

UMOJA

Convention '77

TRAVEL & HISTORY
PHILADELPHIA

HAVE YOU LOOKED
INTO SKILL SHARE
OR
MASTERCLASSES?

AUGUST 2026
ISSUE NO.10



UNITY

New Orleans, Louisiana
October, 1977

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SHORT APPROACH

CONSIDER SKILL SHARE OR MASTERCLASSES
TO BOOST YOUR PRODUCTIVITY



50TH ANNIVERSARY & 48TH NTC
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!





WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN NBCFAE?

1

WHO ARE WE?

We are an employee association that serves the needs of the under represented aviation employees of the federal government.

2

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

We offer support, training, mentorship and networking through our national conferences and regional/chapter meetups.

3

AVIATION OUTREACH . . .

We provide a career pipeline and engage over 40,000 youth annually to aviation based careers all over the world.

4

OVER 300+ MEMBERS AND GROWING!

We are the largest federal aviation association with over 300+ members across the country.

FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO JOIN CONTACT

INFO@THENBCFAE.COM / WWW.THENBCFAE.COM



NBCFAE

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM



Convention '77



UNITY



New Orleans, Louisiana
October, 1977

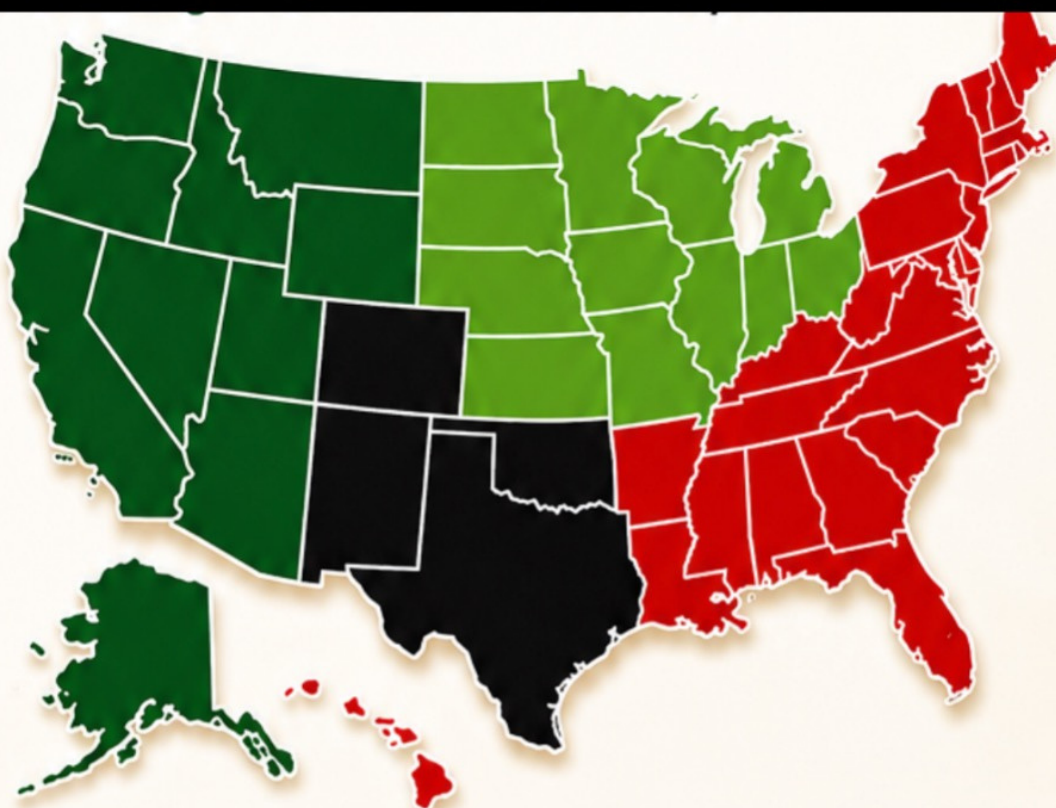
UNITY



NBCFAE

NEWSLETTER

NBCFAE



● NORTHEAST ● SOUTHERN ● MIDWEST ● SOUTHWEST ● WESTERN

REALIGNMENT

VOLUME 2
Number 2
July 1984

UP DATE
THE NATIONAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE NATIONAL BLACK COALITION OF FEDERAL AVIATION EMPLOYEES

