

# Houston Professionals Chapter (HPC)

## 2021-2022 Annual Report

*Published July 2022*



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**TIME to  
ENGAGE**



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# Foundation and Mission



## Chapter Foundation

NSBE Houston Professionals Chapter (NSBE HPC) is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that was founded in April 1988. It has dedicated itself to the development of programs that will aid in the professional development of African American and other ethnic minority professionals, in the field of engineering and engineering technology. **We reach over 1500 professionals in Houston, employed in various sectors including oil & gas, aerospace, design and consulting, information technology, and healthcare within Fortune 500 companies.** Hence, our members represent the best of Houston's diverse STEM professionals. Our organization's goal is to promote technical expertise, professionalism, and fellowship amongst studying as well as practicing engineers and technical professionals.

## Organization's Mission

NSBE HPC's mission is to **increase the number of culturally responsible Black engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally, and positively impact the community.** Our organization seeks to create a world in which engineering is a mainstream word in homes and communities of color, and all students can envision themselves as engineers. We envision a world where African Americans exceed parity in entering engineering fields, accomplishing professional success, and making valuable contributions to society.



# President's Message



***This year our organization successfully filled all executive board positions to create a team of volunteer leaders who effectively fulfilled our mission and vision in the Greater Houston Area.*** As displayed on our enclosed organization chart, our executive board included a diverse group of technical professionals from various academic backgrounds, degree levels, age groups, and gender identities. I am extremely grateful for their contributions.

NSBE Houston Professional Chapter (HPC) safely transitioned back to in-person events and programs. ***Our most successful in-person events included networking mixers and happy hour at diverse venues in the Galleria Area Facilities, the Texas Medical Center, and the Ion Houston District.*** For those still concerned about Covid variants we also provided virtual monthly General Body Meetings hosted by corporate partners and Professional Development Talks hosted by academic institutions. Likewise, we coordinated a virtual FreshStart event in the fall and an in-person in the spring for pre-collegiate students and collaborated on various outreach efforts with the SHAPE Center in Third Ward Area to inspire our community members.

***We are very appreciative of the numerous partners and sponsors that supplemented the cost of our events or provided funding for our programs.*** As outlined in this report our partners included BP, Rice University, Robert Half, TMC Innovations, and UT McCombs to name a few. Our sponsors represented various industries and included AlliantGroup, E-Clinical Works, HP, as well as NSBE Healthcare Innovations.

***These efforts resulted in NSBE Houston restoring national recognition by being awarded Region V Chapter of the Year at the NSBE#48 Convention.*** We also modified our by-laws to expand our executive board and enhance our advisory board. Hence, our professional chapter is well positioned for greater accomplishments in the years to come!



**Dr Joshua L Gray LSSBB, PMP, HTE**  
2021-2022 Chapter President



# Executive Board



**LeChell Honorat**  
*President Emeritus*



**Joshua Gray, PhD**  
*Chapter President*



**Jessica Terry**  
*Advisory Board Chair*



**Oliver Nwofia, PhD**  
*Vice President*



**Courtney Cunningham**  
*Chapter Secretary*



**Jolie Tillman**  
*Chapter Treasurer*



**Bethany Robinson**  
*Programs Chair*



**Qua Thomas**  
*Membership Chair*



**Courtney Martin**  
*Public Relations*



**Martins Amune**  
*Corporate Relations*



**Latonya Ellerbee**  
*Professional Development*



**Leteshia Lowe**  
*Pre-Collegiate Initiative*



**Ameena Rasheed**  
*Digital Technology*



**Deron Gadsden**  
*Collegiate Initiative*



**Jerry Williams**  
*Fresh Start Coordinator*

# Professional Programs



## Member Meetings

During the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year **NSBE HPC conducted nine General Body Meetings of which seven were virtual and two were in-person.** In the fall the topics involved Project Management, Lean-Six Sigma, Financial Investment, and Career Advancement. Spring meeting focused on Advanced Degrees, Supplier Diversity, Great Resignation, Mental Health, and Leadership Opportunities. Many of these meetings were collaboratively hosted by companies like the AFP Group, AlliantGroup, British Petroleum, and Robert Half as well as organizations such as NBMBA Houston, University of Houston, and the University of Texas.

