



THE NURSES MAGAZINE®

PRESENTS

MEN *OF* HONOR

The Most Impactful Men in Nursing™

Saturday, June 13, 2026

The DeSoto

15 East Liberty Street | Savannah, GA 31401

Celebrating Strength. Honoring Leadership. Defining Legacy.



SCAN TO CONNECT



MISSION, VISION & VALUES

MISSION

To celebrate, empower, and elevate nurses worldwide by highlighting their extraordinary contributions to healthcare. We aim to inspire excellence in practice, leadership, innovation, and compassion. We are committed to sharing stories of dedication, resilience, and the relentless pursuit of better patient care that define the heart of our profession.

VISION

A global community where the nursing profession is recognized as the cornerstone of healthcare, valued for expertise, celebrated for achievements, and fully equipped to lead the future of health and wellness.

VALUES

- Excellence
- Innovation
- Compassion
- Leadership
- Research
- Collaboration
- Advocacy
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Community
- Scholarship

These values are reflected in the work of nurses everywhere. Each year, we recognize those who demonstrate excellence, innovation, leadership, and compassion in nursing. Their dedication, skill, and commitment inspire others to grow, lead, and improve healthcare for the better.

THE NURSES MAGAZINE®

CONNECTING NURSES WORLDWIDE

MASTHEAD

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Donel J. Richemond, DBA, MSN, MBA, RN
PRESIDENT, FOUNDER & PUBLISHER

Carlfred Charlot, MD, MBA, PA
CO-FOUNDER

Marie O. Etienne, DNP, APRN, FNP, PNP, D.Min. (h.c.), PLNC, FADLN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Mehrab Hossain, MA
IT DIRECTOR

Brionna James, MBA
MARKETING MANAGER

EDITORIAL BOARD

Marie O. Etienne, DNP, APRN, FNP, PNP, D.Min. (h.c.), PLNC, FADLN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & COO
Professor, Benjamin León School of Nursing, Miami Dade College

Sorhaya Zamor, MSN, PMHNP, APRN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Founder, Sorhaya Health Writing Services LLC

Jaime Reigel, DNP, APRN, AGNP-C, PMHNP-C
SENIOR EDITOR
Nurse Practitioner, Mayo Clinic Health System; Instructor of Neurosurgery, Mayo Clinic Rochester, MN; Adjunct Nursing Instructor, Viterbo University

Michael L. Jones, PhD, MBA/HCM, RN, FAAN
MANAGING EDITOR
Associate Dean for Engagement & Professional Development; Executive Director for Advancement; Clinical Associate Professor, East Carolina University College of Nursing

Jineen R. Huff, MSN, CRNA, APRN, CCRN, BC
CONTRIBUTING WRITER / JOURNALIST
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist; Nurse Resilience Strategist; Founder & CEO, Intentional Queen Journey®, LLC

Charles R. Needham, MPA, MBA, DBA, ELC, PGPMP
PROOFREADER EDITOR
CEO, C and M Educational Services LLC

ADVISORY BOARD

Marie O. Etienne, DNP, APRN, FNP, PNP, D.Min. (h.c.), PLNC, FADLN
Professor, Benjamin León School of Nursing, Miami Dade College

Guillermo R. Valdes, DNP, MSN-HCS, PGC-NEd., MED-SURG BC, Sigma Virginia Henderson Fellow
Department Chairperson, RN to BSN Program, Benjamin León School of Nursing, Miami Dade College

Cynthia Payne, DNP, MS, WHNP-BC, CNM
Professor, Georgia State University

Joy King, DNP, MBA, APRN, NP-C, FAIHM
Family Nurse Practitioner, Devoted Health

Shantrice Moné Winston, MSN-Ed, RN, NEA-BC, NP-BC, CCRN-K, LSSGB
Founder and CEO, ENOM Healthcare Consultant LLC

Letrice Mason, MSN, APRN, FNP-C
Nurse Practitioner, Her Down There

Carolyn McKenzie, MSN, RN
Nursing Supervisor, Infusion Services, RWJ Barnabas Health

Camille Brockett-Walker, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, AGACNP-BC
Assistant Dean for Faculty Recruitment, Development & Excellence; Clinical Associate Professor, Emory University

Ashley Carter, MSN, RN, AMB-BC, CNEcl, CPhT, CNEpv
Assistant Professor of Nursing (Prelicensure) and Experiential Learning Manager, South Region, Herzing University

Carmen Stokes, PhD, FNP-BC, RN, CNE, LION
Nurse Navigator & Associate Professor, Henry Ford Health System

Ebony Rooks, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC
Founder and Owner, Well Into Life Holistic Care, BeWell Testing and Screening, & Bloom Beyond, Inc.

Natasha Jones, DNP-S, BSN, BHSc, RN
CEO, Corporate Healthcare Strategist and Consultant, HD Screening and Laboratory

Stacy Crandall Sam, PhD, RN, MSN, MPH
Nurse Educator & Concierge Healthcare Specialist

Michael L. Jones, PhD, MBA/HCM, RN, FAAN
Associate Dean for Engagement & Professional Development; Executive Director for Advancement; Clinical Associate Professor, East Carolina University College of Nursing

Patrick Simon Soria, DNP, MHA, MAN, RN, CGNC, FAAN
Board Member, Minnesota Board of Nursing

Lisa Radesi, DNP, MSN, RN, PHN, CNE, NE-BC
Regional Dean, Workforce Solutions, Unitek Learning



— NATIONWIDE & BEYOND

Our Ambassadors

Nurse leaders championing the profession in their communities and carrying the voice of The Nurses Magazine across the country and the world.



