

DAYTON BRANCH NAACP #3181

# The Dayton Branch

# Chronicle



**NAACP**  
*Dayton Branch*



## INFORM | EDUCATE | EMPOWER

Founded in 1915, the Dayton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the oldest and largest Civil and Human Rights organization in the Dayton Region. Our members, volunteers, office staff, organizers, committee chairs, X and Facebook friends continue to fight for social justice for **ALL** Americans. We hope you will be enlightened as you view our latest edition of The Dayton Branch Chronicle.

The Dayton Branch NAACP **vision** is to fulfill the Dream of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by capitalizing on the **2nd "A"** of the NAACP, which stands for **ADVANCEMENT**. We encourage you to join us and participate fully in this work for a better, stronger, engaged community.

## Newsletter Highlights 2026

JANUARY

Message From The President

Membership & Life Membership

Civil Rights Complaints

January Community Meeting - American Griots: Telling Our Stories in Politically Divisive Times!

Women in the NAACP (WIN)

Youth and Young Adult Engagement

DRY ICE Campaign

Supporting Partner Organizations

NAACP Dayton Headquarters Update

In The News

Upcoming Events

# The Dayton Branch *Chronical*

## President's Cabinet

**Dr. Derrick L. Foward**  
President  
**Freedom Fund**

*Dinah M. Williams*  
Membership and Life Member

*Jo A. Lovelace Hill*  
Finance

*Cedric L. McGhee*  
ACT-SO

*Elijah Rashaed*  
Art Curator

*Mycah A. Pollard*  
Communications, Press, Publicity & Technology

*Graham Curry*  
Young Adult

*Scott E. Barwick*  
Prison Branch

**Mattie P. White**  
Vice President  
**Community Coordination**

*David K. Greer, Sr.*  
Labor & Industry

*Rev. Dr. David I. Fox*  
Criminal Justice

*Atty. Gary J. Leppla*  
Legal Redress

*Roland Winburn*  
Economic Development

**Tom Roberts**  
2nd Vice President  
**Political Action**

*Tiwona L. Foward*  
Women in NAACP (WIN)

*Rev. Renard D. Allen, Jr.*  
Religious Affairs

*Atty. Gary J. Leppla*  
Environmental & Climate Justice

*David L. Montgomery*  
GOTV

*Terrence Williams, SMSgt USAF (Ret)*  
Armed Services and Veterans Affairs

**Willie A. Terrell, Jr.**  
3rd Vice President  
**Scholarship**

*Dr. Morris L. Brown*  
Health

*Ayokunle O. Ogunduyile*  
International Affairs

*Gerry E. Griffith, Sr.*  
Education

*Traci Martin*  
Housing



**Administrative Leadership**

*Colin L. Kimuli*  
Secretary

*Dinah M. Williams*  
Assistant Secretary

**Financial Leadership**

*Jo A. Lovelace Smith*  
Treasurer

*Harvey C. Bolden*  
Assistant Treasurer

**Youth & College Leadership**

*Zora C. Boddie*  
President, Dayton Youth Council

*A'Mariyana Bennett-Crowder*  
President, Move Foward Thurgood Marshall

*Lloyd M. Martin*  
President, LJYC

*Pamela D. Sloan*  
Co-Advisor, Littlejohn Junior YC

*Valerie R. Hayes*  
Co-Advisor, Littlejohn Junior YC

**Executive Committee**

*Rev. Herman E. Branham*  
Chaplain

*Chris R. Cortner*

*Lu Dale*

*Eric L. Ellington, Sr.*  
Sergeant-at-Arms

**Office Volunteers**

*Dr. Morris L. Brown*

*Chris R. Cortner*

*Rev. Dr. David I. Fox*

*Johnnie Howell*

*Arnetta G. Gary*

*David K. Greer, Sr.*

*Rev. Renee Sheppard*

**President Emeritus**

*Jessie O. Gooding*

# The Dayton Branch

## Chronical

## Message From The President

Fellow Citizens,

Welcome to 2026. I continue to be committed to uplifting and serving our Dayton community. The initiatives we launched in January exemplify this commitment, highlighting the power of collaboration in addressing local needs while honoring the enduring legacies of justice, equality, and advocacy.