## Development Workshops

**NSBE Houston also curated four Professional Development Workshops of which three were virtual and one was in-person.** Topics included Healthcare Innovation, Process Improvement, Financial Management, Mental Resilience, and Business Administration. These were orchestrated with NSBE Special Interest Groups (SIG) such as Healthcare Innovation and Process Improvement as well as organizations like Capital One and UT McCombs.

**FEBRUARY**  
**GENERAL BODY MEETING**  
**BP Supplier Diversity Insights**  
**Speaker: Kim Thorton**  
**FEBRUARY 10TH, 2022**  
**6:00PM UNTIL 8:00PM**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**GEM**  
THE NATIONAL GEM CONSORTIUM  
PRESENTS  
**PEP TALKS**  
Preparing for Entrepreneurial Pathways  
**Thurs November 18, 2021**  
**7pm - 8pm ET**  
**Mastering the Process of Endless Possibilities**  
**Dr. JL (Joshua) Gray**  
Professor in the Practice, Rice University Center for Engineering Leadership  
Principal Consultant, Lukman Consulting Group LLC.  
Register at:  
<https://bit.ly/GEM4PEPtalk>  
INCLUSION IN INNOVATION INITIATIVE  
For more info contact: [gemi4@gemfellowship.org](mailto:gemi4@gemfellowship.org)

**NSBE PROFESSIONALS**  
**GENERAL BODY MEETING**  
**THURSDAY 05.12.2022**  
**7:00PM to 8:30PM CST**  
**MUST RSVP TO GAIN ACCESS**  
**zoom**  
**RSVP ONLINE AT**  
**BLACKPROFESSIONALSCORPORATESPACES.EVENTBRITE.COM**

**MENTAL HEALTH: Black Professionals in Corporate Spaces**  
Join the NBMBA Houston Chapter for a discussion on mental health.  
We will have mental health experts and practitioners discuss how we can identify concerns and determine ways to treat them. We will also cover Employee Assistance Programs at work and investigate other mental performance programs, highlighting free and low-cost resources.  
**PROPOSED GUESTS**  
**Sabrina Franklin** (Moderator)  
**Dr. Napoleon Higgins** (Executive Director, Black Psychologists of America, Inc.)  
**Portia Asili** (Founder, Optimized Brain)  
**LIVE ATTENDEES WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WIN SPECIAL PRIZES DURING THE EVENT**

**NSBE Houston Professionals**  
**JANUARY GENERAL BODY MEETING!**  
HOSTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
MCCOMBS BUSINESS SCHOOL  
PROFESSIONAL MBA PROGRAM  
**Date: January 18th, 2022**  
**Time: 6PM- 8PM**  
**Location: Clizik School of Nursing**  
**6901 Bertner Ave**  
**Houston, TX 77030**  
**RSVP: <https://www.nsbefhouston.org/events-1/nsbe-houston-january-gbm-professional-2022>**

**rh**  
**Robert Half®**  
**A conversation about the Great Resignation!**  
**During our General Body Meeting on Tuesday 03/22/22 6pm-8pm CT**  
**RSVP to join on virtually on Zoom at [NSBEHouston.org/Events](https://nsbehouston.org/Events)**



