



National Conference of Women's Bar Associations

PO Box 82366
Portland, OR 97282-0366

info@ncwba.org
www.ncwba.org

Telephone: (503) 775-4396
Fax: (503) 775-6525

Nomination Form for 2016 Public Service Award and Outstanding Members Program Award

The National Conference of Women's Bar Association's (NCWBA) Public Service Award and Outstanding Member Program Award recognize significant accomplishments of women's bar associations across the country. The **Public Service Award** is given to recognize a wide variety of outstanding and unique public service projects. The **Outstanding Member Program Award** is given to recognize bar associations' innovation projects, programs and service to their members. The NCWBA hopes that these Awards will inspire other women's bar associations to initiate similar programs in their own regions. For information about past recipients of both Awards, go to www.ncwba.org.

Nominations are due Friday, January 22, 2016.

Nominations are only accepted from member organizations of NCWBA (whose dues are current or submitted with the application). Projects co-sponsored with other non-bar association organizations may be considered, although more weight is given to those carried out solely by a women's bar association.

Instructions

Complete the nomination form and return it to the NCWBA Awards Committee at awards@ncwba.org. Supplemental information about your nominee is also accepted, however, the total number of pages for the nomination (including the nomination form) should be limited to 10 pages.

Nominee:

(boxes will expand as you type)

| | |
|--|--|
| Name of women's bar association being nominated: | |
| Name of project, program or service being nominated: | |
| Name of contact person for purposes of award notification: | |
| Association's address: | |
| Telephone number of contact person: | |
| Email of contact person: | |
| Number of members in the bar association: | |

**Please make sure to notify the NCWBA of any change in contact information after submission of nomination to ensure timely notification of the awards decision.

Indicate which Award the bar association is being nominated for:

- ☒ Public Service Award
☐ Outstanding Member Program, Award

1. About the Bar Association being Nominated:

In the space that follows, tell us about the women's bar association being nominated for an award. Include the year the association was established, a brief sketch of its growth and development, its major contributions to the legal community or community at-large, and its current membership. The space below is designed to expand to fit the length of your narrative.

Year Established: ____

Number of Members: _____

About the Organization:

2. About the Project, Program or Service being Nominated:

In the space that follows, tell us about the project, program or service being nominated for an award. First, describe the project, program or service in one sentence (i.e., a sound bite). Then go on and describe the project, program or service in detail, giving sufficient detail so that another women's bar association wishing to do a similar project could use your description as an outline of their action plan. Include information on how and why the project, program or service was initiated, historical information for the project, program or service, give the number of women attorneys involved, the number of people impacted and overall results achieved. Copies of photographs, news clippings or other supporting documentation may be attached to the narrative. The space below is designed to expand to fit the length of your narrative.

Description of project, program or service in one sentence:

- *Example: "The Pipeline to Leadership Project provides leadership training to women attorneys who are interested in securing positions on public boards and commissions."*

Details about the project, program or service:

3. Tell Us What Makes Your Project, Program or Service Special

In the space that follows, tell us what is unique about your project, program or service and why is it special. The space below is designed to expand to fit the length of your narrative.

What makes this project, program or service special:

- *Example: "The Visiting Mom Project" is special and unique because it filled an unmet need of young children visiting their incarcerated mothers. The Project created a new visiting room for the children which was warm and inviting, looking more like a public library than a jail, and sent a message to incarcerated mothers that reaffirmed their humanity and their roles as mothers."*

Submission Deadline: Nominations are due Friday, January 22, 2016.

Send your completed Nomination Form to the NCWBA Awards Committee at awards@ncwba.org

The Nomination Form and any supplemental information should be limited to 10 pages.

Saving Our Family Series

About the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA) - The Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys was founded in 1981 by a group of African American women who sought to form a voluntary bar organization that would (1) focus on women and children's issues, (2) increase black female representation in the judiciary and in public offices, and (3) take a proactive stance on political issues. As of January 2016, GABWA has an active membership of over 800 women and men who strive each day to fulfill the organization's mission: to nurture, support and galvanize the power of Black women attorneys, advocate for women and children and empower our communities.

