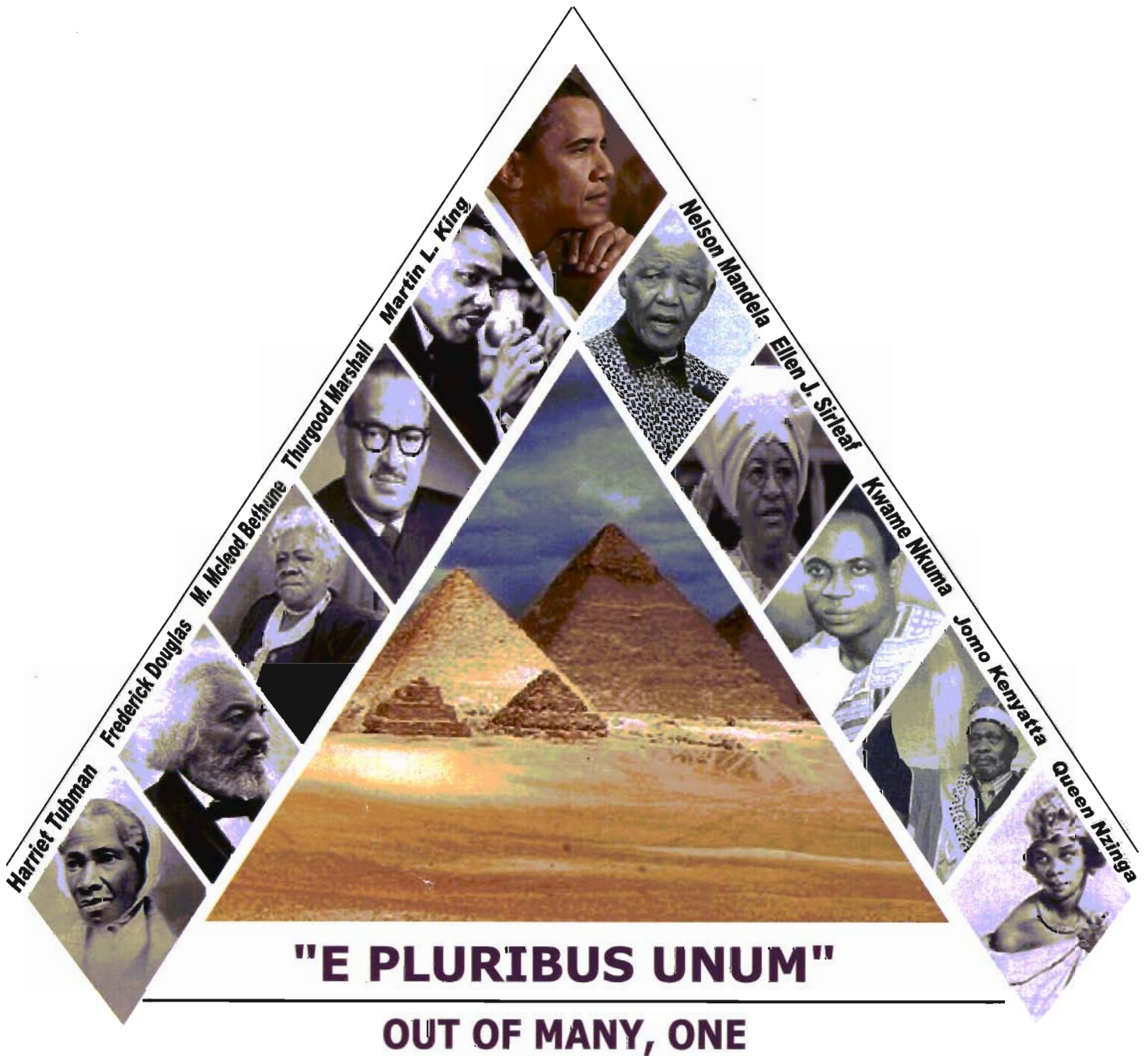


NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN CAUCUS (AFRAM) SEIU



**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL, CAPITOL HILL
WASHINGTON, DC APRIL 17 - 19, 2009**

ON THE COVER

Queen Anna Nzinga
(c. 1581 - 1663)

One of the great women rulers of Africa. A warrior queen in Angola, she led a resistance campaign against the Portuguese and against slave trading in the 17th century.

