

# Con Brio A News Letter

Volume 8, No. 1 Fall 2010

Frank Suggs, *Editor*

## From The Desk of the President

It is with great pride and excitement that I welcome each of you to a new educational year as I begin my tenure as President of the National Association for the Study and Performance of African-American Music (NASPAAM). I have many ideas and hopes for NASPAAM during the next two years and I hope all of you will be involved in the planning and implementation.



**Ina Allen**  
*President*

The National Association for the Study and Performance of African American Music has been a beacon in the musical lives of so many educators since 1972. As many of you know, there are always new developments and trends in music education and performance. NASPAAM is one of the major resources for obtaining such information.

As we all plan many wonderful musical experiences for ourselves and our students this year, I hope that you will add to your schedule time to attend the Biennial Conference that will be held in Houston, Texas in March, 2011.

Whether it is your first NASPAAM conference or your twentieth, there will be something to cater to your interests. The clinics, sessions, performances, and networking are great opportunities for a musical 'boost' that many of us need in order to enhance the teaching experiences with our students. You may hear that next competition or concert piece, or meet someone who may benefit from the musical expertise you will gain from attending this NASPAAM event.

The NASPAAM Board members are busy planning our conference with the Houston Host Committee to make your experience in Houston one of the best in NASPAAM history. As educators, we are always learning not only for our students, but also for ourselves.

Even if you are unable to attend the NASPAAM conference, I encourage you to help support the organization by renewing your membership, sponsoring a student attendee, making a donation to the scholarship fund, or telling other people you know about the conference.

As you may be able to tell, I am getting 'psyched up' for this NASPAAM conference and I cannot wait to see and chat with you in Houston, Texas- March 23-26, 2011.

### About our new president

*Education is the key to happiness in life. All people should be life-long learners. I strive to lead children to become the best people they can be while they breathe on this earth. – Ina Allen, 2007*

President Allen has taught classroom general music as well as choral music and guitar; having had award-winning choruses perform at state and national contests and conferences. She was the co-director and later the director of the South Shore Children's Chorus as part of the Chicago Symphony's Community Outreach Program. One of her favorite experiences was teaching in South Africa, where she learned the culture and traditions of the Galeshewe Community and developed many friendships and memories that she will never forget. She believes Multicultural/technological learning is the next level in education with our growing global classrooms.

## NASPAAM ELEVENTH BIENNIAL PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE

# African-American Music In The 21st Century

**Houston Crowne Plaza Hotel**

8686 Kitby Drive  
Houston, Texas 77054  
1-713-748-3221

**March 23 - 26, 2011**

*National Association for the Study and Performance of African-American Music*

*Preserving, Promoting and Advancing the Tradition of African-American Music*

<p><b>Con Brio is a quarterly publication with an emphasis on African-American Music. It reaches urban school systems; Historical Black Colleges and Universities; and African-American Non Profit Music Organizations.</b></p>	<b>Advertisements Rates</b>		<p>Please send camera-ready copy and payment to: <b>Frank Suggs, Con Brio Editor</b> 1201 Mary Jane Avenue Memphis, TN 38116 Phone: (901) 396-2913 E-Mail: fsuggs1@comcast.net</p>
	Full page (8 1/2 by 11)	\$150	
	One half page	100	
	One quarter page	75	
	One eighth page	50	
Business card	25		



No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.  
Luke 9:62.

Those of us, 62 years and older, southern transplants to urban areas of New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and other 1960's centers of economic growth, remember that the mule and the plow were never a growth industry. We had HOPE for a better life for ourselves and future generations. The hope put forth by the new president, Ms. Ina Allen, supported by the Executive Secretary and the Board of Directors is bold, dynamic and visionary. NASPAAM seeks to expand its revenue streams by increasing membership, soliciting institutional and corporate advertising, charitable donations, corporate sponsorships and streamlining conference registration online through the services of Pay-Pal.



Frederick J. Taylor  
Executive Secretary

The new president understands that targeting this generation of millennium music educators through social networking sites, such as Facebook and Twitter, guarantees the long term sustainability of the organization. Baby boomers and other middle income groups should support the efforts of the NEXT generation of millenniums through serving, mentoring and GIVING.

Tax season is just around the corner and the gift of "GIVING" is biblically based. As empty nesters, baby boomers are in need of tax deductions through charitable giving. The IRS code indicates that married couples filing jointly with taxable income between \$68,000 to \$135,000 place them in a 25% income bracket.

