

THE MONITOR

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY KENNETH L. HAWKINS JR. | NABJ Monitor

Presidential candidates, from left, Deirdre M. Childress, Charles Robinson and Greg Lee share why they should be the next National Association of Black Journalists President at the candidates forum in the Pennsylvania Convention Center Friday.

The choice is yours...

UNITY, finances weigh heavy on NABJ presidential candidates

By Naomi E. Prioleau
NABJ Monitor

ELECTIONS
2011

More candidate comments on PG. 9

The ability to handle past issues will be critical, according to members, for the next president of NABJ if the organization is expected to remain successful.

Deirdre Childress, Greg Lee and Charles Robinson have been aggressively campaigning, trying to convince members they are the one who can tackle problems and

continue moving the organization into the right direction.

The next president will have to find ways to continue boosting membership and steer

NABJ on a progressive path as the industry continues to evolve. The new leader will also have to deal with fallout from NABJ's controversial decision to withdraw partnership from UNITY: Journalists of Color and work with the executive director and the board of directors to keep the organization in the black financially.

"With the new president taking over the organization at a time with the industry changing so much," NABJ member Neil

Foot said, "the new leader at the national office will face an interesting period over the next couple of years where NABJ will have to generate more money and bring in more members."

This is the best time to take the reins because the organization is in good standing, several members said.

Earlier this week, Greg Lee, NABJ treasurer, predicted NABJ will see a budget

SEE ELECTION ON PAGE 8

Candidate faces violation penalties

By Faran Foy
NABJ Monitor

NABJ presidential candidate Deirdre Childress received a campaign violation on Thursday after a table containing her campaign literature was found on the exhibit hall floor.

Convention attendees reported seeing the promotional material on the second floor of the convention center near the di-

reer fair as early as 10 a.m.

A member of the elections committee was made aware of the violation between noon and 1 p.m. and Childress' campaign team was asked to promptly take down the table. The campaign members immediately complied, said Glenn E. Rice, NABJ elections committee chair.

Rice said he did not know who was responsible for setting up the table. He also did not know whether it was under the di-

rection of Childress.

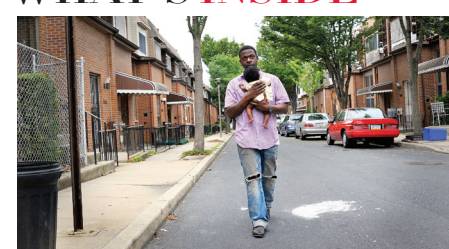
"On numerous occasions candidates were instructed on when and where campaign materials can be distributed," he said.

Childress did not return multiple calls for comment.

Because of the violation, Childress' team will not be allowed to have a campaign table up from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on

SEE VIOLATION ON PAGE 8

WHAT'S INSIDE



OCTAVIO JONES | NABJ Monitor

Residents still reminded of MOVE bombing PG. 6

#NABJ11
TWEET, TWEET

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Huffington: Create urgency

Site co-founder challenges journalists to examine 'split-screen'

By Ashley Calloway
NABJ Monitor

On the same day that media mogul Arianna Huffington announced the launch of HuffPost BlackVoices, she also urged attendees at NABJ's opening ceremony to examine the "split-screen world" the nation lives in when it comes to black communities.

"Depending on which of the screens you look at, you have a very different view of what is happening, and what the future is going to be like," said Huffington, president and editor-in-chief of The AOL Huffington Post Media Group. "Nowhere is this more true than it is when it comes to the African-American community."

Huffington was one of the highlighted speakers at Thursday's ceremony, which featured U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder Jr., who danced onstage to "Shining Star" by Earth, Wind and Fire, and a spirited performance by a youth drum team from Camden, N.J.

President Barack Obama, in a prerecorded message, exhorted the attendees to "speak truth to power," and tell the stories that needed to be heard.

During her speech, Huffington said that on one side of the split screen are issues such as unemployment, foreclosures and the outstanding number of African-American men in jail.

"African-Americans saw their wealth drop by over 50 percent," Huffington said.



KENNETH L. HAWKINS JR. | NABJ Monitor

Arianna Huffington, co-founder of The Huffington Post, speaks at the opening ceremony Thursday.

"If white America had seen its wealth drop by over 50 percent, the establishment would be acting as though their hair were on fire."

It is up to the media to create urgency around these issues, and to throw a spotlight on the "other side of the split-screen," said Huffington, who noted more attention should be paid to the stories of success and triumph in black community.

Huffington did not shy away from controversial topics during the quick question and answer session, moderated by NBC News anchor-

man Lester Holt, and fueled inquiries from Twitter users.

