

SISTERS MAGAZINE

Lead, Empower, and Advocate for Women of African Descent, their Families and Communities



Inside

- NCNW Leads in Social Justice: March on Washington & Freedom Walks
- Affiliates Assembly & Uncommon Height Gala are a Virtual Success
- Affiliate Spotlight: National Coalition of 100 Black Women

NCNW Leads Freedom Walk for Voting Rights

THE UNVEILING OF THE DR. MARY McLEOD BETHUNE STATUE

October 11, 2021 • Daytona, Florida

The Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Statuary Fund, Inc., led by Ms. Nancy Lohman, President held a Statue unveiling in Daytona Beach, Florida. Celebrating one of Florida's most impactful leaders.

In attendance:

- The Honorable Derrick Henry, Mayor, City of Daytona Beach
- Dr. Hiram Powell, Interim President, Bethune-Cookman University
- Dr. Tom LoBasso, President; Daytona State College
- The Honorable Michael Waltz, US House of Representatives
- The Honorable Kathy Castor, US House of Representatives
- The Honorable Laurel Lee, Secretary of State, Florida Department of State,
- and Master Sculptor - Ms. Nilda Comas

HOW IT BEGAN . . .

259 unique names were submitted to replace the statue of Confederate General Edmund Kirby Smith in Washington, DC. A total of 130 names met the eligibility requirements for consideration, including Dr. Bethune, who was nominated by 1,237 of nearly 3,200 respondents.

The Statuary Fund Committee led by Ms. Nancy Lohman raised more than \$800,000 for this project. For Ms. Lohman and the members of the Fund Committee, Dr. Bethune the statue represents more than just honoring her legacy, but carries significant meaning and purpose as the nation continues to struggle with issues of race, class, and gender. This decision to replace the statue of Confederate General Edmund Kirby Smith with one of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune is a teachable moment as well.

The Committee has created a documentary and school curriculum that will provide students from kindergarten through high school the opportunity to learn about Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune.

The symbolism of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune in a cap and gown represents the value she placed on education, the cane Franklin Delano Roosevelt presented to her speaks to the commitment to advancing opportunities for African Americans and women, the stack of books each sculpted with a different tenant of her last will and testament in mind speaks to her core values. The black rose symbolizes her belief that "loving thy neighbor" means interracial, inter-religious, and international brotherhood and sisterhood.

Nilda Comas is the first Hispanic sculptor chosen to create a statue for the National Statuary Hall. To create the statue, Ms. Comas traveled to Mayesville, SC to visit Dr. Bethune's birthplace, and visited Bethune-Cookman University and NCNW Headquarters in Washington, DC. She studied over 200 photographs of Dr. Bethune and listened to recordings of her speeches. A classical sculptor, Ms. Comas used marble from Pietrasanta, Italy where Michelangelo the well-known artist, sculptor, poet, and painter did his famous work and used identical marble. In addition to the marble piece that will be displayed in U.S. Capitol next year, a bronze statue was created and will be displayed at the Riverfront Esplanade Park on Beach Street in Daytona Beach.

The statue is on display at the News-Journal Center in Daytona Beach and will be moved for permanent placement in the US Capitol in 2022.



GATEWAY METROPOLITAN SECTION

NCNW Gateway Metropolitan Chapter participated in the 2021 Sista Strut Parade in St. Louis, MO to help campaign and heighten awareness about the issues of breast cancer, specifically in women of color. We love supporting the community!



MARY McLEOD BETHUNE SECTION

On Wednesday, August 26, 2021 members of the Mary McLeod Bethune Section - Sumter, SC met at the home of Rev. Joseph and Mrs. Wilhelmina Amos (niece of Dr. Bethune) of Sumter, South Carolina; and were delighted to mingle, fellowship and

pay homage to this site because this is the home where Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune stayed overnight as she traveled back and forth from Mayesville, Sumter, Columbia, and Florida.



GREENVILLE COUNTY SECTION

NCNW Greenville County Section has joined its county's mission to end litter by adopting a two mile stretch of road in an African American community. "Adopt-A-Road" gives Section members opportunity to engage with community members; offer community service hours to high school students; and, even welcome community members to join their street's beautification efforts. After the Section's second Adopt-A-Road project for the year, the County of Greenville posted NCNW Greenville's name on their official Adopt-A-Road sign. Greenville County Section Adopt-A-Road

project is led by Coordinator Latoya Abdullah, a charter and life member of the Greenville County Section.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 2022

GOOD HEALTH WINS PARTNERS MEETING • JANUARY 6, 2022 • 7:00 P.M. EST

EMOTIONAL HEALTH IS WEALTH WEBINAR • JANUARY 13, 2022 • 7:00 P.M. EST
Mindfulness and Meditation Series

DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC. FOUNDERS DAY • JANUARY 13, 2022

NATIONAL BLACK CAUCUS OF STATE LEGISLATORS VOTING RIGHTS STRATEGY SESSION • JANUARY 14, 2022 • 11:30 A.M. EST

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC. FOUNDERS DAY • JANUARY 15, 2022

ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INC. FOUNDERS DAY • JANUARY 17, 2022

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. NATIONAL HOLIDAY • JANUARY 17, 2022

GOOD HEALTH WINS PARTNERS MEETING • JANUARY 20, 2022 • 7:00 P.M. EST

MATERNAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY • JANUARY 23, 2022

RACIAL EQUITY WEBINAR • JANUARY 27, 2022 • 7:00 P.M. EST
Sponsored by Wells Fargo

NCNW COMMUNICATIONS QUARTERLY WEBINAR • JANUARY 29, 2022 • 2:00 P.M. EST.

February 2022

LAS AMIGAS, INC. FOUNDERS DAY • FEBRUARY 5, 2022

NATIONAL WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT, INC. FOUNDERS DAY • FEBRUARY 7, 2022

EMOTIONAL HEALTH IS WEALTH WEBINAR • FEBRUARY 10, 2022 • 7:00 PM EST
Mindfulness and Meditation Series

PRESIDENTS DAY HOLIDAY • FEBRUARY 21, 2022

CHUMS, INC. FOUNDERS DAY • FEBRUARY 23, 2022

RACIAL EQUITY WEBINAR • FEBRUARY 24, 2022 • 7:00 P.M. EST
Sponsored by Wells Fargo

March 2022

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY FOUNDERS DAY • MARCH 2, 2022

GOOD HEALTH WINS PARTNERS MEETING • MARCH 3, 2022 • 7:00 P.M. EST

EMOTIONAL HEALTH IS WEALTH WEBINAR • MARCH 10, 2022 • 7:00 PM EST
Mindfulness and Meditation Series

GOOD HEALTH WINS PARTNERS MEETING • MARCH 17, 2022 • 7:00 P.M. EST

NCNW WEBINAR ON RACIAL EQUITY • MARCH 24, 2022 • 7:00 P.M. EST
Sponsored by Wells Fargo

NATIONAL SORORITY OF PHI DELTA KAPPA, INC. FOUNDERS DAY • MARCH 30, 2022