Jomo Kenyatta
(c. 1890 -1978)

First prime minister and then first president of Kenya from 1964 to 1978. Kenyatta led the East African nation of Kenya to independence from Great Britain in 1963.

Kwame Nkrumah
(c. 1909 - 1972)

Nkrumah was the motivating force behind the movement for independence of Ghana, then British West Africa, and its first president when it became independent in 1957.

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
(born October 29, 1938)

Once imprisoned for criticizing the military, she became the first elected female president of Liberia in 2005. She is nicknamed the "Iron Lady, because of her strong will.

Nelson Mandela
(born July 18, 1918)

Imprisoned in South Africa for 27 years, Mandela became the first President of South Africa to be elected in a fully representative democratic election, serving 1994-1999.

Harriet Tubman
(c. 1820 - 1913)

Runaway slave who became known as the "Moses of her people." Over the course of 10 years, she led hundreds of slaves to freedom along the Underground Railroad

Frederick Douglas
(c. 1818 - 1895)

One of the most prominent figures in African-American and United States history. Born into slavery, Douglas was one of the foremost leaders against racial injustice.

M. Mcleod Bethune
(c. 1875 - 1955)

An educator, author, and civil rights leader. In 1904 she founded what is now Bethune-Cookman College. In 1932 she became member of the President's Black Cabinet.

Thurgood Marshall
(c. 1908 - 1993)

The first African American U. S. Supreme Court Justice. He won the most important legal case of the century, Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka Kansas in 1954.

Martin L. King
(c. 1929 - 1968)

African-American civil rights leader. King became the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for his non-violent means to end racial injustices.

Barrack Obama
(born August 4, 1961)
44th U.S. President

First African-American President of the United States of America; first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review, community organizer, civil rights attorney; constitutional law professor; elected to U.S. Senate 2004.

**NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN CAUCUS (AFRAM) SEIU
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Washington, D.C., Capitol Hill**



PROGRAM AGENDA

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2009

- 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM National AFRAM Executive Board Meeting
- 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM Conference Registration (**Location - Columbia Wall**)
- 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Master of Ceremony: Daniel Fields Jr, President
Metropolitan Washington Chapter
- Welcome/Opening Remarks (**Columbia A-B**)
- Anna Burger, Secretary-Treasurer SEIU
- William Lucy, National President, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
- Clayola Brown, National President, A. Philip Randolph Institute
- Vincent C. Gray, Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia
- Mary Kay Henry, EVP SEIU
- Town Hall Dialogue: "Economic Crisis and the Impact on African American Communities"
- Moderator: Professor Steven Pitts, PhD. Labor Policy Specialist, University of California, Berkeley Labor Center
- 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Opening Reception (**Congressional Ballroom A-B**)
- Mistress of Ceremony: Veronica Turner, National E-Board Member, Eastern Region

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2009

- 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Conference Registration (**Columbia Wall**)
- 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM General Session (**Columbia A-B-C-**)
- Mistress of Ceremony: Dian Palmer, National E-Board Member,
Central Region
- Opening Prayer
- Black National Anthem (**Lift Every Voice and Sing**)
- Andrew Stern, International President, SEIU
- George Gresham, President 1199 UHE
- 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Morning Break
- 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Conference Workshops (**Columbia A-B-C**)
- "Employee Free Choice Act"** – Winning Big for America's
Workers presented by Jon Youngdahl, SEU National Political
Director and Khalid Pitts, Asst. Political Director for Political
Accountability.
- "Health Care For All in 2009"** – Presented by Bruce Colburn,
SEIU, Healthcare Reform Campaign Director.
- "Winning Healthcare Equity"** – Presented by Sinsi
Hernandez-Canico, JD, National Campaign Coordinator,
Healthcare Equity Project and Zita Dixon, MSW, Organizer,
SEIU CIR.
- "Music and Movement"** – Presented by Dushaw Hockett,
Director, Black Organizing Project, Center for Community
Change
- 12:30 PM – 3:00 PM Awards Luncheon (**Columbia Foyer**)
- Master of Ceremony: Rod Bashir, Central Region President
- Blessing of Food
- Lunch Served
- 12:30 PM – 3:00 PM Keynote Address: Wade Henderson

(continued)

President and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR). The LCCR is the Nation's premier civil and human rights coalition.

