



ABFE

A Philanthropic Partnership for Black Communities

Newsletter

Update

Issue 1 · Spring 2014

Inside This Issue

Feature Article
ABFE Spotlight
2014 ABFE Annual Conference
ABFE Central
Upcoming Events
Team Announcements

Welcome
to the
all new...

www.abfe.org

MEMBERS JOIN / RENEW / I



A Philanthropic Partnership for Black Communities

HOME ABOUT MEMBER CENTER PROGRAMS NEWSROOM EVENTS



Welcome to ABFE!

WHO WE ARE

ABFE is a membership-based organization that advocates for responsive and transformative investments in Black communities.

[READ MORE >>](#)

WHAT WE DO

ADVOCACY

ABFE uses its position and networks in the field to share information for the express ...

[READ MORE >>](#)

KNOWLEDGE, TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

ABFE has developed Responsive Philanthropy

SPOTLIGHT

BUILDING A BELOVED COMMUNITY:

STRENGTHENING THE FIELD OF BLACK MALE ACHIEVEMENT

Building on the groundbreaking report *Where Do We Go From Here? Philanthropic Support for Black Men and Boys*, this companion piece explores the diverse, multidisciplinary, and cross-sector work to advance black male achievement.



UNITY 2014: Advancing Equity Together

Greetings ABFE Members and Friends. I hope you are well and finally feeling the signs of spring in your region of the world!



Already deep into the second quarter of the year, we are busy planning for the ABFE Annual Conference. As most of you know, we are convening in partnership with the Joint Affinity Group (JAG) this year; the membership of ABFE will join members of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy; Native Americans in Philanthropy; Hispanics in Philanthropy; Funders for LGBTQ Issues; the Women's Funding Network and Emerging Practitioners in Philanthropy. The Unity Summit is in celebration of the 20th Anniversary of JAG and is shaping up to be a milestone event in the sector. Our planned sessions and networking opportunities are designed to help us strengthen our ability to advance equity together.

The notion of aligning our work in a more strategic way towards the goal of equity is not new; however, the frame for which we view this work is changing. It's moved from just a "good thing to do" to an imperative when we consider the changing demographics of this country as well as the ongoing need to address repressive policies that block opportunity for diverse communities. It also is a moment in time where philanthropy can join the brave leaders of today's social justice movements. Consider, the Moral Monday's Movement that started in North

Carolina and now has spread to the states of Georgia and South Carolina. Progressive, diverse coalitions representing people across the lines of race, class, sexual orientation and gender are banning together to take a stand against all forms of discrimination. Or the planning happening in Mississippi to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Freedom Summer where countless civil rights workers and summer volunteers convened in that state to put an end to the system of rigid segregation. This summer's events are designed to continue the important work in the state to address education, voting and broad civil rights.

JAG represents a national network of more than 20,000 people of all ages: Asian-American and Pacific Islander, Black, Latino, Native, White, women, men and LGBTQ people in the philanthropic, nonprofit, and corporate sectors. UNITY 2014 is our contribution to Moral Mondays – is our contribution to the 50th Anniversary of Freedom Summer. It is where we have a voice in shaping how the foundation sector can help this country reach its full potential. I hope you join us!

To learn more about Unity 2014...

[CLICK HERE >>](#)

ABFE Spotlight

Blog Spotlight



This edition of ABFE Makes a Point features Susan Taylor Batten's editorial opening the most recent issue of The Foundation Review, co-edited by ABFE and focused on racial equity in philanthropy. Read on for Susan's relevant reflections on the significance of approaching philanthropic practice through a lens of race and access the full library of articles by [CLICKING HERE >>](#)

Man Up Editorial

Several weeks ago, President Obama announced the launch of a public-private initiative established to identify policies and practices that effectively increase the flow of educational and economic opportunities for boys and young men of color (BMOC), while decreasing the likelihood of their path on the school-to-prison pipeline. To this end, the President and his executive administration have created an inter-agency task force to examine the impact of federal policies and programs on boys and young men of color. In addition, he is calling on the business and philanthropic communities to play their part by significantly boosting support for local and national efforts that address the severe social and economic disparities endemic to this population. [READ MORE >>](#)

Changing Lives

"The ABFE Connecting Leaders Fellowship has been a career-altering experience for me. In addition to the coaching, networking and Leadership Summit, I think the most important factor is the sense of being taken seriously as a philanthropic professional."