Regarding the Huffington Post practice of using unpaid content, Huffington said while the company employs more than 1,300 journalists, it is also a platform.

"People can choose to participate in the platform, if they have something they want to write that requires wider distribution, or not to participate in the platform," Huffington said. "We are not dependent on them."

Outside the ceremony, representatives from the Na-

tional Writers Union handed out flyers criticizing the Huffington Post business model. "Pay the Writers!," one flyer read.

Attorney General Holder spoke about economic and educational disparities in the black community, and also took questions from the audience through Twitter.

Holder, who is set to meet with 9/11 families regarding the News Corp. hacking scandal, said that his office is taking the investigations seriously and will "try to come to the bottom of allegations that have been raised."

Paula Madison, former NBCUniversal chief diversity officer, was honored for her work toward increasing diversity in media outlets for more than two decades and took the opportunity to weigh in on the NABJ-UNITY debate.

Madison pledged \$100,000 from herself and her family businesses, Africa Channel and the Los Angeles Sparks, the WNBA team, to support next year's NABJ Convention.

"To every NABJ member who is wavering whether to make a choice between UNITY and NABJ, let me just say to you: If you are three blocks down the street, and folks can't see your gender, they can see your skin color," Madison said.

She told the audience that if they could only go to one convention, they needed to be at NABJ.

"No matter how you define yourself, you are defined by the rest of the world as black," Madison said.

DiDU
?KNOW

Baltimore or Philadelphia? Either city could be the answer if you asked someone the birthplace of jazz-singer Billie Holiday. However, a 1991 biography, "Lady Day: The Many Faces of Billie Holiday" featured copies of the singer's passport and baptismal certificate, both of which named her birthplace as Philadelphia.

By the
Numbers

As of the 2009-2010 school year, 73% of students attending public schools in Philadelphia receive reduced or free lunch, according to data compiled by ProPublica media group. This is compared with the statewide average of 34%. Of that group, 62% are African-American.

About 24% of those same students are enrolled in at least one Advanced Placement course, compared with the statewide rate of 16%. The Philadelphia School District is the eighth largest district in the U.S., and was established in 1818.

(Source: U.S. Department of Education Civil Rights Data Set, Philadelphia School District)

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
THE FUTURE OF THE NEWSROOM: WHAT'S NEXT AND WHAT CAN NEWS LEARN?
Powered by Comcast/NBCUniversal
Location: 118A

9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIPS: A POWERFUL TOOL TO SHAPE YOUR CAREER DESTINY
Location: 118B

9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
PITCH ME YOUR BEST SHOT
Location: 119A

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
NABJ BUSINESS MEETING
Location: 116

12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
**BROWN BAG LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES
HEALTHY NABJ: HIV/AIDS: 30 YEARS LATER**
Location: 121AB

12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
**BROWN BAG LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES
EMANCIPATION 4.0: RECONNECTING AFRICAN AMERICANS TO THE HOMELAND**
Powered by the Africa Channel
Location: 122AB

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
"TRINITY GOODHEART" SCREENING
Powered by GMC NETWORKS
Location: 114 Lecture Hall

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
NABJ AUTHORS SHOWCASE: BEYOND JOURNALISM 101-EXPLORING OTHER GENRES BEYOND THE WORKPLACE
Location: Exhibit Hall E

2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.
POLITICAL SATIRE: A FUNNY WAY TO TELL STORIES
Location: 121C

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
BLACK MEDIA OWNERSHIP: WINNING OR WANING?
Location: Terrace Ballroom

GO MOBILE!



SCAN ME

CORRECTION

Robert L. Ruffins was the writer for the copy block featured on "Philadelphia's Knockout Scene," not Akili C. Ram-

Building relationships one trip at a time

“When you get to the place you want to be, you have to pay that forward.”

By **Tayla Holman**
NABJ Monitor

For Aaron Edwards, the road to this year's NABJ convention was a long one fraught with financial setbacks.

Edwards, a 19-year-old intern for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, had been saving up for the convention for months, but wasn't able to get enough money in time.

He shared his troubles with Rashida Rawls, a story editor for the AJC. Rawls told Edwards about The Road to NABJ, a program sponsored by General Motors Co. that helps bring journalists from different cities to the convention.

Edwards applied and got accepted to participate in the program, which paid for all of his convention expenses. The program required two student journalists to shoot video of the trip, including stops to community service projects that were done along the way.

One of the stops that Edwards made was in Raleigh, N.C., where he and other participants joined the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle to deliver groceries to low-income residents.

“The cool part about the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle was actually being able to see people's faces when we delivered food to them,” Edwards said. “Having them express their gratitude was a really nice experience.”

