



TO TELL HER STORY

MARCH 2026

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

President, COL. (Ret) Carol St. Pierre

Greetings, NABMW NYC Chapter Members!

Sisters and Supporters,

As we say goodbye to a long and challenging winter, March brings with it the promise of spring and a chance to pause and reflect on our shared humanity and core values.

Happy Women's History Month. Each year, this month gives us an opportunity to recognize the lasting contributions and legacies of women. Throughout history, women have helped build, shape, and strengthen our country and our cities, often in the face of hardship and discrimination. This is especially true for Black military women, whose service to our nation has too often gone unrecognized. From serving in segregated units to breaking barriers in leadership and command, Black women in uniform have defended our country while also advancing equity within the ranks. Their courage, professionalism, and resilience have expanded opportunities for generations who followed.

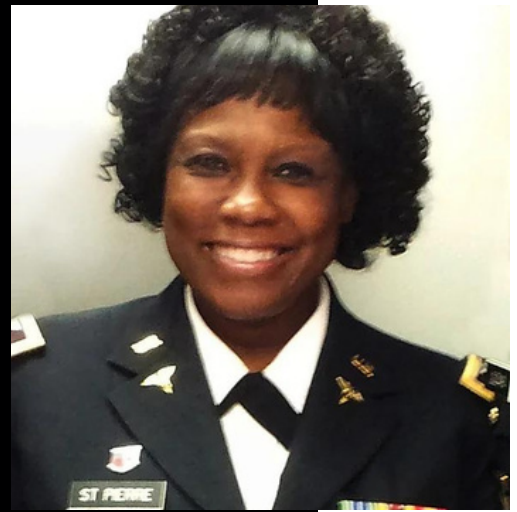
Too often, the stories of women, particularly BIPOC and immigrant women, have gone untold. Yet their leadership across generations has strengthened our communities and broadened what is possible. As we honor the women of the past and present, we also acknowledge the ongoing disparities and inequities many still face today.

I also want to recognize International Women's Day on March 8, as well as the Spring Equinox and the International Day of Happiness on March 20. My hope is that each of us finds at least one thing every day to be grateful for. In doing so, we celebrate progress while recommitting ourselves to building a more just and inclusive future for all.

With love and gratitude,

Carol St. Pierre

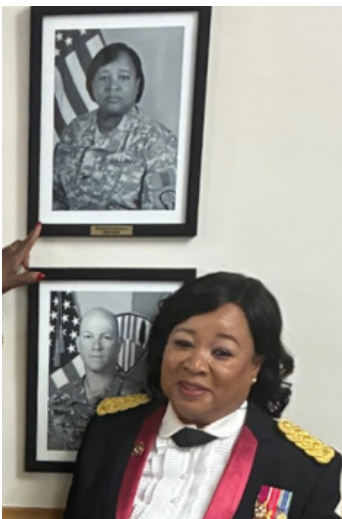
President, NABMW NYC Chapter



MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Honoring Excellence:

Congratulations to **LTC (Ret) Glennie Millard**, RN, BSN, US Army Nurse Corps (Ret), who will receive the prestigious Military Award from the Nurses Association of the Counties of Long Island in recognition of her exemplary military service and dedication to the nursing profession on **April 19, 2026**



Congratulations to **Colonel (R) Stephanie Dawson**, the 1st African American woman to Command the 369th Sustainment Brigade on receiving a replica of the Congressional Gold Medal at the Harlem Hellfighters Ball on **Feb 27, 2026**, in recognition of her extraordinary service.

Congratulations to **COL (R) Dr. Andrea Gayle-Bennett** who has been named Interim Secretary of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans Services following the departure of Secretary Santiago. In this capacity, she continues to guide statewide efforts focused on supporting veterans and their families, including initiatives related to veteran services, housing, and access to care.



IN THE NEWS

Veterans Property Tax Exemption

*Effective December 2025, veterans of the Gold War (Sep 2, 1945 – Dec 28, 1991) are now eligible to apply for the Alternative Veterans Exemption. See below for details.



Veterans Property Tax Exemption – Application Deadline March 16

Eligible veterans and certain family members may qualify for property tax relief in NYC. Veterans, unremarried surviving spouses, and Gold Star Parents may apply if the veteran served during a qualifying conflict.