For example, the following indicates the return on a \$500.00 gift to NASPAAM:			
Step #1	Taxable income bracket		25%
Step #2	Add your state sales tax		6% (State of Georgia)
Other states sales tax will differ			
Step #3	Total		31%
Step #4	31% of \$500.00 =		\$155.00

Therefore, NASPAAM would return \$155.00 to you. A \$1,000.00 charitable gift to NASPAAM would return \$310.00. The Board of Directors and general membership are increasing their "Giving" in order to decrease their Federal and State Tax liability.

Please join us in making an unrestrictive "GIFT" of \$500.00 or \$1,000.00 to NASPAAM to ensure the viability and growth of the organization.

HOW TO CONTACT NASPAAM	<p><b>Ina Allen</b> President 41 E. 8th Street, #1301 Chicago, IL 60605 Phone: (312) 588-1481 E-mail: iall379@aol.com</p>	<p><b>William Smiley</b> Membership Chair P. O. Box 20191 Greensboro, NC 27420 Phone: (336) 889-2578 E-mail: membership@naspaam.org</p>
	<p><b>Frederick J. Taylor</b> Executive Secretary 1140 Charlton Trace Marietta, GA 30064 Phone: (770) 426-5468 E-mail: chicktaylor@comcast.net</p>	<p><b>Frank Suggs, Editor</b> Con Brio Newsletter 1201 Mary Jane Memphis, Tennessee 38116 Phone: (901) 396-2913 E-mail: frank.suggs@naspaam.org</p>

**Marsha Kindall Smith, retired**

University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee



Marsha received the 2009-2010 **Distinguished Alum Award in Music Education** from *Oberlin College* for "...accomplishments as an elementary music education methods teacher and leader in the areas of multicultural and urban music teacher education."

**Lorraine McFadden Bell**

Hampton University



Lorraine presented **A Tribute to Dorothy Maynor** on Sunday, May 16, 2010 at the Bank Street Memorial Baptist Church in Norfolk, Virginia and on the campus of Hampton University .

**Gwendolyn J. Carroll, retired**

Long Island Public Schools



Gwendolyn has been appointed, for the Spring semester 2011, to serve as *Acting Director of Music Education* at Long Island University - C. W. Post campus located in Brookville, New York.

**Frank Suggs, retired**

Illinois State University



Frank developed and taught **Hymnology in the African-American Church** for the *Tennessee Regular Baptist Missionary and Educational State Convention*, March 2010 in Memphis, Tennessee.

**Jesse C. McCarroll, retired**

New York City College of Technology (CUNY)



Jesse was reappointed as the National Representative of the United States to the **Pan African Society for Musical Arts Education (Pasmae)** and he worked registration at the **International Society for Music Education (ISME)** Conference in Beijing, China, August 2010.

**Nicole Robinson**

University of Memphis



Nicole, Suzanne N. Hall and Fred P. Spano are authors of **Teaching Elementary Music: Integrative Strategies between Music and Other Subjects**. It is Published by Kendall Hunt Publishing Company.

**Mark Phillips**

Virginia State University



On February 26, 2010, Mark and members of the **Virginia State University Marching Band Percussion Line** performed for President Barack Obama when he signed the White House Initiative for continued financial support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

**Pamela S. Wood, Kodaly Music Institute**

Pamela served as clinician for a workshop with the Boston Symphony Orchestra entitled Exploring the Vocal Music of African Americans: Seeking a Deeper Understanding of the African-American Experience through the Prism of Folk Song.

**Robert Jefferson**

Washington, D. C.



This year, Robert received a doctorate in music from the University of Maryland and in February 2011, he will be a Presenter at the Northwest Regional MENC Convention.

**Kehembe V. Eichelberger**

Howard University

On Sunday, September 26, 2010, Kehembe was featured in a concert with three sopranos at the Christ Episcopal Church in Kensington, Missouri.

**Connie Fredericks-Malone**

Carol D. Fredericks Foundation

The Consulate General of France, in Boston, and the **Carole D. Fredericks Foundation** are sponsoring a *Carole Fredericks New England School Contest*, September 7, 2010 - March 26, 2011.

**John Ella Fowler, retired**

Houston Public Schools



John Ella received the *Austin Metropolitan Business Resource Center* **Woman of Distinction Award** and the *Texas Institute for Arts in Education* **Golden Apple Award**.

**Jimmie James, Jr., retired**

Jackson State University



He retired June, 2009 as Chair of the Department of Music and Professor of Music at Jackson State University after serving 43.

**Darnell Crewe Wise Lightbourn, retired**

Arlington Virginia Public Schools

Darnell recently retired as a Music Educator after 39 years of teaching in the Public Schools of Arlington, Virginia.