MEET OUR
AMBASSADORS

thenursesmagazine.com/nurse-ambassadors

Seveline Guervil

RN

● FRANCE

Amber Baker

RN

● FLORIDA

Dr. Tania Guerrier

PMHNP-BC, DNP

● FLORIDA

Leslie Olivencia

BSN, RN

● FLORIDA

Stephanie Severe

BSN

● FLORIDA

Brittney Marshall

RN

● FLORIDA

Oniel Laucella

DNP, MBA(c), APRN, RN,
AGPCNP-BC, APHN-BC,
PMHNP-BC (c), CWP, CPAHA

● FLORIDA

Llarissa Foster

MBA, MSN, APRN, AGACNP-BC

● NORTH CAROLINA

Ava-Gail Lindsay

BSN, RN

● NORTH CAROLINA

Shauntae Thomas

LPN

● COLORADO

LaShawn Ecleasha Anderson

LPN

● SOUTH CAROLINA

Amaka Joyce Akinade

DNP, FNP-C, ACNS, CWON-AP

● TEXAS

Tysharra Belfon

MSN, ARNP-BC

● FLORIDA

A'sian Rochester

MSN, APRN, FNP-C,
MEDSURG-BC, SCRNP, WTA-C

● DELAWARE

Dennaia Carter

MSN, CRNP, FNP-BC

● MARYLAND

Katoumia Michel

BSN, RN

● FLORIDA

Belinda King

F-PMHNP BC

● SOUTH CAROLINA

Marteng Adolphe

MSN, APRN, AGPCNP-C,
PMHNP-BC

● FLORIDA

Natalie Smith

BSN, RN

● NEW YORK

Shantrice Winston

MSN-Ed, RN, NEA-BC, NPD-BC, CCRN-K, LSSGB

● GEORGIA

Dr. Wendy Garvin Mayo

DNP, APRN, ANP-BC

● CONNECTICUT

Cassandre Milien

BSN, MSN, DNP, AGPCNP

● CONNECTICUT

Tesha Morris

RN

● TEXAS

Dr. Teruko Williams

DNP, RN

● CALIFORNIA

Ligia Melo Mcpherson

BSN, RN, OCN

● FLORIDA

Rose Pierre

MBA

● FLORIDA

About Men of Honor

The Most Impactful Men in Nursing™

Men of Honor is a premier recognition program presented by The Nurses Magazine®, created to celebrate the extraordinary men who are shaping the future of the nursing profession. This program honors those who are breaking barriers, demonstrating exceptional leadership, and making a lasting impact on patients, communities, and healthcare systems across the nation.

WHY MEN OF HONOR EXISTS

Men represent a vital and growing voice in the nursing profession. Men of Honor was created to shine a national spotlight on the men whose dedication, expertise, and leadership are transforming healthcare every day.

THE MEN WE HONOR HAVE:

- ★ Demonstrated exceptional patient care and clinical skill
- ★ Led teams, units, and healthcare organizations with distinction
- ★ Advanced nursing education, research, and policy
- ★ Served their communities with compassion and purpose
- ★ Broken barriers and paved new paths in the profession

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026

The DeSoto • 15 East Liberty Street • Savannah, GA 31401

01 Red Carpet, Registration, Pictures & Networking

02 Doors Open

03 Welcoming Remarks

Dr. Marie O. Etienne, TNM Editor-in-Chief & COO • Introduction of Emcee, Dr. Guillermo R. Valdes-Manganelli, Director of South Region, Florida Nurses Association

04 Invocation

Dr. Marie O. Etienne, TNM Editor-in-Chief & COO

05 Special Remarks from the Founders

Dr. Carl Charlot & Dr. Donel Richemond

06 Special Presentation of the Georgia Nurse Honor Guard

Jennifer Heyer, President

07 Opening Keynote Speaker

Dr. Sheldon Fields, President of the National Black Nurses Association

08 Dinner

09 Presentation of Proclamations

State of Georgia Governor Brian P. Kemp and City of Savannah Mayor Van R. Johnson

10 Closing Keynote Speaker

Dr. Ernest Grant, Immediate Past President of the American Nurses Association

11 Posthumous Award

Dr. Joy King, President of the Georgia Nurses Association, TNM Advisory Board Member

12 Presentation of the Men of Honor Excellence Award for Advancing Men in Nursing

Dr. Oniel Laucella, TNM Ambassador, Partner & Chief Behavioral Intelligence Officer (CBIO) and Founding Executive Board Member

13 Men of Honor Awards Presentation

14 TNM Announcements

15 Closing Remarks

The Nurses Magazine® Executive Team

16 Benediction

Program order is subject to change.

LETTERS OF WELCOME

Office of the Governor of Georgia



Brian P. Kemp
GOVERNOR

Marty A. Kemp
FIRST LADY

June 13, 2026

The Nurses Magazine,

GREETINGS:

On behalf of the state of Georgia, allow us to extend our warmest regards to The Nurses Magazine as you host and participate in the 2026 Men of Honor event.

Additionally, please allow us also to welcome your distinguished guests, honorees, their families, and other attendees. Events like these are crucial for celebrating the most impactful men in nursing, and we are confident that Men of Honor 2026: Celebrating the Most Impactful Men in Nursing will be great success.

