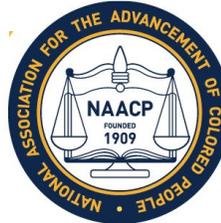




NAACP Creek Connection July 2018 Newsletter

Ben Chavis speaks at the 109th NAACP Annual Convention. (See page 9)

Former San Francisco Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr. recipient of 2018 Spingarn from former President Bill Clinton (See page 12)



DEFEAT HATE

VOTE



Local Authors presented their books at June Goose Creek NAACP meeting.
L-R Ricky C. Dennis (sitting), James McDuff, Sharina Haynes, **Local authors:** Dr. Alex Capers, Cleo Scott Brown, Michael Owens, Edith Martin Williams-Oldham; and Branch President, Veronica Dukes.

Goose Creek NAACP Highlights Local Authors

By Rickey Ciapha Dennis Jr. (rdennis@berkeleyind.com)

Goose Creek's local civil rights group highlighted local storytellers at its latest meeting.

The local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People branch welcomed four authors to showcase their books that touched on racial issues, spiritual warfare, local history and World War II. Several dozen guests attended the event, including Goose Creek mayor Greg Habib and councilmember Debra Green-Fletcher.

Edith Martin Williams-Oldham: "What Grandma Forgot to Tell You"

Edith Martin Williams-Oldham, a St. George resident, penned her second novel "What Grandma Forgot to Tell You" to describe her experiences growing up in rural and segregated St. George during Jim Crow in the 1940s and '50s. Williams-Oldham is a graduate of the former Williams Memorial High which served as an all-black Rosenwald school in St. George.



*City of Goose Creek
 Special Election
 July 31, 2018*

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Goose Creek NAACP Highlights Local Authors Continued on page 5



Veronica Dukles, President
Goose Creek NAACP Branch

BRANCH MEETINGS

Goose Creek NAACP meets at
Berkeley Electric Cooperative Building
2 Springhall Drive, Goose Creek, SC 29445

Upcoming Meetings

Monday July 23, 2018 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM General Meeting
Monday August 27, 2018

For more information and to confirm meeting call 843-425-9098

Goose Creek Branch NAACP
PO Box 1356
Goose Creek, SC 29445-1356
Telephone: 843-425-9098

Officers

PresidentVeronica Dukles
1st VPBrenda Bines
2nd VP.....Arnold Michel
Secretary.....Lavonne Holbert
Treasurer.....Marsha L. Hassel

Executive Committee Members

Jackie Adams	Claire Jefferson-
Barbara Bodison	Norwood
Herbert Bodison	Rev. Henry Orr
Willie Brooks	Billy Parker
Kenneth Harris	Cynthia Peterbark
Orville Hayes	Wesley Peterbark
Sharina Haynes	Charles Shuster
Dennis James	Roscoe Singetary
Thomas Lanier	Christine Walker
Shirley Martin	Van Williams

SAVE THE DATE

Goose Creek Branch of the NAACP

2018 Annual Freedom Fund Celebration

Theme:

A Vote in the Ballot Box is a Vote for Freedom

Guest Speaker

Saturday
OCTOBER 6, 2018
At
Crowne Plaza Hotel
4831 Tanger Outlet Blvd
N. Charleston, SC 29418



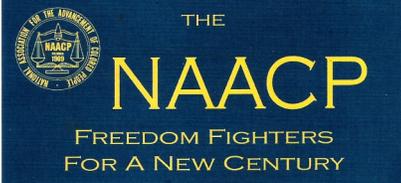
Rev. Anthony T. Waymyers, Pastor
Grace Temple Fellowship Church
Wallace, South Carolina

Cocktails - 5:45pm - 6:30pm
Seating at 6:30pm
Tickets \$60

DINNER | ATTIRE: BLACK TIE

For ticket purchases and more information contact:
Shirley Martin (843)-607-1750 or Lavone Holbert (843) 513-3769

THE LARGEST
AND THE OLDEST,
THE BADDEST
AND THE BOLDEST,
THE MOST LOVED
AND MOST HATED,
THE MOST FEARED
AND REVERED,
THE MOST CUSSSED
AND DISCUSSED
CIVIL RIGHTS ORGANIZATION
IN AMERICA...