One of the key initiatives I am particularly proud of is our collaboration with the University of Dayton School of Law. I had the privilege of facilitating a meeting with student leaders, along with Dayton Branch NAACP leadership. We discussed a potential partnership through an externship program, which will give law students valuable real-world experience while contributing to civil rights advocacy and legal empowerment. This partnership holds great promise for our future work.

I also led a press conference to officially launch the NAACP DRY ICE Campaign; a crucial initiative aimed at addressing the aggressive tactics of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). This initiative aims to stop the bleeding of ICE aggression against immigrant communities and other communities of color.

Through this campaign, we are advocating for the following: the requirement for ICE agents to be unmasked while on duty to ensure transparency and accountability; the termination of cooperation between local and federal law enforcement on immigration matters; the resignation or removal of DHS Secretary Kristi Noem; and the condition that any future immigration enforcement funding be contingent upon comprehensive civil rights and constitutional training. This training should include Fourth and Fifth Amendment protections and require a mandatory review of existing programs, along with annual recertification.

Reflecting on this initiative and the advocacy ahead, I've made strides in expanding our membership by recruiting 8 regular members, 12 subscribing silver life members, and 15 fully-paid silver life members. This growth in our membership bolsters our network of activists on the ground, amplifying our efforts to advance the civil and human rights work we are called to carry out on behalf of the American people.

From a community relations perspective, I was honored to attend the Swearing-In ceremony of Mayor Shenise Turner-Sloss, alongside Commissioners Daryl Fairchild and Darius Beckham. Additionally, I had the privilege of participating in the MLK March, Rally, and Dinner. These events were powerful reminders of our unwavering commitment to advocating for justice and equality, while also strengthening meaningful relationships within the community.

We have made significant strides in enhancing the NAACP Dayton Headquarters. Recent renovations to the kitchen and bathroom were completed to ensure that our physical space aligns with our mission of service and advocacy. These enhancements ensure our headquarters is a safe, modern, and accessible place for the community.

Finally, as part of our ongoing commitment to excellence in facility management, we are excited to announce the transition of Johnnie Howell, Jr. into the role of Building Maintenance Manager. Johnnie brings a wealth of experience and expertise in facility operations and maintenance, making him a valuable addition to our team. We look forward to working alongside him as he continues to uphold our high standards and ensure the seamless operation of our facilities.

Your community servant,

Dr. Derrick L. Foward



**Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President**  
 "Our Success is Influenced by Your Actions!"  
 "Zero Dollars, Zero Cents!"

***"Move Forward With Foward"***

# The Dayton Branch *Chronical*

The Dayton Branch NAACP membership continues to grow, up 0.89% vs previous year.

## Membership & Life Membership



Lovell, Joanne, Sonya, Shemeka & Sheton



Brian, Faye, Ozell & Brandy



Harvey & Dorinda



Jerry & Felicia

**TAKE A STAND**  
FOR EQUALITY  
FOR CIVIL RIGHTS  
Join the oldest and boldest and baddest civil rights organization in the nation.  
**Join the NAACP**

### Subscribing Silver Life Members

Floyd Cox	Taiyisha Foward	Keith Harris	Stephanie Miller
Printus Foward III	Terra C. Fox Williams	Paul Miller Jr.	



Donovan



Derrick

### Silver Life Members

Dorinda Bolden	Joanne Foward	Sonya Foward
Harvey C. Bolden	Lovell Foward	Felicia Hill
Brandy Foward	Ozell Foward	Jerry L. Hill
Brian Foward	Shemeka Foward	Donovan Myers
Faye Foward	Sheton Foward	Derrick Scales, Sr.



Dinah M. Williams  
Chair, Membership and Life Membership Committee

# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## Civil Rights Complaints



Dr. Morris L. Brown  
Investigator



Chris R. Cortner  
Investigator



Gary J. Leppla, Esq.  
Advisor



Rev. Dr. David I. Fox  
Investigator



David K. Greer, Sr.  
Investigator

The Labor and Industry Committee and the Criminal Justice Committee worked together to investigate 9 complaints of discrimination, down 25.00% vs previous year MTD.

