

ALLIANCE SEMINARS CAREER DAY SPEAKERS

Blair Alexander is the Chief Executive of B. Alexander and Associates; a consulting company providing educational support to non-profit, for profit, higher educational institutions and government agencies. Prior to starting B. Alexander and Associates, Mr. Alexander was a Director at the United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation (UNCFSP) in Fairfax, Virginia. In this capacity he was responsible for directing a Department of Education grant on Strengthening the Capacity of HBCUs through a Collaborative Initiative with Hampton University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO). He is also the former director of the Institute for International Public Policy, a program designed to prepare minority students for global leadership. Mr. Alexander has also directed UNCF Special Program's Institutional Development and Contracting Services Division which delivered technical assistance programs aimed at increasing the Department of Defense research capabilities at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Institutions (HBCU/MIs). Prior to joining UNCFSP, Mr. Alexander was employed as an Associate with the Booz, Allen, Hamilton Consulting Firm leading the technical development of the Army's Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System. Before joining Booz, Allen, Hamilton, Mr. Alexander served 21 years of active military service in the United States Army rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He held a number of key finance and information technology leadership positions while successfully supporting the development of the Army's pay and personnel systems. He received an undergraduate degree in accounting from Saint Augustine's College in Raleigh North Carolina and a Masters of Business Administration from The American University in Washington, DC. He is also a graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff College. To contact Mr. Alexander, email him at balexconsulting@yahoo.com.

Ulysses Banks is an electrical engineer with one of the largest companies in the world, Booz, Allen, and Hamilton. He is an associate, which is a level three analyst, for the National Security Agency. His responsibilities include helping organize the company, getting its business known, establishing a good customer base, and controlling funding to sustain business. He is a man who likes to get involved in his community as he combines his career of electrical engineer with coordinator of school volunteers. Mr. Banks is prior military and that's where he became involved in communications. There, as a network manager, he received experience working with encryption and modems, which proved to be a helpful precursor to his work now. Ulysses earned a degree in telecommunications from Pierce College. Then, while traveling the world, he chose to register in school in Switzerland, and received a degree in communication technology. He currently leads a team of professionals from Booz, Allen, and Hamilton that assist various schools within Anne Arundel County with tutoring, mentoring, and other programs that tremendously prepare students for the future. To contact Mr. Banks, email him at banks_ulysses@bah.com.

Charles A. Belo is an Intelligence and Global Network Analyst for the United States Department of Defense and is presently serving as a hiring manager/recruiter for his agency. In his current work role, Mr. Belo is frequently called upon to travel to colleges and universities across the nation to discuss career opportunities. During these trips, he provides resume writing tips and interviewing techniques, from an employer's perspective, for career aspirants. A native of High Point, North Carolina, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland University College, and his concentration was on terrorist groups and their activities. Mr. Belo is a veteran of the United States Air Force and served as the Youth Director to high school students in Hanover, Maryland. To contact Mr. Belo, email him at chiptaylor3124@verizon.net.

Wayne Best is a veteran small business owner and Instructor for the Morgan-Franklin Corporation. As a trainer for the White House Communications Agency Training Division, his primary courses are Network Plus, Customer Service, Conflict Resolution, Leadership and Ethics. He has significant experience as a Professional Instructor, certified in Network Plus, A Plus - Remote Support Technician, Leadership Challenge, Strength Deployment Inventory, and the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. Wayne facilitates leadership training using adult learning principles during a two-week in-residence program. He instructs courses in Supervision, Conflict, Problem Solving, Listening Skills, Ethics, Management, and Interviewing Skills. He previously served as an Administrative Specialist, Event Planner and also performed protocol duties while serving in the military. Furthermore, he was a program coordinator and trainer for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. His background also includes Information Assurance software training for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), as well as an organizational development consultant. To contact Mr. Best, email him at fitzgeraldenterprisesllc@msn.com.

Dr. John Bogdan is a Program Officer for the Office of Biodefense Research Affairs at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. His previous professional experience includes Scientific Review Administrator, Senior Research Scientist, and a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow. Dr. Bogdan became interested in science when an outbreak of Lyme Disease occurred in his hometown during his undergraduate training. He performed an internship at the New York State Department of Health investigating the bacteria that causes Lyme Disease and became hooked on science. The most common questions that he usually answers are what types of vaccines are used to immunize adults and infants as well as why are vaccines used. His awards, honors, and achievements include National Institute of Health Travel Grant Award, DuPont-Merck Bravo Award, National Institute of Health Director's Award, Knight's of Columbus Rookie of the Year Award, United States Patent Award, and the Rensselaer Alumni Association Fellows Award. He has a Ph. D., in Microbiology and Immunology, from State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York. To contact Dr. Bogdan, email him at JBogdan@niaid.nih.gov.

Joseph Brown, better known as "The Mission Man," is the founder and CEO of Joseph Brown IN-
powerment Training Institute. Joseph's company was designed to provide vital information for achieving rapid success and peak performance for individuals and various groups through seminars, workshops, classes, program development, and consulting services. Joseph's "You can have it all" philosophy is based on his cutting edge tools and techniques, coupled with a simple step by step game plan which guarantees results. Joseph has over 18 years of experience in the area of empowerment training and program development. He has served as a parent involvement specialist, after school director, Black male achievement program director in the state of Maryland's public school system, and a youth director for the Maryland county drug prevention office. Joseph was drafted in 1983 by the National Basketball Association to play for the Cleveland Cavaliers and also played professional basketball in South America and New Zealand where he implemented and conducted boys and girls basketball clinics. Joseph was also a member of the Public Affairs Speakers Bureau of Sheppard Pratt Mental Health Systems. His presentation topics included: Starting Fresh Without the Stress, I've Got the Gift, How Do You Spell Respect, and Making The Connection. To contact Mr. Brown, email him at jinpowerment@aol.com.