Cedric Brown '08

CEO, Mitchell Kapor Foundation



ABFE Members in Action



Robert K. Ross, M.D., President and Chief Executive Officer

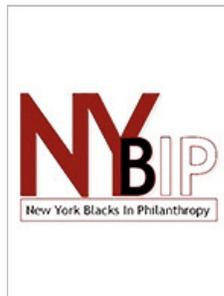
Robert K. Ross, M.D., is president and chief executive officer for The California Endowment, a health foundation established in 1996 to address the health needs of Californians.

[READ MORE >>](#)



Edward W. Hazen Foundation

Since its founding, the Edward W. Hazen Foundation has been dedicated to the education and development of young people. While this has taken many forms over the years, most recently the Foundation has focused on community organizing as a critical lever for equity focused education reforms and youth organizing to develop the ability of young people to be agents of social change. [READ MORE >>](#)



New York Black In Philanthropy

New York Blacks in Philanthropy (NYBIP) is a local membership based organization of Black professionals, particularly representing people of the African Diaspora, including African-Americans, African natives, Afro-Latinos, Caribbean natives and Caribbean-Americans, committed to strengthening networks, addressing collective challenges and fostering opportunities within the philanthropic sector.

[READ MORE >>](#)

ABFE 2014 Conference



In 2014, ABFE will host its Annual Conference in conjunction with the Joint Affinity Groups (JAG) Unity Summit on June 6-8, 2014 in Washington, DC. We will gather with our affinity partners in one space to examine strategies for advancing equity across diverse communities. In the spirit of unity, members will experience a mix of ABFE-focused programming and networking activities, along with a series of forums convened with members from other affinity groups.

ABFE *Spotlight* (continued)

ABFE is pleased to announce the 2014 James A. Joseph Lecture on Philanthropy, the Institutional Award for Philanthropic Leadership, and the Emerging Leader in Philanthropy Award.

2014 James A. Joseph Lecturer (JL) on Philanthropy

William C. Bell, Ph.D.

President and Chief Executive Officer, Casey Family Programs

The ABFE James A. Joseph Lecture on Philanthropy is a tribute to Ambassador James A. Joseph, ABFE co-founder and distinguished leader in the field of philanthropy. The Lecture recognizes an outstanding individual whose leadership and contributions as a visionary philanthropic leader have helped advance progressive philanthropic ideals, strengthen grant-making institutions and build vital Black communities.

2014 Institutional Award for Philanthropic Leadership

The California Endowment

The ABFE Institutional Award for Philanthropic Leadership was established in 2002 to recognize significant efforts and contributions of grant-making organizations to promoting philanthropy as a means for social change in Black communities. In 2014, this award will recognize an exemplary grant-making institution that models effective and responsive grant-making practices who champion the Joint Affinity Group partners.

2014 Emerging Leader in Philanthropy

Karris M. Jackson

Vice President of Programs, Poise Foundation

The ABFE Emerging Leader in Philanthropy Award recognizes an outstanding individual whose innovative leadership promotes philanthropy as a means of social change in Black communities and advances ABFE's mission.