We commend you and your team for your effort and dedication in organizing the event, and we send our best wishes for your continued success and a productive event!

Sincerely,


Brian P. Kemp


Marty A. Kemp

Georgia House of Representatives



House of Representatives

RON STEPHENS
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 164
45 Cove Drive
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31419
E-MAIL: RON.STEPHENS@house.ga.gov

STATE CAPITOL
ROOM 226
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-5115 (O)
(404) 463-4122 (F)

STANDING COMMITTEES:
Economic Development and Tourism –
Chairman
Appropriations
Creative Arts and Entertainment
Rules
Urban Affairs
Ways and Means

Men of Honor: Honoring the Most Impactful Men in Nursing

Dear Honorees, Guest, Healthcare Professionals, and Community Leaders,

Welcome all of those who have made the journey to attend the Men of Honor: Honoring the Most Impactful Men in Nursing celebration.

Today, we honor a group of extraordinary men who have made an impact in our profession and communities through their dedication, compassion, leadership and commitment to excellence. Nursing is one of the most trusted and important professions in our society and the men that are being honored this evening represent the best of nursing, service and professionalism.

Nurses play a vital part in providing patient care and overall healthcare in the ever-evolving healthcare landscape. This program has been a great success in identifying outstanding individuals whose dedication to improving lives, advancing healthcare, mentoring future professionals, and improving the quality of care throughout our State has served as an example for others.

I would like to commend the organizers of Men of Honor for being able to organize such an important event that is meaningful. You're honoring the contributions of great men who are nurses and inspiring future generations of great leaders in the health care sector, in a way that helps bring the work of so many nurses to the forefront.

Congratulations to all the winners. May you feel good about the difference you are making every day in your service, leadership and commitment to others. Thank you for all you do to help keep our communities safe and healthy.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Stephens".

Representative Ron Stephens
District 164th

National Association of Hispanic Nurses



National Association of Hispanic Nurses

Promoting Hispanic Nurses to Improve the Health of Our Communities

OFFICERS

Veronica Vital, PhD, MLS, RN
President

Grace Grau, DNP, RN, ACNP-BC, AACCC, FAAN
President-Elect

Rocio Sanchez, MSN, RN
Treasurer

Alicia Truelove, MSN, RN, CV-BC, NPD-BC
Secretary

Adrianna Nava, PhD, MPA, RN, FAAN
Past-President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Erika Alfaro, BSN, RN, PHN
Director

Melissa deCardi Hladek, PhD, CRNP, FNP-BC, FAAN
Director

Rubi Hickson, DNP, RN, ACNP-BC, CCRN, PHN
Director

Patrick Luna, MSN, RN, CEN, NRP
Director

Adrienne Martinez-Hollingsworth, PhD, RN, PHN, WAN
Director

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Maithe Enriquez, PhD, APRN, FAAN
Editor-in-Chief, HHCI

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kate Filiipiak, CAE
Executive Director

On behalf of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) and our members, I am honored to extend our sincere congratulations and support for the Men of Honor: Honoring the Most Impactful Men in Nursing recognition program.

This meaningful initiative shines a well-deserved spotlight on the exceptional contributions of men in nursing whose leadership, service, advocacy, mentorship, and commitment to excellence continue to strengthen the nursing profession and improve the health of the communities they serve. Recognizing these outstanding individuals not only celebrates their achievements but also inspires future generations of nurses to pursue leadership, service, and professional excellence.

NAHN applauds the organizers of Men of Honor for creating a platform that acknowledges the diverse talents and meaningful impact of nurse leaders who are advancing health equity, fostering innovation, and elevating the profession through their dedication and expertise.

We are especially proud to recognize the following members of NAHN who have been honored through this prestigious program:

- **Francisco Brenes, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC**
- **Luis E. Caso Vega, DNP, MBA, RN, CEN, CGNC, CPEN, NE-BC, TCRN, FADLN, FSIEN**
- **Julian Leandro Gallegos, PhD, MBA, FNP-BC, NREMT, FAUNA, FADLN**
- **Armando Riera, MSN, AANP-C, AHP**

These distinguished individuals exemplify the values of service, excellence, advocacy, leadership, and compassion that define both the nursing profession and the mission of NAHN. Their accomplishments have positively influenced patients, communities, colleagues, and the healthcare system as a whole.

Please accept our congratulations to all honorees and our appreciation to the Men of Honor program for recognizing the extraordinary contributions of men in nursing. We wish you continued success in celebrating and uplifting leaders who are making a lasting difference in healthcare.

In service and with gratitude,

Veronica Vital, PhD, MSN, MLS, RN
President, National Association of Hispanic Nurses
Lexington, KY, USA

201 East Main Street, Suite 810 | Lexington, KY 40507 | USA
Phone 859.469.5800 | Fax 859.514.9166 | Email info@thehispanicnurses.org
Visit our website NAHNnet.org



Dr. Guillermo R. Valdes

DNP, MSN-HCS, PGC-NEd., ANCC MED-SURG-BC

SIGMA Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society, Virginia Henderson Fellow

Director of the South Region, Florida Nurses Association · Department Chairperson, RN to BSN Program, Benjamín León School of Nursing, Miami Dade College

Dr. Valdes has been a nursing professional in a variety of clinical practice, nursing education and academic leadership roles for thirty-four years in Miami Dade County. During his clinical and education tenure at Jackson Health System (JHS), Dr. Valdes advocated with outstanding professionalism and commitment for the patients, nurses, doctors, and healthcare professionals. As a member of the Education and Professional Development Department, Dr. Valdes was the chairperson of the Research and Evidence-Based Practice Council, Chairperson of the Professional Development Council and led the initiative for a professional development career pathway for clinical nurses. He coordinated the RN Medical Surgical Residency Program, re-initiated the Interdisciplinary Grand Rounds Program, was the nursing representative for the Clinical Research Review Committee and responsible for all employees and clinical employees' mandatory education.