Emille M. Bryant is a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Air Force and the Chief of Staff and Executive Officer for the Director, Logistics (A4) for the Air National Guard. He leads a team of three professionals who ensure clear, consistent and concise communication of policy and procedure for all logistics activities in the Air National Guard. He also directs all staff functions on behalf of the Director. Prior to this assignment, he was the commander of the 317th Maintenance Squadron, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, where he deployed to Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait as the Commander of the 386th Maintenance Squadron. Born in Portland, Oregon, Lt Col Bryant earned his commission through the Air Force Academy in June 1993. After completing the Aircraft Maintenance and Munitions Officers Course at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, he has served as a maintainer at locations including Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal, and Yokota Air Base, Japan. He has a Bachelor of Science from the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado and a Masters of Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma. To contact LtCol Bryant, email him at eb784@hotmail.com.

Jerrod E. Coates is a passionate, gifted, and unique musician, whose personal interpretations of both classical and popular music have amazed and delighted audiences around the world. Although he was at the tender age of 12, his goal and desire was to be the best organist in the world. At the age of 15, he requested to study with Concert Organist, Diane Bish. Beginning to learn the art of hymn arrangements, improvisation, pedal technique, French Masterpieces, and registration under her leadership, by the age of 16, he had composed and arranged several choral pieces and compositions for the organ. At the age of 16, he was offered a full scholarship to study at the prestigious Peabody Preparatory of Music, later offering another full scholarship to study at the Peabody Conservatory of Music. For five years in a row, he won first place in the J. Morris International Organist Competition; therefore launching his professional concert career. Besides performing in the United States of America, he has performed in Australia, France, Germany, and Switzerland. He has also performed at the National Cathedral in Washington DC and with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. His humble yet fiery spirit has opened many doors for this young artist. At the age of 19, he performed for many notable people such as, Oprah Winfrey, Montel Williams, Vicky Lawrence, and Composer/Actor, Mr. Jester Harriston. In December, 2005, he was presented with an honorary Doctorate from the Organ Faculty and staff of Duke University. To contact Mr. Coates, email him at revjecoates@msn.com.

James DeCoster was born in Kingstree, South Carolina and is one of 13 children. James has a Bachelors and Masters degree in Business Administration and Computer Information Systems. He is currently employed with the Department of Treasury as an Information Systems Officer. He also volunteers his time as a high school track coach where he trains and mentors young ladies how to be winners on the track as well as in life. To contact Mr. DeCoster, email him at James.Decoster@occ.treas.gov.

Norvel L. Dillard was commissioned as an Adjutant General Officer in the Regular Army in 1981. Mr. Dillard graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate with a Bachelors Degree in Mass Communications from Norfolk State University. He also received a Dual Masters Degree in Management and Computer Resources Management from Webster University and a Masters Degree in National Resource Strategies from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. Some of his previous jobs included Assistant Chief of Staff for Materiel, Chief of the Personnel Management Branch, Brigade Operations Officer and Battalion Executive Officer, and the Pentagon as a Personnel Policy Analyst and Integrator. He finally retired as the Deputy Brigade Commander of the First Recruiting Brigade at Fort Meade Maryland. His awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters; the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters; and the Parachutist, Air Assault, Department of the Army, and Recruiting Badge. To contact Mr. Dillard, email him at rock6tr89@aol.com.

Maurice L. Dunn is currently a Presidential Communications Officer Trainer at the White House Communications Agency as a contractor for the Morgan Franklin Corporation. Maurice also owns and operates a successful e-commerce development business that helps companies transition online. He was born in Beloit, Wisconsin and grew up in Las Vegas, Nevada where he completed high school in 1993. He attended the United States Air Force (USAF) Academy in Colorado Springs and received his Bachelor of Science degree in General/Liberal Studies with a concentration in Civil Engineering. While assigned at the USAF Academy, his responsibilities included being a minority counselor for 12 states in the north central United States and Canada, as well as developing a qualified pool of minority candidates for current and future admission to USAF Academy. His assignments included tours to Illinois, Oklahoma, and two deployments for a total of 284 days in support of Operations Southern Watch and Enduring Freedom. In April 2004, he arrived at the White House Communications Agency where he lead joint Service teams of officers and enlisted personnel in deployment and operations of telecommunications systems worth \$15 million directly supporting the President, Vice President, senior White House staff, National Security Council, White House Military Office, and the United States Secret Service. During one mission, he led a deployed team of 59 personnel who installed a wide range of telecommunications equipment in Georgia for an unprecedented Presidential address to over 150,000 people. He was also a Senior Duty Officer for the Agency where he coordinated communication team deployments for 1100 missions, which included a short - notice Hurricane Rita mission to Texas. To contact Mr. Dunn, email him at moedunn@yahoo.com.

Rahshaan Engrum received his commission in the United States Coast Guard in 1997. LCDR Engrum received his Bachelors Degree in Government from the United States Coast Guard Academy. He also received a Masters Degree in Quality Systems Management from the National Graduate School in 2004. His previous assignments include: Deck Watch Officer – USCGC BEAR, Officer In Charge – Law Enforcement Detachment 206, Operations Officer – Tactical Law Enforcement Team North, Operations Officer - Maritime Safety and Security Team Chesapeake, Program Manager – Office of Counter Terrorism and Special Missions, Operations Officer – Maritime Security Response Team, and Assignment Officer – Personnel Services Center. His awards and decorations include the Coast Guard Commendation Medal with 2 gold stars, Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, NATO Medal (Kosovo), 9-11 Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, and the Tactical Law Enforcement Insignia. To contact LCDR Engrum, email him at Rahshaan.Engrum@uscg.mil.

Rayna L. Evans is a Web Developer/Web Content Strategist for the United States Department of Defense. In her current role, Ms. Evans works closely with customers throughout her agency providing guidance with their content and layout on their websites. A native of Browns Mills, New Jersey, Ms. Evans has lived in Laurel, Maryland for over eight years. She holds a Bachelor of Art degree in Communications and Journalism from Trenton State College and a Masters of Science in Information Systems from Strayer University. Ms Evans is currently learning to become fluent in Sign Language. To contact Ms. Evans, email her at raynaevans@yahoo.com.