# Networking Events

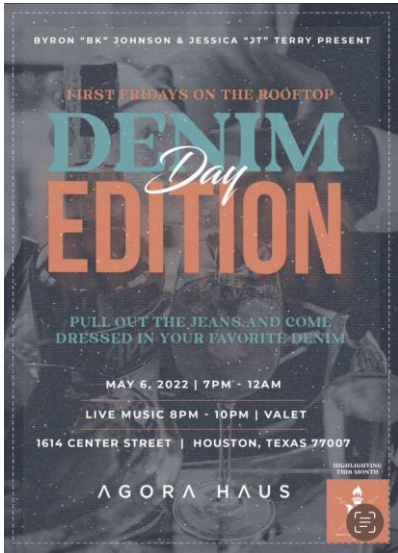
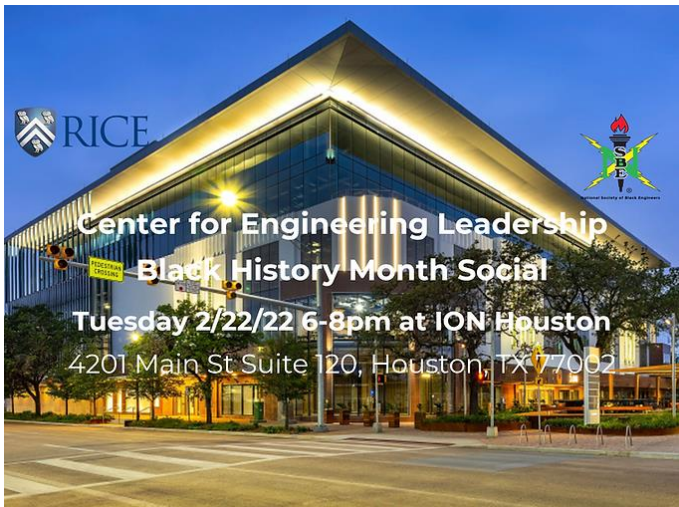


## Hosted Mixers

Over the past year, **NSBE HPC coordinated three hosted in-person mixers.** We kicked off the summer season with a Welcome Back Mixer at the AlliantGroup’s Galleria Office with great hors d'oeuvre and adult beverages. We closed out the fall season with Happy Holidays Networking at the Texas Medical Center Innovations “Cookie Factory”. We then celebrated Black History Month by recognizing Rice University’s President-Elect and Vice-Provost as the first Black engineers to obtain these positions, while enjoying food and drinks from Hungry’s restaurant at the iconic Ion.

## Collaborative Socials

**NSBE Houston also partnered with various organizations to facilitate four in-person socials.** This was initiated by Young Professionals Happy Hour at the Craft Republic in 2021. Then in 2022 we co-hosted a Happy Hour as Little Woodrow's with SHPE, a Social Event with Philly Connect at Cidercade, First Fridays with Agora Haus on a Center Street Roof-Top, and celebrated Juneteenth with the Black Professionals Alliance which included a Chub Rock concert at the historic Buffalo Soldiers Museum.





# Community Initiatives

TIME to  
ENGAGE



## Collegiate Engagements

**NSBE HPC's collegiate interaction included three in-person workshops and one virtual panel.** We began in 2021 with a Scholarship Dinner at the Upper Kirby Bistro for student recipients before the Thanksgiving Holiday. In 2022, we continued by supporting the University of Houston(UH) Chapter's General Body Meeting and by participating in a career panel for the Rice University Chapter. Our involvement also included a UH Chapter workshop before the NSBE#48 Convention and an engineering panel conducted during a joint General Body Meeting.

## Pre-Collegiate Outreach

To support the pipeline of STEM Collegiate Students, **NSBE HPC coordinated three in-person initiatives and one virtual event.** Our in-person initiative included setting up donated computers at the SHAPE Center, installing donated antivirus software in the Third Ward community, and facilitating a Spring Fresh Start Workshops at Key Middle School. Prior to this, we successfully conducted virtual Fresh Start Workshops with over 100 elementary, middle, and high school students as well as volunteers from as far as Africa.

NSBE volunteers needed for installing software at the S.H.A.P.E. Community Center

Saturday July 31st, 2021 | 11am-2pm.

Operating system, anti-virus and 3D CAD for Fall Community STEM Program



Engineering:  
Life After Graduation



PANEL DISCUSSION



THIS YEAR'S SPONSOR IS

hp

**SPRING FRESH START VIRTUAL EDITION**

April 30, 2022  
TIME: 9AM - 3PM  
LOCATION: Key Middle School  
4000 Kelley St., Houston, TX 77026

IT'S FREE!!