The Saving Our Family series is the brainchild of 2015 GABWA President, Adwoa Seymour. "GABWA has a three-prong mission, the second and third of which focus on advocating for women and children and empowering our communities," Seymour said. "In the wake of Ferguson and Trayvon Martin, our members and community have been touched both professionally and personally by recent incidents involving police officers and the use of force. We have shared concerns over the safety of our girls and boys as we monitored the safe harbor bill in the Georgia Legislature, and have had robust discussions over advocating for our loved ones impacted by illness and domestic violence. In staying true to GABWA's mission, we were compelled to act. This series addresses how we, as lawyers, can use our collective thought and voice to advocate and empower the communities in which we live."

The first of the general body meetings, entitled "Saving our Daughters – What Is Your Child Worth?", took place on Thursday, May 21, 2015 from 6-8 pm. The meeting focused on the many societal pressures and issues that girls face, including low self-esteem and poor body image, failing schools, poor student achievement, negative media images, internet safety and child sex trafficking, with the goal being to equip lawyers who are also parents, caregivers, mentors and concerned citizens with tools and strategies to uplift, support and inspire our young ladies. A panel of distinguished guests included Judge Glenda Hatchett, retired judge, television personality and proprietor of The Hatchett Firm; Jennifer Swain, Interim Executive Director of youthSpark, Inc., GABWA's 2015 community service partner; Dorsey Jones, author and juvenile probation officer; and licensed psychologist Dr. Ifetayo Ojelade lead this proactive and frank discussion.

The June General Body Meeting shifted attention to “Saving our Sons.” The meeting took place Thursday, June 25, 2015 from 6-8 pm. The meeting focused on educating lawyers on ways that they can help the young men of color in their lives navigate a path to success. The topics covered included: why voting matters, men's health issues, access to education, and the relationship between the police and the community. The panel of prominent African-American men included Chief Judge Herman Sloan, Atlanta Municipal Court; Dr. Kenneth Harper; Mr. Allen Lee, Atlanta Public Schools; and author and journalist Nick Chiles. The moderator was attorney and community activist Mawuli Mel Davis of the law firm Davis Bozeman.

The topic of the October General Body Meeting was “Saving our Mothers and Sisters,” and it focused on how and why women should advocate for themselves and their loved ones in the healthcare arena and the issue of domestic violence and its impact on women and the community. The meeting, which will appropriately occurred during Breast Cancer / Domestic Violence Awareness Month, took place on October 22, 2015 from 6-8 pm.

The Saving Our Family Series culminated with a day-long Fall Youth Summit on November 7, 2015. The event featured panels of prominent civic leaders and experts who addressed with greater depth the issues that impact and affect the youth in the African-American community. The panelists lead discussions during the morning, while the afternoon featured break-out sessions led by GABWA community partners. The summit engaged our youth in critical social justice topics including domestic violence, human trafficking, community engagement with law enforcement, health issues and voting rights.











Saving Our Family Series Culminates with Inaugural Youth Summit



Atlanta, GA -- (SBWIRE) -- 10/27/2015 -- A Youth Summit to address the legal problems, concerns and issues facing Georgia's young people is set for Nov. 14 in Atlanta at Grady High School.

The Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA), a 34-year-old voluntary bar organization focused on the enrichment and empowerment of women and advocating for children's issues, has hosted a series of general body meetings in May, June and October centered around the theme of "Saving our Family" with the culmination of the series being an Inaugural Fall Youth Summit co-hosted with the GABWA Foundation, Inc.

In developing the "Saving our Family" Series, 2015 GABWA President Adwoa Gharthey-Tagoe Seymour said, "in staying true to GABWA's mission, we are compelled to act. This series addresses how we, as lawyers, can use our collective thought and voice to advocate and empower the communities in which we live."