Ray Fleming is the Deputy Director, Office of Communications and Public Liaison, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, for the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. He has had a lifelong love for biomedical science, fostered by his high school science teachers and nurtured by extra biology and biomedical activities during that period. After receiving his Bachelors of Science degree in Zoology from the University of Maryland College Park, his interest in biology and other sciences was cemented by work experiences as a laboratory technician working on the Chesapeake Bay and as a young writer-editor involved in chemistry, physics, electronics, oceanography, and space science. He is also a National Institute of Health Merit Award winner. He enjoys speaking to audiences of elementary, middle, and high school students. To contact Mr. Fleming, email him at flemingr@exchange.nih.gov.

Layshia Fowler was born in Summerville, South Carolina and she went to the Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine, in Chicago, Illinois. She picked her career because she grew up around a lot of people with diabetes that had or were on the verge of having an amputation of some sort and the only reason was because of sugar or diabetes. She felt that if people knew how to better take care of themselves and prevent problems it was worth becoming a podiatrist. She also picked her career out of a community need for education and prevention as well as a superhero syndrome. She is a physician that specializes in the medical and surgical treatment of the foot and ankle. She does everything from trimming nails and calluses, prescribing shoes and custom arch supports, to performing surgery. She is motivated from the satisfaction of people coming to her in pain and leaving her dancing. The ability to save a life and limb is a very special feeling to her. She feels everyone has a calling in life and she wants to show young people that now are the time to accept their calling and work towards accomplishing it. She believes the medical field is always in need of good workers, especially those with the compassion to help and heal. To contact Ms. Fowler, email her at layshia.fowler@va.gov.

Shonda Nicole Gladden is a native Washingtonian and is a gifted educator, writer, realtor, and artist. Educated throughout the Washington Metropolitan area, she is a graduate of Suitland Senior High School's University High Program; where she majored in Behavioral and Social Sciences. In addition to her accomplishments as an artist and minister, Miss Gladden is a scholar. She earned a Bachelors of Art in Philosophy from Morgan State University (2000) and both the Master of Divinity and Master of Theological Studies degrees at The Wesley Theological Seminary in NW Washington, DC. At present, Miss Gladden serves as an Instructor at Morgan State University in the Department of Philosophy. She also helps people achieve their dreams of homeownership as a licensed DC and MD Real Estate Agent. To contact Ms. Gladden, email her at snicole@snicolegladden.com.

Timothy Greene is a Special Agent for the Internal Revenue Service and works for the Criminal Investigation Division. He was born in New Jersey and he earned a Bachelors of Science Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from Ramapo College of New Jersey. One of his previous endeavors includes an Auditor with the Division of Taxation for the State of New Jersey for 8 years. He also graduated from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in December 2000. To contact Mr. Greene, email him at timothy.greene@ci.irs.gov.

Norman Hill was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on June 8 and in 1981, he graduated from Lakeshore High School in College Park, Georgia. Three months after graduating from high school, he entered the United States Air Force on September 2, 1981 and completed basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. His military assignments included tours in South Dakota, Greece, Georgia, England, Guam, and Germany. He also participated in Operation Just Cause, Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, and Operation Provide Comfort I and II. After those successful tours, he reported to the White House Communications Agency in July 2003, where he served as the Resource Advisor for the Visual Information Command, White House Communications Agency. He was responsible for managing a \$10.4 million operation and maintenance budget supporting 74 unit personnel. He advised the Commander and the First Sergeant on daily expenditures, budgetary policies and procedures, and the command's status of funds. He also managed the Financial Resource Management System through detailed monitoring, validation, and finalizing of Presidential support purchases from 10 different work centers within the command. He was responsible for managing a \$100,000 Government Purchase Card account ensuring strict compliance with all policies. He also served as the Superintendent for the Master Control Section and the Training Section Supervisor. He completed his Master of Science Degree in Management from National-Louis University. To contact Mr. Hill, email him at normanhill06@comcast.net.

Rob Howze is the Founder and Executive Director of a youth centered organization called "World Wide Community" (WWC). WWC was established in 2006 for the benefit of students in Elementary, Middle, and High School to experience various sports, athletic, and academic challenges in a positive and motivational environment. Rob has been working with and encouraging students for over ten years. Using innovative methods to reach and inspire young people, creating an atmosphere of awareness and accountability for students to embrace. Rob recognizes the struggles, challenges, and disappointments that the next generation faces, so during his presentations he gives solutions, alternatives, and offers a fresh way of thinking. To contact Mr. Howze, email him at rjhowze2003@yahoo.com.

Cary James, Jr. currently serves as a Youth Director in Glenn Dale, Maryland, under the leadership of the Dr. Lee P. Washington. As Youth Director, Mr. James develops, organizes and implements a wide range of systematic programs that impact over 1,000 youth. He instituted a weekly Youth Rap Session which is attended by several hundred youth that will equip youth to be productive citizens who can serve as positive examples and mentors to other youth and future generations. Some of the programs he has developed include HEADS Up Mentoring Program for children with incarcerated parents, Project L.I.F.E. for area middle and high school students, an investment club, and a community youth explosion and conference. Mr. James travels across the country speaking at Workshops, Conferences, Middle and High Schools, Youth Detention Centers and Prisons. Mr. James has received numerous honors to include two-time recipient of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc, Man of the Year Award and the Evans E. Crawford Speaking Award. Mr. James earned a B.S. in Environmental Science from Alabama A&M University, completed his graduate studies in Environmental Engineering at Iowa State University, and graduated with honors from Howard University School of Divinity. To contact Mr. James, email him at revcjr@aol.com.