Edwards traveled from Atlanta with four other journalists and a GM executive. Another team, also consisting of five journalists and a GM executive, left from Chicago.

The road trips kicked off Sunday and ended Tuesday when the participants arrived in Philadelphia.

“My favorite part of the trip was two-fold,” said Nina Price, GM's diversity communications manager, who traveled with the Chicago team. “One was connecting with some of NABJ members and potential members who



Courtesy of Road to NABJ

Group of journalists and other volunteers at the Inter-faith Food Shuttle in Raleigh during the Road to NABJ.

had never been to the conference. The second was doing the community service projects.”

Dorothy Tredmond, a freelance writer from Washington, D.C. who was also part of the Chicago team, said that the biggest thing that she took from the road trip was the solidarity within the group as well as interacting with members of the

community.

“The biggest lesson is the camaraderie,” Tredmond said. “To have a task-oriented project where we work together as a team showed me the importance of relationships... We had to reach out to our colleagues and interview media personalities on a tight deadline, and we were able to accomplish it thanks to the strength of our

resourcefulness and teamwork.”

Edwards said he also learned about the power of relationships during the program.

“One thing that one of the journalists told me was that you're working really hard as a student and when you get to the place you want to be, you have to pay that forward.”

Edwards said he appreciates just how much NABJ members look out for each other.

“NABJ is just this huge family of journalists that really do have your back,” he said. “They really are there to help you out, and it's just a matter of tapping into those resources and using them to their full potential.”

Student raises \$1,000 toward convention expenses

By **Michael Finch II**
NABJ Monitor

A link attracted Ashleigh Atwell to journalism, but a blog would bring her to Philadelphia.

In February, the 21-year-old started a “Road to Philly” blog with the goal of attending the 2011 NABJ convention.

“It's been such a blur,” Atwell said of the fundraising experience.

In a matter of months, she went from being an anonymous student to marketing her prospective journey through Facebook and Twitter. Her blog has since attracted more than 1,000 page views.

“I was one of those people who always wanted to

do something different every year,” Atwell said.

Atwell, a rising senior at Georgia State University, said she is a member in her local NABJ chapter, the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists, but had never heard of a larger convention until last year. That's when she noticed a friend live tweeting from the 2010 convention in San Diego. Out of curiosity, she clicked one of the links.

From there, she discovered the NABJ website and started researching. Atwell knew then that she had to make it to Philadelphia.

“I knew that I at least had to try,” Atwell said. “Even if I didn't reach my goal, I could say I tried to get there.”

As a writer for her uni-

versity's newspaper and frequent blogger, her natural inclination was to start a website to chronicle her journey. The blog featured a black backdrop, with photos of both the Atlanta and Philadelphia skylines.

It also featured a widget for donations. Her goal, after all, was to get to the convention.

“Funding was key,” Atwell said. The first donation came from a cousin. It was \$50 — a long way from the hundreds of dollars it would take to get her to Philadelphia. From there, Atwell's road to Philadelphia got a lot smoother.

In March, Benet Wilson, co-chair of the NABJ Digital Journalism Task Force, contacted Atwell through Twitter and offered to share a

room with her.

Wilson's proposal solved Atwell's biggest problem — paying for a hotel room. All together, through donations of varying amounts, Atwell raised a little under \$1,000 for a plane ticket and convention registration.

“If I had to advise anyone, it would be to do everything as early as possible,” Atwell said.

Now that there is no road between her and Philadelphia, Atwell said she is taking advantage of everything the convention has to offer.

“I want to network and check out some of the journalism schools,” she said. “Maybe even get an internship.”



ROBERT L. RUFFINS | NABJ Monitor

Ashleigh Atwell, a student journalist from Georgia State University, laughs during a presentation about utilizing new multimedia tools to enrich journalism.

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Don Lemon goes in-depth

By Naomi Prioleau
NABJ Monitor

This May, CNN anchor and author Don Lemon announced to the public that he was gay and, while some of the public supported his decision, others were disappointed.

In an article on American Politics Law and Entertainment News, blogger Wendy Phillips wrote an open letter to Lemon, saying he had let down his “beautiful black sisters” instead of “talking to us about the distressing situation in which we find ourselves, and the impact that our brothers who are gay may have on our circumstances.” The blog also criticized Lemon for plugging his new book in an article titled “To My Beautiful Black Sisters.”

Some critics said Lemon should have kept his business to himself. And Lemon said others questioned whether he — or any other gay journalist — could effectively report on gay and lesbian issues in an unbiased manner.

“It’s a red herring, and it says a lot about how we feel about homosexuality in our country that we would even raise that question,” he said.