The top 5 types of complaints were as follows:

- Employment - 22.22%
- Housing - 22.22%
- Felonious Assault - 11.11%
- Police Misconduct - 11.11%
- Use of Force - 11.11%

### Understanding Your Civil Rights

Civil rights are enforceable legal guarantees, often established by government action or statute, that ensure individuals receive equal treatment, protections, and opportunities in society, free from discrimination based on race, sex, religion, age, or disability. They cover areas like voting, education, and housing.

#### Key Aspects of Civil Rights

- Protection Against Discrimination: Unlike civil liberties (which protect against government intrusion), civil rights are proactive, ensuring equality in public and private spaces.
- Fundamental Rights: These include the right to vote, freedom of assembly, equal access to public facilities, and protection from unfair treatment by law enforcement
- Legal Standing: They are rights derived from constitutional amendments (such as the 14th Amendment in the US) and laws like the Civil Rights Act of 1964, rather than just foundational freedom

#### Examples in the United States

- Voting Rights: Protection from discriminatory voting practices.
- Employment Rights: Protection against workplace discrimination (EEO).
- Housing and Education: Equal access to housing and public education.
- Public Accommodation: The right to use public facilities without discrimination.

Rev. Dr. David I. Fox  
Chair, Criminal Justice Committee

David K. Greer, Sr.  
Chair, Labor & Industry Committee

Gary J. Leppla, Esq.  
Chair, Legal redress Committee

# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

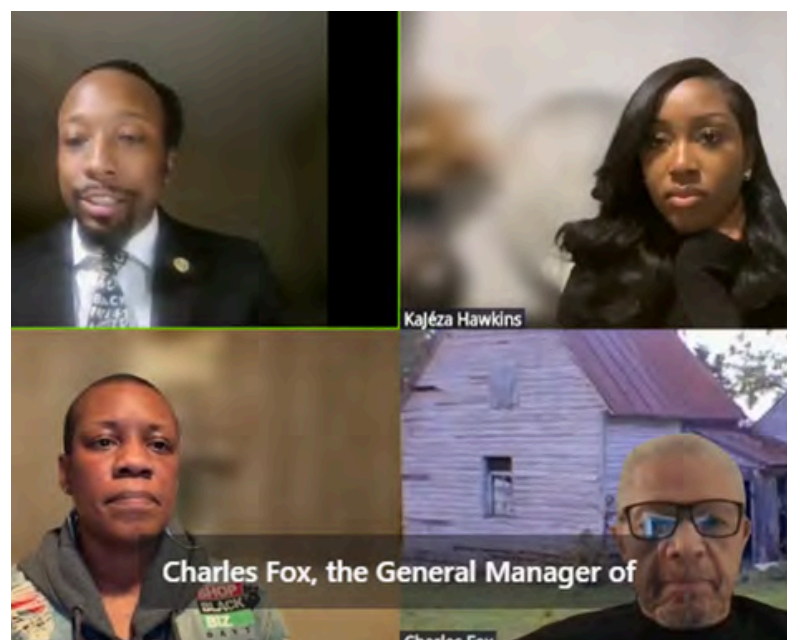
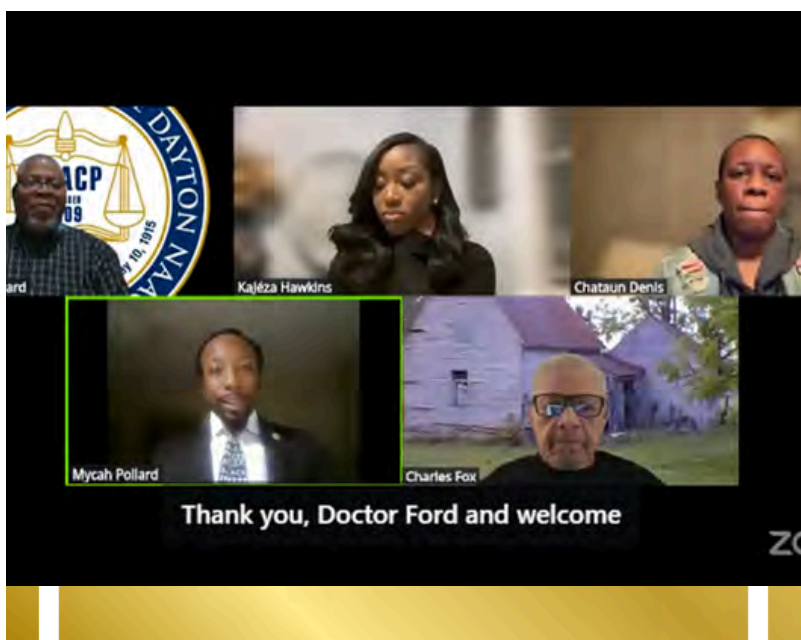
Communications, Press, Publicity & Technology



