



# Links Legacy

## 2019-2020 Officers

**Marguerite Downing**  
President

Vice President-Membership  
**Link Susan Odom Houze**

Vice President-Programs  
**Link Eva Carpenter**

Recording Secretary  
**Krishna Tabor**

Corresponding Secretary  
**Link Aida Morrow**

Financial Secretary  
**Link Rhonda Cotton**

Treasurer  
**Link Winifred Yancy**

Chaplain  
**Link Tracie Bowdoin**

Parliamentarian  
**Link Cameron Brown Jones**

**Chapter Mailing Address**  
Inglewood Pacific (CA) Chapter  
The Links, Incorporated  
Post Office Box 451546  
Los Angeles, CA 90045

## AT-A-GLANCE CALENDAR

### June

4-8<sup>th</sup> Western Area Conference  
13<sup>th</sup> Fund Development Meeting - Doubletree  
29<sup>th</sup> Inglewood Pacific Chapter Retreat

## *Beginning of the Journey*

### President's Message

My Link Sisters,

Congratulations! Please pat yourselves on the back. IPC was clearly in the house in Austin at the Western Area Conference. We won First Place in NTS programming for our senior citizen advocacy program. Additionally, IPC Members Link Charlotte Ned and Jackie Kimbrough made outstanding presentations in their roles as chair of WA committees.

Sadira Hayes, our 59 for the Future mentee represented us well as one of the 4 winners in the Western Area. At the Programming Breakfast on Friday, she blew the audience away with her "Ted Talk" addressing Black Lives' Matters. The other three winners were outstanding as well. Link Jackie, as chair of 59 for the Future has clearly shown what Links can do when we reach out and personally touch the next generation of developing leaders. Link Cameron Brown Jones and her connecting Link, Reggie Jones are also to be commended for their joint mentorship of Sadira. They were clearly hands on, guiding her through the creation, development and delivery of her talk to her final video submission to the purchase of appropriate clothes for the WA conference. Sadira remains on a roll as she has garnered two additional awards since Austin. (see story on subsequent page).

Link Krishna Tabor received a number of commendations for her work as our chapter secretary. Links Thelma Day, Susan Comrie, Leslie Orticke and myself were thanked for our service on WA committees during the last 4 years. Your President and Link Pam Elkins participated in the presentation of the Ethics and Standards Workshop.

Alumna members Billie Jean Barrett, Mary Ann Smith, Thelma Rice, Vera Ricketts and M. Doris Rose Ross were acknowledged on their 40 year anniversary as Links. While Helen Caraway and Berthann Health were celebrated on their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Legacy luncheon celebrated our past Regional Directors and so Link Thelma Rice was additionally honored. On Wednesday afternoon, a beautiful Memorial Service was conducted and Alumna members Katie Robinson, Harriette Williams were acknowledged along with Connecting Links Charles Harriford, Irvin Williams and Marion Price.

***Chapter Retreat***

Saturday, June 29, 2019

American Honda Motor Company, Inc.  
700 Van Ness Blvd - Building 100  
Torrance, CA 90503

**Meeting: 8:00am – 2:00pm**



I think all who attended Austin came back energized by the presentations and the opportunity for us to bond with fellow Links and with our own IPC sister Links. So please plan to attend the 45<sup>th</sup> WA Conference scheduled in Portland, Oregon. I am also putting you on notice that the 46<sup>th</sup> WA will be hosted by the Southern California/Nevada Cluster in 2023 which includes us. Date and location yet to be determined.

As many of you know I just returned from my travels to London to attend Ladies Day at Ascot Races with members of the Los Angeles and the Harbor Area chapters. We had a great time and did get to see the Queen. I am looking forward to showing you all the hats that I purchased while “across the pond”.

Hope to see you at the retreat on Saturday. Links Thelma Day and Lula Morehouse and their team have put together a great program for us which is completely out of the box! So come and get energized about being a Link and a member of IPC.

Yours in the sisterhood,

***Link Denise***



# Congratulations!

Association of African American California Judicial Officers, Inc.