Political Action Committee

Willie Brooks, Chairman

The Political Action Committee works to ensure voter empowerment through providing awareness, training, and programmatic support to ensure registration, education, administration, and election protection. The NAACP has developed a nonpartisan voter empowerment program designed to empower African Americans and people of color by increasing awareness and participation in the electoral process. The Political Action Committee will support the NAACP's mission to ensure political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination, through implementing the following initiatives:

- ◆ Partnering with local and national civic organizations to address pertinent issues.
- ◆ Informing the electorate of candidate views, to hold elected officials accountable.
- ◆ Get Out The Vote (GOTV), voter registration and poll transportation.



CITY OF GOOSE CREEK SPECIAL ELECTION

Special Election for the City of Goose Creek to be held Tuesday the 31st day of July 2018.

The following office shall be included in this election: City Council – Unexpired Term

The polling place for this election will be the Goose Creek Municipal Court, located in the Marguerite H. Brown Municipal Center, 519 N. Goose Creek Blvd, Goose Creek, SC, as set by law.

City Council is an unexpired term, expiring April 2020.

People desiring to vote in the upcoming election must be registered by June 30, 2018. To register, one must contact the Berkeley County Board of Elections & Registration, 843-719-4056. This office is located at 6 Belt Drive, Moncks Corner, SC 29461.

Registered electors who cannot vote in person may be eligible to vote by absentee ballot. Voters wishing for more information concerning absentee voting should contact The Berkeley County Board of Elections & Registration.

This is a nonpartisan election and no party affiliation shall be placed on the ballot.

The polls will open at 7:00 AM on Election Day and close at 7:00 PM.

Voters will be asked to provide one of the following Photo IDs at their polling place:

S.C. Driver's License, ID Card issued by S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, S.C. Voter Registration Card with Photo, Federal Military ID, or U.S. Passport. If you have one of these IDs, you are ready to vote.

Voters without Photo ID can get one free of charge from the Department of Motor Vehicles or their county voter registration office.

Voters who encounter an obstacle to getting a Photo ID should bring their paper voter registration card without a photo with them to their polling place. These voters can then sign an affidavit swearing to their identity and to their obstacle to obtaining a Photo ID and vote a provisional ballot. This ballot will count unless the county board of voter registration and elections has grounds to believe the affidavit is false.

For more information on Photo ID, visit www.scVOTES.org or contact Berkeley County Board of Voter Registration and Elections. ■



PHOTOS FROM JUNE 2018 MEETING
Photos Contributed by James McDuffie



NAACP Highlights Local Authors Continued from page 1

“About seven or eight years ago, I decided that there was so much information about the little town that I grew up that no one had a clue,” Williams-Oldham said. “There were places that were abandoned that no one took notice of.”

Williams-Oldham said the book focuses on how St. George residents and others worked to improve the quality of life in black communities that included farmers, merchants, undertakers and shopkeepers.

“‘What Grandma Forgot to Tell You’ is a tribute to those who worked diligently during a time of adversity to make our neighborhoods better places in which to reside,” Williams-Oldham read from the introduction of her book. “It celebrates those visionaries who with much pride and determination helped to build and uphold these areas during a time when we were downtrodden, discriminated against.”

Dr. Alex Capers: “Ready for Battle”

Dr. Alex Capers is North Charleston native who currently serves as the founder and senior pastor of The Living Word Christian Church. He recently completed his first book “Ready for Battle” which encourages Christians to use spiritual tools in the midst of spiritual warfare.

“There’s an intense spiritual battle going on. We’re fighting the Devil. He’s attacking from all sides because his time is short,” Capers said. “Jesus, our commander in chief, tells us to pray without ceasing.”

In order to overcome tough situations, Capers noted scriptures that highlight the importance of prayer and “meditating on God’s Word.”

“God’s Word will give us the strength we need to deal with whatever battle we are in,” Capers said.

“Each day we meet thousands of opportunities for death. We escape them all by the grace of God,” Capers said.

“Ready for Battle” is available at barnesandnoble.com and on Amazon.

Cleo Scott Brown: “Raceology 101”

The daughter of a Louisiana Civil Rights activist who

was shot for trying to obtain the right to vote, Cleo Scott Brown penned her second book “Raceology 101” that addresses how race impacts politics, media, Christianity, policing and affirmative action. One chapter entitled “OMG: The Last Jim Crow Generation is in Charge,” points to national leaders like Mitch McConnell, Lindsay Graham, Jeff Sessions, Jim Clyburn and even Brown herself – as the last generation of Southern-born children who grew up in the segregation era.