WORLD'S FIRST



OKLAHOMA CITY,
OKLAHOMA
OCTOBER 8, 1980

'80



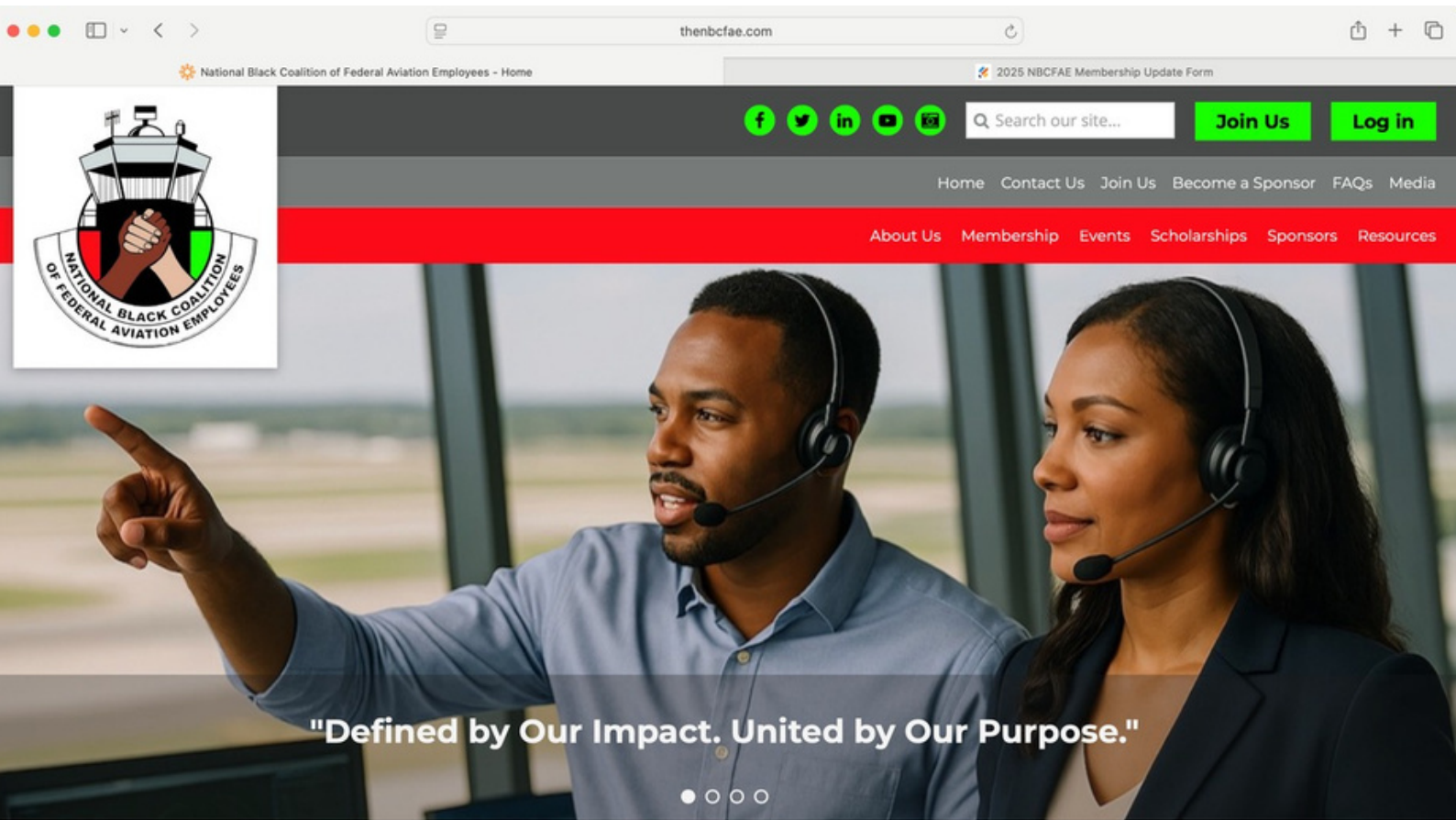
20th
ANNUAL
NATIONAL
CONFERENCE

NATIONAL BLACK COALITION
FEDERAL AVIATION EMPLOYEES

1976 - 1996

20 YEARS OF PROGRESS
SALUTE TO OUR PAST
COMMITMENT TO OUR FUTURE





We'd love for you to check out **www.thenbcfae.com**, the official home of the newly revitalized National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees (NBCFAE)! As our organization evolves, so does our digital presence—this beautifully redesigned website is more than just a facelift; it's a central hub built to keep our members informed, engaged, and connected.

Whether you're looking for the latest updates, upcoming events, or ways to get involved, our site is your go-to destination. As NBCFAE continues to grow and break new ground, our website will grow with us—offering new features, resources, and opportunities. Visit us today, explore what's new, and become part of a powerful community that's soaring to new heights. Join us, and let's shape the future together!

WWW.THENBCFAE.COM



Apparently, you're kind of a **big deal.**

Now with big deal perks.

WALT DISNEY World.



DOORDASH



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2 Enter this secret code:
LU7Z5W

3 Sign up & start saving!

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Questions? Call 1-866-664-4621 or email customer care@benefithub.com



NATIONAL BLACK COALITION OF FEDERAL AVIATION EMPLOYEES

NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

— 1976–2026 —

1976

Preston Henderson

1977

Rich Little

1978

Dennis Shelley

1979

Elliot Reed Jr.

1980

Joseph Cassell

1981

PATCO STRIKE BEGAN

1982

Ernest Joyce

1983–1986

Clifford Armstrong

1986–1996

Evelyn J. Washington

1996–1998

Dorothy Davis

1998–2004

Mamie Mallory

2004–2010

Shaun Sanders

2010–2014

Roosevelt Leonard

2014–2018

Paquita Bradley

2018–2024

Freddie Green

2024–PRESENT

Ejide D. Fashina

Current National President

50 YEARS OF FLIGHT.
RISING ABOVE EVERY CHALLENGE.





1976-2026



50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE





From the Editor

Celebrating 50 Years of Flight: Rising Above Every Challenge