Mycah A. Pollard, Chair, Communications, Press, Publicity & Technology, moderated a panel discussion titled, *“American Griots: Telling Our Stories in Politically Divisive Times!”* This monthly community meeting was held at Grace United Methodist Church on January 26, 2026.

The distinguished guest panelists were *Charles Fox, General Manager, 88.9 WCSU; KaJeza Hawkins, Journalist; Chataun Denis, Proposal Writer and Business Coach; and Te’Jal Jarrae, Journalist.*

Educated over 990 citizens during this town hall via online.



# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## Women in the NAACP (WIN)

Lady Tiwona Foward Holds First Meeting of the Year to Outline Key Goals and Initiatives.



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Dayton NAACP WIN January Agenda - Word  
Tiwona Foward

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**Dayton NAACP WIN – January 26, 2026 Agenda**

- Welcome and Introductions (3 min)**
- Review of NAACP Mission & History (1 min)**
  - Brief overview of the group's purpose
- Event & Project Planning (10 min)**
  - Discuss potential activities (e.g., service projects, speakers, advocacy)
  - 2-3 primary activities
  - Ways to partner with other groups or local organizations
- Volunteer Committee Opportunities (5 min)**
  - Fund Development Chair

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OF THE PRESIDENT  
DAYTON UNIT

Tiwona Branham

Dr. Derrick L. Foward

Screening Tool

# The Dayton Branch

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## Youth and Young Adult Engagement

*Facilitated a meeting with University of Dayton School of Law students to discuss a potential partnership through an externship program.*



# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## DRY ICE Campaign

President Foward Strategizes with Community Partners Before  
Addressing the Media on DRY ICE Campaign



# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## DRY ICE Campaign

President Foward Holds Press Conference  
With Community Stakeholders to Launch DRY ICE Campaign