**Elizabeth Eccles, retired**

Hampton University



Elizabeth was honored as an **Outstanding Music Educator** by the *L. Sherman Greene Chorale*, Norfolk, Virginia, Sunday, March 13, 2010.

**Frederick J. Taylor**

Georgia State University



Effective December 31, 2010, Fred will retire from Georgia State University. This is his second retirement. He retired from the State of Pennsylvania in 1989.



Jesse C. McCarroll

On Sunday, September 5, 2010, I attended the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Tony Williams Scholarship Jazz Festival to hear a performing group of Dr. George Allen, a jazz performer, composer and scholar. To my surprise, the performance group was a symphony orchestra and not a traditional jazz band. The orchestra, located on the floor in front of the stage in the ballroom, was comprised of approximately thirty musicians that included a woodwind quartet, a trombone and a tuba as well as a string section. The percussion section consisted of a wonderful steel drum (pan) player, Mark Johnson and an assortment of percussive instruments. Vincent Rutland was on the trap set and Craig McIver played the marimba and tympani. The marimba sound along with that of the steel drum added an interesting and different texture to the symphony orchestra.



George Allen

Two extremely talented pianists, Dr. Jay Fluellen, a composer and Fared Barron, who played with Wynton Marsalis in Jazz at Lincoln Center, alternated playing the one grand piano located on the small stage. Also seated on the stage was a choir consisting of approximately fifteen singers. The lyrics of the composition were based on a poem by Nneka Ford, one of Allen's former students.

The program began with one of Dr Allen's former students, Kathy Thomas, playing her own violin solo arrangement of "Misty." As she finished the solo, the symphony orchestra began to play and the music moved to an even higher level.

Following the violin solo, Dr. Allen introduced his original composition, "Winter-Summer People Suite." He explained the approximately forty-five minute composition was an autobiographical sketch of his former students at Overbrook High School in Philadelphia, PA, some of whom participated in the performance. Dr. Allen also indicated there were students who were neither winter nor summer. These students were described by music played on the tuba by a former student, Dante Ford, now enrolled at Penn State University.

Dr. Allen showed great sensitivity in conducting the symphony orchestra as it played the eclectic composition. The final movement incorporated "Ceora," which was composed by Lee Morgan, a Philadelphia trumpet player. This movement featured an excellent tenor saxophone soloist, Tommy Grice. The audience expressed great approval of his performance as well as that of the symphony orchestra.

This composition needs to be performed many times for large audiences. **I was very happy to hear that it will be performed at our NASPAAM conference in Houston.**

**NASPAAM BOARD SUMMER RETREAT HIGHLIGHTS**



Gwendolyn Carroll  
 NASPAAM  
 Board  
 Secretary

The annual NASPAAM Summer Board Retreat convened in Houston, TX, June 24-26, 2010 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel - the site for the March 2011 NASPAAM Biennial Professional Conference.

In attendance were:  
 Mark Phillips, Fred Taylor, George Allen, Frank Suggs, Elizabeth Eccles, Jesse C. McCarroll, William Smiley, Martha Cistrunk-Brown, Alvin Amos, Bonita Franklin, John Ella Fowler and William Brackeen.

President Phillips conducted the Thursday and Friday sessions with an agenda that emphasized the plans for the 2011 Professional Conference scheduled March 23-26, 2010, Houston, TX. Board member John Ella Fowler, a former administrator in the Houston Public Schools serves as the Chair of the Houston Host Committee. Sessions at this upcoming conference are to include Forums on African-American Music; Advocacy on African-American Music; Community Partnerships for African-American Music; and, The Recording Genre.

New President Ina Allen was installed on Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> and was handed the official president's gavel. During the next two years, her focus will be on strengthening the organization's membership; bringing the organization into the full scope of technology and its many benefits; expanding our professional performer's outreach; expanding our scholarship efforts by giving a monetary award to young composers attending HBCU's for composing original works of music in the African-American tradition and style; and conducting more frequent board meetings through conference calls with prepared business agendas.

**NASPAAM Collegiate and Local Chapters 2010**



Lorraine M. Bell  
 Co-Chair,  
 Collegiate Advisor  
 President  
 Hampton Roads Chapter

NASPAAM is pleased to have four collegiate chapters at HBCU's. The chapters are located on the campuses of *Jackson State University, Hampton University, Norfolk State University and Virginia State University*. While the chapters are still in a formative stage, membership continues to increase. Students have been

engaged in fund raising activities and service learning projects on their campuses and in their respective communities. It is anticipated that the number of collegiate chapters will increase with the installation of new chapters at the NASPAAM 11<sup>th</sup> Professional Biennial Conference from the local HBCU schools and surrounding areas in Houston, Texas.