Fifty years. It is a milestone that represents far more than the passage of time. It represents perseverance in the face of adversity, unwavering commitment to a shared vision, and the determination of generations who believed that our voices, our experiences, and our excellence deserved to be recognized and celebrated.

As we commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees (NBCFAE), we pause to honor the remarkable individuals who dared to build something that had never existed before—a community dedicated to empowering Black professionals throughout the federal aviation workforce. What began as a bold idea has become a lasting legacy, strengthened by thousands of members who have committed themselves to service, leadership, mentorship, and advocacy.

Sustaining an organization for five decades is no small feat. It requires sacrifice, resilience, and countless individuals willing to invest their time, talent, and passion into something greater than themselves. Every generation of NBCFAE leaders and members has answered that call, ensuring that the Coalition remained relevant, impactful, and steadfast in its mission despite changing times and evolving challenges. Their dedication has allowed us not only to endure but to thrive.

Perhaps the greatest accomplishment of the NBCFAE has been creating a place where people truly belong. A place where professionals can bring their authentic selves, share their experiences, seek guidance, and find encouragement. A place where careers are nurtured, leaders are developed, and lifelong friendships are formed. For fifty years, the Coalition has provided a safe and welcoming space for like-minded individuals to learn, lead, and lift one another.

Our strength has never been measured solely by the positions we hold or the accomplishments we achieve individually. Rather, it has always been rooted in our collective commitment to one another. Together, we have demonstrated that when we educate, empower, and elevate each other, we strengthen not only our organization but the entire federal aviation community.

As we celebrate this historic anniversary, we also look toward the future with optimism and purpose. The next fifty years belong to those who will carry this legacy forward—building upon the foundation laid by our pioneers while embracing new opportunities to innovate, mentor, and inspire. Our responsibility is to ensure that the Coalition remains a beacon of excellence for generations yet to come.

