



# TEMPO PRESTISSIMO

90th Annual Meeting, DoubleTree Hotel Chicago Magnificent Mile, Chicago, Illinois

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 4 THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2009

## Today's Events

8:30a.m.

Business Session (La Salle)

9:15 a.m.

Memorial Service

Rev. Janesia Mosley (La Salle)

10:00 a.m.

GIA Choral Reading Session

Joseph Joubert (La Salle)

11:15 a.m.

Convention Chorus Concert-  
D'Walla Simmons Burke

(La Salle)

12:00 noon

Closing Luncheon (La Salle)

Installation of Officers

Tribute to Life Members

Adjournment

**“Tipping our hats  
to the past,  
rolling up our  
sleeves for the  
future.”**

**Travel safely  
and carefully!**

### Mission Statement

NANM promotes, preserves, and supports all genres of music created or performed by African Americans.

*Tempo Prestissimo*

Editor: Marilyn Thompson

## NANM Celebrates Stellar Accomplishments of Musicians and Arts Advocates at Wednesday Evening Awards Banquet

At the annual Awards Banquet on Wednesday evening, six citizens were honored for their outstanding contributions to music and the allied arts, to the holistic development of young people, and to the betterment of humankind.

Mrs. Esther Isabelle Homes Brazier was cited for her leadership at the Apostolic Church of God. Because of her efforts, an orchestral program has been established at the church, in partnership with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Sister Brazier has sponsored other innovative church initiatives that have greatly impacted parishioners' and their children's lives, also complementing her husband's ministry. Sister Brazier was presented by ACOG Minister of Music and NANM member Mark Jordan. The musical tribute was the duet, "Au fond du temple saint," from Bizet's *The Pearl Fishers*, performed by tenor Cornelius Johnson and bari-

tone Marvin Lynn.

Dr. Toni-Marie Montgomery, Dean of the Bielen School of Music at Northwestern University, was honored for her accomplishments in higher education administration. Under her six-year leadership, there has been considerable growth on numerous levels in the School of Music. Dr. Montgomery, a member of NANM, was presented by Dr. Edna Williams. Her musical tribute was pianist Jeremy Jordan's "Mary's Little Lamb," a set of variations on the theme, "Mary Had A Little Lamb."

Maestro Charles G. Kendrick, organist and choir-master at St. Mark United Methodist Church, was honored for his accomplishments as the "Dean of Chicago Organists" and for decades of service as a dedicated church musician and educator. He was presented by his longtime friend and colleague, Joseph La Rue. Chicago

## Agenda for Today's General Session

Call to Order  
Special Music  
President's Briefing  
Delegates' Discussion of Relevant Convention Issues

Music Association President and NANM 2009 Annual Meeting Program Co-Chair Barbara Wright-Pryor Williams performed the musical tribute, Margaret Bonds' setting of "Hold On."

Maestro Stan Ford, a former NANM Youth President, was this year's international honoree. He is a Professor of Piano at the Universität Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, the first African American to hold such a post. He was presented by NANM Central Region Director Charles Cannon. The award was accepted by Maestro Ford's sister, Ms. Sharon Bryant, and by her son, Pierce, who read a moving acceptance letter prepared Maestro Ford. The musical tribute was J.S. Bach's "Prelude in D minor" (Suite No. 2), performed by cellist Ayanna Williams of SugarStrings.

This year's Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Maestro Simon Estes, internationally acclaimed bass-baritone. Maestro Estes was (Please see "Five Honored" on Page 2)

## Five Honored at Wednesday Evening Awards Banquet

(Continued from Page 1)

honored for his groundbreaking operatic and concert career accomplishments and for his national and global educational and humanitarian contributions. Maestro Estes was the 2009 clinician for the William Warfield Voice Master Class. He pledged to be available to NANM for future projects, when needed. He was presented by NANM Public Relations Chair Marilyn Thompson. Maestro Estes' musical tribute consisted of the aria, "Come dal ciel precipita" from

Verdi's Macbeth and Hall Johnson's "City Called Heaven," performed by baritone Daniel Washington.

NANM Executive Secretary Ona B. Campbell presented service awards to Claudette Douglas of the Chicago Music Association, to NANM Recording Secretary Denise Williams, and to Troy Carroll, of the Alphonse Robinson Association of Musicians and Artists in Denver. NANM board member Bennie Williams accepted Mr. Carroll's award.

**NANM (The National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc.)**

### Officers

**President: David Morrow**

**First Vice President: Byron Smith**

**Second Vice President: Glenn Jones**

**Executive Secretary: Ona B. Campbell**

**Recording Secretary: Denise Williams**

**Assistant Secretary: Marydith Tanksley**

**Treasurer: Dan J. Long**

**Assistant Treasurer: James Butler**

## Dr. Lena McLin Reveals Valuable Insights on Her Music and on the Music of Her Uncle, Thomas Dorsey

Dr. Lena's McLin's Wednesday morning session was part worship service, part lecture-demonstration, and part vocal recital. Dr. McLin divided the morning's offerings into two distinct sections: The first part was devoted to the music of Thomas Dorsey, considered the "Father of Gospel Music," and Dr. McLin's uncle.

The clinician provided background information on Dorsey, who was born in 1899 in Villa Rica, Georgia. Dorsey's mother, Etta, was a musician. All of her children played instruments. After the family moved to Atlanta, Dorsey became a blues musician. He eventually moved to Chicago and converted, then writing sacred music. After the death of his wife, Nettie, young Lena was sent to live in Chicago with "Uncle Ted," who provided music lessons for her twice a week by teachers from the local conservatory. Dr. McLin credits her uncle for making it possible for her to become such an accomplished musician.

Dr. McLin was accompanied by her church choir, who performed her arrangements of some of her uncle's songs: "I'm Singing Every Day," "Do You Know Jesus?" ("I Know Jesus"), "Did You Ever Say to Yourself— That I Love Jesus," and "You Can't Go Through This World by Yourself."

Dr. McLin explained that early gospel singers had to be taught how to perform this music, as it was written in standard hymn form. Willie Mae Ford Smith and Sallie Martin took Dorsey's music and taught choirs and soloists how to perform it.

In the second half of Dr. McLin's presentation, her former students performed her art songs and spiritual arrangements. Baritone Robert Sims sang two spirituals: "Don't You Let Nobody Turn You 'Round" and "Great Day."

Soprano Jonita Lattimore sang "Silence," "If I Could Give You All I Have," "The Year's At the Spring," and "Call Jesus."

Baritone Mark Rucker ended the program with Dr. McLin's "Hold Out Your Light."

### Rev. Glenn Jones Releases Recording of Devotional Hymns

NANM Second Vice President Glenn Jones has available a new recording, *Devotional Songs for Praise and Worship*, featuring him at the piano. The recording contains such favorites as "Bless That Wonderful Name of Jesus," "I Will Bless Thee, O Lord," "Bless the Lord, O My Soul," "There's Something About That Name," and six others. These may be played for easy listening or used as accompaniment for singers.

The recordings are \$10.00 each and may be purchased directly from Rev. Jones. If you wish to order them from him at a later date, please contact him via [revglj49@aol.com](mailto:revglj49@aol.com).

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### From the Editor

If you have information that you wish to include in the next day's issue of *Reverberations*, please submit it to the editor by 6:00 p.m. on the preceding day.