The Hampton Roads Chapter of NASPAAM was established in 2009 as the first local NASPAAM Chapter in the country. One of the objectives of this chapter is to assist the local Virginia collegiate chapters with their programs and collaborate in efforts to perpetuate the mission and goals of NASPAAM.

**CALL FOR:**

**Papers · Workshops · Performances · Compositions**

You are invited to submit proposals for presentations of *Research Papers, Workshops, Lecture Recitals* and *Ensemble Performances*.

Proposals and performances should include a focus on *A Perspective of the African Diaspora and African-American Music within Arts Partnership, Sponsorship, Teaching, Performance or Music Industry Careers*.

Topics may include, but not be limited to the following: Inclusion of other Cultures; Teaching Strategies in Urban Music; Texas Regional Music; Spirituals/Gospel; Blues/Jazz; Black Classical Music and American Popular Music.

**Submission deadline is December 15, 2010.** (See pages 4 and 5 for submittal forms or visit [www.naspaam.org](http://www.naspaam.org))

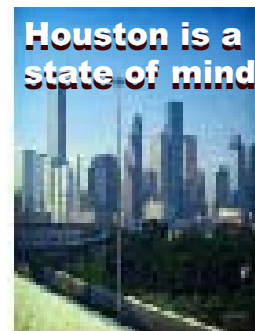
**NASPAAM Launches Scholarships to College Student Composers**

The NASPAAM Board of Directors will award its first scholarship to a young college composer who is currently enrolled at a HBCU (Historical Black College or University). It is required that original compositions are written for solo voice, instrumental or piano and must be reflective of African-American traditional styles in music. **All compositions must be submitted by January 15, 2011.** The winning scholarship recipient will be required to attend the NASPAAM Conference in Houston to accept the award. Further, it is anticipated the winning composition will be performed at the Awards Banquet, March 25, 2011.

Dr. George Allen will receive all applications and can be reached at [GAllen6233@aol.com](mailto:GAllen6233@aol.com) to obtain further scholarship information. For composition scholarship eligibility requirements and forms visit [www.naspaam.org](http://www.naspaam.org).

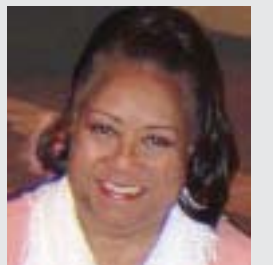
**For more information, please contact:** George E. Allen, *Co-Chair, NASPAAM Scholarship*  
 5419 Woodcrest Avenue - Philadelphia, PA 19131  
 Email: [gallen6233@aol.com](mailto:gallen6233@aol.com)  
 Phone: (215) 877-5827

**Houston Conference Host Committee**



The NASPAAM Conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel-Medical Center in Houston, Texas on March 23-26, 2011. The program activities will include papers by experts; sessions by noted clinicians; panel discussions; performances by emerging and established artists; and the Biennial Awards Banquet.

As a native Houstonian and a musician, I am honored to be the chair of the host committee and proud to be assisted by **Lela Anderson, Pianist and Composer; Shirley Baines, Vocal Artist and Clinician; Pat Biedenfeld, Choir Director and Bassoonist; Nellie Doty, Music Educator and Music Therapist; Joan Hubert, Vocal Artist and Music Minister; Victor Kendall, Ethno-Musicologist and Flutist; Carolyn Mack, College Professor and Clinician; and Jesse Woods, Vocal Artist and School Administrator**. This distinguished committee along with the National Committee will be delighted to meet and greet you at the 2011 NASPAAM Conference.



John Ella Fowler  
 Chairperson  
 Houston Host Committee  
 P. O. Box 841393  
 Houston, TX 77284  
 (281) 859-0411  
[owlereic@earthlink.net](mailto:owlereic@earthlink.net)

*You will make new friends in a city where there is unique cuisine to savor and plenty of sights to see.  
 Come one and all to discover for yourself that Houston is indeed a state of mind!!!*

**11th Biennial Professional Conference** **AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSIC IN THE 21ST CENTURY** March 23 - 26, 2011  
 Houston Crowne Plaza Hotel - 8686 Kirby Drive - Houston, TX 77054 - 1-713-748-3221

**Proposal/Workshop Format**

*The Deadline is January 15, 2010*

**Title of Presentation.** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Each session will be 50 minutes in length to include a question and answer period.*