“We were raised on extreme division,” Brown said. “We are the children whose relatives were lynched, or shot, or run out of town. We are also the children whose parents did the lynching and the shootings... we are of the age to be in charge, set direction for others. But for many, our childhood Jim Crow foundation still frames our worldview because we failed to challenge or even acknowledge what Jim Crow taught all of us.”

Brown’s book questions whether misconceptions about other races can be dissolved.

“Raceology 101” can be purchased at amazon.com.

Michael T. Owens: “Burned: Conversations with a Black WWII Veteran”

Owens’ life was changed in graduate school at the College of Charleston several years ago when he first met World War II veteran Rollins Edwards. Edwards, who’s black, suffered mustard gas, tear gas and Lewisite testing by the United States armed forces. Owens, bewildered by the fact that no one ever penned Edwards’ story, wrote “Burned: Conversations with a Black WWII Veteran” to describe the atrocities and discrimination that Edwards underwent in the military.

“They were fighting for a story that didn’t even value them as a citizen,” Owens said. “Please don’t forget World War II veterans.”

Edwards died last December. He was 95. Owens currently teaches at the College of Charleston a founded Voices Speak which helps promotes creative expression aimed at underrepresented populations.

Owens’ book is available at amazon.com. ■





Goose Creek Branch

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVACEMENT OF
COLORED PEOPLE

PO BOX 1356 · Goose Creek, SC 29445
Veronica Dukes, President
843-425-9098



*Goose Creek Branch of the NAACP Requests Your Support
As a Sponsor of the 14th Annual Freedom Fund Banquet*

The 14th Annual Freedom Fund Banquet will be on Saturday, October 6, 2018 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4831 Tanger Outlet Blvd, North Charleston, SC 29418.

This banquet is held annually to raise funds to support our community outreach initiatives. We are proud that we have sponsored scholarships, community forums, HIV AIDS Awareness and testing events, and donated funds for school supplies.

This is a great opportunity for you to participate as a sponsor, and you will receive full recognition at our 2018 Freedom Fund Banquet for your sponsorship.

We invite you to become a sponsor:

___ **W. E. Dubois Sponsor Level** - \$1,000 or more includes seating for 8, inclusion in the Press Release and Advertising Signage on the Crowne Plaza Electronic Marquee.

___ **Gold Sponsor - \$800.00** includes seating for 4 and Advertising Signage on the Crowne Plaza Electronic Marquee.

___ **Silver Sponsor - \$500.00** includes seating for 2 and Advertising Signage on the Crowne Plaza Electronic Marquee.

Donations - All amounts appreciated.

ORDER FORM

Name _____ Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

W. E. Dubois Sponsor - \$1000.00 or more \$ _____ **Gold Sponsor - \$800 \$ _____**

Silver Sponsor - \$500.00 \$ _____ **Donation - All Amounts Appreciated \$ _____**

Please make checks payable to: Goose Creek Branch NAACP

Thank You For Your Support!

Please contact Dr. Shirley P. Martin, 843-607-1750 or James Dukes, 843-425-9098 if you have any questions.



HEALTH COMMITTEE NEWS

Christine Walker, Health Committee Chairperson

The mission of the NAACP is to ensure equal political, educational, social, and economic rights for all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination. This mission includes a focus on the right of African Americans and other people of color to have optimal health outcomes and access to timely, quality, affordable health care. African Americans continue to have the highest incidence, prevalence and mortality rates from chronic diseases like cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity, and issues like HIV/AIDS continue to overwhelm the Black community more so than any other racial or ethnic group.

The NAACP is committed to eliminating the racial and ethnic inequities that exist within our health care system that undermine communities of color, their life opportunities, and their ability to contribute fully to the common good.

NATIONAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH JULY 2018

Why Does Mental Health Matter?

Without mental health we cannot be healthy. Any part of the body—including the brain—can get sick. We all experience emotional ups and downs from time to time caused by events in our lives. Mental health conditions go beyond these emotional reactions to specific situations. They are medical conditions that cause changes in how we think and feel and in our mood. These changes can alter your life because they make it hard to relate to others and function the way you used to. Without proper treatment, mental health conditions can worsen and make day-to-day life hard.

