motivation. I was moved to frankly share my personal efforts to resist and transform the inequities I encountered, to create spaces where my marginalized voice could be distinctly heard.

“Affirmed” is a compilation of life lessons based on the constraints of race-ethnicity in today's America. When read this way, it becomes clear that eradicating racism through the social and organizational influence of leadership is of paramount importance to 21st century progress, even if happens one person at a time.

For more information on how to reach the author, and to order a personalized copy:

Register Now!

Corporate Directors Initiative (CDI)
Monday, September 9, 2019
8:00am - 2:30pm
City Club Los Angeles

CDI is a leadership development and networking series designed to strengthen the pipeline of people of color to serve on corporate boards around the world. It is designed to assist participants with career planning such that a future role as a corporate director is more probable.
Registration Opening Soon!

Board Leadership Certificate Program
Thursday through Saturday
October 31 - November 2, 2019

The Board Leadership Program (BLP) provides comprehensive training in nonprofit board governance. It offers a deep dive into governance responsibilities and a thorough understanding of board governance, focusing on finance, fundraising, management roles, and strategic issues. Participants who successfully complete the BLP are eligible to receive certificates in board governance and assistance with placement on governing boards or commissions.

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.

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Stay connected with us

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AABLI is a project of Community Partners