- A. Abstract:** *(Paper Presentation - 250 words maximum)* (Use back of form, if needed)      **E. Format:**
- B. Name and affiliations of Presenter(s):**      **F. Audio-visual needs:**
- C. Address, phone number, and email address of Presenter(s):**      **G. Instruments needed:**
- D. Biography of Presenter:** *(50 words maximum)*

**PERFORMANCE APPLICATIONS**

All performing groups must submit an audio or video presentation with this application.  
*The Deadline is December 15, 2010*

**Name of Performing Group** \_\_\_\_\_ **Conductor** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Category** *(check one):* Soloist \_\_\_ (Vocal/Inst.) Small Ensemble \_\_\_ (Vocal/Inst.) Band \_\_\_ Choir \_\_\_ Orchestra \_\_\_  
**Group Level** *(check one):* Elementary \_\_\_ Middle/Jr. High School \_\_\_ High School \_\_\_ College \_\_\_ Professional \_\_\_  
**Audition Material:** Audio Tape \_\_\_ Video Tape \_\_\_ CD \_\_\_ DVD \_\_\_ MP3 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact person for the group** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**Briefly Describe Your Group**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

- I understand all the expenses for the above mentioned performing group are my/our responsibility and not that of NASPAAM.  
 I am a current member of NASPAAM.  
 I am not a current member of NASPAAM; however, I have submitted an application.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

*Audition materials will be returned if appropriate return postage and information are included.*

**All presenters, clinicians, workshop leaders and directors must register for the conference and be a members of NASPAAM**

**Mail all Applications and Audition Material to: Dr. Frederick J. Taylor, GSU School of Music, P.O. Box 4097 Atlanta, GA 30302-4097**

**March 23 - 26, 2011 Houston Crowne Plaza Hotel 8686 Kirby Drive Houston, TX 77054**

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSIC**  
***In The 21<sup>st</sup> Century***

**Conference Registration**

(Please Print or Type)

Membership No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State/Prov.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip/Post Code** \_\_\_\_\_ **Country** \_\_\_\_\_

**Daytime Phone** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **Evening Phone** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

*Check all that apply*

<b>Early Bird Registration until February 15, 2011</b>		<b>After February 15, 2011</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Members \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Members \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> Members \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Members \$175
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired Individuals/Spouses \$75		<input type="checkbox"/> Retired Individuals/Spouses \$100	
<input type="checkbox"/> Students \$25		<input type="checkbox"/> Students \$35	

Registration fee covers all sessions. Subtotal \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Daily Registration \$65.00**

**Awards Banquet, Friday, March 25, 2011** (adult) \$50.00 yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_: (Student) \$25.00 yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

**Total Amount of Registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Make Check or Money Order payable to NASPAAM**

**Registration refunds will be made with a \$25 cancellation fee. No refunds after February 15, 2011.**

**Mail Registration Form and Fees to:**

Martha Brown, Treasurer 809 E. Gladwick St. Carson, California 90746 [martha815@aol.com](mailto:martha815@aol.com) Phone: (310) 324-8685

**Hotel Headquarters**

Houston Crowne Plaza Hotel - Room Rate: \$109.00 plus tax - Reservations: 1-877-863-4799 (Please refer to NASPAAM Room Block) FREE hotel parking

**NASPAAM PROGRAM BOOKLET - Advertising Application**

**Name of Company/School.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Authorized by (Official Signature)** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check appropriate line for requested ad space in the program booklet:*

_____ Full page	\$100.00	(8 1/2 x 11)	_____ Patron (single line)	\$ 10.00
_____ Half page	\$ 75.00	(8 1/2 x 5 1/2)	_____ Two center pages	\$250.00
_____ Quarter page	\$ 50.00	(4 1/2 x 5 1/2)	_____ Inside back cover	\$250.00
_____ Business Card ad	\$ 25.00	<i>(card must be in black or colored ink)</i>		

**Make checks payable to NASPAAM** Total Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Ad solicited by \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail AD and fees to:** Frank Suggs - 1201 Mary Jane Avenue - Memphis, TN 38116

**Phone:** (901) 396-2913 - **E-mail:** [frank.suggs@naspaam.org](mailto:frank.suggs@naspaam.org)

**DEADLINE:**  
 Advertising application form, camera-ready ad, and payment must be mailed no later than **February 15, 2011.**

*(Please do not write below this line)*

Date Application received \_\_\_\_\_ Advertising space requested \_\_\_\_\_ Amount received \$ \_\_\_\_\_