Lemon said he never hid his sexuality from his colleagues, but he was always cautious. “When I’d go to a new station, it’s not something that I talked about or revealed because I knew that people had very strong opinions about it,” he said. “Some people are a little bit restricted when they think about it, so I didn’t want it to interfere with me getting to know people in my work at all. Certainly, once I got to know people, they found out.”

While writing his book “Transparent,” Lemon struggled with whether to include details about his sexuality. However, he decided to include it after the death of Tyler Clementi, a Rutgers University student who committed suicide last September after his roommate secretly recorded a sexual encounter with a man and then streamed it online. Lemon dedicated his book to Clementi, 18.

By coming out, Lemon joins other openly gay journalists such as MSNBC’s Rachel Maddow and Thomas Roberts. Lemon doesn’t think that his sexual orientation should put his career in jeopardy.

“It doesn’t matter to me, that’s not why I came out,” Lemon said. “It’s important to be truthful and I believe that there’s some degree of



DORIAN BROOKS | NABJ Monitor

Don Lemon, CNN anchor and author of “Transparent,” signs a copy of his book at the NABJ Authors Showcase on Thursday during the convention in Philadelphia.

deception in silence.”

According to a study by the Center for Work-Life Policy, 48 percent of lesbian, gay, transgendered or queer-identified Americans hide their sexual orientation at work, but not in their personal lives.

The study says some workers don’t think they can bring their “whole selves” to work, which leaves them feeling isolated and af-

“It’s revealing a part of me as a human being,” Lemon said about his new book.

fects productivity and job satisfaction. But not everyone thinks that information should be shared.

According to a recent study by Qwanz, a New York-based company that conducts independent polls online, eight percent of users said Lemon’s announcement should have remained private because “it matters from whom I get my news.”

Peter Heck, a Christian columnist and host of a self-titled radio show, made it clear in an article entitled “Closets and Christians” that he doesn’t need or want to know about

Lemon’s sex life.

“Why do the very people who constantly tell us that what a person does in their bedroom is no one else’s business simultaneously find it necessary to inform everyone of what they do in their bedroom,” Heck said. “If this is a private matter, Don, then let’s keep it private. Perhaps I’m the only one who feels this way, but frankly, I don’t care to know what kind of sex the evening news anchor is into.”

Lemon said that his announcement goes beyond Heck’s point of view. He said his sex life doesn’t have anything to do with his decision to come out. “In revealing that [the book is] not about sex, it’s revealing a part of me as a human being and sharing a part of me as a human being,” Lemon said.

“It’s just allowing you to know something personally about me because we all connect and interact personally.”

David Steinberg, president of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalist Association (NLGJA) agrees that staying silent or “admitting” someone’s sexual orientation gives off a negative connotation to something that should not be an issue.

Steinberg also said that as long as the news can be reported objectively, it shouldn’t matter if the journalist is gay or straight.

“If you’re a good journalist and

do your job, then it shouldn’t affect that; if anything it helps bring an added perspective that others may not have,” Steinberg said. “Everyone adds their own background to the story and every journalist can filter that.”

Kevin Jones, deputy director of Out & Equal Workplace, said the more people who come out, the more barriers society can destroy, creating a better workplace. “There are companies that do recruiting for potential schools looking for people who identify [as] LGBT, because they understand there is a business rationale for having as diverse a workforce as possible,” Jones said.

Regardless of what the public thinks, Lemon wants to tell the truth and continue to be the best journalist he can. And he wants his book to show people like Clementi that it is possible to be openly gay in mainstream society.

“I have been gay since I’ve been doing those interviews, so now I have to be on my game more. I have to be the best journalist I can in those situations,” he said. “There still would’ve been some degree of deception if I didn’t say who I am. It makes for better interviews and it makes me a better journalist.”

Grant offers ‘Promise’

By Cheri Gregg
NABJ Monitor

Local leaders are using a federal grant to join forces and help revitalize two economically challenged neighborhoods in South Philadelphia.

The U.S. Department of Education offered a \$500,000 grant in February to turn the Point Breeze and Grays Ferry neighborhoods into “Promise Neighborhoods.”

“There’s a lot of blight,” said Wali Smith, a community activist in Point Breeze. “There’s a lot of non-graduates, businesses are not thriving.” Raheem Islam Jr., grant manager of fund development for Universal Companies, echoed Smith’s sentiments.

“This neighborhood has been for a long time, overlooked,” Islam said.

His group secured a promise grant and raised another half-million dollars to help spark change.

“We realize that if we really want to change the community, it starts with education,” he said.

Along with Universal Companies, the community has received help from police, education leaders and local organizations to attract new businesses, better housing and new schools.