Dr. Valdes as a role model collaborated with the JHS, Center for Nursing Excellence on Magnet initiatives and unit based quality improvement projects. In 2011, Dr. Valdes was recognized as "March of Dimes Nurse of the Year" for clinical and academic education. Dr. Valdes has received numerous accolades that are reflective of his lifelong commitment to academic and clinical practice excellence, recognized by his peers in 2013 as "Great 100 Nurses," Florida Nurses Association (FNA). In 2015, Dr. Valdes was nominated as "US Professor of the Year" Carnegie Foundation representing nursing at MDC, Medical Campus. Dr. Valdes in 2016 was recognized by the FNA for consistently promoting an environment of nursing excellence and by the Florida Center for Nursing as a nurse leader.

As a Department Chair, RN to BSN Program at Miami Dade College (MDC), Benjamin Leon School of Nursing, he consistently promotes an atmosphere of academic achievement fostering student-centered learning in a competency based education environment. Dr. Valdes has contributed to two program accreditation visits (ACEN and CCNE) in 2016 and created the strategic plan for a successful CCNE re-accreditation visit in 2021. Dr. Valdes has consistently increased student enrollment and satisfaction, developed the scholars' program in two large healthcare delivery teaching institutions, promoted faculty scholarship and wellness with a faculty led professional development initiative using the Boyer's Model scholarship indicators reflecting on the American Association of Colleges in Nursing faculty scholarship.

As a SIGMA Virginia Henderson Fellow, Dr. Valdes supports nursing research and evidence-based practice with a strong commitment to recognizing nurses as leaders and has presented various nursing scholarship projects at SIGMA via the Virginia Henderson E-repository. In 2019, Dr. Valdes received the ICON Award "Mentor Role Model" category from the FNA for his contributions to the nursing profession and completed a one year post graduate certificate specialty in Nursing Education at Duke University School of Nursing. From 2021 to 2022, Dr. Valdes served as dean of nursing for Miami Regional University, successfully completing five accreditation visits: Initial SACS Institutional Accreditation, Programmatic ASN Focused Visit, Re-Accreditation MSN FNP Program visit, Re-accreditation PMC Program visit and Re-Accreditation MSN DE Program visit.

Dr. Valdes revised the school of nursing organizational structure for student success where students can have the opportunity to develop and succeed in their future nursing careers, with the creation of the state-of-the-art Clinical Simulation Center and Academic Affairs department. Within a year, Dr. Valdes established a process of performance and quality improvement with successful initiation of its implementation phase in October 2022.

A distinguished nurse leader, educator, and advocate, Dr. Valdes' career has been defined by innovation, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to advancing healthcare. Renowned for his impactful work in nursing education, leadership, and community health, he has consistently championed initiatives that bridge gaps in care and promote equity. His recognition as the "2024 Healthcare Champion Award" recipient by the Global Innovative Foundation stands as a testament to his visionary leadership and dedication to improving lives against human trafficking, domestic abuse and gun violence.

Through his service, mentorship, and advocacy, Dr. Valdes continues to inspire colleagues, empower future healthcare professionals, and leave a lasting legacy of excellence. Most recently, he received the Black Nurses Association, Miami Chapter Nurse Administrator Award for his contributions to nursing leadership as he continues to advocate for transformational leadership, competency based education and professional development with inclusion, diversity, and equal opportunities for nursing students.



Dr. Ernest J. Grant

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

PhD, RN, FADLN, FAAN

*Vice Dean for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging, Duke University
School of Nursing · Immediate Past President, American Nurses Association*

Dr. Ernest J. Grant is an Associate Professor and Vice Dean for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging at the Duke University School of Nursing. A nationally respected leader, he is the immediate past president of the American Nurses Association (ANA), the largest organization representing the interests of 5.2 million registered nurses in the United States. Notably, he is the first man to be elected ANA president in the organization's 130-year history.

With more than three decades of nursing experience, Dr. Grant is internationally recognized for his expertise in burn care and fire safety. He previously served as the burn outreach coordinator for the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center at UNC Hospitals, where he led burn education for clinicians and directed a nationally acclaimed burn-prevention program focused on public safety and legislative advocacy. He also serves as adjunct faculty at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Nursing, teaching both undergraduate and graduate students in classroom and clinical settings.

A sought-after clinician, educator, and speaker, Dr. Grant has conducted extensive burn-education training with branches of the U.S. military preparing for deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. His clinical excellence has been recognized at the highest levels: in 2002, President George W. Bush honored him with the Nurse of the Year Award for his work treating burn victims from the World Trade Center site. In 2013, he received the B.T. Fowler Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to fire and life-safety education in North Carolina.