To every founding member, every past and present leader, every volunteer, every mentor, every sponsor, and every member who has contributed to this incredible journey, thank you. Your commitment has transformed an organization into a family, a network into a movement, and a vision into a legacy.

As you turn the pages of this special edition, we invite you to reflect on where we've been, celebrate where we are, and dream boldly about where we are going. Together, we honor our past, celebrate our present, and continue our flight toward an even brighter future.

Here's to 50 years of excellence, community, and unwavering purpose—and to the many milestones still ahead.

Ranika
Editor-in-Chief





President's Message

With a heart full of gratitude, pride, and joy, as the 15th National President Of the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees (NBCFAE),

I welcome you to the 48th Annual National Training Conference and our historic 50th Anniversary Celebration in the vibrant and beautiful city of New Orleans, Louisiana. For all that could not attend, you are in my mind, heart and in spirit, welcome!

We made it !!!

This moment is more than a milestone; it is a tribute to every dream, sacrifice, challenge, and victory that has shaped our journey. Since 1976, the NBCFAE has been more than an organization; it has been a family, a source of strength, and a place where purpose meets passion. What began with courageous visionaries who believed deeply in fairness, representation, and opportunity has grown into a powerful legacy of service, leadership, and hope. Because of their determination, countless aviation professionals have found support, mentorship, and the courage to reach new heights.

Our theme, “50 Years of Flight: Rising Above Every Challenge” speaks to the heart of who we are. It reflects the resilience of those who came before us, the dedication of those serving today, and the promise we see in those who will lead tomorrow. Our journey has not always been easy, but through every obstacle, NBCFAE has continued to rise with strength, unity, and unwavering commitment. We proudly honor the trailblazers who paved the runway for us, celebrate the members who continue to carry the mission forward, and embrace our responsibility to inspire the next generation to soar beyond whatever dreams they imagined possible.

This year's conference is an opportunity to reconnect, reflect, and renew our shared commitment to excellence. Through leadership development, professional training, mentorship, networking, and meaningful conversations, we will continue building not only a stronger aviation workforce but a community rooted in encouragement.

To our founders, past presidents, board members, retirees, members, and volunteers, thank you from the bottom of my heart. Your sacrifices, dedication, and belief in this mission created the foundation we proudly stand upon today. Every hour served, every barrier broken, and every hand extended to help someone else succeed has become part of the NBCFAE legacy.

To our sponsors, partners, and supporters, we are deeply grateful for your continued commitment and partnership. Because of you, we are able to create opportunities, invest in future leaders, and make a lasting difference throughout the aviation industry.

As National President, I am truly humbled and honored to serve this extraordinary organization during such a meaningful chapter in our history. This celebration is not only about looking back on 50 remarkable years, it is about carrying forward the dreams of those who started this journey and building a future worthy of their legacy. Each of us plays a role in writing the next chapter through how we lead, how we serve, and how we lift one another along the way.

Welcome to New Orleans.

Welcome to a celebration of our history, our achievements, our resilience, and our NBCFAE family. May this conference remind us of how far we have come, strengthen the bonds we share, and inspire us to continue rising above every challenge.

With heartfelt gratitude and purpose,

Ejide D. Fashina
National President
National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees (NBCFAE)



Travel & History



PHILADELPHIA LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT



Octavius Catto was an African American teacher, civil rights activist, and organizer of one of America's first baseball leagues. The son of a South Carolina slave who was manumitted, he became a Presbyterian minister, and moved north to Philadelphia. Octavius did everything a bright, ambitious young man with a social conscience should do in antebellum America. He obtained an excellent education at the Institute for Colored Youth, participated in the lyceum and public culture of the day, and returned to the school as professor of English and mathematics. He insisted on the necessity of schools and education for the African American community. He further sought to strengthen that community through his love for cricket, and then baseball, by founding the Pythian Baseball club, which played against both black and, despite resistance, white teams.