REGISTER NOW!  
<https://www.nsbehouston.org/events-1/fresh-start-spring-2022>

**BENEFITS OF OUR CLASSES:**

- STEM RELATED EXPERIMENTS
- CASE STUDIES
- ENGAGE W/ STEM PROFESSIONALS
- FOOD, DRINKS, AND PRIZES TO WIN

**ABOUT FRESH START**

Fresh Start is a half day of interactive workshops that creatively engages students, ranging from 3rd to 12th grade, to explore the many different disciplines in the field of engineering. The main goal of NSBE Fresh Start is to motivate children to set academic goals in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It's a great way for NSBE HP to connect with the community as well as aspiring STEM professionals. This is a biennial event, and a part of the Houston Professional's Pre-College Initiative.

[www.nsbehouston.org](http://www.nsbehouston.org)

If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Williams at [freshstart@nsbehouston.org](mailto:freshstart@nsbehouston.org)



# Chapter Accomplishment

**TIME to ENGAGE**



## Awards Obtained

NSBE Houston Professionals Chapter has a longstanding history of being an award-winning organization. We have been privileged to be the 2019 - 2020 TORCH Chapter of the Year, 2017 - 2018 National Professionals Chapter of the Year, and 2017 - 2018 Diamond Chapter of the Year. Covid Pandemic impacted our ability to sustain these accolades over the past couple of years, but this year we were **recognized as the 2021-2022 Region V Chapter of the Year at the NSBE#48 National Convention**. Additionally, we received the 2022 Black Organization Leader Award from the Black Professional Alliance.



Finance & Accounting Industry	Energy & Infrastructure Industry	Healthcare & LifeSciences Industry	Technology & Manufacturing Industry	Aerospace & Transportation Industry
Financial & Accounting Advisor FinancialAdv@nsbehouston.org	Energy & Infrastructure Advisor EnergyAdv@nsbehouston.org	Healthcare & LifeSciences Advisor HealthcareAdv@nsbehouston.org	Technology & Manufacturing Advisor TechAdv@nsbehouston.org	Aerospace & Transportation Advisor AerospaceAdv@nsbehouston.org

## Accomplishments Achieved

**NSBE HPC also modified its constitution bylaws to enhance its Advisory Board and expand its Executive Board.** Our advisory board now had a chair to provide leadership and includes industry sponsors as well as partners so that they can contribute to our strategy. The executive board's programs zone has been segmented to include a Development Chair as well as an Outreach Chair. Additionally, the administrative zone has divided the Vice President (VP) position to include an Operations VP to oversee Finance as well as Communications Chairs and VP Programs to oversee Development as well as Outreach Chairs. Also, new appointed zone committee roles were also created to support our advancement as we adapt to the impacts of the Covid Pandemic.

Administrative Zone				
Operations Vice-President OperationsVP@nsbehouston.org	Chapter President Chair@nsbehouston.org	Programs Vice-President ProgramsVP@nsbehouston.org		
Finance Zone	Communications Zone	Membership Zone	Development Zone	Outreach Zone
Finance Advisor FinanceAdv@nsbehouston.org	Communications Advisor CommsAdv@nsbehouston.org	Membership Advisor MemberAdv@nsbehouston.org	Development Advisor DevelopmentAdv@nsbehouston.org	Outreach Advisor OutreachAdv@nsbehouston.org
Administrative Zone				
Operations Vice-President OperationsVP@nsbehouston.org	Chapter President Chair@nsbehouston.org	Programs Vice-President ProgramsVP@nsbehouston.org		
Finance Zone	Communications Zone	Membership Zone	Development Zone	Outreach Zone
Chapter Treasurer Treasurer@nsbehouston.org	Chapter Secretary Secretary@nsbehouston.org	Membership Chair Membership@nsbehouston.org	Development Chair Development@nsbehouston.org	Outreach Chair Outreach@nsbehouston.org
Corporate Sponsorship Lead Finance@nsbehouston.org	Public Relations Lead PR@nsbehouston.org	Virtual Engagement Lead Engagement@nsbehouston.org	Professional Development Lead PD@nsbehouston.org	Collegiate Initiatives Lead CI@nsbehouston.org
Organization Partnership Lead Partnerships@nsbehouston.org	Digital Media Lead Tech@nsbehouston.org	Social Events Lead Events@nsbehouston.org	Body Meetings Lead GBM@nsbehouston.org	Pre-College Initiatives Lead PCI@nsbehouston.org

