National Black Nurses Association Announces the Recipients of the 2018 NBNA Nurses of the Year Awards

The National Black Nurses Association is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2018 NBNA Nurses of the Year. “These NBNA members are exemplars of excellence in nursing practice, research and academia”, said Eric J. Williams, DNP, RN, CNE, FAAN, NBNA President. The Awards Ceremony will take place on Saturday, August 4, 2018, 1 p.m., during the NBNA 46th Annual Institute and Conference, July 31 – August 5, St. Louis Union Station Hotel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Nurse of the Year</td>
<td>Leonora Muhammad, DNP, APN, AGPCNP-BC, CCHP</td>
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<td>Senior Director Quality Improvement and Patient Safety</td>
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<td>Corizon Health</td>
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<td>Black Nurses Association of Greater St. Louis</td>
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<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
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<td>Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year</td>
<td>Samantha Gambles Farr, MSN, FNP-C, CCRN, RNFA, DNP-student</td>
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<td>Surgical Intensive Care Nurse Practitioner</td>
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<td>University of California San Diego Health</td>
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<td>San Diego Black Nurses Association</td>
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<td>San Diego, CA</td>
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<td>Nurse Educator of the Year</td>
<td>Sandy N. Cayo, PhD©, DNP, FNP-BC</td>
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<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
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<td>New York University</td>
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<td>Greater New York City Black Nurses Association</td>
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<td>New York, NY</td>
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The NBNA mission is to serve as the voice for black nurses and diverse populations ensuring equal access to professional development, promoting educational opportunities and improving health.

**NURSE ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR**
“To recognize a successful business owner”
Scharmaine Lawson, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN
Chief Medical Officer
Common Ground Health Clinic
CEO, Nola The Nurse
New Orleans Black Nurses Association
New Orleans, LA

**NURSE OF THE YEAR FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE**
“To recognize outstanding and exemplary community service”
Janice Sanders, RN, BSN, MSHM, MSHE
Nurse Consultant and Health Education Coach – WRC
Fort Bend County Black Nurses Association
Missouri City, TX

**NURSE RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR**
“To recognize a nurse researcher who has completed an outstanding research study and who has excellent potential to develop and implement a program of research that contributes to the well-being and health care of minorities”
Kathy Wright, PhD, RN, GCNS-BC, PMHCNS-BC
Assistant Professor, Chief Diversity Officer
The Ohio State University, College of Nursing
Discovery Themes – Chronic Brain Injury
Columbus Black Nurses Association
Columbus, OH

**STAFF NURSE OF THE YEAR**
“To recognize excellence in clinical practice”
Crystal Norman, BSN, RNC-OB
Registered Nurse
North Shore Medical Center
Black Nurses Association, Miami
Miami, FL

**STUDENT NURSE OF THE YEAR**
“To recognize academic excellence”
Edward C. Bennett, Jr.
Cardiovascular ICU Clinical Technician
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland Council of Black Nurses
Cleveland, OH

**UNIFORMED SERVICES NURSE OF THE YEAR**
“To recognize excellence in the Uniformed Service”
Beverly A. Dandridge, MSN, FNP, MSAJS, CCHP
Commissioned Corps Liaison
Department of Homeland Security
Black Nurses of Southern Maryland
Temple Hills, MD