Maxine James received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the College of New Rochelle in New Rochelle, New York. She received a Masters of Arts in Social Work from Simmons College in Boston, Massachusetts. After working as a Psychiatric Social Worker in the field of Addiction, she changed her focus and entered the Hospitality Industry. She advanced from a Front Desk Clerk to her present position as a General Manager of a Residence Inn by Marriott over a period of sixteen years. She is responsible for budget, profit, and loss management; overseeing the operation of the hotel, guest satisfaction, and employee relations. She believes in giving outrageous service and enjoys the satisfaction of problem solving. Ms. James states that she has never had a boring day at work. To contact Ms. James, email her at maxaljam@verizon.net.

Tarik Jones, a native New Yorker, has been documenting weddings for more than a decade. He is a seasoned photographer with an approach to documenting weddings that's widely considered by many to be a graceful blend of contemporary story telling and traditional photography. As a student of photography, he learned the visual art through formal training, years of experience, and studying the work of industry professionals he most admires. His first photographic assignment was at the age of 16. Since then, his love for taking pictures and capturing memorable images has led him to pursue a rewarding and exciting career as a documentary style wedding photographer. His work has appeared in major magazines and news publications, has graced the cover of a best selling novel, and promotional websites for commercial clients. He has also appeared on a nationally syndicated Cable TV program, "The Wedding Story". Today most of his work is based out of Maryland and surrounding areas; however, Tarik has also accepted assignments internationally. Natural, Realistic, and Visually Moving are words clients use to describe the photojournalistic work of Tarik Jones, Wedding Photographer. To contact Mr. Jones, email him at mrtarikjones@gmail.com.

Melody Lawson is a graduate of South Carolina State University with a degree in Business Management. She is an accomplished, hands-on and determined professional with strong leadership skills that has worked with various organizations such as, Serious Teens and Adults Acting Responsible and Project FLAVA. Within these organizations Miss Lawson has ventured into the community and mentored and tutored youth of various backgrounds and ages. Currently, she has worked as a Management Analyst in the Production & Finance Department at BAE Systems, Inc. where she managed the cost and production of ships for the United States Department of Navy. Her duties included monitoring Earned Value Management (EVM), which allowed visibility into technical, cost, scheduling, performance and the progress of ships on the United States Department of Navy contract. Monthly, she generated financial reports which included Quicklook, Shareline (Profit & Loss) and Cost Performance Financial Analysis that provided insight into how BAE Systems, Inc. was trading off cost, in an effort to deliver the best product at the lowest cost in the shortest time. To contact Ms. Lawson, email her at smelody_lawson@yahoo.com.

Dr. Marcia Boyce Levi was born in Georgetown, Guyana and is a former track and field athlete. She knows firsthand the effects of trauma and life's stresses on the body and has committed her life to helping people everywhere heal naturally and stay healthy. A former high school teacher and honor graduate of the College of Chiropractic, Life University, Dr. Levi also earned degrees in Education and Dietetics. She is licensed by the state boards of New York and Maryland and is certified by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners in Chiropractic and Physiological Therapeutics. A member of the Maryland Chiropractic Association and the Gonstead Clinical Studies Society, she serves the community through volunteer work and presentations. To contact Dr. Levi, email her at drmblevi@vmdirect.com.

Terry Lighty is a native of Dillon, South Carolina and a retired veteran who served in the United States Air Force with over 20 years of honorable service. He enlisted in the United States Air Force October 1986 and has an extensive military background. After basic military training, he completed Munitions Operations Technical Training at Lowry Air Force Base, Colorado. His Munitions Operations assignments included Arkansas, Turkey, and North Carolina. He retrained into the Education and Training career field and graduated in April 1996. His education and training assignments included Georgia and Maryland. He completed his last tour of duty on a special duty assignment, working for the Joint Counterintelligence Training Academy as a Senior Trainer. During his tenure in the military, Terry earned numerous awards and received many certificates of appreciation for his service to the country, community, and youth. He has a Bachelors of Science in Workforce Education and Development from Southern Illinois University and a Masters degree in Human Resource Management. He is a member of the Society for Human Resource Management and the American Society for Training and Development. He is also a certified professional trainer. He is a strong advocate for youth and takes great pleasure and pride in helping those who need just a little push to keep them moving in the right direction. He is currently an Instructional System Development Manager for EDS. To contact Mr. Lighty, email him at t.lighty@att.net.

Doreen McGarrah-Lee is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Special Education from Glassboro State College and her Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision from Johns Hopkins University. She has been working with emotionally disturbed high school students in the school setting since 1985. Doreen is a basketball official for both girls and boys and enjoys spending time working with youth. Her passion for service is evident in the support, education, and assistance that she provides to youth. To contact Ms. Lee, email her at Doreen.Lee@TheMentorNetwork.com.

George D. MacArthur was born and raised in Los Angeles, California, the youngest of eight children. Shortly after graduating from high school in 1983, he joined the United States Navy as an electronic technician and served on active duty for ten years. He had the pleasure of being assigned to the White House Communications Agency, where he served under two Presidential administrations from 1991 to 1997 and was selected as a White House Communications All Star and Presidential Radio Technician of the Year. He traveled the world providing telecommunications support to the United States Secret Service and the offices of the President and Vice President of the United States. He was commissioned in the reserves as a Naval Officer in March of 2001 and served as a Lieutenant supporting Naval Warfare Commands. He has also completed his studies in Masters of Science in Information Assurance from Norwich University and is currently an IT Senior Scientist with CACI. To contact Mr. MacArthur, email him at mac.com1@verizon.net.

Robin Marion was born in Chicago, Illinois on Dec. 25 and is the Operations Noncommissioned Officer for the White House Communications Agency, Visual Information Command. First Sergeant Marion is responsible for the management and performance of 72 personnel who provide worldwide support to the President of the United States. Her assignments include tours to Korea, Washington State, the Pentagon, Florida, and Maryland. She has also served in a variety of key leadership positions throughout her career to include Master Control Shift Supervisor, Noncommissioned Officer In Charge of a Remote Television Section, Training Development Writer, and a Senior Drill Sergeant. Master Sergeant Marion is one of few people who finished in the top 10 percent of her class, in every one of her four leadership schools. Her outstanding leadership and military knowledge led to her selection as the White House Communications and Defense Information Systems Agency Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. She has received numerous military awards and decorations for her efforts. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from National-Louis University and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Touro University. To contact First Sergeant Marion, email her at marvrob@comcast.net.