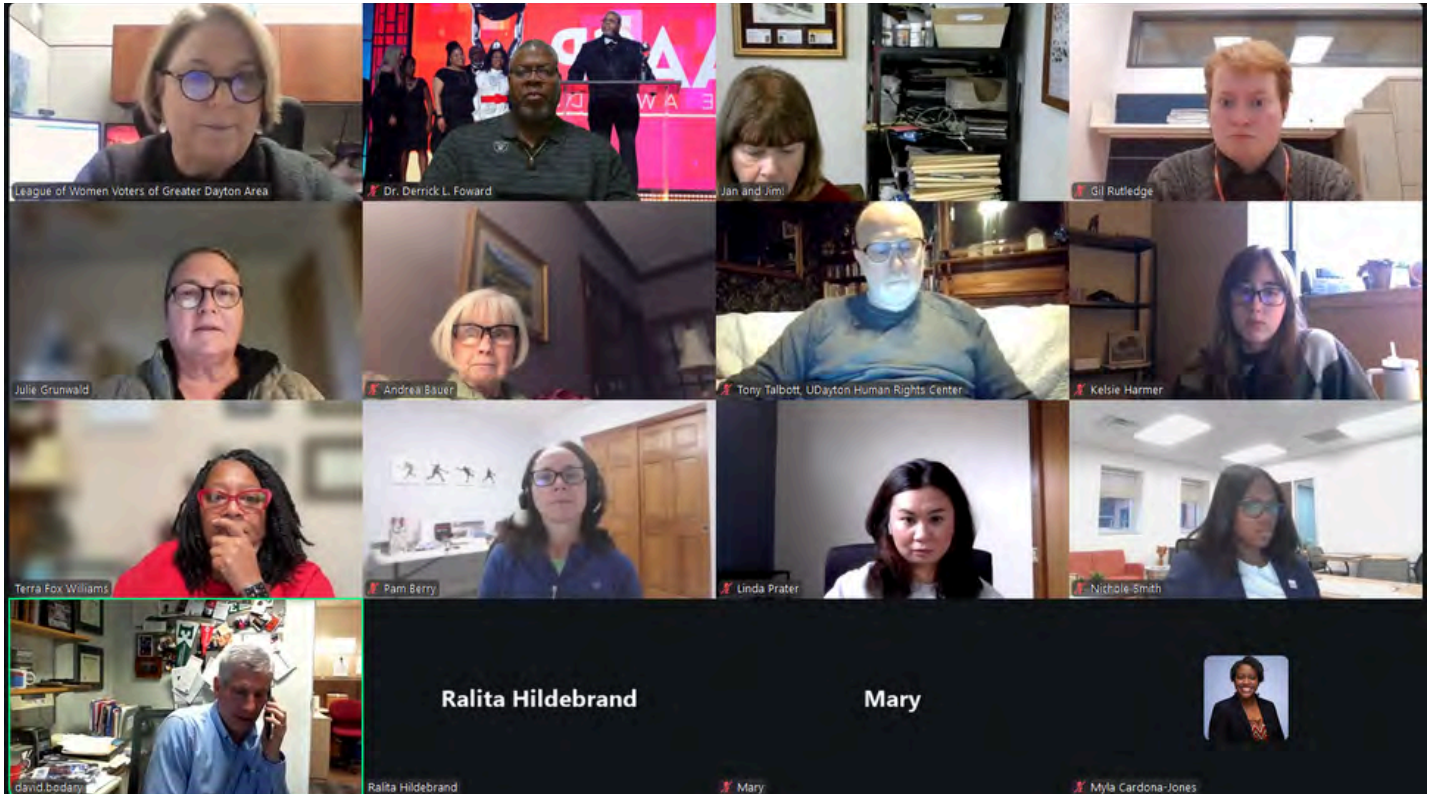
# Supporting Partner Organizations

**Attended the Swearing-In Ceremony of Mayor Shenise Turner-Sloss,  
Commissioner Daryl Fairchild and Commissioner Darius Beckham**



# Supporting Partner Organizations

## Participated in a League of Women Voters of Greater Dayton (LWV) Unite and Rise Advisory Committee Meeting



### Goals for Unite and Rise 8.5

National Goal: To motivate an additional 8.5 million people, or 3.5% of eligible voters – “through civic action and collective power”

Why 3.5%? Because studies have demonstrated that it only takes 3.5% of a country’s population to drive change

7



# Supporting Partner Organizations

## Sergeant-at-Arms Eric Ellington Unveils 2026 MLK Poster



Dayton Branch NAACP on the Front Lines of Justice During MLK March



# Supporting Partner Organizations

## Volunteers Participate in MLK Rally at Sinclair Community College



Volunteers Enjoy Lunch at Milano's After MLK March



# Supporting Partner Organizations

## Team Dayton at MLK Dinner Banquet



# NAACP Dayton Headquarters Update

## Transition of Building Maintenance Manager

We are Pleased to Welcome Johnnie Howell, Jr. to the Team!



# Dayton Daily News

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## Opinion: Dayton Branch NAACP remains steadfast in it goals for 2026



Dr. Derrick L. Foward is a NAACP Image Award-winning activist and president of the Dayton Branch NAACP.  
CONTRIBUTED

LOCAL NEWS

Jan 9, 2026



The vision of the Dayton Branch NAACP is to fulfill the dream of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by capitalizing on the second “A” of the NAACP, which stands for Advancement. This vision calls for the intentional development, protection, and empowerment of our communities through expanded access to education, economic opportunity, civic engagement, leadership development, and social justice advocacy.

We remain steadfast in our commitment to advancing equity, opportunity, and justice through the coordinated efforts of our standing committees and youth enrichment programs.

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# How would Martin Luther King Jr. feel if he were alive today? Local leaders weigh in

LOCAL NEWS

By Sydney Dawes

Jan 19, 2025



For some local leaders, this Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a time for reflecting and honoring the legacies of impactful elders who came before them.

For others, it's a call to serve and a time to plan for challenges ahead.

King saw the foundation for progress before his death in 1968. Advancements include measures put into place to protect people's rights in their schools, in their homes and in the voting booth. But recent years, Dayton Unit NAACP President Derrick Foward said, have seen the uprooting of these foundational principles of civil rights.