- For more information and to apply: **[Veteran Exemption Application](#)**

New York officially designated as a Purple Heart State

On Feb 24, 2026, New York marked its official designation as a Purple Heart State. The occasion was recognized during a special gathering at the **National Purple Heart Hall of Honor** in New Windsor. The event honored the courage and sacrifice of Purple Heart recipients while recognizing the lasting impact of their service. Leaders, veterans, and community members came together to reflect on the significance of this designation and what it represents for veterans and their families across the state. New York's recognition as a Purple Heart State reaffirms a continued commitment to honoring and supporting all who have served.



The **NYS Dept of Veterans' Services** is proud to partner with the National September 11 Memorial & Museum for a Special Community Event on Sunday, April 19, from 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Active and Retired U.S. Military, Veterans, and Blue & Gold Star Families are invited to enjoy FREE Museum admission, engaging programs, meaningful storytelling, curated resources, and family-friendly activities honoring the strength and service of military families.

Learn more and reserve tickets at: <https://tinyurl.com/dzcrxwu2>

CALENDAR



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



PRAYER CALL- MONTHLY @ 7 PM

Dec 5, 2025	May 1, 2026
Jan 2, 2026	Jun 5, 2026
Feb 6, 2026	Sep 4, 2026
Mar 6, 2026	Oct 2, 2026
Apr 3, 2026	Nov 6, 2026



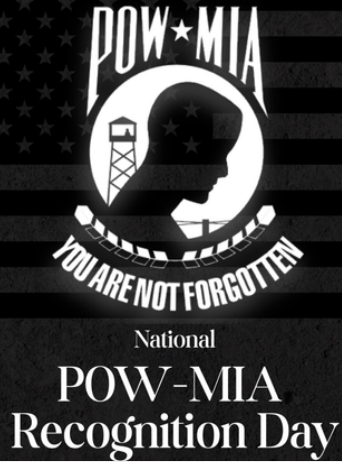
EXECUTIVE BOARD MTG @7PM

Dec 9, 2025	May 5, 2026
Jan 6, 2026	Jun 9, 2026
Feb 10, 2026	Sep 8, 2026
Mar 10, 2026	Oct 6, 2026
Apr 7, 2026	Nov 10, 2026



MEMBERSHIP MTG @ 7PM

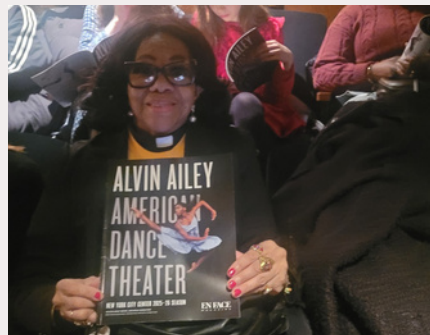
Dec 7, 2025	May 16, 2026
Jan 16, 2026	Jun 19, 2026
Feb 20, 2026	Sep 18, 2026
Mar 20, 2026	Oct 16, 2026
Apr 24, 2026	Nov 2, 2026



QUARTERLY RECAP

DECEMBER 2025 Highlights

Members of the NYC Chapter of the NABMW, along with Kimberly Velez from the National Association of Concerned Veterans, Ronda Konegay from National Council of Negro Women, and SSG (Ret) Judy Reeves of the 344th CSH, attended a performance by the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater on **December 6**.



On December 13, 2025, Omicron Chapter, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc. honored members of the NYC Chapter of the NABMW with Military Service Awards. Honorees included Col. (Ret) Cheryl Adams, Col. (Ret) Stephanie Dawson, LTC (Ret) Bernice Simmon, CPT (Ret) Caiphia Rolle, and SP4 (Ret) Arthur Thompson.





QUARTERLY RECAP

January 2026 Highlights

Welcome New Members

The NYC Chapter extended a warm welcome to new members at a Meet and Greet brunch reception on **January 10, 2025**, at American Legion Post 483.



February 2026 Highlights

On February 14, 2026, members of the NYC Chapter traveled to Albany to participate in the New York State Legislative Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Caucus weekend activities. The trip was made possible through the support of Senator Comrie. The visit provided an opportunity to engage with state leaders, connect with advocates from across New York, and represent the interests of veterans within broader legislative conversations.