Audenried Charter High School was one of the new schools converted earlier this year. For residents like Smith, neighborhood changes such as this have been a long time in the making.

“It’s like a dream come true,” Smith said.

MONITOR EXTRAS



Moving forward: 26 years later

A bolted lock on the door at the vacant 6221 residence is like many others on Osage Avenue and Pine Street. Residents who lived during the fire that destroyed the home of the MOVE movement and the entire 6200 block of Osage Avenue are still feeling the affects of the incident that took place in 1985.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY OCTAVIO JONES | NABJ Monitor

By Keisha C. Frazier
NABJ Monitor

A few subway stops away from the bustle near the Pennsylvania Convention Center is a quiet block in West Philadelphia with a fiery history. In 1985, Philadelphia officials ordered the bombing of a house on the 6200 block of Osage Avenue, where a group of African-Americans called MOVE barricaded themselves inside. The violent end to the occupation of the home by MOVE—a black liberation group under the direction of leader John Africa—made national headlines.

Twenty-six years later, the community is still rebuilding, said resident Gerald Renfrow. “Every day we have to adjust our psyche so when we go out and see all the boards we still try to live our lives as normal as possible,” said Renfrow, who serves as block captain. “We have to push that (image) into a corner in our minds so that we can be able to muster a smile about anything that is going on in the rest of our lives,” he said. According to May 1985 reports in the Philadelphia Inquirer, Philadelphia police asked members of MOVE to evacuate a house they had occupied because they were disturbing area residents. MOVE barricaded themselves inside the home and built a rooftop bunker. The city ordered a helicopter to release

Past of MOVE liberation group still part of neighborhood’s present



Pit bulls bark when passing by a home on the corner of Osage Avenue and 62 street.

a bomb on the group. Six adults and five children were killed in the fire and 61 homes were burned down. Khalid Stewart, who was 10-years-old at the time, heard the explosion and ran around the corner with his mother to see a raging fire on Osage Avenue, he said. “I remember my friends not being in school for a long time. Their seats were empty for a long time,” he said. Although the homes have since been rebuilt by the city, the block is a stark reminder of its violent past. Vacant homes line the block with boarded windows and graffiti. According to a report from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, defects exist in the new homes’ structure. Renfrow and his wife, Connie, who originally lived on Osage Avenue, returned

home months after the incident. Today, he sits beneath a water-damaged ceiling as he explains the inadequate living conditions residents face. Lucretia Wilson has lived on the block for 35 years in the house next door to the bombed-out MOVE house. In the years since her return, she has needed multiple repairs in her home, she said. “It’s not customary that in 10 years you would have three roofs put onto your house, or your house is cited three times, or your appliances replaced twice,” Wilson said. Wilson and the few remaining residents on Osage Avenue plan to stay as long as they can. “I have no intention of moving,” she said. “They’re going to have to put me out.”

Lucretia Wilson, witnessed the MOVE firebombing which took place on May 13, 1985 next door to her home on 6219 Osage Avenue.



Darren swims in the pool that his grandfather, Charles Stewart, installed in the backyard of his house on Pine Street a block over from Osage Avenue.



Khalid Stewart walks down Osage Avenue with one of his twin daughters, Jayla. Stewart remembers what happened to his neighborhood when he was 10-years-old.



Increase in membership a good sign for NABJ's future

ELECTION, FROM PAGE 1

surplus for the first time in nearly eight years.

And after being down by 900 members in 2010, executive director Maurice Foster said this year's convention has shown more cohesion within the organization.

NABJ currently has a 35 percent increase in membership. This year the organization has 3,500 members with an estimated 2,500 attending the convention in Philadelphia, Regional II Director Charles Robinson said.

"We have a 31 percent increase in sponsorship and a 46 percent increase in total sponsor revenues over 2010," Foster said. "That doesn't happen because you can't offer anything to someone. That happens when you have something that people like and desire."

NABJ President Kathy Y. Times said things have turned around for the better. NABJ has regained its financial footing, which was a huge turnaround. She said the next president will need to do more to help NABJ members find jobs and help the organization tap into new technology.

During her presidency Times helped initiate NABJ C.A.R.E.S. (Career, Assistance, Recovery and Employment Search), a program that assists unemployed members in finding jobs, but she thinks she did not fulfill everything she had planned, leaving the door open to strengthen the organization's online counterpart.

"I'm leaving it in much better shape than I found it," Times said. "I hope that the next president can continue to extend a hand to members and think big."

The UNITY Effect

The president of NABJ is essentially the face of the largest professional minority journalist



DORIAN BROOKS | NABJ Monitor

Deirdre Childress, Greg Lee and Charles Robinson discuss their platforms and answer questions during forum.

organization, thrusting him or her into the national spotlight. The organization created a buzz nationally and among its members with the announcement this spring that it was pulling out of UNITY.