# Partnership Sponsors



## Chapter Sponsors

NSBE Houston Professional Chapter is extremely grateful for the financial contributions of our **Platinum Sponsors AlliantGroup, E-Clinical Works, HP, and NSBE Healthcare Improvement Special Interest Group**. We would also like to thank our Silver Sponsor the Rice Center for Engineering Leadership and our Patron Sponsor the Smalls Family. Your financial support made our 2021-2022 programs and initiatives possible.

## Organizational Partners

**NSBE HPC is also very appreciative of our In-Kind Partner companies and organizations that hosted our meetings and events.** Thanks to AFP Group, AlliantGroup, British Petroleum, and Robert Half as well as organizations such as NBMBA Houston, University of Houston, and the University of Texas for hosting our meetings. We would also like to recognize Agora Haus, the Black Professionals Alliance, the Society of Hispanic Professionals, Philly Connect, TMC BioDesign, Young Members Initiative for co-hosting our social events.



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**eClinicalWorks**  
"Improving Healthcare Together"



RICE UNIVERSITY  
Rice Center for Engineering  
Leadership (RCEL)



# Support Opportunities



## Scholarship Banquet

NSBE Houston Professionals Chapter is thrilled to host the first Scholarship & Awards Banquet since the initiation of the Covid Pandemic. Our 2022 Scholarship & Awards Banquet Dinner will take place on the roof-top of the Texas Medical Center on Friday August 5th. We are privileged to fund 12 outstanding students & recognizing the Black Executive Dean of the Texas A&M University's School of Engineering Medicine. **Please RSVP to attend or donate a tax-deductible contribution to student scholars:** <https://www.nsbehouston.org/events-1/2022-nsbe-houston-scholarship-awards-banquet>

## Sponsorship Opportunities

**NSBE HPC also invites you to contribute to our programs and scholarships by becoming a sponsor or partner of our organization.** Please contact our President at [Chair@NSBEHouston.Org](mailto:Chair@NSBEHouston.Org) to discuss options for supporting our organizations mission and advance your organizations diversity, equity and inclusion strategic goals in the Greater Houston Area. We look forward to the opportunity to collaborate with you!



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
School of Engineering Medicine



### NSBE Houston Professionals Scholarship & Awards Banquet

Friday | August 5<sup>th</sup> 2022 | 6-9pm  
Celebrating Black Scholars & Innovators  
1020 Holcombe Blvd 17<sup>th</sup> Floor Houston, TX 77030  
RSVP @ [NSBEHouston.Org/Events](https://www.nsbehouston.org/events)

Honoring Recipients & Speaker Dr. Roderic Pettigrew  
Dine with Rooftop Views of the Texas Medical Center  
Donation levels for Registering Organizations & Attendees

- \$1,000 Diamond Sponsorship | Center Table | 10 Tickets
- \$750 Platinum Sponsorship | Side Table | 8 Tickets
- \$500 Gold Sponsorship | Half Table | 6 Tickets
- \$300 Silver Sponsorship | Partial Table | 4 Tickets
- \$125 Bronze Sponsorship | Shared Table | 2 Tickets
- \$50 Individual Adult Tickets | \$25 Individual Student Tickets

**Tax -Deductible Contributions Fund Future Student Scholarships**



TAMU School of Engineering  
Medicine Inaugural Dean

# Houston Professionals Chapter (HPC)

## Appreciates Your Support

Annual Report Author

**Dr Joshua L Gray LSSBB, PMP, HTE**

2021-2022 Chapter President