QUARTERLY RECAP

FEBRUARY 2026 Highlights con't

Members of the NYC and Brooklyn Chapters of the NABMW attended in support and celebration at the 2nd Annual Harlem Hellfighters Ball on **February 27, 2026** at the 369th Regiment Armory, where descendant families of the original regiment were honored for the legacy of service they represent.



CORY J. VAUGHN-DANIEL
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NABMW NYC Chapter attended a seminar focused on The Benefits of Pre-Planning. The session covered important topics including funeral planning, insurance, and smart approaches to managing investments.

Planning ahead for these life decisions can ease the burden on families and give members a clearer sense of control over their future. The seminar provided practical information and an opportunity to ask questions about options that many people often put off discussing.

In a recent episode of Oscar Mike Radio, host Travis Parrington sat down with **Andrea Gayle-Bennett, Deputy Secretary of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans Services** in recognition of Black History Month.

During the conversation, they discussed the important contributions of Black veterans across Massachusetts and reflected on the legacy of trailblazers and change makers such as Marvin Gilmore, Nicole McClain and Kathryn King and the responsibility to tell and preserve these stories and educate the public.



LOOKING AHEAD

March

NABMW NYC Chapter Looking Forward to BROADWAY Performance

Members will be attending the Debbie Allen–directed Broadway revival of August Wilson’s *Joe Turner’s Come and Gone* at the Barrymore Theatre. Starring Golden Globe winner Taraji P. Henson and Cedric “The Entertainer,” previews begin March 30, 2026.



Don't Miss These Documentary Screenings!



On **March 21, 2026**, members of the NYC Chapter are planning a day trip to visit the Wilmer Jennings Gallery at Kenkeleba, which is presenting *Women of Color, Long Journey Forward* and *Still We Rise*. The exhibition features the work of seventy-three photographers and is curated by award-winning photographers Howard Cash and Jamel Shabazz.

Presented in association with the Black Photographer's Collective, the exhibition honors the remarkable legacy of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, the African American women who served in England and France during World War II from 1945 to 1946.

LOOKING AHEAD

March



Family Stories Chapter Project

At our October 17, 2025 General Members Meeting, members committed to a chapter project to preserve our families' military stories. Each member and associate member is asked to write a poem or short narrative (up to two pages) about a family member who served. Submission deadline: **March 30**

Goal: Present the finished collection at the **October 2026 NABMW Conference**. Contact: **Stephanie Dawson**

Encore Zoom Seminar

Hair Loss Solutions for Women Veterans will be held on **March 25, 2026**.

Location: Virtual via Zoom.

Participants are encouraged to register in advance for the meeting.





Month of the Military Child

LOOKING AHEAD

April



The April 2026 Month of the Military Child theme is **“Military Children and Youth: Strength in Every Story,”** shines a light on the everyday courage of military children. Their stories, filled with resilience, adaptability, and quiet strength, demonstrate the powerful character they build while growing up in a world defined by service and sacrifice.

Ten members will attend The Balusters on **Sunday, April 19 at 2:00 PM** at the Samuel J. Friedman Theatre, located at 261 W 47th Street. These tickets are provided through a special partnership with Manhattan Theatre Club and will be available for pickup at the theater’s box office.



NACLI FUND RAISER & AWARDS CEREMONY

LTC (Ret.) Glennie Millard and MAJ (Ret.) Stanlee Richards will be honored with the **Distinguished Military Award** by the Nurses Association of the Counties of Long Island, Inc. in recognition of their outstanding military service and dedication to the nursing profession.

Ms. Tawny Millard will also receive the **Community Service Award** for her continued service and impact within the community.

The awards will be presented during the Fundraiser & Awards Ceremony – Champagne Brunch on Sunday, April 19, 2026, from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Terrace on the Park.

LOOKING AHEAD



May

Key Events and Activities Memorial Day Weekend (May 22–25, 2026)

- Parades: The 156th Brooklyn Memorial Day Parade (May 25) at 11:00 AM from 78th Street and Third Avenue. The Little Neck-Douglaston Parade, often cited as the nation's largest, occurs in Queens.
- Ceremonies & History: Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum hosts a Memorial Day Ceremony (May 26) at 10:00 AM.
- Active Events: The Memorial Day Run 5K/10K/13.1 NYC takes place on Saturday, May 23.
- Experiences & Tours: Fleet Week celebrations occur throughout the city. Memorial Day Brunch Cruises and Dinner Cruises are available from Pier 40.



