

*International Black Women's Congress
39th Annual Conference
Black Women Reframing the 21st Century Using African Spirituality*

Friday, September 22, 2023

8:00am – 5:00pm Registration

9:00am – 9:00pm Vendors

9:00am – 9:15am Welcome and Charge

Elaine Harold-Robinson, M.A.T., Chair of the Board,
International Black Women's Congress, Teaneck, NJ

9:15am – 9:45am Keynote Address: African Spirituality in the Nile Valley

Introduction of Speaker: La Francis Rodgers-Rose, Ph.D., Founder and
Conference Organizer, International Black Women's Congress,
Norfolk, VA

Speaker: Mario Beatty, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Afro American
Studies Department, Howard University and President, Association for
the Study of Classical African Civilizations (ASCAC), Washington, DC

9:45am – 10:00am Break

10:00am – 10:30am National President's Address

Introduction of National President: La Francis Rodgers-Rose, Ph.D.,
Public Sociologist, Founder International Black Women's Congress,
Norfolk, VA

Speaker: Diedre Badejo, Ph.D., Professor Emerita, Klein School of
Communication Design, University of Baltimore, Kent, OH

10:30am – 12:30pm African Spiritual Epistemologies Straight Out of Africa

Chair: Safiya Bandele, M.A., Founding Director Emerita, Women
Center, Medgar Evers College, Brooklyn, NY

Her Royal Majesty Queen Mother Dr. Dòwòtì Désir, Sêmévo 1st, Queen
Mother of the African Diasporas, New York, NY

Yeye Luisah Teish, Ph.D., Teacher, Author of African and African Diaspora Spiritual Cultures and Iyanifa and Oshun Chief in the Yoruba Lucumi Tradition, Oakland, CA

Oloye Adimula Ifakemi Ayoade Osuntoke Joy King from Illedi Edan Gbemi of Saala Ogboni Fellowship, Ogun State Nigeria Charter, Virginia Beach, VA

Nana Korantemaa Ayebofo, President, Asona Aberade Shrine and Presiding Elder of the Akan Spiritual Tradition, Philadelphia, PA

Barbara C. Wallace, Ph.D., Queen Mother, Nana Ohemmea Oparebea Agyiriwa, II, Clinical Psychologist and Professor, Health Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY

12:30pm-1:30pm LUNCH

1:30pm-3:00pm

African Spiritual Epistemologies in the Unites States

Chair: La Francis Rodgers-Rose, Ph.D., Cultural Sociologist and Founder International Black Women's Congress, Norfolk, VA

Camilla Moses Opodu, Ph.D., Professor, Botany Department, The University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

Katrina Hazzard-Donald, Ph.D., Professor, Sociology Department, Rutgers University, Camden, Philadelphia, PA

Rosalyn Jeffries, Ph.D., Director and Art Historian, New York School of Visual Art, New York

Rev. Dr. Yvonne V. Delk, Founding Director, Center for African American Theological Studies, Chicago, IL

3:00pm-3:30pm

BREAK

3:30pm-5:30pm

Black Men Reframing the 21st Century Using African Spirituality

Chair: Brian Williams, Founder, The Circles of Life Society and Board Members, International Black Women's Congress, Norfolk, VA

Arthur L. Whaley, Ph.D., D.PH., Research Psychologist, Public Scholar and Life Member, International Black Women's Congress, New York, NY

Segun Shabaka, Ph.D., Chair, Int'l Arts Festival, Chair, NY Chapter, National Association of Kawaida Organizations (NAKO) and Board Member, International Black Women's Congress, Brooklyn, NY

Akil Khalfani, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology and Chair, African American Studies, Essex County College, Newark, NJ

Mujahid Nyahuma, Ph.D., Managing Director HealthLink International and Senior Scholar, Thomas Jefferson School of Population Health, Philadelphia, PA

Henry D. Rose, Field Director, New York State Nursng Association and Board Member, International Black Women's Congress, Newark, NJ

5:30pm-8:00pm

DINNER

8:00pm-10:00pm

Reception and Lubna's Originals 30th Annual Fashion Show

Lubna Muhammad, Graduate, Parsons School of Design New York City, Pennsauken, NJ

Commentator: Zakiyyah Zai'mah, MA, Board Member, International Black Women's Congress, East Orange, NJ

Saturday, September 23, 2023

8:00am – 5:00pm

Registration

9:00am – 9:00pm

Vendors

9:00am – 9:15am

Welcome and Charge

Elaine Harold-Robinson, M.A.T., Chair of the Board, International Black Women's Congress, Teaneck, NJ

Diedre Badejo, Ph.D., National President, International Black Women's Congress and Professor Emerita, Klein School of Communication Design, University of Baltimore, Kent, OH

La Francis Rodgers-Rose, Ph.D., Founder and Conference Organizer, International Black Women's Congress, Norfolk, VA