**AAACJO FOUNDING MEMBER  
HONORABLE MARGUERITE D. DOWNING  
NEW CHAIR OF  
CABL'S JUDICIAL COUNCIL**

**INTERVIEW**



*Judge Marguerite D. Downing*

*Q: Congratulations on becoming Chair of the Judicial Council of the California Association of Black Lawyers, Inc. (CABL) in April! What are some of your plans for your leadership year as Chair?*

**A:** Thank you very much! My goal is to increase the number of African American bench officers, thereby increasing the overall diversity of the judiciary. As such, I plan to continue the work of the previous judicial chair and co-chairs by creating a vehicle for

our judges to mentor CABL members interested in becoming judicial officers. Additionally, I wish to address the specific needs of African American judicial officers currently serving and work with AAACJO on issues of mutual concern. I also hope to reach out to administrative law judges to encourage their participation in CABL, as well as provide better opportunities for Black judicial officers to get together outside of our courthouses. Finally, I plan to increase the membership of both CABL's parent organization and of its judicial council.

*Q: CABL's Judicial Council Board and AAACJO have already collaborated in making statewide recommendations to the Governor's Senior Advisor and Judicial Appointments Secretary regarding the Judicial Selection Advisory Committee (JSAC) appointments. Do you foresee other projects in the future where the two organizations can collaborate?*

A: Oh, definitely! I can see CABL and AAACJO meeting jointly in Sacramento as part of a judicial lobbying effort, as well as meeting jointly with Justice Jenkins on judicial appointments. I can also see us working together on a "how to" appointment program for lawyers seeking to become judicial officers, and for judges aspiring to become Court of Appeal justices. I am also looking forward to CABL and AAACJO collaborating on fun networking opportunities for judicial officers across California.

*Q: You have been President of several legal organizations including the Black Women Lawyers of Los Angeles, Inc. (BWL), the California Association of Black Lawyers, Inc. (CABL), and the California Association of Women Lawyers (CWL). You also have been actively involved in the Judicial Council of the National Bar Association (NBA), the American Bar Association (ABA), the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ), the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ), and other organizations. In spite of your busy schedule as Superior Court Judge assigned to a dependency court, where you preside over cases involving abused and neglected children, you have found time to serve in leadership positions. Please explain why you believe it is important to assume leadership positions.*

A: It's been my belief that we as Black people cannot complain about being excluded if we don't step up to the table and engage and serve as leaders. As you know, it can be difficult to get others to step up, so sometimes you must do it yourself. I have found that stepping into leadership positions often leads to others. Besides, I feel that I am just following in the footsteps of some of my mentors, like retired Superior Court Judge Diana Becton, our own AAACJO President Bobbi Tillmon, Justice Vaino Spencer, Judge Veronica McBeth, and many more.

*Q: You have received a number of awards for your work with non-legal organizations. In what organizations have you been involved?*

A: I served on the board of Big Sisters and then Big Brothers Big Sisters for almost 25 years, which is an organization that nurtures children, helps them realize their potential, and endeavors to strengthen their futures and communities. I have also served on the boards of the Mental Health of America and the California Bar Foundation. I am President of my chapter of the Links, Inc., which is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of extraordinary women who are committed to enriching, sustaining, and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry. I am also Vice President of my Chums, Inc. chapter, which is a non-profit organization that provides opportunities for women to meet in friendship and fun, to encourage a spirit of helpfulness, and to use their many talents in service to the community. Recently, I was inducted into the

Circle-Lets, Inc., a national membership organization missioned with providing a social outlet and sisterly relationship among women with similar ideas, interests, and goals.

*Q: You are known as a world traveler, visiting many of the locations and sites listed on your “1,000 Places to See.” What have been some of your most memorable trips and why?*

**A:** The National Bar Association’s trip to Morocco was one of my favorites. Morocco is such a beautiful country and the judges we met there were so engaging—and it was a blast to see our picture on their court website after the trip! Our trip to Turkey was also special, because we perfected our “Cali girl” pose and were able to get the justices to do it with us. Additionally, we had an opportunity to see our colleagues and their spouses in a different light. Tanzania and Kenya were also amazing, not only because of the exotic animals and the international judges, but because I had the chance to share the experience with my daughter, Candace. I loved traveling to Bangkok just because its Bangkok, and Hawaii is a constant favorite of mine, because it’s so beautiful. I love to travel, so there are tons of favorite trips!