Award Presentations presented by Khalid Salaam
National E-Board Member Western Region

Gerry Hudson, EVP SEIU

AFRAM President, Marchel Smiley

- 3:00 PM – 3:30 PM Afternoon Break
- 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM Regional Meetings (***Columbia A-B-C and Concord Room***)
- 5:00 PM – 5:30 PM Evening Break
- 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM National Election of Officers (***Columbia A-B-C***)

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2009

- 8:00 AM – 8:30 AM Interfaith Service (***Regency A***)
- 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM Breakfast (***Regency Foyer***)
- 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM 60 Plus Breakfast Meeting (***Room TBA***)
- Joshua Generation (38 & under) Breakfast Meeting (***Room TBA***)
- 9:30 – 11:30 am General Session (***Regency A***)
Master of Ceremony: Newly Elected National President
- Report from Regional Meetings
- Report from 60 Plus group
- Report from Joshua Generation group
- Conference Resolutions
- 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM Closing Session and Conference Adjournment

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

— Often called "The Negro National Hymn," "The Negro National Anthem," "The Black National Anthem," or "The African-American National Anthem"— was written as a poem by James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938) and then set to music by his brother John Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954) in 1900.

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the
slaughtered;
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

The Season for Change



I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the support you have given me over the years. I could not have accomplished much of what I did, without your support, constructive criticisms and prayers.

There are at least four accomplishments we should be collectively proud of, (a) the fact that we still exist. So many thought and some even hoped we would not have survived 12 years. This is especially true given we have no permanent financing and everyone active in AFRAM are volunteers (b) we have convened over 13 National Meetings and we have never left a city owing one penny. All of our bills were paid on time and as a result we have an outstanding reputation and credit rating (c) we expanded AFRAM beyond the obvious urban areas. From Our inception we had Chapters in Oakland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Chicago, New York, Detroit, Newark, St. Louis and Washington, DC. Since then we have chartered chapters or engaged in conversations to start chapters in Georgia, Florida, Nevada, Colorado, Washington, Texas, North Carolina and Arkansas (d) we provided an outlet for hundreds of SEIU rank and file members to develop and exhibit leadership skills outside what was available prior to our existence.

It seems like yesterday we were planning our first national gathering in Atlanta; from Atlanta to our walkout in Chicago; from Chicago to our first election in New Orleans; from New Orleans to Las Vegas; from Las Vegas to Kansas City; from Kansas City to Newark; from Newark to Miami; from Miami back to Las Vegas; from Las Vegas to Milwaukee; and from Milwaukee to the District of Columbia. It has truly been a great ride; sometime high sometimes low, but great nevertheless.

In closing, let me say I was inspired and strengthened by the example and commitment of my dear friend and Brother, John "JJ" Johnson. I continually pray for his health. It's been lonely at the top without him.

I am not stepping down because I no longer love AFRAM; I am stepping down because I still do. I believe a person must be willing to lead during their season, but must also be willing to step aside as seasons change. This is the season for change. Yes We Can.

In Unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marchel Smiley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marchel Smiley
National AFRAM President



Location of National AFRAM Conferences since inception

1996	Atlanta, Georgia
1997	New Orleans, Louisiana
1998	Las Vegas, Nevada
1999	Kansas City, Missouri
2001	Newark, New Jersey
2003	Miami, Florida
2005	Las Vegas, Nevada
2007	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
2009	Washington, DC

Thank you for making this year's conference a huge success!