9:15am – 11:00am

Bridging the Gaps between Science and African Spirituality

Chair: Ernestine Duncan, Ph.D., Professor, Clinical Psychologist and Faculty Ombuds, Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA

Orisade Imani Awodola, Ph.D., Founder and CEO, Institute of African Centered Thought, Seattle, WA

Linda James Myers, Ph.D. Professor Emerita, Africana Psychology, The Ohio State University and President, International Black Women's Congress, Columbus, OH

Timothy O. Moore, Ph.D., Biomedical Researcher, Professor and Chair, Department of Psychology, Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA

Georgia Dunston, Ph.D., Human Geneticist; Founder, President, CEO, Whole Genome Science Foundation, Inc; Professor Emerita, Howard University Microbiology Department; Founding and Former Director, National Human Genome Center, Howard University, Washington, DC

Rejoinder: James E. Savage, Jr., Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist, President and Owner, Institute for Life Enrichment, Washington, DC

11:00am – 11:15am

BREAK

11:15am – 12:30pm

African Spirituality:Healing Mind and Body

Chair: Erma J. Lawson-Elahee, BSN, Ph.D., Medical Sociology, Professor Emeriti, Department of Sociology, North Texas University, Cary, NC

Jacquelyn S. Ryan, M.D., Hospitalist, Luminis Health-Anne Arundel Medical Center, Annapolis, MD

Marilyn Hughes Gaston, M.D. and Gayle Y. Porter, Psy.D., Gaston and Porter Health Improvement Center, Washington, DC

Jacquelyn F. Green, Ph.D., Social Work, Consultant and Training Firm, Green Enterprizes, Inc., Indianapolis, IN

12:30pm – 2:30pm

ONI AWARD LUNCHEON

2:30pm – 4:00pm

Black Women Academic Administrators: Having the Audacity to be Conductors of Our Spiritual Wokeness

Chair: Selena T. Rodgers, Ph.D., Professor and Chairperson, Department of Social Work and Founding Director and Program Chief Administrator, Master of Social Work (MSW) Program, City University of New York, York College, Queens, NY

Jennette Allen-McCombs, Ph.D., Assistant Professor and Deputy Chair, Department of Social Work, Department of Social Work, CUNY, York College, Queens, NY

Shirell Roeback, M.S.W., Lecturer and Director, Bachelor of Science in Social Work (BSSW) Program, Department of Social Work, CUNY, York College, Queens, NY

Azzie Forbes, Ph.D., Doctoral Lecturer and Practicum Director, Baccalaureate of Science in Social Work, Department of Social Work, CUNY, York College, Queens, NY

Cathleen M. Lilavois, M.S.W., Clinical Professor and Director, Master of Social Work (MSW) Practicum Education, Department of Social Work, CUNY, York College, Queens, NY

4:00pm – 4:15pm

BREAK

4:15pm -6:00pm

Reframing the 21st Century: Education and African Spirituality

Chair: Elaine Harold-Robinson, MAT, Retired Junior High Math Teacher, Teaneck, NJ

Joyce Elaine King, Ph.D., Professor, Benjamin E. Mays Endowed Chair for Urban Teaching, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

Jennifer “Motherlove” Gibbs-Phillips, M.Ed., Retired Headmistress, Washington School for Girls, Washington, DC

Bernadette J. Holmes, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Sociology, Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA

6:00pm – 7:00pm Business Meeting

7:00pm – 8:30pm DINNER

8:30pm – 10:00pm Cultural Show and Reception

Sunday, September 24, 2023

9:00am – 9:15am Welcome

Elaine Harold-Robinson, M.A.T., Chair of the Board,
International Black Women’s Congress, Teaneck, NJ

9:15am – 10:30am Reframing Social Activism Using African Spirituality

Chair: Willa M. Hemmons, Ph.D., Esq., Professor Emerita, Department of
Criminal Justice, Cleveland State University and City Prosecutor,
East Cleveland, OH

Tahiya McCoy Nyahuma, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Sociology,
Rowan University and National President, International Black Women’s
Congress, 2023-2024, Co-Founder, HealthLink International,
Philadelphia, PA

Salima Marriott Gibbs, DSW, Former Professor, Department of Social
Work, Morgan State University and Former, Deputy Mayor of Baltimore,
Atlanta, GA

D. Kim Gaddy, National Environmental Justice Director, Clean Water
Action and Incoming President & CEO, International Black Women’s
Congress, September 2024, Newark, NJ

10:30am – 11:00am BREAK

11:00am – 1:00pm Service Award Brunch

Presiding: Elaine Harold-Robinson, M.A.T., Chair of Board,
International Black Women’s Congress, Teaneck, NJ

Speaker: La Francis Rodgers-Rose, Ph.D., Founder and CEO,
International Black Women’s

Reflections on Forty Years of IBWC and Our Plans Going Forward

1:00pm CLOSING CIRCLE