Christina Mayo was born in Baltimore, Maryland and is the youngest of three sisters. Following graduation from Western Senior High in 1998, she attended Morgan State University where she received her Bachelors of Science Degree in Industrial Engineering. She serves as a volunteer for the Big Brother and Big Sister Program and has several experiences in speaking to youth. She is known for inspiring young people to continue their education and has received several honors for her dedicated work with youth. She is currently working as a Systems Engineer at Lockheed Martin in Baltimore, Maryland. To contact Ms. Mayo, email her at Christina.mayo@lmco.com.

Jonathan McCoy is a Consultant in Booz Allen's Organization and Strategy (OS) group. His experience spans the manufacturing, defense, aerospace, and energy sectors. Most recently, he worked in Shell Oil's Unconventional Oil Acquisition Group fabricating and testing technology used to access oil with nontraditional methods. At Toyota Motors Manufacturing, he was primarily responsible for identifying and solving problems related to quality defects and process efficiency. At Honeywell Technologies, Mr. McCoy was responsible for implementing a new innovative development strategy for product design. He worked at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab on the development of mechanical and electrical systems for a STEREO satellite designed to make 3-D measurements of solar explosions. At NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, he studied finite element analysis and designing modeling programs to reflect structural behavior under varying load application. Mr. McCoy graduated as the Valedictorian of North Carolina A&T State University and as the NAMASKAR Engineer of the Year for 2009 with a Bachelors of Science in Mechanical Engineering. As president of the North Carolina A&T State University Chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta honors society, he led the organization to be named one of the top five (out of over three hundred chapters in the nation). As lead Senior Scholar with the University Honors Program, he coordinated and led a year-long mentoring program to help over four hundred freshman transition into their first year of college. Mr. McCoy's professional and leadership training includes participation in the Yale Pre MBA Leadership Program, Management Leadership for Tomorrow Career Prep Program, Monster Diversity Leadership Program, and INROADS. He has international educational experience including study abroad trips to Thailand, Cambodia, Ghana, England, and Italy. He has earned membership into numerous honors societies including Tau Beta Pi, Pi Tau Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi, and Golden Key. To contact Mr. McCoy, email him at jmccoy21045@yahoo.com.

Kevin E. McCrary is a native of Knoxville, Tennessee. He enlisted in the United States Army in June of 1985 and graduated from Advanced Individual Training as a Multi-Channel Communications Systems Operator from the United States Army Signal School in Fort Gordon Georgia. Sergeant Major McCrary has traveled all over the world to include Germany, military action in Kosovo, and numerous states that included positions as a Drill Sergeant, First Sergeant, and Master Fitness Instructor. Sergeant Major McCrary has a Bachelors of Science Degree in Business Management from National-Louis University and is completing his Masters of Science Degree in Information Systems Management from Webster University. He has received various military awards and decorations to include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and Presidential Service Badge. Sergeant Major McCrary also traveled as a Vice Presidential Communications Response Officer in support of the Vice President of the United States. To contact Sergeant Major McCrary, email him at kevin.e.mccrary@us.army.mil.

Nicole McNeil is a Biologist for the Genetics Branch, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. As an undergraduate student, Ms. McNeil spent a summer working at Pfizer Central Research in Connecticut testing newly designed drugs to prevent atherosclerosis. Before receiving her Bachelor's degree from Connecticut College, she spent 10 months in the organic chemistry lab working to develop a leukotriene antagonist. After receiving her undergraduate degree she worked as a cytogenetic technologist at Prenatal Diagnostic Center in Lexington, Massachusetts and at Molecular Medicine in Rockville, Maryland. Ms. McNeil's interest in science and in the medical field led her to follow a pre-med program in college. After spending a few summers as a research assistant and three years working in clinical laboratories, she found molecular cytogenetics to be her ideal field. Her research at NIH involves looking for stage-specific genomic markers in mouse models of human cancers. Most recently she has used a variety of microarray platforms to elucidate how genomic imbalances relate to gene expression in various types of transformed tissues. She also has a M.S. in Biology from Howard University in Washington, DC. Her awards, honors, and achievements include the American Heart Association Summer Research Award and the Keck Undergraduate Student Award. To contact Ms. McNeil, email her at mcline@mail.nih.gov.

Cynthia Miller is the Deputy Chief Human Capital Officer and the Deputy Associate Director of Human Resources at the National Security Agency (NSA), Department of Defense, Fort Meade, Maryland. She is responsible for workforce planning and design, recruitment and staffing, employee services, diversity and disability affairs. She was the National Security Agency 2005 Nominee for the Women of Color Technology Award and prior to joining NSA, she served 27 years as a Human Resources Officer in the United States Navy attaining the rank of Captain. In a previous position as the Chief of Office Recruitment and Staffing at the National Security Agency, Ms. Miller was responsible for a recruitment mission of approximately 1,500 new employees. She and her staff of 80 personnel met their mission and these new hires were employed in the areas of Intelligence Analysis, Computer Science, Language, Engineering & Physical Science, Mathematics, Security, Acquisition, Human Resources, Legal Support Services and Facilities ensuring the National Security Agency was sufficiently manned to contribute to the nation's safety and security. Ms. Miller graduated in 1983 with a Masters Degree from Central Michigan University in Business Management and she earned a Bachelors Degree from Savannah State University in Business Administration in 1977. She also graduated from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College in 1991 with a Masters level equivalency in Strategic Planning. To contact Ms. Miller, email her at cmille5@nsa.gov.