During his tenure as ANA President, Dr. Grant guided the organization through the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, advocating for critical resources to support nurses and the health care system. He participated in COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials and championed vaccine education in communities of color. He was instrumental in establishing the National Commission to Address Racism in Nursing, which examined the impact of racism on nurses,

patients, communities, and health systems nationwide. Dr. Grant also led the development of the ANA Reckoning Statement, acknowledging the association's historical failures to represent nurses of color and outlining a path toward accountability, reconciliation, and organizational transformation.

Dr. Grant has held numerous leadership roles in professional organizations, including past chair of the National Fire Protection Association Board of Directors and second vice president of the American Burn Association Board of Trustees. He currently serves on the University of North Carolina at Greensboro Board of Trustees and is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and Chi Eta Phi. He previously served as president of the North Carolina Nurses Association (2009 to 2011), becoming the first African American male to hold that office.

His contributions to nursing have been widely recognized. The ANA honored him with the Honorary Nursing Practice Award in 2002, and he was inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 2011, where he now chairs the Fellows Selection Committee. Modern Healthcare named him one of the "100 Most Influential People in Healthcare" in 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2023, and one of the "50 Most Influential Clinical Executives" in 2020 and 2021. Dr. Grant was inducted into the North Carolina Nurses Hall of Fame in 2023. In 2024, he was the recipient of the National League of Nursing's President's Award and the Academy of Medical Surgical Nurses President Award. In 2026, Dr. Grant was the recipient of the Duke University's Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award in recognition of his exceptional dedication to the mission of Duke Health and commitment to Dr. King's Principles.

Dr. Grant earned his BSN from North Carolina Central University and his MSN and PhD from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he became the first African American male to earn a PhD from the School of Nursing.



Dr. Sheldon D. Fields

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

PhD, RN, CRNP, FNP-BC, AACRN, FAANP, FNAP, FADLN, FAAN

*Research Professor & inaugural Associate Dean for Equity and Inclusion,
Penn State College of Nursing · 14th National President, National Black
Nurses Association*

Dr. Fields is a Research Professor and the inaugural Associate Dean for Equity and Inclusion in the Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing at Penn State University. He is also the founder and CEO of "The S.D.F Group, LLC", which is a health innovation consulting company. He has over 30 years of experience in the health sector as an educator, researcher, clinician, administrator, consultant, health policy specialist, and entrepreneur / business owner. Dr. Fields is a well-known and respected HIV/AIDS prevention research scientist with a significant focus on young men of color. He is an Advanced AIDS Certified Registered Nurse and a Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner. He worked for over a decade as a primary care provider in a federally qualified health center with historically underserved disenfranchised populations. He is a lifetime member of the National Black Nurses Association, Inc., (NBNA) and currently serves as the organization's 14th National President. He was the first ever male Registered Nurse selected for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellowship Program in which he served as a policy adviser to then

Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) on the Senate HELP committee during the historic healthcare reform debates and passage of the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Fields is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, the National Academies of Practice, and the Academy of Diversity Leaders in Nursing. He is the former dean of the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, as well as the former dean of the school of Health Professions at New York Institute of Technology. He has held other academic and administrative positions at Binghamton University, University of Rochester, Florida International University, and Long Island University-Brooklyn. Dr. Fields received his Ph.D., in Nursing Science from the University of Pennsylvania, his M.S., in Family Nursing and B.S., in Nursing from Binghamton University. He completed his post-doctoral work in the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California San Francisco.



PENN STATE nursing.psu.edu/directory/fields

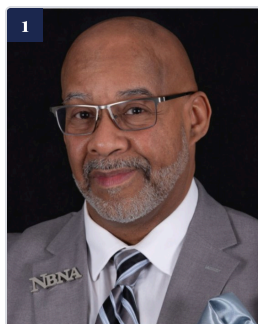
NBNA nbna.org/officers

LINKEDIN linkedin.com/in/sheldon-d-fields

WIKIPEDIA en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheldon_D._Fields

MEET THE HONOREES

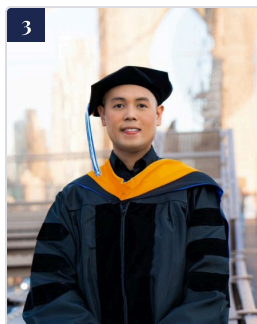
The Nurses Magazine® proudly presents the Men of Honor Class of 2026, 44 exceptional men whose leadership and dedication have left an indelible mark on the nursing profession.



Sheldon D. Fields
PhD, RN, CRNP, FNP-BC, AACRN,
FAANP, FNAP, FADLN, FAAN



Patrick Simon Soria
DNP, MHA, MAN, RN, CGNC,
FAAN



Ray Talatala
DNP, RN, CNOR, NPD-BC, FAORN



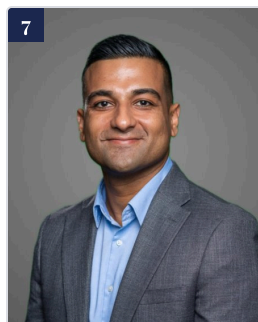
Aron King
MS, RN, FADLN



Michael L. Jones
PhD, MBA/HCM, RN, FAAN



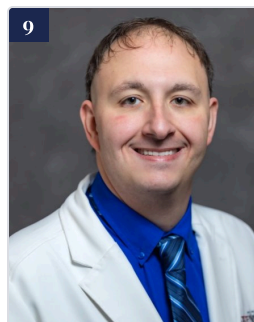
Lunel Milien
MSN, APRN, FNP-BC



Justin Gill
DNP, APRN, RN, FNP-C



Austin Crouthers
DNP, MSN, BSN, RN



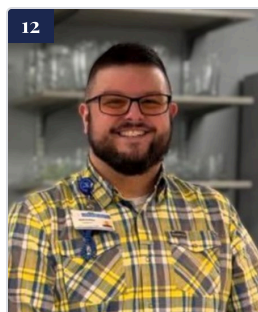
James William Hall, Jr.
DNP, MSN-Ed., RN, PMH-BC,
CDP, PLNC