### **Black Movie Night III**

The third installment of Marcus Miller and Reginald Hudlin's hugely popular celebration of black movie music returns! Hosted by the very funny comedian/musician Craig Robinson, this year's installment promises new clips, *special guests*, and some fan favorites.

#### **Artists**

Hollywood Bowl Orchestra \* Vince Mendoza, Conductor  
El DeBarge \* Dionne Farris \* Raphael Saadig  
Bebe Winans

### **Join Links, IPC at the Hollywood Bowl**

**Wednesday, September 25th**

**8:00pm - 10:30pm**  
**Section K2, Rows 17 and 18**  
**20 seats available**

**"Park and Ride Shuttle"**  
**Culver City Transportation Center**  
**5:30pm or 6:00pm**

**\$45.00 per person**  
(includes concert and shuttle)

Tickets must be purchased no later than July 31st  
Contact Link Evelyn Turner (310-902-7804)  
eturner917@gmail.com

# UNCF: Wear Your Crown With Confidence Loan Forgiveness Program 2019



UNCF in conjunction with Strength of Nature presents the 'UNCF/Wear Your Crown with Confidence' **UNDERGRADUATE** Loan Forgiveness Program. This program is open to African American students with a minimum cumulative grade point average of a 2.5 on a 4.0 scale at the time of their undergraduate graduation, or during their period of attendance at a four-year, accredited HBCU.

## Who Can Apply?

1. Students who earned their undergraduate degree within five years or less; OR
2. Students who stopped out during their undergraduate matriculation anytime between 1999 and 2019.

## Application Process?

- Complete an online application consisting of the following:
  - Under Education question: Current Enrollment - be sure to select "Undergraduate 4 Year" and the last attended Classification of Academic Level (i.e. Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior, etc.) even though you are currently not enrolled. Please **do not select "Not Enrolled"** under this question.
- Essay
  - In at least 500 words, describe a world that you exist in where you are living your best debt-free life. Explain how this award would impact the world you live in (family, professional, community).
- Upload an academic transcript demonstrating the applicants final grade point average. For graduates, the transcript will need to identify the graduate date, and degree attainment.
- Verification of all sources of the applicant's current income through the uploaded submission of the following:
  - Upload their 2018 tax transcript; requested from the IRS, showing only the last four digits of the applicant's SSN,
  - A letter from all current employers confirming the applicant's current income, and
  - Verification of all forms of undergraduate student loan debt through loan statements from each provider that show the current balance.
  - Have a recommender complete the Reference Form attesting to the applicant's involvement and contributions to their community.

## NOTE!

1) Essay-You may want to type your essay as a word document, checking for any grammatical errors, then copy and paste it into the essay template.

2) Online Application Completion-Once you have completed your application and advanced to the page in which you will hit the SUBMIT button, be sure to thoroughly review your application prior to hitting submit. If you do not hit the submit application button, your application will not be received.

3) Reference Form/Letter of Recommendation-Please be aware that only COMPLETED packets (Student Applications and

Reference Form) will be advanced to further candidate status/review process. Just because an applicants online submission has been complete, it is still the responsibility of the applicant to send your reference the instructions (mentioned to the right) AND ensure they have completed and submitted their portion.

If an individual has indicated someone as their recommender and within a weeks' time they do not receive the reference code, please follow the pdf instructions using the link below, or contact Ms. JaiSun McCormick via email at [jaisun.mccormick@uncf.org](mailto:jaisun.mccormick@uncf.org) prior to the programs closing date.

Allow 6-8 weeks from the program closing for decisions to be made. At that time, both selected and non-selected students will be notified accordingly.

**Program Details**

Open Date: 5/13/2019 12:00 AM EST

Close Date:7/13/2019 11:59 PM EST

**Eligibility Requirements**

Minimum GPA: 2.5

**Ethnicities**

African American/Black

**Colleges / Universities**

HBCUs

**Academic Classification**

College Freshman, College Sophomore, College Junior, College Senior, College 5th Year Senior, College Graduate

**Supporting Documents**

[How to Write a Reference without Invitation Code](#) (PDF)