The next scheduled UNITY convention is in 2012 but NABJ announced they will have a traditional NABJ convention in New Orleans, changing the scheduled host city's date from 2014.

"NABJ has not been to New Orleans since 1983," Times said in a news release. "We look forward to our return, and partnering with a city rich in culture and tradition."

While some members were excited about the prospect of going to New Orleans, the decision to pull out of UNITY created some disagreement among members. It has caused board members to go on the defense.

Board members said NABJ members should know that the choice to sever ties with UNITY was "gut-wrenching", but it was for the better of the organization.

The past 18 months have been difficult for NABJ in terms of its finances. The organization faced a deficit in 2009 and wrestled with low membership numbers in 2010. Last year, board members

said they would have to employ several cost-cutting measures.

The decision to pull out of UNITY was – among other things – about saving money, Foster said.

"We found [UNITY] and helped bring it to life, but the business stint of it was shady," Foster said. "UNITY needs to do what NABJ did and make tough decisions. In 2008/2009 when we were struggling to survive, UNITY had over a million in the bank. What did it do for the organizations that were struggling?"

Foster said New Orleans was selected as a host city because of its popularity. NABJ used surveys distributed to NABJ members to assist in making that decision, he said. The challenge to pull off a convention in a new location proved difficult, but ultimately three main factors went into choosing New Orleans.

"We wanted to find a place that would avoid sweeps months and one of those months was July," Foster said. "We wanted to avoid the Olympics because that would have an impact on a number of our members who are covering that topic. We wanted to avoid having a convention at the same time as UNITY."

Reggie Stuart, corporate recruiter for McClatchy Newspapers and a longtime NABJ member, said New Orleans was selected because officials were "scrambling" after the announcement that they were not going to participate in UNITY.

Stuart said the issues with UNITY are not over, and the next president should be ready to sort out the "UNITY mess" while keeping what is important to NABJ members in perspective: journalism.

"We can embrace a lot of things, but we are rooted in journalism and all it stands for," he said. "Members that care about NABJ's viability in the future need to think about that because they are electing leadership."

Presidential Challenges

The candidates acknowledged there will be challenges ahead, and each agree that NABJ is in need of a steady hand. All of the candidates are interested in making sure its members are employed.

Childress said she thinks NABJ is "moving in a good direction" so the next administration will

experience new energy.

"Everyone is fired up right now," she said. "It's always a challenge for anyone to be president and it's always unexpected but it's how you handle problems. The next president needs to be someone invested in NABJ with a lot of outreach to students."

Lee, who is credited with getting NABJ's finances back on track, said there is much work to be done. That work, Lee said, isn't just about the finances, but also establishing a deeper commitment to its members.

In a 2010 survey by the American Society of News Editors, minorities in the newsrooms, specifically African-Americans, decreased by 34 percent. Lee said the new president should focus on making sure members are employed.

Robinson said it is important the next president be willing to make tough decisions – even if they are not popular; using the UNITY decision as an example.

As a board member, Robinson said he was more worried about accountability on UNITY's part rather than money. Still, Robinson said that the new president and other board members will have to find ways to raise money.

"I'm hoping that this astute group of journalists that come to Philadelphia and make decisions on the next president will look at the ideas," Robinson said.

For all of these reasons and more, picking the right leader will be crucial.

"Whoever inherits NABJ ... it's important because whoever the members invest their leadership in must face some really challenging hurdles that NABJ has managed to find itself in," Stuart said.

Multiple violations found in 2011 elections

VIOLATION, FROM PAGE 1

Friday, Rice said.

Thursday's violation is the third that has been reported during this election. It follows earlier violations by vice president-print candidate Errin Haines and Keith Reed, who is running for treasurer. Both failed to submit spending disclosure reports by the May 3 deadline.

Rice said under the newly developed campaign procedures candidates are given a timeline and fair warning when they receive a violation.

Both Reed and Haines were given 48 hours to submit their reports, and they had to stop campaigning until the forms were received. They both did.

Reed did not immediately be reached for comment.

Haines said the violation stemmed from an oversight.

"Honestly it slipped my mind, because I had literally spent nothing on the election at that time," he said.

Haines said the final spending reports were due Wednesday and the campaign committee was not penalizing candidates for missing that deadline.

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Cast your vote

Voting polls will close at 5 p.m. Friday. The computers will not accept votes after the polls close. You can vote by visiting room 124 in the convention center or online

by visiting Nabj.org/?page=ElectionsVote. If you do not have a computer, you can cast your vote using a computer at the Cyber Cafe in the convention center. Only one ballot submission per member.