During the Civil War, Catto, working with Frederick Douglass and others, helped raised money and troops for the Union cause. With the war won, emancipation achieved, Catto realized that the next battleground would be for civil and political rights. He helped desegregate the Philadelphia streetcars with an act of civil disobedience, and he fully immersed himself in the campaign to pass the great civil rights amendments, including the Fifteenth Amendment which guaranteed voting rights to African American men.

Although Philadelphia had a better reputation than some northern cities on the race question, racial discrimination was still endemic and sparked to life during the postwar election campaigns. The election of 1871 was especially heated, with Democratic operatives threatening and intimidating black voters both during the campaign and on election day. During a street encounter, Catto was shot to death by a white man named Frank Kelly. Kelly fled and was never convicted of the crime.

Catto's funeral was one of the largest public ceremonies in Philadelphia history, as the city looked at itself and was ashamed: Catto had been an exemplary citizen and had been punished for being black. His death marked the beginning of a new era in American history as the problem of freedom for the slave became the question of achieving civil rights for African Americans. Catto was, as his epitaph put it, "One More Martyr in the Cause of Constitutional Liberty."

With the recent 250th anniversary of the United States, the 1800s and the same remains now that we fight for our right to vote. Catto was one example of that fight in history.

MASTERCLASS, SKILL SHARE OR BOTH?

Skill sharing and master classes **help people learn fast**. They give you direct access to expert tips, real-world practice, and new ideas. These sessions also help you build a network with others who share your interests.

Benefits of Skill Sharing

- Learn new things without spending a lot of money.
- Teach others and build your own confidence.
- Meet people in your local community or work field.
- Solve hard problems by sharing ideas.

Benefits of Master Classes

- Learn straight from top experts in the field.
- Save time with focused lessons from a pro.
- Get high-level secrets and advanced methods.
- Stay inspired by watching real masters at work.

<u>MasterClass</u>	<u>Skillshare</u>
Price: \$120 for a standard one-year plan; \$10 a month. Other plans available.	Price: \$167.99 for a standard one-year plan; \$13.99 a month
Pros: Celebrity instructors (including Gordon Ramsay, Christina Aguilera and Kris Jenner), well-diversified topics (from poker	Pros: Free courses available, geared toward creatives (with courses leaning toward animation, creative writing and UI/UX
Cons: No free trial available	Cons: Community feedback lacks instructional elements, no monthly membership option

Unique Features of MasterClass

When going on the MasterClass website it reminded me of Netflix: its interface is similar to the popular streaming platform. The homepage has “New to MasterClass” and “Because You Watched...” sections to keep track of recently added courses and similar follow-along topics. For this reason, the entertainment lean may pique your interest to continue learning online.

Compared to MasterClass, Skillshare seems to have more niche courses available — including search engine optimization (SEO), Photoshop and even professional product photography — skills that could transfer well with your professional career. Moreover, Skillshare offers Learning Paths, otherwise known as hand-picked, sequential classes based on your preferred topic. This allows you to deepen your skillset from beginner to advanced.

Though most of its courses don’t have the celebrity appeal that MasterClass is known for, its lessons are very well-organized. For instance, once you hover over a course page, you’ll find a detailed explanation of what you’ll learn, who this class is for and the No. 1 takeaway once the course is complete. It feels more collegiate, while MasterClass feels more of an information and entertainment hybrid.

Overall, there is value in learning something new or building on existing skills to prepare for Q4 and beyond!

WHAT ARE SOME SKILLS YOU CAN BUILD UPON? LET US KNOW!

INFO@THENBCFAE.COM

Know Before you Go

VENUE

THE WESTIN NEW ORLEANS
100 IBERVILLE STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130
1-504-566-7006

Hotel Registration 11th Floor
Conference Registration 12th Floor

DETAILS

CHECK IN: 3:00PM
CHECK OUT: 12:00PM
VALET: \$46/ DAY
TWO RESTAURANTS ON SITE:
OBSERVATORY & BISTRO ON
BEND

BOOK YOUR ROOM \$133/NIGHT
You may reserve your room between
July 29th and August 7th 2026. Double
Queen or King beds available. Be
prepared to pay \$150 one time
charge for incidentals.