ABFE 2014 Annual Conference Program Schedule, [CLICK HERE >>](#)

JAG Unity Summit Program Schedule, [CLICK HERE >>](#)

Register and reserve your hotel room before May 30th and save. [CLICK HERE >>](#)

ABFE Webinars

**Being the Change You Want to See: Three Foundations' Paths Toward Racial Equity
May 27 | 1 - 2 p.m. ET.**

During the webinar, we will hear from three foundation leaders about the work that each organization has undertaken to be more effective in working toward racial equity. Based on their articles in the most recent issue of *The Foundation Review*, these leaders will share lessons and insights, and then engage in a group discussion and Q&A with Susan Batten, president of ABFE (coeditor of this issue). For more information or to register [CLICK HERE >>](#)

The Unfinished Business of Brown v. Board of Education

June 19 | 2 - 3:30 pm ET

Join ABFE for a provocative conversation as explore the legacy of Brown and the current trends, philanthropic solutions and challenges that must be addressed to support the next generation of education advocacy for Black children and youth. For more information or to register [CLICK HERE >>](#)

Changing Careers

"Prior to Connecting Leaders, whenever asked 'Where do you want to be in 5, 10 or 15 years?' I could never answer. The Fellowship helped me to create a strategic career plan that not only gave me a road map to my future, but I can now say, 'My goal is to become the President of a nonprofit positively impacting the lives of African American women.'"

LaToria Willis '10

National Program Analyst
AARP Foundation

"The ABFE Fellowship gave me the skills and connections in the philanthropic field that I needed to move my career forward. I directly credit the fellowship experience as a key factor in my appointment as the Executive Director of a social justice foundation."

Trista Harris '07

Executive Director
Headwaters Foundation for Justice

Changing Communities

Embracing his authentic leadership style, Lyord Watson '12

won an historic election to the Birmingham School Board.

"I only have 1 vote out of 9, so I will need to influence, lead, build consensus, but I know I can help transform Birmingham schools and make a difference for kids and teachers."



Lyord Watson '12

Birmingham Change Fund
Community Investment Network
Board Member

Advocacy

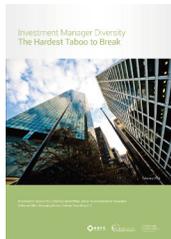
ABFE uses its position and networks in the field to share information for the express purpose of influencing the policies and practices in the field that may hinder the success of Black professionals or communities.



THE EXIT INTERVIEW: Perceptions on Why Black Professionals Leave Grantmaking Institutions

ABFE shares with you our new report on perceptions of why Black professionals leave the field of philanthropy. This research is the first of its kind and comes

at a time when we are actually celebrating a number of recent high-level appointments of Black professionals in the field. While this is good news (for example, of the top 10 foundations in the country, four have Black CEOs), The Exit Interview suggests that we have to pay as much attention to the retention of Black professionals and other professionals of color as we do to leadership pipelines and development programs for these groups. Retention strategies are much more about changing the culture of philanthropy as well as providing diverse leaders with the “armor” and protective factors they need to survive in foundation environments – particularly if they are leaders on issues of racial and social justice. [CLICK HERE >>](#)



INVESTMENT MANAGER DIVERSITY: THE HARDEST TABOO TO BREAK

This case study examines how one community foundation -- Silicon Valley Community Foundation with assets under management of \$4.7 billion -- approached the issue of increasing investment manager diversity with its investment advisor -- Colonial Consulting which advises \$30 billion of capital. These first-person accounts from the community foundation's CEO and the investment advisor provide candid assessments of how they addressed the issue of increasing investment manager diversity. The hope is that by sharing these observations other foundations and their investment advisors will find the courage to discuss and address the issue of investment manager diversity, the hardest taboo to break. [CLICK HERE >>](#)

Knowledge, Training and Technical Assistance

Welcome to ABFE's New Knowledge Center: The GoTo Resource for Philanthropy in and by the Black community. Our Knowledge Center houses issue papers and video content on topics salient to the Black community and the response of philanthropy: The programmatic thrust of ABFE's work. [SEE KNOWLEDGE CENTER >>](#)

Networking and Convening



Learning and Action Network (LAN)

ABFE recently hosted the Black Male Funders Learning and Action Network (LAN) Convening on April 8 – 10, 2014 in Oakland, California. The convening was co-hosted by The California Endowment, Kapor Center for Social Impact, Sierra Health Foundation and College Access Foundation.

ABFE Salutes series, a celebration to honor Black leadership at the highest levels of philanthropy.