Voter's guide for 2011-2013 Board of Directors

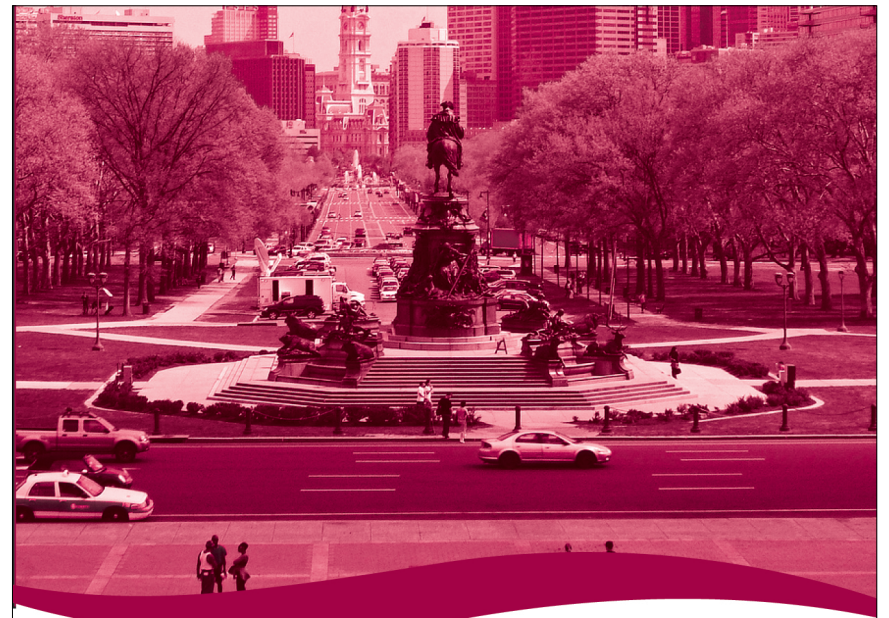
For a complete list of all races, go to nabjconvention.org.

President	Location	Position	Website	Why are you the best candidate?
 Deirdre M. Childress	Cherry Hill, NJ	Entertainment Editor/The Philadelphia Inquirer	www.dchildress.com	When you look at what I have done within NABJ two key areas stand out: Fundraising - helping to raise \$100K for our new headquarters and; Members' careers - the Reinvention Committee and NABJ C.A.R.E.S. Check Childress at the top of the NABJ ballot because my hard work and dedication to our members is well known.
 Gregory Lee	Boston, MA	Senior Asst. Sports Editor/The Boston Globe	www.gregleejr.com	The next president has to be this organization's biggest advocate and has to have the full support of their company. I am that leader with a proven track record of success in this organization, and that success would translate during my presidency.
 Charles Robinson, III	Baltimore, MD	Reporter/Associate Producer, Maryland Public Television	www.c3forprez.com www.blkpol.blogspot.com	The leader of NABJ must be a visionary. I respect the past but know the future is a bright one for NABJ. I know there are members who have a better way, and want to try their hand at being a media entrepreneur. Advocacy is not a part-time job but a full-time job. "I get it."
Vice President/Print	Location	Position	Website	Why are you the best candidate?
 Denise Clay	Philadelphia, PA	Copy Editor-Philadelphia Sunday Sun, Columnist, Out and About, Philadelphia Public Record, Freelance Writer, Write Me, Inc.	http://themapoliticalscientist.blogspot.com/ http://www.philasun.com	I think that I'm the best candidate for Vice President for Print because adjusting to change is something I've done my entire life. From growing up as a "military brat" to being a working journalist in a climate where jobs are scarce and security is next to nonexistent, I think that my ability to think on my feet and adjust will help me serve NABJ well.
 Errin Haines	Atlanta, GA	Newswoman, Associated Press		I have spent my career in the 21st century newsroom and know what our members need to thrive in this new and fast-changing environment. I will be a tireless advocate for diversity in print newsrooms and will work to increase our ranks.
Parliamentarian	Location	Position	Website	Why are you the best candidate?
 Cindy George	Houston, Texas	Health Reporter, Houston Chronicle		For 15 years, I have been a willing worker, whether as national student representative, student chapter president, professional chapter president, local chapter board member, full or student member. All of those experiences have prepared me to support ALL members as your NABJ Navigator, your NABJ Parliamentarian.
 Ken Knight	Tampa, FL	Multimedia Reporter and Online Producer/The Tampa Tribune	kknight@tampatrib.com @KenKnightOnline	As the Region III director, I established more than a dozen professional and student chapters, the most of any region. I am well-versed on parliamentary procedures. And I look forward to work with them on ways to build a better, stronger and more vibrant NABJ.
Student Representative	Location	Position	Website	Why are you the best candidate?
 Marissa Evans	San Diego, CA	Founding President, NABJ-Marquette, NABJ Region VI Student Representative	www.marissaevans.com twitter.com/marissaevans	In a year and a half time as founding president for NABJ-Marquette, I have seen a sense of hope among students of color with our presence on campus. My mission is to help our membership be their own movement and a force to be reckoned with as a community that supports each other.
 Wesley Lowery	Shaker Heights, Ohio	Reporting Intern - The Wall Street Journal, Editor-in-Chief - The Post	www.wesley4nabj.com www.wesleylowery.com	Working as a student reporter covering NABJ for the last three summers puts me in the best position to represent students' interests on the board of directors. I will ensure that the organization is investing its resources in its future — student members. This is OUR NABJ, and if elected student representative I will increase the services offered to all of our campus chapters and to every student member.