Valerie Nowotnick is the Owner of Paralegal Consultants and brings over 25 years legal experience to the firm. Valerie began her legal career as early as high school when she was approached by her high school principal to work one day a week in the Queen Anne's County State's Attorney's Office. As part of her work release program in her senior year, Valerie worked on Fridays assisting the State's Attorney with preparation of legal documents, scheduling appointments, managing his trial calendar and other legal assistant duties. This experience set the stage for Valerie's subsequent career as a paralegal and in law office management. Since that time, Valerie has held positions in a variety of law offices which has allowed her to develop an intrinsic knowledge of the legal field. Paralegal Consultants was formed in response to the legal community's need for affordable, comprehensive and professional paralegal services. Their cost-saving techniques benefit not only the client but also the attorney. Paralegal Consultants stands at the ready to perform a multitude of litigation support services. To contact Ms. Nowotnick, email her at info@paralegalconsult.com.

Dr. Ofelia A. Olivero obtained her PhD in cytogenetics in Argentina and subsequently joined the National Cancer Institute where she has worked since 1987. Her interest in science began when she received a microscope as a gift during her childhood. As a result she began to keep a log of her observations--a skill she has used time and again over the years. She has specialized in the cytogenetics of cancer through locating and visualizing damaged chromosomes and identifying specific areas in chromosomes related to cancer, known as "hot spots." She has also maintained her strong interest in education by mentoring and training many of the students who come to work at the National Institute of Health. She has specifically been involved with the Society for the Advance of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science. She is currently a Staff Scientist in the Laboratory of Cellular Carcinogenesis and Tumor Promotion. She is a member of the Executive Board of the Genetic Toxicology Association and co-chairs a committee of the Environmental Mutagen Society. She has been an active member of the NIH-Hispanic Employee Organization since 1999 and is currently serving as president. She is also a member of the Minorities in Cancer Research group as well as Women in Cancer Research. She is the author of more than 50 peer-reviewed articles and has been invited to deliver numerous talks in the USA and abroad. She is the recipient of many awards, including the Leading Diversity Award from the National Cancer Institute. To contact Dr. Olivero, email her at oliveroo@dc37a.nci.nih.gov.

Dorothea "Dori" Ottaviano is originally from Highland, New York and is currently a resident of Alexandria, Virginia. In 2004, Ms. Ottaviano retired from the United States Air Force after proudly serving her country for over 21 years. During her time in the Air Force, she served as a Morse code operator, Training Manager, Security Manager, Master Instructor, Mission Supervisor, and Squadron Superintendent. Her duty locations included Mississippi, England, Greece, Texas, Hawaii, Massachusetts, and Arizona. Ms. Ottaviano has earned three degrees; a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, an Associate of Applied Science in Instructor of Methodology and Military Science, and an Associate of Applied Science degree in Intelligence Collection. Currently, Ms. Ottaviano is a Master Instructor for a Department of Defense contractor. She is a member of Adopt a US Soldier Program (AAUSSP), Women In Military Service Memorial Foundation, Air Force Memorial Association, United Service Organization (USO), and the University of Phoenix Alumni. Ms. Ottaviano's greatest passion is educating others and instilling in them that regardless of your circumstances, attitude is everything. To contact Ms. Ottaviano, email her at dcottavia@yahoo.com.

Christopher Pass is a Telecommunications and Electronics Technician with 20 years of information technology experience in the military and government communications field. He has comprehensive knowledge of analog and digital voice, telephone, video, radio and wireless communications principles and practices. He is known for his superior leadership and team building skills, as well as an ingenious problem solver with a proven ability to bring quick resolution to challenging situations. He was a member of a personally selected United States Army Communications Management Support Team that provided technical and communications support to the United States Secret Service and the Department of Defense Joint Directorate of Military Support. He has supervised and managed operational control of telecommunications equipment of over 200 installations and managed financial accountability of over \$500,000 in United States Secret Service funds for the only Army Communications Management Support Team in the 2008 Presidential election. He also saved a military communications unit over \$700,000 in labor costs by leading a team that installed a local area network with 192 connections. Furthermore, he ensured the safety of 40,000 Boy Scouts by installing 18 Video Systems during the 2005 National Boy Scout Jamboree. He has an Associates Degree in General Studies and a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice. To contact Mr. Pass, email him at passchristopher@hotmail.com.

Dr. Budhan Pukazhenth is an Ungulate Scientist for the Department of Reproductive Sciences with the National Institute of Health and has a diverse clinical and research background. After training and practicing as a clinical veterinarian in India, he obtained research training in biochemistry, cell biology and molecular biology at the University of Maryland. He joined the Smithsonian National Zoological Park and its Conservation and Research Center in 1992 to pursue a Ph.D. Capitalizing on his unique background, he introduced a new dimension to the research conducted within the Department of Reproductive Sciences. His most significant achievements include demonstrating the link between cellular mechanisms and sperm function and understanding the mechanisms that dictate the successful cryopreservation of cells. His primary research goal is the conservation of critically endangered species including ungulates and elephants in captivity and in the wild. His research interests include understanding the fundamental reproductive biology of rare and endangered species, mitigating infertility, developing assisted reproductive technologies and gamete and embryo cryopreservation. He has been a strong advocate for the development of collaborative research and has an impressive array of partners, including at the National Institute of Health, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, University of Maryland and Cornell University. He has 40 publications in the peer-reviewed literature and a book chapter. To contact Mr. Pukazhenth, email him at pukazhenthb@si.edu.

Clarence Ray was born in Selma Alabama on January 3, and he has been married for 22 years and has 3 children. He completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from Franklin Pierce College, Rindge New Hampshire and a Master of Science in Business Education from New Hampshire College in Manchester, New Hampshire. Clarence served in the United States Air Force as Avionic Specialist working on FB-111 military aircrafts and as a military officer; he was a flight navigator on board the KC-135 airborne refueling aircraft. He has been a program director since 1997 and a faculty member at Bowie State University in the Department of Computer Science. Clarence is also the President and CEO of Data Vault Corporation, a leading edge computer services company specializing in on-line data backup and recovery. To contact Mr. Ray, email him at cray@datavaultcorp.com.