Briron Kechard Samuel
DHA, MPA-HCM, RN, NEA-BC



Denise Angelo Prudencio
DNP, RN, NEA-BC, NPD-BC,
PCCN, CGNC, FFMRCIS, FSIEN,
FADLN



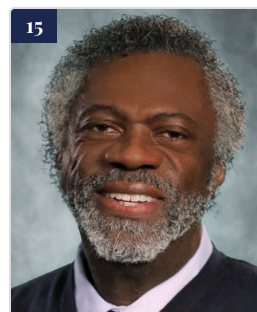
Michael Ray Lehtonen
MSN, RN, NE-BC, EMT



Pedro E. Morante
DNP, PMHNP-BC, FNP-BC,
FADLN, LNC, EDS-C, FSIEN,
GERO-BC, MEDSURG-BC, PMH...



Guillermo R. Valdes
DNP, MSN-HCS, PGC-Ned.,
ANCC MED-SURG-BC, SIGMA
Theta Tau Virginia Henderson...



Ernest J. Grant
PhD, RN, FADLN, FAAN



16

Daniel Aquino

MS-L, BSN, RN, NPD-BC, CSSGB,
MEDSURG-BC



17

**Job Marconi J.
Mascardo**

MBA, MAN, RN, NE-BC, CMGT-
BC, CPHQ



18

Joel Clemente

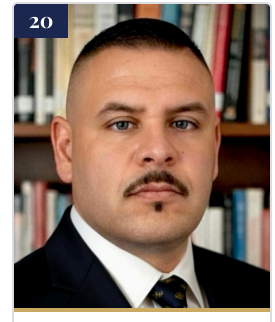
MAN, BSN, RN



19

Vernon M. Langford

DNP, APRN-CNP, FNP-C



20

**Julian Leandro
Gallegos**

PhD, MBA, APRN, FNP-BC,
NREMT, CNL, CMHE, FAUNA,
FADLN



21

Kims Plantin

MSN, RN, CCRN-CMC-CSC, CEN,
CPEN, TCRN, CFRN, CTRN, CBRN,
PCCN, CPHQ, CNE



22

Oniel D. Laucella

DNP, MBA, APRN, RN, PMHNP-
BC, AGPCNP-BC, APHN-BC,
CWP, CPAHA, HIVPCP



23

Marvin F. Delfin

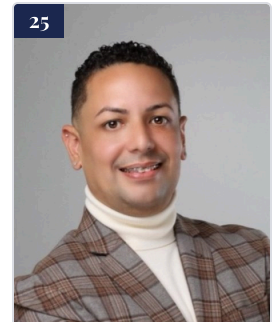
PhD (c), RN, CNRN, CPEN, CEN,
TCRN, CCRN, CFRN, CTRN,
CBRN, CNML, FSIEN



24

Jonathan V. Llamas

DNP, RN-BC, PMHNP-BC, PHN



25

Luis E. Caso Vega

DNP, MBA, RN, CEN, CGNC,
CPEN, NE-BC, TCRN, FADLN,
FSIEN



26

Francisco Brenes

PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC



27

Carrundlas Mathews

MS-NI, RN, NI-BC



28

Larry Adams

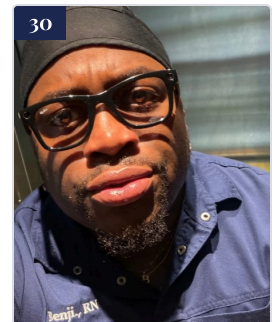
MSN, MBA, RN



29

Manny Ramos

DNP, RN



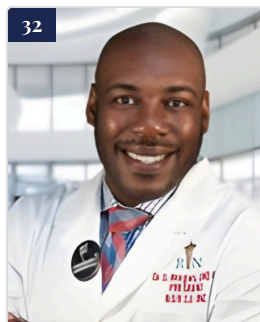
30

**Benjamin Harris
Smith**

BSN, RN



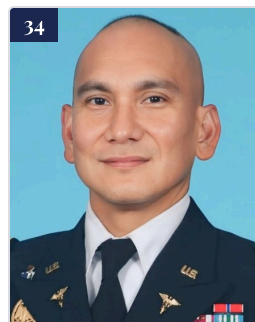
Deron R. Harmon
BSN, ADN, BBA, RN



Darnell Morgan
DNP, RN, NI-BC



Michael Joseph Dino
PhD, LPT, RN, FAAN, ANEF,
FFNMRCI, CPAHA



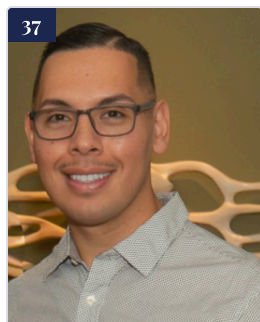
Bob Gahol
DHA, MBA, MPA, MMAS, MSS,
RN, FNYAM, FSIEN, FADLN