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Student rep candidates call for progressive thinking

By **Donovan X. Ramsey**
NABJ Monitor

NABJ student representative candidates Marissa Evans and Wesley Lowery know the landscape of journalism has evolved and want to see NABJ get more in tune with the evolving journalism field.

Both candidates expressed concern about the organization's ability to serve the needs of its members in a digital age, especially as it pertains to students. They agreed NABJ could make some adjustments to its current approach in order to give its membership what it truly needs to survive in this industry.

Evans and Lowery said they are committed to ensuring that changes in media technology are accounted for in NABJ's future operations. The candidates said tech-savvy students could play a key role in keeping NABJ ahead of the curve.

"People don't have any incentive to pick up the newspaper or sit down and watch the news," said Lowery. "You have to always be

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forward-thinking. This is for outlets as well as NABJ."

Evans and Lowery will face off Friday to become the next NABJ student representative. The NABJ student representative, who serves a two-year term, has a vote along with NABJ's Board of Directors.

Evans, a student at Marquette University, considers herself an "old school journalist with digital inclinations." She wants to help students create a digital portfolio.

Lowery said he wants to create opportunities for students by promoting their work on (an) NABJ student's blog.

Lowery said he was concerned about the job market for students.

Figures from a 2010 Pew Research study show a 10 percent drop in those who report accessing news from traditional sources. Statistics like these might cause concern for students when coupled with shrinking newsrooms, which

decreased 25 percent since 2007, according to the Project for Excellence in Journalism.

Lowery, editor-in-chief of Ohio University's student newspaper, The Post, hopes members will approve a ballot measure to extend NABJ membership to digital jour-

Tech-savvy students could play a key role in keeping NABJ ahead of the curve.

nalists. He said this is the first step in pushing the organization forward.

Under the current guidelines, NABJ does not clearly define professional membership for anyone who works for a website, is a video producer, is a multimedia specialist or works in social media.

"In our constitution, we define a journalist as someone writing for a magazine or newspaper, [or] broadcast in television and photographer," Lowery said. "Our industry has been really slow and NABJ has been even slower to adapt."

The National Newspaper Publishers Association's new chairman Cloves C. Campbell Jr. encourages member publications to establish an online presence to take advantage of an estimated \$1 billion mobile advertising market worldwide.

He also has called for a strengthening of the ties between student and professional members, proposing students as possible mentors. This relationship will expand traditional journalism to digital spaces for those who have not incorporated online tools into their work.

Greater member cooperation is a value shared by both candidates.

"There should be a balance that mixes old school journalism tendencies with new media ones," Evans said.

According to Evans, NABJ can

be of service by bringing back the student and professional member camaraderie.

A lot of students want a mentor but don't have one, said Evans. "Putting that challenge back onto the professional members will be so much more beneficial in the future."

While adjusting for the growing presence of digital media the student representative will also have the task of advocating for student issues. Some of the primary issues include increasing scholarship and professional opportunities during arguably the toughest economic conditions the journalism industry has ever faced.

Evans and Lowery seem optimistic about the future of the industry and NABJ's continued significance in supporting its student members.

"If students maintain their drive to build themselves as great storytellers, as good journalists, as working members of the media, we're going to be fine," said Evans.

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Henry Ossawa Tanner, *View of The Seine, Looking Toward Notre Dame*, 1896, Oil on canvas, 14 7/8 x 20 1/8 in., signed, Courtesy of Michael Rosenfeld Gallery, LLC, New York, N.Y.



Henry Ossawa Tanner with palette, c. 1935 / L. Matthes photographer; photographic print: b&w; 17 x 23 cm., Henry Ossawa Tanner papers, 1860s-1978, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.

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