Theodore Ricks Jr., is the founder and President of MTT & Associates LLC, an Information Technology company that offers full Life Cycle Development and Infrastructure Design. Mr. Ricks is a Philadelphia native who as a youth was misguided by environmental influences coupled with an under developed ideology, found himself not meeting the requirements of High School. Although, Mr. Ricks did not meet the High School requirements, he exercised his only option and joined the United States Army. Once enlisted, Mr. Ricks attended classes to receive his Diploma and later attended a vast range of Universities in pursuit of a Degree. In his post Military experiences, Mr. Ricks was recognized by "Who's Who in Information Technology", and received a host of Software Certifications and numerous Achievement Awards. Today he is the owner of MTT & Associates which has found success as a Veteran Owned, Minority Owned Information Technology Corporation. MTT & Associates supports the Top Secret Intelligence Community, developing software application for worldwide collaboration and dissemination. To contact Mr. Ricks, email him at Ricks@mtt-associates.com.

Natasha L. Robinson is a Financial Management Officer for the United States Marine Corps. She currently works as a Diversity Admissions Counselor at her Alma Mata, the United States Naval Academy. She has three years experience in financial management; to include budgeting and dispersing. She also enjoys mentoring and tutoring. Active participation in her local community and the non-profit National Naval Officers Association (NNOA), has given her experience in fundraising and community service. Her current occupation gives her the opportunity to travel all across the country and inform minority students about the importance of education, preparing themselves for college, and seeking the higher road of achievement. She is also passionate about helping women and managing the United States Naval Academy Gospel Choir. A native of Orangeburg, South Carolina, she holds a Bachelor of Science degree in English. To contact Mrs. Robinson, email her at nrobinso@usna.edu.

Stanley Derric Rodgers, born April 4 in Selma, Alabama and the youngest of three siblings. He graduated from Selma High School in May 1984. Stanley entered the United States Army in September 1984 and separated from active duty in March 1992. Stanley retired from the United States Army Reserve in January 2006 with a total of twenty-one years Active and Reserve service to his Country. He attended various colleges during his military career. He graduated from Bowie State University in May 2000 with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology with a concentration in Criminal Justice. He had been employed the last 13 years with the State of Maryland with Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services. He is currently an Intelligence Analyst for the National Security Agency. To contact Mr. Rodgers, email him at giou07@gmail.com.

Brian K. Smith is the co-founder of an IT consulting firm called [SMITH Solutions](#) providing database, software, and systems engineering solutions for the government and commercial industry. Mr. Smith also the Founder and Executive Director of [EduSerc](#), non-profit organization that dedicates itself to the development and advancement of youth, adults and the community across the nation. Several of his accomplishments include Freshman and Senior Class President, being inducted into the National Honor Society, and Who's Who among American High School Students. After graduating high school with over 13 scholarships, Mr. Smith attended the University of Maryland and received his Bachelors of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. While in college, Mr. Smith served as Steering Committee Chair and President of the Black Engineers Society. He later became a Regional Chairperson on the National Board of the National Society of Black Engineers. Mr. Smith also received many honors including the Martin Luther King Community Service Award, the USAA National Collegiate Engineering Award, and Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities. To contact Mr. Smith, email him at bksmith@eduserc.org.

Karol Taylor is the founder and owner of Taylor Your Career, a career management service, which includes resume writing, job search, interview coaching, career/education advising, and federal resume writing/job search. Ms. Taylor brings a broad perspective and considerable expertise to the career management and federal hiring process with more than 28 years of federal service, including 15 years of career advising and 5 years of academic advising. She is a two-time recipient of the coveted Department of Health and Human Service's Secretary's Award for Distinguished Services and she has also received numerous Assistant Secretary's Awards and the Middle Atlantic Career Counseling Association's Goodwill Ambassador Award. Currently, she is Immediate Past President of the Maryland Career Development Association (MCDA), and Program Chair for the Association for Career Professionals, Intl., DC Chapter. She is an MCDA conference presenter for their annual conferences and has presented for the federal Training Officers Conference and the Joint Employment and Training Technology Conference in Baltimore. More recently, she presented to the 2006 National Employment Counselors Association and the 2007 University of Wisconsin Career Conference on how to apply for a federal job. She has published articles in the MCDA newsletter, and book reviews for the Association for Career Professionals, International newsletter. She was certified in the MBTI assessment in 1994, and has given various workshops since then. Most recently she has been providing feedback to Next Step Welfare-to Work Program participants at Prince Georges Community College. To contact Ms. Taylor, email her at karoltaylor@comcast.net.

Patricia B. Tomaselli is Director of Security, Electronic Systems, Northrop Grumman Corporation. Ms. Tomaselli is responsible for all sector security operations which includes programs for physical security; badging and clearances; information security to include classified and unclassified computer security; international security; Department of Defense, foreign government and special programs security; investigations and executive protection and security compliance. She joined the corporation in 1974 as a Security Officer for the Westinghouse Motor and Control Division in Buffalo New York. She transferred to the corporation's Research and Development Center in Pittsburgh in 1978 as their Supervisor of Security and Safety, and provided support to the Westinghouse Corporate Security Office. In 1987, she moved to the Baltimore Operations and was later appointed the Manager of Security and Safety for the Defense Electronics Systems Company (DESCO). She joined the company's Marine Systems operations in Sunnyvale California in 1989 as their manager of Security and also served as the west coast coordinator for the corporation's security efforts. She was appointed to her present position in August of 1998. Ms. Tomaselli earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1981 and a master's degree in business administration from Pepperdine University in 1996. To contact Ms. Tomaselli, email her at pat.tomaselli@ng.com.