If you feel you or a loved one might be experiencing a mental health condition, remember that these are biological brain disorders. Anyone can develop a mental health problem. It isn't your fault or your family's fault. Seeking treatment can help you live a fulfilled life and can strengthen you and your family for the future.

Get Immediate Help

People often don't get the mental health services they need because they don't know where to start.

Talk to your primary care doctor or another health professional about mental health problems. Ask them to connect you with the right mental health services.

If you do not have a health professional who is able to assist you, use these resources to find help for yourself, your friends, your family, or your students.

Emergency Medical Services—911

If the situation is potentially life-threatening, get immediate emergency assistance by calling 911, available 24 hours a day.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-TALK (8255) or Live Online Chat

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

If you or someone you know is suicidal or in emotional distress, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Trained crisis workers are available to talk **24 hours a day, 7 days a week**. Your confidential and toll-free call goes to the nearest crisis center in the Lifeline national network. These centers provide crisis counseling and mental health referrals.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation.

SAMHSA Treatment Referral Helpline

1-877-726-4727

Get general information on mental health and locate treatment services in your area. Speak to a live person, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST.

Help for Veterans

<https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/>

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Mental Health Resources provides information about mental health and support services specifically for veterans.■



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Sharina Haynes, Chairperson



The NAACP works to ensure that all disadvantaged students and students of color are on the path to college or a successful career by ensuring access to great teaching, equitable resources, and a challenging curriculum. We are dedicated to eliminating the severe racial inequities that continue to plague our education system. Our ultimate goal is that every student of color receives a quality public education that prepares him or her to be a contributing member of our democracy. Overall, the NAACP strives to eliminate education related racial and ethnic disparities.

Each year, through generous donations and support of our fund raising events, the Goose Creek NAACP Branch is able to award the Andrea Glover Matthews Scholarship to an outstanding student.

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser Was A Success



On Saturday, July 14, 2018, the Education Committee of the Goose Creek NAACP Branch held a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser to raise funds for our youth and education initiatives, in particular, our Andrea Glover Mathews Scholarship.

Sharina Haynes, Education Committee Chairperson said, “the committee was pleased with the great turnout for the event that included a pancake breakfast, giveaways, and fellowshiping with the Goose Creek Community.” Sharina said, the Goose Creek NAACP Branch is committed to galvanizing youth membership and will have youth centered events in the future.”

The 2018 recipient of the Goose Creek NAACP Branch Andrea Glover Matthews scholarship, Olyve Gibson was in attendance. Olyve is a rising sophomore at Claflin University where she is majoring in Psychology.

The Goose Creek NAACP Branch is committed to college and career readiness by blazing a path to success after graduation for all students as our primary education strategy.

Sharina said she was, “very appreciative of Branch President Veronica Dukes and Education Committee members Shirley Martin, Brenda Bines Watson, and Barbara Bodison who rolled their sleeves up and worked to help make the event a success.”

The event was aided by Autumn Bennett a rising senior at Goose Creek High School who helped as a server; and Mr. Ken Harris helped with collecting tickets.

Jenae Haynes donated raffle items.

Sharina said, “the Education and Youth Committees are planning more breakfasts. With themes centered around NAACP initiatives including voter registration and membership drives.”

Sharina in closing said, “it’s not always easy but I’m trying to continue the legacy my mother, Andrea Glover Matthews, began.” Andrea was a charter member and the Goose Creek NAACP Branch’s first president.

Veronica Dukes said, “being president of the Gosse Creek Branch NAACP, has been very rewarding and I am proud to work along with the amazing members of this branch. I am looking forward to the 2019 scholarship fund raiser.” ■

National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Excites at the NAACP Convention

Stacy Brown (NNPA Newswire Contributor) | 7/20/2018, 1:53 p.m.



Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), delivered a rousing speech about the

importance of the Black Press and the Black vote, during the 109th NAACP Annual Convention in San Antonio, Texas.

The NNPA is a trade group that represents more than 200 Black-owned newspapers and media companies in the United States. NNPA member publications reach more than 20 million readers, combined, in print and online, every week.

NNPA Board Chairman Dorothy Leavell and a several other NNPA members also attended the convention.