New York State Veterans Memorial Registry!

Veterans Memorial Database

The New York State Veterans Memorial Registry is a dedicated database honoring the individuals who have bravely served our nation. Explore our database and join us in preserving the memory of our Veterans.

<https://memorials.veterans.ny.gov/public/search>



NABMW invites members, family, and friends to join us for a Pre-Mother's Day Luncheon on Saturday, May 2, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at American Legion Post 483. It is a time to celebrate mothers, honor the strength of women in our community, and enjoy fellowship, good food, and meaningful conversation. All are welcome to attend as we come together in appreciation of the women who nurture, lead, and inspire us every day.

LOOKING AHEAD



SAVE THE DATE!

The NABMW Women San Antonio Chapter will celebrate its **3rd Annual Gala** on **June 27, 2026**

Everyone is invited to attend!

SAVE THE DATE!

The National Association of Black Military Women will celebrate its **50th anniversary** at the next biennial convention on **Oct 8-11, 2026** at the Harbor Side Hotel in Oxon Hills, MD

This will be an unforgettable and exciting event.

Everyone is invited to attend!



HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Spotlight: Recognizing Our Own: MAJ (Ret) Stanlee Richardsn

This month, in the spirit of honoring trailblazers within our own NABMW family, we proudly highlight the remarkable service and accomplishments of our Vice President of Military Affairs, Stanlee Richards, whose career reflects commitment, compassion, and steady leadership.

Stanlee began her work in health care in 1967 as a Nurse's Aide with NYC Health + Hospitals. What followed was more than four decades of devoted service. Rising through the ranks to become Director of Nursing at Coler-Goldwater Specialty Hospital and later at the Henry J. Carter Specialty Hospital and Nursing Facility, she built a reputation for raising standards of care and advocating fiercely for medically fragile patients. Her leadership helped overhaul nursing practices, strengthen training, and improve outcomes in key areas including infection control and ventilator-associated complications. Colleagues describe her as both a master of her craft and a deeply compassionate presence.



Alongside her civilian career, Stanlee served 24 years in the United States Army Reserve, retiring as a Major. She worked as a critical care nurse, trauma training coordinator, movement officer, family care plan officer, and assistant chief nurse with the 8th Medical Brigade. She also volunteered her time supporting deployed soldiers and their families at Fort Hamilton, offering reassurance and guidance when it mattered most.

Her dedication has been widely recognized. She received the 2013 Sloan Public Service Award, one of New York City's highest honors, for her work improving care for vulnerable patients. In 2024, she was awarded the Omicron Chapter Inc. Professional Achievement Award during their 70th Anniversary and annual scholarship celebration. She also leads one of the top Breast Cancer Fundraising Committees for the American Cancer Society.

Stanlee continues to serve our chapter and community with the same energy that has defined her career. Her example motivates all of us, and we celebrate her unwavering commitment to service, excellence, and advancing the mission of NABMW.

Congratulations, Stanlee and thank you for everything you bring to this chapter and to the veterans you continue to uplift.

SECTION 3

IN MEMORIUM

MOMENT OF SILENCE – FOR OUR
DEPARTED...
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE



CONDOLENCES:

As we continue to follow the events unfolding in the Middle East, our hearts are with the brave women and men in uniform who stand watch around the world to protect our Nation. We are deeply grateful for their service, sacrifice and the strength of their Families who serve alongside them.

We are saddened by these horrific incidents and offer our sincerest condolences to the Families of the U.S. Service Members who lost their lives in the line of duty. We also wish a quick recovery to each Warrior who has been injured in combat.

Our heart is full of gratitude and love, as the NABMW Family honor the life and legacy of Margaret “Margo” Jefferson, a treasured Legacy Member of the Atlanta Metro Chapter of NABMW and the Immediate Past Regional Director of the NABMW Southeast Region.

Margo dedicated her life to keeping the mission of NABMW alive; not only in words, but through consistent action, servant leadership, and unwavering commitment. She believed deeply in the mission & purpose of NABMW. Margo worked tirelessly to ensure that African American military women were supported, recognized, and uplifted. Her leadership was marked by integrity, strength, and compassion.

More than her titles, it was her LOVE for NABMW and its members that truly defined her service. Margo mentored, encouraged, and stood firmly for what was right. Her presence brought wisdom to our discussions, grace to our challenges, and unity to our efforts.