Sam Watkins culminated an illustrious 27-year military career on August 14, 2005 as the Senior Enlisted Advisor of the White House Communications Agency as a Command Sergeant Major. Mr. Watkins is a native of Youngstown, Ohio, entered the Army in August 1978, and completed training as a Satellite Communications Systems Operator/Maintainer. He earned an Associate degree in General Education from Georgia Military College, a Bachelor of Science degree from National University, and a Masters degree in Human Resource Management and Development from National Louis University. Mr. Watkins has served in all levels of military leadership and his career has taken him to various parts of the world to include California, Texas, Colorado, Italy, Belgium, and most notably Fort Benning, Georgia, where he was selected as the U.S. Army Infantry Training Center's Drill Sergeant of the Year and subsequently the TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year for 1988. He has received numerous military awards and decorations to include the coveted Presidential Service Badge, Drill Sergeant Badge, and Parachutist Badge. Today, Sam is the Corporate Operations Director for TKC Communications located in Fairfax, VA. To contact Mr. Watkins, email him at swatkins@tkccommunications.com.

Alan D. Watson is the President and creator of Smart Style School Uniforms. Mr. Watson's corporate executive experience in the Apparel Manufacturing and Public School environments is an invaluable asset to school uniform stakeholders. He successfully executed a business alliance in 2007 with All American Wear to enhance and augment client offerings and deliverables. His primary role includes client engagement, marketing activities, managing external relationships, and securing contracts for the Firm and Alliance. Prior to Smart Style, he was the Business Unit Executive for Countdown Technologies Inc. He secured partnerships with Major IT Solution Providers and is a Certified Executive Management Trainer and Consultant. Alan was also the Regional Vice-President for Government and Major Account sales operations for Xerox's subsidiary Chrystal Software. His focus was on Xerox Enterprise Solutions, which included underpenetrated Major Account opportunities. He was also responsible for managing the National Software Services Managers and Enterprise Consultants who focused on supporting pre/post sales activities. Upon graduating from College, he played for the NBA's Golden State Warriors and worked for IBM for seven years as a Marketing Representative for the National Marketing Division. He was born in Queens, New York and earned his Bachelor's Degree with a major in Business Administration. He is involved with a number of community activities such as Board member and Mentor for the Professional Organization with Educational Resources and a Tuskegee University Alumni Board Member. To contact Mr. Watson, email him at watsonaw@comcast.net.

Exavier Watson is a Software Configuration Manager and College Recruiter for Lockheed Martin. He has a Bachelors of Science in Computer Science/Mathematics from South Carolina State University and a Masters of Science in Transportation Engineering with a concentration in GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems) from Morgan State University. He speaks to students about the importance of making the right choices in life and putting salaries and costs of living into perspective. He also speaks about the importance of time management when balancing work and school. He has spoken at Career Days for Laurel High School, Eleanor Roosevelt High School, and Jefferson Junior High School in SW Washington DC. He has been a judge for the Montgomery County Public Schools Science Fair and he has worked with Math teachers in Montgomery County for curriculum development. To contact Mr. Watson, email him at Everett.Watson@lmco.com.

Veronica Williams was born in Compton, California and is the youngest of 6 sisters and 4 brothers. Following graduation from Compton High in 1984, Veronica attended the University of California Berkley and the University of Phoenix where she received her Bachelors of Science Degree in Business Administration. Veronica also served as a Youth Leader for Fort Meade's Argonne Hills Family Center - the Army's second largest assembly. As a Youth Leader, Veronica served in various teaching capacities, which allowed her to mentor many young people using several life-based studies. She has received several honors for her dedicated work with youth, to include selection as one of the 2000 Fort Meade Volunteers of the Year. Veronica is also the co-founder of Alliance Seminars, a company designed to equip today's youth and women for tomorrow's challenges. She conducts workshops for women's organizations throughout the Washington DC Metropolitan area. To contact Ms. Williams, email her at vdwilliams111@comcast.net.

Darrell Williams grew up in Compton, California and is a Lead Technical Trainer for the White House Communications Agency Training Division. He is also a Youth Development veteran with over 19 years of experience and previously served as a Youth Director in Northern Virginia, Seoul, Korea, Fort Meade, and Annapolis, Maryland. He is a frequent youth conference speaker and is best known for delivering his signature program, "*Unlock the Doors that Lead to a Better Life*". Furthermore, he served his country for 20 years in the United States Army and some of his assignments included Germany, the Pentagon, and Korea. He was also assigned to the White House Communications Agency where he supported Presidents [Bush](#) and [Clinton](#) as an Operations Project Manager and Vice Presidents [Gore](#) and [Cheney](#) as a Communications Project Manager. During three separate years, he was selected as the Unit Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and he is part of Agency history as a member of the 1993 White House Communications All-Star Team. Additionally, he is a recipient of the White House Communications Agency, Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Award. Following the tragedies of September 11, 2001, he was selected as 1 of only 5 individuals to provide emergency communications for the Vice President of the United States. He has received the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, American Legion, and Lacey B. Ivory Community Service Award for his dedicated work with youth. Mr. Williams attended National Louis University where he majored in Management. To contact Mr. Williams, email him at raiderla@hotmail.com.

Michael Wingfield was born in Washington, DC and received a full scholarship to attend any Reserve Officer Training Corps program in the country. He eventually chose and graduated from the University of Central Florida in Orlando with a BS Degree in Accounting. He continued his education and received a Masters Degree in Computer Resource and Information Management from Webster University. He ultimately joined the United States Air Force as a Communications Officer. While in the Air Force, he received multiple awards of the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and Meritorious Service Medal. He was also a Distinguished Graduate of the Air Force Advanced Communications Officer Training Course, Inspector of the Year for the Air Combat Command Inspector General Directorate, and Air Force Inspector of the Year for the entire United States Air Force. Additionally, he served at the White House Communications Agency where he provided worldwide communications, intelligence, and emergency actions support to the President for over six years. He eventually became one of the White House Communications Agency's Top Presidential Communications Officers. Prior to retirement after 20 years of honorable service, he was personally recruited by the Deputy Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force to lead reengineering and transformation efforts at Headquarters Air Force. He is currently a mentor and life coach at the Southeast White House, serving young, disadvantaged, at-risk urban youth in Southeast, Washington, DC. He is also the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor at F.W. Ballou Senior High School where he heads the Air Force Junior ROTC program. To contact Mr. Wingfield, email him at mikewingfield2002@msn.com.