“I can’t think of a better place to be in the world than to be here at the NAACP [convention],” Dr. Chavis said as he began his speech. “Brother and sisters, you look so beautiful this morning.”

Dr. Chavis noted that 2018 marked the 191st year of the Black Press in America.

“Since 1827, when ‘Freedom’s Journal’ was published in New York, we’ve been on the case,” Dr. Chavis told the convention audience. “All of you should be subscribing to the Black Press. Don’t worry about the ‘Fake News’; pay attention to Black News.”

Dr. Chavis also reminded the audience that the NAACP and the NNPA signed a memorandum of understanding, earlier this year, during the NNPA’s 2018 Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas.

“We’re going to work together to increase the membership of the NAACP and we are going to work together to strengthen the Black Press of America,” Dr. Chavis said.

Dr. Chavis addressed the NAACP convention on the 100th birthday of Nelson Mandela. “Some of you recall in 1993 at the national convention of the NAACP, we invited Nelson Mandela to the

stage and he reminded us that the African National Congress sought guidance from the NAACP,” Dr. Chavis said. “It’s been a long, working relationship, starting with W.E.B. Du Bois on up to today, between the NAACP and the ANC...our brothers and sisters in Africa are making progress and we need to make progress here in America.”

The NNPA President lamented the current state of politics in Washington, D.C. and the attacks on voting rights across the nation.

“It’s a reaction to us going to the polls and voting,” Dr. Chavis said. “Voter suppression is taking place, because we’re voting...but we’re going to overcome voter suppression this year.”

In 2018, the NNPA launched a campaign promoting the importance of voter registration in the Black community with the goal to encourage 5 million Blacks to register to vote and go to polls during the midterm elections in November.

“We want the largest, Black voter turnout in American history led by the NAACP; led by the Black Press of America,” Dr. Chavis said.

Dr. Chavis continued: “There is a spirit in this place, an abiding spirit that, for 109 years, the NAACP has always been there, and we have to remind our young people. I’m so glad to see so many young people at this convention. We need to raise up a new generation of freedom fighters. We need to raise up a new generation of courage seekers that will stand up for the truth.”

Dr. Chavis said that he was confident about the future of the NAACP, the Black Press and the Black community.

“I didn’t come to San Antonio pessimistic,” Dr. Chavis said.

“I’m optimistic. I’m fired up and ready to go! Fired up and ready to go! Long live the spirit of the NAACP!” Dr. Chavis exclaimed to thunderous applause. “Long live the spirit for freedom, for justice, and for equality! God bless!” ■

Article originally posted on <http://amsterdamnews.com/news/2018/jul/20/nnpa-president-and-ceo-dr-benjamin-f-chavis-excite/>



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

**Next Litter Pickup is
Saturday,
September 8, 2018
8 - 11 A.M.**

On Saturday, June 16, 2018 members of the Goose Creek NAACP Branch met to pickup litter on Redbank Road from Henry Brown Blvd to Fletcher Street on the Naval Weapons Station. The group met at 7:30 A.M. in the Navy Exchange Parking lot.

The volunteers from the branch were Veronica Dukes, James Dukes, LaVone Holbert, Charles Shuster, Orville Hayes, Rev. Henry Orr, Arnold Michel, Dr. Louis Hassell, Marsha Hassell, and Billy Parker.

Charles Shuster who is the group leader for the branch's ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY endeavor said, "we had an excellent trash pickup this morning." He thanked each of the branch members who participated.

President Veronica Dukes said, "We did have a good time today." She also thanks all those who came out and said, "this morning's highway pick up proves we can have great success when we work together."

The branch will be doing the pickup again on Saturday, September 8, 2018. If you'd like to join in the trash pickup, contact Charles Shuster and get your name on the list of volunteers.■



L-R Billy Parker, James Dukes, Rev. Orr, Veronica Dukes, LaVonne Holbert, Charles Shuster, and Arnold Michel kneeling. Note: Orville Hayes took the photo and Dr. and Mrs. Hassell left before the photo op.