TRANSPORTATION

MSY: Louis Armstrong Int'l Airport
www.flymsy.com
12 miles from hotel

Both available at Level 1 at the Baggage
Claim area on the middle curb

lyft

Uber

EXHIBITOR HOURS

SUNDAY: 7:00AM-7:00PM

MONDAY: 7:00AM- 7:00PM

TUESDAY: 7:00AM-11:00AM

Dress Codes & Event Themes

August 1st:

Sponsor's Reception: Cocktail Attire

President's Reception: All Black, Cocktail/ Semi Formal

August 2nd:

Change into NBCFAE Shirts for Region Photos during Regional
Caucus

AC/SW Region Night Out Theme: NOLA Nights, Let the
GOLDEN Times Roll! Dress to Impress in your Mardi Gras Colors;
Gold, Green, Purple and/or Black

August 3rd:

C. Alfred Anderson Awards Banquet: Masquerade Ball. Colors
Black and Gold- More Regional Photos will be taken!

August 4th:

Business Meeting: HBCU & Divine 9 Representation

DURING TRAININGS, PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE REQUIRED DAILY!!

Join us for our annual trainings, unforgettable evenings, filled with
elegance and charm covered by the allure of New Orleans!

Questions: Please contact our **Conference Coordinator (Marla)** at
conferencecoordinator@thenbcfae.com or
(Linda) at nbcfae.nationalconfcals@gmail.com



NBCFAE 48TH
Annual National
Training
Conference



50 YEARS
1976-2026

WWW.THENBCFAE.COM

INFO@THENBCFAE.COM



OUR HISTORY. OUR LEGACY. *Our Future.*

For 50 years, the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees (NBCFAE) has been a powerful voice for equity, opportunity, and excellence in aviation. From our beginnings to today, we continue to **Educate. Empower. Elevate.**



1968 THE BEGINNING

Black Air Traffic Controllers gathered in Washington, DC to discuss starting a Black controllers union. The primary goals were to increase the number of Black controllers in the FAA and seek promotions for some of the senior controllers. The Washington Chapter of the CBC, Coalition of Black Controllers was created.



1980s BUILDING OUR FOUNDATION

The first National convention was held in OKC, the PATCO strike reduced membership, the C. Alfred Anderson Awards was established, the motto and logo were created. The Agency & NBCFAE began talks for the Tuskegee Institute to become the first HBCU to offer a bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering. The National Scholarship program was also created.



2000s STRONGER TOGETHER

The NBCFAE website was established. The Bessie Coleman Award was created. NBCFAE joined IBAC, partnered with the NAACP Federal Sector Task Force which helped address the backlog of EEO complaints. The Forum Task Force also addressed the underrepresented women and people with disabilities. NBCFAE started hosting ACE Camps for the youth.



2020s RESILIENT & COMMITTED

Due to COVID-19, the National Training Conference was rescheduled and resumed a successful conference in 2022 in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. In 2023 the NBCFAE awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships which has amounted to over \$1,200,000 since its inception. The 2023-2026 NBCFAE Strategic plan was created.



1970s EXPANDING THE MISSION

In California, the conversations of upward mobility, training, recruitment and EEO resolutions were starting to be addressed. The CBC wanted to address not only controller issues but discrimination in the Agency as a whole. That's when the CBC was changed to the NBCFAE.



1990s INFLUENCING & ADVANCING

C-SPAN provided media coverage of the NBCFAE National Training Conference which gave the NBCFAE exposure and highlighted the mission of the organization. The Mamie W. Mallory Scholarship Foundation was established. NBCFAE's recommendations to the Agency helped establish the Program for Emerging Leaders. This program targets aspiring managers.



2010s PARTNERSHIPS & PROGRESS

The NBCFAE and the Rainbow Coalition signed a cohesive agreement to partner on EEO Affairs. The NBCFAE established the Nigeria Unit. The NBCFAE transitioned to electronic voting. The NBCFAE contributed to the human resource policy which established and increased the amount of excused leave offered to attend employee association conferences. Capitol Hill Day was established to discuss the effects of the 2019 government shutdown.