Donel J. Richemond
DBA, MSN, MBA, RN



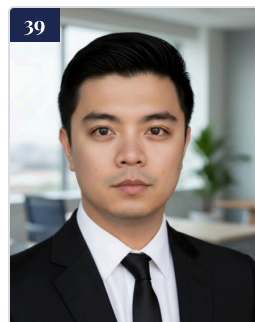
Fred De Souza
BSN, RN



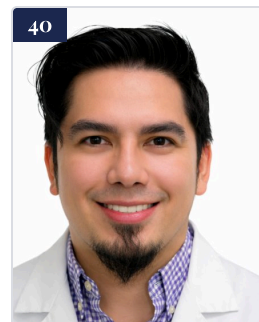
Marcos Julian Lombero
BSN, RN



J'Adore Larosa-Mattis
DNP, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC,
FNYAM, FADLN



Gary Steve Nonan
MAN, RN, CMC



Rommel Yarcia
BSN, RN



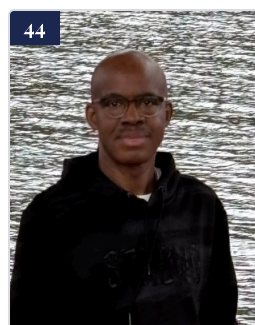
Phillip Person
BSN, RN



Armando Riera
MSN, AANP-C, AHP



Rodolfo D. Lastimosa Jr.
PTRP, RM, RPN, RN, MN, FSIEN,
CGNC, FNYAM, PhD Student



Eziechina Barford Okwor
MSN, RN



IN MEMORIAM

Fallen Colleagues

*They answered the call with courage, compassion, and unwavering dedication.
Their service to their patients, their profession, and their country will never be
forgotten. We honor them here, and we carry them forward.*

The Nurses Magazine®

Akins, Jason Buzz	Carder, Ronald "Ron" Earl	Eddins, Calvin	Jahnke, Ronald
Allen Sr., Rogers Lee	Cartwright, Joe	Egler, James M.	Janney, Kerry Douglas
Arena, Mike	Chastain, Randy	Endorf, Stuart	Jelks, David A.
Bagwell, "Bill" Robert W.	Clark, Tony	Everett, DJ	Jenson, Warren M.
Baker, Thomas	Clay, Jack	Fiklik, Ken	Johnson, Donald
Berumen, Barry	Clemons Jr., John Henry	Fox, Frank Carol	Johnson, Raymond
Besante, Ron	Conlee, Steven Paul	Frazier, Scott	Johnson, Steve
Bishop, William	Cornils, Leo	Frederick, Mark	Jorgenson, Clint
Bonhart, Richard Charles	Cowan, Wayne	Gaston, Terry	Justice, Stormy
Booth, John	Crane, Captain Ricky D.	Goodman, Terry	Kellogg, Mark
Bouska, Matt	Cranfill, Barry A.	Groves, Aaron	Kidney, Josh
Boyes, Mark	Daniels, John	Hall, Doug	Kinnett, William Jordan
Bradley, Phillip	Daube, John August	Harris, Sonny	Knapp, Randy James
Brown, Franklin	Delk, Robert Taylor	Heath, Hal	Kull, Thomas
Brown, Fred	Denton, Glenn	Heer, John	LaRosa, James Mikolajczak
Brown, Steve	DesRocher, Michael Edward	Heyer, Michael	Lee, Wayne
Bush, Robert	Digby, Thomas	Hickert, Joe	Legg III, Fred Vaughn
Busko, Alexander	Durham, Emory Ray	Hill, Brian	Lockhart, David
Campbell, Kyle	Eason, Johnny J.	Hunter, Jerry M.	Lowery, David

Mackay, Christopher	Olinger, Christopher	Sellers, Dale	Thomas, Buddy
Madsen, Galen	Ortiz, David	Sellers, Greg	Tipton, Michael
Mann, Brandon	Owens, Tripp	Sheffield, Gary Mitchell	Usry, Robert "Bob"
Mathis, J. Kerry	Patel, Mitun Bharat	Sherrod, Timothy Allan	Washington, Michael David
McDermott, Timothy	Pease, Kelly	Smith, Stuart	Watson, Brent Phillip
McPhillips, James M. "Jim"	Perkins, Steve	Sniesak, Douglas Thomas	Webster, Stephen
Meadowcraft, Edward "Chip"	Peters, Chad	Spekhal, Keith	Welch, Marshall
Merritt, Rodney	Pittman, Dale	Spell, Dale	Weston, Chad
Miller, Anthony	Prescott, Wayne	Spencer, Russell	Wiles, Stephen
Miller, Mik J.	Procaccini, Steven	Springer, Paul	Wilkes, Kenny
Missell, Rick	Puckett, John R.	Stearley, Thomas	Williams, Charles F.
Molnar, Jim	Ress, Randy	Stout, Ron	Williams, Gregory Steve
Montoya, Alec	Richards, Mark	Suber, Scerrell	Wilson, Melvin
Mooney, William	Roberts, Timothy	Suggs, Alton	Woldeyesus, Yonas
Nathenson, Paul "Prem"	Rogers, Matt	Sveen, Jay	Young, Scott
Newman, Kevin	Rogers, Roger	Szymas, David M.	Zetterman, Adam
Newton, Craig R.	Rowlee, Steven	Taylor, Emmett P.	Ziemba, Charles
Niemir Sr., Kevin	Russell, William "Billy"	Teehan, Kevin	Zimmer, Jim
O'Neil, James	Ryan, Marco	Thelen, Benjamin Gregory	

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for another."

