National Federation of the Blind, Black Leaders Serving For Advancement (BLSA)

Invite All To Attend,

BLSA Annual National Convention Meeting

Embracing The Past, Elevating The Future

Where: New Orleans Marriott

Date: Thursday, July 7, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM CDT.

Room: Galerie 5

7:00 PM - Business Meeting

Shawn Callaway, Chair, Black Leaders Serving For Advancement Sub-Committee, National Federation of the Blind National Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee

Celebrate the numerous contributions of black Federation leaders. This meeting will serve to establish the foundation for a proposed division to inspire the next generation of black blind leaders.

7:10 PM - Constitutional Meeting:

I. Reading of constitution

II. Initial Membership

III. Electing The Board

Note: Each person wishing to be an initial member must submit $1 to participate in the constitutional meeting. A contact list for all people who paid their initial dues will be collected. Those who have not paid should not be permitted to participate in the decision making of the constitutional meeting. This is the practice of the National Federation of the Blind. There will be no proxy voting,only those physically in the meeting can participate in the voting proceedings.

IV. Presentation of the Constitution

8:00 PM - BLSA Program AGENDA:

Welcome and Moderator:

Suzanne Turner, Cleveland Chapter President, and Affiliate Vice President, National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

Introduction: - Embracing The Past, Elevating The Future

Shawn Callaway, Affiliate President, National Federation of the Blind District of Columbia, and National Board Member, National Federation of the Blind

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Invocation:

Rev. Carolyn Peters, President, Community of Faith Division, National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

Lift Every Voice And Sing:

Marvin Griffin, National Federation of the Blind of Texas

Greetings:

Mark Riccobono, National President, National Federation of the Blind

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Presenting BLSA Committee Leaders:

Denise Brown, Greater Philadelphia Chapter President, National Federation of the Blind of Pennsylvania

Elegy:

Tarik Williams, Tucson Chapter President, National Federation of the Blind of Arizona

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Ten Minute Orators:

 Lakeria Taylor, Shreveport Chapter President, National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana

Tammy Green, New Orleans Chapter President, National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana

Alberta Robinson, Ouachita Chapter President, National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana

Tamara Lundy, New Orleans Chapter Member, National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana

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Recognizing Black Leaders in the Federation:

Richard Payne, Affiliate President, National Federation of the Blind of Ohio, and Member, National Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee

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Keynote Speaker:

Macaulay Beasley, Vice President, National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana Student Division

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Identifying Your Role In The Federation:

Dr. Carolyn Peters, Board of Directors, National Federation of the Blind of Ohio, and Treasurer, National Community of Faith Division

Edification by Dr. Lashawna Fant, Jackson Chapter President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi and Lee Martin, Circle City Chapter President, and Affiliate 2nd Vice President, National Federation of the Blind of Indiana

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Spoken Word:

Johnetta Price, Author, Poet, Entrepreneur, Golden Triangle Chapter President, National Federation of the Blind of Texas and President, National Federation of the Blind Community Service Division

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The Importance of a Division:

 Candace Chapman, Affiliate President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, and President, National Federation of the Blind Human Service Division

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Final Remarks:

Denise Avant, Affiliate 1st Vice President, National Federation of the Blind of Illinois, and National Board Member, National Federation of the Blind