NOW LEADING FOR TOMORROW

In 2025, under a new political administration, the NBCFAE is forging forward and taking the lead in the advocacy for our members. The NBCFAE is working with various unions, civil rights groups and other employee organizations to provide support and education. The NBCFAE will continue their advocacy to support an equitable and diverse aviation community.

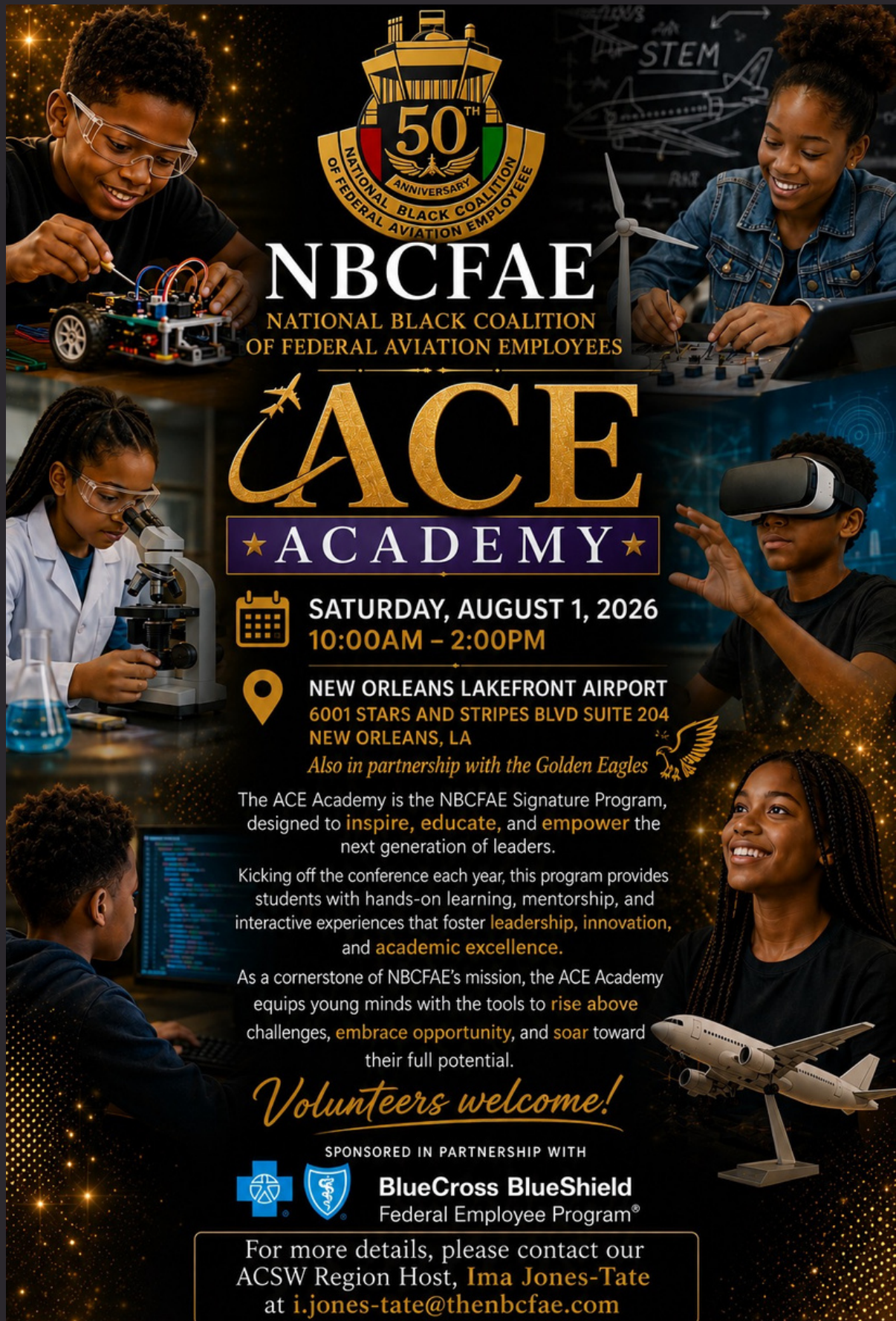
EDUCATE. EMPOWER. ELEVATE.