And to King, this would be heartbreaking.

"We have people in our Congress who don't want our children learning true American history," Foward said. "We're seeing our voting rights dismantled. We're seeing rollback after rollback."

On a national scale, Foward said he felt King would be embarrassed to see the nation's 47th president. Learning about the Jan. 6 insurrection and its aftermath would also shock King to his core, Foward said.

Locally, Foward pointed to how many complaints his NAACP chapter receives from community members to investigate are related to education: Black children feeling intimidated in their schools, being bullied and being harassed by classmates who use racial slurs.

In Foward's office on Salem Avenue, he has displayed a painting of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X — both shedding tears — looking down on people using drugs, gambling, hurting each other and more.

"He would be weeping," Foward said. "And I weep with him."

But the Dayton region is also filled with hope. King would be elated to see the development of Central State University, for example. Many Black men and women have graduated from the same college where King earned an honorary degree in 1958, and those men and women have moved on to push for change. This would bring King joy, Foward said.



**Sharon White**  
Premier Health



**Stephen Hightower**  
Hightowers Petroleum Company



**Mary McDonald**



**Dale Henry**  
Montgomery County Commission Former Springfield Mayor



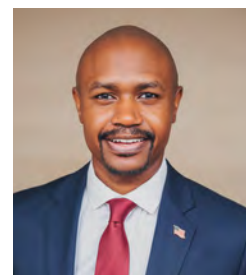
**Taylor Johnson**  
Spectrum New Beginnings



**Dr. Derrick L. Foward**  
Dayton NAACP



**Tae Winston**  
Entrepreneur



**Brighton Smith,**  
Warren County Clerk of Courts

# Dayton Daily News

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Derrick Foward, president of the Dayton Branch NAACP, said immigrants and people of color in the Dayton region could be subject to racial profiling and unconstitutional stops.

“What begins as immigration enforcement often becomes a broader civil rights issue that impacts Black Americans, U.S. citizens and mixed-status families alike,” said Foward, who on Thursday announced a new “Dry ICE” NAACP campaign that calls on lawmakers to cut funding to ICE, with the ultimate goal of abolishing the agency.

Even if Dayton’s Haitian population is small, many city residents are still afraid right now, said Foward, who also said that ICE has destabilized communities, torn families apart and taken lives.



5 DAYS AGO

## Dayton NAACP launches “Dry Ice” campaign, calls for unmasked ICE agents

DAYTON, Ohio (WKEF) - As congress moves to temporarily fund the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), local civil rights leaders are weighing in on the nation's

## 'Dry ICE;' Dayton NAACP calls for defunding of ICE - WHIO TV

WHIO TV 7 and WHIO Radio › local › dry-ice-dayton-naacp-calls-defundin...

8 days ago ... The Dayton Chapter of the NAACP wants funding cut to ICE – they're calling for “Dry ICE.”



## End to Haitian TPS, possibility of ICE raising the ...

DAYTON, Ohio (WDTN) – Temporary Protected Status is now just five days from expiring for hundreds of thousands of Haitians across the nation, including nearly 20,000 living in and around the Springfield area. Now with the Dayton branch of the NAACP demanding the U.S. Senate defund Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Sen. Bernie Moreno believes [...]

# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## Upcoming Events

February 12, 2026

NAACP 117th Birthday (Founders Day – Chartered February 12, 1909)

February 16, 2026

Executive Committee Meeting

February 21, 2026

NAACP Annual Meeting – New York City, New York

February 23, 2026

General Membership Meeting  
& Young Adult Committee Presentation

February 26-28, 2026

57th NAACP Image Awards – Los Angeles, California



President Foward & Lady Tiwona

Black History Month is a time for reflection, education, and celebration of the profound contributions of Black individuals to the fabric of American society. In February, we honor the legacy of our ancestors who fought for justice, equality, and freedom, recognizing both the triumphs and the struggles that have shaped our nation's history. We honor their contributions!

## Fully Committed!

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Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President  
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naacpdayton.org

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*Get Educated!*  
*Be Empowered!*

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Mycah A. Pollard, Chair, Communications, Press, Publicity & Technology