"The Summit will engage our youth in critical social justice topics including domestic violence, human trafficking, community engagement with law enforcement, health issues and voting rights. It is our hope that we will bring together community organizations that will provide the young people resources and tools that they can take back to their communities as they will hopefully leave with a renewed sense of being the change that they want to see. "The Summit will serve as a tremendous opportunity to involve our youth in a solutions-oriented dialogue about issues of concern to them." Seymour said.

The Youth Summit is seeking sponsors for the event. Ms. Seymour said in-kind donations of food and beverages, printing for handouts and items for appreciation gifts are welcomed.

"This is all about our children. If you would like to donate or volunteer we will find a place for you and your contribution." she said.

A copy of the sponsorship form and the sponsorship levels appears below.

"You can make a difference. You can contribute. Our children need you," Ms. Seymour said. "With your help, we will bring needed and positive changes to our neighborhoods, community and state."

Young people are often called "our future," but Ms. Seymour said that is only partly correct.

"They are our future. But they are also our present. We have got to do more to work with young people, engage them and show them the huge world of opportunities that are in front of them right now," she said. "We need to show them, not just teach them, that what they are doing right now will affect the rest of their life."

Media Relations Contact

Adwoa Gharthey-Tagoe Seymour

[Email](#) | [Web](#) | [Profile](#)

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"The young people we are talking about need us right now. They can't wait until next year. We are losing too many to violence, drugs and apathy," she said. "Our goal is to educate and empower our youth to be advocates for themselves and their surrounding communities."

Attending the Youth Summit is free and open to the public. For more information visit www.gabwa.org or call 404-572-6928

Contact:

Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA)

Adwoa Gharthey-Tagoe Seymour

2015 GABWA President

Ph: 404-572-6928

president@gabwa.org

<http://www.gabwa.org>

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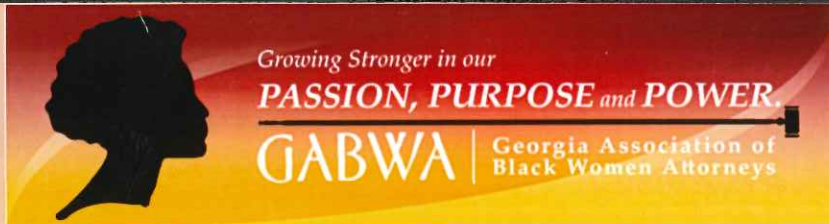
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Saving Our Sons – Raising our Young Men in Today's Complex World

PANELISTS:

JUDGE HERMAN SLOAN
Atlanta Municipal Court

KENNETH HARPER, M.D.
*Harper & Associates Family
Medicine, P.C.*

ALLEN LEE
*Educator,
Atlanta Public Schools*

NICK CHILES
Author and Journalist

ROBBIN SHIPP
Attorney and Author

MODERATOR:

MAWULI MEL DAVIS
*Attorney and Community Activist,
Davis Bozeman Law*

June General Body Meeting

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2015

Place: Adamsville Recreation Center
3201 MLK Jr. Drive NW, Atlanta, GA 30311

Time: 6pm – 8pm
(6pm - Dinner Served / 6:15pm - President's Remarks /
6:30pm - Program Begins)

Please RSVP to rsvp@gabwa.org

GABWA's 2015 "Saving our Family" Series continues with our June General Body Meeting, which will focus on educating lawyers, mentors, and caregivers on ways that they can help the young men in their lives navigate a path to success. The topics covered will include:

- Why Voting for Elected Officials Matters
- Men's Health Issues
- Access to Education
- Developing Positive Relationships with Law Enforcement

A book signing featuring Robbin Shipp and Nick Chiles, co-authors of *Justice While Black: Helping African-American Families Navigate and Survive the Criminal Justice System*, will follow.

We hope you will join us for this enlightening and educational meeting.

Sponsored By:

Davis Bozeman
LAW

Harper & Associates Family Medicine, P.C.

Atlanta City Council Member C.T. Martin



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