★ 50 YEARS OF FLIGHT: RISING ABOVE EVERY CHALLENGE ★

1976 - 2026

LEARN MORE AT WWW.THENBCFAE.COM

NBCFAE Events



NBCFAE
NATIONAL BLACK COALITION
OF FEDERAL AVIATION EMPLOYEES

ACE
★ ACADEMY ★

 **SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026**
10:00AM – 2:00PM

 **NEW ORLEANS LAKEFRONT AIRPORT**
6001 STARS AND STRIPES BLVD SUITE 204
NEW ORLEANS, LA

Also in partnership with the Golden Eagles 

The ACE Academy is the NBCFAE Signature Program, designed to **inspire**, **educate**, and **empower** the next generation of leaders.

Kicking off the conference each year, this program provides students with hands-on learning, mentorship, and interactive experiences that foster **leadership**, **innovation**, and **academic excellence**.

As a cornerstone of NBCFAE's mission, the ACE Academy equips young minds with the tools to **rise above** challenges, **embrace opportunity**, and **soar** toward their full potential.

Volunteers welcome!

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For more details, please contact our
ACSW Region Host, **Ima Jones-Tate**
at i.jones-tate@thenbcfae.com

NBCFAE Events



NBCFAE
NATIONAL BLACK COALITION
OF FEDERAL AVIATION EMPLOYEES

**SOUTHWEST REGION
PRESENTS**

NOLA

Nights,
Let the **GOLDEN**
Times Roll!

 **SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026**
7:00 PM TO 10:00 PM

 **THE JAXSON ON THE RIVER**
620 DECATUR STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

 **DRESS TO IMPRESS**
IN YOUR MARDI GRAS COLORS:
GOLD, GREEN, PURPLE
AND/OR BLACK

 **TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED
BY CRESCENT CITY COACH**
*The transportation schedule
will be given at the conference.*

For more details, please contact our
Southwest Region Host, **Ima Jones-Tate**
[@i.jones-tate@thenbcfae.com](mailto:i.jones-tate@thenbcfae.com)

NBCFAE Events



NBCFAE
NATIONAL BLACK COALITION
OF FEDERAL AVIATION EMPLOYEES

PRESENTS:

The C. Alfred Anderson *Awards Masquerade Ball*

50 YEARS OF FLIGHT:
Rising Above Every Challenge



DATE:

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2026
7PM FOR COCKTAIL HOUR
AWARDS CEREMONY STARTS AT 8PM-11PM



LOCATION:

THE WESTIN NEW ORLEANS
100 IBERVILLE STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130



DRESS CODE:

FORMAL, BLACK AND GOLD
AND BRING A MASK!



For more information, please contact
our Conference Coordinator
Marla Duchatellier at:
conferencecoordinator@thenbcfae.com

EDUCATE. EMPOWER. ELEVATE.



CHARTING PATHWAYS TO AVIATION EXCELLENCE

The NBCFAE Foundation is dedicated to uplifting individuals and communities through education, mentorship, essential resources, and life-changing opportunities.



OUR MISSION

To support educational advancement, professional development, and leadership opportunities in aviation-related careers through scholarships, mentorship, workforce development initiatives, ACE Camps, and community partnerships.



OUR IMPACT AREAS



SCHOLARSHIPS

Supporting students pursuing aviation, aerospace, engineering, and STEM careers.



MENTORSHIP

Connecting aspiring professionals with experienced aviation leaders.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Creating pathways into aviation, aerospace, and federal careers.



ACE CAMPS

Introducing youth to aviation through hands-on learning and activities.



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Preparing future leaders through education and professional growth.



MAKE AN IMPACT TODAY

Your support helps us build the future of aviation.

DONATE. VOLUNTEER. PARTNER.



GET INVOLVED

Together, we can open doors, power dreams, and build a stronger aviation community.

 thenbcaefoundation.org

 info@thenbcaefoundation.org

 (877) 622-3233

FOLLOW US



 TOGETHER WE ARE BUILDING THE FUTURE OF AVIATION 

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Umoja

AUGUST 2026
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