**Stop Talking About It.
Be About It.
Join Today!**

NAACP

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE



**Van Williams, Chairperson
Goose Creek NAACP Membership Committee**

REASONS TO JOIN THE NAACP

1. The fight for freedom is not free! Your membership will help fund initiatives and programs to support our mission of racial equality and equal justice.
2. A membership in the NAACP is your opportunity to give back to the organization that has done more to change this country for the betterment of people of color, women, and the disenfranchised than any other in the nation's history.
3. Your membership in the NAACP makes you a part of a force of 300,000 people who stand for the freedoms guaranteed in our nation's constitution.
4. Your membership in the NAACP makes a direct and positive impact in your community when you join your local Unit .

**Here's your opportunity to do something that will
Impact The Community!**

JOIN TODAY

Regular Membership (Yearly Renewal)

- Regular Adult (Ages 21 and older)
- Silver Life \$750 (Payable in annual installments of \$75 or more)
- Gold Life \$1,500 (Payable in installments of \$150 or more)
- Diamond Life \$2,500 (Payable in installments of \$250 or more)
- Youth and College with Crisis Magazine (Ages 20 and under)
- Youth and College without Crisis Magazine (Ages 17 and under)
- Junior Life \$100 Ages 13 and under (Payable in annual installments of \$25 or more)
- Bronze Life \$400 Ages 14 -20 (Payable in annual installments of \$50 or more)
- Annual Corporate \$ 5,000.00





NAACP wraps up convention with emphasis on voting, Bill Clinton appearance

By Vincent T. Davis, Staff Writer
San Antonio Express News
July 18, 2018 Updated: July 18, 2018 9:56pm

At the close of the NAACP’s first convention in San Antonio, CEO and President Derrick Johnson reiterated a refrain heard throughout the week — the need for citizens to vote in the upcoming midterm election.

“As we continue to tackle the difficult issues facing our nation, the theme of the convention, Defeat Hate — Vote illustrates the urgency in the fight to overcome recent implicit bias, racial prejudice and intolerance,” Johnson said. “The only way to do so is to use our vote as our voice this November and elect officials that will uphold the dignity of our democracy. That is why we’re calling on everyone, especially young people of color, to stand against bigotry and divisiveness, and vote.”



The five-day convention closed Wednesday night with former president Bill Clinton addressing NAACP members and introducing award recipient and former San Francisco Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr.

The crowd gave Clinton a loud round of applause as he walked on stage to introduce Brown. One of his first remarks was that the NAACP is needed more than ever.

“What really matters is our common humanity,” Clinton said while discussing the differences in politics today.

He said that Brown called him and asked him if he would come to San Antonio.

“If he asks you to do something, you might as well do

it,” Clinton said, “because you’re going to do it anyway.”

The association honored Brown with the Spingarn Medal, an award bestowed “for the highest or noblest achievement by a living African American during the preceding year or years.”

In 1914, J.E. Spingarn, a NAACP chairman of the board of directors, established the medal. He presented it until his death in 1939.

Recipients have included Earl G. Graves Sr., Sidney Poitier, Myrlie Evers-Williams, Oprah Winfrey and Daisy Bates, one of the Little Rock Nine.

A two-term mayor and speaker of the California State Assembly, Brown leads the Willie L. Brown Jr. Institute of on Politics and Public Service, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization.

Officials said an estimated 8,000 to 10,000 people attended the convention that featured a range of activities including a career fair, a LGBTQ workshop, 40th anniversary of NAACP’s ACT-SO (Academic, Cultural, Technical and Scientific Olympics) and a Hip-Hop Summit.

Johnson said that for 109 years, the associations’ annual convention has served as a meeting ground for African-Americans across the nation to discuss critical matters affecting the state of civil rights and social issues in America.

Johnson also said the association honors leaders, such as Brown, who have served as pillars in the fight for justice.

He called Brown “a true advocate,” who has had a lifelong commitment to community, equality and civil rights.

Johnson said that in the past year, the NAACP has spearheaded lawsuits fighting the repeal of Temporary Protected Status, an underfunded census and the rescinding of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, also known as DACA.

On Tuesday, the association lifted a travel advisory issued against American Airlines in October 2017, warning African-Americans about their well-being on the airline’s flights based on reports of mistreatment of African-American customers.■

Vincent T. Davis is a staff writer in the San Antonio and Bexar County area. Read him on, mySA.com, ExpressNews.com. | vtDavis@express-news.net Twitter: [@vincentdavis](https://twitter.com/vincentdavis)