John 15:13





SPECIAL INSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

The Men of Honor Excellence Award for Advancing Men in Nursing

2026 RECIPIENT

Southern University School of Nursing

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Recognizing extraordinary leadership in advancing men in nursing through education, mentorship, and the graduation of one of the nation's largest cohorts of male nurses.



MEN OF HONOR™ 2026 · POSTHUMOUS RECOGNITION

Barry A. Cranfill

APRN, CRNA

MEN OF HONOR POSTHUMOUS AWARD RECIPIENT

Presented in Loving Memory

In recognition of a life devoted to compassionate care, professional excellence, and faithful service to the nursing profession. Through his leadership, dedication, and unwavering commitment to others, Barry A. Cranfill left an enduring legacy that continues to inspire colleagues, patients, and future generations of nurses.

“His life was a blessing, his memory a treasure, and his legacy an inspiration.”

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS & PARTNERS

The Men of Honor program is made possible through the generous support of our sponsors and partners, whose commitment to nursing excellence makes this celebration possible.

PRESENTING SPONSOR



For Medical Professionals

eliteceu4nurses.com

EDUCATION PARTNER



TrinityGlobal
INSTITUTE

Accredited by the Council on Occupational Education

tgi.edu

COMMUNITY PARTNER



JUNK REMOVAL AND
CLEANING SERVICES

Junk Removal & Cleaning Services

purifyjunkclean.com

FOUNDATION PARTNER



Global Innovative Foundation, Inc. (GIF) is an accredited non-profit 501(c)3 organization incorporated in 2019 by a diverse group of professionals engaged to create global awareness for the prevention of crimes.

globalinnovativefoundation.org



(321) 462-3995
hello@avste.com
avste.com

Built by One. Engineered for Many.

Give your nurses their **time back.**

Automation that handles the work pulling your team away from patient care — so your nurses can focus on what they trained for.

- Intake from **48 hours** to under **15 minutes**
- **3+ admin roles** replaced by one custom system
- **Live in 4 weeks.** Built by one operator. No agency middleware.

[Book a Free 30-Min Audit →](#)

SCAN TO BOOK



Stay Connected with The Nurses Magazine®

Scan to explore our programs, subscribe, and join the movement to elevate nursing worldwide.



2nd Annual Nurses Magazine Awards & Symposium 2026

A premier leadership event celebrating nursing excellence, innovation, and impact. Join hundreds of healthcare professionals for awards, education, and networking.

thenursesmagazine.com/2nd-annual-awards



SCAN



Subscribe to The Nurses Magazine®

Three signature issues per year featuring nursing spotlights, leadership stories, career resources, and program highlights.

thenursesmagazine.com/tnm-subscription-plan



SCAN



TNM Ambassador Program

Represent the nursing profession. Become a TNM Ambassador and amplify the voices of nurses in your community and beyond.

thenursesmagazine.com/brand-ambassador-application



SCAN



TNM International Advisory Council

TNM is expanding globally. Join the movement to elevate nursing excellence worldwide.

thenursesmagazine.com/tnm-international-advisory-council



SCAN

Annual Giving Recognition

Honoring those who uplift and empower the nursing community.

YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE



Celebrate Nurses



Support Scholarships



Highlight Leaders



Inspire Programs

ANNUAL GIVING CIRCLES

President's Circle	\$10,000+	Advocate Circle	\$1,000 to \$2,499
Leadership Circle	\$5,000 to \$9,999	Friend of TNM	\$250 to \$999
Champion Circle	\$2,500 to \$4,999	Supporter	Up to \$249



Join Our Community of Supporters

Every gift sustains scholarships, leadership recognition, and programs that advance the nursing profession worldwide. Scan to give.

thenursesmagazine.com/tnm-annual-giving-recognition



WITH GRATITUDE

Special Thanks

The Nurses Magazine extends its heartfelt gratitude to the following organizations and individuals whose support and partnership helped make the inaugural Men of Honor: Honoring the Most Impactful Men in Nursing™ a meaningful and memorable celebration.

Office of the Governor of Georgia

Office of the Mayor of the City of Savannah

Rep. Ron Stephens, District 164

Georgia Nurse Honor Guard

The DeSoto Savannah

Your encouragement, collaboration, and commitment to recognizing excellence in nursing have helped bring this historic event to life. Thank you for supporting and celebrating the extraordinary contributions of men in nursing.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Dr. Guillermo R. Valdes

DJ & SOUND SERVICES BY
TurnUpDen Entertainment LLC

PHOTO & VIDEO SERVICES BY
Lincigraphy Studio



THE NURSES MAGAZINE®

PRESENTS

MEN OF HONOR

The Most Impactful Men in Nursing™

Saturday, June 13, 2026

The DeSoto | 15 East Liberty Street, Savannah, GA 31401

www.thenursesmagazine.com

info@thenursesmagazine.com | 407-205-7191

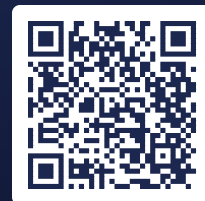
5035 Edgewater Dr. Orlando, FL 32810

STAY CONNECTED

Subscribe to The Nurses Magazine®

Digital, print, and VIP memberships available. Join a global community elevating the nursing profession.

thenursesmagazine.com/tnm-subscription-plan



SCAN TO SUBSCRIBE