Detroit, MI – April 4, 2014 – ABFE Salutes La June Montgomery Tabron as President and CEO of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and Tonya Allen as President and CEO of the Skillman Foundation at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.



Detroit La-June-Montgomery-Tabron Pictured from left to right: Eric Whitaker, Business Development – Consultant, Grosvenor Capital Management, L.P.; Tonya Allen, President and CEO, Skillman Foundation; La June Montgomery Tabron, President and CEO, W.K. Kellogg Foundation; Mayor Mike Duggan, City of Detroit; Susan Taylor Batten, President and CEO, ABFE; and Thurman V. White, Jr., Chief Executive Officer, Progress Investment Management, LLC.

New York, NY – March 19, 2014 – ABFE Salutes Darren Walker as President of the Ford Foundation at the corporate offices of Moët Hennessy USA, Inc.



New-York Darren-Walker Pictured above from left to right: Rodney Williams, Senior Vice President, Hennessy; Eric Whitaker, Business Development – Consultant, Grosvenor Capital Management, L.P.; Darren Walker, President, Ford Foundation; Kurt A. Summers, Jr., Office of the Chairman, Strategy and Corporate Development, Senior Vice President, Grosvenor Capital Management, L.P.

Upcoming Events

ABFE's Connecting Leaders Fellowship Program is now accepting applications. If you're interested in strengthening your skills as a grantmaker, building a tight network, and tapping the leadership within you to support Black communities, then this is the right opportunity for you. Applications are due June 30, 2014.

[FOR MORE INFORMATION, CLICK HERE>>](#)

2014 ABFE Annual Conference

Washington, DC
June 6-7, 2014

[FOR MORE INFORMATION>>](#)

11th Annual Consortium

New York, NY
June 11-12, 2014

[FOR MORE INFORMATION>>](#)

Meet ABFE at the Wine Tasting!

Join ABFE and our partner Lenox Park for a wine tasting and learn more about our work to encourage foundations to engage minority managers in endowment management.

Location:

The Hidden Vine, 408 Merchant Street,
San Francisco, 94111

Date and Time:

Thursday, June 19, 2014 from
6:30 to 8:30 PM PST

Please RSVP by June 12, 2014 to:

alyson.cunningham@lenoxparkllc.com

National Association of Securities Professionals (NASP)

25th Annual Pension & Financial Services Conference

San Francisco, CA
June 23-25, 2014

[FOR MORE INFORMATION>>](#)

Bay Area Blacks In Philanthropy is proud to present the annual Strengthening Our House: A Capacity Building Seminar.

One of BABIP's core goals is to help build viable and competitive nonprofit organizations that serve black communities throughout the Bay Area. Please join us in this effort.

Audience:

Ideal for staff from small to mid-size nonprofit organizations with budgets of less than \$750,000.

Location:

The California Endowment's Oakland Conference Center, 1111 Broadway St., 7th Floor, Oakland, CA.

Date:

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Price:

\$50 BABIP members / \$65 BABIP nonmembers

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS>>](#)

Changing Communities

"The ABFE Fellowship gave me insight into my leadership style, the conceptual framework and the network to make me a better advocate for policies and practices that result in more equitable distribution of resources to communities of color, generally, and Black Communities specifically."

Deborah Bennett '10

Senior Program Officer, Polk Brothers Foundation



Team Announcements

Congratulations on ABFE's growth. Join us in welcoming our new staff members!*

Susan Taylor Batten

President and CEO

Marcus F. Walton

Chief Operating Officer

Janet Gumbs*

Chief Financial Officer

Erika Seth Davies

Director of External Affairs

Edward M. Jones*

Director of Programs

Joshua Powers

Director of Knowledge Management

Lynne H. Algrant

Professional Development Coordinator

Natalie J. Diaz

Membership Coordinator

Floria Abney

Administrative Associate

Bianca Alston*

Membership and Program Assistant



ABFE

333 Seventh Avenue, 14th Floor
New York, New York 10001

Phone: (646) 230-0306
Email: information@abfe.org

www.abfe.org