Though we mourn her passing, we are comforted in knowing that her legacy will continue to guide us. The seeds she planted through her dedication and love will continue to grow in every chapter, every member, and every future leader she inspired.

May we honor Margo’s life by remaining committed to the mission of NABMW, which she cherished so deeply. Her work was not in vain, and her light will forever shine within NABMW.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

MIND, BODY & SOUL

MEDICINE FOR THE MIND

Mental wellness is just as important as physical health. Veterans often carry experiences that shape how we see the world, and taking care of our mental well-being allows us to stay grounded and present. The changing season offers a natural moment to reset our thinking and make space for reflection.

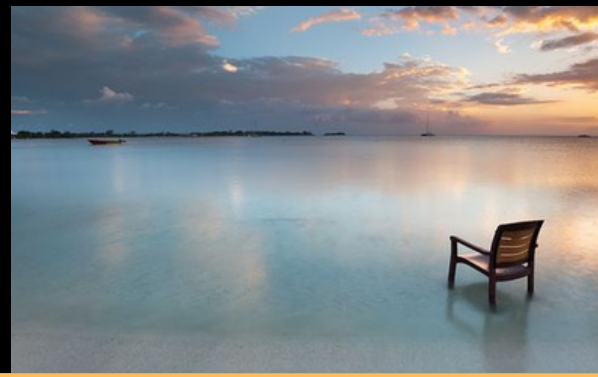
One helpful practice is intentional quiet time. Reading, journaling, prayer, meditation, or simply stepping away from daily noise can help clear the mind. Conversations with trusted friends or fellow veterans can also provide perspective and support. Sometimes the best medicine for the mind is knowing that we are not alone in our experiences.

The Month of the Military Child also reminds us to pay attention to the emotional needs of young people in military families. Encouraging open conversations and providing mentorship can help military children navigate the unique pressures they face.

As Memorial Day approaches, emotions can surface for many veterans and families. Remember that honoring those we lost does not mean carrying the weight alone. Reaching out to one another, sharing stories, and supporting fellow veterans strengthens both our minds and our community.

SECTION 4

HEALTH & WELLNESS MIND, BODY & SOUL



MEDICINE FOR THE BODY

Spring brings renewed energy and an opportunity to focus on our physical well-being. After the winter months, longer days and warmer weather encourage us to get outside, move more, and reconnect with healthy routines. For many veterans, maintaining physical wellness is an ongoing commitment that supports both resilience and longevity.

Simple habits can make a difference. Daily walks, stretching, and light strength training help maintain mobility and balance. Hydration, balanced meals, and adequate rest also play an important role in keeping the body strong. Many veterans have discovered that exercising with others creates accountability and builds community at the same time. A walking group, yoga class, or neighborhood fitness meet-up can support both health and connection.

As we approach Memorial Day, many communities host remembrance runs, walks, and outdoor gatherings. Participating in these activities can be a meaningful way to honor fallen service members while also investing in our own health. Caring for our bodies allows us to continue serving our families, our communities, and one another.

SECTION 4

HEALTH & WELLNESS

MIND, BODY & SOUL



MEDICINE FOR THE SOUL

As we move into the spring season, many of us pause to reflect on what nourishes our spirit. Service, remembrance, and community have long been sources of strength for members of the National Association of Black Military Women. April reminds us of the Month of the Military Child, a time to honor the sons and daughters who quietly serve alongside their parents. Military children learn resilience early. They adapt to new schools, new communities, and long separations. Their courage and flexibility are part of the fabric of military life.

For many of us, caring for the soul begins with gratitude. Take time this season to reach out to a military child in your life or in your community. A note of encouragement, mentorship, or simply acknowledging their sacrifices can mean more than we realize. It is also a good time to reflect on our own journey of service and the people who supported us along the way.

As Memorial Day approaches in May, our reflections deepen. This is a sacred time to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation. Visiting a memorial, attending a remembrance ceremony, or sharing stories of those we have lost keeps their memory alive. When we honor them with intention, we nurture our soul and strengthen our sense of purpose.

STAY CONNECTED



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED DEDICATION
TO NABMW'S MISSION. TOGETHER, WE WILL KEEP
TELLING HER STORY AND INSPIRING THE NEXT
GENERATION OF BLACK MILITARY WOMEN



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